



HDCCW Happenings

Harrisburg Diocesan Council of Catholic Women

Volume 1, Issue 4

MAY 2021

President's Message



Spring has finally arrived.

As we welcome the warm weather and longer days, we see that newness springs on the horizon. With vaccination continuing to ramp up, there is a light at the end of the pandemic tunnel.

One of the things that has been striking is that the CCW is not a show council, but a work council! Many of our Councils embraced new initiatives, designing the CCW for future generations. As your Diocesan Council of Catholic Women, we have accepted that mission along with all of you.

In order to continue to build on this momentum, we all need to take time to refresh ourselves and regroup in the new "normal." So much of what we do, we do for our families, friends, parish, and community. Take some time to take care of you by going for a walk, bike ride, drive, or find that shady tree and read that book you always wanted to read and never had the chance.

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HDCCW NEWS



The **HDCCW 95th Annual Convention** was held on Saturday, April 17, 2021, at the Diocesan Center. This was a new experience for us as it was held virtually. The board extends a huge "thank you" to Rachel Bryson and Jordan from the Diocesan Communications department who streamed the entire event and helped everything run smoothly.

Our keynote speaker, Sarah Christmyer, gave a wonderful presentation on Joy. We were honored to have Bishop Gainer celebrate Mass with us and talk about "Be Not Afraid", which is mentioned in the Bible 365 times.



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I am extraordinarily grateful for all the work that you have done. The HDCCW plans to stay connected via email and "Council Insights" over the summer.

May God bless you, and Our Lady of Good Counsel keep you. Please pray for each other, as I continue to pray for all of you.

Be safe and well. Have a wonderful summer!!

Alycia Laureti, HDCCW President



Treasurer's Message

Prior to moving to Mifflinburg in 2005, I had not been aware of the Council of Catholic Women. All the parishes we belonged to in New York, New Jersey, Ohio, Missouri and Maryland did not have councils. (Yes, we did move a lot!)

I was invited by my new friends to join the Sacred Heart/St. George CCW and attended my first meeting in March 2006, just in time to help out with the Italian Dinner and annual Communion Breakfast. Since that time I have held the office of Treasurer on the local, district and diocesan levels, as well as co-chair and chair of the Legislative Committee and HOPE (formerly SDA). I have certainly enjoyed serving on the Diocesan Board and participating in so many different activities. I have served where needed to the best of my ability, but have certainly received far more than I have given. My friendships with so many wonderful women have enriched my faith and spiritual life, as well as sharing so many uplifting and fun adventures.

I continue to pray for God's goodness and grace to get through these troubling and unusual times.

Nancy Bauer, HDCCW Treasurer

SAINT JOSEPH MESSAGE

In his Apostolic Letter "Patris corde", Pope Francis recalls the 150th anniversary of Blessed Pope Pius IX's declaration of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. In honor of this occasion, Pope Francis established the "Year of Saint Joseph".

What do we know about Saint Joseph? He was a carpenter, a man of humble means, a descendent from David, and a beloved father who graciously accepted the will of God. Joseph is the patron Saint of the Universal Church, families, fathers, travelers, house sellers and buyers, craftsmen, and working people. The Church celebrates two feast days for Joseph: March 19 (Husband of Mary) and May 1 (the Worker).

In the Year of Saint Joseph, plenary indulgences are granted under the usual conditions of Confession, Eucharist, and prayer for the Holy Father's intentions to those with a spirit detached from any sin, who participate in the Year of Saint Joseph in any of the following ways:

- ✚ Meditate on the Lord's Prayer
- ✚ Spiritual or corporal works of mercy
- ✚ Recite the rosary in families
- ✚ Pray to Saint Joseph for those seeking work
- ✚ Pray an approved [prayer to Saint Joseph](#) on the 19th of any month
- ✚ Recite the Litany of Saint Joseph for persecuted Christians

The sick, elderly, dying and all those who are unable to leave their homes can obtain the plenary indulgences if they are detached from any sin and have the intention of fulfilling, as soon as possible, the three usual conditions and recite an act of piety, offering to God the pains and hardships of their lives.

If you haven't already, consider consecrating yourself to Jesus through St. Joseph with the book [Consecration to St. Joseph: The Wonders of Our Spiritual Father](#) by Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC.

Saint Joseph, pray for us!

DISTRICT SPOTLIGHT

Lebanon

During this pandemic, it has been challenging for some of the parishes to be as active as they would like. Those that are not holding meetings have decided to be more prayerful and to keep in touch by phone or email to encourage each other during this time. The plan is for the ladies to gather after most have had the vaccine.

The other parishes have been meeting in person or virtually. They have been planning to regularly contribute money to the Carmelites in memory of Father Robert Berger, who is from the area and was involved with them during most of his retirement. (*Father Berger was the Lebanon Districts Spiritual Moderator for 25 Years.*) They have continued the Prayer Shawl Ministry by inviting more ladies to join. They are planning a BLESSED BRUNCH or a women's brunch for all members and guests. And, as always, there will be gifts for First Communicants and The Confirmation classes.

They are all trying to keep the CCW thriving in all the parishes, and with the help of Our Lady of Good Counsel, councils will be bigger and better after the pandemic.

-submitted by Anne Hasting, District President

Seton

The parishes in Seton District are looking to become active again, as well. Saint Andrew the Apostle Parish Council President, Elaine Sneeringer, has scheduled a council meeting in April to plan activities going forward. In June they will sponsor a reception for Peter Rettig, a parishioner, who will be ordained to the priesthood on June 5, 2021.

-submitted by Kathy Wingert, District President

COMMISSION CORNER

Community Concerns Commission

Walk to Jerusalem a success!!

With very positive responses to our recent virtual Walk to Bethlehem program, and numerous requests for another Walk, we embarked on a Lenten Journey, **Walk to Jerusalem**, on **Ash Wednesday, February 17**, using the same structure. With dedicated pilgrims, many of whom joined us on our Walk to Bethlehem, we logged 19,551 spiritual and physical miles, and arrived in Jerusalem early for Easter with more than enough miles to travel home! We sincerely appreciate the enthusiasm and support of these programs.

-submitted by Kathy Kokoski and Debbie VanNoy

hdccwcommunitycommission@gmail.com

Legislative/Respect Life Commission

Spiritual Adoption Program Update

Blessings to all who are participating in the Spiritual Adoption Program. Your babies are now approaching three-months old. They have a backbone and a heart pumping blood, have eyes, nose and mouth. They will soon be three inches long and weigh one ounce – fully formed and sucking their thumbs. Please keep praying that your babies will be spared from abortion and pray for the mothers and fathers.

A Baby Shower is planned for **Saturday, November 20, 2021** following the HDCCW Board meeting at the Diocesan Center. All shower gifts will be donated to Pregnancy Centers in the Diocese. The managers of these centers are always pleased to get items for their clients.

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The workshops were as follows: Kelly Gollick gave us helpful hints on active listening, Donna Giberti spoke on Finding Forgiveness on the Camino de Santiago de Compostela (the Way of St. James), and Tina Kowalski ended the day with an upbeat presentation about SHINE, a Christian based exercise program. We were blessed to have Sarah Christmyer close the day with the recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet.

I would like to extend a heartfelt "thank you" to all who helped in any way to make the day successful.

-submitted by Jeanne Warren

COUNCIL INSIGHTS

Please visit our HDCCW YouTube channel to view our new "Council Insights" interviews. Below are the links for the first installments:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IWOqL4xOYdo&t=142s>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PuA8HJyAqyE&t=249s>

***Please stay tuned for uplifting videos and more! ***

COMING THIS FALL

HDCCW-sponsored **one-day Mini Retreat** titled "Joined in Our Faith" featuring workshops, Mass, boxed lunch and spiritual devotions. Stay tuned for details.

HDCCW GRANT PROGRAM

Does your council need financial support to restart after a long and difficult year? Remember that HDCCW has funding available through its grant program to assist. Contact Nancy Bauer at hdccwtreasurer@gmail.com for details.

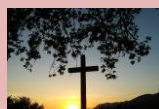
We should all be very concerned about the dangerous **Gay & Transgender Equality Legislation** which was passed the U.S. House of Representatives. It is awaiting a vote in the U.S. Senate, where its fate may depend on whether the Senate ends the filibuster and requires only a majority vote. Our President has promised to sign this **Equality Act**. Contacting your U.S. Senator is a must.

Please contact your State Senator to uphold the ban on assisted suicide. **PA Senate Bill 405** is a dangerous bill that would legalize assisted suicide – also known as doctor assisted suicide. PA Pro-Life Federation supports **PA House Bill 904 & Senate Bill 378** which will prevent abortion where a baby's heart beat is detected.

Remember to vote in the **Primary Election, May 18**. Judicial positions on the Supreme, Superior and Commonwealth Courts, plus county, local and municipal offices are on the ballot. Look for Pro-Life candidates.

-submitted by Harriet Glass and Colleen Hoover

hdccwlegislativecommission@gmail.com



IN MEMORIAM

As we close the Council year, let us take a moment to remember those that have recently gone before us:

Louise Condon (1929-2020)

Diocesan President from 1996-1998

Elizabeth "Betty" Schell (1923-2021)

Diocesan President from 1972-1974

Rosemary Flamini (1932-2021)

Legislative Commission Co-Chair for HDCCW

"Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace."
Amen.



LIFE MEMBERS

“Who is your favorite saint?”



Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton

Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton born N.Y.C. 1774 was the first American born saint. Elizabeth, a widow with 5 children, made a profession of faith in N.Y. in 1805. Starting a Catholic girls’ school in Baltimore proved to be part of a larger plan. She was foundress of the first women's religious in U.S., Sisters of Charity of St. Joseph. They made their way to St. Joseph's Valley in Maryland where they started a school and ministered to the sick and poor.

My husband and I served on the Shrine's Advisory and Legacy board for a few years and got to love the Sisters and enjoyed the special events. I urge your parish councils and families to visit the beautiful historic sites. Presently, on display are 87 relics and artifacts for the 200th year anniversary of Saint Elizabeth Ann's death. A free virtual tour of the site is available. Check the website for museum dates and times as well as mass times at the Basilica, an architectural gem. www.setonshrine.org

-submitted by Patricia Leone



Saint Anthony of Padua

Saint Anthony is the first saint I ever knew. My future husband, Fred and I were at my home and my dad came in very distressed. He had just finished plowing a field and had lost his wallet containing \$400. It seemed like a hopeless cause, but Fred went out to the field and came in with the wallet. He said he prayed to Saint Anthony and found it. It made my parents more positive about Catholics. Since that time, whenever I misplace or lose something, I say a prayer to Saint Anthony.

-submitted by Susan Merfa

MEET A MEMBER

Leslie Kunisky

I am Leslie Kunisky and I have been a member of St. Margaret Mary Parish in Harrisburg for 26 years. I converted to the Catholic Faith in 2006 when my youngest daughter was confirmed. I am blessed with a wonderful family. My husband and I have been married for 35 years and I have 2 wonderful daughters and a relatively new son-in-law. In October of this year, my youngest daughter is getting married and we welcome another son-in-law to our family.

I attended Shippensburg University and received a B.S. Degree in Psychology and continued my education at Millersville University to earn a M.S. Degree in School Psychology. I worked 6 years at Dallastown Area School District as a School Psychologist until my daughter was born. Besides my faith, my family is the most important thing to me, and I remained at home raising my daughters until about 14 years ago when my husband started his own CPA business. I currently work at his office.

I have been involved with Council of Catholic Women for 9 years, and I truly enjoy working with our ladies and helping our parish and community. I have been the President of CCW for 3 years now. I recently joined the HDCCW Board working with the Convention Venues Committee. I love to garden, travel, and read.



CONGRATULATIONS



Mary Ellen Good

2021 recipient of HDCCW
Our Lady of Good Counsel Award

Mary Ellen has demonstrated much generosity and support by serving in many capacities of leadership in the Council both on the local level and the district level. As a Council member, she has contributed to many Council projects such as migrant ministries, the Water Tank project, feeding the hungry and sharing her time and talents wherever needed. Mary Ellen is a member of St. Vincent De Paul Church in Hanover.

ASK THE PARLIAMENTARIANS

Why Robert's Rules of Order?

Published in 1876, Robert's Rules of Order was originally written by U.S. Army Brigadier General Henry Robert. He wanted to write a manual that would enable people from any organization to follow the same procedural rules. Thus, making it easier to join an organization and not have to learn new rules for each organization.

Having a parliamentary authority is the simplest and most efficient way to provide the organization with rules of order under which to operate and hold meetings in an orderly fashion.

For many the rules seem to be outdated. But remember the main reason is to have an orderly meeting and give each member a voice in the organization.

One way to keep a CCW Meeting moving along, if you have motions, is with the following:

10 Easy Steps for Making a Motion

1. The member asks permission from the President for the floor.
2. The President grants permission.
3. The member makes the motion stating, "I move to"
4. The President asks for any second.
5. Members may stand and call out "Second", if there is no second, the motion fails immediately.
6. If there is a second, the President states the question of the motion. This opens debate.
7. The assembly debates the motion. During this time, the motion may be amended or tabled for further debate at a later time.
8. When debate is finished, the President puts the motion to a vote.
9. The President counts the votes.
10. The President announces the votes and enacts or defeats the motion.

There are many more points of order found in "Robert's Rules of Order."

-submitted by Marge Schmader and Anne Hasting, Parliamentarians

hdccwparliamentarian@gmail.com

THE HISTORY OF HDCCW

As we look forward, it is important to look at our history. Never before has there been a stronger need for Catholic Women to act in one accord.

The NCCW (National Council of Catholic Women) was founded in 1920 at the request of the U.S. Council of Catholic Bishops who having witnessed the accomplishments by many separate women's groups urged them to unite by forming a national organization. Two hundred women gathered in Washington D.C. to give women of the country a common voice and an instrument for united action in all matters affecting Catholic or national welfare for greater service and usefulness to meeting the needs of their time.

Imagine the excitement when four years later the HDCCW affiliated with the NCCW and installed Miss Anna Dill Gamble as their first president.

The mission statement of the Harrisburg Diocesan Council of Catholic Women is: ***"To support, empower and educate all Catholic Women in spirituality, leadership and service; to inspire and promote Gospel values in a constantly changing world."***

Over the years many of our members have served on the NCCW board as well as our HDCCW board. Whether in direct service to their parish communities or on a national level, these women have responded to make a difference in the work of the Church, the health of the community, and the direction of the nation and world.

Future articles will explore the works of HDCCW past and present such as:

1. Giving service and voice
2. Growing through our conventions
3. Interviews with past HDCCW presidents
4. Getting the message through technology
5. Who are life members and how do they contribute
6. Fun Facts

-submitted by Patricia Leone, Life Member

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 (April, May, June)

Rev. Jayaseelan Amalanathan	15-Apr
Rev. Philip Burger	25-Jun
Rev. Keith Carroll	6-Jun
Rev. Joshua Cavender	20-Apr
Very Rev. Paul Clark, JCL	8-Apr
Rev. Dominic DiBiccaro	23-Apr
Rev. Walter Guzman - Alvarez	14-Jun
Rev. David Hereshko	8-Apr
Rev. John Killackey, FSSP	24-May
Rev. Michael Messner	5-May
Rev. Daniel Mitzel	17-Apr
Rev. James O'Brien	11-Apr
Rev. Daniel O'Brien	21-May
Rev. Jonathan Sawicki	17-Jun
Rev. Joseph Scanlin	20-Apr
Rev. Dwight Schlalaine	1-May
Rev. Robert Sharman	23-May
Rev. Paul Shuda	11-Jun
Rev. Kenneth Smith	5-Jun
Rev. Andrew St. Hilaire	28-May
Rev. Francis Tamburro	24-May
Rev. Joshua Weaver	8-Apr
Rev. Stephen Weitzel	28-May
Rev. Robert Yohe, Jr	11-May

ORDINATION ANNIVERSARIES

During the months of May and June, one hundred priests in the Harrisburg Diocese will celebrate their ordination anniversaries. Visit www.hdccw.webs.com to find the complete list.

HDCCW WEEKLY ROSARY

Join us in the recitation of the Glorious Mysteries of the Most Holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary using the same link every Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m.



Join Zoom Meeting by clicking on link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87594642343?pwd=cXhKTjhpZ21vQTdsaUVTdjlJGL2NzQT09>

Meeting ID: 875 9464 2343 Passcode: 198785

Join by Phone: 1.301.715.8592

Meeting ID: 875 9464 2343 Passcode: 198

A PRAYER for Mothers



Mary, on this day when we honor all mothers, we turn to you. We thank the Lord whom you serve for the great gift of motherhood. Never has it been known that anyone who sought your intercession was left unaided by grace.

Dear Mother, thank you for your "Yes" to the invitation of the angel which brought heaven to earth and changed human history. You opened yourself to God's word, and the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.

Dear Mother, intercede for all of our mothers. Ask your Divine Son to give them the grace of surrendered love so that they could join with you in giving their own "Fiat." May they find daily strength to say yes to the call to the sacrificial love- the very heart of the vocation of motherhood.

On this Mother's day, Mother of the Word Incarnate, pray for us who have recourse to you, in the Name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen."

-www.catholic.org/prayers

DID YOU KNOW THIS ABOUT THE ROSARY?

Did you know... Elvis Presley recorded a song about the Rosary that was released on a major record label? The song was entitled “The Miracle of the Rosary.”

On May 15, 1971, Elvis Presley recorded “The Miracle of the Rosary”. It was released on February 20, 1972 on the album entitled Elvis Now. This is amazing, because as some may not know, Elvis was raised in the evangelical Christian denomination Assemblies of God, yet he recorded a song devoted to the Rosary.

So you may ask, how many songs have been recorded about the Rosary by artists and released on a major record label? That is right, none except for Elvis. Elvis received 14 Grammy nominations from the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences (NARAS), and his only three wins were for gospel recordings. This is amazing for someone who has sold over one billion albums, more than any other person in recording history.

The next question you may all be wondering, is, was it Elvis who wrote “Miracle of The Rosary”? It was actually the man who first taught Elvis to play guitar, Lee Denson. Denson’s father, Rev. James Denson, managed the Poplar Street Mission, a Pentecostal church that the Presley family attended.

In 1960, Denson wrote an English version of the “Ave Maria.” Publishers were not interested as it was a religious song. Denson took the song to Elvis, and over a decade later, Denson received a call that Elvis had recorded a version of the song.

The lyrics of “The Miracle of the Rosary” are beautiful:

Oh Blessed Mother we pray to Thee, Thanks for the miracle of Your Rosary,

Only You can hold back Your Holy Son’s hand

Long enough for the whole world to understand.

Hail Mary full of grace, The Lord is with Thee

Blessed are thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of Thy womb, Jesus.

Oh Holy Mary dear Mother of God, please pray for us sinners,

Now and at the hour of our death, and give thanks once again,

For the miracle of Your Rosary.

To listen to the “The Miracle of the Rosary” please visit:

<https://video.search.yahoo.com/yhs/search?fr=yhs-dcola-005&hsimp=yhs-005&hspart=dcola&p=miracle+of+the+rosary+song+by+elvis+presley#id=2&vid=6cd5e7900b67a176fb26dee2ba3e7958&action=click>



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN

FROM THE EDITORS DESK



Update: NCCW National Convention August 25-28, 2021

The NCCW Executive Committee is closely following the CDC and local Virginia Health Department guidance to determine what restrictions will be in place, how many can safely attend and when we can open registration. Due to budgetary and financial constraints we will not be offering a virtual option so when we know how many of us can attend convention please sign up to attend in person.

Update: Election results for National officers

Please join me in congratulating the following members for being elected for the 2021-23 term.

Beth Mahoney - President-elect
Amy Kennedy – Secretary

Nominating Committee:

Alma Meyer
Bev McCarvel
Cynthia Simien
Joyce Brown-Thomas
Mary Rowley
Rose Schuhmacher
Veronica Way

-Jean Kelly, President NCCW



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 sometime this summer. Parish councils are encouraged to publicize their upcoming **fall events** in the summer issue. Make your plans and send them to us at:



HDCCWHappenings@gmail.com.

Deadline for submission is July 15, 2021

Newsletter Staff:

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

Newsletter submissions
HDCCWHappenings@gmail.com

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



*Happy Mother's Day!!
from
Alycia, Linda, and Kathy*