

NCCW Convention, September 2016 Indianapolis, IN

Submitted by Karen Vacaliuc, KDCCW Vice President

Thursday, September 8th

Leadership Commission (Lindamarie Richardson Kelly)

- Everything starts at the parish level
- Vocation Purse Club
- NCCW history to newcomers
 - Common voice
 - Representation of all Catholic women
- Implementation of Junior CCW to bring in High School and College aged young women
- Jane Carter (cheerleader) told us to Inform, Inspire and Ignite => transform vision into reality

Service Commission (Chris Heiderscheidt)

- 3 fold focus: Human Trafficking, Immigration, and Respite
- Fruit of faith is love, fruit of love is service. ~St. Teresa of Calcutta
- Human Trafficking (Chris, great speaker)
 - Shocking statistics: 26% of those trafficked are children, 55% are women and children
 - While smuggling is a movement of people/goods across international borders, trafficking does not necessarily move people, but rather exploit them for labor and/or services
 - www.polarisproject.org
 - Flyer available on NCCW website (under the Service Commission section), printable and downloadable. It is a great and easy thing to do, put up in bathrooms (stalls) along highways and rest areas.
- Immigration (Olga Dickenson)
 - Holy family is our first and best example of immigrants
 - Caused by political unrest and fear
 - We are desensitized by what's going on in our world
 - Our job is to defend the innocent and homeless
 - We need to be politically incorrect if necessary
 - In the immigrant, the migrant and the refugee we must see Christ
- Respite (Diane Tugander)
 - Keeping elderly in our community
 - Meeting their spiritual and physical needs
 - Need volunteers, training and a way to keep the programs going

Opening Liturgy

Celebrant: Most Reverend Joseph Tobin, Archbishop of Indianapolis, IN

- Birth of the Virgin Mary
- As we honor the Mother of Jesus, honoring her brings honor to Him
- Oddly enough, in the genealogy of Jesus, we are following the lineage of Joseph
- In the genealogy, we encounter interesting women like Tamar, Rahab, Ruth
- God is with us, despite our less than noble lineages or history
- Our messy and ugly past has shaped us to who/where we are
- In Mary, we also find hope in our messy world, and she points us to Jesus the face of the Father's Mercy

Friday, September 9th

Maria Morera Johnson (great speaker) Befriending the Saints: An Exercise in Mercy

- Relational, we talk to each other, we make eye contact, we have to give mercy as we want to receive it
- “I can give them the look of love which they crave.” (Pope Benedict XVI)
- Our wants/desires v. God’s Plan
- Sister Blandina Segale
 - Sent to Trinidad CO to found hospitals and schools
 - Brought forgiveness between victims and perpetrator of a murder
 - Story of mercy
- St. Philip Neri
 - Instrument of mercy through sacrament of reconciliation
 - Made the penitent walk around town carrying his cat
- Trip to Cuba, when Pope Francis was there
 - Thought that she was going there to share her works of mercy with others
 - But was floored when the graces kept coming to her, she received more mercies than she gave

Judy Hehr A Slave in her kingdom to a servant in His

- In every aspect of her life, her desire to control led to enslavement
- A desire to be seen, known and loved led her to paths of destruction
- We believe the lies that we tell ourselves
- Deformed and malformed conscience v. informed and well-formed conscience
- We have no periods at the end of our story, just commas
- I turned my mess into a message

Liturgy for Deceased NCCW Members

Celebrant: Most Reverend Gregory Parkes, Bishop of Pensacola/Tallahassee and NCCW Episcopal Liaison

- Feast of St. Peter Claver, a servant of mercy
- Webster’s definition
 - A kind or forgiving treatment of one who could be treated harshly
 - Kindness of help given to those in desperate situations
- If we are instruments of mercy we should embrace both definitions
- St. Peter Claver, welcomed slave population in Columbia
- He was a “slave to the slaves”, ministering to them, meeting their needs, and offering mercy
- He used a tri-fold of mercy: compassion, inclusion, and accompaniment
- Baptized over 300,000 people in his lifetime

Business Meeting

- All resolutions passed with few changes in the wording
- Over 600+ attendees at the convention
- Fr. Richard Dawson from FL Diocese is the new head of Spiritual Advisors
- Nominations for officers for upcoming year: President Elect, Secretary and Nominating Committee

Province Dinner at Palamino’s

- Nice dinner and good conversation, over 30 in attendance

Saturday, September 10th

Katariina Rosenblatt There is HOPE for Me

- Survivor of human trafficking
- Always meeting people who deny that trafficking happens in their community/country
- Recruited by an older girl
- Most young girls are targeted at age 12-14 and groomed into the field
- Much like the boy soldiers in Africa
- The grooming period for those targeted is one month
- In essence, they are lost children, they are innocent
- 1 in 3 kids are targeted via social media into trafficking
- Drugs are the gateway to trafficking

Linda Clark, Leadership Training and Development (LTD)

Reports of Commissions & Committees

Closing Liturgy

Celebrant: Most Reverend Joseph Kurtz, Archbishop of Louisville & Chairman of the USCCB

- Mentioned his beginnings in Knoxville
- Gospel readings focused on lost sheep, lost coin, and lost son