

## **From the Province Director**

**Jean Kelly**, Director, Province of Milwaukee

December, 2014

The National Convention is the official end of the 2014 Convention season, and planning is already taking place for next year for everyone. It was a busy but wonderful year for me, and I thank you for the opportunity to speak at your convention in Baraboo last May.

We were kept busy at the national convention in Grand Rapids with an agenda full of inspirational speakers, sessions, liturgies and overall time well spent with women from all the entire country. Our Province dinner gave all of us the opportunity to meet everyone from the archdioceses in Wisconsin. Many thanks to Coreen Marklein for organizing a bus to bring a wonderful group from Wisconsin to the convention!

If you were not there, please know that we kept you in our prayers. The convention is a time to spark your engine, to learn, and to bring programs, suggestions, and ideas back to the women in your diocese and act on them. It would be wonderful to have a representative from every parish there. What you learn to bring back to help your parish CCW is invaluable.

Maybe your parish could have a bake sale or tea or some type of FUN-raiser to help send your president or a representative to next year's convention in Orlando September 9-12. Christmas, Mother's Day, and your birth-day will all take place before convention next year. Let your family know that you would like to go, and perhaps your gift could be something towards it.

Individual membership in National is still only \$5.00 per month or \$60.00 per year. The quarterly Catholic Woman Magazine is a wonderful publication. You will also receive a monthly electronic newsletter that keeps you up to date with all the news you need to keep your council on top of everything about Leadership, Spirituality, and Service. Please consider joining if you have not done so. Contact me if you need more information.

We heard at convention from the World Union Catholic Women's Organization representative Maribeth Stewart. Her presentation showed the Spiritual Bouquet that was presented to Pope Francis. I know several of you sent in your prayers for that, and I want to thank you.