

NEW ULM DIOCESAN COUNCIL OF
CATHOLIC WOMEN

Be The Voice of Catholic Women

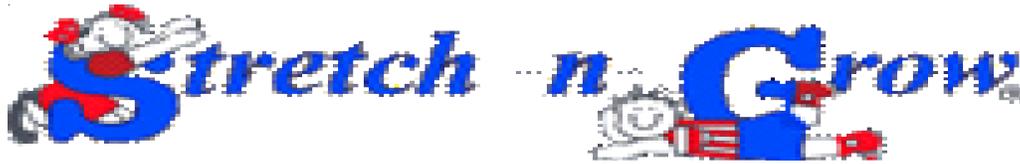
September, 2016

Autumn is Here!



“The Harvest is Plentiful but the Laborers are Few”

Matthew 9:17



GROWING AND STRETCHING WITH YOUR CCW GROUPS

If you are pondering and wondering how to motivate your CCW group, take a walk through the NCCW website (www.nccw.org). There is a great article by Jane Carter from the 2015 NCCW Convention Leadership Commission Workshop.

Three questions were proposed which all of our CCW groups should ponder:

1. What are the obstacles to growth?
2. Where could we expand our efforts?
3. What are some of the successful events or activities of our CCW groups?

Listen to what the women in your parish are saying – Always be open to listening! Some of the ideas that come forth may be unrealistic but some may be worthwhile to grasp and attempt to implement.

Critique all of your CCW sponsored events throughout the year – this is not to tear them apart but to take an honest look at whether it is an event worthwhile continuing or what needs are not being met. Time is valuable so we don't want to waste our time sponsoring an event if the event is not meeting anyone's needs. Remember we are to be an organization that exists to unite women in prayer, study and service.



There is still time!!!!

Visit one of the two locations with the designated HOLY DOORS in our diocese designated by our Bishop to gain extra graces during this Year of Mercy. **Why not plan a CCW pilgrimage this fall before the closing of the Jubilee Year of Mercy?**

The two locations are:

Holy Trinity Cathedral in New Ulm

and

Schoenstatt Chapel at Schoenstatt Retreat Center in Sleepy Eye

Plenary Indulgence Requirements: Sacramentally confess your sins, receive the Holy Eucharist and also pray for the pope's intentions during your visit. Ideally, you would go to confession, receive Communion and perform the indulgence works all on the same day, but it is sufficient that these sacraments and prayers be carried out within 20 days before or after your visit.



ELECTION DAY

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2016

In a radio address from the White House in 1944, President Franklin D. Roosevelt said, *"Nobody will ever deprive the American people of the right to vote except the American people themselves – and the only way they could do that is by not voting at all."*

We face very serious challenges regarding our growing national debt and First Amendment rights of civil and religious liberty – but we do not have to play defense. ***When Christians vote, their faith transforms the future.*** This is not just about the presidential candidates. The Christian vote is equally important in elections for federal, state, and local officials who decide issues of civil and religious freedom every day.

It's hard to believe but there were 25 million registered Christians that did not vote in the 2012 elections. The only way that we as Christians will not be heard is if we don't speak up. SO DON'T FORGET TO VOTE THIS FALL - YOUR VOTE COUNTS!!

PLAN TO ATTEND ONE OF THE FALL GATHERINGS-----

Region Fall CCW Gatherings

Each Gathering will begin with Registration at 5:30 PM, Mass at 6 PM with Meal and Speaker following Mass.

Region 1 Thursday September 15 St Gregory Lafayette
Speaker: **New Ulm Medical Center Hospice**
Theme: **Hospice: An Act of Mercy**

Region 2 Tuesday September 27 St Raphael Springfield
Speaker: **Sue Thayer, Former Manager for Planned Parenthood**
Theme: **The Power of One**

Region 3 Monday September 26 Holy Redeemer Marshall
Speaker: **Les Hichkey – Heartland Girls Ranch**
Theme: **Healing Broken Hearts with Prayer & Mercy**

Region 4 Tuesday October 4 St Michael's Madison
Speaker: **John Verly, Cancer Survivor**
Theme: **I was Loved so that I may Share Love**

Region 5 Monday September 1 Holy Redeemer Renville
Speaker: **Heartland Girls Ranch**
Theme: **Healing Broken Hearts with Prayer & Mercy**

Region 6 Thursday September 22 St Pius X – Glencoe
Speaker: **Kathy Langer, Director of Social Concerns, Catholic Charities in St. Cloud**
Theme: **Mercy in a World of Fear**



Mother Teresa to Be Declared a Saint

Canonization will take place on Sept. 4 in Rome (one day before 19th anniversary of her death) during the Sunday Mass celebrated as part of the Jubilee for workers and volunteers of mercy.



WATCH EWTN FOR COVERAGE OF THE EVENT!

The entire Missionaries of Charity family rejoices and is grateful to Pope Francis for this significant event in its history and in the life of the Church. Mother Teresa's canonization becomes a major event of the Jubilee of Mercy.

Known as the "saint of the gutters" Mother Teresa was revered for ministering to the sick and the dying in some of the world's poorest neighborhoods. Mother Teresa was an icon of God's tender mercy, radiating the light of God's love to so many through the works of mercy, both material and spiritual. From heaven she continues to fulfill her mission as she "lights the light of those in darkness on earth." With her canonization, the Church presents her as a model and intercessor of those who, like her, "long to light the fire of love and peace throughout the world."

She can be taken as a patron saint especially for those who are most in need of God's mercy. May she inspire all of us to continue to live and deepen our awareness of being in need of mercy and our willingness to extend mercy in our communities, in our families and in our service of the poor.

**SAVE THE DATE - SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 2017
ST. MARY'S, SLEEPY EYE, MN
New Ulm Diocesan CCW Convention**



Keynote Speaker - Cari Donaldson

Take a two-income, quasi-New Age, newlywed couple with two Greyhounds and the resolve never to have children or embrace any form of organized religion.

Add ten years of hunger for "something more". What do you get? A large Catholic family, of course.

Through Cari's remarkable tale of her conversion and the peace she's found as a Catholic, you'll be reminded of the many profound, lifelong blessings God gives you through your Faith, and, yes, even through your daily small troubles and unexpected joys.

Cari's tale will lead you to share her conviction that we never know what God has planned for us tomorrow, but, for sure, "it will be better than anything we ourselves could have planned, even in our wildest dreams". You can read about Cari's adventures in her book "**Pope Awesome**".

Sandra Jerzak, our new DCCW 3rd Vice President shares bits & pieces from the Resource and Guidance Trainings held this past summer.

New Ulm Diocesan Council of Catholic Women board led two Resource and Guidance Trainings held on June 6 in Milroy and June 23 in Hutchinson this past summer. Following Mass, the host parish provided an excellent meal. President Ronda Mathiowetz opened the sessions with a warm welcome and then explained the structure of NCCW — outlining the different levels of CCW from the local level up to the international level – parish, region, diocese, province, national board and then explained our participation in the World Union of Catholic Women’s organizations (international).

The whole evening was based on our theme: **“A Million Acts of Mercy”**. Great evenings - sharing good food, meeting new friends, and the opportunity of learning not only about CCW but also faith enrichment.

The NUDCCW board members in attendance introduced themselves and what their main role is on the board. Our diocesan project this year is the Heartland Girls Ranch in rural Swift County just north of Benson, MN. The Heartland ranch provides a structured environment for girls to heal from abuse and provide services to meet the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of the girls.

The Leadership Team of Shirley Nowak, MaryAnn Kramer and Donna Sanders along with Jan Noyes, our Leadership Commission Coordinator, based their presentation on the letters in “ANGELS” - again emphasizing **THE CORPORAL AND SPIRITUAL WORKS OF MERCY**.

ANGELS OF MERCY

A – Activities, Action, Asking...Living for the NOW! It is the “AGE OF MERCY”

N -- Nurture: Care/Attend for Growth and Radiate the Love which Christ given to us. Utilize the resources which were provided in the folder which were given to each attendee for their use.

G – Giving/Volunteering: Get off the couch. God has a mission for you ... no matter what you age is. Get over yourself -- we are to serve others.

E - Educate/Evangelize: Receive the message, process it, live it and share it. Be the eyes, hands and feet of Jesus.

L - Love and learning: Different scripture quotes and stories were shared.

S -Salvation -- what we are all striving to obtain throughout our lives. Angels are messengers of God... He used angels to intervene in the lives of men and women. Our faith is strengthened by what we do for others - our acts of love and without God’s mercy we cannot obtain everlasting salvation. We are to strive to become saints.

Finally, an angel ornament was distributed to all attendees to remind them that they are to be “angels of mercy”.

The evaluations received back from those in attendance were very positive regarding the content of the evening. How to reach women and to encourage participation seems to surface as the most common concern our parish CCW groups face. **IF YOU DID NOT ATTEND ----- YOU WERE MISSED AND YOU MISSED OUT ON A GREAT EVENING!**

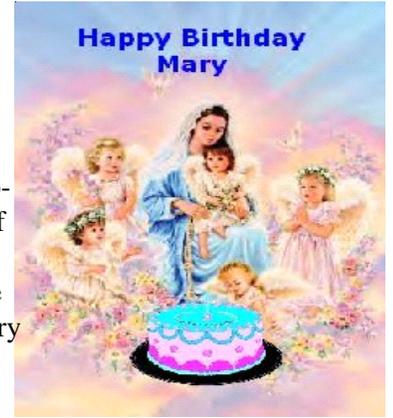
“AMEN, I SAY TO YOU. WHATEVER YOU DID FOR ONE OF THESE LEAST BROTHERS OF MINE, YOU DID FOR ME.”

Matthew 25:40

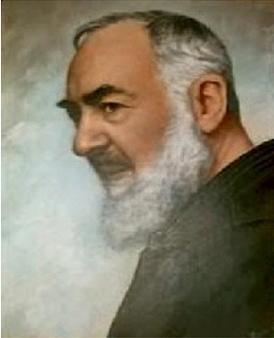


Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary **Feast Day: September 8**

We do not usually celebrate the birthdays of the saints. Instead we celebrate the day they died, because that is the day they were born into the joys of heaven. But the birthday of Mary, our Blessed Mother, is an exception. We do celebrate her birthday because she came into this world full of grace and because she was to be the Mother of Jesus. The birth of Our Lady was like a dawn. When the sky starts to turn a rosy pink early in the morning, we know the sun will soon come up. In the same way, when Mary was born, she brought great happiness to the world. Her birth meant that soon Jesus, the Sun of justice, would appear. Mary was the wonderful



human being whose privilege it was to bring the Lord Jesus to all people. Even today, if we have Mary, we have Jesus. Whoever is very devoted to her is very close to the heart of Jesus. **We can make Mary's birthday special by whispering a Hail Mary often throughout the day.**



St. Pio of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio) **Feast Day: September 23**

He was born to a Southern Italian farm family, the son of Grazio, a shepherd. At age 15 he entered the novitiate of the Capuchin Friars in Morcone and joined the order at age 19. He was ordained at age 22 on August 10, 1910. He received the stigmata on September 20, 1918 while praying before a cross, the first priest ever to be so blessed. As word spread, the priest himself became a point of pilgrimage for both the pious and the curious. He would hear confessions by the hour, reportedly able to read the consciences of those who held back. Founded the House for the Relief of Suffering in 1956, a hospital that serves 60,000 a year. In the 1920's he started a series of prayer groups that continue today with over 400,000 members worldwide. He died September 23, 1968. His body was buried on September 26 in a crypt in the Church of Our Lady of Grace. His Requiem Mass was attended by over 100,000 people. He had often said, "After my death I will do more. My real mission will begin after my death." On June 16, 2002, over 500,000 Padre Pio devotees gathered in Rome to witness Pope John Paul II proclaim Padre Pio, Saint Pio of Pietrelcina. His feast day is September 23rd and is the patron saint of Civil Defense volunteers, Adolescents, Stress Relief and January Blues.

St. Vincent de Paul **Feast Day: September 27**



Vincent de Paul, the son of poor French peasants, was born in 1581. Because he was intelligent, his father sent him to school. After finishing his studies, Vincent became a priest. At first, he was given an important position as the teacher of rich children, and he lived rather comfortably. Then one day, he was called to the side of a dying peasant. Suddenly, Father Vincent realized how badly the poor people of France needed spiritual help. He finally decided to start a congregation of priests to work especially among the poor commonly referred to now as the Vincentians. The charities of St. Vincent de Paul were so many that it seems impossible for one person to have begun so much. He started the Congregation of the Sisters of Charity with St. Louise de Marillac. He opened hospitals and homes for orphans and old people. Vincent de Paul died in Paris on September 27, 1660. He was proclaimed a saint in 1737 by Pope Clement XII. Jesus asks us to be good to others, especially to those who suffer. He says to us too, "As long as you did it to one of the least of my brethren, you did it to me."

St. Vincent de Paul is the patron of all works of charity. The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul, a charitable organization dedicated to the service of the poor, was established by French university students in 1833. The Society is today present in 132 countries.

COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN RECOGNITION SUNDAY

October 9, 2016



Bishop LeVoir signed a proclamation declaring Sunday, October 9, 2016 as CCW Recognition Sunday. Your parish should be receiving a copy of the proclamation in the near future. Are you proud of your CCW and the work that is accomplished during the year? This is your chance to BLOW YOUR HORN and the chance to promote Council in your parish. Check with your pastor and see if you can have the opportunity to explain Council – its mission and goals and give recognition to the work that is being done by your CCW group in the parish. The work that is accomplished by our Councils is very much valued by our Bishop.

Marianne Schotzko, DCCW Spirituality Commission Coordinator, Ronda Mathiowetz, DCCW President and Msgr. Gene Lozinski, DCCW Spirituality Advisor observes while Bishop LeVoir signs the proclamation.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN CONVENTION SEPTEMBER 7-10, 2016



The NCCW Convention is scheduled in Indianapolis, IN from September 7 - 10, 2016. There will be 15 of us traveling to Indianapolis from our diocese for the opportunity to experience beautiful liturgies, reconnect with friends that we have met in past years, make some new friends and listen and grow in knowledge.

Keynote Speakers are:

Judy Hehr: Spirituality Motivator and Inspirational Speaker

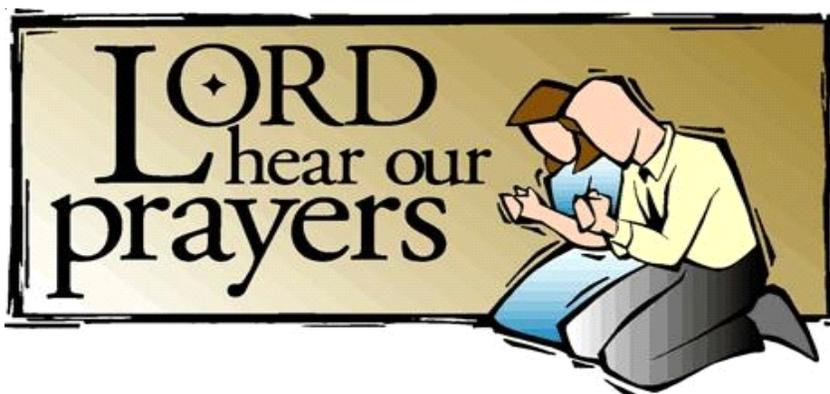
Maria Morera Johnson: is a Catholic Mom, com blogger, cohost of SPQN's Catholic Weekend and a devoted member of her own parish CCW. She is a composition and literature professor and director of English learning support at Georgia Piedmont Technical College, working with non-traditional students in innovative success initiatives.

Sister Donna Makham, OP, PhD: currently is President and CEO of Catholic Charities USA. She is the first woman to hold this position in the organization's 105 year history.

Katarina Rosenblatt, PhD: has a personal story of human trafficking from the time she was just 13 years of age to 17. She was recruited through a friend in her middle school to organized crime trafficking rings with all of her experiences centered in the metropolitan area of Miami, FL.

Also Commission Sessions (Spirituality, Leadership and Service) are scheduled along with a beautiful liturgy everyday. We are all looking forward to attending this convention and returning to share what we have heard and learned. Please pray for safe travels for all of us.

SEPTEMBER PRAYER INTENTIONS



POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR SEPTEMBER:

Universal: Centrality of the Human Person. That each may contribute to the common good and to the building of a society that places the human person at the center.

Evangelization: Mission to Evangelize. That by participating in the Sacraments and meditating on Scripture, Christians may become more aware of their mission to evangelize.

BISHOP'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR SEPTEMBER:

That Catholics would not be afraid to bring the principles of the Catholic faith into the public square.



FROM YOUR EDITOR



Dear Sisters in Christ---

Summer has gone fast and our young people in Cottonwood are back in school. So, too, we should be getting our CCW's back in full force - doing the works of mercy that are so desperately needed in our society.

I thank all of you for your prayers and support while I recovered from my surgery last Spring. I'm not sure I have quite all my energy back yet but working on it. At my last check-up, my doctor indicated that I was cancer-free so we continue to pray that it will not return.

Don't forget to start planning your activities for CCW Recognition Sunday "BLOW YOUR HORN". Make people aware of your CCW group.

Again my request is that you share the information in this newsletter with the women in your parish. Don't let it sit in your computer for your eyes only! Also watch for the our Fall Newsletter which is mailed to each CCW President. It should be mailed in the next week.

I will also be sending it to everyone that I have been given email addresses. My wish that all of you will have a great CCW year!

Blessings,

Donna Sanders
New Ulm DCCW Newsletter Editor

