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NEWSLETTER WEST DANE VICARIATE Council of Catholic Women!

Affiliated with the Diocese of Madison Council of Catholic Women (MDCCW) & National Council of Catholic Women (NCCW)

January 2023

Connecting Catholic Women in the West Dane Vicariate of the Diocese of Madison

In January, We Celebrate Saints and Feast Days!

As the Christmas Season ends at Epiphany and the Church Season of Ordinary Time begins, these Holy days mark our transition: Solemnity of Mary; Holy Mother of God, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Epiphany, Baptism of the Lord, St. Agnes, St. Anthony, Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children and Doctors of the Church: St. Basil the Great, St. Gregory Nazianzen, St. Hilary, St. Francis De Sales, and St. Thomas Aquinas.

Vicariate President's Message

Happy New Year! Here we are at the start of another year. A new year means a new start and a clean slate. Do you have plans or goals for 2023? Will you try to correct things that didn't go just right last year in your CCW? Do you have new ideas that the time may be right for?

The "Into the Deep" program will bring changes for our Vicariate. One of the big changes is merging of many parishes with our priests sharing housing and duties. With these changes we will have a chance to enlarge our CCW groups and grow our programs. Some parishes that have not had active groups, or any groups at all, can benefit from having a CCW join them. The possibilities are endless and planning is needed. Have you thought about getting together with your group and discussing what might be needed? Discussing things you hope to do will give all members a chance to participate and hopefully will excite them for the future. Another important part of planning is making sure you priest knows you intend to stay active! Get to know him if he is new. If your pastor remains the same, make sure he knows nothing will change in your relationship, supporting the church. You might consider a big recruiting program to get more women involved and working to serve your parish. We still have a few months before the mergers take place, so we have time to discuss and plan. The West Dane Vicariate Board is working to help all CCWs with this transition. Let us know how we can help you! Have a blessed and prosperous 2023!

Sue Barker, President West Dane Vicariate Council of Catholic Women

God Love You!

PARISHES

In the West Dane Vicariate

Ashton - St. Peter Parish

Rev. Christopher Gernetzke, Pastor

Cross Plains - St. Francis Xavier

Rev. Scott Jablonski, Pastor

Martinsville - St. Martin of Tours

Rev. Christopher Gernetzke, Pastor

Mt. Horeb - St. Ignatius

(St. Michael the Archangel Parish)

Rev. Chahm Gahng, Pastor

Paoli - St. William

(St. Christopher Parish)

Rev. Robert Butz, Pastor

Perry - Holy Redeemer

(St. Michael the Archangel Parish)

Rev. Chahm Gahng, Pastor

Pine Bluff - St. Mary of Pine Bluff

Very Rev. Richard M. Heilman, Pastor

Verona - St. Andrew

(St. Christopher Parish)

Rev. Robert Butz, Pastor

Waunakee - St. John the Baptist

Rev. Msgr. James Gunn, Pastor

Westport - St. Mary of the Lake

Rev. Msgr. James Gunn, Pastor

West Dane Vicariate BOARD of DIRECTORS

President: Sue Barker

(St. Andrew Church, Verona)

President Elect: Vacant..

Is this calling you?

Secretary: Joan Pregler

(St. Peter Parish, Ashton)

Treasurer: Kelly Huntington

(St. Peter Parish, Ashton)

Join Our Growing Council!

No Parish CCW?

Connect with Catholic Women around the area!

Contact Rosa Ropers at

rosa.m.ropers@gmail.com

Gifts of the Magi
And behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy; and going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh.

Mt 2:9-11

INTO THE DEEP

GATHER

Where will your Parish Council of Catholic Women be in 2023?

The Diocese of Madison has published its proposed INTO THE DEEP initiative which changes the structure and organization of our parishes. It also will change how our Parishes and Vicariates are organized. Many parishes do not have an active Council but will soon be connected to those that do. In the New Year, new friendships, new connections, and new opportunities will open the doors to answer these questions. Find resources on the NCCW or MDCCW website to assist you in getting a council reinvigorated or started! As plans unfold at the Diocesan level, visualize your new Council and its mission.

Events at your parish in the West Dane Vicariate? Send information to joanpregler@gmail.com by the 25th of the month prior to the event.



Connecting Catholic Women in the West Dane Vicariate of the Diocese of Madison

CALENDAR of EVENTS

Sept. 29 - Oct. 1, 2023 - A 3-day Congress

Plan now and pre-register to attend the Madison Eucharistic Congress at St. John the Baptist, Waunakee.

SPIRITUALITY

Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

Monday, January 23, 2023

Prayer and perseverance has brought a legal victory at the national level, but the war continues in each and every state. Keep up the Pro-Life advocacy efforts and above all, pray for the end of abortion.



AROUND OUR (WEST DANE) VICARIATE

Let The Bells Ring

Bells have been part of the sounds of humanity since the Neolithic Period. As a far-reaching sound, they have historically been used as a call to arms, to

warn, to work, to pray, to celebrate, to mourn.

* Aaron is described as having bells on the hem of his garment. As High Priest, his location was known by the sound of his bells. *Exodus 28:33-35*

* Bells were a sound believed to be 'Holy to the Lord.' *Zechariah 14:20*

* 'Make a joyful noise to the Lord' *Psalms 100:1*
In early Christianity, the sound of bells had celestial implications and announced angels present in order to drive out demons. Bells were so prevalent by the New Testament time that St. Paul wrote about speaking with love or you would be just a noisy gong or clanging cymbal. *1 Corinthians 13:1*

* Bells were introduced to the exteriors of the Church around the year 400 AD, as a call to mass, to prayer, to mourn. Sanctus bells had significance during Mass to let the congregation know when the Consecration was occurring due to visual or language barriers preventing understanding of the exact moment of the event.

* Bells in groups of 3, practiced by many faiths are typically a summons to prayer.

* Bells take many shapes and forms today, with a myriad of additional meanings being used within the secular world. Perhaps the sound of a bell still resonates in your heart as Holy and significant.

SERVICE

Catholic Relief Services

New Chapter starting in Madison!



Catholic Relief Services (CRS) is a familiar organization to most Catholics. Combatting global poverty, raising awareness, doing advocacy work and fundraising (ie. *CRS Operation Rice Bowl*) are just a few of the life-saving works of CRS!

Now, with a local Chapter beginning, volunteers can work at a local level for global impact! CRS provides all the tools and training to bring their mission of a better global family to fruition. Join them in this mission!

For more information,

Contact Beth Knobbe (beth.knobbe@crs.org) or Dr. Chris McAtee (Chris.McAtee@madisondiocese.org)



MEMBERSHIP

AFFILIATIONS If your parish CCW pays dues to NCCW, then ALL parish women are already members!

Contacting NCCW

NCCW
10335 -A Democracy Ln.
Fairfax, VA 22030

Individual Members Catholic Women in parishes that do not have an organized Council (CCW) but would enjoy becoming active and support the work of MDCCW, can become Individual members! Dues are only \$10.00/year.

St. Catherine Ministry

A New Compassionate Ministry To serve families through miscarriage

Our Lady of Hope Clinic and the Miracle of Life Rosary Garden at St. Mary's Pine Bluff have created the **St. Catherine Ministry** to accompany families before, during and after miscarriage by offering materials, referrals and compassionate support throughout the Diocese of Madison.

Materials include miscarriage receptacles, burial vessels, and resources.

Referrals include assistance in burial space, memorials and follow-up health and fertility services.

Compassionate Support includes a support person to talk to, connection to spiritual counsel, and further follow-up assistance.

Every woman in every parish should know that they can help direct a grieving family to a ministry with this level of compassion. Resolve to know this resource to help a friend, family member or stranger heal through this new Pro Life Ministry.

St. Catherine Ministry

Laura Karlen, Director 608-445-2064
ljkarlen@hotmail.com



Did You Know NCCW publishes a Magazine? Catholic Women

Your membership in NCCW either as an individual or as a parish gives you access to the Catholic Women magazine! Filled with news every Catholic woman can use, it connects us to a larger mission in the Catholic Church!

www.nccw.org

LEADERSHIP

Look to the Blessed Virgin Mary

'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.'

Part of the prayer of the Council of Catholic Women.

The Blessed Virgin Mary is the Patroness of the Council of Catholic Women!