

Salt Lake Diocesan Council of Catholic Women

President's Report

November 10, 2018

*Oh, Lamb of God, it is our one desire
to seek your Holy Face,
to be women of grace.*

Lynn Cooper

Gina Loehr, one of our speakers at the NCCW Convention, gave a talk entitled, "Reflecting God's Joy: Blessed is She Who Believed." She told us that the Church, traditionally, is feminine; it is referred to as Mother Church and the Bride of Christ. She continued and talked about the fellowship of women, and how, in that fellowship, Mary's mission was affirmed. Mary went to see her cousin Elizabeth, who was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed:

"Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb! But who am I that the mother of my Lord should come to me? The moment your greeting sounded in my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed is she who trusted that the Lord's words to her would be fulfilled." Luke 1:42-45 (NAB)

That was quite the affirmation, and no one else in history has received one quite like it! I don't believe any other woman has been asked to take on such a consequential mission. Our missions aren't even close to our Blessed Mothers', but we can still say 'yes' to God.

It is often suggested that we repeat daily positive affirmations to ourselves to boost our confidence, but how about making it your mission to give daily affirmations to others? Giving genuine thanks for the efforts of another; commending someone on a job well done; praising a person for the success their hard work achieved. Those are such simple ways to boost the spirits of another! Your good words can gladden the hearts of the people around you – friends, strangers, coworkers, and especially our families. Showing grace with words and with sincerity can be our daily mission. Our attitude must be that of Christ.

Bishop Solis was generous to share some of his time and his insightful advice during our pastoral meeting with him. Without labeling it our mission, he asked us all to "manifest the tenderness of the love of Jesus", and to always work with kindness.

And if we're not already, we certainly can be grace-filled women, leading our organizations, our own fellowship of women, with Christian values. Accept your mission, and work to make this world of ours a kinder, gentler, more peaceful place.

Wishing you peace,

Casey Pond
DCCW President

P.S. Get ready – convention is less than six months away!