

JANUARY
2025

Connecting Catholic Women!

A Monthly Newsletter of the Madison Diocesan Council
of Catholic Women (MDCCW)

Affiliated with the National Council of Catholic Women (NCCW)

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Uniting Catholic Women throughout the Catholic Diocese of Madison, Wisconsin

THE PEN

"Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labor in vain."--Psalm 127:1

Building the Body of Christ

Happy New Year! Each month is dedicated to a particular Catholic devotion, based on the liturgical calendar and/or historical events. (See below; you can deepen your devotional life by observing these intentions.)

January Holy Name of Jesus

February Passion of Our Lord

March St. Joseph

April Holy Spirit

May Blessed Virgin Mary

June Sacred Heart of Jesus

July Precious Blood of Jesus

August Immaculate Heart of Mary

September Seven Sorrows of Mary

October Holy Rosary

November Holy Souls in Purgatory

December Divine Infant Jesus



CAROL ROGERS

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MEMBERSHIP

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

Contacting NCCW

NCCW
10335 -A Democracy Ln.
Fairfax, VA 22030

Individual Members Any Catholic woman can join the efforts of MDCCW and NCCW by becoming a Individual member!

See: www.mdccw.com
or
www.nccw.org

January is the month of the Holy Name of Jesus. Jesus received His name from God the Father as learned from the Angel Gabriel (Luke 1:30-31). The naming of Jesus was accomplished according to the law of Moses on the 8th day (Luke 2:21). The name Jesus has great power as noted in the words of St. Paul (Philippians 2:10). Since the 1500s the Church has celebrated the Holy Name of Jesus as a separate feast, originally on the 2nd Sunday after Epiphany and in modern times on January 3.

For the above reasons Catholics are taught to bow the head whenever hearing or speaking the name of Jesus. Doing so can atone for misuse of the name of Jesus in careless and insulting ways. If souls knew the riches of just uttering the Sweet Name of Jesus with reverence and love, they could atone for sins of others and increase grace in their own souls. Let us be good examples to others as we visibly honor the precious name of Jesus.

Remember that 2025 has been designated as a **Jubilee Year, the Holy Year of Hope**. We began this celebration on December 24, 2024, and continue to December 23, 2025. This time of hope, reconciliation, and grace in the Catholic Church is meant to spill into the world at large. Let us all be **"Pilgrims of Hope."**

See **THE PEN** continued on **Page Two!**

United across the Diocese MDCCW FUNDRAISER!

Mustard Money-Raiser!



Suzanne Koch, chair of the MDCCW Ways and Means Committee, is currently managing the Mustard Fundraiser, which was well-received at final events of 2024. Contact Sue to find out how your CCW, group, parish, or pastorate may sell these yummy products and help MDCCW at the same time.

Details of how to get the 5 varieties of mustard to your group is organized by Suzanne Koch at (920) 229-4150
orkochspeech@gmail.com

United in Voice Tap Into NCCW - Reinvigorate!

Featured in the recent CATHOLICWOMAN Magazine, the official publication of the National Council of Catholic Women (NCCW), is the first full article from our own diocesan Leadership Training member - Coreen Marklein! Here she writes of the many ways the National Council can assist you in building up your CCW with the resources available to NCCW Members!

Soon to be available: training videos for technology-based meetings, parliamentary procedures and promotional/marketing ideas! These and other resources help every person in a council from the quiet helpers to the specialty talented.

Become a member now to take advantage of all the riches offered for Catholic Women!

www.nccw.org



The Mission of the NCCW is to Support, Empower, and Educate all Catholic women in Spirituality, Leadership and Service
MDCCW is affiliate of the National Council of Catholic Women which acts through its membership to respond with Gospel values to the needs of the church and society in the modern world. Learn more at www.mdccw.com and www.nccw.org

THE PEN CONTINUED

**MDCCW Board of Directors
Representing you
From around the DIOCESE!**

President: Carol Rogers
From Pastorate 4
Now **Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament**

Co-Presidents: Carolyn Zenter
From Pastorate 10
Now **Mater Dei**
And Jane Lepeska Grinde
From Pastorate 22
Now **Our Lady of Guadalupe**

Secretary: Marie Fleisner
From Pastorate 16
Now: **St. Thérèse of Lisieux**

Treasurer: Patty Spragg
From Pastorate 7:
Now: **St. John Paul II**

Immediate Past President:
Linda Ripp
From Pastorate 19
Now **Holy Cross**

COMMISSIONS:
Leadership:
Sue Barker From Pastorate 20
Now: **Divine Mercy**

Spirituality:
Judy Lyons From Pastorate 14
Now: **St. Teresa of Calcutta**

Service: Linda Ripp
From Pastorate 19
Now **Holy Cross**

Often in the beginning months of each year few CCW meetings and events are scheduled. Use this time to strengthen old friendships and develop new ones. Engage in conversation after Mass, exchange phone numbers, have an impromptu chat at a local eatery or coffee shop after Mass, meet for breakfast or lunch... and while together share about CCW and invite women to future events and meetings.

Our next MDCCW Board meeting is March 15. In these next months, we will be calling on many of you to assist with preparations for the June Convention. ValLimar Jansen, a dynamite keynote speaker, will be with us on June 28, 2025. We want the entire day to sparkle with energy and hope!

Continue to develop a plan for giving donations for the Cathedral of St. Bernard of Clairvaux to MDCCW in the name of the women of the diocese. Details, still in process, will allow us to aggregate donations from individual women and women’s groups.

Three Board positions remain open. May the Holy Spirit call three of you women to each take one. Please call me at 608-391-2564.

Membership Committee Chair - Encourage CCW membership.

Legislative Committee Chair - Share info that is pertinent to Catholics from two websites.

Historian - Collect articles for a scrapbook of MDCCW events and activities.

Wishing you a Happy and Blessed New Year! May the Infant Jesus, His Blessed Mother, and good and faithful St. Joseph light all your ways for all your days.

In His Mercy and Her Love,

Carol Rogers

Madison Diocesan Council of Catholic Women President

**VOICE
of the
SAINTS**

Feasts, Memorials and Solemnities

JANUARY - 2025

- Solemnity of Mary, 1-1
- ST. BASIL the GREAT, 1-2
- ST. GREGORY NAZIANZEN 1-2
- Most Holy Name of Jesus, 1-3
- ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON, 1-4
- EPIPHANY of the Lord, 1-5
- BAPTISM of the LORD, 1-12
- St. Hilary, 1-13
- ST. ANTHONY, ABBOT, 1-17
- St. Fabian, St. Sebastian, 1-20
- ST. AGNES, 1-21
- DAY of PRAYER for the LEGAL PROTECTION of the UNBORN, 1-22
- St. Vincent, St. Marianne Cope, 1-23
- ST. FRANCIS DE SALES, 1-24
- THE CONVERSION of ST. PAUL, 1-25
- St. Angela Merici, 1-27
- ST. THOMAS AQUINAS, 1-28
- ST. JOHN BOSCO, 1-31

MDCCW CONVENTION!

**Make a plan to attend in 2025
Saturday June 28th at St. Francis Xavier,
Cross Plains**

Bishop Hying along with singer, composer, recording artist and catechetical speaker ValLimar Jansen will be guest speakers at the MDCCW Convention. Hearing ValLimar’s inspirational presentation is guaranteed to get you off your feet in enthusiasm. Register as soon as information arrives as seating is limited.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Cathedral Church and the JUBILEE!

In unison with the Holy See’s Jubilee Year 2025 where the Holy Door of St. Peter’s Basilica opened on Christmas Eve, the Diocese of Madison will also celebrate the Jubilee with the opening of the Cathedral Church! Follow the celebrations all year through the Diocesan website:

Madisoncathedral.org



**SERVICE
IN THE NEW YEAR!**

Pick-a-THEME

Make a plan for your upcoming year of Service!

THEME Based on a PASTORAL CALENDAR:
EPIPHANY of the LORD

THEME Based on the MONTH:
HAPPY NEW YEAR

THEME Based on ‘BE-ATTITUDES’
Clothe the Naked

THEME Based on NCCW-Endorsed Projects:
Ending Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking

Mark Your Calendars!

March 15 MDCCW Board Meeting
Divine Mercy Pastorate, St. Andrew Church, Verona

**MDCCW Convention Saturday June 28th
at St. Francis Xavier, Cross Plains.**

**NCCW Convention 2025
BELIEVE in the EUCHARIST
Orlando, FL August 19-23, 2025
www.nccw.org**