



# THE “LINK”

September 2021

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

**Summer’s almost over** and CCW-ADW is looking forward to a new season of connecting Catholic women! Be sure to email your event info to us at the address on the blue sidebar.

**Our Lady of Grace Sodality, St. Joseph-Largo** retreat is in October, but the deposit deadline is September 4! See page 10 for details.

**Sisters in the Spirit** annual “Triumph of the Cross” celebration is always greatly anticipated. Be sure to register by September 7. See page 7.

**Cardinal Gregory** will be the featured speaker at the National Press Club Headliners Luncheon on September 8. Details on page 3.

**Virtual Teas** are back! Page 4 has a registration link for our September 19 Zoom presentation, “How to Live as a Beloved Daughter of God.”

**Couldn’t make it to the NCCW convention last week?** We have you covered with a photo essay on pages 5-6. Our website has more photos: <https://www.councilofcatholicwomen-adw.com/>

**Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center** is offering some wonderful programs, including a Personal Day of Retreat. Learn more on page 8.

**Mark you calendar** for the annual Domestic Violence Awareness Mass on October 2. Details on page 9.

**Have you prayed the Rosary with us yet?** We’d love you to join us any evening at 8 pm. Call-in info on page 10.

**Membership:** If you haven’t made it official yet, become a member of CCW-ADW!! The form is on page 12. More paid members give us a stronger voice when we participate in the NCCW on issues like defending life, human trafficking, and climate change that affect the nation and the world.

In Christ,  
*Carol-Ann Parker*  
President

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

2021-2023

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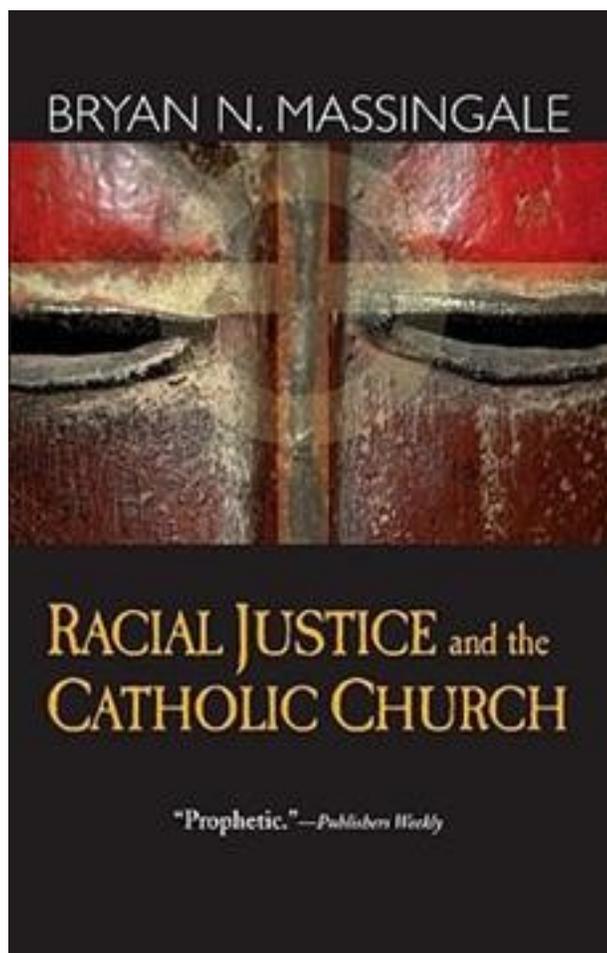
Mary Leibolt



BEGINS SEPTEMBER 19

**Sisters in the Spirit—Archdiocese of Washington**

# *Virtual* **Book Club**



**Starting**

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19TH**

**2PM-3PM**

*MEETING*

*SUNDAY OF EACH WEEK*

**Week 1: - What is Racism?**

**Week 2: An Analysis of  
Catholic Social Teaching on  
Racism**

**Week 3: Toward a More  
Adequate Catholic  
Engagement**

**Week 4: “A Dream Deferred”**

**Week 5: The Vocation of the  
Black Catholic Theologian  
and the Struggle of the Black  
Catholic Community**

**Advance registration is required:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlkc-iopzwpHtHCdfb7I7DS4AvXCe2wQa82>

**Once registered you will receive a confirmation email - please keep the confirmation email (you will not receive a reminder)**

**You may purchase the book Josephite Pastoral Center  
(202-526-9270) / [www.josephitepastoralcenter.org](http://www.josephitepastoralcenter.org) /  
cost \$26.00 (free shipping)**

**For more information contact: [Cynthia Morris—sistersinthspirit@gmail.com](mailto:CynthiaMorris-sistersinthspirit@gmail.com)**

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

THE NATIONAL  
PRESS CLUB

SEPTEMBER  
08



**Wilton Cardinal Gregory**, Seventh Archbishop of Washington and the first African-American Cardinal in the Catholic Church, will speak at a National Press Club in-person Headliners Luncheon on September 8.

**Register** by clicking the “get tickets” button at: <https://www.press.org/events/npc-headliners-luncheon-archbishop-roman-catholic-archdiocese-washington-dc-cardinal-wilton>

**Watch the livestream** at the same link by clicking “livestream” just below the headline.

Lunch will be served in the Ballroom at 12:30 p.m. Remarks begin at 1 p.m., followed by a question-and-answer session ending at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$25 for National Press Club members and \$45 for non-member tickets. For all ticketing-related questions, please email [reservations@press.org](mailto:reservations@press.org). Tickets must be paid for at time of purchase.

To submit a question in advance for the speaker, put GREGORY in the subject line and email to [headliners@press.org](mailto:headliners@press.org). The deadline for submitting questions in advance is 10 a.m. on the day of the luncheon.

Members, guests and visitors are required to show proof of vaccination at the entrance to the Club. This can be a physical copy of your vaccination card or a photo of it on your mobile device. If you cannot show proof of vaccination, you must show a recent negative COVID-19 test (within 72 hours). If you would prefer to upload your vaccination record in advance of the event, you can do so at [www.press.org/vaxpass](https://www.press.org/vaxpass). To read more about Club safety measures, please visit <https://www.press.org/safetyfirst>. The National Press Club is at 529 14th Street, NW (14th and F).



Cardinal Gregory was elevated to the College of Cardinals in November 2020, becoming the highest-ranking African-American Catholic in history. He serves as a close advisor to Pope Francis and is a leading voice in the Catholic Church for racial and social justice, immigration reform, and numerous life issues that challenge our unity in our shared humanity and ability to treat each other with dignity and respect.

In 2002, as president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), he led the church’s response to its clergy sex abuse crisis, presiding over the adoption of the “Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People,” a binding national policy of zero-tolerance in addressing allegations of sexual abuse of minors by Catholic clergy. The Charter also includes guidelines for reconciliation, healing, accountability and prevention of future acts of abuse.

## CCW-ADW VIRTUAL TEA



### CCW-ADW Monthly Virtual Tea

Join us via Zoom on Sunday, September 19 at 3:30 pm, when Rose Folsom, founder of VirtueConnection.com, will present **“Live as a Beloved Daughter of God.”**

The tea will include small group discussions. Register at: <https://belovedwoman.eventbrite.com>

The event is free, but if you make a contribution of any amount to CCW-ADW when you register, you’ll be eligible to win a copy of *A Handbook of Prayers* by James Socias. With hundreds of Catholic prayers, it’s a small book you can slip into any purse. Winner will be announced during the tea!

*“Rest in divine daughterhood.  
God is a Father — your Father!  
Full of warmth and infinite love.”*

Pope Francis



## PRO-LIFE



### Have you heard of the Marian Blue Wave?

It’s a call to Catholics across America to pray a weekly Rosary with the specific intentions of ending all surgical, pill, contraceptive and IVF abortion and shutting down every Planned Parenthood facility in the United States.

Here is the link for more information: <https://marianbluewave.com>

## NCCW CONVENTION AUGUST 24-28



Twelve CCW-ADW members attended the historic convention in Crystal City, Virginia, last week that celebrated the National Council of Catholic Women's first century of leadership, spirituality, and service. Top row, L to R: Carol-Ann Parker, President; Mary Leibolt, Secretary and Webmaster; Sharon Ann O'Brien, Immediate Past President; Rose Folsom, LINK editor and designer; Carla Ferrando-Bowling, Archdiocesan Liaison; Cheryl Holley, Vice President; Cecilia Pairo; Cindy Perry. Bottom row L to R: Ellen-Jane Pairo, Parliamentarian; Shelia Parker, Province Director; Carol Monaco, Spirituality Chair; Bernadette Patrick, Diocese of St. Thomas.

Knights of Columbus Color Guard in the opening ceremony to welcome 475 attendees from around the country.





*Right:* His Eminence Wilton Cardinal Gregory greets Washington-area women after celebrating Mass.



*Left:* Radio personality Gloria Purvis was the convention's Keynote Speaker.

*Bottom:* CCW-ADW was responsible for the Silent Auction that showcased almost 100 donated items and raised over \$7,000 for NCCW. Cindy Perry, co-chair of the auction, stands with some of her crew.

See more photos at <https://www.councilofcatholicwomen-adw.com/>



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11



Sisters in the Spirit – Archdiocese of Washington

20th ANNIVERSARY

*Sisters with Jesus: 20 Years Moving in the Spirit*

TRIUMPH OF THE CROSS CELEBRATION



*Leading with  
Agape Love*

*Keynote Speaker: Dr. Diana Hayes  
Emerita Professor, Systematic Theology  
Georgetown University*



**Saturday – September 11, 2021**

**10 am – 3 pm [Video Presentation at 9:30am]**

**Registration: \$15**

**PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

**To Register:**

**<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/triumph-of-the-cross-leading-with-agape-love-tickets-165974846233>**



For more information contact: Cynthia Morris – [sistersinthespirit@gmail.com](mailto:sistersinthespirit@gmail.com)

**Deadline for Registration: September 7, 2021**

## OUR LADY OF BETHESDA RETREAT HOUSE

### Three to Get Married Marriage Prep



Sep 23-26 (In-Person Only)

Oct 28-31 (In-Person Only)

Nov 11-14 (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-week-end schedule. FOCCUS administration is included. \$315 per couple. Space will be limited and these weekends fill up quickly, so reserve your spot today! [ourladyofbethesda.org/](http://ourladyofbethesda.org/)

### Personal "Retreat" Day



Sep 24 or Oct 29

Are your days overcrowded, jam-packed? From 8:30am-4pm, an experienced retreat director will guide you to a place of rest with Christ. The schedule allows for 1-on-1 spiritual direction (optional), quiet reflection, Mass, Confession, 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. [ourladyofbethesda.org/programs/retreats/personal-retreat-days](http://ourladyofbethesda.org/programs/retreats/personal-retreat-days)

### Women's 3-Day Ignatian Spiritual Exercises Silent Retreat

October 1-3, 2021

If you have never been on a silent retreat or if this is your first time doing the Ignatian spiritual exercises, we recommend the Classic Three Day experience. Great for first-timers and those whose schedules won't allow more than a weekend. Experience the essentials of the Spiritual Exercises as you walk through the dynamics of the Exercises with guided meditations and conferences, and time for personal prayer. Good for those who are learning to incorporate the program of life and a daily prayer routine into daily living. <https://ourladyofbethesda.org/programs/retreats/what-are-spiritual-exercises/classic-3-day-retreat>



**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2**

# VIGIL MASS FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

**Nourish Peace at Home:  
Faith Resources  
for Help and Healing**

**Saturday, October 2, 2021  
4:30 p.m.**

The National Catholic Domestic Violence Awareness Month Partners invite you to a vigil Mass for the 5th Annual Observance of Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

**CELEBRANT**

**Bishop Roy E. Campbell, Jr.**

*Auxiliary Bishop, Archdiocese of Washington*



*Archdiocese of Washington*

**LOCATION**

**Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception (Great Upper Church)**

400 Michigan Avenue, N.E., Washington, DC 20017



**Catholics For  
Family Peace**

Education and Research on Domestic Abuse  
NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR THE FAMILY



**Secretariat of Laity, Marriage,  
Family Life and Youth**

**REGISTRATION FOR RESERVED SEATING IS REQUESTED**

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/mass-in-observance-of-domestic-violence-awareness-month-washington-dc-tickets-154714424007>

This Mass is hosted by a subcommittee of the National Catholic DVAM Partners that is coordinated by Catholics For Family Peace and the USCCB Secretariat of Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth, in collaboration with the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

For more information visit **Catholics For Family Peace** at [catholicsforfamilypeace.org](http://catholicsforfamilypeace.org).

**TUES OCTOBER 12–THURS OCT14**

*Deposit deadline is Saturday, September 4!*



Father Aaron Qureshi  
Catholic Standard photo by Andrew Biraj

**Our Lady of Grace Sodality, St. Joseph–Largo**

is pleased to announce its annual retreat

October 12-14, 2021

The Washington Retreat House

with Father Aaron Qureshi as our Retreat Leader.

3 days, 7 meals, private room with shared bath

Cost \$260.00. Only 40 rooms are available!

Must be vaccinated to attend (bring proof)

**Deposit \$100 by Saturday, September 4 to guarantee your room.**

Make checks payable to St. Joseph Sodality

Mail to: Tracy Scott / 3515 Golden Hill Drive / Mitchellville, MD 20721

Contact: Althea Holland 301.390.0813 or Melody Atkinson 301.641.3893

**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.

“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*

## PONDER WITH MARY



### Are We Listening?

*by Carol Monaco*

In the Transfiguration of Jesus Christ, a voice from Heaven said: “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him” [Matthew 17:5]. Are we listening?

Do we take time out of our busy day to sit in prayerful silence and listen to our Lord? We should welcome the silence and stillness that come to our lives. We can use that quiet time to draw nearer to our Savior. With all the challenges and unrest we face today, we need to be as close as we possibly can to our Lord. Therefore, where are we? The closer we are, the easier it is to listen. The farther away we are, the harder it is to listen.

#### **So What Are We Doing?**

Right now the problems in our world seem to be worsening. Is it because fewer people are listening to our Lord? Consider the saying: when all else fails, follow directions. Time and again, the human race has proven it cannot achieve peace without God’s help.

God tells us to listen to His Son. Jesus Christ has the answers! Christ is the Living Word of God! He gives us the direction we need to live in peace. When we follow our Savior’s teachings and prayerful exercises, we have the fortitude to give voice to faith, hope, and love. Are we listening? Are we following His direction?

To listen, we must be open— “Ephphatha!” That was Christ’s direction when He opened the ears of the deaf man. “He has done all things well. He makes the deaf hear and [the] mute speak” [Mark 7:37]. Yes, Christ does ALL things well. He won’t let us down. We let ourselves down when we do not listen to Him; when we do not trust Him; and when we close ourselves off from Him.

#### **Listen and Believe**

Consider the apostles. They listened. They knew Christ would suffer, die, and rise from the dead. But they still doubted. Jesus rebuked them “for their unbelief and hardness of heart because they had not believed those who saw him after he had been raised” [Mark 16:14]. Hardening of the heart occurs over time and we may not realize it as it happens. All the more reason to stay close to Jesus.

If we find it difficult to be open, Mary our Blessed Mother will help us. Mary listened and believed with a loving heart, opening the way for Christ to be born for our salvation. “Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled,” said Cousin Elizabeth to Mary at the Visitation [Luke 1:45].

Mary shows us when we follow our Lord’s direction we receive graces and blessings that we are meant to share in our daily living. Consider the changing of water into wine at the Wedding Feast at Cana. Mary said to the wine servers, “Do whatever he tells you” [John 2:5]. The wine servers participated in Christ’s first miracle by listening and following Jesus’ instruction just as Mary called on them to do.

In essence Christ gave the early disciples a taste of heaven’s graces. Jesus “so revealed his glory, and his disciples began to believe in him” [John 2:11]. Therefore, let us cast aside our doubts and make room for Jesus in our hearts. Because through Him, with Him and in Him, we have God the Father and Holy Spirit. Then let us listen and do whatever He tells us. Our lives will be better for it. Amen.

*This article was originally published at <https://catholicstand.com/are-we-listening/>*

# 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](mailto: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](http://www.NCCW.org).