

Diocese of Salt Lake Council of Catholic Women
November 18, 2025
President's Report

As many of you may or, may not know, I was installed as president of the DCCW in November, after our dear friend, Carol Harley resigned due to health issues. During this time, our beloved Director of Meeting, Becky Hicks, left us to become an angel in heaven. To say it has been an adjustment is an understatement. It has been overwhelming. The largest task is planning our 2025 Annual Convention in April. The amount of support I am receiving from my sister Catholic women is heartwarming and much appreciated. By the time you receive this you should have received your Call to Convention with all the information needed. Please get this to your members as soon as possible so we can all enjoy a prayerful and enlightening Convention.

As we begin this Jubilee year as Pilgrims of Hope, with words from Pope Francis,

"We must fan the flame of hope that has been given us and help everyone to gain new strength and certainty by looking to the future with an open spirit, a trusting heart and far-sighted vision. The forthcoming Jubilee can contribute greatly to restoring a climate of hope and trust as a prelude to the renewal and rebirth that we so urgently desire..."

This led me to think how hope and prayer are different but so connected.

Hope and prayer are both related to a desire for something to happen, but they differ in a few ways:

Focus -Hope can be more general, while prayer is usually directed towards a higher power. For example, you might hope for good weather but pray for healing or guidance.

Effort -Hope involves effort, while prayer involves God's grace. For example, you can hope that a factory's dispatch schedule is honored because you can work for it, but you can only pray for a friend in the ICU to get well.

Expectation -Hope is an expectation and anticipation that rests in what we believe. It's more substantial than mere wishful thinking.

Relationship -Prayer is a relationship and communication with God. It's an act of faith, and its expectation is shaped by hope.

Patience -Praying with hope involves patiently waiting for God to act. It's praying consistently with optimism and confidence that God hears our prayers.

Some food for thought.

Submitted by: Annette Pressley, President DCCW, January 15, 2025

