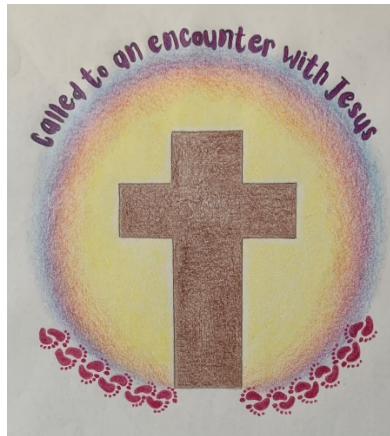


DIOCESE OF SALT LAKE CITY COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN
An Affiliate of the National Council of Catholic Women



2025 CALL TO CONVENTION

The official call to the Ninety-sixth Convention of the Salt Lake City Diocesan Council of Catholic Women

Dear Friends of Council,

The Diocese of Salt Lake City Council of Catholic Women cordially invites you to attend their annual convention on **Saturday, April 26, and Sunday, April 27, 2025**, at the **Little America Hotel, 500 South Main Street, Salt Lake City, Utah**. The proud hosts of this year's convention are the Salt Lake Deanery Council of Catholic Women. "*Called to an Encounter with Jesus*" will be the theme, which follows the 2024 NCCW convention theme. The Leadership and Legislative Commissions are featured.

Mass transportation will be provided by Catholic School buses as in the past as part of your registration. We will be honoring the Woman of the Year recipients at the Saturday evening banquet along with Reverend Ariel Durian, Salt Lake City DCCW Spiritual Advisor with special guests from the Diocese.

We have an inspiring and informative program designed to focus on our convention theme, "Called to an Encounter with Jesus".



Michael Edwards will be our keynote speaker. He is a dynamic Catholic speaker and passionate advocate for youth and young adults. Michael has served as the Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries for the Diocese of Salt Lake for over 10 years. He is also Co-Chairman of the Blessed Carlos Acutis Apostolate. He is currently in Diaconate formations for the Diocese of Salt Lake, a high school history teacher, and a retired Command Chief Master Sargent with the Utah National Guard. His talk, "Young Saints, Timeless Lessons: How Their Lives Teach Us About the Eucharist, Forgiveness, and Faith" will explore the inspiring lives of young saints and how their examples can guide us in deepening our relationship and encounter with Jesus.

Kevin and Kit Cummings are our guest speakers. They are a dynamic couple who are very involved at the parish and diocesan level. Kevin is currently in formation to become a Permanent Deacon for the Diocese of Salt Lake. His professional experience has focused primarily on post-secondary education and peace building/conflict resolution. His wife, Kit, was commissioned by Bishop Solis as a Lay Ecclesial Minister. Their presentation, “Encountering Grief-A Catholic Understanding of Miscarriage, Still Birth, and Infant Death” will focus on pregnancy loss from a Catholic perspective and the development of pregnancy loss resources for the diocese.

Our two featured Commissions are Legislative and Leadership.

Leadership Commission Speaker is **Alex Guzman**. Alex is currently a Diaconate Candidate in the Diocese of Salt Lake and is involved in many ministries at St. Mary’s Parish in West Haven. He is also an entrepreneur and professor of Entrepreneurship and International Business at Weber State University and Salt Lake Community College. His upcoming presentation, “Responding to the Call: A Life of Stewardship and Service,” will invite us to reflect on the questions: *We know He is calling, but are we answering? Are we even listening?*

Legislative Commission Speaker is **Dr. Natalie King**, a palliative care physician at Intermountain Healthcare and a well-known speaker in the diocese and nationally. She also serves on the USCCB Palliative Care and Hospice Task Force. Her most recent publication is “Intensive Caring: A Practical Handbook for Catholics about Serious Illness and End-of Life Healthcare” is available from Ave Maria Press- Her presentation is titled, “Called to an Accompaniment: Navigating Serious Illness and the End-of Life for Catholics”.

We will have confessions and Eucharistic Adoration available for your spiritual renewal. These crucial elements of our faith strengthen our resolve and Call us to an Encounter with Jesus. Please take advantage of both the Rite of Reconciliation and Eucharistic Adoration.

ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES:

- Prayer/Meditation Room and inspiring prayer services
- Poster Session
- Vendors: Immaculate Heart Religious Goods, Carmelites Candies and Jams

CONVENTION MEALS:

We will be at Little American Hotel for the second year. We have selected varied menu items that we hope you will enjoy. We have tried to keep your previous comments in evaluations in mind, plus tried to keep costs reasonable, which is difficult, as food prices continue to skyrocket. (Meals are the greatest cost of the convention.) The hotel will provide vegetarian, vegan, and gluten free meals as indicated on your registration forms. ***Please make sure your dietary restrictions are noted on your registrations.***

TENTATIVE AGENDA

The agenda enclosed will give you an idea of each day's timeline.

CONVENTION MASS

The 5:00 pm Vigil Mass at the Cathedral of the Madeleine will again be a highlight of the convention. Each year we have graciously been able to attend the regular evening Mass. We are visitors to the Cathedral and really

appreciate this opportunity. Please remember to be reverent and avoid visiting when entering the Cathedral, we are guests in the Lord's house. We again will have buses from the local Catholic High School provide transportation. If any of your attendees are challenged by mobility problems, please know that the buses drop us off at the front of the Cathedral, requiring them to climb the stairs. Please plan to provide private transportation, if needed. The Cathedral has accessibility via the Plaza/courtyard by entering from C Street. Due to limited parking, it is suggested you arrive no later than 4:45 pm. **The WOY Group Picture will take place at the end of the Mass at the Cathedral. WOY should plan to take the last bus back to the hotel or have private transportation.**

CONVENTION ADVERTISING: Flyer enclosed

Please promote Convention attendance by using the enclosed flyer on your bulletin boards, websites, social media page(s), and in your weekly bulletin as an insert. Be creative on spreading the word and inviting women from your parishes, friends, and acquaintances. The flyer will also be on the DCCW website www.dccwutah.org. **WE NEED YOU to spread the word and make it known that all are welcome.**

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM: *Application and guidelines Enclosed (deadline March 1)*

The DCCW Scholarship Program is offered to individuals who want to attend the convention but are unable to do so because of the costs involved. A copy of the Scholarship Application and Guidelines is enclosed. (Additional copies are on the website.) We advise all women to first check with your parish organization to see if they offer any convention financial assistance. Be assured the Registration and Scholarship Chairs keep all applications strictly confidential. **The Scholarship Application deadline is March 1, 2025, so it can be processed prior to the registration deadline.**

CONVENTION REGISTRATION: Forms enclosed (deadline March 21)

PLEASE NOTE: 2 Separate forms: 1 for Convention Registration (Package A, B, & D)

1 for Banquet Registration (Package C only)

By doing this we are hoping to alleviate any confusion for the WOY Banquet registrants.

Please use the enclosed *Registration forms*, which can also be found on the DCCW Website. **The Registration Deadline is March 21, 2025. This includes the Woman of the Year and her guests.** All

Registrations need prepayment. Make one check payable to the "DCCW" and note "Convention Registration" on the check.

2025 REGISTRATION FEES:

Package A	\$282 includes registration, convention bag, all meals, (banquet included) and Mass transportation.
Package B	\$126 includes Saturday registration, Breakfast, lunch, (NO Banquet) and Mass transportation.
Package C	\$96 includes Saturday night Banquet only: MUST PRE-REGISTER: NO at door registrations accepted.
Package D	\$75 includes Sunday only registration and breakfast.

Please fill out the registration forms completely and legibly, double check spelling of all names (as this list will be used for name badges), and **make sure to list banquet table seating preferences (who is to sit together), if more than 8 registrants.** There will be 2 choices for the banquet, *please* make sure you mark the choice of meals, Short Ribs **OR** Salmon on your registrations. (There will be vegan, vegetarian, gluten free substitutions

available if it is marked on your registrations. The banquet pricing is the same for special dietary needs) It's important to *note any dietary restrictions and list them in the space provided on the registration form, as well as those attending with special needs*. This makes it much easier to accommodate special needs if known in advance. Please remember to **mark first time attendees** on the registration form to assure they are given a proper welcome. Parking fees are waived.

PLEASE NOTE: A late fee of \$20 per registration will be added to each registration postmarked after March 21, 2025. After April 11, 2025, no refunds will be given. Final meal counts are turned into the hotel, and the DCCW is responsible for payment at that point.

HOTEL RESERVATIONS- This year is a change to Hotel Reservation. Each person will be required to make their own reservation with the hotel. There is a link and a group code to receive the below rates. **There are only single King Bed Rooms available (due to a national volleyball tournament in SLC). To compensate for this inconvenience, Little America is offering us the rooms at half-price.** A form providing the link to book online and group code to book via telephone, as well as step by step instructions on booking online is enclosed and on the DCCW Website, www.dccwutah.org. **Deadline to receive the group rate is March 25.** Room rates may not be guaranteed after this deadline.

Little America room rates per night include single, double, triple, & quad (1-4 individuals)

Garden room King Bed (outside, next to hotel) rates: \$89.00 (approx. \$102.00 with tax)

Garden Premium room King Bed (in hotel, close to ballrooms) rate: \$89.00 (approx. \$102.00 with tax)

Tower room rate King Bed: \$99.00 (approx.. \$113.00 with tax)

Incidental room charges are the responsibility of each person. All rooms are provided with the usual amenities and hospitality items. Time will be allotted during the Sunday program to facilitate **11:00am check out**. (arrange for a late check-out for an added fee) The hotel front desk can arrange to check luggage prior to check-in and at check-out, if needed.

WOMAN OF THE YEAR (WOY): (Deadline March 1) & (Banquet registration deadline March 21)

The information about the selection of the Woman of the Year from your parish is enclosed. This information is also available on the DCCW Website: www.dccwutah.org The name of your Woman of the Year along with a brief biography and "headshot" picture, is to be sent to the addresses on the enclosed forms due by **Saturday, MARCH 1, 2025**. This is 1 month away so please do not procrastinate, as it takes time for us to compile the information needed to present at the Woman of the Year banquet. Any names received after March 1, 2025, may not have their names in the convention program.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: The Group Picture will be taken at the Cathedral following the Vigil Mass.

ALL Women of the Year, family members and friends wishing to accompany her to the banquet must purchase at least the package C (banquet only) Registration. All attendee names and registration fees must be included on the Convention registration form, due March 21, 2025. *THERE WILL BE NO BANQUET TICKET SALES THE DAY OF THE BANQUET.* Please advise them to plan ahead.

Woman of the Year (WOY) Banquet Seating and General information:

All seating for the Woman of the Year Banquet is pre-assigned and there will be no "on-site" banquet tickets sales. Seating will be by table number. If your affiliate has more than 8, please indicate who should sit together. Tables

will be assigned on a first registered basis. We will attempt to seat parish attendees together based on registration forms. The earlier you get your registration in, the better your chance of receiving your seating request.

NOTE: Make sure the Woman of the Year's name is on the forms. If her party contains more than 8 people, please indicate who will sit together. We will attempt to seat them at nearby tables.

There will be a cash bar available during the social and banquet. Dietary restrictions will be honored, if possible. Please indicate in the space provided on the registration as to those restrictions. Dietary accommodation is at the discretion of the hotel. One meal is available which meets vegetarian, vegan, and gluten-free guidelines.

PROGRAMS FOR AFFILIATES AND YOUNG MEMBERS (Deadline March 1, 2025)

Enclosed is information for the Affiliate of the Year and Golden Rose Award (for young women (14-22) who are involved in church activities and ministries) Please read the material for application submission,

CONVENTION PROGRAM/ ADVERTISING- see additional forms. (Deadline March 1, 2025)

This important form of advertising, congratulating, thanking, or recognizing is extremely helpful in defraying the cost of printing our convention program and other materials. (Many of our attendees look at the ads, first!) Please reach out to family, friends, and businesses you support or consider purchasing an affiliate, deanery, or individual ad. Congratulate your WOY, your priest's ordination, anniversary, birthdays, and memories. Our personal contacts are the best resources. Prices are very reasonable and can reach over 150,000 Catholics in this state. **Additional copies of the letter and ad submission form are available on the DCCW website. Convention program ads and payment are due by March 1, 2025**

CONVENTION "THROW-DOWN" CHALLENGE (See enclosed flyer)

Always worth trying to win a free convention package for the 2026 Convention.

CENTERPIECES, RAFFLE, AND SILENT AUCTION ITEMS (see flyer)

Tradition asks that each affiliate provide **one centerpiece, one raffle item, and one silent auction item.** Individual donations are also graciously accepted. Proceeds from the raffle and silent auction are our only fundraiser source of income for the year. We appreciate your generosity and support. To assist in planning; Please let Cynthia Acosta, Ways and Means Chair, know what you are donating and an approximate value by **April 3, 2025. Reach Cynthia: Call/text 801-641-8288 or email acosc400@yahoo.com**

Please keep in mind that the ladies need to be able to see over the centerpieces when seated. The centerpiece drawing will be during Saturday's lunch hour, so keep them low enough to see over during the morning session.

UGLY PURSE Auction:

Deaneries and affiliates are invited to participate in the popular Ugly Purse Auction. Find the ugliest purse you can, to be filled with new, unused items valued at a minimum of \$25. The purses will be part of the silent auction, so make them fun! All purses should be tagged with the donor and the value. What is inside stays a surprise....no peeking!

POSTER SESSION

Let us see what you have been up to... "Tell your story." Display all the remarkable things your affiliate has done over the past year. We like innovative ideas and seeing how you flourish. The one time of year we all get a pat on-the-back for our accomplishments..... well-deserved too. Please bring your own easel to display your poster, as we are not allowed to hang items on the walls in the conference rooms.

DCCW SERVICE PROJECT: WHAT TO BRING April 2025 (see enclosed flyer)

We will continue to collect our usual items: rosaries, eyeglasses, cancelled stamps (not forever stamps) , pull tabs from cans and mini hygiene products. There will be collection boxes for these items. We are also collecting items for: **The Carmel of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Monastery** in kind donations: laundry soap, toilet paper, cleaning supplies, gift cards, pocket size tissue and 8 oz. canning jars and monetary donations. **Give Me A Chance, A Daughters of Charity Ministry:** toilet paper, laundry soap, body soap, garbage bags, hygiene products, diapers size 3 and 4 and monetary donations.

CONVENTION DATES TO REMEMBER

Time seems to fly by and before you know it deadlines pass. Don't be caught off guard. Included in the packet is a compact list of deadlines. PRINT it out, POST it in a place it grabs your attention. **March 1st** will be here before you know it, followed quickly by **March 21st**. These are the 2 dates to remember for sure. Act quickly...see you on April 26-27th at Little America.

There is a lot of information in this packet. Hopefully, it answers everything for 2025 DCCW Convention. The Convention committee is working hard to provide a joy-filled, spiritual, fun weekend for you. If you have any questions or need additional information, please reach out to me at 601-862-7112 or email tennis1054@aol.com. We look forward to seeing you at the convention April 26-27, 2025.

Humbly yours in Christ,

Annette Pressley, DCCW President