



Meet Your Knoxville Diocesan CCW Officers

President: *Pat Ryan is a member of Immaculate Conception parish in Knoxville where she is involved in the women's group, altar society, bereavement committee, quilting bees, and chairs the food committee for the parish annual Irish Fest. She has been a Cantor for over 35 years and is currently a Lector and Eucharist Minister. She is in charge of the Baby Layette Ministry for the Ladies of Charity. She is a native of Michigan and moved to Tennessee in 1970. She has two sons and 7 grandchildren. She is a retired Guidance Counselor.*

Vice President: *Karen Vacaliuc is a member of St. Mary's parish in Oak Ridge where she is involved in CCW, Music Ministry, Respect for Life Ministry, Adoration Chapel, and CCD. She is a native of New Hampshire. In her spare time, she is a Girl Scout Leader, Hospice Volunteer, and designs and makes costumes for the stage productions at Oak Ridge High School. She has three children ages 19, 16 and 12.*

Treasurer: *Treasurer Amelia Sweeney is a member of Holy Cross in Pigeon Forge. Amelia was born and raised in Miami and served 23 years in the Navy, retiring in 2003. She works as a bookkeeper and administrative director for a hotel management company and serves as Treasurer for the Women's Care Center of Sevier County. She enjoys singing, reading, working out and spending time with her family, especially her two sons.*

Secretary: *Secretary Pat Duda is President of her CCW at Holy Trinity in Jefferson City. She will have a busy year being co-chairman of the 2016 KDCCW Convention.*

Corresponding Secretary: *Marilyn Hafner has a special way of remembering and collecting information to send Birthday Cards, Christmas Cards, Get Well Cards, Praying for you cards, Congratulations on Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood. Keeping track of who she has sent all these cards to and who has sent thank you notes that she reads or passes around at our KDCCW Board Meetings.*

Province Director of Louisville: *Helen Davis was installed as NCCW Director of the Province of Louisville at the NCCW Convention in Orlando, September, 2015. She will be serving a two-year term representing the Dioceses of Tennessee and Kentucky on the National Council of Catholic Women Board of Directors. The NCCW Board of Directors meet three times a year where she will report the work we are doing for NCCW and bring back to you Initiatives, Programs and Resources from NCCW.*

Around Our KDCCW Diocese!!

This space will be used to place any announcements or notices that each Deanery would like included in the Dogwood Connection Newsletter. Please forward your announcements to cathyhundley.ccw@gmail.com

Who: Sr. Timothea
What: Psalms Teaching
When: February 9, 2016
Where: St. Therese of Clinton

Please join St. Therese as they have asked Sr. Timothea to present a program on the Psalms the night before Ash Wednesday in the Parish Hall. All are welcome!

St. Mary's CCW of Oak Ridge is also planning a Lenten retreat, or day of reflection, for a soon-to-be-determined Friday in Lent, with our very knowledgeable new pastor, Fr. Brent Shelton, providing insights & discussion. Contact Lynn Christ for the Friday date during Lent. Lynn Christ - lynnchrist4@gmail.com

27th Annual KDCCW Convention Report Pat Duda and Judy Collins, Co-

Chairpersons: *The 27th Annual KDCCW Convention will be hosted by the Five Rivers Deanery at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Jefferson City on April 14, 15, and 16, 2016. Keeping with Pope Francis's Year of Mercy. The theme is "Seeking Grace, Sowing Hope, Sharing Mercy - In Times Such As These." The Five Rivers Deanery Convention Committee and the KDCCW Board have been busy finalizing plans for an exciting convention filled with inspiring and motivating speakers, workshops, celebration of Mass, delicious meals, and a special fun time. We have already contracted our speakers: Beth Mahoney, NCCW Spirituality Commission Chair; Kathy Bonner, Service Commission; and Father Leo Patalinghug, our main presenter: Fr. Leo Patalinghug is a Catholic priest who is a member of Voluntas Dei, a community of consecrated life. He is from Baltimore and is the host and founder of Grace Before Meals, an apostolate to strengthen families and communities around the dinner table. He is an internationally renowned conference speaker, author, TV host of "Savoring Our Faith" on EWTN and radio co-host of "Entertaining Truth" on Sirius XM. His unique background as martial artist and break dancer helps him to connect with people of all ages and backgrounds, appearing on PBS, ABC, CBS and The Food Network, where he defeated a world famous chef in the, "Throw Down! with Bobby Flay." With food, faith, and fun, Fr. Leo hopes to bring people closer together- one meal at a time!*

*Go to the KDCCW.org web site for more information and a registration form.
Early Bird price, \$105, ends March 31, 2016*

2016 NCCW Our Lady of Good Counsel Award

The National Council of Catholic Women's Our Lady of Good Counsel Award recognizes significant and outstanding contributions made by a council woman in the areas of service to the Church, the Council of Catholic Women, her parish, and the community at large.

Please go to the NCCW.org website for Award Criteria, Nomination Deadlines and the Selection Process. The award will be presented at the NCCW 2016 Annual Convention. The award recipient will also be recognized in the monthly e-newsletter NCCW CONNECT, on the NCCW website and in the Catholic Woman magazine following the presentation at convention. ONLY COMPLETE NOMINATION PACKETS CAN BE CONSIDERED

WANTED - Nominations for NCCW Treasurer

Women of poise, character, strength and dedication have served to represent Catholic women nationwide throughout the almost one-hundred-year history of the National Council of Catholic Women. Members of the Nominating Committee seek candidates to represent all members in the office of Treasurer. Information and a nomination form with qualifications and requirements for the position are posted on the NCCW website. Any individual member in good standing may submit a nomination. Members may provide valued assistance by directing suggested candidate names and recommendations to Chair of the Nominating Committee, Catherine Berry, cathy.berry@charter.net, PO Box 3202, Eau Claire, WI 54702-3202. The deadline to receive all nomination applications is March 15, 2015. Please go to the NCCW.org website for the Job Description for Treasurer and the Process to apply.



Pope Francis and the Nuns having fun !!!

SUMMARY OF POPE FRANCIS'S VISIT TO PHILADELPHIA

Mary Catherine Willard Chair, Legislative Commission KDCCW

It is really difficult to put into words the wonderful excitement, inspiration and enlightenment that I experienced on my Pilgrimage to the World Meeting of Families and to see Pope Francis. The four days there - two at the Philadelphia Convention Center and two on the Parkway in Philadelphia - were days that I will never forget.

Philadelphia is the City of Brotherly Love and this was experienced in all of my activities as we went to and from meetings, Eucharistic Celebrations, speeches, etc. The people we met from Philadelphia, the people who worked there, the Security people, the subway people, everyone was so friendly and anxious to assist in any way that they could.

The people that we met from the United States and from all over the world, as we stood or sat shoulder to shoulder and awaited various events, were interested in knowing about us and in telling about their own situation. We met people from Slovenia, Ireland, London, Vietnam, Africa, South America, Canada and numerous places here in the U. S.

My daughter, Jean Asinger from Charlotte, NC, accompanied me on the Pilgrimage. She was wonderful in keeping up with everything for me. She would find a spot for me to sit and she would scout around to get the best place for us to sit for the speeches, to wait for the Pope, etc.

The committee that planned this event did an excellent job in making it possible for everyone to experience each special event. The jombotrons were placed everywhere and made it possible to see and hear all of the events. My daughter had been worried about how we would receive Communion at the Papal Mass. What a sight it was to see the Ministers of the Eucharist coming forward in all directions with the Papal umbrellas and Blessed Eucharist to reach the thousands there.

The most exciting part was seeing Pope Francis as he came to celebrate the Papal Mass. We were about 20 feet away on a hill and could look down and see him as he passed giving his blessing. He had just come from the Grotto where all of the petitions were hung. A lady standing next to us said she was so glad he had stopped because there was a petition there for her 8-month old granddaughter, Maggie, who has some birth defects. I will always remember this little girl.

The Pope's talk on Saturday at the Festival of Families was another highlight. He was so animated and energetic as he spoke of the love God has for each of us and of our families. He did not follow his prepared speech and the interpreter got behind in the translation; but you could not miss the Pope's excitement in telling us of God's love for each of us and how we just need to acknowledge this love in our own lives.

I must also mention the Knights of Columbus who provided the "see-through" back packs for those who attended the World Meeting of Families. We had to have these for our security checks. What a wonderful way to show their support of this event.

The Diocesan staff and volunteers who planned out Pilgrimage did a wonderful job in preparing us for events and in keeping us informed of changes that had to be made. The Priests and Deacons, who accompanied us, kept us involved in a spiritual way as we went to and from Knoxville and to and from events on our buses.

We have been blessed with a wonderful Pope, who desires to come to the people and to be with them in all of their needs. We must thank God for him every day and ask particularly that God will continue to bless him with good health and the stamina to keep up with his duties as he directs the Catholics of the world and the clergy that serve them.

YEAR OF MERCY PRAYER

Prayer of Pope Francis for the Jubilee

**Lord Jesus Christ,
you have taught us to be merciful like the
heavenly Father,
and have told us that whoever sees you sees Him.
Show us your face and we will be saved.
Your loving gaze freed Zacchaeus and Matthew
from being enslaved by money;
the adulteress and Magdalene from seeking happiness
only in created things;
made Peter weep after his betrayal,
and assured Paradise to the repentant thief.
Let us hear, as if addressed to each one of us,
the words that you spoke to the Samaritan woman:
"If you knew the gift of God!"**

**You are the visible face of the invisible Father,
of the God who manifests his power above all by
forgiveness and mercy:
let the Church be your visible face in the world, its
Lord risen and glorified.**

**You willed that your ministers would also be
clothed in weakness
in order that they may feel compassion for those
in ignorance and error:
let everyone who approaches them feel sought
after, loved, and forgiven by God.
Send your Spirit and consecrate every one of us
with its anointing,
so that the Jubilee of Mercy may be a year of grace
from the Lord,
and your Church, with renewed enthusiasm, may
bring good news to the poor,
proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed,
and restore sight to the blind.**

**We ask this of you, Lord Jesus, through the intercession
of Mary, Mother of Mercy; you who live and reign with the Father
and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever.**

Amen.

The December issue of National Geographic magazine features the Blessed Virgin Mary, the World's Most Powerful Woman

Please take a moment to read the article, which is [available online](#) now.

2016 NCCW Convention - Catholic Women: Instruments of Mercy

September 7 - 10, 2016

Indianapolis, IN

More details coming soon at NCCW.org!

Do YOU Want to attend this year's NCCW Convention for FREE

“ONE MEMBER - ONE CHANCE”

Paving NCCW's Future - One Member at a Time

Every member who signs up a new individual NCCW member, gets a chance to win a full registration including banquet and hotel (4 nights) for the 2016 Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana plus up to \$400 to cover your expenses for travel. The more new members you sign up, the more chances you have to win! This is your chance to share your love of NCCW with other women and have a chance to win a fully paid registration for the 2016 NCCW Convention. MUST use this form for the contest and be sure to put your name and email as submitted by. Information and form on the NCCW.org website.

Send payment and form to NCCW by May 15, 2016.

The deadline for NCCW Resolution Submissions is March 7, 2016.

Learn more at NCCW.org - Resolutions tab at the top.

One NCCW Resolution we should all try to adopt and do:

To promote daily praying of the Angelus Prayer for the intention of bringing an end to the persecution of suffering Christians in the Middle East through the powerful intercession of our Blessed Mother, Mary. For centuries, this ancient Marian devotion, in memory of the Incarnation, has been traditionally recited by Catholics across the globe three times a day at 6 a.m., Noon and 6 p.m. -- and most especially at Noon. Help us use the power of prayer to eradicate violence against Christians in the volatile regions of the Middle East, and throughout our world.

- * Pray the Angelus Prayer individually or in groups each day**
- * Share the Angelus with your Bible study, Guild, CCD classes, or any faith-based activity**
- * Join together to pray in one united voice**
- * For more information, see www.nccw.org**

ANGELUS PRAYER

V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary,

R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.

Hail Mary full of grace, the Lord is with thee;

blessed are thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our deaths, Amen.

V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord,

R. Be it done unto me according to Thy word.

Hail Mary...

V. And the Word was made flesh, (bow/genuflect)

R. And dwelt among us.

Hail Mary ...

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God,

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

V. Let us pray.

**R. Pour forth we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts, that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ, Thy Son, was made known by the message of an angel, may by His passion and cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection, through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Present needs of the KDCCW Spirituality Commission Chair:

Lucy Brown

Beginning now and in preparation for the Memorial Mass at Convention, the names of women from each parish who have died between April 1, 2015 and March 31, 2016 must be gathered and emailed to me no later than March 23 so a script can be prepared for each deanery spiritual advisor to read at the Mass. Deanery presidents, please gather those names by contacting each of the church secretaries within your deanery.

(When emailing me your lists, please mark "Memorial Mass Names" in the subject line.) Lucy Brown

Below please find Lucy Brown's article on "The Secret Place"

Lucy is trying to obtain an email list of ladies that would be interested in "The Secret Place" program along with updates. Please send your email to Lucy Brown, KDCCW Spirituality Commission Chair at mellucy1967@yahoo.com to request your email be added.



Coming into the Secret Place

The Secret Place is the place of intimate communion with the Most High, the solitary place of His intimate presence, the place of overshadowing. This is the Secret Place. The place of visitation.

The secret [of the sweet, satisfying companionship] of the Lord have they who fear (revere and worship) Him, and He will show them His covenant and reveal to them its [deep, inner] meaning. Psalm 25:14 Amplified Bible, Classic Edition [AMPC]

[For my determined purpose is] that I may know Him [that I may progressively become more deeply and intimately acquainted with Him, perceiving and recognizing and understanding the wonders of His Person more strongly and more clearly] ...

Philippians 3:10a AMPC

As Catholic Christians we know Jesus in the sacramental mysteries, in the daily Mass readings, the liturgy, the Rosary and other devotional prayers and practices. We know Him in the Mass along with our brothers and sisters in Christ. But do we know Him in His intimate presence when we are by ourselves? Do we know Him in the scriptures ... attentively, lovingly, regularly, obediently?

In John 17 and in Revelation 3:20 we are given His invitation to get to know Him personally. It begins with our “yes” and a willingness to be loved and taught by Him. It is encounter at its highest.

“The Secret Place” is the new KDCCW Spirituality Commission project for 2015 – 2017 developed by KDCCW Spirituality Commission Chair, Lucy Brown, and designed to reinforce one’s faith and enhance spiritual growth toward a deepening personal relationship with Jesus

Christ. "The Secret Place" (now entirely downloadable at <http://www.kdccw.org/commissions.html#>) gives the apologetics and plan for the project as well as helpful aids and selections, some autobiographical information on Lucy and a frame able print that is designed to evoke a positive response from the recipient. Journaling one's progress within his or her journey in prayer and the scriptures will become a joyful part of "The Secret Place."

Deanery and affiliate Presidents and their appointed deanery and affiliate Spirituality Commission Chairs are asked to help their respective constituents to 1) implement "The Secret Place" project, 2) monitor the effectiveness of the program within their affiliates as time goes on and 3) report those results to Lucy.

There will be opportunity in future venues to share some of those results and to add new features to the project. Future recommendations will be available from Lucy through Aimee Place's KDCCW email tree of prayer requests and announcements, the KDCCW.org website and/or personal email from Lucy. If you are not on the KDCCW email tree to receive those email blasts.

Please email Lucy and request placement on her "Secret Place" email list. (mellucy1967@yahoo.com)

†

Invitation

**It is to latticed windows you are
Guiding my attention
Latticed windows, leaded with grace
Catching, prisms morning's dappled
Rays of light
Warming my soul
Easing my body into peace
You call me to this room of meeting
Womb of the morning
Garrison of strength and safety You draw
me into rest**

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("Coming into the Secret Place" by Lucy Brown is adapted from KDCCW Spirituality Commission's downloadable "The Secret Place")

Catholic Prayer: Novena to Our Lady of Lourdes

Description:

This novena prayer, although short is sufficient. It would be better of course to add, if time permits, three Hail Mary's or say five times the Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory be to the Father, or to use some of the many well-loved novena prayers from other sources. Remember that prayers must be said with the lips in order to gain the indulgences.

This novena starts on February 2 and ends on February 11.

Prayer:

O most beautiful lady, who appeared to the humble little Bernadette in the Grotto of Lourdes, look with pitying eye upon the sick and the afflicted. Let me remember to say to you each day as do the pilgrims at Lourdes, "Ave, Ave, Ave Maria."

Our Lady of Lourdes, pray for us.

300 days. S. Pen., Nov. 15, 1927

***Prayer Source: All Day With God by Blanche Jennings Thompson - See more at:
<http://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/prayers/view.cfm?id=1217#sthash.S4YF8NW9.dpuf>***

Family prayer is one of the most fruitful and unifying practices in which we can participate. Every time a family prays together Christ is present. This wonderful and powerful opportunity should be an everyday occurrence in our homes. - See more at:

<http://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/prayers/#sthash.FSC4HzNy.dpuf>

Knoxville Diocesan Council of Catholic Women

Service Hours April 1, 2015---March 31, 2016

SOMETHING NEW! SOMETHING EXCITING!

SOMETHING THAT INVOLVES EVERY WOMAN IN YOUR COUNCIL!

Time is a most valuable resource----let's show our Bishop and our Pastors, in a concrete way, exactly how valuable our time is! This year, at our 21st Annual KDCCW Convention, I would like to present a "check" to Bishop Stika, representing all the money that is SAVED by our parishes through the volunteer service we, as CCW, provide.

- ***Do you provide laundering services for liturgical linens?***
- ***Do you make or personalize stoles for Baptism and/or Confirmation?***
- ***Do you make Altar Cloths, Banners, Clergy Stoles, or other Vestments?***
- ***Do you clean the altar or sanctuary every week?***
- ***Do you arrange and/or care for the flowers? Weekly?***
- ***Do you cook and serve meals after funerals? How many do you serve?***
- ***Do you provide food for parish celebrations? Estimate the number served.***
- ***Do you sell arts and crafts and donate the profits to the parish or parochial school?***
- ***Do you mow the lawn or tend the gardens on the parish grounds?***
- ***Do you care for and clean the parish kitchen? How often?***
- ***Do you clean the parish hall, restrooms, vestibule, or other parish property?***
- ***Do you provide workers for the parish food pantry, thrift store or religious articles store?***
- ***Do you plan and/or decorate the sanctuary for holidays?***
- ***Do you host welcome gatherings for newcomers? Provide gift baskets?***
- ***Do you volunteer in the parish office? Number of hours and days.***
- ***Do you volunteer in religious education or youth ministry?***
- ***Do you provide administrative support to the parish or parochial school?***
- ***Do you teach English as a second language (ESL) classes?***
- ***Do you shop for the parish food pantry or parish receptions?***
- ***Do you babysit for parish functions or adult classes (RCIA?)***
- ***Do you edit the newsletter or help with the mailing?***
- ***Do you count the money from the Sunday collections?***
- ***Do you paint or make curtains for parish facilities?***

Brainstorm with your board members and add to this list!

Estimate the number of hours given in each category, and the number of members who participate. Think in terms of ONE MONTH....then multiply by 12!

Example--babysit for Adult Ed Class 2 hrs week, X 4 wks= 8 hrs/month X 12 months = 96 hrs. CCW members provide care in teams of "2" so the total for this one service is 192 hours. Estimated cost of hiring child care workers---\$10/hr per employee---so this one service saves the parish \$1, 920 per year!

Information provided for our use by Jane Carter, jcarter@att.net

Knoxville Diocesan Council of Catholic Women

SERVICE HOURS NEEDED! SERVICE HOURS NEEDED! SERVICE HOURS NEEDED!

Dear Affiliate Presidents,

As Convention time approaches, so does date for the annual COLLECTION of SERVICE HOURS! As you know, we record service hours from April 1---March 31. Each year, the affiliate presidents are asked to submit the total number of hours of service performed by the dedicated women of their Council of Catholic Women. Many affiliates have been tracking hours monthly throughout the year. Some will have to sit down and count them all--- whatever the process, we need the input of EVERY AFFILIATE to give the truest results.

THIS CANNOT BE DONE WITHOUT YOUR HELP!

Please, commit to taking the time needed to gather the hours and report them.

TELL YOUR BOARD NOW.....don't wait until March 31.

- **Use the flyer contained in this letter. If you need a copy as an email attachment, let me know.**
- **Put a note in the bulletin for all your members.**
- **Use your telephone chain/email network to remind weekly.**
- **Call key people if you do not hear from them----we need EVERYONE's input!**
- **It's ok to take one month and multiply by 12, guesstimate and don't forget PREPARATION, PLANNING, SETTING UP, CLEANING UP, and PR—all those hours count as service.**
- **Mention that adding it all up can be a LENTEN SACRIFICE!!**

Great information supplied for our use by Jane Carter,

General Comments:

I would like to thank all the ladies that submitted articles for this newsletter, look for more to come!

Please send any information you would like to add to the Dogwood Connection to cathyhundley.ccw@gmail.com as soon as possible.

The next Dogwood Connection will go out March 2016.

I would like to feature one Affiliate each newsletter. If you and your Parish would like to be our first affiliate, please contact me. I can send you some questions or you can write an article regarding your parish for us.

Any news concerning your parish or parish activities that you would like to put in the newsletter please forward that to me by the end of February 2016.

We would be happy to include it in our "Around our KDCCW Diocese"

As the months go by you will also see several different looks of the Dogwood Connection Newsletter so please bear with me, but I really wanted to just get this to everyone as soon as possible. If I kept delaying it, I knew I would never get it out. As Pat Ryan told me, just put something together and send it out. Work on it as an ongoing project to change and perfect.

In order to make this Newsletter our own, we need to have articles, or even just your input on things going on around us and in our Parish.

Let's work together to make this a really good Dogwood Connection!

Please submit any suggestions you may have to make our Newsletter better, or anything that you would like to see in or out of it.

God Bless,

***Cathy Hundley
KDCCW Publicity Chair
cathyhundley.ccw@gmail.com***