

MINUTES, October 21, 2023, 9:45 am, St. Martin of Tours Parish, Martinsville

The meeting was called to order at 9:45 am by President Linda Ripp. Prior to the meeting, a memorial Mass was held at St. Martin of Tours parish, celebrated by Msgr. Duane Moellenberndt, and in honor of CCW members that have passed away since November 1, 2022.

Linda welcomed all members of the board and guests from throughout the Diocese who joined the Board for this meeting. President Linda Ripp indicated that not all pastorates have formal CCW's, so she wanted to open the meeting to all throughout the Diocese. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance following by the opening prayer – the Prayer to Our Lady of Good Council". Roll call was given and included introductions of guests.

Secretary Report: The June 17, 2023, minutes were reviewed and had been mailed to members prior to this meeting. The Secretary's report was reviewed and approved with one correction. The June 2023 minutes indicated that St. Peter's Ashton CCW dissolved. According to Joan Pregler, CCW president at St. Peter's, Ashton, the CCW did not dissolve and remains active. Their CCW did donate \$200 to MDCCW for future use. St. Peter's is the only active CCW in the Vicariate.

Treasurer Report: The treasurer's report was given by Carol Rogers, Interim treasurer. Checking balance was \$8,047.86. The savings account balance was \$1,510.12. Linda Ripp explained that the money in Savings is allocated to the next Madison Diocesan Province Director. Each diocese in the Milwaukee Province elects a Province Director for a two-year term. The current province director is Jane Schiszik from Superior Diocese. It will be the Madison Diocese to provide a province director in four years. A Province Director must have been a diocesan president.

Patty Spragg from St. Joseph's Parish, Baraboo, has agreed to serve as treasurer for a two-year term. She has not been formally installed. Per parliamentary procedures, MDCCW can appoint the treasurer in absentia. Motion made by Carol Rogers, seconded by Jo Heath, to appoint Patty Spragg to treasurer of MDCCW for the next two years. Voice vote taken. Motion carried. Coreen Marklein will contact Patty Spragg and provide the checkbook, statements, etc. to her.

Msgr. Duane Moellenberndt Report:

- Leaders in parishes and within the Diocese remain positive and optimistic about the Into the Deep initiative. The initiative is for the good of the diocese and puts the diocese in a better position to meet the needs going forward.
- Rome officials have given approval to move ahead with St. Bernard's Parish, Atwood Avenue, as the next Cathedral for Madison Diocese. Mass is held in the gym while construction continues.
- Madison area Events:
 - October 29: Mass of Healing, Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish for those who have experienced loss and grieving due to death, abortion, etc. Events are also being sponsored by Rachel's Vineyard.
 - November 4: Apostolate for Disabilities meeting is being held at Camp Gray.
 - New divorce support ministry being held at Holy Name.
 - May 10: Diaconate ceremony at Immaculate Mary Parish in Monona
 - June 7: Priest ordination to be held at Maria Goretti Parish in Madison.
- Eucharistic Congress held at St. John's the Baptist far exceeding attendance expectations and was very well organized. Videos of the speakers is available on the Diocesan website. Nicole Borelli-O'Connell indicated that there was drone coverage of the processing and asked Monsignor if he knew whom to contact about the drone coverage. Msgr. Duane indicated Nicole should check with Deacon Todd who was in charge of the Conference.

Linda Ripp President Report: This is year two of Linda's two-year term. Linda attended fall vicariate meetings. On October 10, Columbia North Vicariate meeting was hosted by Good Shepherd Catholic Church CCW in Westfield. The theme was on the rosary as October is the month of the rosary. The CCW shared a brief history of the rosary. Speaker was Anne Auger speaking on "Living our Faith – Go Make Disciples". Her message was well received. She would be a great speaker on evangelization for a future event.

On October 12, the Grant County Vicariate meeting was hosted by Immaculate Conception Church CCW in KIELER. The theme was "Seek and you will Find... Will you open the Door"? Two Dominican Sisters from the Sinsinawa Mound provide updates with the changes that are taking place at the Mound with the recent sale of some of the buildings. Linda Ripp indicated that the theme reminded her of a drawing of Jesus that was shown at last year's NCCW convention. The photo shows Jesus in a room with no doors and indicates that we need to have a relationship with Jesus and open our doors to Him.

On October 24, the Sauk Vicariate meeting will be hosted by Holy Family Parish in LaValle. Speaker will be Diane Pillsbury of St. Joseph's, Baraboo, sharing her "Walk with Faith" journey. Diane has logged many miles and memories with her faith journey. Diane Pillsbury set up the June 21 Fr. Mazzuchelli Pilgrimage with many Sauk Vicariate individuals attending.

Additional Linda updates:

- Attended the Madison Catholic Women's Club Spiritual Day held recently.
- Reminded us of the NCCW Mission Statement that we empower all Catholic Women in Service, Leadership and Spirituality.

NCCW Convention Update: Linda provided a summary of the NCCW convention held in Salt Lake City from August 24 to 26, with some coming in as early as Monday, August 21. Attending with Linda were Carol Rogers, Coreen Marklein, Sue Barker (Verona) and Kathy Loy. Linda informed the group about a presentation given by Angela Copenhaver – We Teach Think. Ms. Copenhaver spoke about her goal to "We Teach Think Marketing that Changes a Culture". This former marketing executive with Planned Parenthood is trying to instill a new way of thinking regarding life. Her goal is to raise monies for billboard and commercial television advertising promoting We Teach Think with different messages about protecting life without including the word "abortion". The speaker indicated that 59% of people who have not spoken about their views. Each of the advertisements/billboards have a target audience. The speaker's goal would be to have billboards and video slots during the 6 pm news on WKOW TV in the Madison market area. The cost would \$20,000. Interested individuals may donate online through her website. The tax-deductible donations would stay in the Madison diocese to fund these ads, etc. Goal is to teach people to think.

Discussion was held regarding whether this is the right way to reach the target audience. What is the test market? What other social media avenues may be appropriate? There are many types of social media available – each with their own target audience. Jo Health indicated that Facebook users are age 55 and older. It may be a possibility that this may be an item for Social Justice committees and include others such as the Dominican Sinsinawa sisters. We can't target 18- to 65-year-olds with one message. We have 2 to 3 generations in the area. What is the research behind it? Test Market

Box of Joy: Coreen gave an update on this project. Diocesan Collection point will be at St. Martin of Tours former catholic school building in the parking lot with the church. Drop off is Saturday, November 11, from 11 am to 3 pm and Sunday, November 12, from 9 am to 1 pm. Coreen explained that assistance is needed helping unload donated boxes of joy from vehicles who drive up and drop them off as well as packing 18 individual boxes of joy in a larger box (called a crate). Boxes must be labeled with the contents. The crates can be heavy but most of the work is light. Susanna Herro suggested that high school students or those who need service hours for confirmation be contacted as well as the young Knights of Columbus men to help. Linda Ripp will check with

religious ed students. Contact Coreen Marklein if you are able to assist. No steps involved. Linda Pregler will be available to assist Coreen on Friday, November 10, in setting up the collection site, preparing the box packing area, etc. Barb Unger will assist on Saturday.

Walking with Moms in Need: Susanna Herro encourages everyone to spread the word on this project. The diocese has slowed down their activities on this project to let the Pastorates do their own initiatives. It is very exciting in that it has been a way to bring pastorates together to work on this project and share ideas. It was suggested that CCWs can pull groups together as a pastorate and new to building enthusiasm with new boundaries and new realities. It can be a very powerful tool.

Spiritual Commission – No report.

Leadership Commission: Linda Ripp read Sue Barker's report. Sue spoke about the Golden Rose Award. This project was presented at the NCCW convention. It is a way of introducing younger girls/teenagers (ages 12-14) to council working with service projects in their parishes and organizations. NCCW guidelines are available on how to start a chapter.

Communications Report: Jane Grinde is a Catholic Herald correspondent and is responsible for publishing articles in the Herald on CCW activities. She also works with Karen Gramann on the newsletter. The next newsletter will be published before Christmas. Please send articles to Jane Grinde from the NCCW convention attendees by the end of October. Any articles and events should also be sent to Jane for inclusion in the Catholic Herald. Jane Grinde has articles for historian Gloria Lightfuss. A future article will include an article about Mary Uhler and her CCW membership. Mary Uhler was the long-time editor of the Catholic Herald. It was noted, however, that it is amazing how many individuals do not subscribe to the Catholic Herald. Suggestion was made to send Linda's monthly Pen News to Kevin Wondrash at the Catholic Herald.

Miscellaneous:

Rosa Ropers brought attention to the NCCW name tag worn by Nicole Borelli-O'Connell from St. John the Baptist parish in Waunakee. These name tags were ordered through NCCW and are a great tool to wear to events, meetings, etc. Carol Rogers noted that MDCCW should have name placards for the next meeting so that name can be seen around the room.

NCCW Positions:

NCCW is looking for a treasurer for a two-year term. Notify the NCCW Nominating Committee with any candidates. Coreen Marklein indicated that has two new NCCW positions. She was asked to serve as co-chair of the Bylaws Committee. This is a two-year term and responsible for reviewing and submitting bylaw changes to the NCCW Board. Bylaws are presented in odd years while resolutions are introduced in even years. This year, however, was an exception as there was an emergency bylaw change made and voted on at convention. Coreen also indicated that her application to the Leadership, Training & Development team was approved, and this position is for a three-year term.

Pastorate/Vicariate Structure:

Linda Ripp prepared a directory of the new Pastorates by number with locations as well as contacts for which she was aware in those pastorates and presented it to the group. At a recent Women's Catholic Women Club meetings, members were told that a restructuring of vicariate may occur by June 2024. The nine Vicariates will change the present structure to five new Vicariates: North, South, East, West, and Central. In the meantime, business may continue as is until further information is available. Discussion followed on how to "advertise".

- Need to do a better way of advertising who we are and what we do.
- Set up a "tabletop" presentation and take it to the parishes, pastorates, meetings, etc.
- Women are eager to having their values heard.
- Visual diagrams/maps are helpful as many are visual learners.

- Send out Linda Ripp's Monthly Pen News to parishes in your Vicariate/Pastorate, etc.
- Update Linda's Vicariate structure with new contacts, etc.
- Collaborate on projects within the Pastorates.
- Remind women that they are automatically members of their local CCW even if involved in other local groups as well.
- Work with Madison Catholic Women's Club to find out how many CCW's there are (and were) within Madison area parishes.
- We cannot continue to do the same things the same way and yet attract new members.
- We need to attract members with a change in how we conduct meetings (do we conduct meetings) with topics of interest.
- Many interested in performing service projects but not coming to meetings.
- Food brings groups together.
- Need to find ways to bring together our diverse membership.

MDCCW convention in 2024? Linda Ripp will contact the Bishop Hying for available dates. Consensus that we need to have a more central location for the convention, such as in the Madison area. Insurance needed to hold events. The convention may involve all pastorates with each bringing something unique to the table. Think about dynamic speakers and topics. Use individuals within diocese, including our priests who can tell us about their faith journey. Committee: Coreen Marklein, Rosa Ropers, Jane Grinde

Meeting ended with praying The Hail Mary. Meeting adjourned at 11:58 a.m.
Respectfully submitted,

Coreen S Marklein
MDCCW Secretary

Attendance:

- Joan Pregler, St. Peter's Parish, Ashton, CCW president
- Carol Eberhardy, St. Francis, Belleville
- Nicole Borelli-O'Connell, St. John the Baptist, Waunakee
- Jo Heath, President, Sauk Vicariate, Pastorate VII, St. Joseph's Parish, Baraboo
- Jane Grinde, Newsletter/Communications, Catholic Herald Correspondent, Pastorate XXII –
- St. James, St. Joseph, St. Patrick's, Holy Redeemer, Madison
- Rosa Ropers, St. John the Baptist, Waunakee, former MDCCW President
- Lenora Glover (Lenny), President, Columbia North Vicariate, Holy Family Kingston
- Msgr. Duane Moellenberndt, Spiritual Advisor, MDCCW
- Susanna Herro, Madison Catholic Women's Club, Pastorate XXVII, Blessed Sacrament Parish, Madison
- Barbara Unger, Madison Catholic Women's Club representative, Pastorate XXI, Queen of Peach Parish
- Linda Ripp, MDCCW President, St. Martin of Tours Parish, Martinsville
- Carol Rogers, President Elect, MDCCW, Pastorate IV, Queen of All Saints Parish, Fennimore
- Coreen Marklein, Secretary MDCCW, Pastorate VII, St. Joseph's Parish, Baraboo