

AWARE

A NEWSLETTER PUBLICATION OF THE
DIOCESE OF SALT LAKE CITY COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN
An Affiliate of the National Council of Catholic Women since 1928

2025 FALL ISSUE

DCCW PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Annette Pressley — St. Thomas More, Cottonwood Heights

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Ah, fall is upon us. For me it always seems like a New Year! Most of our CCWs have been on summer break, along with children and many parish ministries. Now it's time for the Kickoff and there is no shortage of opportunities to participate and volunteer. Keep your eyes open and your hands up. As one of our speaker's at NCCW stated, "Mary said YES!"

I was blessed to attend the National Council of Catholic Women Convention the end of August in Orlando. It was incredible. It is a wonderful time to connect with our women from Utah (we had about 17 attendees) and to meet women from across the US. We were blessed to witness the installation of Amy Kennedy, Salt Lake Deanery, as the President of the NCCW. We bid a fond farewell to Pat Voorhes who was serving as the Immediate Past President of NCCW. We are so fortunate to be represented at the National Level.

It's never too early to put the 2026 Conventions on your calendar. Our DCCW will be at the Little America Hotel, April 18-19th and the NCCW Convention will be held in Grand Rapids, Michigan, August 26-29th. Start saving for this now. You will not be disappointed.

At the risk of sounding like a broken record, if you are not a member of the NCCW, you really should consider a membership as a gift to yourself. It is a tremendous resource for your CCW's. You will receive the President's Pen monthly, as well as the monthly magazine, Catholic Woman.

This has come to mind several times. We are told in many ways to Love our Enemy. That sounds intense, but who is our enemy? There are many definitions. On a personal level, someone who is different. Maybe they look different, speak differently, dress differently, have different political views, different religious views, don't do a job the same way we would, and the list goes on. What we must remember is that he or she is a child of God, and thus worthy of our love. A struggle, but when I find myself criticizing someone just because they are different, I am often reminded of this meditation:

TO: YOU, Love God by Will Bowen

To: You,

Consider someone who annoys you. Now, hold that person firmly in mind. Think of words you might use to describe this person.

Then, consider the descriptions that someone who loves this person might express about them. What might his parents say? His spouse? Her children? Her best friend?

Finally, consider, what I would say about this person. Really, take a moment to ponder my perspective—and remember that I am never on anyone's side. I only see children, each precious, and each doing his or her best in any given situation.

Try to remember that to me and to many, this person is truly lovable. We vibrate with the energy of love for him or her. Imagine how we feel and begin to step into that loving vibration as well. You have the power to transform any relationship. The key is to change what you think about another person. This day, open your mind to more loving thoughts, and you will transform your enemies into allies.

**Love,
God**

Submitted by: Annette Pressley, President SLCDCCW, September 8, 2025

ANY UPDATES TO DCCW BOARD, DEANERY AND PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION, MUST BE EMAILED TO THE DCCW SECRETARY, TISHA RAMOS-YARBER, ASAP!

Patricia (Tisha) Ramos-Yarber

TISHA WILL FORWARD UPDATES TO NCCW

*Don't Miss Important Year-Round
Communications from DCCW & NCCW*

INDIVIDUAL NCCW MEMBERS NEED TO MAKE CHANGES TO YOUR PROFILE ONLINE OR CONTACT NCCW DIRECTLY

THE AWARE NEWSLETTER

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Due to the cost of postage, if you are receiving this by postal mail and have an email, please consider sending your email address to me. In order to streamline printing costs, all mailed copies will be in black and white.

DCCW SPIRITUAL ADVISOR
Father Ariel Durian- St. Peter, American Fork
arieldurian@outlook.com



Fr. Michael encourages all the spiritual advisors to make ourselves always available in the service of the Council of Catholic Women. Our support and presence are essential in the group's endeavor as they thread the path of holiness and service to the people of God both in the local as well as in the diocesan level.

As spiritual advisors, we commend the hard work of these women of faith, and their contribution not only in the propagation of faith but also the ministry they offered to the church as a whole. May the Blessed Virgin Mary, Our Lady of Good Counsel, protect them and enrobe them with her maternal love. Amen.

FROM NCCW TO DCCW... by Fr. Ariel

Believe in the Eucharist: Blessed, Broken, and Shared

The Eucharist is at the very heart of our Catholic faith. It is the source and summit of our Christian life, the wellspring from which every act of love, service, and mission flows. As women of faith, called to nurture, support, and enliven the Church, you are invited to rediscover the profound mystery of Christ truly present in the Eucharist—blessed, broken, and shared.

Blessed

When Jesus took the bread and blessed it, He revealed that all creation, when entrusted to God, becomes holy. To be blessed means to be set apart, consecrated, and embraced by divine love. As daughters of God, you all carry that blessing into your homes, parishes, and communities. In the Eucharist, you encounter not only the blessing of bread and wine but also the blessing of your own lives, renewed and sanctified by Christ's presence.

Broken

The breaking of the bread is central to our Eucharistic faith. Jesus allowed Himself to be broken—on the cross and in the sacrament—so that we might be healed and made whole. In our daily lives, we, too, experience moments of brokenness: in family struggles, in illness, in loneliness, and in the challenges of discipleship. Yet, united with Christ, our brokenness can become a gift. The Eucharist teaches us that from suffering can flow compassion, and from loss can rise deeper communion.

Shared

Finally, the Eucharist is never meant to be kept for ourselves alone. What we receive at the altar must be shared in acts of love and service. To believe in the Eucharist is to believe that Christ strengthens us to go forth—to feed the hungry, to comfort the sorrowful, to defend the dignity of every person, and to proclaim the Gospel in word and deed. The Eucharist sends you as women of mission, rooted in prayer and alive in service.

A Call to Renewal

For the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women of Utah, this theme—Blessed, Broken, and Shared—is not only a reflection on the mystery of the Eucharist, but also a call to live it out in practical ways. It is a reminder that every meeting, every project, every act of hospitality, and every prayer together flows from and returns to the altar of the Lord. As you deepen your belief in the Eucharist, you are called to embody its reality: to be blessings to one another, to unite your brokenness with Christ, and to share His love generously with the world.

As women of faith, may you all continue to draw strength from the Eucharist and become living witnesses of Christ's presence—blessed, broken, and shared—for the life of the Church and the transformation of the world.

**DCCW FIRST VICE PRESIDENT /
PRESIDENT-ELECT**
Susan Porter — St. John the Baptist, Draper
portersm57@gmail.com

Considering the old saying, “Time flies when you are having fun,” apparently I had a very eventful summer because I can’t believe September is already upon us. One of the most enjoyable experiences was traveling to Orlando in August with sixteen other DCCW sisters and Father Ariel for the 105th Annual NCCW Convention where we saw our own Amy Kennedy installed as President. The theme of this year’s convention was “Believe in the Eucharist-Blessed, Broken, and Shared,” as the Church continues to focus on the Eucharistic Congress, bringing Jesus’ Presence, our true source of Hope, to a world so often divided. On our second day, we were treated to a Spiritual Day of Encounter with Mary/Mother of Hope at the beautiful Mary, Queen of the Universe Basilica and National Shrine. Mary, the first bearer of Christ to the world, is our model as we are called to Receive (Annunciation), Adore (Nativity), and Persevere (Do not fear, Stand at the Foot of the Cross and Trust). We were asked (1) which of these three areas am I moved to work or improve upon, (2) where is God inviting me to say “Yes,” and (3) where is God calling me to share? My takeaway from the day was to persevere in prayer. During our Q & A time, we heard moving accounts from other attendees about prayers answered that healed a marriage and many about death bed conversions. Some shared memories of loved ones in the midst of their own suffering, asking for prayers for others.

The presentations and resources provided by the various commissions and committees were very informative. At the NCCW level, these groups consist of as many as a dozen members from all over the country (No “I” in team) who collaborate throughout the year to bring us this information. We participated in several interactive exercises. Although it’s often hard to fill the officer positions in our CCWs, I hope we are striving to fill commission and committee positions in our parishes and deaneries. Ultimately we could form teams of these individuals at the DCCW level. Since part of our mission is to educate Catholic women in areas of spirituality, leadership, and service, presentations such as these at our annual convention would do well to inform attendees, especially first-timers, of what we do. The collaboration effort would also provide a great opportunity to mentor women for leadership roles.

Speaking of our local convention, it’s never too early to start thinking about reaching out to businesses and friends to advertise in our convention program or provide a Sponsorship. Many are not aware of our Sponsorship guidelines that were adopted in November 2023 or get them confused with the Scholarship program. Last year EWTN was an Emerald Sponsor and is planning to return next year. These levels are outlined in our Convention Guidelines.



(Mary, Queen of the Universe)
She said, “Yes!”



“Mary’s Garden”

DCCW IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Barb Kerouac
St. Martin de Porres, Taylorsville
barb0235@msn.com

Fall AWARE
Immediate Past President

September 2025
Barb Kerouac

Happy Fall everyone. It is time for the temperature to fall, colors change, and all things council to begin. This is truly my favorite time of the year. I hope you all had a regenerative summer break and are ready and willing to take on the tasks ahead. But also take the time to enjoy the splendor of Fall and the show God created for us to enjoy .

There is nothing more satisfying than serving those around us. It fills our hearts and souls with empathy, gratefulness, and love for others. JOY (Jesus, Others, then You) is created through service.

As immediate past president I am the chair of the nominating committee for the DCCW.

It is our duty to fill the ballot with candidates to fill the 2026-2028 DCCW executive board. This means finding nominees to fill the positions of Vice President/ president elect, 2nd Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Our CCW's are full of talented gifted members and leaders. I was a reluctant member at one time, but God called me to answer the call to serve in the DCCW leadership. I am amazed at how God provided everything and directed His will to be done. The Holy Spirit provides wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and mercy with every encounter and decision. His Grace is amazing!!! With God all things are possible. SO...with that knowledge it should be easy for you to say "YES" to new possibilities in accepting the invitation to fill one of the board positions. After all God gave you talents and gifts to use, not to squander. Have faith in Him who has put you where you are today. We, the DCCW, are looking for new ideas, new members, new direction, new leadership. All the positions have amazing mentors to help you succeed. Please join in the future of our fantastic Salt Lake City DCCW. WE NEED YOU!! The lifelong friendships and comraderie of other like-minded Catholic Women is unbelievable.

When one of the Nominating Committee members reaches out to you, or if you are inspired to join the DCCW executive board, please say "YES". The website, dccwutah.org, has the requirements, application form, and the names of each member. Contact one of the members or myself for more information. We are waiting for your exuberant "YES".

I want to thank each nominating Committee member for your "yes".

Eastern Deanery: Becky Colombo
Salt Lake Deanery: Teri Miller
Wasatch Deanery: Jamie Beert

Northern Deanery: Cleo Mato
Southwest Deanery: Kathy Fazio
Member at Large: Lydia Farnell

DCCW PARLIAMENTARIAN
Jeannie Audiss — Saint Joseph the Worker, West Jordan
jaudiss1234@yahoo.com

FROM THE DESK OF YOUR PARLIAMENTARIAN

BY LAWS : WHY DO WE HAVE THEM – WHY SHOULD WE FOLLOW THEM

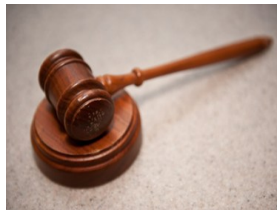
In a nutshell: all organizations should have bylaws to establish clear operational and governance guidelines. They ensure consistency, transparency and compliance with any legal requirements. Bylaws also ensure that the organization is controlled by the membership and not by individuals, which can jeopardize trust from the membership.

Bylaws provide a framework for decision-making, define the roles and responsibilities of board members and officers, facilitate smooth leadership transitions, and help resolve internal disputes.

Bylaws and any Amendments have to be approved by the Membership. Your Bylaws should always include a section that details how amendments are to be made.

Elected Officers' key role is ensuring that the organization adhere to their bylaws. It is crucial that Elected Officers review their organization's bylaws regularly.

In the Diocese of Salt Lake City. Councils of Catholic Women are considered a subordinate organization under their parish. Their tax-exempt status falls under their parish which falls under the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Group Ruling. Thus, all activities need the approval of the Pastor.



LEADERSHIP COMMISSION
Maria Devereux, Chair—St. James the Just, Ogden
mariadevereux1@gmail.com

The past few months have been wonderfully busy! As Leadership Commission Chair, I've been working closely with a dedicated team to update our DCCW Convention Guidelines. With the thoughtful guidance of our president, Annette, the team is fully engaged and already making great progress. I am deeply impressed by the insight, forethought, and careful feedback that has shaped this update so far.

Many of you were consulted, bringing valuable perspectives to the areas of the guidelines you know best—thank you for your contributions! We will continue to review, edit, and refine these guidelines until they are finalized. If you haven't shared your thoughts yet, please don't hesitate to reach out—I'd love to hear from you.

Blessings,
Maria Devereux
801.989.2257
Mariadevereux1@gmail.com

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN (NCCW)

Amy Kennedy — President
Cathedral of the Madeleine, Salt Lake City
amy.kennedy@comcast.net

It still seems surreal that the caption above this article will read NCCW President. I attended my first CCW meeting 25 years ago and left that meeting as the secretary. As a new Catholic, I was eager to be involved, and since I had a computer, access to a copy machine at my office, and no one else wanted the job, I was the ideal candidate for the position. Who knew that this was where my Council journey would take me? The prayers and support of the Salt Lake City DCCW have been instrumental to my journey, and words cannot express my gratitude.

Nearly 450 women attended our National Council of Catholic Women (NCCW) Convention in August 2025, and eighteen of us were from Utah. Our 2026 convention will be held in Grand Rapids, Michigan. As part of the Call to Convention program, attendees learned that the theme of my 2026 Convention is "Speak, Lord: Your Servant is Listening."

The overall theme of my term is "Servant Leadership: We Are Women of Faith and Action." Many of us are familiar with the last part, as it was a theme used by our own Bobbie Hunt when she was NCCW president (2007-2009). I chose that in part as a homage to my dear friend and mentor, but also as a reminder of who we are as Council women and what our Bishops saw in us over 105 years ago when they formed the National Council of Catholic Women. Let us all remember that we are women of faith and action.

I am honored to be working with a dynamic leadership team at NCCW and am excited to see what projects and initiatives our Commissions will develop. I encourage all of you to participate in our monthly Council Chats and Rosary Calls, and to stay informed through our President's Pen newsletter. Make the most of your NCCW membership by participating throughout the year.



Amy Kennedy

President

Amy Kennedy has served and held office on all local rings of council for over twenty-five years. Her other NCCW services include serving as Secretary, a member of the Leadership, Training and Development (LTD) Team, and chairing the Leadership Commission and Bylaws Committee. Professionally, Amy is a partner at a Salt Lake City law firm, focusing her work on family law and estate planning. She met her husband in 2004 at the Cathedral of the Madeleine in Salt Lake City, and they were married the next year. In her spare time, Amy enjoys cooking, reading, and traveling. Amy looks forward to being a leader for all Catholic women as we embody and live the NCCW's mission of spirituality, leadership, and service to each other and the Church.

Congratulations Amy!

DCCW DIRECTORS OF MEETINGS

Marcie Downs, Co-Chair
marciedowns51@gmail.com

Jamie Beert, Co-Chair
beert2012@gmail.com

Marcie and I continue working on the 2026 convention with Little America. The 2026 pricing from Little America should be ready by the end of October, so we along with Annette will be meeting with Megan to determine menus and AV equipment needed. Once we have that information finalized, we can determine the registration costs. As a reminder, Convention will be held April 18-19, 2026. Room rates will be \$169/\$179/\$199/\$209 (Garden, Garden Premium, Tower and Tower Premium).

Double Queen Bed rooms available, with up to 4 people in the room. Once again, you will need to make your own hotel reservation. We will be sharing the room reservation link with the Call to Convention package. Marcie and I have attended Deanery meetings to talk about the “behind the scenes” of doing convention, in an effort to educate members on how and where registration costs come from.

We encouraged Affiliate Presidents to share the information with their Affiliate members, and to contact us with any questions.

Submitted by:
Jamie Beert
Marcie Downs
DOM Chairpersons



COME JOIN THE FUN!

DCCW MEMBERSHIP, DEVELOPMENT AND RESOURCE TEAM

Michael O'Shea, Co-Chair
St. Anthony of Padua, Helper
msmichaeloshea@gmail.com

Bonnie Siegrist, Co-Chair
Blessed Sacrament, Sandy
utahbonnie@comcast.net



How are you spreading the word about CCW?

With September comes the end of summer rest and relaxation (if you were lucky to have some time off). Our Councils become active in planning for the upcoming months. Hopefully, part of your planning is finding ways to *spread the word* about the Council of Catholic Women both in your parish and throughout the diocese.

At the parish level, October's Council Sunday Recognition month is the perfect time to have a Council Sunday activity and invite all women of the parish to attend. Celebrate all your Council has done over the years in your parish and community. Let everyone know you're more than fundraisers and service projects. You know how to have fun, too. Let them see and feel you are Sisters in Christ. Newcomers have no idea, and sometimes we need to remind and reawaken those who have forgotten.

Spreading the word has to be an ongoing effort. Whether you call yourselves a CCW, Ladies Guild, Women's Association, make sure you keep your parish women's group name out there - make a brochure, do a newsletter, have occasional blurbs in your bulletin, speak after Masses if your pastor allows, and always involve the entire parish in your fundraising and service projects.

At the DCCW level, once again we will be spreading the word with a DCCW information booth at the Utah Catholic Conference - "The Road of Hope" at the Skaggs Catholic Center on September 20th. Various members of the DCCW board will be there to greet conference attendees. If someone doesn't know what the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women is when they come into our booth, they will when they leave! If you are attending this important Diocesan event, please stop by and say hello. We hope to see you there!

WANT TO SEE YOUR COUNCIL GROW?? I

INVITE ONE NEW PERSON TO EVERY CCW MEETING AND EVENT .




Inviting ladies to join your Council is offering them an opportunity to enhance their lives while giving service to their church and community. It can be life changing. Our attitude, enthusiasm, and love of Council is contagious and encourages the stranger to attend a meeting or event. Think about all the wonderful



SPIRITUALITY COMMISSION

Gracemarie Belvedere, Chair ▫ St. Marguerite, Tooele ▫
gracemariebelvedere@gmail.com

Erin O'Shea, Co-Chair ▫ St. Anthony of Padua, Helper ▫ emo.shea@gmail.com



Autumn Prayer



Gracious and loving God, thank You for the beauty of autumn, for the coolness in the air, and for the falling leaves that reveal the strength of the branches. As I see the changes in the scenery around me, please remind me of the changes You are bringing in my own life and heart.

Draw me closer to You this season, Lord. Help me to walk in gratitude for the abundance of Your blessings and guide me to let go of what no longer serves me, trusting in Your eternal existence. May I feel Your warm and loving presence, finding comfort in Your consistency when the world seems to be constantly changing.

Transform me by Your Spirit. Help me to grow deeper roots of faith, that I may continue to bear fruit in every season. Thank You for Your love, for guiding me in Your way, and for being with me in all circumstances. In Jesus' name, I pray, Amen.



Not Only is it New – But Improved Too!



As you know, retreats offer an essential chance for spiritual rebalancing, enabling us to disconnect from the bustle of everyday life and take some time to think, relax, and reestablish our relationship with God. I, Gracemarie, have created short retreats, aka mini retreats, that are suitable for both solo and group settings and last less than an hour! You can use these at any time, such as after Mass or during a CCW meeting. They can be distributed to all adult parishioners and are not exclusively for women. They include a Leader's Edition, with a list of all the things you'll need and I promise you that it's not many.

It won't be difficult at all; you've got this! I've made it easier than ever before and keeping them basic. Each mini retreat will be emailed to all CCW Presidents, Spirituality Commission/Representatives, and DCCW members approximately one month prior to the date in parenthesis. The website will also offer them for download. The schedule is shown below.

Mini Retreats for Autumn 2025 – Summer 2026:

Autumn (Sept. 22nd) – A Change Like Autumn – Mini Retreat

Examining change, renewal, and new beginnings, similar to the transitions seen in autumn.

Advent (Nov. 30th) – Mary, Our Guide Through Advent – Mini Retreat

Walk through Advent, a season immersed in expectation and holy longing, guided by Mary as a model of faithful waiting.

Winter (Dec 21st) – Embracing Winter's Grace – Mini Retreat –

As the days draw in and we are wrapped in frost and hush, winter offers a sacred invitation to enter the stillness with the Holy Spirit present in the silence of the snow.

Lent (Feb. 18th) – Follow Jesus into the Desert – Mini Retreat –

Intentionally step away from all distractions in your everyday life and enter more deeply into the mystery of Christ's forty days in the wilderness.



Spring (March 20th) – Spring Cleaning Your Spirit – Mini Retreat

Refresh our spiritual lives and welcome change, using theology, scripture, and practical exercises to help you seek renewal through Christ and draw nearer to Him.

Summer (June 20th) – Reflecting the Fire of the Holy Spirit – Mini Retreat

Reflecting the Fire of the Holy Spirit invites us to pause, reflect, and rekindle the fire of the Holy Spirit.

*Consider this an invitation: to step away for a bit, open your heart,
and welcome God's blessings of peace, clarity, and joy.*



DCCW SERVICE COMMISSION

Pat Voorhes, Chair

St. Vincent de Paul Parish

patricia.nccw@gmail.com

BOX OF JOY

Cross Catholic Outreach's *Box of Joy* is the current service project for the SLC DCCW . A Box of Joy is a Christmas shoebox that is donated and packed with toys, clothing, supplies and other treasured items. Each child who receives a Box of Joy also receives a rosary and a booklet titled *The Story of Jesus*. Box of Joy provides hope to children in need in Haiti, Guatemala, Dominican Republic; each gift represents Christ's love and may be the only Christmas gift they receive.

206 boxes were distributed at the DCCW meeting on September 7. Many thanks to all who took a Box of Joy home to their parish or family. Have fun filling it with suggested items on the brochure. Please pay close attention to the list of items not to be included. Do not tape the Box of Joy shut. If boxes are overflowing, put a rubber band around the box to keep it shut.

St. Vincent de Paul Holy Family Hall (1375 E. Spring Lane, Holladay, Utah 84117) will be the drop-off center for the Box of Joy Week October 25th -November 2nd . Boxes can be dropped by appointment only on October 25th-31st & November 2nd. November 1st hours will be 11am-3pm. Please call me at 801-712-5792 to schedule or to let me know when you will deliver on November 1st.

Pay close attention to the prohibited items in the brochure

Pay the \$9.00 per box shipping cost. The preferred payment is online. **Do not include your \$9.00 in the box itself**— donations can be done 3 ways:

online at <https://crosscatholic.org/box-of-joy/>

By check made out to Cross Catholic Outreach and mailed by USPS in the individual donation envelope provided by Cross Catholic Outreach.

By check made out to Cross Catholic Outreach and given to me during drop off and I will send the donations in bulk to Cross Catholic Outreach.

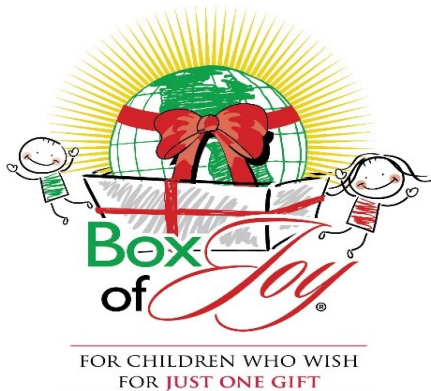
CARMELITE MONASTERY

Our second focus this year will be the Carmelite Monastery . Many thanks to those who brought 10 lbs. of sugar, 5 boxes of jars, 2 jars of marshmallow crème, 1 bottle of Karo Syrup and a \$50.00 check. St. Vincent de Paul CCW donated milk chocolate and semi-sweet chocolate for the Christmas baking. Each meeting please bring your donation of sugar, Marshmallow Crème, Karo Syrup, and 8 ounce jars/lids only.

Yours in Christ,

Pat Voorhes

2025 Service Commission chair



DCCW LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION

Donna Murphy, Chair
St. Thomas More, Cottonwood Hts.

Brandy Farmer, Co-Chair
St. Thomas More, Cottonwood Hts.

It was an inspirational National Council of Catholic Women Conference recently in August 2025 in Orlando, Florida as we welcomed and installed our new President Amy Kennedy from Salt Lake City. We are so proud and wish her success in her new role. Our Immediate Past President Pat Voorhees has finished her term successfully and we are so proud to have such active participation from Utah on the national level.

One of the most interesting ideas of information which is significant from a legislative standpoint is the ideas for implementation and support of the World Union of Catholic Women's Organization (WUCWO) resolutions in order for us to gain an understanding or awareness of what WUCWO is and what it represents. The 2024 Purpose was to promote unity in our country during elections and beyond by praying for the Safety of all of our citizens and for a peaceful election process. In reference to this resolution and how "as a nation we share many blessings and strengths which includes a tradition of religious freedom and political participation". It included how we "as Catholics are called to participate in public life in a manner consistent with the mission of our Lord, a mission that he has called us to share" (USCCB's Forming Consciousness for Faithful Citizenship).

This resolution included how elections on all levels are critical for the U.S. and it's our responsibility to maintain elections that are orderly and peaceful and how all citizens are called upon to exercise their privilege to vote by participating in the process. This resolution was resolved that the NCCW promotes frequent praying of the St. Michael the Archangel Prayer, the Our Father, the Hail Mary and the Glory Be for peaceful elections devoid of anger and violence and it was further resolved the NCCW has available these intentions and prayers on its website, <http://www.nccw.org>. This resolution had been submitted by Alison Mimms, a member of NCCW Resolutions Committee 2024-2025.

There have been Interim Session meetings this summer in which different legislative issues have been discussed which acts as a precursor to issues which will likely be discussed in the upcoming 2026 General Session of the 67th Legislature. The first day of the General Session will start on Tuesday Jan. 20, 2026 and ends on Friday March 6, 2025. Many of the state issues are related to the voting redistricting maps which have been classified as gerrymandering, recent election laws which some citizens feel it appears to make it more difficult to vote by mail, how the states are going to handle the Dept. of Education on a national level with major federal cuts being made and how the states are going to deal with the education needs for our children, local colleges and universities. Women's State Legislative Council of Utah is scheduled to meet on Wednesday Sept. 24th regarding state issues of concern to our citizens. Our National Issues meeting is scheduled for October 29, 2025 as both meetings are on Capitol Hill in the Beehive Room from noon to 2 PM. The exact agenda is pending with speakers to inform members of the pro and con side of various pertinent issues.

For further information please review the web sites as www.le.utah.gov and www.dioslc.org. Please feel free to email drmurphy21@outlook.com or call me at 801-414-4725 with any questions or concerns.

May we continue our prayers for the new Pope Leo XIV, who has spoken about Listening, Humility and Unity during his homily at the Vatican on Sept. 1st, 2025. Pope Leo XIV will be presiding over the canonization of two new young saints, Carlos Acutis and Pier Giorgio Frascati on Sept. 7th at St. Peter's Square in the Vatican. Pope Leo XIV has also accepted LGBTQ into the Catholic faith as did his predecessor Pope Francis. Pope Leo XIV has called for an end to the pandemic of arms of all sizes in reference to the victims of the Minnesota Catholic School shooting.



EASTERN DEANERY
Becky Colombo, President
St. Anthony of Padua, Helper
beckyc144@gmail.com

Greetings everyone, from the Eastern Deanery! We do not have much to report since our affiliates have been resting over the summer. There are plans and schedules for the coming months that include Council Sunday, food drives, preparations for helping people over the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays and bake sales. The women also help in the parishes for their annual parish spaghetti and turkey dinners, as well as funeral dinners for grieving families.

Four women from the Eastern Deanery recently attended the NCCW Convention held in Orlando, Florida and were grateful for the experience. The convention was awesome and a definite spiritual renewal for all of us attending. The next NCCW convention will be in Grand Rapids, Michigan next August. Start saving your loose change and plan to attend. These conventions are worthy of attendance and give us so much in education and inspiration to keep us going as a council.

Our first Deanery meeting for the new council year will be held at St. Anthony's parish in Helper. I mentioned at our DCCW meeting on September 6th that Eastern Deanery originally had 5 affiliates and we are now reduced to only 2. The women of St. Helen's parish in Roosevelt were awarded the Affiliate of the Year Award last April at the DCCW Convention for their awesome work throughout the year. Unfortunately, they are unaffiliated currently, which leaves only St. Anthony's in Helper and St. James the Greater in Vernal as affiliates. We are praying for a resolution for St. Helen's to rejoin as an affiliate, as well as Good Shepherd in East Carbon City and Notre Dame Parish in Price. Remember our Deanery in your prayers and help to make us strong once again. (Small but mighty!) Our ladies in Roosevelt are individual members of NCCW and intend to continue to assist in duties of the Eastern Deanery.

Speaking of duties, the Eastern Deanery will be hosting the DCCW convention in April of 2026. We will be reaching out to the other affiliates and deaneries for help with convention bags financially. Mark your calendars to attend the convention and share in the joy of being with all the beautiful women in our state who make up this wonderful Diocesan Council of Catholic Women!

Becky Colombo, President of Eastern Deanery Council of Catholic Women

NORTHERN DEANERY

Cleo Mota , President
St. Mary's, West Haven
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St. James Council of Catholic Women (SJCCW) Report

July – September 2025

The women of St. James CCW have been active, joyful, and engaged in service, fellowship, and faith over the summer months. Here's a look at our highlights: A quick recap: June – 3rd Annual CCW Yard Sale Our 3rd Annual CCW Yard Sale was a wonderful success! At the end of the sale, all remaining items were donated to Big Brothers Big Sisters, who arrived with a truck to collect them—what a joy to see these donations serve an even greater purpose. July – Interfaith Service Project In July, in tandem with the Northern Deanery, we launched the first part of our Interfaith Service Project, A Mission Rooted in Mercy. This two-fold project included cutting cotton fabric into strips to create balls of cotton for women in Zimbabwe, empowering them to sustain their families through handmade goods like rugs and baskets.

We also assembled bags for hygiene kits destined for the Ogden Rescue Mission. It was a busy, joy-filled evening of service and fellowship. We'd like to extend our sincere thanks to Georgia Nicholas and the Northern Deanery Board for their dedication and hard work in helping to make this project a reality.

August – Potluck Dinner & Gratitude for Outgoing Board Members August brought us together for potluck dinner, followed by an uplifting presentation on purpose, love and faith by Deacon Tom. We also celebrated and expressed our gratitude to our outgoing board members—Patrice Mingo, Georgia Nicholas, and JoAnn Irvine—for their dedication, joy, and years of faithful service to our parish and community. September – New Board Members & Parish Picnic Our September meeting will feature a spiritual reflection 'A Change like Autumn', regarding change and renewal – leader guided (credit. G. Belvedere).

We are also excited to welcome our new board members at that meeting —Nicole Shelman, Colleen Knudsen, and Grace Rasmussen (just 18 years old).

Currently in the works: The CCW will co-host a parish picnic in the gym with the Knights of Columbus, serving BBQ burgers and hot dogs for all, on Sunday, Sept. 28th. Looking ahead to next quarter: we are actively planning the next quarter's activities, including crafts, a perpetual giving tree, and preparations for our annual Christmas Fair fundraiser. As we continue to serve our parish and community, we remain deeply grateful for the spirit of cooperation, faith, and joy that defines the women of St. James the Just CCW.

Blessings,

Maria Devereux

President, St. James Council of Catholic Women

Holy Family, Quarterly Report June - July - August 2025

*In May, we provided & served donuts/drinks for the whole parish to honor our 35 First Communion Children after their Mass.

*In June, we hosted a reception for our 13 Confirmation Youth after their Mass out on the patio.

*In June we held our Annual Parish Picnic. Our various ministries provided beautiful raffle baskets for us, which is one of the highlights of the picnic. The parishioners had a wonderful time enjoying the food that was provided and our children loved having the water games available for them on a warm summer evening.

*In July, the ladies got together for an evening of relaxation and conversation at a local restaurant.

NORTHERN DEANERY

Continued:

Saint Mary Catholic Church, West Haven Quarterly Report

CCW of Saint Mary's Breaks for the Summer Months of June & July (Still stay involved and active)

JUNE CCW is working alongside the Fall Fiesta Committee for Saint Mary's fall fundraiser on September 27th. We have the responsibility of promoting and signing up 30 Vendors that will participate and bring in revenue for the CCW and Saint Mary.

JULY July 22nd - Women's Rosary and Adoration was held from 6:00 to 7:30 pm.

July 27th - The CCW women assisted in Father Pico's Farewell Potluck. He was reassigned to Saint Thomas Aquinas Parish in Logan. There was a very good turnout of parishioners to say good-bye and wish him well. There were so many delicious dishes that were provided by everyone!

July 30th - We worked on our first Deanery Service Project, "Acts of Mercy", spearheaded by CCW Women of Saint James the Just, in collaboration with our sisters from The Church of Latter Day Saints. CCW had a night of sewing, cutting and lots of fun! We had 14 women who split up the duty of sewing casings for 100 hygiene bags to move ribbon through or cutting/tearing material into strips.

AUGUST Aug 3rd- CCW assisted with Father Murillo Welcome Potluck. Father Murillo was reassigned to Saint Mary from Saint Marguerite Parish in Tooele. It was so nice to see so many parishioners show up to greet and welcome him. Aug 19th- First CCW Potluck Meeting was held. Lots of brainstorming took place and catching up on our busy lives. There were 12 women present.

Aug 26th- Women's Rosary and Adoration was held from 6:00 to 7:30 pm.

Aug 28th- The CCW donated a raffle basket to Give Me a Chance for their annual fundraiser which will be held on September 6th.

August 30th- We will be completing the strips for the "Acts of Mercy Project".

SEPTEMBER

Sept. 13th- We will participate in the final phase of the our Deanery Service Project, "Acts of Mercy" by assembling 400 hygiene bags and tying of the cotton strips at Saint James the Just. We anticipate 10 women from Saint Mary to be there. Looking forward to working with so many amazing ladies from our different parishes. Sept 16th- Will be holding a recruitment gathering.... looking to invite the women in the parish to join us for a potluck and learn more about the Saint Mary Council of Catholic Women and what our purpose is. Inviting them to become active to promote their spiritual growth and benefit our church community by serving.

Sept 23rd Women's Rosary and Retreat will be held from 6:00 to 7:30 pm.

Sept 27th- The CCW will be participating and helping out the day of the Fall Fiesta in many capacities.

Submitted by: Margaret Sanchez President,
Saint Mary Catholic Church, West Haven

SOUTHWESTERN DEANERY
Mary Skomal, President
Christ the King, Cedar City
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Christ the King CWC summer activities are as follows

June 15, 2025, the CWC handed out prayer cards out to our fathers during all masses.

June and July we set up and served four funeral luncheons for our parishioners.

July and August, the CWC collected items for back to school. We put together 69 backpacks to hand out to the community.

Upcoming activities include Sept 6, parish picnic, Oct 4-5, Fall Festival for our parish,

Oct. 31, Trunk n Treat for our Parish.

Nov. 14-15, Michael Edwards will give a talk to our Newman Youth and parishioners on Carlos Acutis.



St. George Catholic Church is planning a diaper drive in Sept. Also, our annual Christmas Bake Sale.

SALT LAKE DEANERY
Susan Vaughn, President
St. Vincent de Paul, Holladay
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Cathedral of the Madeline

Cathedral Women's Society

The CWS has not met formally since the last Deanery meeting. There have been social activities monthly.

In late July we decorated and brought dessert for Fr. Diaz's retirement party. Our first meeting following the summer break is Saturday, September 13. The meeting will include a welcome back potluck and election of new officers. Further activities will be planned at that time.

Submitted By CWS SLDCCW Rep, Maureen Gardner

Catholic Women's League

CWL will be holding their annual luncheon & fashion show on October 18th at the Sheraton. Doors will open at 11:00, lunch is at 12:00, followed by the fashion show at 1:00.

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Our Lady of Lourdes

Since June, we have had a break in meetings for the summer. We still do monthly bake sales. We have helped the parish financially, such as donating towards a new AC unit for the church. Cleaning the church is also done by the affiliate. The Annual Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser is planned for September 28th. Car Washes have been held and helping with point of sales for other group fundraisers has been done. We provided cookies and punch for the Diocesan Youth Rally held at St. Ann's as well as helping with registration and donations. This week finds us making Pizzelles to sell at the Spaghetti Dinner.

Submitted by Bernadette Moore

St. Marguerite

We have been off for the summer with the exception of a officers meeting to plan for next year's meetings and fund raisers. We look forward to September Deanery meeting at ST MARGUERITES, 13th of September.

Thank you, Carlene Clark

St Olaf

In June, CCW managed the hosting of the Interfaith Community Dinner at the Episcopal Church in Centerville. We will be hosting this dinner again October 15th. We are charged with obtaining 25 volunteers from the Parish to host this monthly dinner once a year. About 120 people attend free of charge and all are invited.

We didn't hold meetings in July and August. However, our Bylaws Committee met and made updates to the bylaws for the membership's approval and our Finance Committee met in June to set the budget for the upcoming year. We thought that forming a Bylaws Committee and Finance Committee were good ways for the older members to pass on knowledge to newer members.

We will hold our first meeting of the year on September 9th. We are holding a General Meeting to encourage additional participation. We'll have a short business meeting with information about the coming year's calendar, a recommitment ceremony, and a social hour with refreshments.

St. Olaf's CCW will continue to join the First Friday adoration during the last hour of which the last half hour of adoration the rosary is recited by CCW members.

We will reactivate coffee and doughnuts after Labor Day weekend for the Sunday Masses.

We plan on holding Bunco games again on October 4th at the MacNamera Center of St Olaf's - all are welcome.

Turtle Vest project has been reserved for the Interfaith Charity Event 2026 that we will host on March 21st.

Reinette Schultz, President - St Olaf Council of Catholic Women 2024-2026

St. Vincent de Paul

We finished off the Spring with a Potluck Dinner and election of officers, most will continue for their 2nd term, we installed a new secretary in May. We took a short break throughout the summer but continued to pray for clergy, coffee and donuts, and stuffing bulletins. We also created a new brochure to bring in new members and announce our year to seasoned members that we will hand out at masses and coffee and donuts.

We are planning our 100 Celebration of St. Vincents, we will have a mass with Bishop Solis, Dinner and Gala on the actual Feast Day of St. Vincent DePaul on September 27th and then a Family Festival with the parish and school on October 18th.

Our first meeting will be on September 8th with a Kickoff BBQ and potluck, and we will celebrate Council Sunday on October 26th. Our October meeting will be focused on St. Martha's Baby Project as we gather items parish wide, November we will have our Deacon explain and discuss the Year of Hope, and we have already signed up to participate in the Box of Joy drive. We are excited for the new year and look forward to continuing service, spirituality and leadership within our council.

Mindi Allen, President, CCW St. Vincent de Paul

WASATCH DEANERY
Gabby Gauchay , President
St. Francis of Assisi, Orem
saintlydoodles@gmail.com

St. Francis of Assisi – Orem

We had our annual parish picnic with attendance by both English and Spanish speaking communities. We also welcomed Fr. Tristan Dillon as associate pastor. Our other big project has been our fall dinner dance. This year we will hold it on the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi and are looking forward to whole parish participation. We would welcome people from other parishes as well. We held a baby shower for Gabby which was put on by CCD and WoSF. Gabby is a greatly appreciated and active participant in both organizations. Our next projects will be our annual Christmas Boutique. We welcome any groups or individuals who might be interested in having a booth. Contact Pat Doherty partusdoherty@gmail.com for more information.

St. Peter – American Fork

In May, we joined the Saint Francis of Assisi Counsel of Catholic Women for a wonderful dinner in honor of all the Ladies! In July, the Council collaborated with the Knights to host a heartfelt farewell dinner for Father Ariel. Refreshments included homemade lemonade and a specially prepared cake in his honor. Earlier, the Council presented Father Ariel with a framed Prayer for Priests as a token of gratitude and appreciation for his service. In August, a Welcome Potluck Dinner was organized in honor of our new Pastor, Father Eugenio Yarce, following the Saturday evening Mass, in collaboration with the Knights.

In September, we plan on having a Welcome Social for all the Ladies with a short meeting going over the approved Calendar for 2025 – 2026. Father Eugenio will honor us with the opening prayer.

St. Thomas More - Cottonwood Heights

This summer has been moving fast yet the Ladies of St Thomas More have slowed down for a small break. We continue to meet for our monthly Meet and Mingle events. During the summer, three ladies offer to host us in their home and it's great fun to see everyone in a different and fun environment. This past spring, some of the ladies organized a small group to help with the Turtle Project. Our group has helped assemble and sew vests for a couple of years now and we highly recommend people getting involved. It's a fun activity that serves the homeless. We look forward to seeing our friends again at our business meetings that will start in September.

Blessed Sacrament – Sandy

St. Martin de Porres – Taylorsville

With summer break almost over we are ready to start back with our monthly meetings. Although we haven't had any meetings we have still been busy. We worked bingo at our parish one Tuesday night, we are sponsoring a golf team at our parish annual golf tournament, manning a hole at the golf tournament letting everyone know about CCW and we will host the Wasatch Deanery meeting in September. Our first meeting is scheduled for September 17 and we are anxious to get back to meeting with everyone.

St. Joseph the Worker - West Jordan

In June, we installed our new slate of officers: Susan Espinoza - President; Christine Rascon – Vice-President; Adrienne Cabrera – Secretary; and Jeanne Audiss – Treasurer. We took July and August off.

Our first meeting was on September 4, at which we discussed various ideas for service projects for the coming year.

St. Francis Xavier - Kearns

This report summarizes the activities of the St. Francis Xavier Council of Catholic Women from June to August 2025:

June: June 8, 2025: Partnered with the Knights of Columbus to host a family BBQ, providing desserts for the church community. June 28, 2025: Organized a family bowling event. See attached photo. July: July 14, 2025: Held a meeting at the church. August: August 2, 2025: Hosted a family breakfast at Lodestone Park.

WASATCH DEANERY

Continued:

Sts. Peter and Paul - West Valley City

The CCW met on August 2 to lay out the agenda for the coming year. In September, we will again host a parish-wide food drive for the Utah Food Bank. Our parish retreat is scheduled for Saturday, September 27 and the CCW will participate in all aspects of the retreat. In October and November, we will coordinate the “bare essentials” clothing drive for the St. Vincent DePaul Outreach to the homeless. On November 18, the Huntsman Cancer Institute Mammography bus will be conducting cancer screenings for the ladies in the parish. We are trying to find resources for leadership training for the Spanish speaking women in the parish.

St. John the Baptist – Draper

April 2025 - We celebrated our WOY, Julie Carlson, with her nominator and her family, at the annual DCCW convention.

May 2025 - We invited the women to enjoy a Sound Bath, a way of relaxing and meditating while listening to repetitive sounds (like ocean waves or rhythmic drumming).

June 2025 - Our wine tasting had to be postponed due to the unfortunate timing of our wine tasting with a 4-day weekend and unprecedented low pre-registration. This also meant that we were not able to celebrate Julie Carlin, who - after 6 years of faithful and devoted service - had made the difficult decision to step down from leadership of the SJB CCW.

Looking ahead - Sep 2025 - We are hosting Bunco and inviting all women of the parish (using those actual words!) Oct 2025 - Fruit of the Vine, our wine and food pairing. We are going to shake it up a bit this time by focusing on one region (TBA, but most likely Italy). We are keeping the price at \$40 per person, due to the increased cost of food. Regardless of the number of women, we will go forward with this. Nov 2025 - Gratitude Craft. We will also be handing out the Christmas gift bags to be filled for our homebound parishioners. Dec 2025 - Christmas party and ornament exchange - highly popular event At each meeting, I plan to spend 5 minutes discussing the importance of having a CCW at SJB and why women need to get involved. At the end of 2025, I will have to evaluate if the CCW is viable on its own. If I cannot develop interest to bring new leadership, I will not schedule any events in 2026 and will instead participate in the CCWs of other parishes.

Submitted by Gabby Gauchay Wasatch Deanery President September 2nd, 2025

*Congratulations,
may God bless,
guide and watch over you,
your baby and your family!*

Benedict Joseph Gauchay

6 pounds 11 ounces
18.5 inches



Lord, may Your
favor rest on
this baby boy
today and
forevermore.
Amen