

**JUNE**

**2024**

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**FROM THE PEN  
OF LINDA RIPP**  
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Catholic Women

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**VOICE  
of the  
SAINTS**

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# 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

This will be my last Pen Newsletter as MDCCW President, but trust the newsletters will continue under incoming President Carol Rogers. It has been an honor to serve as President for the past 2 years. I have enjoyed attending the various Vicariate meetings, Province meetings, NCCW conventions, etc. I've learned a lot and met many amazing people, heard great speakers and saw beautiful Churches and shrines across the Diocese. Thank you for the Opportunity to share CCW with you! I will still be involved with CCW!

I want to say a special Thank you to the MDCCW board: Carol Rogers (President-elect); Coreen Marklein (Secretary); Patty Spragg (Treasurer); Sue Barker/Leadership Chair; Judy Lyons/ Spiritual Chair, Msgr Duane Moellenberndt (Spiritual Advisor) and to the active Vicariate Presidents: Lenny Glover/Columbia North; Kathy Loy/Grant and Jo Heath/Sauk and a special thanks to Joan Pregler for doing my newsletters and Kathy Roelke (St John's/Waunakee CCW President). Thanks for your assistance through the years.

I want to personally invite all of you to attend our MDCCW Conference at St James Parish In Madison . We will have a social on Monday, June 17 with a wine & cheese tasting and light meal. Bring a favorite book or prayer to share. A donation of \$20 is suggested. The MDCCW Conference on Tues-

**See President's Pen News continued on Page Two!**

## United across the Diocese Plan to Attend!

### **PRIEST ORDINATION - June 7th**

**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. Helpers are needed Please contact Linda Ripp. contact information this pg.

### **CATHOLIC WOMEN SOCIAL - June 17th**

Spend a delightful evening with women from across the Diocese for faith-sharing, wine & cheese tasting followed by a light meal. Held 6:30-8:30pm at St. James Church, Madison! See the Spring Issue of the MDCCW Newsletter for registration information.

### **MDCCW CONFERENCE - June 18th**

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 Unending Love"**. See page two for more details!

**HURRY - DEADLINE** to register is JUNE 10th!

## United in Voice

With the National Council of Catholic Women  
**VOCATIONS PURSE CLUB**



The National Council of Catholic Women is dedicated to increasing the number of women entering religious communities by offering financial assistance to religious institutes, providing resources to alleviate educational debt, and seeking contributors to invest in the vital religious life of the Church. Women cannot enter religious life, profess poverty and hold any substantial debt. Funding sources for vocations for women is minimal.

To highlight this particular need, some Councils of Catholic Women host a 'Purse Auction' whereby donated new or vintage purses are auctioned off in a gala affair! Other councils have Silent Auction items, where a basket 'purse' includes a donation to the cause. Creativity knows no bounds in Councils of Catholic Women!

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

## Mark Your Calendars!

### June 7th

Priest Ordination followed by Reception hosted by MDCCW!

### June 17th

MDCCW Women's Social

### June 18th

MDCCW Conference!

### August 13-17th

NCCW Convention, Oklahoma City. Hurry - Registration Deadline is June 14th



**Called to an Encounter With Jesus.**

NCCW Convention 2024  
Oklahoma City  
August 13-17th

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

day, June 18, features Bishop Hying and Anne Auger as the key speakers. The theme for the day is "The Eucharist: God's Gift of Unending Love". The Mass will be concelebrated by Most Rev Bishop Hying, Fr Drew Olson and Msgr. Duane Moellenberndt along with any other parish priests. Along with election of Officers for the MDCCW (See page 3 for our new leaders!), there will be vendors, silent auction items and raffle baskets. The ladies of St James are preparing a delicious lunch.

With its' central location, it should be a little easier to get to. We have 10 rooms reserved at the Clarion Hotel at the Alliant Energy Center/ Rusk Dr. They will have a shuttle service to St James for both the social and conference. It also includes a continental breakfast. The # is 608-284-1234 (incorrect # was in the MDCCW newsletter). See mdccw.com for a registration form or contact me for an email copy.

Thank you to St James for hosting and for everyone that is helping organize the event.

MDCCW is also hosting the Ordination reception on Friday, June 7 at St Maria Goretti. Help is needed for unloading and set-up (about 5:30) and serving and clean-up (8:30-about midnight). Contact Linda (linmdccw@gmail, 608-849-7643) or Coreen at (csmarklein@gmail.com, 608-393-0880) for more info or to volunteer.

Hoping to stay connected in the future and being a part of: **NCCW –the Voice of Catholic Women across the Nation,**

*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.*

## Also coming up: the NCCW CONVENTION

**Called to an Encounter With Jesus - August 13-17, 2024**

Join women across the nation to raise our one voice as Catholic Women for a 4-day exciting gathering featuring daily Holy Mass, renowned speakers, Commission Sessions, Silent Auction, Oklahoma City tours, and election of Officers. Find the schedule and information on each day's events online at [www.nccw.org](http://www.nccw.org) and follow the convention tabs. HURRY - Registration deadline is June 14th.

## SPIRITUALITY

### Faith Finds a Home at Home

My favorite photo illustrating fatherhood is a picture of my oldest daughter, at age two, asleep in the arms of her father at a long wedding celebration. Both are peaceful in a moment contrasted against great excitement around them. During June as we honor our earthly fathers, we must remember that, no matter what is happening around us in our lives, this is the way Our Father in Heaven wants each of us to rest in Him, too -- with trusting childlike peacefulness. Whether or not we are aware of it, Our Father cradles each of us in His loving embrace always.

**By Julianne Nornberg**

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

## The Immaculate Heart of Mary

Devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary immerses one's meditation on the interior life of our Blessed Mother Mary; her joys and sorrows, her virtues and her complete love for her Son Jesus, God the Father and her love for all people. Her mother's heart has compassion on all who call upon her. The appearance of Our Lady of Fatima over 100 years ago voiced the message of hope for world peace by certain actions including reciting the Rosary daily and devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

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



## Thank you Linda Ripp

**Madison Diocesan  
Council of Catholic  
Women**

for your 2 years of  
dedicated service to  
the women of the  
Madison Diocese!



### 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:** Carolyn Zentner  
From Pastorate 17  
Now Nativity of the Lord  
Pastorate  
And Jane Lepeska Grinde  
From Pastorate 22  
Now Our Lady of Guadalupe  
Pastorate

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

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

## SERVICE Booties for Babies



At the Women's Care Center in Madison, a plea was put out to women who knit and crochet, that the center was running low on baby booties. Women who receive a free ultrasound at the center receives a gift bag with one of these precious hand-made baby booties! Holding this gift made with love, the baby becomes real in her heart, and the photo of her unborn baby helps her choose life.

Thank you to all who help this ministry! Want to knit one? Here is the pattern:

### KNITTED BABY BOOTIE PATTERN (for newborn babies)

#### Materials needed:

Two Size 4 knitting needles,  
Baby Soft yarn, 4 oz weight in solid color pairs:  
**pink, blue, yellow, tan, green, white, and also multi color pairs**

#### INSTRUCTIONS:

Measure out a 12-14" long string of yarn. (Called a tail)  
Cast on 32 stitches. Begin knitting, and continue until you have 15 rows. On the knit row, cast off 6 stitches, leaving 26 stitches. Finish knitting the row.

Next is the purl row. Cast off 6, leaving 20 stitches. Continue purling the rest of the row. The next 10 rows you will alternate Knit a row, then Purl a row, beginning with the Knit row.

The next knit row, knit two together, ending with ten stitches on your needle. Final row, purl two together, and you will end up with 5 stitches on your needle. Cut the yarn, leaving another 12" -14" tail.

Using a darning needle, thread the tail of yarn through the eye of the needle. Transfer those 5 stitches from the knitting needle to the darning needle. Pull the 5 stitches tight and put the right sides together.

Begin stitching bootie, starting at the toe, and working up to the cuff. Weave a little of the extra yarn in between the stitches, and cut off the extra. Then take the second tail, and stitch up the heel and along back. When done, turn it inside out again. Turn down the top to make a cuff.

**3-1/4"** is the **Length of Bootie, From Toe to Heel**

## AROUND THE DIOCESE

### Valley of Our Lady Monastery has moved!

After 65 years of Cistercian life for the community of Valley of Our Lady Monastery in Prairie du Sac (Pastorate 8) and a Capital Campaign begun in 2018, the Sisters began a new chapter in the Driftless Region of Hollandale (Pastorate 15).

With help of many volunteers including St. Ambrose students, community items were relocated beginning March 4th, new items were assembled for occupancy by March 8th. The bakery (dedicated to the making of altar breads) was relocated in February to be operational upon move-in.

On April 28th, Bishop Hying blessed the 3 bells: one christened St. Raphael (from the old St. Raphael Cathedral), along with two new bells now named St. Gabriel & St. Michael!

Fundraising continues with sponsorship for chapel-related furnishings, paving and solar array.



See a photographic story on the progress at:  
<https://build.valleyofourlady.org/news/>

## LEADERSHIP NOMINEES For MDCCW

**Carol Rogers** from Grant Vicariate will be the new MDCCW President. She has served on the Diocesan board for a number of years as MDCCW Secretary and President-elect as well as on the Grant Vicariate Board.

**Marie Fleisner** from Watertown is nominated for Secretary. Marie recently moved from the LaCrosse Diocese due to a job change. She was very active on the LaCrosse Diocesan Board for several years. Marie will be a great asset to the Madison Diocese.

**Carolyn Zentner** from Columbia North Vicariate and **Jane Lepeska Grinde** from Madison are both nominated for co-President-elects. Carolyn has been active in Columbia North as an officer and has attended a few NCCW Conventions. Jane is our MDCCW newsletter editor and promotes us with several articles in the Catholic Herald. She is a member of St James/Madison, our host parish. (Her mother, Dorothy Lepeska was past MDCCW President, 1993-1994), which I think is the first mother-daughter pair to be MDCCW Presidents.

By Linda Ripp, MDCCW President

## MDCCW CONFERENCE

### THE EUCHARIST - God's Gift of Unending Love - June 18, 2024

Join women across the Diocese of Madison to unite our voices, collaborate on our mission, attend Holy Mass with our Bishop, and enjoy the Silent Auction and social events. Find everything you need to know online at [www.mdccw.com](http://www.mdccw.com) and in the Spring MDCCW Newsletter!

**HURRY** - Registration deadline is June 10th.