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CAROL ROGERS

President of the
Madison Diocesan Council of
Catholic Women

CONTACT ME:

PHONE:

(608) 391-2564

EMAIL:

carrogmdccw@gmail.com

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

Connecting Catholic Women!

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

Affiliated with the National Council of Catholic Women (NCCW)

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

What is the Body of Christ? It is the Church; we are the Church. All of us are encompassed in the Church Militant. Praise God for His Sacraments of Baptism, which made us children of God, and Confirmation, which made us soldiers of Christ. During this month of November, let us use the graces of these Sacraments to fight for Christ, to be His defenders in a world that has largely turned away from Him and His Grace.

Sacraments always give us two kinds of grace - First, Sanctifying Grace to make us holy. God is Holy. No one gets into Heaven without being holy. Let us cultivate holiness in our own souls and in the souls of those people that God has placed in our lives. Second, Actual Grace is provided at the moment we need it to strengthen us to act out our lives as Christians. As we are open to the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives, opportunities will present themselves for us to build Faith in others through the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. Let us be intentional to perform these works.

Corporal Works of Mercy

- * Feed the Hungry
- * Give Drink to the Thirsty
- * Clothe the Naked
- * Shelter the Homeless
- * Visit the Sick
- * Visit the Imprisoned
- * Bury the Dead

Spiritual Works of Mercy

- * Instruct the Ignorant
- * Counsel the Doubtful
- * Admonish the Sinner
- * Forgive Injuries
- * Comfort the Sorrowful
- * Bear Wrongs Patiently
- * Pray for the Living and the Dead

See THE PEN continued on Page Three!



United across the Diocese

Box of Joy DROP OFF!

NOTE! REVISED DROP off ONLY these dates:

Saturday, Nov. 2, 11am-6pm

Sunday, Nov. 3, 9am-3pm

MDCCW will collect your Box of Joy and ship it to the central distribution spot! We will have over 1000 boxes so your prompt delivery is vital to our volunteers!

Official shoeboxes available from Linda Ripp.

**DROP OFF location is the Parish Center
of St. Martin of Tours Catholic Church,**
5959 St. Martin Circle, Martinsville, WI
(mailing address is Cross Plains)

Q's? Email Linda linmdccw@gmail.com

United in Voice
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF
CATHOLIC WOMEN

National Spiritual Advisor

As we navigate our daily lives, as we find ourselves in the midst of another divisive political season, one fundamental principle remains crucial, and it is one that we see too little of in our world today: kindness. In a world that often feels divided, embracing kindness and respect in our interactions can foster a sense of community and understanding. Kindness is not merely an act; it is a mindset. It begins with recognizing the humanity in each other. When we choose to approach one another with compassion, we open



NCCW Spiritual Advisor continued on Page 4!

**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 17
Now **Nativity of the Lord**
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**

**VOICE
of the
SAINTS**

Feasts, Memorials and Solemnities

- All Saints Day, 11-1
- All Souls' Day, 11-2
- St. Charles Borromeo, 11-4
- Dedication of the Lateran Basilica, 11-9
- St. Martin of Tours, 11-11
- St. Josaphat, Bishop, 11-12
- St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, 11-13
- St. Albert the Great, 11-15
- St. Margaret of Scotland 11-16
- St. Gertrude, 11-16
- Dedication of the Basilica of Sts Peter & Paul 11-18
- The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, 11-21
- St. Cecilia, 11-22
- St. Clement, 11-23
- Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, 11-24
- St. Catherine of Alexandria, 11-25
- St. Andrew, 11-30
- St. Luke, Evangelist, 10-18
- Sts. John Brébeuf & Isaac Jogues, 10-19
- St. John Paul II Pope, 10-22
- Sts Simon & Jude, 10-28



LEADERSHIP

Pray, Choose, and Vote

November 5th is Presidential Election Day. As a citizen, each of us has an obligation to vote for the person we best feel will fulfill the position they are elected to. Catholic Social Teaching helps us discern the candidates that respect human dignity and the common good. In this regard, protecting human life is top priority. Other issues include religious freedom, eliminating violence, and racism. Marriage between one man and one woman, along with the family being the primary educator of their children, are also hot items. It is your duty to listen to both sides before you decide. Pray, choose, and vote for the candidates who best fulfill these positions.

*By Sue Barker
Leadership Commission Chair, MDCCW*

PATRIOTIC PRAYER, PATRIOTIC ROSARY

With Election Day upon us, we can unite in prayer many ways:

- Adoration time** spent in prayer for our country to return to 'One Nation, Under God'.
- Personal Prayer** with your intentions focused on uniting our Country, world peace and for God's will be done.

Patriotic Rosary - for the Consecration of Our Nation. Inspired by Our Lady of Medjugorje, the Patriotic Rosary is a powerful prayer for divine protection and mercy for our Nation and its re-birth. Each state in the Union is included on a rosary bead of Hail Mary.

www.patrioticrosary.com

Attend daily Mass (hopefully before voting) for spiritual guidance on your vote.

All Saints

Pope Francis reminds us on All Saints Day:

"We are united with all the saints: not only the most well-known, from the calendar, but also those 'next door,' our family members and acquaintances who are now part of that great multitude. Therefore, today is a family celebration. The saints are close to us, indeed they are our truest brothers and sisters. They understand us, love us, know what is truly good for us, help us and await us. They are happy and want us to be happy with them in paradise."

By Pope Francis

"Man's life comes from God; it is his gift, his image and imprint, a sharing in his breath of life. God therefore is the sole Lord of this life: man cannot do with it as he wills." St. John Paul II's Evangelium Vitae (March 1995)

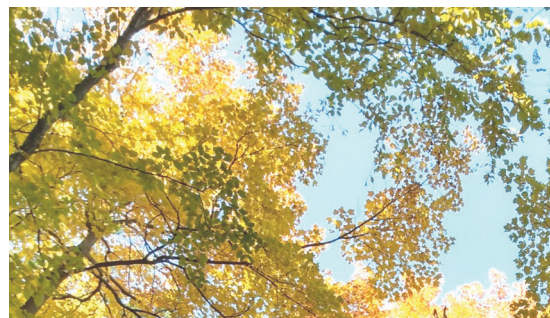
**LEADERSHIP
The Power of 'YES'**

The "Power of Yes", means that we are acknowledging that God is the most important being in our lives. We can let Him know that we care by praying to our saints. Having a close relationship with our saints help us build a better relationship with God and we continue to say yes.

Through the Leadership, Training and Development team, we have the opportunity to help our councils stay closer to God through prayer, meditation, and education.

And yes, we keep saying Yes!

Judith Maurer NCCW's Leadership Development Training Team as printed in the October 2024 issue of NCCW's President's Pen.



SPIRITUALITY

Faith Finds a Home at Home

November is a month of trust. As the leaves fall and sunny autumn days turn to the cold grey days preceding winter, we all know and trust that the hope of springtime will come in due time. It is true of the humanness that envelops the world as well. Every generation is awash in the stain of sinfulness that also permeates our individual souls, and yet with the help of Our Lord who heals us in Confession and feeds us Himself in the Eucharist, it is Him alone who can pull us from our depths. Just as we trust patiently that one season follows another, we also need to trust that, if we give our hearts fully to Our Lord daily in all things, He will save us from ourselves -- in His own time, not ours.

*By Julianne Nornberg
Contributor to the Catholic Herald and member of Holy Cross Pastorate (formerly Pastorate 19)*

THE PEN CONTINUED

Especially in November, let us remember the Holy Souls in Purgatory. They are the Church Suffering. We can do much to alleviate their suffering and assist them in the process of cleansing their souls. Few souls enter eternity and go straight to Heaven. Many souls at the moment of death bear unconfessed venial sins and still need to satisfy the temporal punishment due to sin. The merits of our prayers, sacrifices, and Masses can be applied to the Poor Souls. Even before they enter Heaven, becoming part of the Church Triumphant, souls that benefit from our suffrages will pray for us. Having spiritual friends in Purgatory and Heaven is a great benefit to our own holiness.

The next MDCCW Board meeting is November 16. Please be sure to send the list of deceased CCW members to your Board representative or to me. We always have a Mass at the November Board meeting at which we place on the altar the names of our sisters who died in this past year.

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. More details will follow as the process continues to develop in future months.

Remember that several Board positions remain vacant. If the Holy Spirit is calling you to take one, please call me, 608-391-2564.

Membership Committee Chair - Encourage CCW membership, local and National.

Legislative Committee Chair - Share information that is pertinent to Catholics concerning government in Wisconsin and the country.

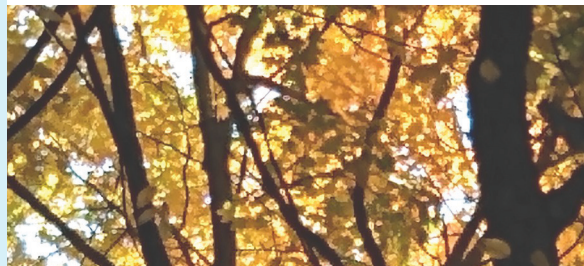
Ways and Means Committee Chair - Plan fundraising activities for MDCCW.

Historian - Collect info and keep a scrapbook of MDCCW events and activities.

In His Mercy and Her Love,

Carol Rogers

Madison Diocesan Council of Catholic Women President



AROUND THE DIOCESE

Following our Cathedral Church

A fundraising campaign entitled: TOGETHER We Will Open The Doors launches the official start to Diocesan-wide effort to finish the Mother-Church of our Diocese. Serving the entire Diocese of Madison as a beacon of hope in the heart of Madison, it will stand as a testament to the power of faith and prayer for our troubled country and suffering world. Together in Faith, Hope, Love, Worship, Beauty and Mission, the Cathedral of St. Bernard of Clairvaux will help bring us together in Christ. Learn more online or see the feature article in the Catholic Herald!

Follow our MDCCW's efforts to join in a special gift from the women of our Diocese!

Madisoncathedral.org/support

SERVICE

Get your cardboard shoeboxes NOW for the annual BOX of JOY diocesan-wide service project. See page 1



Pick-a-THEME

Build enthusiasm with a Theme-Based Project
Here are a few ideas for November!

THEME Based on a PASTORAL CALENDAR:

ALL SAINTS/ALL SOULS

Host a reception after mass to help attendees linger and ponder the memory of Saints or Souls

THEME Based on the MONTH:

CATHOLIC CITIZENSHIP

Make an appointment reminder to VOTE!
Review Catholic moral teachings to help you determine the candidates that will most closely align with your values as a Catholic Woman.

THEME Based on 'BE-ATTITUDES'

BURY the DEAD

Catholic funeral masses, burial rights and protocol are sometimes misunderstood. Offer a light refreshment on this all-important ministry so your attendees can have the tools they need to assist their own families.

THEME Based on NCCW-Endorsed Projects:

WORLD DAY of the POOR

Embrace one new initiative to assist those in need.

Mark Your Calendars!

November 2-3

Box of Joy Drop Off Collection days, see page 1

November 16

MDCCW Board Meeting
St. Christopher Parish,
Verona 9am - 1pm

At least ONE Representative from each Pastorate is encouraged to attend. Please bring names of deceased members since Nov. 2023

NCCW Convention 2025 - Orlando, FL

August 19-23, 2025
www.nccw.org

See other EVENTS on Page 4.

NCCW MEMBER PERK!

Just announced!

NCCW has secured a logo account for clothing apparel from Lands' End with the NCCW logo! Go to www.nccw.org, click on the 'Members Only' tab and order your choice of clothing apparel with the NCCW logo!



"She was called Margaret, and in the sight of God she showed herself to be a pearl, precious in faith and works"

From a biography written by her spiritual director, Bishop Turgot on Saint Margaret of Scotland, Patron Saint of Mothers

EVENTS and HAPPENINGS



ELECTION DAY
Tuesday, November 5

Catholic Cemeteries Week - October 30th- November 6th

November 2: All Souls Day Mass 10:00am Resurrection Cemetery - Madison

November 2: Lay Them To Rest Resurrection Cemetery - Madison

November 3: Lay Them To Rest Mount Olivet Cemetery - Janesville

Visit madisondiocese.org/ccw for more information

November 1 - Drive-Thru Fish Fry 4:30pm- 7:00pm

St. Michael Church (Blessed Trinity Parish), 109 S. Military Road, Dane, Wisconsin

November 2 - KC's Pork Chop Dinner 11:00am- 1:00pm

St. Norbert Church Hall, 8944 Hwy Y, Sauk City, Wisconsin

November 5 - Election Day

Learn more about Faithful Citizenship based on the U. S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' (USCCB) national statement.

www.Faithfulcitizenship.org

December 7 - ADVENT by CANDLELIGHT 1:00pm- 3:30pm

At Saint John the Baptist School Cafeteria, 114 East Third Street, Waunakee, Wisconsin

(St. John the Baptist Catholic Church is part of St. Maximilian Kolbe Pastorate-formerly Pastorate 18)

Join us for an afternoon of prayer, fellowship, music and light refreshments. Our speaker, Kate Gallimore will speak on **Living the Magnificat**. Make this your Advent for prayer! (St. Maximilian Kolbe Pastorate) Contact Kathy Roelke at roelke@tds.net or (608) 469-8698 or Dixie Lyght at lyghthouse5@gmail.com or (608) 220-3439. Deadline to Register is Sunday, November 24th.



NCCW Spiritual Advisor Continued from Page 1:

doors to meaningful connections. A simple smile, a word of encouragement, or a listening ear can make a significant impact. To interact in healthy ways, we must prioritize respectful communication. Here are some key principles to guide us:

1. **Listen Actively:** Take the time to understand the perspectives of others. This involves not just hearing words but truly comprehending their feelings and thoughts.
2. **Speak Thoughtfully:** Choose your words with care. The way we express ourselves can either uplift or hurt. Aim for clarity and kindness in your messages.
3. **Embrace Differences:** Our diversity is our strength. Respect differing opinions and experiences, and engage in constructive dialogue rather than heated debate.
4. **Practice Empathy:** Put yourself in someone else's shoes. Understanding their emotions can bridge gaps and cultivate a culture of support. We all play a role in fostering a kinder environment. Small acts of kindness can create a ripple effect. Consider starting each day with a commitment to perform at least one act of kindness, whether it is complimenting or offering help to someone in need. We each have the responsibility to model kindness and respect. By demonstrating these values in our actions and decisions, we inspire others to do the same. Let us create an atmosphere where kindness is celebrated, and respectful interactions are the norm. And, let us strive to be champions of these values, ensuring that our community is one where everyone feels valued and heard. Together, we can build a brighter future grounded in compassion and understanding.

Have an EVENT or
ACTIVITY that you
wish to see in The
Pen?

Forward request by
the 3rd week of the
month for the follow-
ing month you wish to
see your event to:

Carol Rogers
[carrog-
mdccw@gmail.com](mailto:carrog-
mdccw@gmail.com)

With Subject line:
'Newsletter Event'

By Fr. Tom Washburn – National Council of Catholic Women Spiritual Advisor