



Keynote Speaker: Maria Morera Johnson

Maria Morera Johnson, an award-winning author and popular speaker, has graciously accepted our invitation to be our keynote speaker. A native of Cuba, she will be speaking on "Living in the Light of Eternity", based upon a quote from St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross. In this inspirational talk, she will encourage women to become witnesses in the world and will help equip us to share Christ's light in everything we do. You will enjoy her warmth, humor, honesty, and insightfulness.

Barbara Kerouac, our Leadership Commission chair, is honored to welcome **Emmie Gardner**, the current CEO of Holy Cross Ministries, to our convention. She will share highlights of her 35+ career in the non-profit arena and the full circle that brought her back to where she began. Emmie will reflect on how the philosophy and teachings of the Holy Cross influence and inspire her leadership style as well as sharing a few little-known historical tidbits of the nearly 125-year history of the Holy Cross in Utah.

Deacon Mike Bulson will offer insight into where the Spirit may be leading women today by sharing stories of women in Church history – some canonized saints and some who should be –who have contributed to the theology, spiritual growth, and guidance of the Church throughout the centuries. He will be introduced by Donna Murphy, our Legislative Commission chair.

The guest speaker for our 2020 Convention is **Mary Anne Berzins**. She works in leadership and organizational development at the University of Utah, and is passionate about working with both organizations and individuals; it allows her to connect with amazing people who give her great joy. You will be inspired and moved by her story, "A Journey of an Unassuming Woman."

The Most Reverend Oscar A. Solis, Bishop of the Diocese of Salt Lake City, will be the main celebrant at the 5:00 p.m. Mass at the Cathedral of the Madeleine on Saturday. Following Mass, he will speak at our banquet and join us as a presenter in honoring our Women of the Year.

The Diocesan Council of Catholic Women Board is honored to have you and your friends join us for a weekend of fun, fellowship, education, and prayer. To register, please contact your parish women's organization. You may also visit www.dccwutah.org for complete details, registration forms and sponsorship information. For more information, please contact Casey Pond, DCCW President, at (801) 298-3027.



DIOCESE OF SALT LAKE CITY COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN

AN AFFILIATE OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN

2020 CALL TO CONVENTION

The official call to the Ninety-second Annual Convention of the Diocese of Salt Lake City Council of Catholic Women

Dear Sisters and Friends of Council,

The Diocese of Salt Lake City Council of Catholic Women cordially invites you to attend their annual convention on Saturday, April 25, and Sunday, April 26, 2020, at the Sheraton Salt Lake City Hotel, located at 150 W. 500 So., Salt Lake City, Utah. The Eastern Deanery Council of Catholic Women is graciously hosting this year's convention, where we will learn, pray, laugh, and enjoy the company of old friends and new. "Let Your Light Shine" is our theme, and our two commissions being featured and addressed this year are Leadership and Legislative.

Our keynote speaker, **Maria Morera Johnson**, is an award-winning author, a contributor to print and electronic media, an educator, and a popular speaker. She is devoted to Mary and is passionate about her Catholic faith. Mrs. Johnson has created a presentation for us entitled "**Living in the Light of Eternity**", where she found her inspiration in a quote from St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross. Maria is witty, warm, and sincere and will invite and equip us to share Christ's light in everything we do. We carry that light into the world in big and small ways. A native of Cuba, she currently lives with her husband, John, in the Mobile, Alabama, area. They are the parents of three grown children.

Barbara Kerouac, our Leadership Commission chair, is pleased to welcome Emmie Gardner, the current CEO of Holy Cross Ministries. Emmie will share highlights of her 35+ year career in the non-profit arena, beginning with her experience at St. Mary's College, coming back around to her present administrative role. In her presentation, "Servant Leadership and Coming Full Circle: How the Sisters of the Holy Cross Influenced My Career", she will reflect on how the philosophy and teachings of the Holy Cross impact and inspire her leadership style. Emmie will also let us in on some little-known historical facts of the nearly 125-year history of the Holy Cross in Utah.

The **Legislative Commission**, chaired by Donna Murphy, will present **Deacon Mike Bulson**, a full-time attorney with Utah Legal Services and an ordained deacon at St. Andrew Parish. He has chosen "**Saintly Women: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow**" as the title of his presentation in which he will focus on women in Church history, some of them canonized saints and many who should be. Integrating aspects of Catholic social teaching, he will highlight the lives of women who have contributed to the theology, spiritual growth, and guidance of the Church through the centuries. He will offer insight on where the Spirit may be leading women today.

Mary Anne Berzins has graciously accepted our invitation to be our featured speaker. Mary Anne is the Assistant Vice-President in the Division of Human Resources at the University of Utah, but for many people she is the kind, friendly person at church, the acolyte, the Lay Eucharistic Minister, and the active parishioner. Working with both individuals and organizations and her involvement in the Church bring her great joy. Ms. Berzins' story, which she entitled "A Journey of an Unassuming Woman," is remarkable, heartbreaking, uplifting, and inspirational.

The Most Reverend Oscar A. Solis, Bishop of the Diocese of Salt Lake City, will be the presiding celebrant and homilist at the 5:00 p.m. Mass at the Cathedral of the Madeleine on Saturday. Following Mass, he will speak at our banquet and join us as a presenter in honoring our Women of the Year.

On Sunday we will be inaugurating a **Memorial Service**, when we will remember and honor our Council Sisters who have passed during the last biennium.

ADDITIONAL FEATURES

- A prayer room will be available for quiet meditation.
- NCCW table
- Exhibitors
- Sales tables Immaculate Heart Religious Gifts and Books, Rural Africa Crafts, best-selling books by our keynote speaker Maria Morera Johnson, and candies and jams hand crafted by the Carmelite nuns

CONVENTION ADVERTISING flyer, which highlights our speakers, is enclosed in your packet. Please assist in our advertising effort by placing the flyer in a prominent place within your parish, or by making copies to insert in your parish bulletin or to pass out at your Council meetings. The flyer can also be downloaded off the DCCW website (www.dccwutah.org) and used as an email attachment for sharing. We need you to spread the word about convention throughout your parish community and with your circle of friends.

SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM application and guidelines are enclosed in your packet. The DCCW Sponsorship Program is offered to individuals who want to attend the convention but are unable to do so because of the costs involved. Feel free to make copies of the application; a copy is also posted on the DCCW website. We advise all women to first check with their parish organization to see if it is offering any convention financial assistance. Be assured the Registration and Sponsorship Chairs keep all applications strictly confidential. **The Sponsorship application deadline is March 13, 2020** so it can be processed prior to the registration deadline.

CONVENTION MASS AT THE CATHEDRAL OF THE MADELEINE is a highlight for many women and their families, and we are honored that the Cathedral accommodates us at this Mass. Busses will transport convention attendees to the Cathedral. If any of your parish attendees are unable to walk the steps of the bus or the front stairs of the Cathedral, please make arrangements to drive them to Mass by car. Cars may be driven onto the Cathedral Plaza (enter from C Street) for passenger drop-off immediately outside the handicap-accessible doors on the south side of the plaza where no stairs will be encountered. Keep in mind that due to very limited parking, it is suggested that you arrive no later than 4:45 p.m.

<u>"THROW DOWN" CHALLENGE</u> information is included in your packet. This popular, fun competition allows two winning affiliates to win convention packages for the 2021 DCCW Convention.

<u>POSTER SESSION</u> – "Tell Us Your Story" information flyer is enclosed in your packet. This is an opportunity for affiliates and deaneries to share ideas and information (and to show off a little) through words and pictures on their posters that will be displayed in the hallway/foyer outside the meeting room doors.

<u>TENTATIVE AGENDA</u> is enclosed in your packet to give an idea of each day's schedule.

<u>CONVENTION REGISTRATION</u> form is enclosed in your packet. Please use this form for registering for the convention; it can also be found on the DCCW website. The registration deadline is Wednesday, March 25, 2020. The registration deadline also applies to your Woman of the Year and her guests. All registrations require prepayment. If possible, write one check from your women's group, payable to DCCW, and note "Convention Registration" on the memo line. *Do not combine convention registration and hotel registration in one check.*

2020 Registration Fees

Package A

\$125 includes two-day registration, convention bag, all meals on both days (including the banquet), and Mass transportation.

Package B

\$60 includes registration for Saturday, Saturday's breakfast and lunch, and Mass transportation

Package C

\$40 includes the Saturday night Woman of the Year banquet only. **There is no on-site registration for the banquet.**

Package D

\$30 includes Sunday only registration and breakfast.

Please fill out the registration form completely and legibly, double-check the spelling of all names for the name badges, and make sure to list banquet table seating preferences (who should sit together) in groups of 10. It is important to note any special needs required by those attending. It is much easier to accommodate these if they are known ahead of time.

So that we can ensure a proper welcome, please indicate all first-time attendees on the registration form by checking the appropriate box.

PLEASE NOTE: For every registration postmarked after March 25, 2020, an additional \$10 late fee must be added. There will be no refunds given after April 4, 2020, as final meal counts are given to the hotel by then. Thank you for your consideration of these necessary items.

<u>CONVENTION MEALS</u> – Every effort is made to provide the best meal options while staying within our budget. Once again, we will be offering a healthy choice for a light breakfast on Saturday. All other meals will be plated and chosen based on the feedback received from previous convention evaluations. **Dietary restrictions will be honored, if possible, but must be noted on the registration form.** As standard hotel policy for banquets, the same substitute meal will be available for vegetarian, vegan, and gluten-free dietary restrictions.

CONVENTION PROGRAM BOOKLET ADVERTISING information is included in your packet. This important form of advertising, congratulating, thanking, or recognizing is extremely helpful as it defrays the cost of printing our convention materials. It also helps cover convention administrative costs which helps keep our registration costs down. (Many of our attendees look at the ads, first!) Please contact businesses, employers, friends, or consider purchasing an affiliate, deanery, or individual ad. Our personal contacts are the best resources. Additional copies of the letter and ad submission form are available on the DCCW website. Convention program ads and payment are due by March 15, 2020; the submittal forms and payments for your Woman of the Year congratulatory ads are due by March 20, 2020.

HOTEL RESERVATION form is included in your packet. Convention room rates are \$116 per night for single and double occupancy with a \$10 increase for triple occupancy. The hotel is smoke-free. Guest rooms are furnished with double beds. Incidental room charges are the responsibility of each guest. The DCCW does not pay to have extra beds put in hotel rooms; if one is requested, the person requesting it will be responsible for payment. All rooms are provided with the usual amenities and hospitality items. Time will be allotted during the Sunday program to facilitate the 12:00 p.m. checkout time.

Please use the enclosed **hotel reservation form** and indicate any special needs. Additional forms can be found on the DCCW website. Make your check payable to DCCW and note "Hotel Reservation" on the memo line. Send the check and the completed hotel reservation form to the address listed on the form. Payment in full is required with each reservation. **The hotel reservation deadline is March 25, 2020.** All reservations received on or before March 25 will not be charged room tax. Rooms reserved after the deadline may not be tax exempt or guaranteed the convention rate.

<u>PROPOSED RESOLUTION</u> form is enclosed in your packet. Please consider submitting a resolution to be discussed during the general business meeting at convention. The approved resolutions guide affiliate, deanery, and diocesan programming and priorities for the year. The deadline for submitting your proposed resolution is April 1, 2020.

ONE CENTERPIECE, ONE RAFFLE ITEM, AND ONE SILENT AUCTION ITEM are requested from each affiliate. Individual donations are gratefully accepted, also. Proceeds from the raffle and silent auction are our major source of income for the year, and we appreciate your continued support. An information sheet with detailed information is enclosed in your packet. Please bring your centerpiece into the main meeting room first thing Saturday morning so it can be enjoyed. The centerpiece drawing will be held during lunch on Saturday. Please advise our Ways and Means chair of your donations by April 1, 2020.

Deaneries and individuals are invited to participate in the **UGLY BAG AUCTION**. Find the ugliest purse you can and fill it with new *unused* items with a minimum value of \$25. The purses will be part of the silent auction, so make them fun! All purses should be tagged with the donor's name and its value; the contents remain a surprise.

WOMAN OF THE YEAR SELECTION AND PRESENTATION information is included in your packet. This information is also available on the DCCW website (www.dccwutah.org). The name of your Woman of the Year, along with a brief biography which will be read during the banquet program, is due by Wednesday, March 25, 2020. We cannot guarantee that names received after this deadline will be included in the convention program literature.

Please note that the Woman of the Year and her family members and friends who are not registered with a Package A, and who wish to attend the banquet, must purchase a Package C (banquet only) registration. All attendee names and registration fees must be included on the Convention Registration form, which is also due on March 25. There will be no banquet ticket sales at the door, so please advise those attending only the banquet to plan ahead.

Reserved seating will again be used at the banquet. Seating will be by table number with 10 to a table. Tables will be assigned on a first-registration-received basis.

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL AFFILIATE OF THE YEAR AWARD guidelines and application form are in your packet. This is the first year for this award which will be presented to parish woman's group who has gone above and beyond in service, programming, and/or membership. Please consider your parish Council for this award; you are probably doing more than you realize. The deadline for nominations is February 28, 2020.

<u>WHAT TO BRING TO CONVENTION</u> – Once again, we will be collecting donations to assist those in need. All donations are appreciated and will be delivered to the appropriate agencies.

We will be collecting

- Rosaries
- Eyeglasses

- Hearing aids
- Cancelled stamps (other than the Forever flag stamps)
- Pull tabs from cans

This year we will be focusing on women's homeless shelters, domestic violence shelters, and the YWCA for our collections, so please, if you are able, bring

- Women's and children's clothing and socks, all sizes, children and adults
- New underwear, all sizes, children and adults
- Blankets
- Baby clothing and blankets
- New pajamas for women and children, all sizes
- Feminine hygiene products
- Diapers
- Personal hygiene products, such as combs and brushes, toothbrushes and toothpaste, deodorant, razors, soap, baby lotion and soap

CONVENTION DATES TO REMEMBER reminder card enclosed.

There is a lot to convention, and I hope you will join us to enjoy it all. Our committees and commissions are working overtime to provide a spiritual, educational, fun-filled weekend.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me at casey.pond@comcast.net or the contact person listed on the flyers and forms.

We look forward to seeing you at the Sheraton on April 25 - 26, 2020 for our 92nd annual convention!

Yours in faith and service,

Casey Pond DCCW President