

## **Women on a Mission**

While the formats of our council gatherings vary by the type of event we are hosting - business meeting, social event, service project – three things should remain constant at the start of any event. We should begin all council events by honoring God, country, and organization. These first two elements are easy enough to satisfy since all of our gatherings should involve an opening prayer and agendas for our business meetings usually involve reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. The trickier element can be remembering to honor the organization that unites us as individual Catholic women and as Catholic women's organizations: the Council of Catholic Women. To do this, I suggest that at each gathering the women recite the mission statement of their group.

Mission statements are a great way to emphasize to our women of the purpose and goals of our organization. Our mission statements serve to remind us all that we are women of faith and women of action who are united in prayer and purpose through the Council of Catholic Women. With your mission at the front of their minds, members will be inspired to live this mission, and their renewed enthusiasm will help grow your organization and attract new members.

If your group does not have a mission statement, use the National Council of Catholic Women's mission statement (below) as your template. Whether you continue to use NCCW's mission statement or craft one specifically for your women's group, a mission statement is just words on paper if it is forgotten about soon after it is created. Remember to use and live your mission statement and be women on a mission!

If your organization would like help in creating or revising its mission statement, reach out to the MDR Committee for help.

### Mission Statement of the National Council of Catholic Women

The National Council of Catholic Women acts through its members to support, empower, and educate all Catholic women in spirituality, leadership, and service. NCCW programs respond with Gospel values to the needs of the Church and society in the modern world.