

a newsletter for Council Women

HDCCW

Happenings



Volume 3, Issue 1

SPIRITUALITY LEADERSHIP SERVICE

President's Message

Greetings Ladies,

It's hard to believe that summer is almost over and it's time to get back into the swing of things with Council. Now is the time to revitalize, refresh and renew our Councils.

The pandemic has taken a toll on all of us, and I feel like a lot of women are still somewhat reluctant to get involved. This is due to several reasons: fear of getting sick (some justifiably so), we've gotten used to staying home, and some people just don't care anymore. Anxiety is also a big factor.

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God, and the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus."

-Philippians 4:6-7.

Therefore ladies, support your councils, either in person or virtually.

Encourage some new members to come to meetings. Show your joy, make it fun, and do something worthwhile for your Parish.

God bless all of you and know that I pray for you.

Jeanne Warren

Father Ted's Message

Hello Friends,

I would like to reflect on the beautiful story of *Les Miserables*. It's one of my favorites. It's a story of a man called Jean Valjean.

He had just spent 19 years in the galleys for stealing bread to feed his family. When he was released, he not only had a record, but he was considered dangerous. No one would hire someone like that. After several days and starving, he found himself at a Bishop's residence. The Bishop warmly received him, fed him, and invited him to spend the night. In the middle of the night,

Valjean left the Bishop's residence stealing his sterling silver candlesticks. The next day, he was brought before the Bishop by the detective with the candle sticks. The Bishop told the detective that he had given the candlesticks to him. The detective then released Valjean and left. The Bishop then said this to Valjean, "Forget not, never forget that you have promised me to use this silver to become an honest man. You belong no longer to evil, but to good. It is your soul that I am buying for you."

It was a turning point for Valjean who spent the remainder of his life doing good and changing many lives. At the end of his life he gave those candlesticks to his adopted daughter saying to her, "I have done what I could. There is scarcely anything else in the world but to love one another."

May we also do what we can, and may we too strive to love one another.

Many blessings,
Father Ted

IN THIS ISSUE

Meet the Board page 2

Board Happenings page 3

Commission Happenings
History Corner page 4

Congratulations page 5

Around the Diocese page 6

From the Editors page 7

HDCCW Board Members 2022-2024

OFFICERS 2022-2024

- President: Jeanne Warren*
- Vice President: Terri Gelles
- Secretary: Linda Hartzell
- Treasurer: Linda Melenchek

APPOINTMENTS

- Executive Secretary: Susan Miller
- Parliamentarian: Marge Schmader*
- Historian: Susan Merfa*
- Convention Treasurer: Judy Andidora

DISTRICT PRESIDENTS

- Nancy Newbold (Conewago)
- Diane Roskos (Cumberland-Perry)
- Alycia Laureti * (Dauphin)
- Marie- Bernadette Plum (Lebanon)
- Marge Schmader (Northern)
- Kathy Wingert (Seton)
- Jennifer Miller (Lancaster contact)
- Angie Tully (York contact)

CONVENTION COMMITTEE

- Alycia Laureti, Marge Schmader, Jeanne Warren, Colleen Hoover, Kathy Wingert, Judy Andidora, Gigi Luto, Mary Ann Pitek, Nancy Newbold, Jamie Zuvich, Kathy Kokoski, Diane Roskos

LIFE MEMBERS*

- Peg Clissa, Anne Hasting, Patricia Leone, Kathryn Memmi, Anne Shepos, Heather O’Shea (Honorary)

COMMISSION CHAIRS

- Community Concerns: Kathy Kokoski, Debbie VanNoy
- Family Concerns: Harriet Glass, Leslie Kunisky, Terri Rosenstein (50th Anniversary Mass)

- Hispanic Apostolate/Migrant Ministry: Stella Kulp

International:

- Diane Roskos, Audra Shaub
- Legislation/Pro-Life: Colleen Hoover
- Organization: Patricia Fraley, Ana Pilkington
- Church: Brenda Wolf, Suzanne Landis

RETREAT COMMITTEE

- Bonnie Onomastico*, Barbara McCarthy*, Joyce Scott*, Jeanne Warren, Marge Schmader, Alycia Laureti, Brenda Wolf, Linda Hartzell, Gigi Luto, Stella Kulp

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

- Joyce Scott, Mary Ann Pitek

PUBLICITY Jamie Zuvich

SPIRITUAL MODERATOR

- Reverend Edward Keating

MARK YOUR CALENDARS



November 2-5, 2022
NCCW Convention
Minneapolis, MN

April 15, 2023
97th Annual HDCCW Convention
Theme: “Live in the Love of Christ”

New this year!



Around the Diocese

Look for the first installment in this issue.

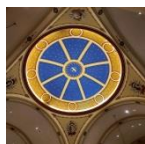
Board Happenings

JUNE WORKSHOP

June 4, 2022

HDCCW sponsored a Leadership Training Workshop where attendees enjoyed sessions on Planning, Project Management, Leadership Tips, Parliamentary Procedure, Public Relations, Technology, and Social Media. An afternoon panel discussion included topics such as Recruitment, Retention, Mentorship, and Virtual Members. The day concluded with a Q&A session and recitation of the Most Holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

THANK YOU, GIGI



Scattered throughout this issue are photos provided by Board Member, Gigi Luto.

COUNCIL INSIGHTS

Check out the latest edition of our Council Insights interview about **Faith and Families** by clicking on the link below. Visit our website for links to additional interviews.



<https://youtu.be/oP6EUKthDL4>

WEEKEND RETREAT

June 10-12, 2022

HDCCW hosted women of the diocese for our annual retreat at Mount Saint Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, Maryland. Retreat Master, Msgr. William King, focused his conferences on "The Beatitudes: Roadmap for a Crazy World." The opportunity to renew old friendships and make new ones, while spending time together in prayer, was much needed and appreciated.

BOARD MEETING AUGUST 20

President Warren's agenda included member introductions, treasury reports and audits, and budget approval. Reports were presented on our June activities—the Leadership Workshop and the weekend Retreat at Mount Saint Mary's. The Philadelphia Province Director's report was given as well as detailed plans for Fall Retreat. Father Ted shared his Words of Wisdom. Reports were presented by the chairs of International Concerns and Legislation/Pro-Life Commissions.

The Board voted and approved the acceptance of Madeline Tymes as an **Honorary Member**. Madeline is from the Diocese of Philadelphia and is a member of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Knights of Saint Peter Claver. She has long been a supporter of the mission and works of HDCCW.



Welcome, Madeline!

GRANT PROGRAM

Assistance Available

The Board encourages all parishes to become affiliated with the National Council of Catholic Women (NCCW). Annual parish affiliation dues are \$100. The HDCCW Grant Program can provide financial assistance. See the HDCCW website for details.

FALL MINI RETREAT

"Gifts of the Visitation"



Sat., October 8, 2022
8 a.m.–2 p.m.

Diocesan Center
4800 Union Deposit Rd.
Harrisburg

Session 1 Spontaneity, Courage, Joy
Session 2 Readiness, Humility, Adventure
Session 3 Hospitality, Wonder & Awe, Thanksgiving

Contact:

Nancy Newbold
717-420-5145

johnbnewbold@yahoo.com

Deadline: September 27

Information: www.hdccw.webs.com

Welcome to the new Board Members

Judy Andidora Suzanne Landis Jennifer Miller Susan Miller
Ana Pilkington Mary Ann Pitek Angie Tully

Commission Happenings

FAMILY CONCERNS

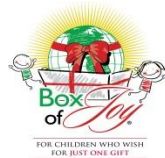
by Leslie Kunisky & Harriet Glass

How about trying to hold a Christmas in July Donation Drive like St. Margaret Mary PCCW in Harrisburg. The ladies were able to provide Silence of Mary Home with assistance for children starting a new school year. They delivered checks, gift cards, backpacks, pencils, pens, markers and notebooks, as well as underwear, socks, personal care/hygiene items, etc. This project will make a difference in the lives of grateful families who may be struggling to make ends meet. Please contact those centers in your area to offer your assistance.

INTERNATIONAL CONCERNS

by Diane Roskos

The International Commission will once again be coordinating a diocesan-wide collection of Boxes of Joy for Cross Catholic Outreach, one of the partner agencies of the National Council of Catholic Women.



All Parish CCW presidents will be emailed information in September. Collection dates are scheduled for November 7 & 8 at the Diocesan Center.



Retreat Committee with Monsignor King

HISTORY CORNER by Pat Leone

Over the years, HDCCW has given a voice and service to our diocese, country, and the world.

HDCCW participated for years in a successful "Water for Life" project which provided wells, irrigation and vessels to villages in Africa and South America. They partnered with the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops on legislative issues such as respect life, health care, and family violence. Our council also worked with Catholic Relief Services promoting fair trade and Cross Catholic Outreach collecting Boxes of Joy.

The "White Ribbon against Pornography" campaign was responsible for cars driving with white ribbons hanging from their antennas. When antennas disappeared, our women became creative with white ribbon cross pins, articles in church bulletins, local papers, and the Catholic Witness for awareness.

The history of our Council is SERVICE and making a difference in our society.

The History Corner will continue to report in future issues how HDCCW has shared its gifts and talents the past 90 years.



Saint Bernard's Chapel
Mount Saint Mary's

Congratulations

50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

by Terri Rosenstein

On July 11th, the Diocese of Harrisburg hosted the Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass at Good Shepherd Catholic Church in Camp Hill.

Bishop Ronald Gainer concelebrated the Mass with over 12 priests in attendance.

There were over 100 couples attending this beautiful Mass. Each "bride" received a carnation.

Following the Mass, over 600 people attended a reception hosted by HDCCW Our



reception featured pieces of cake with a yellow rose decoration and punch.

This year, we had a special half sheet cake decorated with yellow roses and said "Congratulations on 50 years". We also had a beautiful centerpiece of yellow roses and two guest books for the couple to sign.

I was blessed to have 7 women from



HDCCW to help cut cakes and help with serving. As always, we received many compliments and couples are always so appreciative.

LORICA AWARDS

The Lorica Award is given annually by the Bishop to lay persons who have contributed significantly to the life of the local Church and exemplified the Catholic Christian way of life. Bishop Ronald Gainer recently presented two of our own HDCCW Board members with the annual Lorica Award.

Stella Kulp of Saint Katharine Drexel Parish in Mechanicsburg was recognized for her work with the parish's Caring Community, the Council of Catholic Women, and the Serra Club of Harrisburg.

Barbara McCarthy of Saint Joan of Arc Parish in Hershey was recognized for her work with the Council of Catholic Women and volunteer efforts in the parish as an Extraordinary Ministry of Holy Communion and in assisting in the planning of parish events



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 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.

Around the Diocese

CUMBERLAND PERRY DISTRICT

by Diane Roskos

The Cumberland Perry District currently has 6 active parishes: Saint Bernadette, Our Lady of Good Counsel, Our Lady of Lourdes, Good Shepherd, Saint Katharine Drexel, and Saint Theresa. All parish CCWs are very active in service projects that reflect God's love. Each has found unique ways to serve their local communities both spiritually and financially.

The district board met in August to discuss our concerns, needs, and agenda for the upcoming year. We will be actively looking for ways to support each other and to work together. The district will once again be hosting a 25th Wedding Anniversary service and celebration on October 16th at Saint Theresa parish. The service will be celebrated by Reverend Kyle Sahd, the district's new Spiritual Advisor.

ON A PERSONAL NOTE

by Susan Miller, Seton District
Saint Andrew the Apostle Church, Waynesboro

I was watching a PBS special documentary on Hemingway and painting my nails. Then I got a call that rings in my head so often. "Mom, Austin shot himself. He passed away." cried my daughter, Sallee.

The short drive to her house was awful, thinking I did not hear that, my husband Randy crying no, no, no, no. The next few days, weeks, months, were a blur of sadness.

Somehow I thought to contact my friend, Bonnie Onomastico, to let her know I couldn't attend the 2021 HDCCW Convention because the funeral for my 16 year old grandson was the same day.

I did find peace, comfort, and God's touch in many, many ways. Sympathy cards arrived from family and friends, but many came from my Catholic sisters throughout the diocese who didn't even know me. I treasure those cards. Grief never ends and

the thoughts and prayers mean just as much as the day I received them.

By late fall, I was finally able to watch the Convention online and was again comforted and reminded that I could "Rejoice and be Thankful" for all God's works.

Thank you, God, for my new job at Greencastle Presbyterian Church, rejoicing in two church families to care for me and my family.

Thank you, God, for the pastor I work with, whose son had committed suicide 10 years earlier, rejoicing in my counselor friend who understands (plus he was baptized Catholic).

Thank you, God, for Sallee's new job at Brook Lane Health Services, an emotional and behavioral health care facility, rejoicing that she is surrounded by professionals who can help her all the time.

Thank you, God, for the many young people who spoke at Austin's funeral, rejoicing in a wonderful, caring, and funny young man.

Thank you, God, for the gift of Mary, my Blessed Mother, rejoicing in the inspiration she is to me.

Thank you, God, for the faith you have revealed to me. I rejoice in your love.

We think the anxiety and isolation of 2020 Covid was too much for Austin to deal with, but we'll never know. I do know, and I keep this image in my mind – he is cradled tightly and lovingly by Jesus, giving him a gentle kiss on the forehead.



AROUND THE DIOCESE

Dauphin District's, Linda Melenchek, reached out to **Tina Kowalski** for an interview. Some of you may remember Tina from her faith-filled fitness workshop at HDCCW 2021 Virtual Convention. Tina graciously submitted her responses. *Part of the interview is shown below. The rest will appear in Issue #2.*

How long have you been associated with your current parish?

I have been a member of Holy Spirit Parish in Palmyra since 2001, when we moved into the Hershey area from Harrisburg.

When did you become aware of your vocation?

My primary vocation is wife to my husband Rich of 21 years and mother to my three boys (Richie 18, Ryan 15 and Reece 13). I am very grateful for God's hand in leading me to Rich and choosing me to be the mother of my boys.

My secondary vocation is without a doubt to serve God and His Church. I feel very strongly He called me to it. After experiencing a miscarriage early on in our marriage, I fell into a very difficult season with bouts of anxiety, panic attacks and depression. What turned me around was an invitation to Eucharistic Adoration by my mother, Cheryl. She told me to go, visit your chapel and pray in front of the monstrance. She assured me Jesus would help me. So I did. The peace that comes to you in Adoration is like no other! I began to crave this time with Jesus. In time, I was healed. I was not only healed from the miscarriage, but from so many other things. All you need to do is show up and give Him your undivided attention and you find Him. He is love! He is Joy! He is absolutely amazing! He heals! And He sits and waits for us to come visit Him.

-continued on page 7

From the Editors

-continued from page 6

I am blessed to have a wonderful Spiritual Director in my life, my pastor, Father Anthony Dill. With his guidance and approval, I began ministry work at the church in 2017.

I began a Faith and Fitness Exercise Ministry called Shine, now in its 5th year, which focuses on the health of body and soul and the connection between the two. I felt called to share...merging my experience of teaching fitness with the healing I received through Christ. We exercise together, pray together and work together on charity projects and needs. My love for Jesus and His church is deep. I am so grateful for His healing and committed to serving Him every day of my life and in some way to share what He did for me with someone else who needs healing.



HDCCW Weekly Rosary Link
Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87594642343?pwd=cXhKTjhpZ21vQTdsaUVTdiJGL2NzQT09>

Meeting ID: 875 9464 2343
Passcode: 198785

Join by Phone: 1.301.715.8592
Meeting ID and Passcode listed above

SURVEY

We would love input regarding your recommendations for viewing, reading, and listening enjoyment. Use the [link below](#) to complete a brief survey, and we will share the results in upcoming editions.

<https://hdccw.webs.com/brochure-and-newsletter>



EDITORS' PICKS

"I highly recommend the computer app **The Chosen** about Christ's early ministry and its effect on His followers. If you are not one of the 410 million people world-wide who have seen these 16 episodes, please download it today. It's FREE and it's amazing. Also, I finally got around to reading the autobiography of Saint Thérèse of Lisieux entitled "**Story of a Soul**" by John Clarke, O.C.D. It is so inspiring. I recommend this book and only wish I had read it sooner." --Linda Hartzell

"I recommend "**Love Like a Saint**" by Elizabeth Kelly. This book inspires you by reading about other remarkable saints – virtuous, flawed, and real women who teach us how to surrender to God. These women have surrendered to God in the midst of sorrows and trials. They are everyday women – students, wives, employees, friends, and our new companions on our faith journey. Looking for a spiritual way to wind down or need a little motivation to make time to pray? Download the **AMEN app**. Here you will find Lenten devotionals, readings, podcasts for children, and more. Outside of the season of Lent, the app provides prayers, meditations, daily devotionals, Scripture, and music. This app allows you to personalize information based on your spiritual needs. The AMEN app is available for Apple and Android."—Alycia Laureti

CONTACT US

Alycia Laureti
(Co-Editor)

Linda Hartzell
(Co-Editor)

Kathy Kokoski
(Managing Editor)

Submissions

HDCCW website

hdccwpastpres@gmail.com

hdccwrecsec@gmail.com

kathy.kokoski@gmail.com

HDCCWHappenings@gmail.com

<http://hdccw.webs.com>