

DIOCESAN COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN- FALL MEETING

President's Report to the Board

September 26, 2020

We can all agree the end of our last council year was somewhat unexpected and non-existent. All of us had no idea when things would change and be back to normal. Our emotions have been up; down; and I think kind of sideways! But through it all, our members have been very understanding and willing to comply with the decisions made by those on our DCCW board.

In looking at the timeline for previous years, the suggestions for completing preparations for the new council year took place long before they did this year. The installation of officers was held in July instead of April, and it feels like we have had to cram for finals in school. We have hurried to learn our duties and prepare for this September meeting.

I have to say that this group of women I am working with are amazing-- beginning with past presidents, new officers, veteran commission and standing committee chairs, and those I have called upon to "pick" their brain! I am excited to represent all of you and excited for you all to meet and experience these new officers on the board. Thank you to all for being willing to serve. To me, it is a very fulfilling responsibility and I've only just begun!

Planning our meeting was a challenge with the virus and the guidelines to be followed. These past few months all of us have had to learn to think out of the box and go a different route. Sometimes we all get settled into our own routines and comfort zone and stay there indefinitely. I know I have experienced more quiet time for contemplation, just sitting outside, enjoying nature, and feeling my inner self. I was always in a "hurry" to get places and do things, which drained my patience and appreciation of simple things around me. I know some of you have probably experienced loneliness and probably depression, and I am sorry for you. Being alone during this pandemic has been very hard for many, and I hope all are able to pray and find comfort with our council and friends.

Have you possibly had quiet time to come up with ideas that you would like to see happening in DCCW? I would love to have any and all of you share what you hope to see in the future, even with the uncertainty it holds for the coming months. WE SHALL SURVIVE, as only strong women can.....I have faith! Remember all those who started our organization 100 years ago and their determination all these years to keep it going. I am one of many who ordered the history book, National Council of Catholic Women, 100 Years of Ministry and Service. It is so very interesting and well done, with great pictures of our sisters in council over the years. I suggest purchasing a copy for yourself or your women's council. ***Let us continue to pray for a return to normality and a chance to enjoy our meetings all year long.***

With humility and blessings to you all,
Becky Colombo, DCCW President