

Salt Lake City Diocesan Council of Catholic Women
President's Report
September 6, 2025

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 20 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 American Hotel, April 18-19th and the NCCW Convention will be held in Grand Rapids, Michigan, August 19-22nd. 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 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 differently, 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 from 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, June 6, 2025