



THE “LINK”

September 2019

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Sisters in Christ:

We had a blast at the National Council of Catholic Women annual convention in Atlanta, August 21–24. Days of prayer, purpose, and fun Catholic sisterhood. More about it on the next page.

We are excited about growing CCW-ADW to connect even more Catholic women in the Archdiocese. **Did you notice the new name?** We’re now “Council of Catholic Women–Archdiocese of Washington.” With the same mission to support Catholic women to grow in spirituality, leadership, and service to all God’s children.

Our new Parish Ambassador program is a great way to make connections. We have had some great response to this. Meet our new Parish Ambassadors on page 10 —I invite you to join them!

Are you a CCW-ADW member yet? If not, this is your personal invitation to make it official. Stay connected with us and with each other by sending the membership info you’ll find on page 11. We’d love you to join us in making a difference!

In Christ,
Carol-Ann Parker
President

**Council of Catholic Women–
Archdiocese of Washington**
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2019-2021
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Leadership: TBD
Province Director
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**Archdiocese of Washington
Liaison**
Deborah McDonald



*Yours truly snaps a selfie with
Convention attendees.*



Convention 2019

LOCAL PERSPECTIVE: FROM THE CCW-ADW PRESIDENT

Sharing with you some of my thoughts about the National Council of Catholic Women's Convention that I have just returned from. We had a group of 5 ladies from CCW-ADW Board in attendance: me, your current president; Carol Monaco, the incoming Province Director; Cindy Perry, out-going Province Director; and two past Presidents, Ellen-Jane Pairo and Sharon A. O'Brien. We also had at least three more ladies from ADW who came just to be part of NCCW. A heartfelt THANK YOU to Cindy Perry, who represented us with intelligence and grace during her two-year term as Province Director.



Cindy Perry, out-going Province Director.

The synopsis shared with us from NCCW follows, but here are a few thoughts that I came away with.

- We had Mass everyday and to hear 500+ voices raised in praise of the Lord was soul stirring!
- To have 5 Bishops in attendance with a whole herd of priests was wonderful. Even more wonderful was acknowledgement from each of the homilists: The women of the Church are amazing! That's us and we are amazing!
- **From the spirituality commission:** Remember when God made us, He declared "it is good." And that we are all made in the image of God. Therefore, we are all good!
 - o When dealing with depression and suicide remember that God always offers His love, to everyone! Listen and offer love to someone who is depressed. It can mean the difference between succumbing to the depression and committing suicide or not.
- **From the Service Commission:** Take good care of the earth. It was a gift from God and it's the only one we've got. Look up Plogging, a Swedish fitness trend that combines running with picking up litter—just one of the ideas they shared to take care of the earth.
- **From the Leadership Commission:** Remember there are many people being used as human chattel through human trafficking and then ask ourselves how we can help them. There are many ideas on the NCCW website to help us do something. The Church teaches that in taking care of Mother earth we need to take care of each other. —Carol-Ann Parker



Left: *Volunteers prepare convention goodie bags at NCCW headquarters in Arlington, Virginia.*
Center: *Exhibitors begin set-up at convention.* Right: *Attendees were greeted with NCCW-logo cookies.*

NATIONAL PERSPECTIVE: FROM THE NCCW

Nearly 700 Catholic women from around the nation gathered in Atlanta to celebrate 99 years of service to the Church.

This year's theme, Caring for God's Creation, showcased NCCW's continuing efforts to address important needs of our times through spirituality, leadership, and service.

Mother Dolores Hart, O.S.B., was awarded the first Honorary Lifetime Membership Award of the National Council of Catholic Women, given to a distinguished American Catholic woman. As a young woman, she made her film debut with Elvis Presley in Paramount's 1957 film *Loving You*. After starring in several Hollywood feature films and Broadway productions, she stunned the world with her decision to enter cloistered religious life. Now prioress of the Abbey of Regina Laudis in Bethlehem, Connecticut, Mother Dolores remains a voting member of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences!



LEFT: Mother Dolores Hart, O.S.B., and CCW-ADW Immediate Past President Sharon A. O'Brien enjoy a light moment at Convention 2019.

RIGHT: Jean Kelly, newly installed President of the National Council of Catholic Women.



2019-2021 NCCW President Jean Kelly was installed at the closing Mass, along with 2019-2021 President-elect Patricia Voorhes, Secretary Tracy Janis, and the Leadership, Spirituality and Service Commission Chairs.

Keynote speaker, The Most Reverend Peter A. Rosazza D.D., Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus, Archdiocese of Hartford, discussed women's response to Pope Francis's plea to save Mother Earth. Other speakers included Kim Michael Polote, Matt Holzmann, and Dan Misleh, founding Executive Director of Catholic Climate Covenant.

NCCW Commissions of Spirituality, Leadership, and Service presented their efforts to combat human trafficking, their work on ways to respond to Pope Francis's call to care for creation, and their new resources such as retreats for those mourning the loss of a family member to suicide.

The Most Reverend Joel Konzen, Auxilliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Atlanta, presided at the Opening Liturgy and **The Most Reverend Jerome ListECKI**, Archbishop of Milwaukee, presided over the Closing Liturgy. Also present at the daily liturgies were the Most Reverend William Wack, CSC, Bishop of Pensacola-Tallahassee and the Most Reverend Peter Rosazza. Forty spiritual advisors of local CCWs were also present at the daily liturgies and attended the annual NCCW Spiritual Advisor luncheon.

The 100th anniversary of the NCCW will be celebrated at the 2020 NCCW Convention to be held August 26-29 in Arlington, Virginia.

Founded at the direction of the US Catholic bishops in 1920, NCCW's mission is to act through its members to support, empower, and educate all Catholic women in spirituality, leadership, and service. NCCW programs respond with Gospel values to the needs of the Church and society in the modern world.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

CCW's Vice President Cheryl Holley was one of three champions of the pro-life cause honored at the Pro-Life Leadership Conference awards dinner in Louisville, Kentucky.



Cheryl's 2019 People of Life award was bestowed by Archbishop Joseph Naumann, chairman of the Committee on Pro-Life Activities of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, for her lifetime contributions to the movement.

The People of Life award recognizes Catholics who have answered the call outlined by Pope Saint John Paul II in *The Gospel of Life (Evangelium Vitae)* by dedicating themselves to pro-life activities and promoting respect for the dignity of the human person. It is bestowed in honor of their significant and longtime contributions to the culture of life.

Over the past three decades, awardee Cheryl Holley has led the way in uniting pro-life communities through ecumenical and multicultural efforts.

Holley is the Director of the Josephite Pastoral Center and she is a board officer of the Gabriel Network, serving children and pregnant women throughout Maryland and Washington, DC. Holley says her passion is “to work with teenage pregnant mothers and to share with them their God-given dignity.” She believes that “education and the knowledge of God’s unending love are the keys to eliminating abortions and sexually transmitted disease.” Her commitment has led her to coordinate two conferences on women’s sexuality and life issues with the Archdiocese of Washington.

Cheryl and her co-awardees join 34 other People of Life award recipients since the Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities established the award in 2007.

Congratulations, Cheryl! May your life-giving work continue to magnify His name.
Article on USCCB website at <http://usccb.org/news/2019/19-144.cfm>

UNPLANNED – THE MOVIE

In other pro-life news, *Unplanned* is now available digitally. You probably know that it's the inspiring true story of one woman's journey of transformation. All Abby Johnson ever wanted to do was help women. As one of the youngest Planned Parenthood clinic directors in the nation, she was involved in upwards of 22,000 abortions and counseled countless women about their reproductive choices. Her passionate belief that women have a right to choose abortion even led her to become a spokesperson for Planned Parenthood, fighting to enact legislation for the cause she so deeply believed in.

Until the day she saw something that changed everything, which led Abby Johnson to join her former enemies at 40 Days For Life, and become one of the most ardent pro-life speakers in America.

To purchase or learn more, visit <https://saintjoe.com/products/unplanned>



SEPTEMBER HAPPENINGS

Begins Thursday, September 19



TASTE is a Catholic Women's Program that stands for Taste And See Take...Eat. It is designed for women wanting to learn more about their Faith and about the Catholic Church. Our speakers are by invitation only and are on fire for the Faith.

Mark your calendar! Our first class is on Thursday September 19, and will be taught by Fr. Larry Swink. We have a wonderful lineup of speakers scheduled for the fall at taste.program.com. The programs are held at a Catholic parish in Laurel, Maryland.

Come and listen to teachers who totally love Jesus and want to share that love with you. The Catholic Faith is so rich and exciting but many of us haven't been taught (or we've forgotten...) the beautiful Truths of our Faith.

A frequent comment by participants is, "I *thought* I was a good Catholic, but this has taught me to truly **love** the Faith." Come learn with us and become excited about the richness of the wonderful gifts that God has bestowed on ALL of us!

The TASTE Program has been designed to take the average Catholic woman and walk her through all the gifts, graces, and unbelievable blessings God has promised. Each week a lesson has been prepared for you to fall completely in love with Jesus and what He did and left for you. YOU are God's masterpiece and He loves you beyond all measure.

Come and learn what being Catholic is all about. Discover the Catechism, the Bible, the Mass and Eucharist, Encyclicals, Church history, the Saints, our Church Fathers ... the list is endless. Develop relationships with Catholic women all striving to love God with their own unique gifts.

If you plan to attend TASTE or wish to receive emails about our programs, please
REGISTER at <https://forms.gle/mrQefQcWp1Zp5a8e9>.

SPIRITUAL DISCUSSION ROUP



“Reclaiming Your Inner Balance” Discussion Group

Carol Monaco, ADW Province Director, and **Rose Folsom**, founder of VirtueConnection.com, will host a series of 4 informal get-togethers in October and November. **And you don't have to leave home to join us!**

“Finding My Inner Balance” is a workshop program to help women deal with the anxieties and pressures of daily living with Mary as our model. It was created by Sister M. Isabel and the Schoenstatt Mothers league. You can check it out at <https://www.findingmyinnerbalance.us/>.

Join Carol and Rose and your spiritual sisters in CCW-ADW on 4 consecutive Sundays at 7:30 pm for an hour of sharing-what's-on-your-heart after watching a 30-minute segment of “Finding My Inner Balance.” For more information, email Carol Monaco at ArchdioceseCCW@gmail.com

Details

Donation: \$10 (the series itself is free; donation to CCW is for the weekly online get-togethers)

Dates: October 27, Nov 3, Nov 10, Nov 17

Time: 7:30-8:30 pm

Where: We will gather online or by phone (your choice of how you join in) to discuss the series “Finding My Inner Balance.”

To claim your spot now, click here: <https://myinnerbalance.eventbrite.com>

Thoughts of Father Kentenich, founder of the Shoенstatt movement, about Womanhood:

In our appearance and behavior we express our attitude of soul – we cannot hide what we are, and as Children of Mary we must study more our model so that we portray the true nature of woman and not a warped creation which stands midway between the two sexes. There is nothing more beautiful, more uplifting, than to see a gracious, dignified and truly feminine woman. How few there really are: I am sure we can all picture perhaps one or the other that we know of, but if we think honestly on this point we must admit that there are but few. Yes, it is something very beautiful to be a woman, but why is it that we find it so hard to be loyal to our essence? If only we could become more ‘task conscious’, more aware of the moral mission which true women have – and as Children of Mary we should outshine all others, for we belong very specially to the Queen of all women... we too should be queenly, should be loyal to the royal in us. This is a life's task, the task of a Child of Mary (1948).

OCTOBER HAPPENINGS

Saturday, October 5



THE
CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY
of AMERICA

Catholics For
Family Peace
Education and Research Initiative

HOST:
Catholics For Family Peace 301-651-8190

SEMINAR: "HOW TO HELP END DV IN
CATHOLIC FAMILIES"

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5 FROM 2:30 PM
TO 4:00 PM

School of Nursing, The Catholic University of America
620 Michigan Ave. NE
Washington, DC 20064

FREE SEMINAR

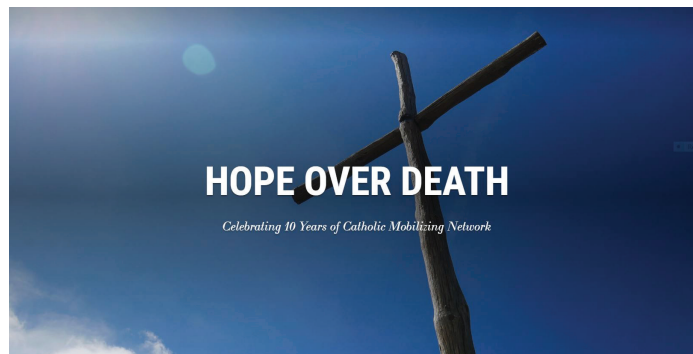
Before the annual Vigil Mass at the Basilica, in observance of Domestic Violence Awareness Month -- Free seminar for clergy, staff, and parishioners in Room 126 Gowan Hall, School of Nursing. Increase your understanding of domestic violence, identify opportunities to address this issue in parishes and in the family, and share ways to respond appropriately when people come to you for help. Fr. Patrick Besel (Archdiocese of Baltimore), Laura Yeomans (Archdiocese of Washington Catholic Charities), and Lauri Przybysz (Catholics For Family Peace).

Call Sharon at 301-651-8190 to attend.

FOLLOWING THE SEMINAR at 5:15 pm

Annual Vigil Mass at the Basilica, in observance of Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Thursday, October 10



Join Catholic Mobilizing Network for a 10th Anniversary Celebration! The reception will be held on World Day Against the Death Penalty, October 10, 2019 from 6:30–9:00 p.m., at the Vatican Embassy in Washington, DC. More information at catholicmobilizing.org

Honorees:

Archbishop Emeritus of Galveston-Houston, Most Reverend Joseph A. Fiorenza

Sr. Helen Prejean, CSJ

Noted anti-death penalty activist and author
of *Dead Man Walking* and *River of Fire*

Learn more and purchase tickets or donate at catholicmobilizing.org/CMN10
www.facebook.com/CMNEndtheDeathPenalty

MORE OCTOBER HAPPENINGS

Monday, October 14

Rose Folsom, founder of VirtueConnection.com, will speak on **“How to Live as a Beloved Daughter of God”** at St. Andrew Apostle in Silver Spring, Maryland, 7:00-7:30 pm, followed by informal discussion and fellowship. \$5 donation to CCW-ADW.



Come for the inspiration—Come for the Catholic sisterhood—Come for the gourmet cookies!

Grab your spot here: <https://beloveddaughter.eventbrite.com>

St. Andrew Apostle | 11600 Kemp Mill Road | Rectory basement meeting room | Silver Spring, MD 20902

Friday evening to Sat afternoon, Oct 18–19



CATHOLIC WOMEN 40+, WELCOME!

4th Annual Fall
Conference
Oct. 18-19, 2019
Arlington, VA

To learn more
about this fun and popular conference:
<https://futurewithhopewomen.com>

To Register:
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2019-future-with-hope-catholic-womens-conference-tickets-64919815917?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>

(Former CCW VP Rose Folsom is speaking this year!)

MORE OCTOBER HAPPENINGS

Saturday, October 26

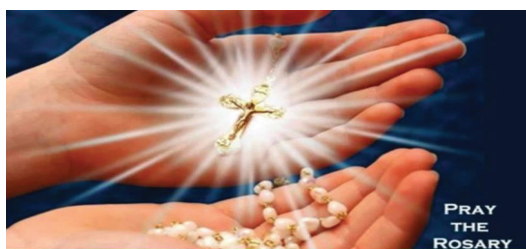
Tickets at encountergrace.co.

Encounter Grace Begin Again ~ Catholic Women's Conference

The Encounter Grace Team will host its first annual Catholic Women's Conference on the beautiful campus of St. Mary's Ryken High School, 22500 Camp Calvert Road, in historic Leonardtown MD, on Saturday, October 26, 2019. The theme of the conference is Begin Again and will feature inspiring and engaging sessions on topics that will help you begin again in mind, body and spirit! Adoration and confession will be available during the event.

Presenters include our keynote speaker, **Laura Kelly Fanucci** (@ThisMessyGrace and www.motheringspirit.com), and breakout session leaders **Dr. Susan Timoney** from The Catholic University of America and **Rev. Scott Woods**, pastor of Saint Peter Claver Catholic Church, St. Inigoes, Maryland.

CCW NIGHTLY ROSARY FOR HEALING OF THE CHURCH



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!! One year praying together!

**Call in at 8:00 p.m. any Monday through Saturday
605-468-8016, code 357090#**

For over a year now, the Council of Catholic Women has been hosting a nightly Rosary call (Mondays through Saturdays at 8:00 p.m.) for the healing of the Church. We believe prayer is the foundation of action.

With the intercession of our Blessed Mother and by the power of the Holy Trinity, praying the Rosary can help restore the Church to a place of safety and moral guidance. The sex abuse scandal has caused "so much pain," said Sharon. "Prayer will help us move forward."

All are welcome to participate. Each night, individuals dial 605-468-8016, ID 357090#, read meditations on the Rosary's mysteries, and pray together. "To be perfectly candid, I'm rather surprised that I am participating in the recitation of the daily Rosary. The Rosary was my least favorite prayer," said Jackie, who participates regularly.

In fact, a core group calls in every night and each night newcomers are welcome. "I feel like I am part of a prayer community. I look forward to it each day," said Terri, who also participates nightly.

Callers also have found a personal healing from the nightly prayer. "I experience a peace after each recitation," said Jackie. The original plan was to host the call for one year until September 4, 2019. As a result of the response, CCW has decided to continue the call for the foreseeable future! –*Carol Monaco, Spirituality Commission Chair*

CCW-ADW PARISH AMBASSADORS



CCW's mission is to connect Catholic women. Our new Parish Ambassador program will help accomplish that. Through the kind help of our Spiritual Advisor Msgr. Robert G. Amey, all 139 Pastors in the Archdiocese (ADW) were asked if they would sponsor one woman to become the Parish Ambassador to CCW for one year.

In order to share more fully in the life of your parishes we need to know what is going on. You, as an Ambassador, would share your Parish activities and accomplishments with CCW so we can then share them throughout the ADW. And you would share CCW's activities with your parish with bulletin announcement and flyers.

If you are reading this, then this call is to you! It will not require any new meetings and only an hour a month. If you are interested in being part of connecting Catholic women, please contact your Pastor and offer to be this year's Ambassador in your parish. If the position has already been filled, contact me to help you discern another opportunity to serve Catholic women. Email me at ArchdioceseCCW@gmail.com or through our Facebook page @WashACCW. *–Carol-Ann Parker, CCW-ADW President*



CCW-ADW Parish Ambassadors

Mary Leibolt—St. Andrew Apostle, Silver Spring, Maryland

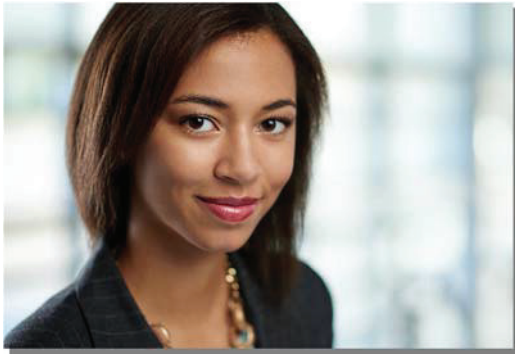
Betty Baklarz—St. Francis Assisi, Derwood, Maryland

Lynda Barbieri-Strain—St. John Vianney Prince Frederick, Maryland

Debra Rausch—St. Nicholas, Laurel, Maryland

Very Rev. Michael Thompson, Pastor—Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Washington, DC.

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



ACCW
WASHINGTON
ARCHDIOCESAN COUNCIL OF
CATHOLIC WOMEN

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.