

November, 2017 NEWSLETTER

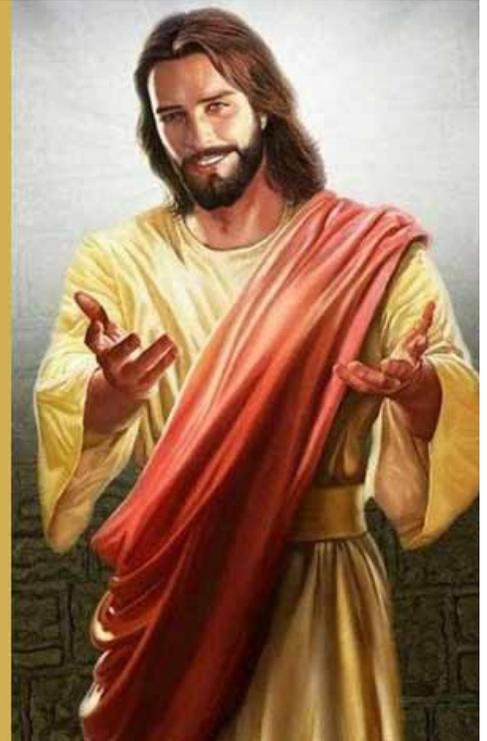
St. Petersburg Diocesan
Council of Catholic Women

50th
Annual Convention

"You do it for me"

May 17, 2018 - May 20, 2018

Hilton Tampa Airport Westshore



HEAVENLY BENEFACTORS CAMPAIGN

With the blessings of the Most Reverend Gregory Parkes, we invite your participation in our Heavenly Benefactors annual fundraiser of the St Petersburg Diocesan Council of Catholic Women.

This campaign funds a significant portion of our annual budget, assisting members to develop and share leadership skills by attending National Council of Catholic Women Conventions and Florida Council of Catholic Women Conferences. Legislative skills are developed by lobbying for the Florida Conference Catholic Bishops in Tallahassee during Catholic Days at the Capitol, and attending the Red Mass concelebrated by the Bishops of Florida while joining the Florida Cabinet, Legislators and Judges. Our Ministry outreaches includes Parish, Community, National and international arenas. We are local women's groups making a global impact and we are asking for your support.

We welcome and greatly appreciate your support in one of seven categories of donations. Your small donation ranging from \$10.00 for Memorials, Mentors and Cherubs to \$100.00 + for Special Angels, will have a great impact for our organization and the work we accomplish. Please visit our website for more information on the Council and our events and outreach.

The accompanying submission form has a category of support just right for you. Please postmark your submissions so that we can include your honorees in the Diocesan Convention Program Book. Due Date: March 15, 2018 postmark deadline. Late submissions will be posted on our website along with those received before the deadline until our next Convention. Honorees names and intentions will also be included in our prayer petitions at the 3 Masses Celebrated at Convention.

Please feel free to duplicate and widely distribute the following form to friends and family members.

We thank you for your generous support and may God bless you abundantly.

– Helen Sheridan, Heavenly Benefactors Chairman

ST. PETERSBURG DIOCESAN COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN

Heavenly Benefactors Fundraiser Campaign 2018

50th Annual Convention, Theme "You do it for Me"

Please Print clearly as the Convention Program Book will be printed as this is received.

Deadline: March 15, 2018

Categories

Print Names of Honorees

Special Angels (Over \$100.00 Donation)

Archangels (\$100.00 Donation)

Guardian Angels (\$50.00 Donation)

Angels (\$25.00 Donation)

Cherubs (\$10.00 Donation)

Memorials (\$10.00)

Sponsored by: _____ Phone: _____

Thank you for your generous support of SPDCCW. Please make checks payable to:

SPDCCW (with Heavenly Benefactors Campaign in the memo line).

Mail checks to:

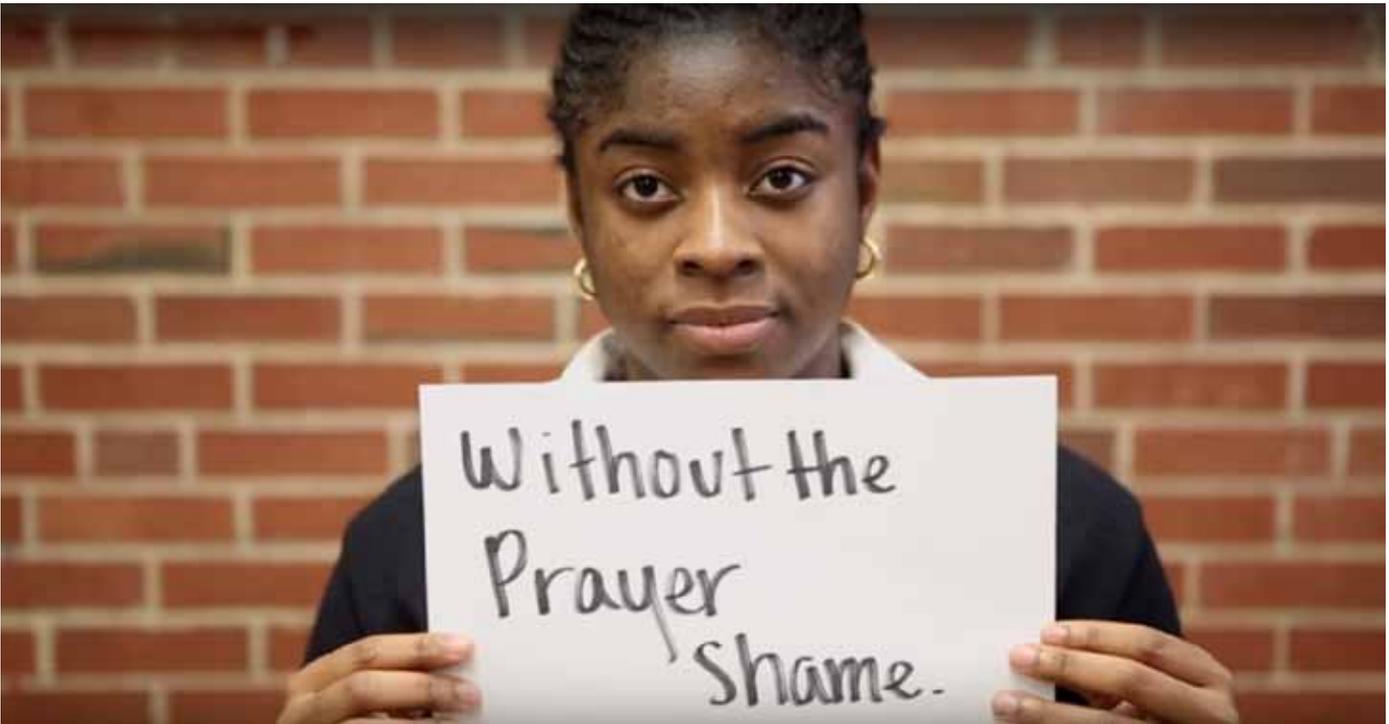
Helen Sheridan, 12043 Citrus Falls Circle apt 104, Tampa FL 33625



CATHY PENA

DIOCESAN PRESIDENT

“ALL WE NEED IS LOVE AND PRAYERS”



East Catholic High School, *The End Of Prayer Shaming*, Published on Dec 22, 2015, Youtube

According to the experts, the number of Christians in the United State that do not identify with any organized religion is growing, while 70 percent of catholic, in today's America, do not go to church. The reasons given are many but regardless, the truth is that a new trend is sweeping the country and it is not a happy trend. It seems like every week there is a new report of death and destruction. “Where was God when the shooting happened?” It seems a valid question that may go unanswered. But when everything seems lost, here comes a group of young high school students from a Catholic school in the Archdiocese of Hartford, CT to challenge experts and politicians alike.

In response to comments such as: “where was God” their response is simple: “We asked him to leave”. We asked him to leave? How?

“A football player is glorified for drugs and immoral acts, but a football player talks about his faith and he is judged. In college, students are told to hide their faith

so that they do not offend anyone. They are also told that we should not be praying for the victims, and that prayers should be left for forgiveness.”

So, the students of East Catholic High school, as Americans, decided to take a stand and stand for prayers:

“Pray for peace. Pray that God is allow back into our lives, without shame, pray for the victims, pray that we once again become one Nation under God, indivisible with liberty and justice for all”.

These young students went one step further and developed a video: “The end of prayer shaming” which I highly recommend watching. Please access this video and share it with a prayer.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jFz4uUfPfN8>

God Bless

BETH AUBIN DIOCESAN FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

My first year as First Vice President started with a Workshop for all the members of SPDCCW, District and affiliations at Our Lady of the Mystical Rose who hosted the Workshop.

Once again I would like to thank the SPDCCW for giving me the opportunity to attend The NCCW National Convention in Dallas, Texas.

On our arrival in Dallas, we had a few hours to spend touring downtown. We went to the Museum next to where JFK was assassinated not sure if some of you remember back in the 1960's. Being there was going back in History. Also went to a few parks.

There were about 600 who attended the convention, from all over the country. Also some who came from Houston, Texas, telling us stories of how Hurricane Harvey affected their lives, only to reassure us on our departure to be safe because we were about to experience Hurricane Irma.

MY REPORT IS ON THE SPIRITUALITY, SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP COMMISSIONS.

Spirituality Commission Chairman – Beth Mahoney, NCCW

Women on a Journey sharing their stories

Back in the 1960's singer Aretha Franklin sang a song that is still popular today called "Respect" surely we remember this song. October was Respect Life month, we emphasized respect for the unborn, elderly, and those facing the death penalty. We need to focus on Respect for All Life everyday by: Rosary, pray the Rosary for all the world

- Educate those in your family, parish or community about loving all people
- Scripture group, start a Scripture group that includes everyone
- Pray for all mankind
- Equality for all, focus on treating all people with dignity and respect
- Contrition, ask forgiveness from someone you have hurt
- Thanksgiving, say prayers of thanks by going to Mass

She began with Aretha and ended with Tim Mc Graw's song "Humble and Kind".

October was the Month of the Holy Rosary

Our Lady of the Seven Sorrows, also The Rosary Meditation on The Dignity of Women. Booklets were given to us in our packets, Resource on Mercy, and Retreat on Mercy, can be found on the website, and Our Lady of Fatima Rosary. Handouts are available.

Service Commission Chairman – Chris Heiderscheidt, NCCW

Kathy Bonner did a presentation on Women Healing the Wounds.

Victoria, A large cardboard cut out, met us at the Door of the NCCW meeting room with a sign on her that read "NCCW Stands Against Domestic Violence" Copies were given to the DCCW Service Commission Chairman at our breakout session.

October was Domestic Violence Month we were asked try to do at least one thing in the program. A program is provided on the NCCW website so you have the tools to follow step by Step guide to help end Domestic Violence. An Example: In Sunrise Florida the Domestic Violence Awareness program for years: An announcement in the parish bulletin alerts parishioners that in two weeks they will be Outside the church doors usually on the 3rd Sunday of the month. Volunteers are there in full force at every entrance of the church with purple buckets for a collection to help "Lick Family Violence" — with every donation they handout a lollipop. After hearing Kathy Bonners program presentation they will hand out the lollipops to the children and to the parents they will be handing a band aid with the works, Help Heal the Wounds

We wrote on band-aids and taped them together and made a chain spread across the front and down the sides of the room. Money's they collect is split between their local community and parishes.

Leadership Commission – Bev Mc Carvel NCCW

Mentoring Women embracing Women – a packet was made available to us. Also LTD Team provided information.

Ex: When you meet a new member at a meeting, make a note of something personal she shared with you and mention it in conversation at your next meeting. Have Deanery "Priest Appreciation Dinner" honoring all the priest of the Deanery Parishes and also invite the NON- affiliated parishes (both priests and ladies) and be sure to toot your horn about projects and goals accomplished by these individual CCW's. Non - Affiliated priest will see the benefits of having their group belong. So we hope you do at least one thing on the list.

The Florida Council of Catholic Women, Providence of Miami, held a dinner for all of the Members of the Florida Delegates, Diane Tugander, outgoing President Installed the newly appointed officers.

Our Commission Chairman were given all the information that they will share with the District and Affiliation Presidents and Commission Chairmen.

If I can be of any further assistance for you please don't hesitate to contact me.

May Our Lady of Good Council, Pray for us

MISSY GARRETT

DIOCESAN SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

Since my election as Second Vice-President I have attended the summer Post-Convention Board Meeting, the Fall Workshop and the National Council of Catholic Women's Annual Convention. The theme for the convention was *Living the Joy of the Gospel*. There were many great speakers throughout the four-day convention. Cathy asked me to report on the talks given by the keynote speakers from Thursday, Friday and Saturday. I know it seems long, but the speakers were very-very good and I just had couldn't help but share the great information with everyone. Please enjoy.

Beginning with the keynote speaker on Thursday, Mary Rice Hasson. She is an author, editor and speaker on Catholicism, culture, women, sexual morals and family life. We are thriving in our culture, but the challenge is in how to be a woman in our society. Society tells us that women are the same as men and that our identity of motherhood gets in the way of living our lives as women – both statements are untrue. We are created equally in the image and likeness of God, but sexual difference is real – we are not the same as men and our sexual identities are not the same. The fulfillment of our lives is not something we demand, but rather it comes to us when we are giving and serving God. When we work together, we accomplish so much more than we ever could on our own – 1+1=3.

Living the Joy of the Gospel. The Gospel talks about joy, but what is it and how do we get it. Is it living with a smile on your face or living a virtuous life without bumps in the road? No. Joy is when Faith, Hope and Love come together. In John 15:11, Jesus said: *"I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and your joy may be complete"*.

First - Faith - St. Mother Theresa's life was not without discord, but she persisted, knowing and trusting in her faith that God would be there. Her sense of joy was her faith. To fully live our faith as St. Mother Theresa did is the give your life to God and say "Your will be done". To increase our faith we need to sit quietly and spend time with God. If there are people in your life that are struggling with their faith, pray for them and let God do His work.

Next - Hope – For an increase in hope, pray the Stations of the Cross – walk with Jesus. When she was pregnant with her sixth child, she was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis, MS. She struggled with taking the medication fearing for the safety of her child. She learned to trust and hope when she came to the realization that God's love for her son was greater than her love for him.

And finally - Love – the last component for joy is love. Mary Rice Hasson gave an example of a woman whose husband

was unfaithful. She thought she had worked through her pain and had forgiven him. He got sick and called her asking to come home. She found that she still had love for him and had to say yes. Is there someone in our lives that we need to reach out to and forgive? When we realize the wellspring of God's love, how can we not also forgive?

With Faith, hope and love together, we will find Joy.

The keynote speaker on Friday morning was Stacy Thomlinson a missionary currently serving in Rwanda. In 1981, Mary appeared to the children in Kibeho in Rwanda, Africa. She danced with them. During the visions, she recommended that people pray the Chaplet of the Seven Sorrows to obtain repentance. Stacy read a book on the apparitions at Kibeho that lead to her conversion to Catholicism.

Her story began in the same manner as one of the stories from the previous speaker. She was married in college. 18 months after they were married, he was unfaithful. God loves us through the pain. She came to the understanding that although she hated what he did, she loved him. She was a FOCUS missionary – Fellowship of Catholic University Students. She is a trained nurse and germs are her thing. While living in the FOCUS community house, she chose to live in the bedroom that was located in the basement. Although it was a dark basement, it had one great thing – it had its own bathroom with a shower, perfect for a germaphobe. One morning she heard someone open the basement door, come down the stairs and go into her bathroom. You know in the cartoons where they have an angel sitting on one shoulder and the devil on the other. That was the conflicted thoughts she experienced. Someone had gotten into her shower; they were going to use her soap; she was going to have to clean-up after them. Then she thought, you didn't see who went in there. What if it is Jesus? Then she thought – how clean was my bathroom; clean enough for Jesus? Of course, she thought, you know it isn't Jesus; it's one of your roommates; but why not have the same reaction as if it was Jesus? When you have a guest in your home, you have God in your home. Jesus is just as real today as he was 2000 years ago. He is here in the power of the Holy Spirit. She wants to be a witness that God is calling us to spend just five minutes a day with Him, reading His word, talking to Him or just being still.

Jesus is fully God and fully human. Emmanuel – God with us or God with you. Jesus fully had the power to perform miracles, but He never did; He called on God, His father, to perform the miracles. As in John 15:5 without God, you can do nothing.

Continued on next page

Another story she told was about being a nurse in the adult oncology floor. The only child that she ever treated was Cameron, a three-year-old little girl. She had a brain tumor with 100% mortality rate. Her mom said someone has to be the first to survive. Cameron had to go to the adult floor so the pediatric nurses could learn how to access her port. Cameron was not the first to survive. Her mom asked how God could allow this, she was so innocent, she was a baby, and she brought so much joy to our lives. Stacy wasn't sure what to say to the grieving mother, knowing it was too soon, she prayed about what to say. Recently God told her, you know I lost a child too, He suffered, He was bruised and broken, and I asked Him to do it. I asked Him to go through this pain because I love you. So maybe what I am trying to show Cameron's mom is how much I love her. That's what I have done for her; that's what He has done for us.

The keynote speaker on Saturday morning was Dale Recinella, author, spiritual counselor and Catholic lay chaplain in Florida's prisons. He is a certified and appointed Chaplain under the USCCB as a death Chaplain. He has been the spiritual advisor at executions and his wife, Susan, a clinical psychologist, makes herself available to the condemned's family and loved ones. His talk was entitled "Can the Joy of the Gospel Penetrate the Darkness of our Prisons and Death Rows?" He has ministered to approximately 400 men on Florida's death row and approximately 2,000 men in Florida's long-term solitary confinement. He and his wife have also ministered to the families and loved ones of murder

victims and they are there to minister to the staff. Even at the darkest in prison, the Joy of the Gospel can penetrate.

How do we minister to the families of those in prison? His friend found a program and asked him to help him get it in their parish. They went to the parish council meeting and the pastor said there wouldn't be anyone at their program, because there is no one in the parish with a family member in prison; that he could not publish it outside the church; and that the church would not fund the 12-week program. Week 1 - two women showed-up; week 2 - six more attended, so they re-did session 1; week 3 - ten more people were there; each week more showed-up. No one knew the others had a family member in prison; they don't talk about it.

Those that are victims of a crime have a stigma. For example, there must have been something you did wrong that caused your child to be murdered. It is a walk of isolation, a silent suffering. When reaching out to those with loved ones in prison, be sure to include those that have been a victim or has a family member that was a victim.

When ministering to those in prison, don't forget the staff. The prison does not have air conditioning; the guards get spit on or bitten by infected inmates and have feces or infected blood thrown at them. You may be the only Catholic they encounter. You may be the only one who worries about their safety and well-being.

Next year the National Convention will be in Pittsburgh.

JOSEPHINE MAESTAS

DIOCESAN CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Happy "New Year"! We have a lot of "newly" elected people for the new year 2017-2019, therefore I wanted to refresh everyone by reminding them that if you have people/situations, etc. that need prayer, please remember to submit them to me, so that I can put them on our DCCW prayer list and send out an e-mail to our prayer warriors. **The cost of praying for others is only our time and it's the least we can do to comfort those in need. Power of Prayer!** You can send the prayer request(s), etc. to me via e-mail at jmaestas@yahoo.com or jmaestas@galatiyachts.com. If you don't have e-mail, pick up the phone and call or text me (813-748-3043).

Please remember to include a mailing address (if possible) so that anyone wishing to, can send a card, well wishes, etc. Also, any updates on a prayer request are helpful to those praying.

A few have asked me if I am willing to accept "donations"....ABSOLUTELY!!! If you have "extra" greeting cards, postage stamps, envelopes, etc, I will gladly take them off your hands if you so desire!
THANK YOU!!

Blessings to you and yours.

COMMISSION CHAIR

CATHY GOLDIE DIOCESAN LEADERSHIP COMMISSION CHAIR



Photo credit: Adrianne Antonio Ramirez

2017 Summer Workshop Attendees

The Leadership Commission Chairs have begun laying the groundwork for a productive year. At the Summer Workshop, we discussed communication and membership topics, concentrating on ideas of growing and maintaining our membership. We shared both ideas that were successful as well as ideas for the future. Handouts from DCCW and

NCCW resources were given to each district and affiliate, including basic functions under the Leadership Commission.

At the Fall Board Meeting, Commission members will discuss what ideas were implemented from the August workshop and will begin planning for the May convention.

Leaders become great, not because of their power,
but because of their ability to empower others.

– John Maxwell

PATRICIA HANSON DIOCESAN SERVICE COMMISSION CHAIRMAN

On August 26, we had a very successful workshop, with the help of the District Service Commission Chairman. Folders were given out to all the ladies that attended the workshop. The folders included, service hour tracking chart, duties of the service commission chairman, ten things that you can do under service, Domestic awareness, Bridging Freedom, Guiding Star, which is a comprehensive women's healthcare practice. Also in the folder was information on Catholic Charities, which helps women with unexpected pregnancy. We had information on International programs such as The Madonna Plan, Water for Life and Catholic Relief Services, which has all kinds of programs to help women and children around the world.

After we reviewed the folder we went around the room and ask each lady to tell us about one or two programs that were successful in their parish. Ladies this is why we need council so that we can share ideas with each other. I was truly amazed at all the work they do in their parishes. I will give just a few examples, collecting blankets for Pinellas Hope for the winter, shoes, socks, duffel bags for foster children, raising monies for Bridging Freedom, Hugs for the Homeless and taking personnel ideas to women in prison. I am proud and honored to be associated with all of you hard working women. Keep up the good work for you all are truly God's helping hands.

May the Holy Spirit inspire us and may Our Lady of Good Counsel help us.



Photo credit: Diocese of St. Petersburg Web-sites

VOCATIONS

Thank you to all who have “adopted” seminarians or who are praying for vocations. There are 26 men studying for the priesthood in our Diocese. William Bennett, Stephen Eschenfelder, Nicholas Henneberry, Kenneth Keenan, Alejandro Posada, and Fredy Medina entered the seminary this year. In addition, several men from the Diocese entered into religious order seminaries. Your prayers are working.

To read about our seminarians, go to <http://www.dosp.org/vocations/meet-our-seminarians/>

If you want to read a copy of “Cast Your Nets” newsletter, a bimonthly publication of our Diocese’s Vocations Office, go to <http://www.dosp.org/vocations/newsletters/casting-your-nets-newsletter/>

If you want to read “Seeds of Hope”, the magazine written and produced by the seminarians at St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary, go to <http://www.svdp.edu/seeds-of-hope>

FOCUS 11
 Focus 11 is February 20-21, 2018, at Higgins Hall, St. Lawrence in Tampa. They love the DCCW cookies!!

PENNIES FOR PRIESTS

Encourage your affiliations, your parish schools, your families to have their own “Pennies for Priests” jar. Tell them when they get a penny, to say a prayer for vocations or for a particular priest, deacon, or religious, and put the penny in the jar. Never put money in the jar without saying a prayer for each coin deposited. Putting the money in the jar is a reminder to pray for vocations; seeing the amount of money in the jar increase serves as a visual tool to show how many prayers have been offered for vocations. Affiliates send the money they’ve collected to the DCCW treasurer before convention to be given to the Bishop for seminarian support. Families or parish schools may wish to use their penny jar money to support vocations in a different way, although the DCCW will be happy to receive it.

PRAY for VOCATIONS.

“The harvest is plenty, but the laborers are few.”

BARBARA BYARS
 DIOCESAN BISHOP’S VOCATION FUND



ALMA SHAMBLIN OUR LADY OF GRACE DISTRICT, PRESIDENT

Advisor assigned to Our Lady of Grace. All in all it was a successful meeting with many good ideas brought forth.

Our Fall Board Meeting was held on October 14, with St. Peter Claver Church hosting this event.

Thank you, St. Peter Claver for hosting this event. It was well attended. We discussed the 2016-17 Audit Report which was found to be in good order as well as our Budget. It was moved that we increase the cost of lunches and was approved by the Board...going from \$12.00 currently to \$15.00 per lunch in the future due to the increase in food costs. Josephine Maestas gave an update on the Directory for 2017-18. Affiliate assignments for Fall Conference as discussed. Additionally, DCCW Convention assignments were revisited. Our Lady of Grace has the responsibility of Shrine and Prayer Room, Maria Victor and Judy Taiclet will Co-Chair this assignment. "Date Night" is our theme basket for fundraising. Ads for Convention Booklet are being worked on and need to be turned by February 15. More to come on this topic.

Each affiliate President gave a report on what their affiliates are currently doing what is scheduled through out the coming year.

However, before our Fall Conference on November 4, God answered our Prayers. He sent Fr. Jim Angert, Pastor, St. Patrick Church to us. Fr. Jim agreed to become our Spiritual advisor and was appointed by the Bishop for this position. He is truly a blessing to our Our Lady of Grace District.

On November 4, we held our Fall Conference at St. Patrick Church and had a wonderful attendance. Thank you St. Patrick for hosting this event. Sixty three ladies answered the call to our Conference. Thank you for coming. A delicious lunch was hosted by the Catholic Women's Club. Thank you for the wonderful lunch.

It has been an amazing year at Our Lady of Grace District. On August 5, Our Lady of Grace District Officers, Past OLG & WHD Presidents, and District Commission Chairmen met for a Planning Session to "kick off" the new year at St. Peter Claver Church. Guidelines for the year were presented and discussed as well dates for other District Conferences noted. At this point, we did not have a Spiritual



Photo credit: Bernadette Gaudion

OLG Service Commission Chair, Deborah Long, with Affiliation Presidents and representatives from each affiliation: Catholic Women's Club, Christ the King, Incarnation, Sacred Heart Tampa, St. Peter Claver and St. Patrick's.

Reaching out to other women is a "Welcome Purse" Pilot Program, discovered and chaired by Bernadette Gaudion, was a true success. A table full of gently used purses were donated to this cause. These purses will be given to refugee women from Africa with basic items enclosed that one would have inside their purse. This is an exciting program where we can bring our friendship and Christian fellowship to other women who are not as fortunate as we who live in this wonderful country...**God Bless America!**

Barbara Byars spoke to the membership on Catholic Days at the Capitol and asked that members attend this event, if possible. The dates are January 30 to February 1, 2018. More detail to follow on this event through your affiliate presidents.

And lastly, we had a wonderful and informative guest speaker, Rose Llauguet, Director of Pregnancy and Adoption with Catholic Charities. She gave a moving and emotional presentation on dealing with abortion and adoptions. Thank you, Rose, you are wonderful. May God bless you in all you do.

As we closed the Conference, Sacred Heart who had been assigned Fund Raising and did a beautiful job. There were many, many thoughtful and well chosen prizes for the drawings and the 50/50 winning ticket was for \$97.50...not bad. It was a great success and the membership seemed to thoroughly enjoy this closing event. Thank you ladies for doing such a great job.

Blessings to all my wonderful sisters in Christ.



GAIL MERRILL

OUR LADY OF LIFE DISTRICT, PRESIDENT

Our Lady of Life had their fall conference on 10/13 and it was quite successful considering we had a bump in the road. Our guest speaker was unable to attend and OLOL filled the hour with sharing among the attendees of experiences had with either our Lady or Jesus. It was very fulfilling.

Our annual pecan sale is going on now for the one fund raiser we have for the district. Corpus Christi had a Chat and Chew on 10/7 and signed up a new member. Other things in the

works are a week night circle and a morning pray group.

Looking forward to a productive year.

MARIE KLAUSCH

OUR LADY OF THE MYSTICAL ROSE, PRESIDENT

All of our Affiliations are on a mission and that is to get new members. They speak at Masses, have retreats, breakfast socials, just to name a few. Coming up they plan craft fairs, fashion shows with wine and cheese, card parties, have international festival. As part of service they go to the womens prison in Spring Hill, become mentors, teach

classes, have worship services, make Rosaries to bring to hospitals and missions take care of altar lines, making plans for their Christmas luncheons, They are also getting plans and stuff ready for the upcoming Convention 2018.

May our Lady of Good Counsel continue to guide us.

HELEN F. SNOHA

OUR LADY OF THE MYSTICAL ROSE, SPIRITUALITY

All of our members from our district are working

very hard as usual. Everyone knows that October is the month of the rosary, and this year we are celebrating the 100th Anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima. Our Lady asked the children to pray the rosary for world peace, to do sacrifices for all sinners, and to continue to pray.

enjoy wonderful speakers. We also are EM's at daily and Sunday masses, as well as at the hospital, nursing homes, and rehab. We help teach our children at CCD classes, and help get them ready for First Communion, and Confirmation. We also help with the RCIA program. Members also work as volunteers in the hospital, hospice, and the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

At this time I would like to applaud all of our members for the wonderful work you all do, and I know that you do it for the Lord.

Our Lady of the Mystical Rose, Pray for us

We join the CCW to enrich our personal life, as well as our spiritual life. Here we run bake sales, craft sales, and we

OLGA HRISCKO

OUR LADY OF THE SKIES DISTRICT, PRESIDENT

Conferences:

Fall: October 14, 2017

Spring: TBD

KATY MARSH

OUR LADY OF THE WAY DISTRICT, PRESIDENT

Conferences:

Fall: November 11

Our Lady of the Way Fall Conference that was scheduled for November 11 has been CANCELLED. Katy (President of Our Lady of the Way District) apologizes, but she is unable to have the fall conference.

Spring: March 17, 2018

LINDA SEUFERT

OUR LADY, STAR OF THE SEA DISTRICT, CO-PRESIDENT

Dear Ladies of St Petersburg Diocesan Council of Catholic Women; Welcome and thank you for saying “YES!” as our Blessed Mother, the Virgin Mary did, to serve our Lord as members of the Council of Catholic Women (CCW). I look forward to serving with you and sharing our time, talent and fellowship.

Our Lady, Star of the Sea District (OLSOS) is sad to report losing of one affiliate, St. Paul’s Catholic Church. Holy Family and St Raphael Catholic Churches are the two remain affiliates in this district. Though St. Paul’s may not be a part of CCW, I know they are praying and supporting our continued work.

And work we are doing! Planned this year are fundraisers, supporting church and school activities, supporting community organizations and remain active with the St Petersburg Diocesan Council of Catholic Women. We work hard, but always have fun and work each activity with love in our heart and a compassionate spirit. Here is what’s going on:

Our Lady, Star of the Sea District Board Update:

A successful Fall Conference was held on October 7 at Holy Family Church. There were 45 members in attendance and we had the honor of Cathy Pena, DCCW President attending along with Beth Aubin, DCCW First Vice President and Lynn Erickson, DCCW Convention Chair.

Our morning program, “*So That Your Joy May Be Complete*” (John 15:11), was presented by Rev. Ryan Boyle, Parochial Vicar, Holy Family. He explained how joy is referenced in the scripture and how unlike happiness which may only be a moment, joy should always remain

in our hearts. A beautiful and spiritual program enjoyed by all.

In the afternoon, an Educational Session “*Membership and the Generation Gap*” was led by myself. This interactive program looked at the difference in the generations and how it may effect membership recruitment and retainment. Discussion occurred on why people join or do not join CWW and what younger generations are looking for when joining organizations. A great ending to a wonderful fall conference.

We are now busy planning for the spring conference and planning the “Fun Night” for the DCCW Convention.

Holy Family Council of Catholic Women (HFCCW) Update:

Summer usually means little activity with the HFCCW, however, this summer was different. This year activities started in July with hosting a Father’s Day casserole breakfast. This free breakfast for fathers was such a huge success that Father Morley asked if a monthly casserole breakfast is possible. For now, HFCCW will only host the casserole breakfast on special occasions.

HFCCW also assisted with the week long Vacation Bible School by providing snacks for the children. What a joy in meeting the children and watching them participate in the summer program.

September hosted the annual potluck dinner with 56 people in attendance, of which five were new members. October and November are always busy months for the HFCCW. Fall conference, bake sale, International Food Festival are just a few planned activities.

The Spirituality Chair has been busy assisting with coordinating the program, mass and rosary for this conference. In October, the HFCCW will be led in the Divine Mercy Chaplet and in November, spirituality will prepare a program to

honor the Deceased Members of the HFCCW. This is always a beautiful and moving program.

The Leadership Chair is busy scheduling speakers for the meetings and the Service chair has been busy working on “A Child’s Hope Project” which started last year. This project provides the Pinellas County Sheriff’s department with care bags for children who are taken from their homes. The Holy Family Youth Ministry joined in this time to help with this project. This is an ongoing project for Holy Family Parish.

St Raphael Council of Catholic Women (SRCCW) Update:

A busy year is in planned for the women at SRCCW. The ovens are already heating up to cook pies, brownies and other tasty treats for the sweet tooth as the ladies sponsor the dessert booth for the Parish Festival on the weekend of Oct 27. The Parish Picnic is the following month and the Christmas brunch follows. Collection has already started for the rummage sale that will be held in January and the fashion show is set for February.

The commission chairs and board have been helpful in helping plan for this conference. They are also busy securing speakers for their meetings and planning service projects such as collecting Christmas gifts for nursing homes and supporting Foundations For Life. The annual Lenten miniretreat and assisting with bible studies are a few more activities that the SRCCW participate in.

As you can see, the ladies of the CCW have been busy already. Together, we have the opportunity to support many organizations with our time, talent and treasure, and share our faith and provide guidance to those who may have lost their way.

Our Lady of Good Council – Pray for Us!

REV. TED COSTELLO SPIRITUAL ADVISOR



At the SPDCCW Board Meeting this past, June Father Ted encourage members to evangelize. He stated that “We need to get the word out concerning SPDCCW’s great works”. Bishop Gregory L. Parkes has offered resources to help promote our presence via the Diocese of St. Petersburg’s Office of Communications. The plan is to produce a digital communication about what the CCW is all about.

China Pacheco - Publicity Commission

We need (the FCCW) pictures (going back on our history) of things like.....

- Giving \$ to the Bishop for the seminarian
- Making clothes for third world countries
- Giving scholarships monies
- Pictures of past presidents in a group
- Collecting money for our project Hugs for the homeless

The pictures will be used for a FCCW History Book Report and could also be used by Sp DCCW

Please mail your pictures to
Cathy Pena, 8774 Huntfield St , Tampa FL, 33635

Contents

CATHY PENA, PRESIDENT	3
BETH AUBIN, DIOCESAN FIRST VICE PRESIDENT	4
MISSY GARRETT, DIOCESAN SECOND VICE PRESIDENT	5
JOSEPHINE MAESTAS, DIOCESAN CORRESPONDING SECRETARY	6
CATHY GOLDIE, DIOCESAN LEADERSHIP COMMISSION CHAIR	7
PATRICIA HANSON, DIOCESAN SERVICE COMMISSION CHAIRMAN	7
BARBARA BYARS, DIOCESAN BISHOP’S VOCATION FUND	8
ALMA SHAMBLIN, OUR LADY OF GRACE, PRESIDENT	9
MARIE KLAUSCH, OUR LADY OF THE MYSTICAL ROSE, PRESIDENT	10
HELEN F. SNOHA OUR LADY OF THE MYSTICAL ROSE, SPIRITUALITY	10
OLGA HRISCKO, OUR LADY OF THE SKIES DISTRICT, PRESIDENT	10
GAIL MERRILL, OUR LADY OF LIFE DISTRICT, PRESIDENT	10
KATY MARSH, OUR LADY OF THE WAY DISTRICT, PRESIDENT	10
LINDA SEUFERT, OUR LADY, STAR OF THE SEA DISTRICT, CO-PRESIDENT	11
12 REV. TED COSTELLO SPIRITUAL ADVISOR	12

God changes the world by transforming our hearts. When God finds an open and trusting heart, he can work wonders there.

– Pope Franis

PARLIAMENTARIAN
Suzanne Garrett

RECORDING SECRETARY
Bernadette Gaudion

TREASURER
Pat Connelly Moore

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
China Pacheco