



KDCCW members serve family, community and the world one project at a time!

Service Commission
Report to KDCCW Board
January 11, 2020

I am aware of a total of 538 **Boxes of Joy**, a project of Cross Catholic Outreach (one of our NCCW partners) being sent from the 3 drop off centers in the Knoxville Diocese. Boxes are filled in a variety of ways--gift cards and cash are collected and a committee purchases items so that all boxes are similar; boxes are available for parishioners to pick up and fill; items are available to add to boxes from freebies, such as pens, paper, holy cards, rosaries, small toys, items of clothing. Each box from ICC contains a homemade dress for girls or shorts for boys. Thank you to all affiliates and individuals who participated! For information: <https://crosscatholic.org/box-of-joy/>



Save your canceled stamps By saving canceled stamps, you can contribute to the Sisters of the Holy Cross Ministry with the Poor. The sisters remove the stamps from the envelope paper, sort them and sell them to brokers and collectors. The proceeds benefit their ministries, helping those in need around the world. Invite your friends, family and co-workers to save stamps, too! Save stamps that have their perforations intact, are not too heavily canceled, and are not torn, cut or stained. Leave at least 1/4 inch on each side of the stamp when cutting it from the envelope. Each affiliate **designate a STAMP COLLECTOR** who will gather, check and mail stamps to: Stamp Room, Sisters of the Holy Cross; 100 Augusta Hall-St Mary's; Notre Dame, IN 46556-5002



Evangelize: Do you request stamps with religious art for all those Christmas cards and other snail mail?

National **Human Trafficking** Awareness Day is observed on January 11. In the US, beginning in 2020, each January has been designated National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month. February 8 has been designated by the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace and the International Union of Superiors General as an annual day of prayer and awareness against human trafficking. February 8 is the feast day of St. Josephine Bakhita, who was kidnapped as a child and sold into slavery in Sudan and Italy. The school that KDCCW had built in Southern Sudan is named for St Bakhita, so we have a very special connection to her.



Please encourage your Councils to continue to participate in the NCCW national five-part program (<https://www.nccw.org/commissionscommittees/>) against human trafficking. There are many resources on the Internet, including Catholic Relief Services which has prayer, a solidarity walk, a video and more (<https://www.crs.org/resource-center/human-trafficking>) concerning human trafficking. This walk would make a great council meeting on Feb. 8. USCCB has the *2020 National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month & Day of Prayer Toolkit* http://www.usccb.org/cs_upload/about/anti-trafficking-program/248873_3.pdf . These 3 resources are free to use by all so spread the word to affiliates and other community groups.

Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle! From Pat Ryan, our Province Director: I would personally ask that all affiliates select a project, an activity, or a program that deals with ways that we as individuals and/or church leaders can help save our environment. God has given us this beautiful earth to care for and we throughout the years have done a very poor job. Sometimes small things working together can become something big. I would like very much to document the environmental friendly activities that we have done on all levels from the affiliate to the province level.

St Joseph CCW, Norris requested our Parish Pastoral Council to eliminate the use of Styrofoam in our parish kitchen which is happening. There are so many ideas that every affiliate should choose several. **Reduce** means don't buy it; use less of everything possible; use less energy and water. If it is not purchased, it won't be manufactured which really helps the earth. **Reuse**- you might fill your needs from your parish yard sale or Catholic Charities thrift shops, create rugs from old clothing or children's clothing from adult clothing. **Recycle**-sell on Craigslist, donates to non-profit thrift shops, use your local recycling bins, but do follow explicitly the directions or the whole truckload may go to the landfill.

Begin preparing for **Earth Day 2020** which is the 50th Anniversary! <https://www.earthday.org/earth-day-2020/>



Did you receive **extra 2020 calendars** from organizations? Often local nursing homes like one for each client. In addition to calendars, there are pens, mittens, dream catchers, holy cards and more that arrives in the mail from organizations--just match unwanted items to a group that can use them. By law, you **DO NOT NEED TO SEND CONTRIBUTIONS FOR UNSOLICITED ITEMS** and they are yours to keep.

There are so many groups that CCW affiliates and individuals can support with prayer and service projects:

- Handicapped members of your parish--think birthday, Valentine, Christmas cards/gifts
- Sick and shut-ins--visits, prayer blankets, soup, run errands such as picking up medicines, phone calls
- Grieving--funeral meals, cards, meals
- Veterans--cash, home repairs, soxes
- Poor and truly needy--pay utility bill for a month, extra bag of groceries, car repairs
- Elderly--run errands, drive to doctor and grocery, listen to their stories over a cuppa
- Handmaids of the Precious Blood--check website (<https://nunsforpriests.org/>), books, groceries
- St Mary's Legacy Clinic--check website (<https://stmaryclinic.org/>), volunteers, cleaning, cash
- Refugees--furniture, household items, stock the kitchen with all utensils.
- Catholic Relief Services-- <https://www.crs.org/>
- Cross Catholic Outreach-- <https://crosscatholic.org/product-cat/project-catalog/>

You don't have to be "The Millionaire" to show up at the least expected time to assist or to help someone with a check!

Another group that Jesus mentions is **WIDOWS and ORPHANS** who also need our prayer and service projects.

- Become aware of widows (their ages and circumstances) in your parish and community.
- Identify their needs--ride to CCW activity; involved from home (maybe the Stamp Collector), help with grief
- Read <https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/library/view.cfm?id=10359> to learn more. In the New Testament, widows flourish in their ministry as they draw close to Christ and to Christ's people. They are free to follow the Crucified One ... Concerning widows in the early Church ... some of them constituted the first form of consecration in the Church! In this informative, well-researched article, Rhonda Chervin, herself a widow, gives excellent insight and helpful direction to those who have lost a spouse. Quote from article "Most widows in the New Testament are described in roles of service. I find it sweet that the widow Tabitha (Dorcas) is raised from the dead because she was so useful to the community, they couldn't do without her (Acts 9:36-42)."

Seven Million Children Face Freezing Conditions An article was sent to everyone on KDCCW email tree last week that describes the horrible conditions facing migrant/refugee children: "New analysis reveals an estimated 6.9 million children who have been forced from their homes across parts of Europe, the Middle East, and Asia are at risk from a harsh winter that can dip to 0°C or below. Save the Children identified twelve countries struggling with high numbers of displaced children where winter temperatures regularly hit freezing. Many of these children will be forced to face the bitter cold in flimsy tents, inadequate shelter or even out in the open, the aid agency said. In the worst cases, and without urgent support, these conditions can be deadly. . . (https://zenit.org/articles/seven-million-children-face-freezing-conditions/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Look%20at%20Each%20Other%20Not%20Your%20Smartphones%20ope%20Reminds%20Families%201577724138%20ZNP&utm_content=Look%20at%20Each%20Other%20Not%20Your%2)

[OSmartphones%20Pope%20Reminds%20Families%201577724138%20ZNP+CID_5764946837f5b9d0aaed508ef5ac4840&utm_source=Editions&utm_term=Seven%20Million%20Children%20Face%20Freezing%20Conditions](https://www.fortune.com/2018/12/14/unwanted-gifts-13-billion-dollars/)) Please read the entire report and take personal and/or affiliate action.

Ho Ho Hum. \$13 Billion Spent on Unwanted Gifts

Chris Morris

December 14, 2018

(<https://fortune.com/2018/12/14/unwanted-gifts-13-billion-dollars/>)

"No one's perfect when it comes to choosing holiday gifts for a friend or loved one. But we might be even worse than we thought.

A new study from Funder.com estimates Americans will spend \$13 billion on unwanted gifts, with 56% of the people surveyed saying they'll receive at least one "you-shouldn't-have" present.

Clothes and accessories top the unwanted list, with 34% surveyed as unhappy recipients. Household items came in second at 18% and cosmetics and perfume with 14% of people grouching.

More people than you might expect tend to hang onto these unwanted gifts, with 29% keeping them versus 22% who exchange them.

So who's hardest to please when it comes to gift giving? Millennials, of course. People born between 1977 and 1995 led the pack among age groups, with 68% receiving gifts they don't want. Generation X came in at 58% and 41% of baby boomers are expected to receive duds during the holidays.

Nevertheless, fear of buying the wrong thing isn't likely to slow the annual holiday shopping craze. . . ."

What can you do? This is a delicate issue in our culture and hard to address without offending someone. Perhaps you can let others know some things you'd enjoy/need. Let them know a contribution to charity is always appreciated. Unwanted gifts probably can be used by someone or organization that you know, perhaps the Basket Auction at our 2020 KDCCW Convention. Years ago, St Joseph, Norris held an auction of unwanted gifts to raise funds for the church. Think before purchasing a gift for another person, as \$13 BILLION is a lot of waste and hard on planet Earth.

Are you the Deanery or Parish CCW Affiliate Service Commission Chair?

Please send me an email or snail mail of activities of your CCW from July 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019. That way I can share ideas and begin to organize my 2020 convention report. Include photos. **If I don't hear from you, we all lose!**

Idea exchange helps to revitalize affiliates.

Email: SallyAJackson@bellsouth.net **Mail:** PO Box 55, Norris, TN 37828 **Questions/text:** 865-599-0137

Resolution: May you double your hours of service to God's children this year and save the Earth in the process!

Happy New Year! Peace and Blessings

Sally Jackson

Sally Jackson, KDCCW Service Commission Chair

Addendum:

The KDCCW Board passed a cup and collected \$300.00 for assistance with the refugees in Syria!