

# Messenger

PBDCCW Newsletter

SPRING 2018

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE 2018**

### **PALM BEACH DIOCESAN TAMMY FARR President**

#### ***“Embracing the Grace, strength, and compassion of Women”***

PBDCCW has been very busy the last few months hosting many successful events.

From the wonderful day we were blessed with at Take a Sister to Lunch, thanks to Roxy and Rita, who did a beautiful job with honoring our Sisters in Christ, and our supreme Chef Father Clem, who made a meal that was magnificent and enjoyed by all.

Onto the Inspirations Fashion Show that was great fun and very profitable. Thank you, Doreen and Reggie, for the wonderful day, and a special thanks to our dynamic models, who totally rocked all the outfits. They had fun with it and looked great too.

This past week I spent two days in Orlando representing PBD at The FCCW Board meeting. This was my first two-day board meeting and WOW what a worth of information was given.

From reports on assisted suicide and how people are choosing this option without really having all the facts about their illnesses, to immigration, where many families are going into hiding for fear of having their families split apart, to Respite making a big come back to help families out, to WUCWO, to Human Trafficking Concerns, making ourselves aware that if you see women with a black dot

in the middle of their palm, she could be a victim, and so much more.

Many spoke about how fantastic and productive Catholic Days at the Capitol was, and what an inspirational mass the red mass was. The dates for CDAC for 2019 are March 26-28.

It was recommending that we all read the book by Pope Francis – Joys of the Gospel during this Lenten season.

The Florida Council of Catholic Women Conference Dates were announced and packets handed out. We will meet in Tallahassee on October 11-14, 2018 to celebrate 50 years of FCCW. The conference will be filled with great speakers, including a young woman who was the victim of Human Trafficking at the age of 8 years old and was rescued a year and a half later. There will be raffles of baskets and a purse auction too. I have a few packets if you are planning to attend or you may also get them on their website: [www.flaccw.org](http://www.flaccw.org)

We will also be nominating a woman for the **OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL AWARD**. I have a few of those packets as well, so if you have a woman you want to nominate for this very special award you can see me to get the packet. All dates must be observed.

Yes, the meeting was a wealth of important information but I must say that the highlight of this meeting was when two of the ladies from Florida that were able to attend the PBDCCW training symposium back in October both came to tell me that it was the best training weekend they have ever had the pleasure to attend. Jean Bazley, the province director even spoke about

our training during the meeting. Thank you, Lena, for doing such great things for council.

Ladies we are doing an amazing job here in PBD and I want to say thank you for all you do. Let's continue to work together to do more amazing things as we continue to embrace the grace, strength and compassion in women everywhere.

May your blessings be abundant.

## **TREASURER**

**ANN BEHAR**

### **Treasurer's Message**

All checks sent to the PBDCCW Treasurer must be made payable to PBDCCW. Please attach a Treasurer's Action Report form, indicate on the check or attach a note, letting me know how to distribute the funds such as OLOGC Club, Scholarship Fund, Burse Fund, etc.

Patti Amann

February to:

Deacon Frank D'Amato

Reggie Murray

### **GET WELL CARDS**

Betty McKinley

Linda Clark

Father Clem

### **SYMPATHY CARDS**

To: Most Rev. William Wack on the death of his father

Mass card for Myrna Wong's Mother

Mass card for Betty McKinley's husband

### **CHRISTMAS CARDS**

Most Reverend Gerald M. Barbarito

Annette Russell

Reverend Clem Hammerschmitt

Maribeth Stewart Blogaslawski

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

**VIVIAN ROGERS**

**November 4, 2017 through January 17, 2018**

### **BIRTHDAY CARDS**

Were sent in November to:

Laurie Ulseth

December to:

Peggy Brown

Navidad (Natty) Perez

Seminarian Maxwell Villwock

January to:

Most Reverend Gerald M. Barbarito

Jean Bazley

### **CARDS AND LETTERS RECEIVED**

Thank you card from:

Elizabeth Thiemann for card and prayers

for her father

Bishop Wack for prayers and card on death of his father

Myrna Wong for Mass Card for her mother

Christmas Card from:

Seminarian Robinson Aza

## **DEANERY REPORTS**

### **CENTRAL DEANERY**

**PAULA BARTO**

**PRESIDENT**

In a couple of months, I will be ending my term as Central Deanery president. I will remain on the Central Deanery board as past president, but obviously at a lesser capacity....one of support.

Even though I was skeptical when I was originally approached for this position, I have come to enjoy my time both working at the Deanery level and being a part of the PBD board. I have been fortunate to have worked under 2 wonderful PBD presidents, and as a result have been exposed to 2 very different leadership styles. I learned from both examples, so thank you for that.

Change is something many of us dread and yet it is part of life that is unavoidable. The next couple of months are a busy time for me, both in my affiliation as well as at the Diocesan level, but I realize that change is coming. Other opportunities have been showing up in my life. Just when I thought I was slowing down, God seems to have other plans for me.

I recently heard a speech given by a young man who was a college football star. He had a moment in a Texas stadium when he realized he was on top of the world. In the next moment, that realization of his dream was shattered, as he was crashed into, causing a severe knee injury. In an instant, his life began a new path. Today he is actively mentoring in a youth program and has become a speaker. It is not what he envisioned for himself, yet his new path is a joyous one. He is happy despite, or maybe because of the change.

For the past couple of years, we have shared a similar path. Now it appears as if there is a fork in the road. I may still see some of you on a regular basis, others on occasion or not at all. I wish for all of you to have peace and happiness, and until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of his hand. Thank you for being a part of my journey.

### **NORTHERN DEANERY**

**DOREEN RECCO**

**PRESIDENT**

Happy New Year! As this President begins to write her report (while waiting in a jury pool room!) she cannot help but reflect on the council year so far. (Waiting to be picked for jury duty can have that effect on you!)

The affiliations of the Northern Deanery have been busy working on Craft Fairs, Fashion Shows, bake sales and cookie sales. They have been at work on service projects collecting food items for Grace Packs, a program that helps alleviate a child going hungry on the weekend when they are not in school, purchasing and preparing gifts for Back to Basics, collecting for Hugs for the Homeless and Water for Life and gathering school supplies for needy children. The Deanery is also accumulating empty prescription bottles to send to Doctors Without Borders. It seems that every time there is a need, the affiliations of the Northern Deanery answer the call willingly and generously.

The ladies had the pleasure of serving our religious sisters at Take a Sister to Lunch in December, and many of us attended the Inspirations Fashion Show and Catholic Days at the Capitol in January and February. We celebrated together at Christmas, cried at loved ones' funerals and prayed for each other during times of illness.

Time and again the women of the Northern Deanery have lived the mission statement to support, empower and educate each other. This President is proud to serve alongside such a wonderful group of dedicated council sisters.

## **SOUTHERN DEANERY**

### **OVEDER REED**

#### **PRESIDENT**

Greetings:

I hope everyone is well and had a Happy New Year. The New Year has been very busy for all the Associates and the Deanery. There was a lot of fund-raising and other activities going on. There is a lot more to come as we come to the end of our year.

I attended an Art Show in January at St. Lucy sponsored by the Knights of Columbus and hosted by the CCW. It was very educational and refreshing to have an opportunity to see such a wonderful collection of art. On January 27, 2018, I attended the Palm Beach Council of Women 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Inspirations Luncheon, Fashion Show and Raffle held at the Legacy Golf and Tennis in Port St. Lucie. It was well attended and everyone had a good time. Then, on January 30 to February 1, 2018, I was in Tallahassee for Catholic Days at the Capital. St. Luke had a birthday party on the 11<sup>th</sup> of February for one of our CCW members who is 100 years old. It is a blessing and I was honored to have been there to help her celebrate such an occasion.

On March 9<sup>th</sup>, I will be attending as a guest, St. Lucy's Annual Fashion Show at the Polo Club of Boca Raton and on March 10<sup>th</sup>, I will be at St. Luke's Day of Reflection.

I am having a fund-raising luncheon on

I would like to thank St. Joseph and Holy Family for inviting me to be their guest at their Fashion Shows!

May you all be blessed with peace and joy! Have a wonderful Easter Season.

March 24<sup>th</sup> at a private home in Lantana with a lovely view of the Intracoastal. Jackie Philippoussi has been kind enough to offer us the use of her home for the event. There is more information to come about the event and I hope to see you there.

PBDCCW Annual Convention is on May 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> and Southern Deanery is responsible for hosting the event. We are still in need of volunteers for miscellaneous printing of the Mass booklet and items that are needed for the weekend. We also need volunteers for the daily drawing. If you think you can help out, call me at 561-628-4158.

I am hoping that I can attend events at the other Associations and I will do all that I can to make that happen. Sometimes it's a little difficult because of scheduling conflicts between events at my church and the other churches.

At our last meeting, Rita said that she could not be responsible for putting the cook book together because she did not feel comfortable with the amount of computer work it involved and I asked if anyone else would be interested in taking over. Nobody responded and I said in so many words that the "Holy Spirit will send someone." Well, he did send someone. Elsie Creegan has volunteered to take on the project and Rita will help her. I hope you don't think that I am out of my mind by talking about the Holy Spirit so much but for some reason in all of my spiritual searching for answers, the Holy Spirit has been the one constant in my darkest hour and keeps me focused. I am compelled to

witness to the goodness of the Holy Spirit.  
May the Spirit be with you.

## **STANDING COMMITTEES**

### **LEADERSHIP**

**Lena Ghaffari**

Soar like an Eagle, Be a Strong and  
Healthy as the live oak, Be Fluid and Flow  
like Water.

How do we do and maintain this? *Simple*,  
through training.

It's the time of year to do budgets, set  
goals for the upcoming year and send your  
team for training!

Training should be built in the budget for  
the officers and standing committee.

- ⌘ Bring your team together
- ⌘ Inspire others with passion
- ⌘ Deliver Results with Love and  
Kindness

Palm Beach Leadership Symposium will  
be September Saturday 15 & Sunday 16,  
2018.

This will be a two-day symposium.  
Information will be available at our 33<sup>rd</sup>  
Annual Convention May 18 and 19, 2018.

This training is open to all members, even  
if you have been to a training session or  
symposium before, you will also benefit  
from many great things. You will learn  
how to wear "different hats" including a  
"listening hat" and many other topics.

1. Improve personal relationship with  
the team and members
2. Keep members and team involved

3. How to use your strength and  
overcome weakness

4. Bond with your council sisters and  
create sisterhood

Looking forward to seeing you all at our  
Palm Beach Leadership Symposium  
September 15 and 16, 2018.

Lead with Love, Passion and Kindness.

May God Always Bless You and give you  
the Wisdom to Serve.

## **LEGISLATION**

**Janet Richards**

### **Catholic Days at the Capitol**

This year we had a full bus transporting us  
to Tallahassee. Yes, there were the usual  
that have faithfully attended this event for  
years, but now we were seeing younger  
faces. What a great opportunity for young  
people to witness our democracy in action.

The Florida Council of Catholic Bishops  
gave us 3 bills to sit down with  
representatives assigned to us.

The first bill on Pregnancy Support  
Services was to support SB444 (Bean); HB  
41 (Toledo). The bill provides the state to  
appropriate 4 million dollars automatically  
in the Florida Statutes. Women can go to  
a Florida Support services center and get  
increased awareness of abortion  
alternatives to ensure authentic  
reproductive choices about their  
pregnancy, even though they may support  
abortion. Also, many women, come to  
these service centers need wellness care

and they can obtain vouchers for this through Medicaid and visit the Florida Department of Health.

The Second bill, McKay Scholarship Program for Students with Disabilities, SB 1080 (Baxley); HB 829 (Plasencia) supports equal opportunity for the disabled in private schools to get the same help that is offered to public schools. Currently, the private student must be transferred to the public school. Short term transfers are often disruptive for the children and their families as well as both the public and private schools.

The Third bill, Death Penalty Repeal SB 1416 (Farmer); HB 6031 (Geller) supports repeal of the death penalty. Over 161 people have been released from death row nationally. Right now, there is a man to be executed on death row for a murder that took place in 1993! There was no evidence that the death penalty deters future crime. Also, the death penalty favors mentally ill and poor prisoners.

Lastly, the Red Mass was well attended but Governor Rick Scott was not in attendance. Many house representatives and senators unfortunately did not attend either. A newly ordained bishop from Austin, Texas, Most Reverend William A. Wack CSC gave the homily and The Most Reverend Thomas G. Wenski, Archbishop of Miami, celebrated mass.

Thank you for the privilege in attending this event.

### **SCHOLARSHIP**

Please share following letter with all your council sisters as it is a great way to see how our hard work makes a difference to those young women who are chosen to receive our

annual High School Scholarship Award.

Dear Mrs. Lawrence,

I hope you had a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! I would like to take this opportunity to thank you from the bottom of my heart for granting me the honor of being Cardinal Newman High School's class of 2021 recipient of the 2017 Palm Beach Diocesan Council of Catholic Women High School Scholarship. This scholarship means so much to me and my family because it allows my brother and I to both remain in the Diocese of Palm Beach Catholic education system.

I am extremely honored and blessed to be rewarded this scholarship. I promise to make you and all the members of the Palm Beach Diocesan Council of Catholic Women proud of me while in high school and my future achievements.

I am very proud to share with you that as a freshman at Cardinal Newman High School, I have successfully made the varsity girls' volleyball team and I am currently playing on the varsity girls' basketball team. I am also a proud member of the Cardinal Newman Key Club and Pre-Med Club. Lastly, I was presented with the first Honors-Gold Crusader achievement and received straight A's with a GPA of 4.22 for the first semester. I attribute part of these achievements to the added confidence that the Council of Catholic Women have given me by awarding me this scholarship.

Thank you again for your generosity in granting me this award as it will clearly assist me with continuing my Catholic faith education and achieving my future goals.

Sincerely,

Isabella Sweet

## SERVICE

### **MILLIE DEL GROSSO**

Wow! When I was asked to serve as PBDCCW Service Chairwoman, I had no idea what a ride I was signing on for. As part of my responsibilities, I represented the women of the Diocese of Palm Beach, and all of the Catholic women of Florida, at the Catholic Social Ministry Gathering in Washington, DC, from February 3-6<sup>th</sup>. Our Florida delegation was just four, but we were a fearsome four – three women and one man.

From Advocacy Training 101 to uplifting celebrations of the Eucharist to inspiring keynote presentations and plenary sessions, one could call this gathering “Catholic Days at the Capitol on STEROIDS”!! With over 500 Catholics in attendance from all over our country plus four foreign countries, diversity was evident all around. I was truly inspired by the number of young people in attendance, as well as the large number of men who are working to make sure our Catholic voices are heard.

The key points which we were tasked to learn about, and then advocate for on Capitol Hill, were the preservation of the domestic social safety net, especially related to health care, nutrition and affordable housing; the preservation of spending on poverty-focused international development, humanitarian accounts, and diplomacy; and support for protection of DACA recipients.

I came away truly inspired, and wishing I were 20-30 years younger as there is just so much work to be done. Thank you, thank you, thank you for sending me where my soul was fed and my spirit was uplifted. I will be working in the coming weeks on some projects which I will present to the Board in which our affiliations can be involved going forward.

Just a quick update, too, on the SNAC program. While the already existing programs are going great guns, at St. Helen we have had difficulty getting families to come on Fridays to pick up the food. We are not giving up, though. I hope, also, that other affiliations are thinking about ways to raise money so that this program can continue throughout our Diocese.

## SPIRITUALITY

### **PEGGY BROWN**

On Saturday 28 October 2017 at the Southern Deanery General Meeting Father Gavin spoke about the importance of practicing our faith not just at mass but in our daily lives. Sometimes as we are busy living our lives we can forget to reach out to those who are in need. Let us pray that we can give of ourselves to those most in need in our church and in our community.

We will continue to close our meetings with Pope Francis’ Prayer for Peace. One of the resolutions adapted at the Convention was to pray this prayer when we gather.

## FCCW NEWS

Florida Council of Catholic Women (FCCW) is embarking on their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. A History Book will be published including all the Diocesan Presidents from our Palm Beach Diocese. Would you consider becoming a Sponsor with the following donation:

Gold Sponsor	\$100.00
Arch Angel	\$50.00
Angel	\$50.00
Cherub	\$10.00

Checks should be made payable to:  
Ellen Bachman

5214 Lansdowne Way  
Palmetto, FL 34221

You could do this in Honor of someone living or deceased. It is a wonderful way to remember and honor our members.

Any profits will be turned over to the Hugs for Homeless whose monies are divided between all 7 Dioceses and given to the Homeless Program that Palm Beach chooses.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### PBDCCW CONFERENCE

Join us for the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Women's Conference April 14<sup>th</sup> at St. Patrick Catholic Church. Judy Hehr, our keynote speaker, will not disappoint. Her website is [www.judyhehr.com](http://www.judyhehr.com). She will speak on "Embracing the Strength of Compassionate Women", and will take us on her personal journey from addiction to freedom and dedication to the Gospel message which led to a Seminary degree and a life of witnessing the infinite love and mercy of God.

The price is \$30.00 until April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Students and Religious, \$15.00. Continental breakfast opens at 8 AM. The conference starts at 9 AM with Adoration and ends at 3 PM sharp; it also includes a chance for confessions, rosary, Mass with the Bishop at 11:30 AM, lunch and opportunities to shop with vendors. Please use the President's packets to solicit sponsors or ads from your local community. In addition,

please have one of your members do the pulpit announcement so all the women will know that it is open to all of them. Registration brochures will be available on our websites [www.pbdccw.org](http://www.pbdccw.org) or [www.diocesepb.org/womensconference](http://www.diocesepb.org/womensconference). Hard copies will be available in the back of the churches (if you ask for them to be placed there). Please be proactive. Please ask for the ad to be put in the bulletin. The diocesan office of communications has sent it to all the churches (or you can do your own). Presidents, please send your affiliation ad as soon as possible to Vivian Rogers. We appreciate all that you do to provide a spiritual and uplifting day to the women of your parish. This is a diocesan event, hosted by the Palm Beach Diocesan Council of Catholic Women.

Contact Patti Amann: 561-662-4780

& [patti229@bellsouth.net](mailto:patti229@bellsouth.net)

OR

Laurie Ulseth: 561-308-5906

& [budleyulseth@bellsouth.net](mailto:budleyulseth@bellsouth.net)

#### **ANNUAL SEMINARIAN LUNCHEON**

**Monday, May 14, 2018**

**St. Matthew Church**

**6090 Hypoluxo Road**

**Lake Worth, Florida**

# PBDCCW CONVENTION

## FINAL EVENT REPORTS

### TAKE A SISTER TO LUNCH December 7, 2017 Final Report

The wonderful event took place at St. Father Clem prepared a scrumptious meal topped off with his delicious cookies. The Northern Deanery ladies assisted him with serving and cleaning. Father Clem had the room set up Friday with the help of Gloria Salzarulo, Rita Gilchrist and Roxy LaChance.

The children's choir from St. Matthews under the capable direction of Debbie Whitlock provided the wonderful entertainment singing everyone's favorite Christmas carols.

Two Jubilarian nominees were present to receive a special certificate honoring them for 50 and 65 years of service. They also were presented with a Christmas plant and a gift bag of goodies with a \$25 gift card. Every Sister was asked to come forward and choose a goodie bag.

22 Tables were set up. We should have assigned table numbers for the Sisters which would have helped ease confusion. Perhaps next year a special table can be assigned for the ladies assisting Father Clem.

Another issue we discovered was not everyone entered from the West door where the registration tables were setup. (following the luncheon calls were made to the contact person from the affiliations to verify the absences)

President Tammy Farr concluded the event by presenting Sister Joan Dawson with a check for \$1000 for their emergency fund account.

We received a heartfelt thank you from Sister Joan Dawson, OSF Episcopal Delegate for Religious. She signed it De.....  
O.....gratias!!

Matthews December 2, 2017. 118 Council Sisters registered for the luncheon and 31 Sisters of Christ. Total Count was 106 Council Sisters and 26 Sister of Christ totaling 132.

Linda Reeves, editor of Florida Catholic, was invited personally but was unable to attend. Terry Gubitosi from St. Matthews took pictures along with Peggy Fallon from St. Christopher.

### INSPIRATIONS FASHION SHOW REPORT FEBRUARY 17, 2018

Reggie Murray  
Doreen Recco

The Inspirations Fashion Show took place on January 27, 2018 at The Legacy Golf and Tennis Club in the PGA at St. Lucie West.

One hundred and twenty-seven women were in attendance (along with Fr. Clem) and were treated to a fun fashion show by Cato's of St. Lucie West. We would like to take this opportunity to thank our models – Dotty Grauso, Roxy La Chance, Annette Sheehan, Roni Decker, Fran Larios and Lena Ghaffari for doing such a professional job. Lena even added a little spice to the “runway” with her enthusiasm and flair!

Again, the photo booth was a hit; and who knew DJ Walt had such a wonderful voice! We had to look twice to make sure it wasn't Frank!!

The affiliations donated baskets for the raffle, each one more beautiful than the next, and as Ann reported, \$1,700.00 was netted for our Council Enrichment Grant program and of course, additional monies went into the operating account. All the baskets arrived early and set up was a lot smoother than last year.

Ads arrived for the program book in a timely fashion and aside from a few “hiccups” the program book went smoothly. Doreen

would like to apologize to Central Deanery and St. Therese for omitting that council from the list. This is her fifth year doing the booklet, and sometimes when you transfer from one year to the next – some things are lost and not picked up on.

Thank you to our President, Tammy, for allowing us to chair this year. As always, it is nerve wracking until the day, but in the end, all went very well!

**PALM BEACH DIOCESAN COUNCIL OF  
CATHOLIC WOMEN**

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2018**

***Embracing the Grace, Strength, and  
Compassion of Women***

**APRIL 2018**

1        **A BLESSED EASTER!**

7        Southern Deanery Spring  
General Meeting / St. Joan of Arc

14       Women of Faith/Women of  
Action Conference

28       Northern Deanery Spring  
General Meeting / Holy Family

**MAY 2018**

6        Marian Festival  
  
Emmanuel Parish, Delray Beach  
  
Bishop Barbarito

14       Seminarian Luncheon  
  
St. Matthew's, Lake Worth

18       PBDCCW Spring Board Meeting

18-19   PBDCCW CONVENTION

Airport Hilton, West Palm Beach

**JUNE 2018**

15       FCCW Summer Board Meeting

**Please refer to the PBDCCW website:**

**[www.PBDCCW.org](http://www.PBDCCW.org) for the following:**

PBDCCW PRAYER LINE

REGISTRATION FORMS

FOR CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

UPCOMING EVENTS

AFFILIATION NEWS

**Webmaster: Doreen Recco**

**[dar554@aol.com](mailto:dar554@aol.com)**

**Website will be updated as needed.....**

**From the desk of Jean Vassallo@  
[javass516aol.com](mailto:javass516aol.com)**

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