

Focus

Fall 2009

Joliet Diocesan Council of Catholic Women

St. Charles Pastoral Center
402 S. Independence Blvd
Romeoville, Illinois 60446
815.834.4080 / 815.838.8129 Fax
<http://www.dioceseofjoliet.org/ccw>



Executive Board		Presidents	Deanery	Moderator
President	Carlotta Lawton	Marge Harms	East Will	Fr. Daniel Hoehn
Vice President / Membership	Linnea Warda	Marianne McKeague	Eastern DuPage	Fr. Peter Jarosz
Recording Secretary	Joan Ruth	Ella Wilkey	Ford/Iroquois	Fr. Scott Huggins
Corresponding Secretary	Teresa Fritz	Alice Ramien	Kankakee/Grundy	Fr. Lee Bacchi
Treasurer	Loretta Wolfe	Cathy Salata	West Will	Fr. John Doyle
Diocesan Moderator	Reverend John Sebahar	Debi Rossi	Western DuPage	Fr. James Antiporek
Past President	Joanne Porazinski			

Message from the President - Carlotta Lawton

Dear JDCCW Members,

The summer of 2009 has come and gone much too quickly. For the most part, we were blessed with pleasant weather to enjoy the splendor of God's creation in flowers, trees, beaches, parks, etc.



During the month of September, our councils will begin the start of their new year. May you be blessed with God's guidance, wisdom, and prudence.

In Catholic Women magazine September/October 2004 issue, then President Margaret Gray, had written an article and I would like to share some thoughts with you. In the article, she addresses the word TEAM with reference to CCW. TEAM does not include the letter "I". A TEAM needs to bond before they can build. Its members realize what is important and also that communication is a must. TEAM members must make the attempt to grow together and each must place individual rights beneath the best interests of the TEAM. Priorities must be set, and each member must be willing to accept the priorities to be able to work together to achieve success. The key to success in TEAM building is sacrifice. Consequently, each member is willing to invest her time and energy for the organization. The word TEAM exemplifies a collective effort to produce effective results. One extra thought I like to interject. Our TEAM (CCW) has a TEAM MANAGER, who helps bring our tasks to completion. GOD IS OUR TEAM MANAGER!

The NCCW Convention will be held on September 23 through 26 in Jacksonville, Florida. The Joliet Diocese has 39 women and 2 priests attending this convention. One of our own JDCCW women, Rose Martinet is running for NCCW Treasurer. Please remember her in your prayers. The focus at this year's convention is on proposed changes to the NCCW ByLaws. A "Town Hall Meeting" will be held on October 17th at St. Ambrose Parish in Crest Hill at 11:30 a.m. to discuss the NCCW ByLaw changes that were voted on. Have you heard it said, "There is never a free lunch".

Our JDCCW gladly will dispute this statement. A 11:30 a.m., the JDCCW Board will graciously provide a free SALAD/DESSERT luncheon to all who attend this "Town Hall Meeting". The meeting will follow the luncheon. Hope to see you there!

Since Pope Benedict XVI has declared a "Year for Priests" beginning with the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus on June 19th, 2009, we pray for priests that they might be faithful to their sacred calling.

October 4th, is Respect For Life Sunday. "Every Child Brings Us God's Smile" is the theme for this year. Also, October 4th is the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi. St. Francis is known for promoting peace and respect for all life. How appropriate to have the two share the same day. May we build a world where human life is always loved and defended. Please continue to promote the "Culture of Life" in your parish CCW's and families.

COME CELEBRATE OUR JDCCW 60th ANNIVERSARY! Our theme is 'GIVING THANKS, PRAISE AND HONOR. We are most grateful to all those who were the founders and those who followed in serving JDCCW since 1949. A Mass of Thanksgiving will be celebrated at Noon on November 14th in the St. Charles Pastoral Center Chapel. Most Reverend Joseph L. Imesch, Retired Bishop of Joliet, will preside. Moderator of the JDCCW, Reverend John Sebahar, along with priests of the diocese will concelebrate.

A luncheon will immediately follow. In honor of our 60 years, an Anniversary Drawing will be held and the proceeds will be donated to the Bishop Blanchette Scholarship Fund.

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND OUR CELEBRATION. Prior to our Mass, a JDCCW Combined Board Meeting will be held in Room #152 in the St. Charles Pastoral Center at 9:00 a.m.

Please plan to join us for one or all of the events this day.



God Bless You,

Carlotta Lawton
JDCCW President

Message from our Moderator - Fr. John Sebahar

When my mother was still alive, I would spend every Thursday taking my mother and my Aunt Helen and Aunt Eleanor shopping. I can remember my mother telling me on more than one occasion that she was disappointed that she did not have the stamina to do all the things she was accustomed to the steps, water the lawn and remove the snow from the steps and sidewalks.

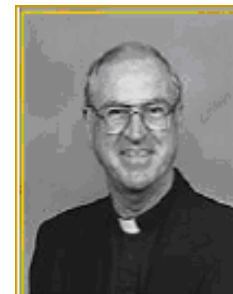
I am now at the age where I am beginning to understand what my mother was experiencing. Today when I have to say two Masses on Sunday, I don't have the energy that I had a few years ago. I can still say two Masses, but I have to sit and recoup my energy for the second Mass.

I wonder how many of us take for granted the wonderful gift of our life and health that God gives us. I often reflect on the blessings of good health that God continues to give me and how I can share that good health with others.

The Gospel of the 17th Sunday of ordinary time told the story of the miracle Jesus performed to feed the five thousand people. Part of that miracle was about SHARING. The young boy in the Gospel was willing to share his five barley loaves and two fish with Jesus and the people. Jesus blessed them and shared them with the crowd.

How often do we share our blessings of health with others? Perhaps in our own lives we encounter friends or family members who are not as mobile as we are. Do we ever consider offering to take them shopping, or do their shopping for them? There are so many ways that we can share our blessings of good health with others.

I encourage you to make a special effort to reach out to the homebound to assist them in their needs. I am amazed how a little effort on my part can bring such great joy to those whose health is not as good as mine. God Bless.



Commissions

JDCCW 2009 Calendar

- Church** [Diane Dow](#)
- Vocations [Sophronia Bias](#)
- Family Concerns** [Jane Granger](#)
- Reverence for Life [Madalene Cannata](#)
- Community Concerns** [Stella Howard](#)
- Rural Life / Environment [Pam Sifuentes](#)
- International Concerns** [Deb Drager](#)
- Legislation [Carol Wright](#)
- Organization Services** [Pat Cetera](#)
- Publicity [Kay Papineau](#)
- [Karen Koenig](#)
- [Joyce Donohue](#)
- Newsletter [Karen Dell](#)
- [Carol Kay](#)
- Leadership Orientation [Barbara Garavalia](#)
- Leadership [Ann Burdzinski](#)
- [Mary Ann Brabec](#)
- Hospitality/Special Events [Teri Lindeman](#)
- BBSF Co-Chairs [Rose Martinet](#)
- [Joanne Porazinski](#)
- Parliamentarian [Marie Palmer](#)

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| <p>Sept. 12
9 am</p> <p>10:15 am</p> <p>Sept. 23-26</p> <p>Oct. 10
9 am</p> <p>Oct. 14th</p> <p>Oct. 15th</p> <p>Oct. 17th</p> | <p>JDCCW Board Meeting
St. Anne's Parish, Crest Hill
St. Anne's Hall</p> <p>Pre-Convention Meeting
St. Anne's Parish, Crest Hill
St. Anne's Hall</p> <p>NCCW Convention
Jacksonville, Florida</p> <p>JDCCW Board Meeting
St. Charles Pastoral Center
CCW Board Room</p> <p>Easten Dupage Deanery
Fall Coffee
Holy Ghost Parish
Wood Dale</p> <p>Ford/Iroquois Deanery
Fall Coffee
St. Mary's Parish
Beaverville</p> <p>TOWN HALL Meeting
All Parishes
St. Ambrose, Crest Hill</p> | <p>Nov. 14th
9 am</p> <p>12 Noon</p> <p>1:00 pm</p> <p>Dec. 12th
9 am</p> | <p>JDCCW Combined
Board Meeting
St. Charles Pastoral Center
Room 152</p> <p>JDCCW 60th Anniversary
Mass of Thanksgiving /
Bishop Joseph L Imesch,
Retired Bishop of Joliet
Pastoral Chapel</p> <p>JDCCW 60th Anniversary
Lunch
St. Charles Pastoral Center</p> <p>JDCCW Board Meeting
St. Charles Pastoral Center
CCW Board Room</p> |
|---|--|---|--|

Happy Anniversary JDCCW!



Report: Barbara Garavalia

The Joliet Diocese Council of Catholic Women 60th Anniversary

Giving Thanks, Praise and Honor
1949—2009

All women are cordially invited to attend the 60th Anniversary Celebration of the Joliet Diocesan Council of Catholic Women on Saturday, November 14, 2009.

"Giving Thanks, Praise and Honor" is the theme of this special day which will begin at noon with the Mass of Thanksgiving in the Chapel of the St. Charles Pastoral Center, 402 S. Independence Blvd in Romeoville. The Most Reverend Joseph L. Imesch, Retired Bishop of Joliet, will preside. Moderator of the JDCCW, Reverend John Sebahar, along with priests of the Diocese will concelebrate.

Luncheon in the Center will follow the Mass. The buffet will offer Baked Chicken, Roast Pork, Mashed Potatoes, Salad, Vegetable, Rolls, Butter, Coffee, Tea, Anniversary Punch (*with or without*) and Cake for dessert.

The cost is \$16.00 per person. Reservations are being accepted until November 1, 2009. Please mail your check (Payable to JDCCW) along with your name, address and contact phone number (or email) to:

JDCCW 60th Anniversary
402 S. Independence Blvd.
Romeoville, IL 60446-2264

The 60th Anniversary Drawing to benefit our Bishop Blanchette Scholarship Fund will take place at the luncheon. Tickets will be sent to all Parish and Deanery Presidents. (If you would like tickets mailed to you please call 815-834-4080 at the JDCCW office or by email at jdccwpresident@dioceseofjoliet.com).

Tickets may also be purchased at the door. The donation requested is \$1 per ticket, \$5.00 for 6 tickets, \$10.00 for 13 tickets (*what a bargain!*) WINNER NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN! Prizes include: Cash gift \$125, an American Historic Society Pure Gold Angel Coin (Valued at \$250), a beautiful Basket filled with Christmas Cheer, a \$50 Gas card, a Vera Bradley purse set and so much more! (The list keeps growing!)

At the Luncheon there will also be a "60/40" cash drawing. 60% goes to BBSF in honor of our 60th Anniversary and 40% goes home with the lucky winner! NO PRE-SALES - WINNER MUST BE PRESENT at the luncheon to enter and to win.

How can you help make our 60th Anniversary special?

Be sure to join us for this wonderful day!

2010 JDCCW Convention 60th Anniversary Banner

Report: Jan Wallace

As part of our 60th anniversary celebration, JDCCW is asking each parish to create a block for a new JDCCW banner to represent the current parishes in our diocesan council.

The kick off for this project will be the Nov. 14th Combined Board meeting where we will have blank fabric squares and guidelines for each parish. If no one from your parish can attend, we will get a square to you.

Use your creativity and needle skills to create a square which reflects your parish council.

We plan to unveil our new banner at the JDCCW convention in the fall of 2010. In order to have the banner ready in time, we are asking you to please adhere to the deadlines in the guidelines.

Bishop Blanchette Scholarship Fund Report

Report: Rose Martinet
Joanne Porazinski

In early April the Bishop Blanchette Scholarship Fund Monitoring Committee met to select the 2009-2010 scholarship winners. There were 18 applications received from CCW's across the diocese. This year it was decided that there were sufficient funds to award five scholarships of \$3,000 each.

The scholarships were presented on May 8, 2009 at the St. Charles Pastoral Center during a 7 p.m. Mass that was Concelebrated by Bishop Joseph Imesch and Father John Sebahar, JDCCW Moderator.

The **Bishop Blanchette Monitoring Committee** is proud to announce the 2009 Bishop Blanchette Scholarship Recipients:

BRANT BELAND Son of Robert & Donna Beland of Bradley was sponsored by St. Joseph CCW, Bradley. He will attend *Bishop McNamara High School* in Kankakee.

EDWARD FLANIGAN Son of Leslee Flanigan of Joliet was sponsored by Cathedral of St. Raymond CCW, Joliet. He will attend *Providence Catholic High School* in New Lenox

MARGARET MENARD Daughter of Theresa Menard of Kankakee was sponsored by of St. Patrick CCW, Kankakee. She will attend *Bishop McNamara High School* in, Kankakee.

CAROLINE NAVAS Daughter of Cesar & Alexandra Navas of Hillside was sponsored by St. Pius X CCW, Lombard. She will attend *Montini Catholic High School* in Lombard.

NICHOLAS TUSZYNSKI Son of Heather Tuszynski of Bolingbrook was sponsored by St. Dominic/St. Francis CCW, Bolingbrook. He will attend *Montini Catholic High School* in Lombard.

Each student received \$3,000 towards their tuition for the 2009-10 school year.

Thank you for supporting the Bishop Blanchette Scholarship Fund, without the continued support of parishes, deaneries, and individuals we would not be able to continue with this fund.

During this time of the year Parishes disburse their funds, please consider making a donation to the scholarship fund. We award scholarships based on funds accumulated during the year. Some years we have been able to award additional scholarships.

There are many students who have a financial need yet we were only able to award 5 scholars of the 18 applications. Help us increase the number of scholarships we can award by sending a donation toward next years scholarships.

Please continue to use the remembrance all occasion cards throughout the year. If you need more contact the JDCCW office at 1815-843-4040.

Mail your donation to:

Bishop Blanchette Scholarship Fund
JDCCW
402 S. Independence Blvd.
Romeoville, IL 60446-2264

Make checks payable to:
Bishop Blanchette Scholarship Fund

NCCW Leadership Training Report

Report by: Pat Cetera

On Saturday, June 6, the Chicago Province gathered in Peoria for a day of leadership training presented by the NCCW Leadership Training Team. Joliet had a nice turnout with a number of parishes being represented. We came home with

lots of new ideas and a boost in enthusiasm.

Topics covered included listening skills, how to use the NCCW Guidance and Resource Manual, the cycles of your organization, membership and recruitment, the benefits of membership, how to encourage your pastor/moderator, image, handling change in your council, how committees work, and parliamentary procedure pointers.

From the wealth of information we received, I've decided to pass along 10 Amazingly Simple Membership Recruitment Ideas.

- ❖ Wear your parish CCW nametag to Mass every Sunday. Carry your NCCW tote bag.
- ❖ List **every** parish in your deanery/diocesan roster. Suggest to affiliated parishes that they try to start building relationships with women of the nearest unaffiliated parish.
- ❖ Post a listing of Individual Members from each parish affiliate at every Diocesan and/or Deanery meeting. Invite one woman to share her reason for joining at each meeting.
- ❖ Keep Our Lady of Good Council prayer cards on hand and use in greeting cards. Blank OLGC cards are available from NCCW.
- ❖ Boost your own parish membership by inviting a friend who attends an unaffiliated parish to come to a meeting. Reach out to women who serve in the same ministry you do (RCIA, Eucharistic Minister, RE teacher, Pro-life Committee, etc.). Attend an event at the unaffiliated parish and make contacts.
- ❖ Carry parish and NCCW membership forms with you.
- ❖ Have a "Contact me about membership" person listed at the end of all Council articles on all levels.
- ❖ If you're having a speaker about Church teachings, Scripture or Mary, invite your parish catechists as special guests. They may be able to receive credit toward Catechist Certification. Have a

handout ready with information about your upcoming meetings.

- ❖ Every fundraiser is another recruitment opportunity. Have membership forms available, as well as sign up sheets for help on **one-time projects**.
- ❖ Pray for your members. Have a Mass said for your living and deceased members every month. Have a prayer partner for every member of your Council. Make sure that when a membership form is turned in, a prayer partner is assigned.

We all came home with much more information than I can share here. As Organization Services Chair, I send regular memos regarding OS concerns to deanery Presidents or OS chairs. They can share this information through deanery newsletters or in other ways. The June memo covered some of the topics covered. The next two memos that come out in the Fall will cover other topics.

Respect Life

Report: Madelene Cannata

40 days for Life Sept. 23 - Nov. 1, 2009

Everyone is invited to take part in the Fall Campaign which is a national pro-life campaign to seek God's favor to turn hearts and minds from a culture of death to a culture of life. It is focused to end abortion in America through prayer, fasting, & peaceful vigils.

To obtain a pledge form to participate in the 40 Days for Life, go to this dedicated website:

www.40daysforlife.com/downersgrove

Prayer vigils will take place in 3 locations in the Joliet diocese. For information contact the Diocesan Life Office at 630-718-2121 or at www.dioceseofjoliet.org/life

Respect Life Sunday is Oct. 4, 2009

This year's theme is "Every Child Brings Us God's Smile." It is time to decide how your CCW will observe this special day.

Commission Day Report

Report: Deb Drager

On Saturday, August 1st over 90 women attended the JDCCW Combined Commission Day at St Mary Parish in Mokena. The morning offered coffee, rolls and cheerful greetings from the ladies of the St. Mary's CCW, and from the JDCCW Board. Displays were set up for viewing from each of the Commissions.

Church Commission chair Diane Dow began the program with a lovely prayer service and JDCCW President Carlotta Lawton warmly welcomed all in attendance and thanked them for sharing this day with JDCCW.

Madalene Cannata our Reverence for Life Chair introduced Rev. Tom Milota, Director of the Life Office in the Joliet Diocese. Fr. Milota spoke on Pro Life issues and what the Joliet Diocese is focusing on. It was an informative and inspiring presentation.

Next Carol Wright our Legislation Commission chair introduced Elizabeth Roskam, wife of Congressman Peter Roskam R6. In her presentation "Making A Difference" we were offered information on upcoming issues especially in health care reform and useful tools for contacting our elected officials.

Deb Drager our International Concerns chair introduced Joann Hillebrand, the World Union of Catholic Women Organization, Treasurer General, and past JDCCW and NCCW President. Joann shared the work and the vision of WUCWO in the world in her presentation "Building A Culture Of Peace".

Fr. John Sebahar, JDCCW Moderator lead us in prayer before a delicious boxed lunch was served to all guests. Conversation was encouraged with topic ideas sheets at all tables.

The afternoon session began with Organization Chair Pat Cetera presentation Marketing Your Council— "No More Secrets". Pat introduced Mike Cetera of The Fox Valley Press. His hands on, visual presentation "Using Facebook and Twitter" brought these venues of communication to life. Ann Burdzinski added her helpful tips on communication too.

Community Concerns "Understanding Medicare In Sub-Acute Rehab Setting" was presented by Stella Howard our JDCCW Community Chair. Her expertise helped clarify Medicare and her presentation included a fun raffle and an exercise in mobility with assistance from Hospitality Chair Teri Lindeman.

The afternoon ended with closing comments by Carlotta Lawton and prayer with Diane Dow. Many thanks to our wonderful hosts from St. Mary's, our amazing speakers and of course all who took the time to attend this special day.



Top Row:
Deb Drager,
Fr. Milota,
Pat Cetera

Second Row:
Carol Wright,
Joann Hillebrand,
Stella Howard

Joliet Diocesan Council of Catholic Women

**Town Hall Meeting
October 17th**

national council of
catholic women

2009 NCCW Convention
Jacksonville Florida
September 24-26, 2009

A Joliet Diocese Council of Catholic Women "Town Hall Meeting" is scheduled for October 17th, at St. Ambrose Parish in Crest Hill at 11:30 a.m.

This meeting is to educate and inform our JDCCW women on the status of the National Council of Catholic Women following the 2009 NCCW Convention "Moving Forward With Faith and Joy" in Jacksonville, Florida from September 23rd through 26th.

Prior to the convention, the NCCW proposed significant changes to the NCCW ByLaws. We will discuss those changes that were voted on which will affect our Joliet Diocese CCW and the future of Council of Catholic Women.

Before our meeting, please join us for a Salad/Dessert luncheon buffet which will be graciously provided by our JDCCW Board.

While there is no charge for the luncheon, your RSVP is appreciated.

Please call the JDCCW office at 815-834-4080 send an e-mail to: jdccwpresident@dioceseofjoliet.org by October 8th so we can properly prepare for you.

Carlotta Lawton
JDCCW President

Moving Forward with Faith and Joy

The National Council of Catholic Women Convention is September 24 – 26, 2009 at the Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront Hotel, in Jacksonville, Florida.

The National Convention is educational, informative, spiritually moving and unforgettable. Remember the Mission Statement of NCCW: "The National Council of Catholic Women acts through its membership to support, empower and educate all Catholic women in spirituality, leadership and service."

There will be a special issue of the JDCCW *Focus* reporting on programs, events, elections, and special announcements.

For information before the start of the convention, please contact Convention Co-Chairs:

Donna Zonca - 630-759-3247
Mary Mitchell – 630-759-4262



YEAR FOR PRIESTS JUNE 19, 2009 - JUNE 19, 2010

Please pray for our priests that they might be faithful to their sacred calling.

Dear Lord,

We pray that the Blessed Mother wrap her mantle around your priests and through her intercession strengthen them for their ministry.

We pray that Mary will guide your priests to follow her own words, "Do whatever He tells you" (Jn 2:5)

May your priests have the heart of St. Joseph, Mary's most chaste spouse.

May the Blessed Mother's own pierced heart inspire them to embrace all who suffer at the foot of the cross.

May your priests be holy, filled with the fire of your love seeking nothing but your greater glory and the salvation of souls.