DCCW PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE
Casey Pond — St. Olaf, Bountiful, Parishioner
casey.pond@comcast.net

Here we are, wrapping up another Council year with our annual – our 91st annual! – convention. It is a labor of love that so many women work for months to put together a weekend as full of spirituality, education, fellowship, and fun as we can. To those of you who are joining us this weekend, welcome and thank you! To those of you reading this at home, we bless you, miss you, and hope you will join us next year.

This first year of my presidency has been a learning experience – about myself, about others, and about my Faith. It has flown by. I have been privileged to work with and for so many wise, talented, dedicated, and devoted women who promote the ideals of Council on the parish, deanery, diocesan, and national levels, and I am looking forward to another year of learning and growing with them. I continue to strive to do my best in honor of Kathy Jones, who was my mentor and dear friend, and for the women of the Diocese of Salt Lake City.

This year’s theme, “Through the Grace of God”, was inspired by the many gifts and blessings we receive and enjoy every day. According to the Catechism, “Grace is favor, the free and undeserved help that God gives us to respond to his call to become children of God, adoptive sons, partakers of the divine nature and of eternal life”. We may experience it as a beautiful sunset, a loving relationship, a twinge of conscience, a helping hand, a repaired friendship, the first daffodils, a change of heart, a coincidence. We are responsible to see the beauty and grace in everyday things and to be grateful for them. Grace gives us the strength to do God’s work, for as St. Paul told the Galatians and reminds us, “Let us not grow weary of doing good…. “ Graces are gifts.

In a Catholic Digest article, Danielle Bean writes that “God sees the strength of female bonding, and He gives us the gift of connection…. When we overcome temptations toward jealousy and competition, we women can accomplish great things together.” That is grace. Let’s embrace it.

God bless you!
Casey Pond

DCCW MISSION STATEMENT
To unite Catholic women’s organizations and individual Catholic women in the state of Utah, Diocese of Salt Lake City, in purpose, through support, empowerment, and education in the areas of spirituality, leadership and service and respond with Christian values to current issues in the church and society.
GOD’S GRACE WORKS IN MYSTERIOUS WAYS

“I am sorry to tell you that based on the results of your preliminary examination and interview, you are not qualified to be trained and formed as a future missionary priest of the Society of the Divine Word. This does not mean that you do not have the vocation to the priesthood. Maybe the Society of the Divine Word is not the way for you to the Lord. Keep in touch. Mama Mary loves you!”
Signed, Fr. Jerry Orbos, SVD – Vocation Director

This is part of the letter I received from the Vocation Director of the Society of the Divine Word, Philippine Northern Province, sometime in April of 1990, when I applied to be a seminarian. I told myself when I read this letter that maybe God was not really calling me to this vocation…maybe it was just me calling myself. Perhaps I was just imagining I had been called, but really had not!

Because of that letter, I decided to go back to work and move on. One Saturday morning, I went to pay Fr. Bernard LeFrois, SVD, Chaplain of the Pink Sisters in Baguio City (Philippines), a visit. Fr. Bernard mentioned that the vocation director was looking for me. I told him that I already knew what Fr. Orbos would tell me, since I had already received his letter. But Fr. LeFrois was insistent that I go see Fr. Orbos. “He must have something important to tell you”, was what he said. It so happened at the time that Fr. Orbos was also in the area facilitating a retreat for the Franciscan nuns. Fr. LeFrois suggested that I go see Fr. Orbos. With his prodding, I went to see Fr. Orbos. When I arrived at the place, Fr. Orbos was puffing a cigar in the front of the convent. When he saw me coming, he was grinning from ear to ear. At first, I felt insulted. When I was near him, he said, “Rene, it’s good that you came…..and I am so sorry because we almost ruined your vocation. The letter that was sent to you was not meant for you. You have been accepted! Please go home, take a meaningful vacation with your family and friends. We are expecting you at the seminary on May 26, 1990.

After that, I resigned from my work. I went home and told my parents about the good news of my admission to the seminary. My father did not welcome the idea of me entering the seminary. His question was, “Are you crazy?” I fully understood his position – one big objection was where I would get the money to support myself in the years of seminary training and formation. I did not think about that concern. All I knew is that I had decided and was all set to go to the seminary. I had the firm belief that if God was really calling me to become a priest, God would make the way for me. Indeed, it was true!

I entered the Divine Word Seminary on May 26, 1990. After eight long years of training and formation, with the grace of God, together with 14 classmates, I was ordained to the Order of Presbyters on December 12, 1997, at the Holy Spirit Chapel of the Divine Word School of Theology, in Tagaytay City, Philippines.

Looking back at those years of formation, the journey was not easy and smooth sailing. There were a lot of challenges that I had to struggle with, but, with God’s grace, I was able to make it. Even at the present time, I often still wonder how I was able to make it. I strongly believe that things became possible because of the grace of God. How true are the words of God in Saint Paul’s second letter to the Corinthians:

“My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” (2Cor.12:9)
Many years ago I was approached often at St. Anthony’s in Helper to join the “Altar Society” by two of my favorite people, Rose Perrero and Christina Sanchez (who have both passed). At the time, my daughters were young and involved in many things. I resisted joining for many years, but finally “caved”. What a wonderful thing to have happened! The friends I have made across the state and across the country at NCCW Conventions are amazing! The mentor who has encouraged me to take different offices at the parish, deanery, and state levels is Michael O’Shea. What a great mentor, right? There are always articles in the AWARE, the NCCW Connect, and Catholic Women’s Magazine about leadership and ways to increase membership in your councils. What it really comes down to is friendship and women, who reach out to others, to encourage them to join, participate, and lead where they have been hesitant to go before.

The confidence I gained by joining our CCW group led me to join other organizations. Some of those organizations have dissolved in our area due to lack of members and ladies willing to hold office. I pray often that this does not happen to our Catholic Women groups. Our young people need to be encouraged to join (easier said than done, right?) and our current women need to be appreciated, thanked, and encouraged to remain as members. We do great things in our councils across the state, across the nation, and across the world! Many of the women I knew in other organizations and DCCW have passed, but what great memories I have of laughter, work, success and love with these women. I can’t stress enough the importance of our work. We need to share our stories and not be shy to pursue a project that might seem impossible to achieve. Helping others and sharing this friendship and love is what best imitates Jesus and what he would want us to do.

This article may sound like it is directed more to leadership, rather than a first vice president, yet I believe they go hand-in-hand in our organization. Embrace our organization and what it stands for, especially in Utah. Reach out to others and make a friend at convention and in your parishes. Say hello to the stranger in the pew near you--she may be your next member in your CCW, who will be accepted and loved as I was, who will go on to hold many offices and keep DCCW going!

Looking forward to a wonderful, blessed convention. Donations are coming in and we will have many beautiful items for raffle and silent auction. Thanks to the donors and Parish CCWs who are providing items for our fundraiser. I am grateful to be part of such a wonderful organization.

Love & Peace of Christ,
MaryAnne Mulvihill
Important news from the National Council of Catholic Women (“NCCW”) – there are approximately 3,000 who are paying dues to the organization – individual and supporting members, parish affiliates, provinces, diocesan councils, etc. (If you are not currently a member, please contact me or any Diocesan Council of Catholic Women (“DCCW”) Board Member, and we will be glad to assist you.)

During 2018, on behalf of generous donators, NCCW affiliates made the following donations: Water for Life of $25,326; Refugee Women Emergency Fund of $1,850; Madonna Plan of $9,430; Help-a-Child Fund of $2,424; and General Fund of $2,747 - a total of $41,777.

At our 2018 DCCW Convention, donations from the Cathedral Mass collection were made to the following: NCCW’s Vocation Purse Club of $1,029, Give Me A Chance, Ogden of $1,029, and the Carmelite Monastery of $1,029.

I am very proud of the continuing accomplishments made by all members of the DCCW. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you.

Becky Hicks, DCCW Treasurer,
(rfhicks50@gmail.com) Mobile 801-694-8249.

For all the CCW and Deanery secretaries, let’s raise our coffee cups to Genesius of Arles who first showed that secretaries are ethical and stand up for what they believe.

August 25 is the feast day of Genesius of Arles, the patron saint of secretaries, who has of late been given his true recognition. For 700 years, the Catholic Church considered secretaries to be represented by Genesius of Rome though for no good reason - he was an actor hired for a third-century play that made fun of Christianity, who experienced a religious conversion during the second act, and made the mistake of saying so. As the emperor was in the audience, he was beheaded.

Only in 2000 did the church’s Patron Saints Index look closely at his lesser-known French namesake, Genesius of Arles, and realize the true story.

This youngster, who also lived in about 300 AD, was a rare soldier who could write, and so was ordered to act as secretary to his commander. One day his dictation consisted of orders on how to persecute Christians - it was so outrageous that young Genesius uttered the Latin equivalent of "stuff that for a lark", threw his shorthand tablets on the floor, and legged it. He was caught, and executed.

It was the first recorded case of a secretary refusing to put up with any nonsense during dictation.

Quoted directly from Ian Boughton, the Guardian, 20 August 2001
Welcome Dear Sisters in Christ from throughout our Diocese to the 91st Annual Convention of the Diocese of Salt Lake City Council of Catholic Women! Much preparation and planning has gone into this convention. Of course, we hope all runs as smooth as planned, and if it doesn’t, that you won’t even know about it.

When I saw the theme of our 2019 convention, “Through the Grace of God,” my thought went to the first five words of the beautiful prayer to Our Lady, “Hail Mary full of grace…” Of course Our Blessed Mother, who was born without sin, would be “Full of Grace.” “Grace is a free, undeserved help that God gives us to respond to His call to become children of God. “It is the love and mercy given to us by God, because God desires us to have it. Grace is good will, favor and kindness, and more.

There will be many opportunities to receive the grace of God the weekend of convention: by the good will that is shown, by the kindness that is given, by being grateful, by responding to God’s call to pray and to listen.

Convention is always a good time. As Catholic women in the State of Utah we are able to be with hundreds of other Catholic women. We can meet new people and visit with old friends, listen to great speakers, make memories, worship together, and just enjoy the week-end. God bless each of us as we continue on our faith journey.

Peace and Joy,
Bobbie Hunt
CONVENTION SPONSORSHIP COMMITTEE

Ernie Folks, Chair
St. Francis of Assissi, Orem, Parishioner
ErnieFolks@outlook.com

Nancy Reading, Co-Chair
St. John the Baptist, Draper, Parishioner
nlr@xmission.com

DCCW CONVENTION SPONSORSHIP

This year 19 women were awarded a sponsorship to attend the 2019 DCCW Convention!

REMINDER:
ALL CHANGES FOR THE DCCW ROSTER, ESPECIALLY NEW AFFILIATE PRESIDENTS, NEED TO BE EMAILED TO DCCW SECRETARY, MARGARET CRAGIN-MASARONE ASAP
mac_84119@yahoo.com

Margaret will forward updates to NCCW

Individual NCCW members need to make changes to your profile online or contact NCCW directly.

Grace
Be patient; Be kind;
God is with you for all time.

Be not afraid; You’re never alone;
God will be there to bring you home.

Have no hatred; Lose your doubt.
Love is what life is all about.

A whisper of peace; An angel’s face.
Share your love with all of God’s grace.

— Robert Clancy —

DCCW PARLIAMENTARIAN
Jeanne Audiss — Sts. Peter & Paul, West Valley, Parishioner
jaudiss1234@yahoo.com

Since we are currently at Convention, I thought it appropriate to talk about Protocol for seating arrangements. You may wonder why people sit where they do. They guides are slightly different for a banquet than for a Business Meeting.

NOTE: This is a general guide and would be adjusted according to the needs of the organization. Always remember that the higher-ranking officers or guests are usually seated at the right of the presiding officer and those of lesser rank (as listed in the bylaws) to the left.

Business Meeting Chart
(facing the audience)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Left of the Presiding Officer</th>
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<td>1. Parliamentary</td>
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<td>2. Recording</td>
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<td>2. Spiritual Advisor</td>
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<td>3. Treasurer</td>
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<td>3. First Vice-President</td>
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<td>4. Corresponding Secretary</td>
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<td>4. Second Vice-President</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Credentials Chair</td>
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<td>5. Chair-Convention Rules</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td></td>
<td>6. Convention Chair</td>
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</tbody>
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The letter X represents the lectern which is always placed in the center of the table.

Banquet Meeting Chart
(facing the audience)

Sub-head Table if needed
The Arch/Diocesan Councils sub-head table could be used to seat the Deanery Presidents, Spiritual Advisors, Commission/Committee Chairs or former Presidents of the Organization

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Left of the Presiding Officer</th>
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<td>6 5 4 3 2 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Deanery (host) Spiritual Advisor</td>
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<td>1. Presiding Officer</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Recording Secretary</td>
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<td>2. Guest Speaker (Bishop)</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Corresponding Secretary</td>
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<td>3. Spiritual Advisor (Diocesan)</td>
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<td>4. Treasurer</td>
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<td>4. First Vice-President</td>
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<td>5. Second-Vice President</td>
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<td>6.</td>
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Again, this type of seating may be arranged as to the needs of the organization and depending on the number of people being honored but still higher ranking on the right, lesser ranking on the left.

Robert’s Rules of Order

- Why do we use Robert’s Rules of Order?
  - Due process
    - Enable everyone present to participate
    - Make decisions with clarity
    - Ensure that the majority decides but the minority is heard
  - Facilitate meetings effectively

Volunteers don't get paid, not because they're worthless, but because they're priceless

SHERRY ANDERSON
Be it Resolved to Use Resolutions to Engage Your Membership

When our own Pat Voorhes was the San Francisco Province Director (2017-2018), her weekend-long province meetings were focused on the resolutions passed at the previous NCCW Convention. Having an NCCW Leadership Trainer in her backyard, Pat called on me to create and present a leadership workshop based on one of the resolutions. Knowing the diverse diocese and councils that make up our province, my goal was to provide our women with ideas they could use as councils, as parish communities, and individually. While I hope my contributions played a small part, the attendees left the province meeting with a renewed sense of the mission of NCCW and how our resolutions can be used to inspire action in our councils and engage our membership.

When we started planning our DCCW Convention last fall, there was some question about whether we should continue to adopt resolutions at all. Fresh off my province meeting assignments and with a new appreciation for how to translate our resolutions into action and engagement, I suggested that our Membership Development and Resource (MDR) Committee combine forces with our Resolutions Committee. The plan we hatched is for our Resolutions Committee to continue creating resolutions based on themes and presentations at our convention and for the MDR committee to present concrete ideas for how to implement these resolutions within your women’s groups, in your parishes, and as individuals.

DCCW convention attendees will learn all about this during our Sunday session. If you would like to know more about how to put our resolutions to work, the MDR committee would be more than happy to visit your group or advise your leaders on how.

Mark your calendar and plan to attend:
The Diocese of Salt Lake City Council of Catholic Women 92nd Annual Convention April 25-26, 2020

| APRIL 2020 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| **EASTER** | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | **25** |
| 26 | **26** | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | |
The Leadership Commission has had a full year revising and updating the DCCW Bylaws and Standing Rules. We then moved on to revise and update the DCCW Convention Guidelines. We had a fabulous committee who worked tirelessly to complete these tasks. I’d like to recognize the committee members: Bonnie Siegrist, Wasatch Deanery; Jeanne Audiss, Salt lake Deanery: Carol Harley, Northern Deanery; Becky Colombo, Eastern Deanery; Trish Christensen, Southwest Deanery, and myself. Their suggestions and knowledge made this daunting task very doable. I found a true appreciation to all those who came before us to put these documents in place.

The bylaws and standing rules were updated to reflect current practices and procedure. We defined more specific duties for the Commission chairs, realigned duties of the host deanery and DCCW President, added the duties of the DCCW secretary, and added the “Throw- Down Challenge” to the convention guidelines for just a sampling of the changes. This should make clearer guides for future officers, commission chairs, and convention chairs. These DCCW documents make becoming a leader at the Diocesan level of Council so much easier, because they contain the necessary information to guide you through the process. Plus there is a wealth of knowledge available from those who proceed in the positions. I encourage everyone to take a leap of faith and become a leader in your affiliate council, Deanery council, and DCCW. You won’t regret it.

These documents are what make our Council work so smoothly. They are our life blood, just as the Bible and Eucharist are the lifeblood of our Salvation, this doesn’t seem like a just comparison, but it is true. We need guidance in our Councils, just as we need guidance in our journey for eternal life. The Bible is our source of answers and the Eucharist is our source of grace and strength to Eternal Life.

Through the Grace of God, we are given answers, direction, mercy, strength, love, empathy, compassion, kindness, forgiveness, protection, faith, and charity. (I’m sure I have missed a few). God has shown His grace to me so many times and in many places. I am in awe of when it comes to me. I know I don’t always feel or see how many times it is right before me. I have learned over the years that God is in total control of my life, if I will step aside, give up my pride, and let Him lead the way. I am grateful for Him and His graces, for without them I would be lost. I hope you all experience the graces He sends to you every day; they are all around, in the people in your lives, the places you go, in your homes, at your work, when you are playing, or just alone. Can you feel it? Can you see it? Can you experience it? GRACE is everywhere, just like GOD, it is from HIM, so it is everywhere in your life. Let it be, you’ll find so much Joy, if you do!

May God bless you all with His grace and open your hearts, mind, and soul to experience it daily!!

Prayer to Our Lady of Good Counsel

God of heavenly wisdom, you have given us Mary, Mother of Jesus, to be our guide and counselor. Grant that we may always seek her motherly help in this life and so enjoy her blessed presence in the life to come.

O Mother of Good counsel, patroness of the National Council of Catholic Women, intercede for us, that we may be wise, courageous and loving leaders of the Church. Help us, dear mother, to know the mind of Jesus, your son. May the Holy spirit fill us with reverence for God’s creation and compassion for all of God’s children. May our labors of love on earth enhance the reign of God and may God’s gifts of faith and living hope prepare us for the fullness of the world to come. Amen
I spent this last Lent studying, and contemplating on, one of my favorite biblical passages and wanted to share a little of what I learned.

What Does the Lord Require of You?

Micah 6:8 You have been told, O mortal, what is good, and what the LORD requires of you: Only to do justice and to love goodness, and to walk humbly with your God.

It really sounds pretty simple doesn’t it. “Do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with your God.” But when you study the prophet who spoke those words, when you understand the context in which he spoke them and their impact on those who heard them, you realize that it is much more than a glib motto - much deeper than a memorized verse of scripture.

To understand Micah, we must first place him in the context of the history of the Hebrew people. Micah preached during one of those periods in the history of the Hebrew people when things were going well, when they had forgotten their covenant with the one who delivered them from slavery. Things were going well for the nation of Israel economically and politically. Here’s the way one scholar described it: “The situation of ordinary citizens was of great concern to Micah. He felt compassion for the poor and dispossessed, and held the leaders responsible for their suffering.” Micah condemns the leaders of his people for injustices perpetrated against the poor and powerless, a complacency that pretends nothing is wrong and the abuse of power by both political and religious leaders. When Micah confronted the leaders of the nation with these injustices, their response was to change the subject. They say, “Hey we are good Jews. We go to the temple every Sabbath. We offer sacrifices and we generously give to the temple’s coffers. What does God expect from us anyway?” And that is the question that Micah answers in this text.

Doing justice involves both personal and social responsibilities. It compels one never to act in ways that might produce injustice. And it also compels one to address the social causes of injustice or conditions that fostered it.

What does “loving kindness” mean in the context of Micah’s message? This is the Hebrew term “hesed,” which has a depth of meaning hard to capture in a single English word. It has been translated “kindness,” and “mercy” but no one English word can express its meaning. “Covenant faithfulness,” “compassion,” “loyal love,” “loving devotion,” and “steadfast love” are all attempts to translate this term. It is often used to describe God’s faithful actions throughout history on behalf of God’s people. But the term can also be used in the same context in which the people were expected to respond to God with a steadfast loyalty and love that reflected the compassion and grace that God had demonstrated to them. “Hesed,” then, is a relationship term. It is not a warm-fuzzy-feeling kind of love, but the commitment and steadfast dependability that arises from mutual relationship.

What did Micah mean when he said, “walk humbly with your God?” "Walking a path” is a common biblical metaphor for living a certain kind of life. "Walking humbly with God" is a call to live our lives with God in ways that work out in every aspect of life. It implies a sensitivity to the things of God - to allow our hearts to be broken by the things that break the heart of God. It is a deep desire to see the world through the eyes of God, to act in the world as God would act. To walk with that God means to live a life of steadfast love for others, especially those whom Jesus called “the least of these.” When we understand this message of the prophet Micah, we realize that Jesus stood in the long line of Hebrew prophets, who called their people to “walk humbly” with their God.

Let us all try to live our lives doing justice, loving kindness, and walking humbly with our God.
On the 13th of every month, NCCW members are welcome to join the Spirituality Commission in the rosary. Our first rosary call began on October 13th, 2017, the 100th anniversary of the miracle of the sun at Fatima. Unite with your council sisters across the country for this powerful prayer each month!

**NCCW Members’ Call Information**

Call in number for all calls: (515) 739 - 1261 - Pin 703993#

Times are 5 pm (PT), **6 pm (MT)**, 7 pm (CT), and 8 pm (ET)

1. If you join the call after the start time, please do not announce yourself despite the instruction to do so.
2. When you join the call, please mute your phone by pressing *6. You can take the phone off mute if you wish to speak by pressing *6 again.

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**SERVICE COMMISSION**

*Sylvia Orosco, Chair*

St. Joseph, Ogden, Parishioner

sylviorosco1952@gmail.com

*Marie Neri, Co-Chair*

St. Joseph, Ogden, Parishioner

neri3739@msn.com

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Ladies I want you all to know this has been a great project for me and my Co-Chair, Marie. We decided to help the homeless shelters in our deanery areas. These are the following that were chosen: Switch Point Community Services, St. George; Catholic Community Services, Salt Lake City; Midvale Women’s Family Shelter, and The Road Home Salt Lake Community College.

I contacted the following shelters and asked what they need the most, and, of course, they said everything. So I let the Deanery Presidents know to pass it on to their affiliates. Most of them asked for men’s and women’s clothing and toiletries. One of the shelters needed kitchen utensils, pots, and pans. It was around the holidays so some even asked for children’s Halloween costumes. A lot of effort was put into this project so that no one was left out.

**Eastern Deanery President—Karen Curtis**: Boxes with items were taken to St James in Vernal. They were informed that a young mother with young boys came to the shelter a week before Christmas, so the CCW, Youth Group, Knights of Columbus and others donated items for the young mother, and presents for her children. Gift cards were given to help her get gas, as she needed to get to Roosevelt for her job.

**Wasatch Deanery President Susan Porter**: The Wasatch Deanery discussed the DCCW Service Project. Also, the chair of our Service Commission, Tracey Hacking, presented an idea of “Blessing Bags” (1-gallon Ziplock bags filled with necessities and nonperishable items to distribute to the homeless). Since the DCCW did not include any shelters from Utah County, we wanted to offer an alternative project that could benefit the homeless in Utah County communities and compliment the DCCW Project. The Blessed Sacrament CCW chose to focus on two separate initiatives. There was interest in creating the Blessing Bags and other focus was on the Midvale Women’s Family Shelter. To strengthen the response, they reached out to the entire parish for more involvement and donations. Many of the parishes in the Wasatch Deanery have several ministries within the parish that participate and contribute to CCS and the homeless, whether to be food or clothing drives, backpacks collections, or serving meals. Our ladies often work in collaboration with these other ministries while also planning their own service projects throughout the year.

**Northern Deanery President Barbara Larsen**: The Northern Deanery is participating in the DCCW Service Project by collecting winter clothing and hygiene items for Salt Lake Catholic Community Services, who support a day shelter. Deanery CCW affiliate Holy Family collected clothing. St Mary CCW gathered their items in February. In January and February, Barbara Larsen delivered donations to CCS. These items will provide comfort for the homeless and transient people in the area.

Marie Neri has been working closely with Monica Rich the Emergency Assistance Coordinator for Catholic Community Services in Salt Lake City. Almost on a weekly basis since we started the project, she has been driving down to Salt Lake with boxes of clothes and other needed donations. I broke my shoulder last July, and it has been a slow process trying to get better. I give many thanks to Marie. I could not have done this project without her.

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**6:00 PM Mountain Time**
The Utah Legislative General Session ended its 45-day session an hour early around 11 p.m. on Thursday, March 14, 2019 as this session was defined by big fights over Medicaid expansion, tax reform and the direction of state government in a period of explosive population and economic growth. They passed a record 573 bills as well as a record $19 billion budget which includes more spending on air quality, suicide prevention and health care. Overall this session can be described as a fundamental clash between lawmakers and their constituents. In the first 2 weeks of the session legislators rewrote a voter-approved Medicaid expansion initiative which was on the ballot as Proposition 3 and their revision covered fewer people at a higher initial cost. Senator Allen Christensen felt his Senate Bill 96 version was more fiscally sound and would obtain some federal waivers. Open enrollment started April 1 and the public is encouraged to sign up if needed. A monumental bill passed by Senator Dan Thatcher, SB 103S04 Victim Targeting Penalty Enhancements, a Hate Crimes Bill which had difficulty passing in past years. The 2 abortion bills passed as Rep. Cheryl Acton’s HB 136 to ban abortions after 18 weeks and Rep. Karen Lisonbee’s bill to not allow abortions for fetal Down’s Syndrome. It is possible that these will go to litigation and possibly even the Supreme Court. Governor Herbert has claimed to be pro-life as he may not veto these bills. Another important bill which failed was about end of life prescription to terminate one’s life in cases of terminal illness. A bill with bipartisan work included Representative Angela Romero, Democrat and Senator Todd Weiller, Republican who worked together to pass a bill adding domestic violence to the list of reasons to be denied bail. Representative Ken Ivory had a resolution allowing nonprofits and churches to offer compassionate care and in some cases an apology to abuse victims without necessarily an admission of liability in court. This was controversial from advocates for survivors of clergy abuse and the bill never made it out of committee. Governor Herbert called for $100 million to improve air quality but only got around $26 million.

Gun legislation had mostly failed bills including a universal background check, a ban on bump stocks on guns, a bill to alert police of someone purchasing a gun while having a protective order against them, a bill to make a criminal offense for people who loans guns to someone who commit a crime with the owner’s gun, and a bill to make improper, careless storage of guns a crime all failed. A bill to hand out gun locks and coupons for a firearm safe with a firearm purchase passed and may help lower Utah’s youth suicide epidemic. Utah Legislature continued its efforts to combat the opioid crisis by funding more efforts to educate people by creating a special committee to study opioid-related fatalities. This includes more checking of the state’s-controlled substance database. A Utah resolution was passed encouraging a more humane response to the refugee’s crisis including opposing separation of the families at the U.S. Mexico border. The chaos continues with the Trump administration with the border wall emergency since Congress did not approve of his financial request for new construction. Many republicans who have spoken in opposition to this emergency approximately 19 states have filed a lawsuit in opposition as well as 12 U.S. Republican senators who voted to override the president’s emergency order. His plan includes diverting Congress controlled money earmarked for military use to build the border wall, this is nearly $130 million in funding for Hill Air Force Base. Both Senator Mitt Romney and Senator Mike Lee do not want any transfer of funding from Hill Air Force Base projects toward construction of Trump’s wall on the southern U.S. border and claimed the move amounted to a usurpation of congressional authority. They were quoted in the SL Tribune adding such a move “would undermine military capabilities that are essential to our national security strategy”. Trump later vetoed the congressional resolution blocking his order. Trump has backed off on his threat of closing the U.S. Mexico border due to the huge economic impact of $1.7 Billion of goods daily in trade including produce, the automobile industry, and threaten 5 million American jobs as per the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

Bishop Solis has reaffirmed his Support for Utah Compact’s Humane Approach to Immigration by joining other civic and business leaders on March 21 to re-sign the Utah Compact. As per Intermountain Catholic’s March 29 issue, this document seeks humane treatment of immigrants, including keeping families together. Bishop Solis stated, “Strong families are the foundation of successful communities” and included remarks that policies which contribute to the well-being of all children should be supported, and those that unnecessarily separate families should be opposed. There are still children who were separated from their parents last year with Trump’s Zero Tolerance Immigration policy which have not been reunited with their families partially due to inadequate sharing and use of their computer databases. Individuals are encouraged to re-affirm their signatures on the Compact, or sign for the first time at https://theutahcompact.com.

Please remember to become involved as a Catholic to share your views with legislators so they understand how you expect them to vote on various issues which impact God’s earth as air quality, climate change, abortion and immigration issues. For more information please visit the websites of https://le.utah.gov/ and https://www.dioslc.org/. Let us continue to pray for our local and national leaders to be successful so we can be successful as a community and country.
St. Anthony’s CCW- CO- Presidents Michael O’Shea/Becky Colombo

Our CCW welcomed three new members and a few inactive members. At one meeting, their guest speaker was a gentleman who owns and operates the Thrift store in Helper. He is also a building construction owner and is filled with the spirit of generosity and helping others. With the revenue from the store, he sends addicts to rehab in California, one that he personally attended when he was addicted to opiates. They are going to have several presentations from others seeking funds for their charities before deciding where to give their funds. They also shared their adventures in Pittsburg at the NCCW convention.

They had a Harvest Bake sale in conjunction with Council Sunday. Our bake sales are a great source of income and the community always looks forward to them. They have an on-going fundraiser that is appreciated by the parish, a Mother’s and Father’s bench at the Helper Cemetery. For $25.00 they add a family name to the plaques. This has turned into a beautiful way to honor deceased family members. Barbara Jewkes is in charge and is doing a great job of keeping track of the names.

The yearly programs will be interesting and fun. They are inviting Sterling Scholars from Carbon High School to present their specialties; a meet the Candidates night, a wine and paint night, a Christmas party, and card party with a fashion show.

St. Helen’s CCW- President Gabriela Valadez

They welcomed a new priest Father Dass. They are building a mini library in the Hass. They presented a small gift and blessing to a high school graduate and they had two girls get their First Communion. They hosted a parish picnic in September. In October they had their annual Rummage sale. The CCW is participating in helping the Vernal Women’s Shelter (Roosevelt doesn’t have a shelter). They had their Christmas Bazaar when they partner with a couple other faiths and the community really looks forward to it. They sell out of Sheila’s famous taco soup every time. They helped four families with their Sub for Santa.

They are helping with St. Kateri Tekawitha mission in Fort Duchesne by helping to clean out old furniture, and cleaning inside and outside preparing for Bishop Solis’s visit in July. They were going to have a Lenten retreat hosted by Father Dass, but unfortunately his father has passed away, and he had to make a trip to India.

St. James’s CCW- President Karan Curtis

We welcomed our new priest Fr. Shawri and Fr. Anil Kakumanu. Fr. Anil was only able to stay a short time. Fr. Anil celebrated the Spanish Masses and was learning how to drive here in America to get his driver’s license. We planned a nice Council Sunday with cake and refreshments. We started a new fundraiser with breakfast burritos, and it was a great success. We have had another since then and will continue this hopefully for years to come. We had our bake and craft sales, along with a raffle.

We helped with the Bingo Bash and our spaghetti dinner, two annual fundraising activities. We hosted a paint and pizza night with the parish that was well attended. We had a card making class that was a blast.

We had a cleaning day for the outside before all this lovely snow fell. We decorated for Christmas along with polishing all the brass and Tabernacle. We were asked by the women’s shelter to help a woman and her two little kids (4 months and 5 years) with Christmas presents, since they came just a week and a half before Christmas. The Knights of Columbus, youth group, and CCW joined funds and gave them a good Christmas.

We hosted the Woman of the Year luncheon for the Eastern Deanery CCW, which was very nice. The Ladies of St. James made the Woman of the Year Tea very special indeed.
Southwest Deanery In Action

The Southwest Deanery had quite a year. We bid goodbye to beloved pastors and welcomed new ones - all unique and amazing priests. We have spent the last months preparing for Convention, inviting new members to attend and choosing our special Women of the Year ...our choices were many and all deserving!

We have installed new leaders and are looking forward with excitement to a new year. Christ the King, Cedar City, is planning to host a retreat this Spring, which we anticipate being excellent. (All are welcome...we will let you know specifics later.) Their group is thriving, as is St. George’s Women’s Group, who hosted our Fall retreat. We have aimed to present two retreats a year, and so far we have been successful.

Our groups have served their respective communities well, on the parish, diocesan and general community level. We had several women serve on DCCW commission projects this year. Both Christ the King and St George Councils have served the youth of their parishes in concrete ways, they hosted Christmas parties, gifted Bibles, served as ministers in all aspects as lectors, Eucharistic ministers, leaders of Bible studies and Stations of the Cross, sacristans, ushers, choir members and thrift store volunteers. Both councils provided assistance to the poor through their Back-to-School backpack deliveries, their service at the Care and Share Food banks, their Blessings Baskets and meals at Thanksgiving and Christmas, their Diaper Drives for crisis pregnancy agencies and homeless shelters, their prayer shawl gifts to those with health and life problems, their “mittens-and-coats-and-teddy bears-oh my!” collections during the winter to warm those in need, their Christmas Giving Trees to provide a happy Christmas to those with stressed budgets, their work with the Festival of trees and Shop with a Cop programs, their caroling visits to senior assisted living homes and their amazing Bake sales! Several of our women serve on community boards, such as the Senior Center Advisory Board and the Interfaith Council.

The women also support each other in many ways: rides to/from Mass, Council meetings and other special events; Fun movie nights and Council holiday celebrations that include activities such as Sock exchanges or Secret Sisters; Ladies’ Tea parties and fashion shows.

We have many amazing women in our Deanery. Together we are a positive influence, beams of light, bringing Christ to our communities.
DCCW Service Project

The Northern Deanery Affiliate CCWs supported the DCCW Service Commission Project, helping homeless shelters in the State of Utah. We were asked to collect cold-weather clothing and hygiene items for the Salt Lake City Catholic Community Services (CCS), that supports a day-shelter for homeless and transient people. Those CCW Presidents who reported back to me had gathered more than 375 clothing/hygiene items. These items were personally delivered to CCS. I thank those individuals who took this project to heart.

Holy Family: In addition to donating clothing/and hygiene items to Salt Lake CCS for the shelter, they also purchased new gloves, Chapstick and rain ponchos for the cause.

The CCW hosted a Lenten Devotional "Mary's Way of the Cross" and provided a beautiful setting with a statue of Mary on the Alter, surrounded by a multitude of candles. While recorded music by the Sisters of St. Benedict played, the ladies shared a reflection of Mary's dedication to her Son at each Station of the Cross. Afterward tea & cookies were served -- the ladies shared thoughts and special experiences.

In April the CCW announced their Woman of the Year, Karen Fawbush. Karen has been a parishioner of Holy Family since its beginning. She's held various positions in the CCW, Parish Council, and is a Eucharistic Minister and Lector. She is honored to be their Woman of the Year.

During the month of May, the ladies will meet to honor the Blessed Mother by praying the Holy Rosary for the special intentions of those present; they will hold a bake sale in May; and host receptions for First Communion and Confirmation recipients.

In June the CCW will host the Parish Picnic. Parishioners will "bring a dish to share," and purchase raffle tickets on baskets provided by all church ministries.

St. Joseph: At the January meeting the ladies focused on finding new CCW officers, recruiting new members, and encouraging convention attendance. In February Yolanda Carrillo was selected St. Joseph Woman of the Year. The CCW is forming a team to serve once a month at Lantern House.

Father Sciumbato talked to the CCW about opening an area where, together with the Knights of Columbus, they could set up a pantry to issue food and clothing to the needy in the community. They will be recruiting volunteers to work on this combined effort.

St. Mary: The CCW sponsored a food drive for Catholic Community Services to help those impacted by the government shutdown. The ladies also donated new and gently used cold-weather clothing to CCS for the homeless. Guest speaker Monica Rich, Volunteer Coordinator for Homeless Services at CCS, was invited to a meeting in February to discuss volunteer opportunities.

Anneli Byrd from Weber State University, who instructs a course in the art of Ukrainian Egg Decorating, brought her expertise to the women of St. Mary in March.

St. Rose of Lima: The CCW Annual Mexican Dinner/Bingo fundraiser was a huge success in February. The Parishioners were invited to great tasting authentic Mexican food. Afterward they played Bingo, where winners of each game were awarded nice prizes; there were raffle baskets; tickets were sold for a 50/50 split; a balloon pop and door prizes. A fantastic event.

In March they announced their Woman of the Year Juanita Rios. Juanita is the Funeral Coordinator, a Eucharistic Minister, member of the Sewing Angels, helps with RCIA, she is a home-bound minister and makes Rosaries. She is well-deserving.

In April, they have invited guest speaker Kit Cummings who will speak on the "Love Language of Jesus." In May the CCW will be handing a flower to every mother of the parish on Mother's Day. In June the Ladies will hold a fundraising Garage Sale.
It is hard to imagine that an entire year has passed since we were last preparing for and promoting convention in our parishes. Yet looking back on all the activity that has taken place in the Wasatch Deanery, it is amazing to see how much has been accomplished by these dedicated women in just one year. I appreciate the Affiliate Presidents and other members of the board who take time out of their busy schedules to meet four times each year, sharing ideas and celebrating our Catholic faith. I am especially grateful to the Affiliate Parishes who hosted our Deanery meetings this year: St. Thomas More, St. Francis Xavier, St. Joseph the Worker and St. Francis of Assisi. San Andres has committed to hosting our upcoming June meeting. The Wasatch Deanery CCW currently has nine affiliated parishes, and there’s promising news on the horizon that St. Therese in Midvale will be re-affiliating soon. We are also blessed to have Father Blaine continue as our Spiritual Moderator following his retirement last May as pastor of St. Peter. Here are some highlights from the past year, including updates since the Winter AWARE and a “bit of old news” that bears repeating:

**Blessed Sacrament.** An impressive number of women (60) attended Blessed Sacrament’s 7th Annual Council Sunday Tea. With proceeds from the June Garage Sale and the 31st Annual Blessings Boutique in November, they donated around $10K to local and international non profits as well as to the parish, school, religious education, jail ministry, and teen programs. Since the Donation Awards Dinner and installation of new officers in January, Co-Presidents Michelle Beasley and Rose Stehno have been busy encouraging members to attend the DCCW convention, hoping to add to the normally good turnout they see each year. For their service project in March, they prepared Blessing Bags for the homeless with socks, protein bars, and many of the other items listed in the DCCW Service project.

**San Andres.** The San Andres Women’s Society, under the leadership of Monica Villar (who also happens to serve as our Wasatch Deanery Treasurer), hosts luncheons for funerals and for other parishioners in need of help. At Thanksgiving, in conjunction with the Knights of Columbus and the Youth group, they distributed 100 meals around the Payson community. In December, several of their ladies went to see The Messiah. During Lent, they worked on the Blessing Bags service project. Tracey Hacking, a San Andres parishioner and our WDCCW Service Commission Chair, presented the idea at our October Deanery meeting. At the end of March, they hosted a “Human Trafficking and Your Community” event, featuring a speaker from the Utah Attorney General’s office.

**Saint Francis of Assisi.** The Women of St. Francis, our one Affiliate that doesn’t “break for the summer,” holds meetings all year long, featuring guest speakers from within the parish community covering topics of interest such as women’s health, the meaning of Advent, jail ministry, and charismatic prayer. President Gina Bowen opened her home in September for a mini-retreat, “Images of Mary.” Forty-one women from both the English and Spanish speaking communities attended. They, too, helped out several parish families at Thanksgiving with some help from the women of San Andres’ donation of 10 turkeys. In January, twenty-eight women attended their Mad Hatter Tea Party which also included a presentation on St. Teresa of Calcutta. In February, they had a guest speaker share stories about St. Valentine, and they hosted the Wasatch Deanery meeting. A mini-prayer service for Lent was held in March and their guest speaker from the parish spoke about Passover in April.

**Saint Francis Xavier.** The St. Francis Xavier CCW hosted our WDCCW meeting in October. I attended my very first Wasatch Deanery meeting in October 2008 at St. Francis Xavier. The women of St. Francis Xavier began their Council year with Bingo in September. They prayed a Living Rosary in October and promoted Council Sunday with special picture displays highlighting CCW events and activities. Paperwhite flowers were planted for Christmas and Amy Kennedy was invited to speak at their March meeting about Estate Planning from a Catholic Prospective.

**St. John the Baptist.** The Ladies Association of SJB know how to have a good time, whether it’s a beach-themed “Get Acquainted Party,” Halloween Olympics, a western-themed BBQ luncheon with line dancing, or a cooking class focused on “A New Year, A New You.” That being said, it is also one of the most charitable and service-oriented Affiliates in the Wasatch Deanery and DCCW. In honor of Council Sunday, they served a Newcomers’ Breakfast. With proceeds from their charity luncheon in November, they were able to donate $3000 to the parish for new church lighting fixtures and $1000 to replenish the social justice committee’s food-pantry. In December, their Advent Service project provided Christmas for the 20 children in the care of the “Give Me a Chance” Sisters in Ogden. They collected educational toys and delivered them to a “very delighted group of children” on December 17th. They also donated an additional $150 to the sisters for their programs. Their Lenten Service project benefited the Midvale Women’s and Family Shelter. Large towels, sweat pants, and toiletries were donated in April as the top requested items from the shelter.

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**St. Joseph the Worker** Every November the Wasatch Deanery hosts the DCCW meeting, and this year President Lydia Moore graciously volunteered her parish. Father Javier Virgen attended the meeting and encouraged us to keep inviting Spanish speaking members in our communities to events. Susan Espinoza and Suzie Brown, DCCW Spirituality Co-Chairs, are also parishioners at St. Joseph the Worker. Susan conducted a retreat, “Women of His Story,” in September. To celebrate Council Sunday, they prayed a contemplative rosary and invited Holly Dodge and her daughters to perform the music. They held another retreat during Lent titled “Making Room for God; Spring Cleaning for the Heart and Soul,” and they set up a Lenten project called 40 Days, 40 Bags as a way to declutter and donate. The Women of the Worker (WOWs) also organize the Easter Vigil Reception.

**St. Peter** The women’s organization at St. Peter consists of several sub-committees that provide funeral luncheons and help for seniors and the homebound of the parish in addition to their regular CCW activities. Lydia Farnell serves as its chair and committee members Cynthia Currier and Stephanie Buck have also represented the women of St. Peter at our Deanery meetings. On Council Sunday, they offered pastries and circulated among the tables with the help of an interpreter, interviewing women in the parish about their ideas for Council. Thanksgiving food boxes were prepared in November and gifts of lap blankets were distributed to the seniors and homebound in December. In January, they had an Epiphany party and hosted a Taco Dinner/Bingo night, a major fundraiser with proceeds going toward the building fund. Blessing Bags were assembled for their Lenten service project. A Palm Sunday Bake Sale was held with proceeds going towards receptions for First Communion and Confirmation. A year end social/potluck in May will have a garden theme and feature a prayer service, “Images of Mary,” lead by Susan Neilson.

**St. Thomas More** The Ladies of St. Thomas More have hosted a number of “Meet and Mingle” events throughout the year in an effort to build community among women in the parish. We held three morning Coffees in October, January, and April and two Wine & Cheese parties in November and February. Goodies were provided by Crumbl Cookies, Cakes de Fleur, Reams bakery, Alpha Coffee, and Harmon’s in Holladay. Our Annual Ladies Christmas Luncheon, chaired by President Roxann Vredenburg and Treasurer Joan Simard, was very successful. We met in early March to distribute $10K in proceeds to the parish, local non-profits, and veterans’ groups. We also donated money to parishioner Regina Smithers to support her travel to Haiti to assist local midwives. The Ladies were busy during Lent helping serve at the Knights’ Fish Fry’s, the St. Patrick’s Day Dinner, and Coffee and Donut Sundays. Annette Pressley, our WDCCW Spirituality Co-Chair, once again organized “Mary’s Way of the Cross” Stations. We had a presentation by a parishioner who is a master gardener in late April, just in time for Spring planting.

**St. Vincent de Paul** The St. Vincent de Paul CCW sponsors Donut Sundays every other week in tandem with the Knights of Columbus, so it was only fitting that they held their installation of officers at the 9:00 am Mass on Council Sunday and served coffee and donuts that morning. As wife of the Grand Knight, President Sophe Derrick gets to help out every weekend! They are using several social media apps to advertise their CCW organization. Catherine Ford-Barbiero, our WDCCW Historian and Facebook page editor, is Secretary, so she maintains a page for their CCW as well. The women are also responsible for the funeral luncheons at St. Vincent’s. They have hosted a number of guest speakers this year, most notably Attorney General Sean Reyes, who spoke before 150 people in January about Human Trafficking. Representatives from The Inn Between and The Road Home came in November and March, respectively, and the women presented them with generous donations following each presentation. Craft projects during the year included centerpieces for the Knights’ Halloween party and terra-cotta pot decorating in April.

**St. Therese of the Child of Jesus** MaryAnne Mulvihill, Wasatch Deanery Immediate Past-President, has been working with pastor Father Jose Barrera in an effort to re-activate the CCW at St. Therese. MaryAnne has ordered several resources and pamphlets from NCCW written in Spanish, including a Guidance and Resource Manual. There is talk of re-affiliating with the Deanery and the NCCW next year.
The AWARE is published 3 times per year (Fall, Winter & Spring) and is free of charge. Please advise us of any postal/email address changes, additions or deletions. Send info to: utahbonnie@comcast.net

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