

MAY

2024

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FROM THE PEN  
OF LINDA RIPP

President of the Madison  
Diocesan Council of  
Catholic Women

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VOICE  
of the  
SAINTS

Feasts, Memorials and  
Solemnities

St. Joseph the Worker, 5-1  
Sts Philip & James, Apostles, 5-3  
The Ascension of the Lord, 5-9  
Observed Sunday, May 12  
Our Lady of Fatima, 5-13  
St. Matthias, Apostle, 5-14  
St. Isadore, 5-15  
St. John I, Pope & Martyr, 5-18  
Pentecost Sunday, 5-19  
The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, 5-20  
St. Rita of Cascia, 5-22  
St. Bede, St. Gregory VII, St. Mary Magdalen de' Passi, 5-25  
The Most Holy Trinity, 5-26  
St. Augustine, 5-27  
The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, 5-31

# Connecting Catholic Women!

Throughout the Diocese of Madison

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

Affiliated with the National Council of Catholic Women (NCCW)



Connecting Catholic Women throughout the Catholic Diocese of Madison

## President's Pen News

I hope May finds everyone in good health and enjoying nice weather for family gatherings –Mother's Day, Memorial day, graduations, weddings, etc and spring planting! May will be a busy month for me as I attend these three Vicariate meetings - I hope you can join me:

**Sauk Vicariate** on **Saturday, May 4** in Reedsburg will hold at Sacred Heart Parish in Reedsburg. The theme is **'Raise Our Voices in Praise'**. The program begins at 8:30am. Sharon Hilliard will share the story and history of the Shrine of St. Philomena in Briggsville.

**Grant Vicariate** will host their Spring Meeting on **Wednesday, May 15th** at Holy Ghost Church in Dick-eyville. The theme is **"Plant the Seed of Prayer, To Grow in Faith, Hope, and Love"**

Agenda:

3:30 PM Registration (see information below to register)

4:00 PM Mass in Holy Ghost Catholic Church

5:00 PM Welcome followed by Dinner in the Holy Ghost Catholic School Gym (Note if dietary restrictions.)

6:15 PM Speaker – Fr. Randy Timmerman presents his recent travels to The Holy Land.

The registration fee of \$15.00 is due May 6, 2024. Please make checks payable to Holy Ghost CCW and list names of attendees and mail to: Sharon Loeffelholz - (sloeffelholz@gmail.com) 3119 Line Road, Cuba City WI 53807

**Columbia North Vicariate** will hold their Spring Gathering on **Thursday, May 16th** at St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Poynette. *The theme is: "The Blessed Mary"* CHARITY is the Poynette Area Food Pan-try. Registration is at 9:30 am with Mass at 10:00 followed by the business meeting and lunch at noon. 1:00 guest speaker. Closing prayer at 2:00 pm. Registration fee of \$20.00 is due May 2, 2024. Please make checks payable to St. Thomas Christian Women (STCW), list names of attendees and mail to: Spring Vicariate C/O Tracy Ellis W8645 County Road CS Poynette WI 53955. Questions, please call Alice Reigel at (608)-220-2453



See President's Pen News continued on Page Two!

## United across the Diocese

Plan to Attend!

### PRIEST ORDINATION - June 7, 2024

**ORDINATION:** On Friday, June 7, at 7 pm, the Madison Diocese will be ordaining two deacons to the priesthood at St. Maria Goretti Parish in Madison: Rev. Mr. David Drefcinski and Rev. Mr. Anthony Kersting. Please pray for them as they continue on this journey. **MDCCW will HOST THE RECEPTION** immediately following the ordination. If you are able to help, please contact Linda Ripp. contact information this pg.

### MDCCW CONFERENCE - June 18, 2024

Plan now to attend the MDCCW Conference on Tuesday, June 18, 2024 with an optional social on Monday, June 17 at St James Parish in Madison. The theme is **"The Eucharist: God's Gift of Un-ending Love"**. See page two for more details!

## United in Voice

With the National Council of Catholic Women

### Our Lady of Good Counsel Prayer

Uniting all Councils of Catholic Women is our Patron - the Blessed Virgin Mary. With Mary as our guide and counselor, we keep our prayer and actions in focus with the mission of Jesus. Here is the prayer:

*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.*

*O Mother of Good Counsel, patroness of the National Council of Catholic Women, intercede for us, that we may be wise, courageous and loving leaders of the Church. Help, us dear mother, to know the mind of Jesus, your Son. May the Holy Spirit fill us with reverence for God's creation and compassion for all God's children.*

*May our labors of love on earth enhance the reign of God; and may God's gifts of faith and living hope prepare us for the fullness of the world to come. Amen.*

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](http://www.mdccw.com) and [www.nccw.org](http://www.nccw.org)



## Mark Your Calendars!

**May 4, 15 and 16**

3 separate Vicariate CCW Spring Meetings are being held. See page 1!

**May 16th**

Hope & Healing from

Abortion. A learning session about Project Rachel and Rachel's Vineyard. St. Bernard, Middleton.

**June 7th** Priest Ordination followed by Reception hosted by MDCCW!

**June 18th** MDCCW Conference!

## President's Pen News Continued from Page One!

This year, MDCCW once again distributed "Prayers for Priest" post cards to eager prayer ladies. We handed out 450 cards on Holy Thursday/ Easter week which is a total of 3 cards for each priest and seminarian in the Diocese. Thank you, Mona Matijevich for organizing this project!

Ladies from across the Diocese are invited to assist in hosting the reception following the **Priest's Ordination on June 7th**. The Bishop relies on us and our hospitality to welcome these newly ordained and give them and their families and friends a gracious opportunity to greet them as Priest for the first time! Be a part of this by attending the Ordination, assisting in set-up, serving or clean-up. If you are part of the clean-up effort, you will receive a blessing from one or more of the priests!

**MDCCW CONFERENCE!** With a theme of **"The Eucharist: God's Gift of Unending Love"**, our annual MDCCW Conference on Tuesday, June 18, 2024 is promising to be a full schedule of enlightening speakers including Bishop Donald Hying for our morning Key Note Speaker and Anne Auger, Director of Evangelization for St. Therese of Lisieux-Pastorate in the afternoon. To be held at St. James Parish in Madison as a wonderfully central location, the event will include mass, prayer, lunch, a silent auction, and networking opportunities. A special optional social event will also be held Monday, June 17th for those who wish to extend the joy! More information will be in the MDCCW newsletter which will come out in mid-May, also on the website ( mdccw.com).

**ELECTIONS** will be held during the MDCCW Conference for President-elect and Secretary. Carol Rogers from Fennimore will move up to President. We have one volunteer for a co-President-elect if another lady would share the position (*and move up to President in 2 years*). We are also seeking someone to carry out the duties of Secretary. Please pray over these positions. There is a saying that *"God doesn't call the equipped, but equips those He calls."* If you would like to volunteer for either position or need more information, contact Linda Ripp (linmdccw@gmail.com)

*Linda Ripp*

President of the Madison Diocesan Council of Catholic Women

### Jesus is the Light of the World; May We Become a Light of Hope

*As Catholic women, we are the light of hope with our local parish efforts to uplift the initiatives of the National Council of Catholic Women. We are the voice of Catholic women.*

**See more events on Page Three!**



### Madison Diocesan Council BOARD of DIRECTORS

**President:** Linda Ripp

*From Pastorate 19*

**President Elect:** Carol Rogers

*From Pastorate 4*

**Secretary:** Coreen Marklein

*From Pastorate 7*

**Treasurer:** Patty Spragg

*From Pastorate 7*

**Leadership Commission:**

Sue Barker *From Pastorate 20*

**Spirituality Commission:**

Judy Lyons *From Pastorate 14*

**Service Commission:** VACANT

*From YOUR Pastorate ?*

## SPIRITUALITY

### Faith Finds a Home at Home

The first Rosary my young children owned was a wooden one, big and easy for chubby little fingers to grasp. The wooden Rosary paved the way to other beautiful Rosaries of various colors and sizes, reflecting the uniqueness of each child's faith journey. This May as we honor all mothers, let us offer one additional daily Rosary to Our Blessed Mother, who journeys closely with each of us in our unique struggles. As her small trusting children, we find out on our own individual journeys that indeed the Rosary is the quickest way "To Jesus through Mary."

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



## SPIRITUALITY RESOURCES

### The School of Mary

In 2002, Pope John Paul II called on Catholics and all Christians to pray the Rosary and enter into the "school of Mary", which follows many saints discovering the school of prayer and a source of spiritual blessing by reflecting on the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ through the witness of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

History shows early Christians recited the 150 psalms from the Bible as a way of prayer, which through time, expanded its meditation to the mysteries of the life of Jesus incorporating the Lord's Prayer and the Hail Mary in peaceful rhythmic repetition. The mysteries of the Rosary teach us how to live in our joys, works and even our sorrows, for the salvation of our souls and glory of God.

Find resources at: [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org),  
[www.rosarycenter.org](http://www.rosarycenter.org) [www.marian.org](http://www.marian.org),  
[www.RosaryForTheBishop.org](http://www.RosaryForTheBishop.org)



Happy  
Mother's  
Day!



May 2024

# Connecting Catholic Women with Service!

throughout the Catholic Diocese of Madison Wisconsin



## A MONTH FOR MARY

This year, woven amid the month's Solemnities, Feasts, and Memorials including Ascension of the Lord, Pentecost Sunday and The Most Holy Trinity are days to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary.

**May 13th: Our Lady of Fatima.** In 1917 between May and October, our Lady appeared to 3 shepherd children each month on the 13th encouraging them to pray and left them with 3 secret messages.

**May 20th: The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church.** Mary was officially declared the 'Mother of the Church' in 1964, but early in Christianity, Mary's presence at the foot of the cross of Jesus entrusted her to the disciple whom he loved with the words: "Woman, behold your son". St. John, the other apostles, and Mary gathered in the Upper Room awaiting the descent of the Holy Spirit - the birth of the Church.

**May 31st: The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary.** This feast day commemorates the Virgin Mary's visit to her cousin, Elizabeth in the hill country of Judea. Mary, newly pregnant received news from the Angel Gabriel that her cousin Elizabeth was 6 months pregnant. John the Baptist

### What is a CCW?

'CCW' is a quick and easy way to describe 'COUNCIL of CATHOLIC WOMEN'. It is the Voice of Catholic women.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF  
CATHOLIC WOMEN

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

**President:** Linda Ripp  
From Pastorate 19 :  
Now Holy Cross Pastorate!

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

**Co-President Elects:**  
From your Pastorate?

**Secretary:** Coreen Marklein  
From Pastorate 7:  
Now: St. John Paul II  
Pastorate

**Incoming Secretary:**  
From your Pastorate?

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

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

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

**Service Commission:** VACANT  
From YOUR Pastorate ?

## AROUND THE DIOCESE

Here is a snapshot of the many events and activities being held around the Diocese of Madison.

**May 10th: Diaconate Ordination Mass.** 7pm at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Monona for 3 men: Brad Grobbel, David Jaramillo, & Ryan Ruhle.

**May 12th: Mass and Annual Rosary March** with Bishop Donald J. Hying and Fr. Michael Radowicz at 10am at St. Bernard Parish, 2438 Atwood Ave., Madison. Also live-streamed!

**May 15th: Rural Life Mass and Blessing.** 10:30am at Holy Rosary Church, 104 E. Harriet Street, Darlington. Blessing of farm equipment, animals, seeds and soils will follow mass.

**May 16th: Annual Blue Mass** in honor of First Responders. 6:30pm at St. Bernard Parish, 2438 Atwood Ave., Madison with the Bishop as principal celebrant. Reception follows.

Log onto the Catholic Herald for updates!  
<https://madisoncatholicherald.org>

## LEADERSHIP

### Prayer leads CCW Activities

May, the month of Mary. We honor our Blessed Mother with a May Crowning, processions, rosaries and flowers. Also, the month of First Holy Communion and Confirmation. Any of these activities can be a part of your May activities. Have you thought about how your group will celebrate this year? A public rosary, with your entire congregation invited, is a great way to celebrate May and promote your CCW. This might even be included with the Crowning. Does your parish have an outdoor garden with a statue of Mary? Fresh flowers at this site are always wonderful and another good project to consider. Start your meeting with a prayer at your outdoor Marian shrine!

Has your group ever provided a daily rosary in your parish? Have a different member of the group lead the rosary every day after mass and invite parish members. If you do not have daily mass offer a rosary after all weekend masses. Your rosary might be for a special intention each day: include the success of our June 18 MDCCW Conference and the July National Eucharistic Congress in your requests.

Happy Mother's Day!

Submitted by Sue Barker,  
MDCCW Leadership Commission Chair



## SERVICE Walking with Moms

An active effort is underway throughout the Diocese in the Walking With Moms in Need Program. The Pro-Life Committee of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops has developed extensive educational, pastoral, and action-oriented resources for parish use. Learn how you can engage your parish to be an Island of Mercy in the midst of a sea of indifference by walking with a mom throughout motherhood to help her find the resources she needs.

Subscribe to the monthly newsletter:  
<https://www.walkingwithmoms.com>



Engage your Catholic faith! Plan Now to Attend the many events in May and June!