



HDCCW Happenings

Harrisburg Diocesan Council of Catholic Women

Volume 1, Issue 3

February 2021

President's Message



Dear Sisters in Christ,

I hope this message finds you happy and healthy.

Last year was a challenging year, but your HDCCW Board has been working hard to bring you programs and ideas to stay engaged. I am proud of the work they have done, and excited that there is more to come!

Throughout this time, we find that communication is so important. The HDCCW wanted to have consistency in our communication and have developed new email addresses specific to our commissions and committees. This information can be found on our website. The commissions and committees have their own page where they will share wonderful resources and information about upcoming programs and projects.

Finally, Lent is a time of spiritual renewal that helps us prepare for the celebration of Easter. Through prayer, we can experience a spiritual reawakening that brings closer to God.

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Message from Bishop Gainer

Dear Members of the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women,

Thank you for this opportunity to extend to you my heartfelt wishes and gratitude for the good work you do throughout our Diocese. Your faithfulness and service, especially during 2020 and the ongoing challenges we are facing due to the pandemic, continue to demonstrate your generosity and your commitment to being true servants of the Church.

While we continue to face many challenges as a Church, the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women has a rich history of putting faith into action. I know that I can always count on the members of the HDCCW to support our clergy, our Church teachings and to show care and compassion to those in need.

May the Lord continue to richly bless you and the work of the Council of Catholic Women.

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Ronald W. Gainer
Bishop of Harrisburg



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As we prepare to journey through Lent, I would like to invite you to join us for Mary's Way of the Cross every Wednesday evening at 7 p.m. via ZOOM.

I am proud of each one of you. I ask that you continue to do your best as we navigate the "new normal" together. Be safe and stay healthy. Be assured of my prayers.

Alycia Laureti, HDCCW President



Secretary's Message

I became a newly confirmed member of Seven Sorrows BVM, Middletown in April 1998. In September 1998, I attended my first Council of Catholic Women meeting at our parish. I was welcomed and encouraged to join and have been an active member since that first meeting. I have served as secretary, vice-president, and president at the parish level and became involved at the District level.

When asked to join the Diocesan Board, I was honored and said yes. Now in my second term as Recording Secretary, I look forward to continue helping the President with her vision of growing Council at all levels through new ideas and modern technology.

During my years with council at all levels I have made lifetime friendships with many wonderful, faith filled women who have enhanced my faith journey in more ways than they know.

I am so thankful the Holy Spirit led me to that first meeting in September 1998!

Patricia Fraley, HDCCW Recording Secretary

HDCCW NEWS

HDCCW Virtual Convention April 17, 2021 **"Rejoice and Be Thankful"**

All ladies of the Diocese are invited to join HDCCW virtually for our 95th Annual Convention April 17, 2021. Wear your comfy clothes, grab a cup of coffee, and log in to a morning of spirit-filled speakers, the celebration of Holy Mass, and workshops. Our keynote speaker, Sara Christmyer, will speak on "Discover the Power of Joy." Our workshop sessions will include: Kelly Gollick from CONTACT Helpline who will speak on the importance of active listening; Donna Gilberti will share her experiences on her pilgrimage to the El Camino de Santiago; and Tina Kowalski will conduct a work-shop on SHINE, a spirit-based exercise program. We sincerely hope that even though we can't meet in person, we can connect with each other virtually. **There is no cost for the day.** To register, visit our website at www.hdccw.webs.com/hdccw-convention.

HDCCW Grant Program

Is your parish in need of money for a project this year? Do you need start-up funds to create a new council at your parish? Financial help is available through the HDCCW Grant Program. The Board has budgeted money for the year to be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis until the total is depleted. To apply for funding or to answer any questions you might have regarding eligibility contact Nancy Bauer, HDCCW Treasurer at hdccwtreasurer@gmail.com.

HDCCW Our Lady of Good Counsel Award

The intent of the award is to recognize a woman in the Diocese who has made a significant contribution at any level of Council. The first recipient will be awarded at our 2021 Convention. Nomination packets have been sent to Parish Presidents. The revised deadline for nominations is **March 17, 2021**. Any questions regarding the award may be directed to Alycia Laureti, HDCCW President at hdccwpres@gmail.com.

DISTRICT SPOTLIGHT Cumberland/Perry

The Cumberland/Perry District has been challenged during this pandemic, but I am very pleased that our parish Councils have been active using phone calls, Zoom meetings, masks and social distancing.

Our Lady of Lourdes Council had two soup and sub sales, and collected 30 Boxes of Joy and Sweats for Vets. Clothing was donated to the Lebanon VA Hospital. Baked items were sent to Bethesda Mission and held a cookie sale. The Ronny Powley Food Bank and Catholic Charities received donations from the Giving tree.

St. Bernadette Council held Zoom meetings, collected Sweats for Vets, donated to the Perry County Veterans, collected baby items, and collected donations for Morningstar Pregnancy Services. They plan to make Easter Eggs to sell at the local market.

Our Lady of Good Counsel Council had a soup sale, a baked ziti sale, and collected Boxes of Joy. They are currently updating their by-laws and participating in the Spiritual Adoption of the unborn.

St Theresa Council had a Food Truck sale, and Soup Sale. For Baptisms, a card and a Prayer square is sent and a Baby Blanket is given. The CCW is active in the Prayer Shawl Ministry.

Good Shepherd Council sold Mums during the Parish Food Truck sale and had an Apple Blessing. They are active in the Prayer Shawl Ministry and plan to do more later this year.

St Katharine Drexel Council had several outdoor Rosary meetings, a Take-Out Pasta Dinner, Bake Sale, and a Soup Sale. \$1,900 was sent to the Diocese for the Seminarians and \$660 was donated to the Silence of Mary Home for the homeless. Several virtual programs were held including Sister Geralyn Schmidt who presented a live-streamed Advent Evening of Reflection. At the present time, council is accepting donations for St. Michaels Indian School in Arizona founded by St. Katharine Drexel in 1902.

-submitted by Joyce Scott, District President

DISTRICT SPOTLIGHT Northern

Council activities in Northern District are currently on hold due to Covid-19. Listed below are projects we have done and hope to continue.

Recent Projects

Plastic Mats for homeless
Donations of money, etc. to Birthright
Make Teddy Bears for hospitals
Scholarship for senior girl
Baptismal Stoles for newborns
Donate to Water for Life, Madonna Plan,
Help-a-Child, cow or goat to family in Nicaragua
Donations to Sister Parish in Haiti



New Initiatives

Flowers for Christmas & Easter for homebound
Carnations for mothers on Mother's Day
Participate in Pro-Life services
Communion breakfasts for different groups

Community Involvement

Red Cross blood drives
Food collection for food banks and soup kitchens
Gift cards, toiletries, monetary donations to migrant workers
Knit caps for children

-submitted by Marge Schmader, District President

The History of HDCCW SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The idea of a scholarship sponsored by HDCCW was introduced and discussed at the final meeting of Shaping the Future, an Ad Hoc Committee, in 2003. At the August 24, 2003 quarterly meeting, Carm Urich moved that HDCCW provide a Scholarship. Peg Clissa seconded the motion.

The scholarship was established to promote Council and its outreach, and to leave a lasting legacy of empowerment, support and education for the young women of the diocese.

President Betty Kress appointed a Committee. The chair, Joyce Scott, contacted the Diocese of Harrisburg and other organizations to become knowledgeable in scholarship awarding procedures. A vote was taken in 2004 to carry the committee forward. In October 2004 a committee meeting was held. Present were Joyce Scott-Chair, Betty Kress, Pat Leone, Terri Rosenstein, Marian Sneeringer and Carm Urich. The purpose was to develop guidelines for a scholarship to be presented to a High School Senior, who will be attending an accredited college, university, or trade school. It was decided that she must be residing in the Diocese of Harrisburg and be sponsored by her mother or grandmother/guardian who is a member of a parish CCW. The scholarship shall be awarded on the basis of scholastic achievement, leadership, character, community and church involvement. The first Scholarship was awarded in 2006 and since then 34 have been awarded.



-submitted by Joyce Scott, Scholarship Co- Chair

COMMISSION CORNER

Hispanic Apostolate

In 2019, generous donations to the Hispanic Apostolate Ministry from parish councils totaled \$1,645. These funds helped the Apostolate establish the first Diocesan Council for Hispanic Youth called *Pastoral Juvenil Council (PJC)*.



The group's goal is to plan many youth-focused events designed to bring our youth together in faith, harmony, and love for one another. They hosted Christmas Around the World which was held on December 14, 2019. This event brought youth of different cultures together.



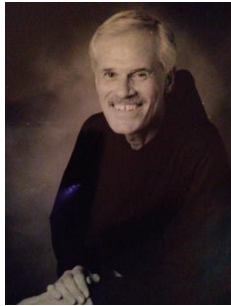
Last year HDCCW was not able to host its annual Diocesan Convention. Once again, however, parish councils stepped up and generously contributed \$1,150. From this total, a donation for \$250 was sent to the San Juan Bautista Church Summer Camp Program. The balance of \$900 will be sent to the Hispanic Apostolate Ministry.

-submitted by Stella Kulp, Commission Chair
hdccwhispaniccommission@gmail.com



LIFE MEMBERS

“Who is your favorite saint?”



My Favorite Saint has not been canonized but since everyone in heaven is considered a saint, **Fr. Ed Judy**, my brother, who was a Capuchin Franciscan Priest, is my favorite saint. He is my St. Anthony as he helps me find lost and misplaced things and seems to intercede for me when someone needs prayers.

-submitted by Marge Schmader

Saint Jude-A Companion for My Journey

Many times in my life I have dealt with what I thought were impossible situations. At those times, I have turned to **St. Jude the patron saint of impossible situations.** This gentle Saint of Hope lived and died for Christ, enduring trials faithfully, giving his life for God and for his fellow Christians. When we are weighed down with trials and difficulties, devotion to St. Jude can give us the perseverance we need to embrace God’s will. He can attain for us the strength, peace, and wisdom to move forward. We can go to him in prayer, knowing that no need is entirely desperate.

-submitted by Anne Hasting

MEET A MEMBER

Linda Melenchek

I am from the Hazleton area and received a degree in Spanish Education from Bloomsburg University. Teaching positions were rare, so I worked as a janitor at a nuclear plant in Berwick. It was there that I met my husband, Larry, and worked for PPL in different capacities until my retirement last September. We have two children and two young grandchildren who we visit frequently in Charleston, SC.

We joined St. Margaret Mary Church after moving to Harrisburg in 1986. I was not involved in church groups previously, and joined CCW to better connect spiritually with other women. I am currently treasurer of my parish CCW, secretary of the Dauphin District CCW, and co-chairperson of the HDCCW Family Concerns Commission. I am impressed by the energy, passion, and commitment of CCW members at all levels and look forward to working together in 2021.



Nancy Newbold

I grew up in Philadelphia, graduated from Temple University and met my husband on a blind date through a mutual friend.

For the last nine years we have lived in Gettysburg to be closer to our daughter and two granddaughters. Before that we were residents of New Jersey, where I had an almost forty-year business management career.

I am currently President of the Conewago District Council of Catholic Women. Before that I was honored to serve as President of St. Francis Xavier Parish Council of Catholic Women for four years. Our Council ladies have become family who I treasure and respect. Dedication, commitment and trust bind us.

ASK THE PARLIAMENTARIANS

Here is a question that is frequently asked by new parish presidents.

I am the new president of my parish and now I need to hold a meeting. Can you help?

Sure. Ask your parliamentarian or any experienced member of your board to help you. Together you can compose the agenda for the upcoming meeting and then **write a script** from it- filling in the script with every word you plan to say for the entire meeting within each category on the agenda.

What do I need to include in the script?

(remember this is for your eyes only)

The script would include:

-The names of all the members you will be introducing to give reports and the content of the report.

-Introductions or comments you plan to make.

-The steps in processing motions (on a side sheet of paper) even your name- if you get nervous!

Phrases that you will find helpful:

- *The meeting will come to order...*
- *Are there any corrections to the Minutes?*
- *Are there any questions concerning the Treasurer's Report?*
- *The Treasurer's report will be filed for audit...*
- *The next item of business...*
- *The Chair recognizes...*
- *Anything for the Good of the Council...*
- *If there is no objection, the meeting is adjourned.*

We hope this has been helpful to new Presidents as well as a *good review* for all Presidents.

-submitted by Marge Schmader and Anne Hasting, Parliamentarians
hdccwparliamentarian@gmail.com

A LENTEN PRAYER



Remember that **Ash Wednesday** is February 17, 2021. What will your Lenten journey look like this year?

Attendees at our annual HDCCW Retreat at Mount St. Mary's University will recognize the content of the link below. One of our scheduled events each year is following the Way of the Cross along with Our Blessed Mother as she accompanies her Son to His crucifixion.

This prayer service at Retreat takes place in the dusk of the evening and uses the outdoor stations on the path between the Seminary building and the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception.

Please consider making this devotion part of your daily prayer time during Lent.

http://littlesistersofthepoor.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/Mary_Way_of_the_Cross_e.pdf



ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Board welcomes new member, Audra Shaub, from Saint Catherine Laboure Parish in Harrisburg. Audra will serve as Co-Chair on the International Concerns Commission.

Great to have you with us, Audra!

COMMISSION UPDATES



Walk to Jerusalem **A virtual Lenten Pilgrimage of 5833 miles**

With the success of our **Walk to Bethlehem Program** and several enthusiastic requests for another “Walk”, HDCCW will be starting a Lenten Journey, **Walk to Jerusalem on Ash Wednesday, February 17**. The structure of the virtual **walk** permits pilgrims of all ages and abilities to join at any time and to individually choose their exercise. Using both physical and spiritual exercises, you earn miles for participating. Individual miles are added together to feel connected to the group.

Visit hdccw.webs.com/walk-to-jerusalem website to learn more about the program and to register.

-submitted by Kathy Kokoski and Debbie VanNoy
hdccwcommunitycommission@gmail.com



Spiritual Adoption Program Update

At the present time this program is progressing nicely. We have participants registered from the following parishes: St. Monica’s, Sunbury; St. Joan of Arc, Hershey; St. Catherine Laboure, Harrisburg; St. Joseph, Danville; St. Francis Xavier, Gettysburg; St. Katharine Drexel, Mechanicsburg; St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, Harrisburg; Our Lady of Good Counsel, Marysville; St. Theresa of the Infant Jesus, New Cumberland; St. Peter, Elizabethtown, St. Columba, Bloomsburg; Corpus Christi, Chambersburg; St. Joseph, Mechanicsburg; Seven Sorrows of the BVM, Middletown; St. Aloysius, Littlestown; Immaculate Heart of Mary, Abbottstown; St. Joseph, Hanover; Immaculate Conception of the BVM, Fairfield; St. Vincent de Paul, Hanover; Immaculate Conception of the BVM, New Oxford; Holy Name of Jesus, Harrisburg.

In addition, someone spread the good news and we have participants from Divine Mercy in the Diocese of Allentown. Some have signed as individuals, families; couples and as Parish CCW’s. It’s great to have men involved.

There have been inquiries from Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Ephrata; Holy Trinity, Columbia; St. Ignatius Loyola, Orrtanna; St. Pius X, Selingsgrove; and St. James Church, Lititz.

Hopefully, those who have made inquiries will be registered and more parishes will have participants. Please spread the word about this wonderful opportunity to pray daily for those dear babies in danger of abortion.

-submitted by Harriet Glass and Colleen Hoover
hdccwlegislativecommission@gmail.com

HDCCW WEEKLY ROSARY



Every Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m. during Lent, we will be praying the Stations of the Cross using **Mary’s Way of the Cross**. Join us either via Zoom or by phone using the information below.

After Easter Sunday, join us in the recitation of the **Glorious Mysteries** of the Most Holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary using the same link.

Join **Zoom Meeting** by clicking on link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87594642343?pwd=cXhKTjhpZ21vQTdsaUVTdjJGJ2NzQT09>
Meeting ID: 875 9464 2343 Passcode: 198785

Join by Phone: 1.301.715.8592
Meeting ID: 875 9464 2343 Passcode: 198

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

HDCCW Convention Virtual via Zoom	April 17, 2021 Harrisburg
HDCCW Weekend Retreat Mount St. Mary’s University	June 11-13, 2021 Emmitsburg, MD
NCCW National Convention Crystal Gateway Marriott	August 25-28, 2021 Arlington, VA



PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS



O Jesus, our great High Priest, hear our humble prayers on behalf of your priests. Give them a deep faith, a bright and firm hope and a burning love which will increase in the course of their priestly life. In their loneliness, comfort them. In their sorrows, strengthen them. In their frustrations, point out to them that it is through suffering that the soul is purified, and show them that they are needed by the Church; they are needed by souls; they are needed for the work of redemption. Amen.

BIRTHDAYS

Rev. Rodrigo Arrazola	22-Mar
Rev. Dominic Azagbor, OP	10-Feb
Very Rev. John Bateman, Jr VF	18-Jan
Rev. Dennis Dalessandro	17-Mar
Very Rev. Anthony Dill, VF	25-Feb
Rev. Peter DiTomasso, MSSCC	28-Feb
Rev. Benjamin Dunkelberger	1-Mar
Rev. Ryan Fischer	1-Feb
Rev. Leo Goodman III	19-Feb
Rev. Norman Hohenwarter, Jr	2-Jan
Rev. Javed Kashif	4-Jan
Rev. Edward Keating, Jr	18-Mar
Rev. Stephen Kelley	14-Feb
Rev. John Kuchinski	19-Feb
Rev. Matthew Larlick	6-Mar
Rev. Edward Lavelle	30-Jan
Rev. Msgr. Robert Lawrence VF	20-Jan
Rev. Tri Luong	3-Feb
Rev. Richard Lyons	15-Mar
Rev. Robert Malagesic MSSCC	3-Mar
Rev. Timothy Marcoe	21-Feb
Rev. Jose Mera-Vallejos	1-Mar
Rev. Tukura Michael OP	12-Feb
Rev. Martin Moran	15-Jan
Rev. Matthew Morelli	7-Jan
Rev. James O'Blaney CSSR	4-Mar
Rev. Brian Olkowski	2-Jan
Rev. Msgr. Hugh Overbaugh	22-Mar
Rev. Daniel Powell	31-Jan
Rev. Michael Reid III	8-Feb
Rev. Orlando Reyes OFM,CAP	8-Feb
Rev. Msgr. William Richardson	28-Jan
Rev. Michael Rothan	24-Jan
Very Rev. Thomas Rozman VF	22-Ma
Rev. Timothy Sahd	4-Mar
Rev. Kyle Sahd	4-Mar
Rev. John Schmalhofer	9-Mar
Rev. Lawrence Sherdel	29-Jan

Rev. Mark Speitel	26-Feb
Rev. Andrew Stahmer	22-Feb
Rev. Neil Sullivan	5-Feb
Rev. Charles Topper EDD	11-Jan
Rev. John Trigilio, Jr	31-Mar
Very Rev. Allan Wolfe VF	27-Jan

ORDINATION ANNIVERSARIES

Rev. Olusola Adewole OP	25-Apr
Rev. Jayaseelan Amalanathan	18-Apr
Rev. Dominic Azagbor OP	8-Apr
Rev. Philip Burger	9-Apr
Rev. Dennis Dalessandro	9-Apr
Very Rev. David Danneker, PhD VG	17-Apr
Rev. Michael Grab	16-Apr
Rev. Gerard Heintzelman	14-Mar
Rev. Paul Helwig	27-Apr
Rev. John Hoke	24-Apr
Rev. Samuel Houser	24-Apr
Rev. Francis Karwacki	9-Apr
Rev. Msgr. William King JCD	9-Apr
Rev. Msgr. Robert Lawrence VF	30-Apr
Rev. J Michael McFadden	27-Apr
Rev. C Anthony Miller	26-Apr
Rev. Hoa Van Nguyen	24-Apr
Rev. James O'Brien	30-Apr
Very Rev. Edward Quinlan III VF	8-Apr
Rev. Tiburtius Raja	23-Apr
Rev. Msgr. William Richardson	8-Apr
Rev. John Schmalhofer	27-Apr
Rev. William Sullivan	14-Mar
Rev. John Szada, Jr	8-Apr
Rev. Francis Tamburro	27-Apr
Rev. Msgr. Richard Youtz JCL	30-Apr



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN

FROM THE EDITORS DESK



The national office of the National Council of Catholic Women has relocated.

Please update our mailing address:
[10335-A Democracy Lane, Unit 201](#)
[Fairfax, VA 22030](#)

St. Josephine Bakhita

Patron Saint of victims of modern slavery and human trafficking



Feast Day is **February 8**

St. Josephine Bakhita, you were sold into slavery as a child and endured untold hardship and suffering. Once liberated from your physical enslavement, you found true redemption in your encounter with Christ and his Church. O St. Bakhita, assist all those who are trapped in a state of slavery; Intercede with God on their behalf so that they will be released from their chains of captivity. Those whom man enslaves, let God set free. Provide comfort to survivors of slavery and let them look to you as an example of hope and faith. Help all survivors find healing from their wounds. We ask for your prayers and intercessions for those enslaved among us. Amen.

HDCCW Happenings, which is published quarterly by the Harrisburg Diocesan Council of Catholic Women, is being sent to all affiliate presidents/representatives, pastors, ordained deacons, seminarians, diocesan board members, and DCCW friends. Everyone is asked to share the contents with their memberships. Look for publication of the next issue in late April. Parish council updates and news items from you are welcome and can be sent to the editor's desk at:

HDCCWHappenings@gmail.com.

Deadline for submission is April 5, 2021

Note that this new email address will be used solely for newsletter correspondence both to send the newsletter and to have individuals sign up to receive it.

We are updating our mailing list. If you wish to receive the **HDCCW Happenings** newsletter via email, or need to update your group contact information at any time, please send an email to the editor's desk as soon as possible.

Newsletter Staff:

Alycia Laureti (Co-Editor)
Linda Hartzell (Co-Editor)
Kathy Kokoski (Managing Editor)

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HDCCWHappenings@gmail.com

HDCCW website
<http://hdccw.webs.com>



*Happy Valentine's Day
From Alycia, Linda, and Kathy*