



Dear Members of DCCW,

This annual report from the DCCW President is very different from those written in the past. The year 2020 was truly “one for the books”. The pandemic of 2020 prevented the annual gathering of women at the Sheraton of Salt Lake City in April. Attempts to reschedule convention to July, then September, then to the following April were all thwarted by the virus and the new date was set for September of 2021 to ensure the safety of gathering as a group. As I write this report, there is once again a rise in the number of COVID cases (with the Delta variant present). I hope next year’s annual report can begin with a report on a successful I convention in 2021!

The 2020 convention of the National Council of Catholic Women was scheduled for August of 2020 and it was planned to commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the organization. However, due to health and safety reasons, the convention was postponed to August of 2021. Their clever change to 2020ne kept the anniversary year as a reminder, with the change to “one”. The celebrations are still in place for 100 years of NCCW and there are 21 women from Utah planning to attend the convention in Arlington, Virginia August 25-28. The WUCWO (World Union of Catholic Women’s Organizations) conference will take place on August 24 in Arlington as well. The Most Reverend Bishop Oscar Solis of Salt Lake Diocese is also planning to attend the NCCW Convention. He will be there to concelebrate the mass on Saturday and to see our own Patricia Voorhes installed as NCCW President, as well as Amy Kennedy in the Office of NCCW Secretary. The theme for 2020ne is “A Vision for the Future”. In 2018 the process of creating a funding to financially aid five women from our diocese to attend NCCW Convention was began. A one-time donation from the Bishop was given to DCCW for this funding and one woman was chosen for each of the 5 deaneries to attend convention for the first time. This funding was created to encourage education and leadership in these women to further their journey in DCCW and to experience the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our mother organization.

As President, correspondence was written and sent to those priests receiving new assignments in August of 2020, as well as again in August of 2021. Notes of encouragement were also mailed to all seminarians serving temporarily in the Diocese this summer.

The members of DCCW support the annual Give-Me-A Chance event in August, but the dinner did not take place in August of 2020 or 2021. A virtual raffle was held instead, and a golf tournament was hosted for GMAC in June of 2021 to raise monies. Our DCCW donated a basket to the raffle both years.

Member of the DCCW Board met at Blessed Sacrament Parish in Sandy, with social distancing and masks enforced. Marcie Downs presided over the installation of new DCCW Officers and Deanery Presidents. After the installation, the gavel was handed over to the new DCCW President, Becky Colombo, who finished the agenda and ended the meeting.

On September 26, 2020, St. Anthony Parish hosted the DCCW meeting at the Ramada Inn in Price. The new budget was approved for the DCCW year of 2020-2021. The changes to boundaries of the Wasatch Deanery and Salt Lake Deaneries were discussed. It was voted on and approved to budget money for a plaque for the Affiliate of the Year Award.

Council Sunday was on October 18, 2020 and several affiliates celebrated in their parishes while following pandemic guidelines. The Intermountain Catholic published a picture and article for Council Sunday.

I participated in an online ZOOM meeting with the Most Reverend Bishop Solis for our annual meeting to discuss the status of DCCW. It was a very bleak outlook for finances in the Diocese. DCCW did not request the annual donation from the Bishop from the Diocesan Development Drive.

The DCCW Board meeting was held via ZOOM online on November 14, 2020. Discussion included keeping the same affiliate of the year awards for 2021 instead of voting on new winners, since not many affiliates had been able to meet or perform many activities due to isolation. The By-Laws and Standing Rules revisions were reviewed and voted on for approval.

On January 8, 2021 we received the shocking news that our beloved DCCW Spiritual Advisor and Moderator, Father Rene Rodillas, passed unexpectedly due to the COVID-19 virus. His funeral service was held on January 20, 2021 at the Cathedral of the Madeleine with limited attendance due to the pandemic. A memorial fund was established for donations for Fr. Rene's family. At the time of this printing, there is still no announcement of a new spiritual advisor for the DCCW council of Salt Lake. We pray for the repose of the soul of Fr. Rene and miss his faith-filled, joyful nature.

Another Zoom meeting was held online for our January 23, 2021 DCCW Board meeting. Discussion included the status of the dues from affiliates and deaneries to NCCW. There was no Province meeting held in 2020 or 2021. Ms. Gloria Zrzyzanowski had been installed as San Francisco Province Director online through NCCW.

An emergency DCCW Board meeting was held on March 20, 2021 via ZOOM to nominate and elect a new First Vice President for DCCW. MaryAnne Mulvihill notified the Board that she had received a job transfer to another state and needed to resign as First Vice President. Barbara Kerouac was nominated and elected on this date.

April 17, 2021, our last ZOOM meeting (for the current time) was held for our DCCW Board. At that time, Casey Pond, DCCW Past President, conducted a formal installation ceremony for Barb Kerouac. A date was chosen for a Parliamentarian Workshop conducted by Ms. Kathy Boyer for the date of June 8, 2021. All the women were invited to participate at no charge. Several women took advantage of the training.

On June 12, 2021, our DCCW Board members met in person once again at St. Olaf's Parish in Bountiful. The Call to Convention Packets were distributed and discussion included plans for the convention scheduled for September 11-12, 2021. Marcie Downs announced the winners of the NCCW Funding. They were as follows: Northern Deanery: Carol Harley; Wasatch Deanery: Annette Presley; Salt Lake Deanery: Stacey Oliveto; Southwest Deanery: Kathy Fazio; and no recipient for Eastern Deanery (applicants withdrew).

The annual Christmas Card signing event did not take place in 2020, but cards were still mailed to all the priests in the Diocese by the DCCW President.

The Salt Lake Deanery sponsored an online MDR training from NCCW on April 10, 2021. They opened up the invitation to all the members, and there were several women who attended the training.

This wraps up our crazy, but productive year during the pandemic with challenges every step of the way. I look forward to the rest of the year as I make it through NCCW Convention, our DCCW convention, and begin our planning for the April 2022 DCCW Convention! I can say that I am pleased I was retired from my regular job, to take on this task. Needless to say, it has been a real adventure! Prayer has helped me with many decisions, in addition to the advice of those who have held the position of president in the past. Thank you to all members of the DCCW and for all your help and patience over the past year!

Humbly,

Becky Colombo  
President, 2020-2021  
Diocese of Salt Lake City Council of Catholic Women