

# St. John Neumann Council's Continuing Word

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## President's Corner

Anecdote heard on an NPR station's presentation of Click 'N Clack: A performer in a circus was ready to quit his job as the human cannonball. The manager despairingly cried, "You can't quit! Where will I find another man of your caliber again?"

There is a tendency of some of us to worry when a position is vacated. The fact is that everyone is replaceable. Jesus had to prepare his disciples for the time when he would no longer be with them physically. Can you imagine what the disciples thought after Jesus performed a miracle and said, "You will do these things and greater" (meaning more). The wonderful part is that we are just the channel through which God works. If we are open to his call, we can accomplish so much more than we think we can.

That brings me to our current dilemma of enlisting the new CCW board. If you think that I was resigning because of the demands for the extra work that will be needed for the next ODCCW convention that was definitely a consideration. As I was starting to write this column for the newsletter to encourage someone to come forward, I realized that I was showing a lack of faith in God's provision. I don't know what demands may be put on me, but I know that God will provide a way. It's when we pray and put in our little bit (like the boy with 2 fishes and a few loaves of bread) that we see God multiply these offerings to bless all of us. So, for better or worse, I am honored to be your president for another term. I need all of your prayers and will be calling on you to assist. We are family and we will do many wonderful things in the new term if we trust in Him.

Philippians 1:6 "I am confident of this: that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Christ Jesus."

Yours in Christ,  
Diane DiSalvo

### National Council of Catholic Women Mission Statement

The National Council of Catholic Women acts through its membership to support empowers and educates all Catholic women in spirituality, leadership and service. NCCW programs respond with Gospel values to the needs of the Church and society in the modern world.

April Birthdays

- 4/3 Pat DeSilvestro
- 4/12 Linda Brophy
- 4/24 Polly St. Johns

April General Meeting

Fr. Hilario Rivera will share memoirs of his trip to the Holy Land last Dec. He will show his pictures and graphics. Come and bring a friend if you can!

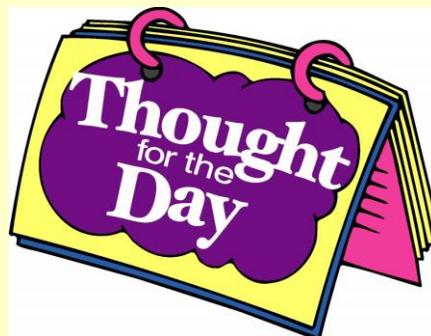
**Highlights of Catholic Days at the Capitol-  
March 3-5**

On Tuesday, March 3, over 300 Catholics from across the state converged on our state's capital city for Catholic Days at the Capitol. During a legislative briefing, participants learned about four priorities that they were to promote in meetings with legislators the next day.

The 4 priorities were:

1. 24-hour reflection period before an abortion is performed, SB 724 (Flores) / HB 633 (Sullivan)
2. Restoring the per-pupil scholarships for the VPK Program to 2007-2008 school-year funding levels
3. Expansion of KidCare for lawfully residing immigrant children, SB 294 (Garcia) / HB 829 (La Rosa)
4. Requiring a unanimous jury decision in order to recommend a sentence of death, SB 664 (Altman) / HB 139 (Rodriguez, J.)

If you would like additional information on the event, please contact Diane DiSalvo.



**"I am determined to be cheerful and happy in whatever situation I may find myself. For I have learned that the greater part of our misery or unhappiness is determined not by our circumstance but by our disposition".**

**Martha Washington**

**"O my Jesus, each of your saints reflects one of your virtues; I desire to reflect your compassionate heart, full of mercy, I want to glorify it.**

**Let your mercy, O Jesus, be impressed upon my heart and soul like a seal, and this will be my badge in this and the future life".**

**St. Maria Faustino's Diary-1242**

Did you know. . . . .  
Info on Human Trafficking

Girls make up two out of every three child victims, and together with women, account for 70% of overall trafficking victims worldwide.

Poverty is one of the many factors which make individuals vulnerable to trafficking.

If all youth who run away in the United States lived in one city, it would be the fifth largest city in the country. Runaway boys and girls are prime target for traffickers. Submitted by Bonnie Hicks

**Installment Banquet**

*Ladies, do you have any suggestions where we might celebrate with our new officers? We would like an enclosed room if possible. Call or e-mail me.*

*Diane DiSalvo*

**Every Penitent Who Approaches the Confessional is Sacred Ground to be Cultivated with Care and Attention**

“The Sacraments, as we know, are God’s demonstration of closeness and tenderness towards humanity; they are the concrete way God created to move be closer to us, to embrace us, without shame for our limits”, said Pope Francis this morning as he received in audience in the Paul VI Hall the participants in the annual Course on the Inner Forum organized by the Apostolic Penitentiary. “Without doubt”, he continued, “among the Sacraments, it is that of Reconciliation that best shows the merciful face of God. We must never forget, either as penitents or as confessors: there is no sin that God cannot forgive! None! Only what is hidden from divine mercy cannot be forgiven, like those that hide themselves from the sun cannot be illuminated or warmed.

From Bishop Noonan’s E-Scroll, March 12, 2015

**Size 7 or 8**

**No, not your dress size! We are being invited to help our Sister Diocese in the Dominican Republic by donating new shoes, adult sizes 7 or 8. Imagine if all CCW members were to participate what a difference it would make! You can bring the shoes to the March or April SJNCCW meeting or leave with Shelia in the parish office. Thank you!**

**Sally Donadoni’s Faith Journey**

I was fortunate to have been born the third of four children to parents who were very strong Catholics, active in our parish. My mother was a soloist in the choir for many years, and my father was the “go to” person for both the pastor and the sisters who staffed the school. He was the first lector in our parish after the changes of Vatican II.

There was no question that we attend our parish grammar school where the sisters and lay teachers nurtured our faith. The school day began with mass in the church next door. In May and October at the end of lunch hour each day, the entire school recited the rosary at the grotto adjacent to the playground. On rainy days we prayed in the upper hall where there was a large statue of Mary.

As a young adult, I believe my four years of undergraduate study at Mercyhurst College in Erie, PA, strengthened those seeds of faith rooted in childhood.

My husband was raised in a family much like mine, and hopefully our three children will always be as comfortable in their faith we are. They also spent their kindergarten through high school years in Catholic schools, and then they chose Catholic colleges.

Interestingly, my three siblings all married non-Catholics. Two of their spouses have become Catholic, while the third was always supportive of my sister's devotion to her church, and even did one of the scripture readings at her funeral mass.

I have never been faced with a serious challenge to my beliefs. God has always provided me with friends and family who shared my faith.

**“ Come to me, all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls” Mathew 11:28-29**



4/2-4 Triduum

4/5 Easter Sunday

4/6 CCW Board meeting,  
Monday evening in  
Gathering Room

4/12 Divine Mercy Sunday

4/13 CCW General Meeting  
in Parish Hall,  
6:30 p.m. rosary,

7 p.m. business meeting

4/18 Western Deanery

General Meeting at

St. Joseph's Winter Haven  
on Saturday at 9 a.m.

Breakfast & lunch after Mass  
Open to all CCW members

4/25-4/27 Orlando Diocese  
CCW conference at the  
Crowne Plaza in  
Melbourne, FL.

*"Wait for the Lord, be  
strong and take heart  
and wait for the Lord"*  
Psalm 27:14

*"Consider it pure joy, my  
brothers, whenever you  
face trials of many  
kinds". James 1:2*

## ODCCW Convention

"Teaching and living the Light of Christ" is the theme of the Orlando Diocesan Council of Catholic Women Convention. It will be held at the Oceanfront Crowne Plaza Hotel in Indialantic from April 25-27. Registration fee for full time attendance is \$145 and hotel is \$117. If you are interested in more details and what meals are included in the registration, please go on-line at Orlando Diocesan Council of Catholic Women/events.

Hope you will consider attending. It is an opportunity to pray, share and grow with your sisters in council.

Attending convention is one way to be of support. Purchasing raffle tickets is another. Purchase 1 ticket (\$1.00) or 6 tickets (\$5.00) and you could win: Heirloom Quality Quilt, queen size; two nights, three days at Crowne Plaza, plus \$200; "Catholicism", 10 part DVD series by Fr. Robert Barron; Original Artwork by Spring Hill, Florida Artist. Tickets are available from the following CCW members: Faye Johnson, Diane DiSalvo, Mary Miske and Kathy Kirchon.

*"Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not  
be afraid. The Lord, the Lord, is my strength  
and my song, ; he has become my salvation".  
Issiah 12:2*

*"Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and  
perfector of our faith, who for the joy set before  
him, endured the cross, scorning its shame, and  
sat down at the right hand of the throne of  
God". Hebrews 12:2*