

Minutes of the 94<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention  
Diocese of Salt Lake City Council of Catholic Women  
April 23-24, 2023  
Sheraton Hotel, Salt Lake City  
*Wide Open Hearts: Abiding in Faith, Hope and Love for the Eucharist*

**Saturday, April 23, 2022**

**Welcome:** 8:30 am: Barb Kerouac, DCCW President and Convention Chair, welcomed everyone to the 94<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the Diocese of Salt Lake City Council of Catholic Women.

**Opening Prayer Session:** Susan Espinoza, Spirituality Commission Chair, Loretta Lazar, Co-Chair, and Paula Terry led the Morning Prayer service. Piano accompaniment was provided by Jenni Fazio.

**Presentation of the Colors and Pledge of Allegiance:** Girl Scout Troop #259 from Sandy, under the direction of troop leader Nicole Wicker, presented the colors and led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Convention Welcomes:**

Rev Ariel Durian, DCCW Spiritual Advisor, welcomed attendees. He reminded us Easter is the most wonderful time of the year, gathering brothers and sisters to walk in the light of Christ. He expressed his gratitude for all the ministries the women of the Church support at the Parish, Diocese, and Church levels. God is good, be good to each other! Happy Easter!

Jessica Jurkowski, Northern Deanery President and Convention Host, thanked everyone for attending. She thanked all her volunteers from the Northern Deanery. She informed the attendees that the volunteers were the women in the pink scarves and to ask any of them if we needed help or had questions. She concluded with, "Enjoy your bags and the Convention!"

Carol Harley, DCCW First Vice President/President Elect, offered the DCCW welcome. She thanked Jessica Jurkowski and the Northern Deanery for all their work, remarking the bags are beautiful. She welcomed everyone and asked all to be sure to come back next year.

Barb Kerouac, DCCW President thanked everyone for all the Ads in the program.

**Introductions:** President Barb Kerouac introduced the head table.

**Minutes:** Jamie Beert, DCCW Secretary reported the minutes of the 93<sup>rd</sup> Annual 2022 DCCW Convention were approved as revised at the April 22, 2023, DCCW Board Meeting.

**Agenda Amendments:** President Barb Kerouac reported on amendments to the agenda as follows:

Centerpiece drawing will be at Noon on Saturday (not 12:30).

Rosary will be held on Sunday at 7:30 in the Northstar Room.

Pat Voorhes, NCCW President and Jeanne Audiss, San Francisco Province Director will

not be with us this weekend.

**Credentials Report:** President Barb Kerouac introduced Cheryl Johnson, Convention Registration Chair. Cheryl reported the credentials for this convention:

Package A (Weekend): 182

Package B (Saturday): 57

Package C (Banquet): 215

Package D (Sunday): 7

Total Packages A, B & D: 246

Total Banquet attendees: 397

Women of the Year: 29; Religious: 14; first time attendees for Package A, B & D: 23

### **NCCW Reports:**

Amy Kennedy, NCCW Secretary, delivered the message from NCCW President Patricia Voorhes. She reminded all members to vote for the officer and nominating committee positions. If you are not an individual member, join now so you can vote. She encouraged all to attend the NCCW convention being held in Salt Lake City. She also asked for us to volunteer at the NCCW Convention, reminding us many hands make the job much easier. She asked us to continue our Spirituality, Leadership and Service to the Church.

Michael O'Shea, San Francisco Province Secretary, shared the message from San Francisco Province Director Jeanne Audiss in her absence. She sends her blessings. She also encouraged all to vote in the NCCW elections. She reminded everyone there was an NCCW table in the raffle room with information about NCCW, the upcoming convention, and the form to sign up as an individual member of the NCCW.

**DCCW President's Report:** President Barb Kerouac announced she will not be reading her report, in an effort to reduce our carbon footprint, she encouraged everyone to visit the DCCW website to read all the reports. She encouraged all to attend and volunteer at the 1<sup>st</sup> NCCW Convention ever held in Utah. She discussed the upcoming Diocesan Eucharistic Revival Mass and Rally on July 9<sup>th</sup>, asking all to volunteer to help at the event. Marie Devereux has a table near registration to sign up. She shared that she hopes the convention fills our hearts with a great hope and love for our precious Eucharist, the "Source and Summit" of our faith. She discussed the Blessed Carlos Acutis display of 21 of the 108 Eucharistic Miracles in the Raffle room. She wants these displays to reach every Catholic Parish, School and event throughout the Diocese, there is a flyer in the Convention bags. She thanked the many dedicated women in our Diocese. She announced all Past Presidents and asked those in attendance to stand so they could be acknowledged for their continued support of the DCCW. She asked all the First Time attendees to stand to be recognized. She concluded with on behalf of the Salt Lake DCCW Board, we would like to give a heartfelt appreciation for each and every one of the women in attendance, and those not able to attend, for all their work and dedication to their Parishes, CCWs and communities. She ended with wishing all to have a great Convention.

**Announcements:** Carol Harley announced to have all the past Presidents gather for a picture. She also announced there was a prayer basket in the prayer room to place prayer intentions. The prayer intentions will be taken to Mass at the Cathedral. She reminded everyone to fill out the membership surveys. She invited all to view the posters from the affiliates displayed in the hallway. She recognized the Emerald level sponsor, Elaina Rodriguez with EWTN, and Diamond level sponsor, Javier's Authentic Mexican Food. She introduced the Vendors: Immaculate Heart

Religious Goods and the Carmelite Nuns, and the Exhibitors: Pregnancy Resource Center, NCCW information and volunteer sign up for Convention, and Eucharistic Rally information / volunteer sign up. She encouraged everyone to visit the raffle/silent auction room. She asked attendees to fill out the evaluation form that was included in the convention packets. She reminded all to visit the NCCW and Eucharistic Revival Mass and Rally table to sign up to volunteer.

**Recess:** 9:45 a.m. **Reconvene:** 10:00 a.m.

**Keynote Address:** President Barb Kerouac introduced keynote speaker Reverend Christopher Grey from St Mary's of the Assumption in Park City. Fr Grey's theme was "Easter Joy in the Eucharistic Church". He started with a discussion the National Eucharistic Revival, which we are in the second stage at the Diocese level. He asked us how the Eucharist has touched us. He talked about Eucharistic Amazement. He discussed details of the Eucharistic Revival Mass and Rally in July at the Mountain America Expo Center. He stated we need a revival of Eucharistic Identity. The Rally will bring amazement, excitement and engagement with all the Catholics in the Diocese. He encouraged all to attend and volunteer at the event. The next event will be the National Eucharistic Congress meeting in Indianapolis in the summer of 2024. He reminded us that we are the women of the eucharist and to imitate Mary with her most Holy Mystery of incarnation of Christ via the Holy Spirit in the womb. Mary obeyed her Son without question. He asked us to draw strength from the Eucharistic mystery. The Eucharistic Revival is just the beginning and a revival of our Eucharistic identity, which we should embrace with amazement, excitement and engagement.

**Announcements:** Vice President Carol Harley asked attendees to support the on-site vendors, sign up to volunteer at the Eucharistic Revival Rally and NCCW Convention. She also encouraged everyone to visit the raffle/silent auction room, view the poster session, and fill out the evaluation form.

**Recess:** 11:00 a.m. **Reconvene:** 11:15 a.m.

**Leadership Commission Speaker:** President Barb Kerouac recognized Dawn Haberkorn, DCCW Leadership Commission Chair. Dawn introduced Sister Veronica Fajardo with the Sisters of the Holy Cross. She has served in Utah, Ghana and North Carolina. She has been an elementary/special education teacher for 12 years. The theme of her discussion was "Responding with Eagerness to the Body of Christ". She asked us to be more eager to help others come to Christ. She shared information on the formation of the Holy Cross Priests, Brothers and Sisters and their focus on working with people and communities. She reminded us to nourish our Souls and then share with others. She is from Nicaragua and shared the hostile environment for Catholics there. They are persecuted for their Faith, yet that just makes their Faith stronger. She asked us as leaders to mediate on the Eucharist, respond with eagerness, lead as great companions, be amazed at what we have and what is to come, and to continue to support and lean on each other. We are all the Body of Christ.

**Recess:** 12:00PM

**Announcements:** Vice President Carol Harley reminded attendees to visit the Prayer Room, silent auction/raffle room and vendors. She also stated Lunch would be served at 12:30

**Lunch:** 12:30 p.m. Lunch was served with a blessing of the food by Fr. Durian.

## **Lunch Activities:**

Vice President Carol Harley announced the Winners of Our Lady of Good Counsel Awards. For attendance, there was a tie for 2<sup>nd</sup> place St Anthony of Padua and St Francis of Assisi with 14 Package A; and first place was Christ the King with 16 Package A.

For mileage, 3<sup>rd</sup> place was St. Anthony of Padua, Helper, with 1,554 miles traveled; 2<sup>nd</sup> place was St. George, St. George with 2,408 miles traveled: and Christ the King, Cedar City, was awarded first place for traveling 3,528 miles.

Throw-Down Challenge to recognize increased Convention attendance: Winners were announced by Dawn Haberkorn, Leadership Commission Chair. One Package A and one Package B for the 2023 Convention were awarded to St George (A) and St Martin de Porres (B).

Our Lady of Good Council Affiliate of the Year honors were announced by Chairpersons Pat Musich and Becky Columbo. There were seven affiliates who applied. The advisory board was amazed at how much our affiliates were doing. Third place was awarded to St. Joseph the Worker, West Jordan; second place was awarded to St. George, St George; and the 2023 Affiliate of the Year was St. James the Just, Ogden. St James the Just restarted their council from scratch this year and increased their membership from 4 to 28 in seven months. The three affiliate presidents came up to receive their awards. All were congratulated on receiving this outstanding service award.

Jessica Jurkowski conducted the centerpiece drawings, and a brief break was taken.

**Call to 2024 Convention:** President Barb Kerouac recognized Mary Skomal, Southwest Deanery President for the call to our 2024 Convention. The ladies of the SW Deanery created a song using Shania Twain's "Man I Feel Like a Woman" to invite us to come next year!

**NCCW Call to Convention:** The Bee themed skit that the DCCW representatives performed at last year's NCCW convention was shared with us. Fr Ariel and Cleo Mato were excellent Bees. It was enjoyed by all.

**Eucharistic Miracle Display movie:** President Barb Kerouac discussed as she was doing research on the Eucharistic Revival, she discovered information about a young man named Blessed Carlo Acutis and the Eucharistic Miracles Display he created. She was fortunate to get to see the display at the NCCW convention. EWTN created a documentary about Blessed Carlo Acutis that we will be showing now. She hopes it inspires us as much as it has inspired her.

**Announcements:** President Barb Kerouac announced that after the Closing Prayer, there is an opportunity to spend time with the Blessed Sacrament in Adoration in the Prayer room. There is also the opportunity to have confessions heard in the Alta room. There are three Priests available. Also, take time to visit the Eucharistic Miracles Display. Be mindful of times as it will be a tight schedule before heading to the Cathedral for Mass.

**Closing Prayer:** Susan Espinoza and Loretta Lazar led the closing prayer.

**Announcements:** President Barb Kerouac thanked Director of Meetings Becky Hicks for being so remarkable given she had both knees replaced during all the prep for convention, plus took

on the volunteer coordinator for the NCCW convention. President Kerouac thanked her for the time, as well as the guidance through the “deer in the headlights” view. President Kerouac then asked Becky Hicks to give information and instructions for getting to Mass. Director of Meetings Becky Hicks gave information regarding the buses and this afternoon’s Mass at the Cathedral and expressed her gratitude to Judge Memorial High School for allowing us to use their buses, and to the bus drivers who volunteer their time. She also reminded us that the last bus boards at 4:15.

President Barb Kerouac reminded those leaving the convention this afternoon to leave their badge holders on the registration tables. She also reminded us that there will be a morning Rosary at 7:30 in the Prayer room.

**Recess:** 3:00 p.m. for Mass at the Cathedral of the Madeleine.

**Reconvene:** 7:45 p.m.

**Woman of the Year Banquet:** President Barb Kerouac welcomed all present and introduced the head table and the DCCW past presidents in attendance.

**Invocation:** Fr Ariel Durian introduced the Clergy and Religious present and then offered tonight’s invocation.

**Woman of the Year Presentation:** President Barb Kerouac introduced Reverend Kenneth Vialpando for his remarks.

Fr Vialpando recognized Mary Cirone from St Marguerite’s Parish as a 100 year old woman who has served for so many years and continues to serve. He acknowledged all the work we as women do for the Church. He discussed Pope John Paul II’s recognition of the women’s role in the Church. "The hour is coming, in fact has come, when the vocation of women is being acknowledged in its fullness, the hour in which women acquire in the world an influence, an effect and a power never hitherto achieved. That is why, at his moment when the human race is undergoing so deep a transformation, women imbued with a spirit of the Gospel can do so much to aid humanity in not falling". He thanked us as mothers, daughters, sister for all the work we do. Go Girl, Girls Rock, Girls Rule!

Susan Neilson, Woman of the Year Co-Chair, introduced the Women of the Year for 2022. Fr. Vialpando and Fr. Durian presented each woman with the Our Lady of Good Counsel medal. 29 Women of the Year were recognized.

St Francis of Assisi choir sang a beautiful Ave Maria.

**Announcement:** President Barb Kerouac congratulated all the Women of the Year on their well-deserved distinctions. She thanked all for attending.

**Recess:** 09:22 PM

### **Sunday, April 23, 2023**

**Rosary:** 7:30 a.m. Recitation of the Rosary was held in the Prayer Room, led by Gracemarie Belvedere.

**Reconvene:** 8:30 a.m.

**Opening Remarks:** President Barb Kerouac welcomed those in attendance, reminding us to silence our cell phones. She then recognized Spirituality Co-Chairs Susan Espinoza and Loretta Lazar

**Prayer Service:** Spirituality Commission Chair Susan Espinoza and Co-Chair Loretta Lazar led the Morning Prayer service. Piano accompaniment was provided by Jenni Fazio.

**Breakfast:** 9:00 a.m. Fr. Ariel Durian, DCCW Spiritual Advisor, gave the blessing and breakfast was served.

**Announcements:** Carol Harley invited everyone to visit the raffle/silent auction room and to support our on-site vendors. She also encouraged everyone to complete the convention evaluation form.

**Recess:** 9:45 a.m. **Reconvene:** 10:00 a.m.

**Legislative Commission Speaker:** President Barb Kerouac recognized Donna Murphy, who introduced guest speakers Deacon Greg Werking and Paula Terry. Their topic was the Right to Life Commission. They discussed the recent overturning of Roe vs Wade and the injunction that was still in place in Utah, filed by Planned Parenthood. This case will be before the UT Supreme Court later this year. Paula asked us to continue to pray to end abortion. Paula then informed us about how we can help Moms in need. She presented information about the Diocese supported Walking with Moms in need program and encouraged us to form this group in our parishes. With the program in each Parish, you can help women in your Parish and area. She provided a website to gather information to share with our Parish Priest to start the program. Other programs discussed were the St Martha Baby Projects in Salt Lake as well as CCS, the nine Pregnancy Resource Centers we have in the state, Gabriel Project in Park City and the Lamb of God maternity home in North Salt Lake that is just getting started. The Knight of Columbus are providing aid by getting matching grants. She reminded us the Walk for Life would be June 24.

**Announcements:** Carol Harding gave information about submitting silent auction and ugly bag bids and the awarding of the raffle prizes. She also shared there would be an Elder Fraud presentation at St Vincent de Paul on May 11.

**Recess:** 11:00 a.m. for hotel check out. **Reconvene:** 11:15 a.m.

**General Session/Business Meeting:** President Barb Kerouac welcomed everyone to the Sunday session of the 93<sup>rd</sup> annual Convention.

**Convention Welcome:** Fr. Durian welcomed attendees and reminded us that we are People of the Eucharist. We are a living vessel of the presence of the Eucharist. We need to provide help to women who are in dire need of help. We must continue to grow our faith and share faith with those in darkness.

**Hosting Deanery President:** President Barb Kerouac introduced Jessica Jurkowski, Northern Deanery President. Jessica thanked everyone for attending and hoped everyone had a great time. Barb thanked her and all the women of the Northern Deanery for all their work. She recognized they are a small but mighty Deanery!

**Welcome Response:** President Barb Kerouac introduced Carol Harley, First Vice

President and President Elect to present the Welcome Response. Carol thanked the Northern Deanery, Cheryl Johnson for all her work with registration, and Karen Fawbush for her work with the Hotel registrations.

**Introductions:** President Barb Kerouac introduced the head table.

**Final Credentials Report:** Cheryl Johnson, Convention Registration Chair, reported:

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**Resolutions:** Parliamentarian Casey Pond proposed the following resolutions, (detailed in Attachment A): 1) Drawing our Life from the Eucharist; 2) Wholehearted Response to the Body of Christ; 3) Respecting the Dignity of Life; and 4) Daily Rosary and First Saturday Devotions.

Casey read the resolutions. President Kerouac announced that the Parliamentarian has proposed adoption of the four 2023 resolutions by this Convention. Casey moved to adopt the resolutions. No discussion to the Motion followed. The motion was approved by the assembly.

**Memorial Service:** Becky Columbo and Michael O'Shea honored 21 members of our community who have passed.

**Rite of Commitment of 2022-2024 DCCW Officers and Deanery Presidents:** Fr. Durian, Amy Kennedy, NCCW Secretary, Jeanne Audiss, Province Director and Immediate Past President Becky Columbo presided over the rite of commitment of DCCW officers and Deanery Presidents. President Barb Kerouac thanked all the officers and Deanery Presidents for committing themselves to continue serving our organization for the next year.

**Announcements:** Carol Harley reminded attendees to fill out the survey forms, return the badge holders and to support the businesses that advertised in the convention program.

**Closing Prayer:** Susan Espinoza, Loretta Lazar and Susan Nielson led the assembly in the closing prayer service, with Jenni Fazio providing keyboard accompaniment.

**Raffles and Silent Auction:** Tish Ramos-Yarber, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President/Ways & Means Committee Chair, conducted the raffle and silent auctions. She thanked everyone for supporting the vendors, for purchasing tickets and placing bids on the auction items.

**Final Remarks:** President Barb Kerouac thanked everyone for making it a memorable and enjoyable weekend. She reminded us to spread the word and invite more women to join us next year. She asked us to be like young Blessed Carlos Acutis and live to please only Jesus and to know His gift of the True Presence in our lives.

**Adjournment:** 1:00 p.m. President Barb Kerouac adjourned the convention.

Respectfully submitted,

Jamie Beert  
DCCW Secretary