



COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN

WORKERS IN

THE VINYARD

November 2019

GRAND ISLAND

Hebrews 13:15-16 "...let us offer through Jesus a continual sacrifice of praise to God, proclaiming our allegiance to his name. ¹⁶ And don't forget to do good and to share with those in need. These are the sacrifices that please God."

FROM THE PRESIDENT ELECT: Kayleen Lukasiewicz

Washington, D.C. August 2019— Nearly 700 Catholic women from around the nation gathered in Atlanta to celebrate 99 years of service to the Church.

This year's theme, *Caring for God's Creation*, showcased NCCW's continuing efforts to address important needs of our times through spirituality, leadership and service.

Mother Dolores Hart, O.S.B., was awarded the first Honorary Lifetime Membership Award of the National Council of Catholic Women, given to a distinguished American Catholic woman. Keynote speaker, The Most Reverend Peter A. Rosazza D.D., Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus, Archdiocese of Hartford discussed women's response to Pope Francis's plea to save Mother Earth. Other speakers included Kim Michael Polote, Matt Holzmann, and Dan Misleh, founding Executive Director of Catholic Climate Covenant.

NCCW Commissions of Spirituality, Leadership and Service presented their efforts to combat human trafficking, their work on ways to respond to Pope Francis's call to care for creation, and their new resources such as retreats for those mourning the loss of a family member to suicide.

2019-2021 NCCW President Jean Kelly was installed at the Closing Mass, along with 2019-2021 President-elect Patricia Voorhes, Secretary Tracy Janis, and the Leadership, Spirituality and Service Commission Chairs. 40 spiritual advisors were also present at the daily liturgies and attended the annual NCCW Spiritual Advisor luncheon. Nineteen members from the Omaha Province attended the convention. Susan Johnson, Deb Eschliman, Kayleen Lukasiewicz, and Fr. Lou Nollett attended from the Grand Island Diocese.

2020 Proposals for Resolutions included Mentoring AT Risk Youth, Caring for God's Creation(with heavy emphasis on eliminating use of plastic), and Faith- Passing It On.

The 100th anniversary of the NCCW will be celebrated at the 2020 NCCW Convention to be held August 26-29 in the Washington, D.C. area.

Founded at the direction of the US Catholic bishops in 1920, NCCW's mission is to act through its members to support, empower and educate all Catholic women in spirituality, leadership and service. NCCW programs respond with Gospel values to the needs of the Church and society in the modern world.

FROM THE TREASURER: Judy Wagoner

There are three (3) dues that are to be paid each year.

1. National Council of Catholic Women (NCCW)

The NCCW acts through its membership to support, empower and educate all Catholic women in spirituality, leadership and service. NCCW programs respond with Gospel values to the needs of the Church and society in the modern world.

As a member, you will,

- ✓ Join with women across the county in leadership, spirituality and service
- ✓ Be represented at the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), the World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations (WUCWO), Catholic Ministry Gathering and Religious Alliance Against Pornography
- ✓ Receive the quarterly print magazine Catholic Woman and monthly e-newsletter Connect
- ✓ Be Eligible to vote at the Annual Convention and to serve on NCCW Commissions and Committees
- ✓ Collaborate with Catholic Relief Services, Cross Catholic outreach, Catholic Charities, Catholic Mobilizing Network and many more organizations.

Membership Category: Individual Member \$50.00; Parish/Deanery Affiliate (\$100.00)

To Join, visit nccw.org and sign up on line or call 703-224-0990.

NCCW Membership, 200 N. Glebe Road, Suite 725, Arlington, VA 22203

The date of membership will depend upon the day you first signed on Membership expiration date is shown on the mailing label of the Catholic Women magazine.

2. Grand Island Diocesan Council of Catholic Women (GIDCCW)

The GIDCCW is on a fiscal year (9/01 to 8/31). The dues for 2020 are now due and will be delinquent on April 1, 2020.

Each Parish and Deanery is asked to contribute what they can. In the past Contribution Sunday was held in October, but with the Bishop's Annual Appeal set for October, each organization can schedule their annual appeal for the GIDCCW Dues when it works best for your parish/deanery.

Benefits of being an active member (timely paying of the annual contribution) include having the right to vote changes to the by-laws and resolutions.

A second collection that each parish/deanery is asked to participate in is the Seminarian Fund. At the Spring Assembly the Bishop has been presented a check for \$10,000.00 from the GIDCCW for the Seminarian Fund. Again, each parish can decide how they want to participate in this collection but is important to show the Bishop that our GIDCCW is alive and a vibrant council.

All Dues and Donations should be sent to: Judy Wagoner GIDCCW, 1411 Walnut St, Wood River, NE 68883

3. Deanery CCW Dues

These dues are set by each of the 4 deaneries, so if you have questions about them contact your Deanery President or bring this subject up at the fall Deanery Meetings.

If you have further questions, please contact me at auntjudy21@msn.com Thank you

FROM THE SECRETARY

GIDCCW Executive Board Minutes Sunday, July 14, 2019

Blessed Sacrament Church, Grand Island

Our meeting was brought to order at 5:05 p.m. by President, Deb Eschliman. Eleven members were present.

Treasurer's Report

- There were 56 paid participants for both days of the 2019 Spring Assembly and 10 participants for single day. Spring Assembly registration collected \$5,495.00 and expenses \$5,449.00, which includes \$600 down payment.
- As of July 14, 2019, there are 65 total parishes & 30 parishes (46%) contributed \$11,049.61 to Seminarian funds and 39 parishes (60%) participated in Contribution Sunday/dues (\$7,111.85)
- Thank you notes were received from Sacred Heart parish of Boyd County, the Boyd County Rural Water District #2 Disaster Fund and from the Mission II Haiti team.

Spiritual Advisor Report Fr. Deaver reported that Bishop Hanefeldt has allowed Fr. Neal Hock's request to remove himself as a Spiritual Advisor and he has appointed Fr. Matt Koperski as the Kearney Deanery's DCCW Spiritual Advisor.

Old Business

Funds for Nuns - President Deb spoke with Judy Weston, from the LDCCW and she read a letter regarding their changes in guidelines for distributing funds for this program. President Deb appointed a Special Committee, with Barb Sack as Chair, of this committee, with Kayleen Lukasiewicz to set our guidelines for our DCCW.

New Business

- **Fall Institute dates: Bridgeport Sept. 7 and Broken Bow Sept. 21** Discussion was held. Kayleen made a motion that the Commission Chairs do a focus on *Calling all Catholics* and have Bob Easton, with *Mission II Haiti*, and get a local speaker on at risk youth & bullying. Motion carried.
- We agreed we would add on the commissions focus and round table discussion on the topics of *Mentoring at Risk Youth; Passing on Our Faith; and Recycling, Reduce, Reuse and Repurpose*. Each Institute will include a salad luncheon, followed by a Rosary for Peace & Healing, from the NCCW Spirituality Committee. This will be for victims of bullying and harassment, and those who are mourning the loss of a child or the death of a loved one by suicide.
- Deb Eschliman has signed the contract for the 2020 Spring Assembly, at Halsey, for April 17 and 18. The day charge is \$30 per day and \$15 to sleep, so \$102 per person to stay and eat during our Friday--Saturday event. We will be working on speakers who will draw women to the Assembly.

FROM THE SPIRITUALITY COMMISSION

GIDCCW Funds for Nuns Program

The Funds for Nuns program for the Grand Island Diocesan Council of Catholic Women is for the purpose of financially helping young women, who require financial assistance to reduce outstanding debt. This is debt which would prohibit them from entering religious life in or outside the Diocese of Grand Island. Additional assistance to reduce debt may be requested by the motherhouse.

Each parish CCW is asked to voluntarily contribute to this fund. The Spirituality Commission chairman will gather information each fall from religious communities operating in the Grand Island Diocese. Funds will be distributed according to the need presented. If there are no requests or candidates requiring assistance, the fund will be kept in a GIDCCW account for future use. Donations should be sent to the GIDCCW treasurer and marked for this purpose.

When no funds are requested or entrants needing funds, the chairman will ask that the GIDCCW vote on an amount to be given to a religious community, that is requesting funds to further educational and spiritual needs.

FROM THE SERVICE COMMISSION: Tricia Ferguson

Serving with Joy & Thanksgiving

Oh My, Oh ME, Thanksgiving is coming and then ADVENT! How do I manage this and not become overwhelmed? First, I need to keep grounded as Joy comes from the LORD, his word and by focusing on where God wants me to serve.

These are a few suggestions on keeping your Joy and thankfulness:

† unburdening yourself of stuff, while helping those in need; each week till Thanksgiving, go through your closets and purge winter clothing, coats, boots and shoes, as well as any household items no longer needed and donate them.

† reach out to the widowers, elderly couples, new families, those who are fighting a serious illness and their caregivers: prepare a meal for them, invite them for your Thanksgiving celebration, see if they need help with errands or even projects in their home, look into the Respite program {through the NCCW.org.}. And most importantly take the time to be present with them.

† your Parish Priest: let him know how thankful you are for his "Yes to Jesus", pray for him and let him know that you are praying for him.

† most importantly make sure you refuel yourself, by spending time with the LORD, receiving the sacraments, reading scripture and prayer.

"The LORD is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts; so I am helped, and my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him." Psalm 27:7

FROM THE LEADERSHIP COMMISSION

As with every organization, contributions help us reach our goals. We serve the parish, deanery and diocese in many areas, i.e.:

Lenten Retreats, Spring Assemblies & Fall Institutes	Human Trafficking Programs
Pro-Life Walk & current Right to Life issues	National Center on Sexual Exploitation– PORN Harms Magnets
Catholics at the Capitol	Sewing Dresses/outfits for Haiti
Seminarian Funds & Funds for Nuns	National Water for Life & Mission II Haiti Water wells
Adopt a Priest/Seminarian cards	Christmas Boxes of JOY
Encourage Adoration & Benediction	Update www.gidccw.org website, Newsletter & Facebook page Grand Island DCCW
Pray for Pope Francis & attend daily mass	GIDCCW Tri fold information available for handouts
Million Works of Mercy	Education on Leadership in Deanery & Parish CCW
Seven Sisters Apostolate	Communication & Membership in every parish by email or phone calling list of events
Encourage young women to be involved to help CCW grow at every level	Mentor all women so membership and leadership grow

Send DCCW dues in whatever amount the women in your parish agree upon, but a suggested amount is 1/3 of the amount that you collect totally from the collection of your dues. At our parish we ask for a suggested amount of \$15/woman & send \$5/woman of this to the Grand Island DCCW Treasurer as our parish contribution.

Here's some GREAT IDEAS TO ENCOURAGE PARTICIPATION in your parish:

- Have President of your ladies group send out Contribution Dues letters to every woman over 18 in your parish with your local programs & activities. (See website for example of Dues Letter as a template) Use bulk mail rate & include self-addressed envelope to your parish's ladies group Treasurer. This informs ALL women in the parish what the CCW does in your area & has increased our local parish dues four times larger than other methods we tried previously!
- Include Your current officers' names and phone numbers
- Be sure to Thank ALL the women in the parish for their service
- List the programs and services provided by the ladies in your parish
- With permission of your priest give brief Pulpit talk by a Parish Representative at every mass on a specified weekend by your ladies, if you choose not to send the dues letter.
- Give a specified dollar amount, i.e. \$15 suggested but no gift is too large or too small
- Inform the faithful community of activities throughout the year & encourage them to join you.

Educate them that we're all a part of the Council of Catholic Women on every level whether they pay dues or not. Anyone over 18 is a member & welcomed at all activities on the parish, deanery or diocesan level.

Calling All Catholics Passing On our Faith to the Next Generation is fantastic resource available to all members on the www.NCCW.org Members Only Resource! Please check it out online. Begin now, start today. Nothing you do will have a greater impact on our Youth, on our Church, and on our World. BE PERSONAL AND CARING. BE VISIBLE AND AVAILABLE. BE POLITE AND COURTEOUS. BE INTERESTED & EMPATHETIC AND BE INCLUSIVE AND BE ALL IN! We are the Sowers, God is the Grower!

Sherry Weatherly, Chairwoman, sherry.weatherly@gmail.com ph.# 308-530-1474
Christine Lousias, Co-Chairwoman, clousias@hotmail.com ph.# 319-850-0846

FROM THE SPIRITUAL ADVISOR

Dear Ladies;

I want to thank you all for the wonderful celebration of my 60th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood. Many of you came to Christ the king Church in Gering for the celebration on August 11th. Many of you who were not able to make the trip sent me cards and gifts in the mail. I deeply appreciate your outpouring of kindness to me at that time and I want to thank you for it. The celebration went off smoothly because of the help of many women of the parish plus some ladies from other parishes. They had the support and help of husbands and other men to help it go well. I am very grateful.

Lots of priests don't live long enough to celebrate their 60th Anniversary of Ordination. I thank God for being with me for these 60 years. Life doesn't go without some pain and difficulty. The Lord has been with me over these years through some trying times, but mostly through truly rewarding and wonderful times. I am very thankful for the events of my life.

My association with both the ladies of this Diocese and women of the National Council of Catholic Women has been one of the highlights of my years as a priest. Please continue to work with your priest-Spiritual Advisers. We are here to help you to better serve God and each other.

With sincere gratitude

Fr. Stephen Deaver

FROM THE PROVINCE DIRECTOR

Greetings from Omaha Province Director, Susan Johnson

It is my hope you begin your new council year by creating a plan. The NCCW Five-Year Strategic provides a plan for NCCW and the parish CCW, deaneries, and dioceses. Goals include: 1. Provide spirituality enhancement opportunities for members, 2. NCCW resources and programs meet the needs of our Church and of Society, 3. Ensure the future of NCCW, 4. NCCW Operations meet the scope and needs of the organization, and 5. Get our message out. What organization couldn't use these goals? Substitute your organization for NCCW and "get hopping"! The strategic plan can be found on the website.

Our organizations stay lively not only by strategic planning, but also by following current needs in the areas of service, spirituality, legislative advocacy, education, and leadership training development. Consider supporting the 2019-2020 NCCW resolutions to increase awareness of the factors surrounding suicide and how to address the issue, the opioid misuse crisis affecting our nation, and to encourage prayer and action by the members of the NCCW that will bring hope and healing to the Nation and reuse products and reduce consumption to care for God's creation.

Reminders: Submit names of your deceased loved ones and a donation to GIDCCW President Deb Eschliman. Your loved ones will be remembered in 12 masses in 2020 and the donation directed toward registration grants to the 100th NCCW Convention. If you shop online, choose NCCW as your favorite charity and make your purchases at <https://smile.amazon.com>.

The bishops witnessed the important work done by Catholic women's organizations during World War I. As a result, March 1920, NCCW was founded under the auspices of the U.S. Catholic bishops in March 1920. God bless you for all the good works you do, and may your family enjoy the Thanksgiving holiday.

**ALWAYS REMEMBERED
PRAYERS FOR THE DEPARTED LOVED ONES**

You are invited to submit the names of your deceased loved ones during the month of November. Your loved ones will be remembered at twelve monthly Masses during 2020. These Masses will be offered by the current and past Spiritual Advisors of the Grand Island Diocesan Council of Catholic Women. A freewill offering is asked and will be directed towards registration grants to the 100th National Council of Catholic Women's convention. Submit the names of your loved ones by **November 30, 2019** to our GIDCCW: **President Deb Eschliman, 82793 494th Ave., Ericson, NE 68637**

Here are the names of my family and friends whom I am offering for enrollment in <i>Always Remembered</i> during November 2019. I ask that they be remembered at the 12 monthly Masses celebrated during 2020.	
	
	

DEANERY NEWS:

Grand Island: Submitted by Judy Wagoner

Fall GI CCW Deanery Meeting Location: St. Mary's Catholic Church in Wood River.

Date: **Monday, November 11**

Registration: 10:30 CST, cost is \$10.00. Phyllis Zimmer will give the presentation 'Spotlight on El Salvador' and Dorothy Clark will present "Liturgical Music - What's New?"

All are invited to attend for a day of friendship and worship.

Kearney: Submitted by: Imelda Gressley:

Ladies of Kearney Deanery of Council of Catholic Women met at St. Josaphat's Church Hall on Saturday October 19, 2019 with registration held at 9:00 a.m. A delicious brunch was served by the ladies of St. Josaphat's.

Guest speaker Vivian Damratowski spoke on "Volunteering at the Border". She had gone with a volunteering group to El Paso, Texas and close to the border city of Juarez, Mexico. She spent two weeks there caring for immigrants from Central America waiting for asylum papers in to United States. A shelter was provided for the immigrants. There was also a motel call the Mesa Inn where the migrants stayed.

Vivian and the other volunteers helped with providing food and clothing for the migrants. A warehouse for the many immigrants was purchased for them to stay in. The volunteers also made sandwiches of peanut butter and jelly and provided bottles of water for "food for the journey" as they went on to their destination. Vivian showed slide pictures of the shelter area too.

A business meeting followed the presentation. Parish reps gave short reports of each parish for roll call. Secretary minutes were read and approved. Treasurer's report was given. Commission reports were given. A reminder was given to pay the annual dues for NCCW, Kearney Deanery dues, and dues to the local GIDCCW. Seminary Funds was also on the agenda.

Our Spring Deanery Meeting will be hosted by Prince of Peace. The meeting concluded with Mass said by our Spiritual Advisor Matt Koperski.

North Platte: Submitted by Marie Arendt

Fall NP Deanery Meeting Location: St Patrick's Catholic Church in Paxton

Date: Saturday, November 16, 2019. (Mountain Time Zone)

Contact: Marie Arendt, (402-322-1956)

Registration: 9:00 – 9:30 (MST) Program by Eileen Olhm, Survivors of Sex Trafficking. Q&A followed by Mass, luncheon and business meeting. Bring your experiences of Seven Sisters Apostolate.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Stewardship Light Prayer Workshop:

8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. (CST)

Valentine, NE: Saturday, Nov 9, 2019, St Nicholas Church

Presenter: Kory Koralewski

Contact: Anne Clark for details: 402-376-4067 or anneclark09@yahoo.com

Catholics at the Capital

Save the Date: March 4, 2020. This will mark the 40th anniversary of the Omaha Province Legislative Day. Details will be announced soon.

Pre-Advent Retreat

The Grand Island Diocese of Catholic Women will present a Pre-Advent Retreat at **All Souls Catholic Church, 617 P. Street, Bridgeport, NE, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2019** from 11:30--4:00 (MST).

Registration begins at 11:30 a.m. Mountain Standard Time with a soup luncheon provided. A freewill offering will be requested. ALL AREA PARISHES ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THIS OPPORTUNITY OF SPIRITUAL GROWTH. This retreat will be facilitated by FR. LOU NOLLETTE. The theme is *GIFTS OF THE VISITATION* based on the book written by Denise Bossert.

STEWARDSHIP

Boxes of Joy: Carolyn Gusman, Collection Coordinator for Cross Catholic Outreach Project.

All Souls Catholic Church of Bridgeport is a collection site for the 150-mile area in the panhandle. They will accept Boxes of Joy for shipment to Florida **THROUGH SUNDAY NOVEMBER 10**. Please call [Carolyn Gusman](mailto:CarolynGusman@crosscatholic.org) at 308-279-2997 or 308 262-0453 for delivery appointments and shipping suggestions. Use the women size shoeboxes and secure with rubber bands.