



THE “LINK”

May 2021

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Happy Easter Ladies!

Yes, it’s still Easter—and I am overjoyed to be celebrating this joyful season with the wonderful ladies of the Archdiocese of Washington! While it has been a challenging year for everyone, CCW-ADW has grown in wonderful ways. We have expanded our website (<https://www.councilofcatholicwomen-adw.com/>), we have offered online faith studies in collaboration with the Archdiocese, and we have kept our monthly Sunday teas going, to name just a few amazing ways we have been part of each other’s lives—even when we could not be physically together.

Our next Virtual Tea is Sunday, May 16. Love flowers? Join us for a virtual tour of the fabulous Franciscan Monastery gardens. Register on page 3.

Election: it is time again to nominate ladies to our executive board in preparation for our upcoming election. We hope you saw our email of April 21 with all the details—there’s a reminder for you on page 4.

Come away for a rest at Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center. Some lovely retreats to choose from on page 5.

Have you prayed the Rosary with us yet? See how to join in on page 6.

Membership: If you’re a member of CCW-ADW, THANK YOU! If you’re not, WE NEED YOU!! We need your support by becoming a paid member. The numbers of paid members makes us a stronger voice when we participate in the NCCW as one of their affiliates. It also helps to keep our bills paid with more paid-up dues. Membership form is on page 8.

In Christ,
Carol-Ann Parker
President

**Council of Catholic Women–
Archdiocese of Washington**
ArchdioceseCCW@gmail.com
Facebook: WashACCW

2019-2021

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BEGINS WEDNESDAY, MAY 5



Catholic
Charities
USA®



Series: Best Practices to Support Families Impacted by Intimate Partner Violence

May 5, May 19, June 2, June 16, 2021 at 3 p.m. Eastern.

Professionals and interested public are invited to this free Webinar series because everyone can help end domestic violence through their professional roles and or personal engagement with their community. The no-cost 1-hour of Continuing Education Credit (CEC) can be granted to licensed counselors and social workers who complete regular requirements.

For more information, contact Vice President Ben Wortham bwortham@catholiccharitiesusa.org

May 5: Best Practices for Supporting Survivors of Domestic Violence/Intimate Partner Violence

An evidenced based screening method for domestic violence and trauma informed interventions will be presented by staff of Catholic Charities Archdiocese of Chicago. A director of a survivors group will share insights. Participants will learn skills to support survivors of domestic violence/intimate partner violence. Register: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2930442993941251852>

May 19: Ways to Help People Who Use Abuse Learn to Change Their Behavior

Founder of *Pax in Familia*, Dr. Christauria Welland, a Catholic psychologist with 25 years of experience working separately with survivors and those who use abuse will share effective strategies that have helped people learn and use peace-based behaviors. Participants will learn skills to help people who want to interact with loved ones in an abuse-free manner. A director from a non-court ordered BIP program will share insights.

Register: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5199628285486277390>

June 2: Effects of Domestic Violence on Children

This presentation will highlight research and interventions for working with children who have witnessed domestic violence in their families. Dr. Mindy Thiel, creator of SafeStart, will describe statistics, major studies and resources. She will share effective treatment interventions from the Montgomery County MD Safe Start Counseling Program for children exposed to domestic violence.

Register: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5828246570898587406>

June 16: How to Help Survivors Assess their Risk of Death (Lethality Assessment)

Laura Yeomans, director of the Archdiocese of Washington's DV Awareness response program, will share how to recognize high lethality domestic violence risks and support survivors doing their own risk assessment. Material is based on the key lethality risk factors developed by Dr. Jackie Campbell of the John Hopkins School of Nursing and the Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence.

Register: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1955352101987553550>

SUNDAY, MAY 16



CCW-ADW Monthly Virtual Tea and Reflection

To celebrate spring, please come join us Sunday, May 16, at 3 p.m. to discover the beautiful treasures of the Franciscan Monastery gardens. The gardens are a lovely example of Pope Francis' *Laudato Si*. Pat Cunniff of the Franciscan Monastery Garden Guild will be our guide in this virtual presentation. **Register for the tea by emailing ArchdioceseCCW@gmail.com.**

Our April tea felt like a mini-retreat, as Lisa Longacre shared the ups and downs of her 500-mile on-foot pilgrimage across the Pyrene mountains along the ancient route to the tomb of St. James the Apostle in Spain. Thank you, Lisa, for your insights and stories of perseverance that led to a total trust in God.

AUGUST 25-28



The National Council of Catholic Women 2021 Convention is August 25-28

Crystal Gateway Marriott
1700 Richmond Highway
(formerly Jefferson Davis Highway)
Arlington, VA 22202

**Registration is expected to open June 1.
We'll keep you posted!**

Check on updates at <https://www.nccw.org/nccw-convention/>

CCW-ADW ELECTIONS

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

It is time for you to seriously consider fuller participation in the Council of Catholic Women.

The Nominating Committee hereby issues its CALL FOR NOMINATIONS.

Bylaws “Section 1: Ballots. Officers shall be elected at the biennial election meeting. A majority of votes cast shall be required to elect each officer.”

The biennial election meeting for 2021 will be held electronically between May 20 and May 27. This means that the ballots will be sent to “members in good standing” (those members who have paid their dues) May 20th and need to be returned by May 27th. President Carol-Ann Parker will preside at a ZOOM business after that to announce the election results and conduct other business as necessary.

This is how we will get to that election.

1. The Nominating Committee is chaired by Sharon A. O’Brien, former CCW-ADW President, with Cheryl Holley, current Vice-president, and Ellen-Jane Pairo, Parliamentarian, working with her.
2. **Nominations are to be sent to Sharon A. O’Brien at ArchdioceseCCW@gmail.com by May 15th.** You may also ask her any questions at that email address.
3. The Nominating Committee will meet to review the nominations and to prepare the ballots.
4. **The ballots will be sent via e-mail to members in good standing on May 20th to be returned by May 27th. (If you are not a member and wish to vote, send in the membership form found on page 8, with dues).**
In recent elections we have not had the need for a secret ballot. All decisions have been made by either voice vote or hand count, neither of which is anonymous. However, the Nominating Committee will do its best to retain the anonymity of the voters.
5. The results will be sent to President Parker who will announce them at a ZOOM business meeting.
6. The following duties of the officers have been abridged from the Bylaws.

Duties of the officers

1. **President:** “The President shall supervise and control all the business and affairs of ACCW, perform all duties incident to the office of the president of an organization, ... shall preside at the annual meeting and all meetings of the members, the Board of Directors, and the Executive Committee. She will act as chief representative of ACCW.”
2. **Vice President:** “The Vice President shall, at the request of the President, or in the President’s absence or during her inability to act, perform the duties and exercise the functions of the President, ... shall have such other powers and perform such other duties as are from time to time assigned to her by the President or the Executive Committee.
3. **Secretary:** “The Secretary shall sign, with the President, such documents as are customarily attested to by the secretary of an organization and shall keep minutes of meetings and forward such notices as may be required pursuant to the provisions of these Bylaws. The Secretary shall keep and file the books, reports, statements, and such other documents and records as may be required or necessary for the conduct of ACCW’s business. The Secretary shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the President or the Executive Committee...”
4. **Treasurer:** “The Treasurer ... shall be responsible for all funds ... of ACCW and for all records pertaining to the same, ...perform such other duties as may be assigned from time to time by the President or the Executive Committee. The Treasurer shall, at least annually, report to the Board and the membership on the financial condition of ACCW.”



Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center

7007 Bradley Boulevard
Bethesda, Maryland 20817
(301) 365-0612

Three to Get Married Marriage Prep

May 6-9 (In-Person Only) / Jun 10-13 (In-Person Only) / Jun 24-27 (Virtual Only)

A Catholic Pre-Cana program for seriously dating and engaged couples. An intensive preparation experience true to the teachings of the Catholic Church. Convenient one-weekend schedule. FOCCUS administration is included. \$315 per couple. Space will be limited and these weekends fill up quickly, so reserve your spot today! Find more information on the website <https://ourladyofbethesda.org/programs/marriage/virtual-marriage-prep>.

Take a Personal “Retreat” Day

May 7 (In-Person Only)

Are your days overcrowded, jam-packed, and busy, busy, busy? Jesus tells you to “Come away with me...” During your personal retreat, from 8:30am-4pm, an experienced retreat director will guide you to a place of rest with Christ. The retreat schedule allows for one-on-one spiritual direction (optional), quiet reflection, Mass, Confession, and Eucharistic Adoration, plus continental breakfast and lunch, so you will be nourished and cared for while Our Lord speaks to your soul about the depths of His love for you. Cost is \$120 per person. Advance registration is required, and registrations will be limited to facilitate appropriate social distancing. Visit www.ourladyofbethesda.org to register and find more dates, or call 301-365-0612.

Marriage Workshop: Strengthening Your Love Marriage Renewal Workshop

May 22-23 (In-Person Only)

A Christ-centered weekend to offer practical tools that can help foster effective communication and emotional closeness in your marriage. Make your marriage thrive, not just survive! The expert speaker team includes Catholic psychologists, therapists, and priests who will offer their expertise and experience, plus they will be on hand the entire weekend to offer individual consultation, upon request. Please note: This is NOT an overnight program. Cost: \$400 per couple. Seating will be limited to facilitate social distancing. See our website for more details about measures to limit exposure to illness, details about the program and links to register: www.ourladyofbethesda.org.

“Come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while.” *Matthew 6:31*

YOUR SUPERPOWERS ARE NEEDED!



Big thanks to the volunteers who keep the gears turning here at CCW-ADW. Not participating yet? Please pray about how you can share what only you can give!

In this “unprecedented time” CCW-ADW has been able to reach and touch the hearts of more Catholic women than ever before, bringing us closer to God and to each other as a Catholic sisterhood. To continue that growth, we need women with foresight, tenacity, and the wisdom to listen. Under the guidance of the Executive Board, many individual women took on one specific task or program to make the past year a success.

Tasks like what?

- First and foremost, be open to being an **officer of CCW-ADW**. Read about the duties on page 4. Many women will mentor you as needed. Email Sharon at ArchdioceseCCW@gmail.com if you'd like to know more.

We need these “superpowers,” too:

- **Join the “list keeper” team**. Helping to keep our email list up to date is a manageable job with a **big** impact!
- Know how to **set up an eventbrite invitation**? With very little time, you can have a big impact on bringing together your Catholic sisters in the Archdiocese.
- **Bake cookies** (or know where to buy good ones)? We'll need those for upcoming in-person gatherings.

Email me at ArchdioceseCCW@gmail.com to learn more! -- Carol-Ann Parker, President

CCW NIGHTLY ROSARY FOR HEALING OF THE CHURCH



**Call in at 8:00 p.m. 7 days a week
605-468-8016, code 357090#**

Since September 2018, the Council of Catholic Women has been hosting a nightly Rosary call for the healing of the Church. We believe that prayer is the foundation of action. We are blessed to have so many faithful callers, like Jackie, who says this about the power of prayer (her inspiration came from Silent Unity):

“I prefer ‘affirmative prayer.’ Rather than begging and beseeching God, affirmative prayer is the method Jesus taught when he said, ‘I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours’ (Mark 11:24).”

“Prayer will help us move forward,” says Sharon O’Brien, CCW’s Immediate Past President. In our effort to connect Catholic Women, we want to thank **Lisa Williams**, Sodality Union President; **Margaret Short** of the Knights of St. John International Supreme Ladies Auxiliary; and **Cynthia Morris** of the Knights of St. Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary for leading our Rosary Call.

All are welcome to participate.

Join us as we read meditations on the Rosary’s mysteries, and pray together every evening at 8:00 pm.

Questions? Email me at ArchdioceseCCW@gmail.com –Carol Monaco, *Spirituality Commission Chair*



Eucharistic Witness

by Carol-Ann Parker

Sometimes I wonder why we bother to do this Catholic thing of going to Mass physically in person. Really why can't I just find a good Mass online and worship at home. Right?

No worries about germs, or wiggling babies (mine of many years ago or my neighbors' of today), and if I can't sing or touch anyone, what the heck is the point?!

The point is the Eucharist! Here is my small Eucharist story.

I spent the month of March in Florida helping my daughter and son-in-law. My daughter can not currently drive due to a medical condition. So I was there to be her own personal driver and general hovering Mom! Due to the same condition, she needed to spend an entire week in the hospital, sitting in a bed 24/7 except to pee, hooked up to monitors.

It was my job to get her there on Monday morning and then be her entertainment committee for that week. Think mentally stressed out and emotionally drained for my daughter, son-in-law, and me! Monday, I got her to the hospital, signed in and into her room, but left her to get myself some lunch. When I returned to her room I saw a purple rosary sitting on her table. In my innocence I asked, "Where did the rosary come from?"

"Sister stopped by and asked me if I would like to pray and receive communion."

"Oh, cool. Did you?"

"Oh yeah. It was quick."

Insert Mom/Me with a happy smile on my face! My child had received an outward sign of God's inward grace! What a wonderful gift from the universal Church (our belief in the Eucharist) and the local church (that makes it possible for Sister to distribute communion every day in the hospital).

It gets even better though, because the next few days I was there and able to receive Jesus/communion/Eucharist with my daughter! During an incredibly stressful time, receiving Jesus as a physical gift helped us both to lay our prayers at Christ's feet.

So, remember, when you can get back to receiving Jesus in person (if you haven't already) it will be worth the trouble of wearing a mask, wiping the pews, and not singing for a little while longer!

JOIN US TODAY!



Individual Membership

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ ZIP _____

Parish _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Individual Membership is only \$25.00 per year.

Make check payable to ACCW.
Send to Kathy Foley, Treasurer
3306 Farthing Drive
Silver Spring, MD 20906

Membership Contact:

Carol-Ann Parker, President

904-699-6255

ArchdioceseCCW@gmail.com



Join us to respond to the needs
of the Church and society
through a focus on spirituality,
leadership, and service.

Membership Benefits

Putting faith into action by:

- ❖ Learning about issues
- ❖ Visits to sacred sites
- ❖ Service projects
- ❖ E-newsletters
- ❖ Facebook group
- ❖ Access to NCCW program information and resources.

Members receive a discount on ACCW sponsored programs.

Join the **National Council of Catholic Women** directly to receive NCCW's *Catholic Woman* magazine with national and international news and inspiring stories. Dues are \$50.00 per year.

Visit www.NCCW.org.