

Spirituality Commission Chair Report

KCCW Board Meeting September 29, 2018

Sister John Catherine, O.P.

The CCW Convention was a great opportunity to share with women from all over the diocese some beautiful elements of Catholic spirituality. I was touched by how ready women were to exercise their spiritual motherhood by praying for our priests. We spent our budget on lovely holy cards and copies of the Divine Mercy novena. Nearly everything went, including many gently used holy cards that had come down through the ages with the job. We gave away many Complementary Magnificats and copies of the Our Lady, Undoer of Knots novena. The Angelus holy cards were donated, and I was especially happy to distribute them, as I understand that praying the Angelus has been a renewed focus for the CCW in recent years. Sr. Mary Rebekah did a great job decorating the board for our booth.

Last year we focused on Our Lady of Fatima's message, highlighting Eucharistic devotion, devotion to Our Lady, and prayer for peace. This year, I would like to focus our reflections on the LORD's mercy. It is into just such challenging times as these that the LORD sends great saints. Surely, He is pouring His grace upon us to transform us into the saints His Church so needs. So many of us want to do something, but we can feel powerless in the face of so much that seems out of our control. We do not always see how God can work in us. We are small, but He is mighty, and He can do great things in us. I would like to call us to focus on the Divine Mercy—on the image and chaplet given to St. Faustina, and also the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Closely tied to this is the call to do penance and offer acts of reparation for all the sins that so grieve His Sacred Heart as we beg His light and grace for ourselves and those in authority over us. To focus on Divine Mercy is to open ourselves to grow in trust and confidence in God. Relying on ourselves we have nothing. Relying on Him gives us ever-growing strength.

Many of last year's reflections drew on the work of Fr. Jacques Phillipe. Father will be speaking at All Saints in Knoxville February 28-March 3. I hope we all get invited.