

AWARE

A NEWSLETTER PUBLICATION OF THE
DIOCESE OF SALT LAKE CITY COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN
An Affiliate of the National Council of Catholic Women since 1928

2024 SPRING ISSUE

DCCW PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Barb Kerouac — Saint Martin de Porres, Taylorsville

barb0235@msn.com



As I sit here trying to write something inspirational, I wonder....how time is so fleeting. In a blink of an eye things change so rapidly. In these times of the digital and now artificial intelligence, I wonder with all these time saving devices, do we take the extra time to do God's will? Or, are we chasing our own will? Can I slow down to just be with God and His magnificent SILENCE...to hear what His Will is for me? This world we live in is spinning so quickly I hope our DCCW Convention themed "*Path of Renewed Encounter*" will instill in you a path of renewal to refocus your will, to God's will and purpose. In the Encyclical "*Fratelli Tutti*" ("All Brothers"), Pope Francis calls each of us to a deeper understanding of social friendship, community, and our shared responsibility to promote the common good. It calls for a change, in our politics rooted in compassion and charity that places human dignity at the center, unites us and builds community, putting preferential love for those in greatest need, while seeking the common good for all humanity. For this to happen we need to genuinely listen to those with differing views. What will you learn by changing the way you listen to others? Silent comprehension, sometimes you need to reflect on your beliefs, are those beliefs Christ like? Are they God's Will? Here is a quote and prayer from Saint Charles de Foucauld for your reflection:

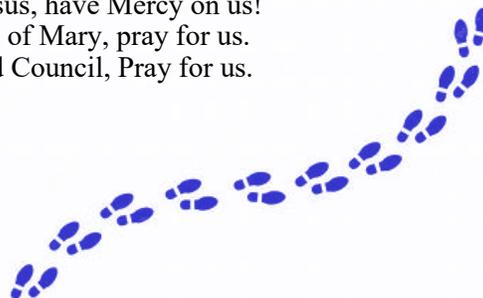
"The one thing we owe absolutely to God is never to be afraid of anything. It is not necessary to teach others, to cure them or to improve them; it is only necessary to live among them, sharing the human condition and being present to them in love."

All I have to say is, boy do I need to reflect and renew my Path to Christ! Come along with me on His path! I hope you all, are able join us at the convention, to reconnect with friends and the sisterhood of Council. It will all seem new as we are experiencing changes being at Little America Hotel for the first time. It may be bumpy but will be fun.

You have inspired me, supported me, guided me, prayed for me, and entrusted me to serve you as President these past two years. I am humbly honored to have had this privilege. Please continue to be AWESOME WOMEN OF FAITH.....Remembering the Miracle of KINDNESS and FORGIVENESS in serving others in Christ's name!

May God bless you all and grant us worldwide Peace!
Sacred Heart of Jesus, have Mercy on us!
Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us.
Our Lady of Good Council, Pray for us.

Humbly yours in Christ,
Barb Kerouac



Prayer of Abandonment

Father,
I abandon myself into your hands;
do with me what you will.
Whatever you may do, I thank you:
I am ready for all, I accept all.

Let only your will be done in me,
and in all your creatures -
I wish no more than this, O Lord.

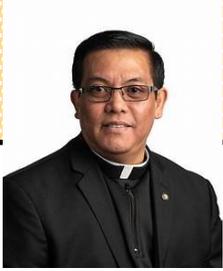
Into your hands I commend my soul:
I offer it to you with all the love of my heart,
for I love you, Lord, and so need to give
myself,
to surrender myself into your hands without
reserve,
and with boundless confidence,
for you are my Father.

Saint Charles de Foucauld

DCCW SPIRITUAL ADVISOR

Father Ariel Durian- St. Peter, American Fork

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THE POWER OF PRAYER... GOD'S VICTORIOUS REIGN OVER WAR...

In the course of human history, the threads of war and peace are deeply imbedded. War, with its devastation, suffering and destruction it creates, leaves a mark of fears in the heart and soul of a nation. Yet, from the ashes of conflict emerges a fervent desire for peace—a longing to heal what is broken and to pick up the pieces that are tainted by blood and death.

War, with its destruction, causes division and loss of lives, disrupts the fiber of society. Families are torn apart, destruction of properties everywhere, and darkness invades the light of hope among us. But in the midst of turmoil that war brings, there arises a collective desire for peace, where guns and bullets are turned into a bucket of water and a sack of wheat.

Peace, with its enduring heart and calming breath, offers reconciliation and dialogue to warring nations. Peace is the foundation where humanity strives to find a common ground for dialogue and reconciliation. But peace is not the absence of conflict and disagreement but the presence of justice in the midst of adversity, recognition in the midst of diversity, respect in the midst of indifference.

With the threat of impending war, there is a universal call to pray for peace. Regardless of one's faith belief, prayer becomes a beacon of hope for all of us. It is our way of pleading the divine to intervene and to halt the threat of war.

In our humble prayer, let us strive to extend our hands for dialogue; let us build bridges of compassion and forgiveness; and let us allow healing to take place patiently.

May our shared effort bring about unity and harmony to which God desires to reign in our midst.



Prayers
for Peace
in our world.

REMINDER:

ANY UPDATES TO DCCW BOARD, DEANERY AND PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION, MUST BE EMAILED TO THE DCCW SECRETARY, JAMIE BEERT, ASAP!

dccw.sec@gmail.com

JAMIE WILL FORWARD UPDATES TO NCCW

Don't Miss Important Year-Round
Communication from DCCW & NCCW

INDIVIDUAL NCCW MEMBERS NEED TO MAKE CHANGES TO YOUR PROFILE ONLINE OR CONTACT NCCW DIRECTLY

THE AWARE NEWSLETTER

Bonnie Siegrist, Editor
Blessed Sacrament, Sandy

The AWARE is published 3 times per year (Fall, Winter & Spring) and is free of charge. Please advise us of any postal/ email address changes, additions or deletions. Send info to: utahbonnie@comcast.net

Color copies of the AWARE are emailed to all those for whom we have email addresses. Please feel free to forward.

Due to the cost of postage, if you still receive this by postal mail and have an email, please consider sending your email address to me. In order to streamline printing costs, all mailed copies will be in black and white.

All email addresses are kept confidential and used for DCCW use only.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN (NCCW)

Amy Kennedy — President-Elect
Cathedral of the Madeleine, Salt Lake City
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The Inside Scoop From Your National Council of Catholic Women....

My primary task as NCCW President-Elect is to chair our National Convention, and I have been busy organizing tours, our fundraiser, and working with our hotel on all manner of logistics for the 2024 NCCW Convention in Oklahoma City. NCCW President Beth Mahoney has created an engaging and interactive program that you can learn all about on the NCCW website Convention page (www.nccw.org). Convention registration opened on April 1, 2024, and I hope many of you will have already registered by the time you read this article. If you are on the fence about attending, here's an inside scoop about some special features of our 2024 Convention to entice you.

- ◆ Discounted Convention Package. Who doesn't love a deal? That is why we are excited to offer a discounted registration package that includes your general Convention registration and three of our most popular add-on events: the Awards Luncheon, Province Dinner, and Banquet. Purchased individually, these events would cost \$635, and our package is \$575.
- ◆ One-Day Registration Options. We heard the feedback and are pleased to resume offering a one-day registration option to encourage those unable to join us for the entire time to come and experience all the NCCW Convention offers. See the NCCW website for all the details.
- ◆ An Evening with Our Sponsors. As part of your Convention registration, you will be able to attend an evening with our NCCW Sponsors. After a light dinner, you will hear lively and interactive presentations from our sponsors to learn about their programs and partnerships with NCCW. This event was one of our most popular last year and is sure to be again in 2024.

I'm looking forward to seeing you in Oklahoma City!

Amy

NCCW Convention At-A-Glance

Dates: August 13 to 17, 2024

Location: Omni Oklahoma City Hotel

Keynote Speakers: Katie McGrady and ValLimar Jansen

Registration Deadline: June 14, 2024

Hotel Registration Deadline: July 19, 2024

More Information: Visit www.nccw.org and click on the Convention tab for information on registration and hotel reservations, along with the latest schedule and Convention news.



SUPPORT THE MISSION OF THE DIOCESE OF SALT LAKE CITY COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN ...

To unite Catholic women's organizations and individual Catholic women in the state of Utah, Diocese of Salt Lake City, in purpose, through **support, empowerment, and education** in the areas of **spirituality, leadership, and service** and respond with Christian values to current issues in the church and society.

NCCW SAN FRANCISCO PROVINCE CCW

Jeannie Audiss, Province Director
Saint Joseph the Worker, West Jordan
jaudiss1234@yahoo.com

The National Council of Catholic Women has not met since our last DCCW meeting. However, the San Francisco Province did have their Annual Province Meeting/Gathering on February 23– 25, 2024 at the Marriot University Park Hotel. We had a great turn out. We had

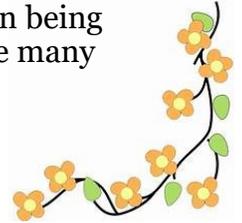
beautiful prayer services led by Susan Neilson. Finding Mary in the Desert and Mary’s Way of the Cross Stations were exceptional.

Michael O’Shea serves as the Province Secretary and Casey Pond serves as the Province Treasurer. Becky Columbo arranged a beautiful fundraiser with lots of great gifts. It was very successful because both donors and buyers were very generous.

The focus this year was past NCCW Resolutions. We had speakers from the Utah Attorney General’s Office presenting on the “Dark Side of Technology” – Predators, Sexting, and Cyberbullying. Their information was excellent and very eye opening. We had a speaker address Restorative Justice. We then had speakers from Catholic Community Services, who spoke on the St Vincent’s Kitchen Academy’s program for teaching Sous Chef skills to low-income clients, and two speakers from the Foster Care Program addressing issues of life after Foster Care. Sunday speakers all focused on Mary, the Eucharist, Lectio Devina Prayer, and Nat-Su Healthcare and healing our indigenous brothers and sisters using cultural traditions.

Our next gathering will be held during our National Council of Catholic Women Convention being held at the Omni Hotel in downtown Oklahoma City on August 13 - 17, 2024. I hope to see many of you there.

May you all continue to be blessed by God’s Peace and Grace!
Jeanne Audiss



CALLING ALL DCCW, DEANERY, AND AFFILIATE PARISH OFFICERS AND COMMISSION CHAIRS.....
OR ANYONE WONDERING WHAT LEADERSHIP IN THE CCW ENTAILS.

A TRAINER FROM THE NCCW LEADERSHIP, TRAINING, AND DEVELOPMENT (LTD) TEAM IS COMING TO UTAH AND YOU’RE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR A DAY OF ENLIGHTENMENT.

MAKE THE TRANSITION INTO YOUR LEADERSHIP ROLE EASIER WITH A CLEARER PICTURE OF YOUR DUTIES AND GET EMPOWERED AS YOU BEGIN, CONTINUE, OR CONTEMPLATE A CCW POSITION. *WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE YOU THERE!*

SATURDAY, MAY 18, 2024
BLESSED SACRAMENT CHURCH SOCIAL HALL
9757 SOUTH 1700 EAST, SANDY
9:00 AM—3:30 PM
Cost \$10—includes light lunch

PLEASE EMAIL YOUR RSVP TO President Kerouac, barb0235@msn.com include your name, parish, CCW position, email, and phone number.

**DCCW FIRST VICE PRESIDENT/
PRESIDENT-ELECT**

Carol Harley — St. Mary's, West Haven
lorac_411@yahoo.com

My, how time flies when you're having fun! It seems like just yesterday I was wishing you all a Happy New Year and commented how the DCCW Convention was only four months away. Now we are down to three weeks. Yikes! As I mentioned then, my big job was going to

be putting together the Convention Program, Woman of the Year Booklet, and PowerPoint for convention, and now that's all a work in progress. Thanks to all of you wonderful women, our many returning advertisers, and to our new advertisers, we are looking good. We are fortunate to have received over 20 full-page, 30 half-page, and 8 quarter-page ads resulting in over \$3500 in advertising revenue, which helps pay all our printing costs. Thanks again to all of you and our wonderful supporters!

There is still significant work to be completed by many people. My biggest job is compiling the programs, and I could not do it without your help and the help of my daughter. She is definitely the brains behind this project! I'll never be able to repay her! This is one job I won't miss next year, but we'd be happy to advise my successor, whomever she may be.

It's hard to believe that this is the last AWARE article I'll be submitting as DCCW 1st VP/President Elect, and harder to imagine that I'll be submitting the next one as DCCW President. I need prayers from all of you for the next two years and beyond. There are some mighty big shoes left to fill!

I'm looking forward to seeing all of you who are able to attend the convention.



**DCCW SECOND VICE PRESIDENT/
WAYS & MEANS CHAIR**

Patricia (Tisha) Ramos-Yarber
St. Olaf, Bountiful
t.ramos801gmail.com

With Spring comes change, and I am excited for our convention this year being held at the Little America Hotel and our new setup for the raffles, etc.

As DCCW has done annually, we will be conducting our convention fundraisers: the silent auction, general raffle, ugly bag raffle, and the \$100 raffle. We have one queen size quilt so far, which was made and donated by Immediate Past NCCW President, Pat Voorhes, but any others are welcomed.

Each affiliate was asked to donate two items to be used for the raffle and silent auction, as well as one table centerpiece. Local vendors throughout Utah and Nevada have also been donating.

We are grateful to again have the Carmelite Nuns with their goodies, Magdalene Religious Goods and new this year The Other Side Academy. We encourage all convention goers to please visit and support each.

Thank you for your continued support and generous donations.
Many blessings to each & everyone.

DCCW IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Becky Colombo — St. Anthony, Helper

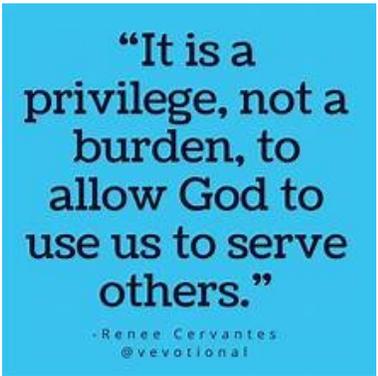
beckyc144@gmail.com

We hope you are reading this article as an attendee at our annual convention for the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women. If not, we miss you and hope you are able to join us next year!

I am happy to say that we have a full slate of officers for the DCCW 2024-2026 council term. Their installation will take place on Sunday, April 28th at the convention. Those women who have answered “yes” to our question to serve on the board for all you beautiful and spiritual women of council is truly a blessing. These days, it seems difficult to find women willing to participate in organized clubs or councils, so God is good.

These women will serve from the close of the April, 2024 DCCW convention to the close of the April, 2026 DCCW convention. Two years always sounds like a long time, but it passes quite quickly. Granted, there may be moments that are challenging for varied reasons, but it is well worth the time spent in serving, especially when you think of the friendships made and satisfaction from being with your sisters in Council.

I have enjoyed my time serving as DCCW Immediate Past President and will be passing the baton on to Barb Kerouac, our current President, as she becomes DCCW Immediate Past President. I will still see you all at our board meetings, as I again wear the shoes of Eastern Deanery President. We all cycle, and then recycle, don't we? It is because we all enjoy and believe in Council and do not want to see it turn to dust. Keep up the excellent work, everyone!



LEADERSHIP COMMISSION

Dawn Haberkorn, Chair

Christ the King, Cedar City

joda1029@msn.com

I am hoping everyone had a very blessed and spiritual Easter! It is a time of renewal and rebirth and with spring here, we see the new growth of our earth and I hope the growth of our own spirituality and love for this beautiful life we are gifted every day.

As my commission as Leadership Commission Chair comes to an end, I must thank these women for all their knowledge and help with the Standing Rules changes and the Convention Guideline changes that were made over the last 2 years. Becky Colombo—Eastern Deanery, Kirsten Mele—Salt Lake Deanery, Kathy Fazio—Southwest Deanery, Karen Fawbush—North Deanery, and Cheryl Johnson—Wasatch Deanery. I appreciate you all!

Our 95th DCCW convention is coming up on April 27-28th. Our theme this year is “Path of Renewed Encounter”. I hope many of you are going to attend this wonderful weekend with your sisters in Christ. It is such a spiritual time to be in a room with 300 Catholic women from Utah. I can't begin to tell you what joy the convention brings to me every year I have attended. I look forward to seeing many of you there.

Please share your talents with a poster of your affiliate's activities to display in the convention hall. It is always fun to look at all the talents and activities the women are doing in their parishes.

I have enjoyed my time as chair of the Leadership Commission and getting to know many women from all over Utah who share in my Catholic faith. May God bless all of you with His love.

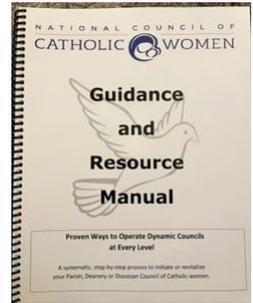


DCCW MEMBERSHIP, DEVELOPMENT AND RESOURCE TEAM

Michael O'Shea, Chair
St. Anthony of Padua, Helper
msmichaeloshea@gmail.com

Bonnie Siegrist, Co-Chair
Blessed Sacrament, Sandy
utahbonnie@comcast.net

The DCCW MDR Team is responsible for membership development and being a resource to women's organizations throughout the diocese. We have always found NCCW to be the greatest resource of information for Councils and encourage the use of many resources available on the NCCW website: www.nccw.org. The NCCW Guidance and Resource Manual is the best resource out there and we really encourage you to order it online from NCCW. It covers everything you need to know to operate a successful Council. The DCCW AWARE newsletter gives ideas of what other Councils are doing with the opportunity to contact them for more detailed information.



You should have already heard or read a member of the NCCW Leadership Team will be coming to Salt Lake City for a special training session for new officers, committee/commission chairs, or anyone who thinks they may want to become an affiliate, deanery, or DCCW officer in the future. We encourage you to take advantage of this special resource opportunity. Hosted by the DCCW it will be May 18th at Blessed Sacrament, Sandy, 9 am—3:30 pm for only \$10 and includes lunch. Such a deal!! If you haven't registered yet, please hurry and contact President Barb Kerouac, barb0235@msn.com, and get your name on the list.

Michael found an article in a booklet called "Living the Seasons" and wanted to share it with you.

St. Teresa of Calcutta Born 1910- Died 1997 Feast Day September 5
Patron Saint of: World Youth Day, Missionaries of Charity, Archdiocese of Calcutta

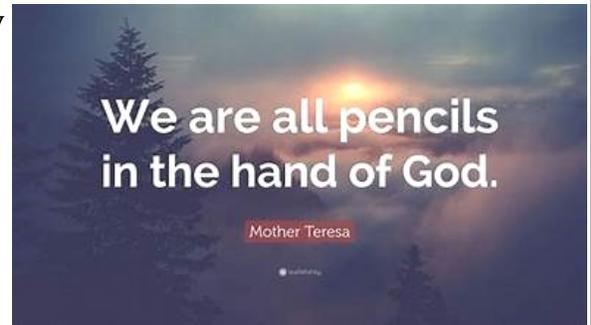
Fondly known as Mother Teresa, she is globally recognized for her work among the poorest of the poor in India. She founded the order called Missionaries of Charity, which continues to be a thriving community worldwide. Her love for the poor and marginalized is an inspiration to serve and find Christ even in those considered unlovable.

PROJECT IDEA: MAKE BLESSINGS BAGS FOR THE HOMELESS

Use a gallon size resealable plastic bag and include:

Nice socks, warm gloves, bandages, wet wipes, nail clippers, toothbrush and toothpaste, tuna & cracker packs, individual packs of snacks, water bottle and sunscreen, enough money for one bus ride in your town to get to a shelter

Keep the bags in your car so that you can hand them out spontaneously when you see a need.



I am like a little pencil in His hand. That is all. He does the thinking. He does the writing. The pencil has nothing to do with it.

Mother Theresa



WANT TO SEE YOUR COUNCIL GROW?? INVITE ONE NEW PERSON TO EVERY CCW MEETING AND EVENT .

Inviting ladies to join your Council is offering them an opportunity to enhance their lives while giving service to their church and community. It can be life changing. Our attitude, enthusiasm, and love of Council is contagious and encourages the stranger to attend a meeting or event. Think about all the wonderful things council does and all it accomplishes. We love Council, love spending time together and find our accomplishments fulfilling and meaningful!

Jeannie Illian, Former NCCW LTD Program Consultant

DCCW DIRECTORS OF MEETINGS

Becky Hicks, Chair
Blessed Sacrament, Sandy
rfhicks50@gmail.com

Marcie Downs, Co-Chair
Cathedral of the Madeleine
marciedowns51@gmail.com

Each year allows us to turn over a new leaf . . . make changes in our lives – choose a specific goal, know that change is a process and start with small steps. After reviewing survey responses from previous years and this last year working with the staff of the Little America Hotel, we are finally here at our April 2024 Convention.



We want to extend our heartfelt thanks to Jonathan Bakker, Sales Manager, and Cariann Layton, Director of Convention Services, Little America Hotel. They are excited that the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women chose Little America to take our next step forward. We also want to thank the individual DCCW board members who have worked to make this transition happen.

To be honest . . . we were worried about the increased costs for this year's convention and are so glad that many of you took this next step with us this year. If you are able to attend, enjoy a wonderful convention and let us know your comments on the survey from.

Blessings to each of you.
Becky and Marcie

AFFILIATE OF THE YEAR AWARD COMMITTEE

Patricia Voorhes, Committee Chair
St. Vincents Parish, Murray patricia.nccw@gmail.com

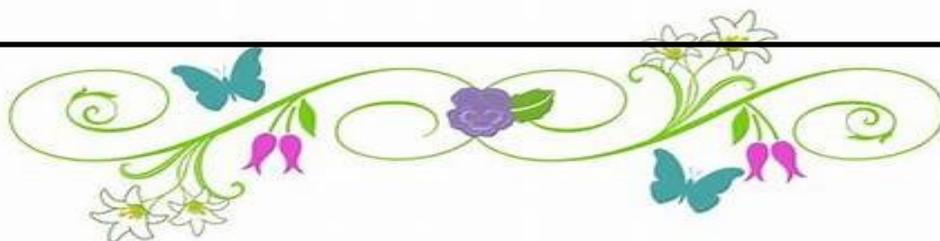
2024 AFFILIATE OF THE YEAR AWARD



We received a good response for the Affiliate of the Year Award. Five affiliates submitted their applications. Thank you to the DCCW Past Presidents for reading the blind applications and choosing this year's awardees. It was an extremely hard choice as indicated by the Past Presidents responses:

"It was very difficult! I felt like all were excellent; This is not easy because they all do so very much; These nominees all have so much good to report; We have so many great affiliates".

The awards for the top three will be given at the Convention. We invite you all to start working on your plans to submit an application for next year. For any questions, please contact Pat Voorhes: 801-712-5792 (patricia.nccw@gmail.com) or Co-Chair: Becky Columbo: 435-650-6392 (beckyc144@gmail.com).



DCCW CONVENTION SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Kathy Fazio, Chair
Christ the King, Cedar City
tommycreek2@infowest.com

Mary LeBaron, Co-Chair
St. Paul Catholic Center, Hurricane
mflebaron@yahoo.com

Our committee has been busy these past few weeks processing applications for scholarships for the 2024 DCCW Convention. We are pleased to report that nineteen women have been granted scholarship assistance.

There seems to be excitement in the air for this year's Convention, and we are happy to have played a small part in making this a great experience for everyone.



Blessed Sacrament CCW Easter Egg Hunt
Every child also gets a stuffed animal along with their candy.



DCCW Past Presidents who were able to attend the Spring lunch. Three times a year all DCCW past presidents along with the current president and spiritual advisor are invited to a lunch hosted by past presidents on a rotating basis. What a great way to honor the bond between past leadership. Have you considered such a gathering in your council?



Blessed Sacrament Inn Between Donation Delivery



Bikers Against Child Abuse—B.A.C.A. speak to St. Martin de Porres CCW

**WANT YOUR PICTURES IN THE AWARE?
SEND THEM TO THE EDITOR AND WE
WILL INCLUDE AS SPACE ALLOWS.**

SPIRITUALITY COMMISSION

Susan Espinoza, Chair
St. Joseph the Worker, West Jordan
susane0101@gmail.com

Gracemarie Belvedere, Co-Chair
St. Marguerite, Tooele
gracemariebelvedere@gmail.com

Our faith life is a lot like a garden. God plants a variety gifts and talents into our hearts and souls. Gifts and talents that no one else has and are meant only for us. It's up to us to nurture those seeds, to work hard and produce a bountiful harvest that gives glory to God. It's never easy and it takes a lot of dedication, as you can see when you read about the lives of the saints.

In the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke, Jesus proclaims the parable of the Sower and the Seed and how the seed falls on various types of ground: hard, rocky, thorns and fertile. This parable should help us to reflect on our own lives and how well we have allowed God's gifts to grow in our lives. Have I allowed pride, jealousy or anger to harden my heart? Have I allowed fear and anxiety to choke off God's graces? Am I willing to die to myself and so to live for God and thus use my gifts and talents for spreading the gospel and building up the Church? Only you can answer those questions.

To help the gifts of God's graces grow in your heart and lives, remember to fill yourself up with daily prayer, reading of the scriptures and celebrate the Sacraments, especially in Reconciliation and the Holy Eucharist.



"God has placed you here
for a purpose,
whatever it might be;
Know He has chosen
you for it
and labor faithfully.
Bloom where
you're planted!"

Prayer for New Growth and Flourishing

Lord, I thank you for the "March winds and April showers that bring May flowers." You know what is necessary to prepare me for what You have in store for my life. Help me to receive what You have for me. Prepare me as You prepare the seeds. Grow me strong, nourish and protect me with Your truth so that I can break through the dirt, sprouting into a healthy "flower" that radiates Your glory in the earth. Amen.
by: Heather Barr at ibelieve.com

DCCW CONVENTION WOMAN OF THE YEAR PROGRAM

Lydia Farnel
St. Peters, American Fork
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Susan Neilson
St. Francis of Assisi, Orem
susan.neilson@hotmail.com



Hello all!

We are happy to announce that we have **28** very special ladies whom we will be celebrating at the 2024 Woman of the Year Convention Banquet this year! We would like to say thank you to those parishes who submitted their nominee for Woman of the Year. Hopefully those who didn't participate this year will consider next year.

We look forward to seeing all of you at the DCCW Convention 2024!

DCCW LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION

Donna Murphy, Chair
St. Thomas More, Cottonwood Hts.
drmurphy@gmail.com

Brandy Farmer, Co-Chair
St. Thomas More, Cottonwood Hts.
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The 2024 Legislative Session ended on March 1 after starting on January 16, 2024. It was an interesting and somewhat different session with some impact of more polarization this year as compared to previous years. There was also some behind closed doors politics happening without much public input or knowledge about the issues, which were rushed through quickly.

Overall Utah had a successful year with managing the state budget as Utah has historically been known for managing a well balanced and controlled budget. There are times when Utah's budget includes 30% of Utah's budget and we also have a Rainy Day Fund, which can be used when needed. Utah had a rainy day fund of \$1.9 billion at the end of fiscal year 2023, which includes the General Fund Budget Reserve and the Education Fund Budget Reserve.

As President of the Women's State Legislative Council of Utah, we had many legislators from both parties come speak to us about current bills, which have the potential of becoming law. There was a repeated bill regarding clergy reporting child abuse during confessional settings. This bill has been a topic on Capitol Hill for many years. This year, the Catholic Diocese decided not to oppose this legislation and it did pass. This House Bill (HB) was H.B. 432 sponsored by Representative Anthony Loubet, Republican and Senator Michael McKell. This bill says "When a member of the clergy reasonably believes that a child is the subject of ongoing abuse or neglect, the member of the clergy may report the information even if the perpetrator made a confession to the member of the clergy regarding the abuse or neglect." It was signed into law by Governor Cox on March 13, 2024 and will go into effect on May 1, 2024. This new Utah law supersedes "The Code of Canon Law a collection of laws and decrees that regulates the life and activities of the Catholic Church and its members" as per the Vatican website.

As we all know from the 2022 repeal of Roe vs Wade, states have individually been managing the abortion issues which have caused much chaos in various states with women needing to travel to other states to seek abortion. There are some states which are not considering rape or incest, or the life of the mother as Utah does have that consideration in their current statute. HB 560 Licensing Modifications passed this year, this is a modification of the 2023 passed bill which included closure of abortion clinics. This bill was sponsored by Representative Karen Lisonbee and Senator Dan McCay, both Republicans. It has been sponsored by previous Democrat legislators.



Let us please remember the seven themes of Catholic social teachings from the www.usccb.org website: **1. Life and Dignity of the Human Person**, "The Catholic Church proclaims that human life is sacred and that the dignity of the human person is the foundation of a moral vision for society. This belief is the foundation of all the principles of our social teaching. In our society, human life is under direct attack from abortion and euthanasia. The value of human life is being threatened by cloning, embryonic stem cell research, and the use of the death penalty." **2. Call to Family, Community, and Participation**, "The person is not only sacred but also social. How we organize our society -- in economics and politics, in law and policy -- directly affects human dignity and the capacity of individuals to grow in community. Marriage and the family are the central social institutions that must be supported and strengthened, not undermined. We believe people have a right and a duty to participate in society, seeking together the common good and well-being of all, especially the poor and vulnerable." **3. Rights and Responsibilities** as "The Catholic tradition teaches that human dignity can be protected and a healthy community can be achieved only if human rights are protected and responsibilities are met. Therefore, every person has a fundamental right to life and a right to those things required for human decency. Corresponding to these rights are duties and responsibilities--to one another, to our families, and to the larger society." **4. Option for the Poor and Vulnerable**, "In a society marred by deepening divisions between rich and poor, our tradition recalls the story of the Last Judgment (Mt 25:31-46) and instructs us to put the needs of the poor and vulnerable first." **5. The Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers**, "If the dignity of work is to be protected, then the basic rights of workers must be respected--the right to productive work, to decent and fair wages, to the organization and joining of unions, to private property, and to economic initiative." **6. Solidarity** as "At the core of the virtue of solidarity is the pursuit of justice and peace. Pope Paul VI taught that if you want peace, work for justice, "The Gospel calls us to be peacemakers. Our love for all our sisters and brothers demands that we promote peace in a world surrounded by violence and conflict," and **7. Care for God's Creation**, as "We are called to protect people and the planet, living our faith in relationship with all of God's creation. This environmental challenge has fundamental moral and ethical dimensions that cannot be ignored."

Parishioners have been encouraged to research the web sites of www.le.utah.gov as well as www.dioslc.org to learn about the role of Catholics and role of civic engagement. Please contact me at drmurphy21@outlook.com or text me at 801-414-4725, if you are interested in joining Women's State Legislative Council or have any questions I can help answer.

NORTHERN DEANERY
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The Northern Deanery held our last meeting on 16 March at Holy Family. It was a small but productive group, with seven ladies in attendance along with our Spiritual Advisor, Deacon Tom Devereux. We discussed the upcoming DCCW and NCCW conventions. In addition, the Northern

Deanery is planning a retreat for late September and has put together a planning committee. We hope to get participation from each parish. Below are the latest reports for each parish. As usual, the ladies of the North are very busy serving our parishes.

Holy Family

- ◆ We are continuing to collect hygiene items for CCS. We had a guest speaker, Vicky Mager, from Catholic Community Service.
- ◆ We had our annual Spaghetti Dinner on February 3rd with a raffle, 50/50, and entertainment by a wonderful accordion player. Our confirmation youth group served ice cream and helped with cleanup.
- ◆ Our CCW nominated three very deserving women for our Women of the Year. Ballots were put out and all ladies of the parish voted before/after mass February 16th/17th. Judy Mellott was chosen for Holy Family's WOY.
- ◆ We had our Lenten Retreat on March 2nd. We sold 40 tickets with 38 ladies braving the weather to attend. The theme was *Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World*. It included a continental breakfast, recitation of the Ten Virtues of Mary, and distribution of handmade chaplets. Father Joseph spoke on our theme. The ladies attended Mass and lunch after which Christine Jacobson-Ware talked about keeping our mind/body healthy and also referred to our theme. The ladies were each given a bag of M & M's (Mary and Martha) to snack on.
- ◆ March meeting we invited all parishioners to join us as Karen Fawbush spearheaded our Mary's Way of the Cross. Afterwards, everyone was invited for tea and cookies and shared their reflections of the readings.
- ◆ Upcoming events are elections/installations of new officers, Baby Shower, St. Martha's Baby Project, and Confirmation/First Communion receptions.

St. James the Just

- ◆ Our second annual CCW Christmas Fair was held on December 8th. Members of the parish and CCW donated home baked goods and 40 gift baskets for the silent auction. The Fair was held after all masses. We also had Santa and Mrs. Claus in attendance. We sold out of all baked goods and all gift baskets were auctioned off. Our net revenue was approximately \$3,000.
- ◆ In December we donated \$1,000 to our parish's DDD efforts, which helped meet our DDD obligation.
- ◆ January: St. James CCW donated funds to cover the cost of the RCIA books for the year.
- ◆ In February our CCW member supported Father David's annual "Dancing with Father" activity in the Social Hall. Women come together with Father for western line dancing, food, and fun.
- ◆ In March, our CCW planned a spiritual activity for Adoration. Our beloved Deacon Tom presided and explained each part of the ceremony. After Adoration we had potluck dinner and continued discussion with Deacon Tom and Father David
- ◆ Upcoming Events: May 4: CCW Appreciation Dinner for entire parish as a thank you for supporting us in our fundraising efforts. Spaghetti Dinner will be served. June 7 & 8: St. James Annual Yard Sale. Summer Date TBD: Spiritual Retreat to include a CCW Membership Drive

Saint Mary Catholic Church

- ◆ We started the year with our Annual Baby Shower for Jesus. Collected and donated \$4k+ worth of baby items and monetary contribution to CCS' Martha's Baby Project.
- ◆ Elected new board members for 2024-2026
- ◆ Attended a church's Lenten retreat presented by the missionaries of Father Kolbe
- ◆ Sold Easter Lilies to decorate the church at Easter.
- ◆ Host for Soup and a Movie after the Stations of the Cross.

St Rose of Lima

- ◆ In January we had our annual Baby Jesus Celebration. We had a speaker from the organization, Journey, give a presentation on how they help pregnant women. Donated items were given as a contribution to Journey.
- ◆ In February we sold homemade tortillas. The sale was very successful, so we plan on selling them again.
- ◆ We had our parishioners nominate Woman of the Year using forms given out at Mass. We had many nominations from our Spanish community, and Eva Mendoza was selected as St. Rose of Lima's 2024 Woman of the year.
- ◆ In March we are having our first Clothing Exchange day. We have asked for nice clothes to be donated. People will be able to come in and get what they need free of charge.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone at the Convention!

EASTERN DEANERY

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St. James the Greater CCW, Vernal celebrated their 100-year for their parish - Bishop Solis celebrated mass. A history booklet and cookbook were compiled to commemorate the occasion. St. James

supports the Friend's Against Family Violence, the Juvenile Justice and Youth Center, and assists the Knights of Columbus with Bingo. They paid the postage on 12 Boxes of Joy that the youth put together. During Lent, they hosted a potato/soup bar for the parish on Friday evenings after Stations of the Cross.

St. Helen's CCW, Roosevelt hosted the September DCCW board meeting and in October the Eastern Deanery CCW meeting. Our annual yard and bake sale were in October, too. This year our special project was to decorated and donate a Christmas tree representing St. Helen and the Roosevelt Interfaith Council for the local Enchanted Forest fundraiser. It was a great fundraiser for our group. We held our annual Bazaar and also the St. Nick program, which helped 14 families with gift cards for 28 children and food cards for their Christmas meal. Both St. Helen's and St. James will be providing meals for the Pilgrimage to the National Eucharistic Congress passing through Roosevelt and Vernal while visiting the Kateri Tekakwitha Center in Ft. Duchesne.

St. Anthony of Padua CCW, Helper We started our first meeting by inviting Landrie Anderson from Go Gold Memorial to talk about her organization that supports childhood cancer awareness. We painted rocks for her memorial walks. In October we held the 2nd Annual Witches Bingo. Fun was had by all. In November we volunteered for the annual church carnival. We also donated to our local food bank. We celebrated Christmas by having our annual dinner at the Carbon Country Club. We made and donated stockings to our local Children's Justice Center. At the January meeting, our speaker was Dorothy Wilson of the Genesis Pregnancy Center. They help with pregnancy tests and prenatal classes. We gave them a generous donation.

On March 17th, the EDCCW meeting was held in Helper. We honored the Women of the Year from each parish: St. Helen's: Lauren Forster, St. James': Christy Young, St. Anthony's: Hollie Hatch Stapley, and Notre Dame: Pat Colosimo Guarascio

We elected and installed new officers for 2024-2025. Becky Colombo: President, Barbara Jewkes: Vice-President, Linda Mitchell: Secretary, Marsha Murphy: Treasurer, Pat Musich: Past President

The affiliates of the EDCCW all host funeral dinners, receptions for First Communion, Confirmation, and Graduation. Members clean the church, altar linens, and clean the hall. They are active in all aspects of the parish: as Parish Council, teaching Faith Formation, RCIA coordinator. Many serve as lectors, eucharistic ministers, and greeters. Several ladies serve as CCW officers, Deanery officers, and serve on the DCCW board. Many support NCCW as individual or supporting members, and attend NCCW conventions. To close our year, we are all working on the items to take with us for the DCCW Convention.



It has been an honor to serve as President the last two years. Our deanery consists of three small rural parishes. We may be small, but we accomplish a lot in our individual parishes, our deanery, DCCW, and our communities. It makes me very proud and appreciative of all we do as we represent our roles as Catholic women.



SALT LAKE DEANERY
Stacey Oliveto, President
St. Olaf, Bountiful
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The Salt Lake Deanery is a well-oiled machine that doesn't stop when it comes to serving their parishes and communities.

Cathedral of the Madeleine Women's Society previewed the first half of Video One from

the [FORMED Eucharistic Revival video series](#) in February. In March, they received a presentation on a chapter of a book titled, "Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist" by Brant Pitre, followed by a discussion.

Our Lady of Lourdes Magna Council donated \$650 for a canvas print of Our Lady of Lourdes and Bernadette at her feet that will hang in the confessional area. They are continuing to hold monthly bingo bake sales to raise money. They also held the annual Easter egg hunt at Pleasant Green Park with A LOT of eggs and candy and had left over energy to celebrate Father Kelechi's birthday. The Council is also involved with the Victor Marquez Golf Tournament that will be in June. They are getting donations and sponsors for a hole in memory of loved ones or businesses. This is a big fundraiser with Bishop Solis on the greens.

Saint Ann's Ladies Guild put the fun in their fundraiser with their Mardi Gras Luncheon in February. They had a successful fish fry and have participated in Stations of the Cross during Lent. The ladies are looking forward to attending the convention.

Saint Marguerite's Council donated food items and put together 180 weekend meal packs for students classified by their school district as 'homeless'. On March 23rd they delivered 21 lilies and mailed Easter cards to parishioners who are either homebound or in nursing homes. On Palm Sunday, in support of the Saint Marguerite School fundraising bake sale they served 185 breakfasts after their two masses. In April they will be getting an update on the status of Switchpoint, a new homeless community resource center. They will be electing new officers and attending the DCCW Convention in April. In May they will install their new officers for 2024-26, host a dinner honoring their Woman of the Year, and celebrate their Golden Rose Award winner.

Saint Olaf's Council put on their fundraiser Tea Party in February with a large attendance of new and old faces, gift baskets, and guest speaker Mary Anne Berzins. They hosted a soup supper during Lent and collected food for the Ladies of Charity, Center of Hope food pantry. They baked cakes and helped at the first Three Kings parish event. In March they donated their time and money to The Interfaith Service Day, sewing bibs and walker carriers for local nursing homes and putting together shower kits for the Weigand Center. In April they will honor their woman of the year with a presentation at Mass and with a reception to follow.

Saint Patrick's Council has been helping with bingo and are actively fundraising to help sponsor ladies to attend the annual DCCW convention and the Woman of the Year banquet. They are helping with funeral luncheons and they coordinated the soup social with stations during Lent.

Saint Vincent de Paul ladies hosted an interactive Stations of the Cross and held a Seder meal for affiliates. They have chosen Pat Voorhes as their Woman of the Year. In April they will be holding a shower for the Inn Between and electing new officers, just in time for the Leadership workshop presented by the NCCW Leadership team. They continue to host coffee and donuts for the parish twice a month. In May they look forward to celebrating Father Sam's birthday.

The **Salt Lake Deanery** held their annual spring luncheon at Saint Vincent de Paul with both the Saint Vincent de Paul and Saint Patrick councils working together to put on a very successful event. We had 3 guest speakers from The Other Side Academy. This is a 501(c)(3) public non-profit organization where criminals, homeless and substance abusers can change their lives, free of charge. We had close to 80 attendees and installed new officers for the upcoming term. It has been a very generous, full, and successful year for the Salt Lake Deanery.

WASATCH DEANERY

Annette Pressley, President
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It has been my honor and privilege to serve as president of the Wasatch Deanery for the last two years. I am so proud to be a part of this great group of Catholic women. They work so hard to support each other, their parishes, and all people in need. Many thanks to Gabby Gauchay for developing and maintaining a Wasatch Deanery website: <https://>

sites.google.com/view/wasatchdeaneryccw/home We will welcome Gabby as our new Deanery President, Robin Marvive-Vice President, Rose Stehno - Secretary, and Joan Simard - Treasurer. Commission reports will be posted on the Wasatch Deanery website and included on the DCCW website as part of our annual report. Congratulations to the Wasatch Deanery's Woman of the Year recipients who are well-deserving and have done so much for their parish communities.

St. Martin de Porres in January, after hosting the Sumi Nungwa, a medical supply collection for them was started and presented in March. February was a crafts night and made sock bunnies. In March we had Bunco night. During Lent the CCW hosted Lenten Soup Supper after the Stations of the Cross each Friday. Work is ongoing to start a girls Youth CCW group. We are truly grateful for Father Dominic's prayers and support as we work diligently to engage our community to support one another.

St. Peter Council of Catholic Women, in March, treated parish members to different vegetable soups and rolls prior to the Stations of the Cross. Two of our ladies read the Bi-lingual Passages for each station. In April Lydia Farnell will present a service idea to make Blessing Bags (toothpaste/brushes, soap, deodorant, money, etc.) kept in our cars to give the Homeless. On May 14th, Gabby Gauchay will speak to us about her faith Journey. We will have a Wine & Cheese party afterwards!

Saints Peter & Paul CCW meets on the First Saturday of the month, following 7 AM Rosary and 8 AM Mass. This is a Spanish-speaking CCW group. In February, we celebrated Candlemas with a traditional Mexican breakfast at our meeting. We signed up to pray the rosary daily for our 40 Days for Life in the parish. In May, Ursula Quintana, the Flame of Love Director for the Diocese, will speak on the Flame of Love Movement in Utah.

St. Francis of Assisi hosted the Deanery meeting and afterward took some members on a tour of the Food and Care Coalition, which our parish helped found several decades ago. During our March meeting, we prayed Mary's Way of the Cross. We revived a parish tradition of serving vegetarian soups free of charge after Stations of the Cross on Fridays during Lent. In May, we'll have a Mother's Day potluck dinner and installation of new officers along with a Needs Drive for the Food and Care Coalition.

The Ladies of Saint Thomas More CCW continues monthly Meet and Mingle as well as monthly business meetings. 125 Valentine cards were made and distributed. During the Lent, we organized Mary's Way of the Cross. Several new women participated. In May, we will disburse funds earned from our Ladies Luncheon, participate in an interfaith service project called the Turtle Project, hand out roses to all the women of our parish on Mother's Day and end our year in May with a potluck. We will continue Meet and Mingle during the summer.

St. Francis Xavier CCW holds monthly meetings where we socialize and make crafts. For Valentine's Day, we made cards for the residents at St. Joseph's Villa. We helped set up and present the Stations of the Cross and made soup for the gathering afterwards. In April we are potted flowers. We are continuing to recruit new members and engage with the women of our parish.

Blessed Sacrament CCW meets monthly and sponsors 1st Friday Adoration. We purchased Lenten Daily Meditation books, which focused on a Season for Healing Hearts. In February preparations were made for the March Easter Egg Hunt, DCCW Convention and sign-ups to lead Stations of the Cross. In March we stuffed 5200 plastic eggs with candy and prize tickets. Every child goes home with a Stuff Animal. 132 children participated in the hunt.. We led Mary's Way of the Cross in March.. Our March meeting ended with BINGO and prizes for the winners. With funds earned from our fundraisers last year we were able to substantially subsidize our ladies who are attending convention. Our Annual Garage Sale is June 7-8, 2024. Donations drop-off starts June 1.

San Andres Women had a very nice Lenten retreat. We had a soup lunch and a good turnout. Our theme was "*Moving the Stone*". We also went as a group to see the movie "Cabrini" followed with lunch where we were able to share our thoughts about the movie and just enjoy our time together.

St. Joseph the Worker CCW meets monthly. In February, they prayed a Votive Rosary, accompanied by a CD narrated by the late Fr. Groeschel and Simonetta, vocalist. How to Pray the Rosary pamphlets provided to each woman. Our Valentine Cookie Sale was a sell out and we made \$775. In March, we celebrated St. Patrick's Day by bringing something green or Irish, listened to Irish theme music and history of St. Patrick. We served Lenten Soup for Friday Stations of the Cross. We hosted a celebration after Easter Vigil for all the RICA candidates. April we gave handouts about how not to be scammed and we discussed recent scamming activities, even religious scams. The CCW presented Sofia Rose Arriaga with a nice stone cross and gift card, to recognize her as our nominee for the *Golden Rose Award*. We are very proud of her as her ultimate purpose in life is for God's glory. She seeks to use her life to make a positive impact. We are having a Spring Women's luncheon and fashion show on April 20th.

St. John the Baptist CCW has been meeting monthly. In January, we had a planning meeting. For February we read 'Chicken Soup for the Soul - Living Catholic Faith'. Instead of discussing the book (which would be hard with 101 stories), we discussed the topics of how we live our faith and how our faith helps us. In March we met before Stations one Friday and had one of our members give a short talk on Stations and how they came to be part of the Catholic tradition during Lent. Stations were led by the women. In April, we will host the RCIA welcome dinner (their first meeting after Vigil). We will also attend DCCW convention. In May, we will lead one weekly parish rosary and then follow it with a small reception where we will recognize all our WOY nominees. In June we will host a wine and cheese tasting.

SOUTHWEST DEANERY
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The Southwestern Deanery is pleased to serve as the host deanery for the 2024 DCCW Convention. We are excited about the new convention venue – Little America Hotel, and we are confident that we will conquer any challenges that go along with

settling into a new location. Our ladies have worked hard to assure that everyone has a meaningful convention experience.

DEANERY NEWS: The SW Deanery’s Annual Meeting was held on February 17th. Officers were elected for the 2024-2026 term: President, Mary Skomal (St. George Parish); Vice President/President Elect, Jennifer Street (Christ the King); Treasurer, Marguerite Smith (Christ the King); Secretary, Kathy Fazio (Christ the King). Nadia Neumeier (St. George), Jenni Fazio (Christ the King) and Dawn Haberkorn (Christ the King) were appointed to serve as representatives to the DCCW Board.

ST. GEORGE PARISH: In February, the CCW organized a parish-wide Ministry Fair, entitled “Your Family Away from Home,” to unite parishioners and make them familiar with different groups and ministries within the parish. There were 29 different booths and displays. The CCW provided an interactive booth, FORMED, which brings beautiful and faithful Catholic content to parishes and individuals. Those proficient in FORMED helped parishioners download the app and explained how to navigate it. Our Palm Sunday bake sale was a success, providing funds that will be donated to various Catholic causes. Our Sunshine Committee continues to visit assisted living facilities, veteran’s homes and the homebound, and to give prayer shawls to the sick and bereaved. Mass intentions will be arranged for present and past CCW members who are ill or have passed away. An elegant invitation and welcome card was designed that shows the activities of the CCW in an engaging and appealing way and provides contact information. These cards were distributed at the Ministry Fair, bake sale and at other events.



CHRIST THE KING: In February, Donna Rish announced that she was stepping down as President to allow time to recover from the death of her son. Vice President Jenni Fazio assumed the Presidency for the remainder of the 2023-2025 term; and Donna Rodriguez was appointed as the new Vice President/President Elect. This transition did not slow down our activities, which included appointing new Church Commission and Communications chairs, CWC members presenting Stations of the Cross one Friday during Lent, sponsoring a sweatshirts/sweatpants drive for our local Care & Share, collecting “Lenten Tree” donations for Canyon Creek Services and the Family Support Center, participating in the Cedar Area Interfaith Alliance’s collection of items to make birthday cake kits for families in need, providing our SUU Newman Club students with “survival kit” snack bags for finals week, assembling 300 hygiene kits for local charities, supplying meals for a parishioner recovering from surgery, hosting a monthly dinner for Newman Club students, updating our Bylaws, and continuing to pray the Rosary before our monthly meetings. We hope to begin a prayer shawl ministry in the near future, and look forward to hosting a baby shower for a parishioner who needs some support..

SEE YOU AT THE CONVENTION!

**SOUTHWESTERN
 DEANERY 2023
 CONVENTION HOSTS...**

**THANK
 YOU**

**FOR SERVING WITH
 A WILLING HEART,
 A JOYFUL SPIRIT, &
 CONTINUED FAITHFULNESS.**



**Have questions or want more info on an article?
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THANKS FOR READING ♥