



The Spirit

A Publication of the
Steubenville Diocesan Council of Catholic Women



A Tribute to our Past DCCW Presidents

Vivian Kuhn and Barbara Jean Applegarth

*“As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards
of God’s varied grace.” 1 Peter 4:10*

Some of the most valuable gifts we can share with others are our faith, our time, our talents, our energies and our joy in serving others. Vivian Kuhn and Barbara Jean Applegarth were good stewards of their God-given gifts.



18 May 1933 - 16 Sept 2015



10 Oct 1933 - 28 Dec 2015

Vivian Kuhn of Toronto in Mother of Hope Deanery served as President of our DCCW from 1988-1992. Vivian would encourage people to do the impossible. Promoting new initiatives - one of which is this newsletter *The Spirit* - she called on others to use their gifts in various ways to advance the mission of the Council. Her energetic leadership continued when she was named Province Director, acting as liaison between the DCCW and the NCCW.

Barbara Jean Applegarth of Barton in Presentation Deanery was DCCW President from 2000-2004. Barbara Jean was relentless in her efforts to honor everything that would improve and enlighten all the members of the Council. In her quiet methodical ways, she worked endless hours to make the commissions work effectively and served on diocesan projects whenever she was asked. Her deep life of spirituality translated her love of God and community into action and service.

Vivian and Barbara Jean were the recipients of the *Pro Ecclesia Et Pontifice* (For Church and Pontiff) Medal, the highest medal awarded to laity by the Papacy. This award is recommended by the Bishop to the Holy Father for meritorious service to the Diocese. Bishop Sheldon presented the medals to them in 2001.

Our June 2016 DCCW Convention was dedicated to them. We are happy to dedicate this issue of *The Spirit* to these women who loved the Church, their diocese, their parishes, their families and the Catholic Woman’s Club where they graciously served the women of the Steubenville Diocese as Presidents.

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Donna Turner, Editor

Special points of interest:

- Christ our Light, Cambridge, Visitation Deanery
- St. Ann’s, Chesapeake, Nativity of Mary Deanery
- St. Agnes, Mingo Junction, Mother of Hope Deanery
- St. Joseph, Bridgeport, Presentation Deanery
- St. Henry, Harriettsville, Visitation Deanery
- Veronica Way, Province Director of Cincinnati

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Talk, Listen, & Act with Christ our Light Parish CWC

A Mardi Gras celebration provided a Lenten challenge for the women of St. Benedict Church and Saints Peter & Paul Oratory. CWC President Sandy Broom facilitated three fun and meaningful activities at this Fat Tuesday meeting.

The ladies were reminded about how important it is TALK to God and put Him above all else in their lives. An unsteady block & rubber band structure, which represented how life's obstacles can keep us from God and make our lives unsteady, was examined by the group. The ladies rebuilt the structure to show how sturdy it could become when God was put first and life's obstacles were managed.

Another activity was a message relay game where sentences were repeated to team members with the final messages turning out much differently than the original. This demonstrated how poor listening skills are detrimental to hearing God's voice. LISTEN to what God is telling us - don't just make His message what we want or expect to hear.

The third activity invited the attendees to remove one of their strings of Mardi Gras beads and intertwine it with the beads of others. The resulting beautiful mosaic of colorful beads (talents) encouraged the ladies to ACT by sharing their time, talents, and treasure in new ways.

Thank you, Sandy Broom, for sharing these wonderful activities.



Mission Statement

Diocesan Council of Catholic Women ☸ Diocese of Steubenville

The Diocesan Council of Catholic Women (DCCW) of the Diocese of Steubenville is a group of "called and gifted" Catholic women organized on parish, deanery, and diocesan levels and is affiliated with the National Council of Catholic Women (NCCW).

By God's call we endeavor to foster and encourage the spiritual development of our members and support the application of Catholic principles to all areas of social concerns.

Through the prayerful study of NCCW directives on the commissions, we attempt to instruct and motivate our members to accept their responsibility of bringing about God's kingdom in the world for God's honor and glory.

We recognize and address the spiritual and temporal needs of the family, the parish, the community and the world.

DCCW website: www.diosteub.org/DCCW

Officers: Pam Ambrose, President; Nancy Doerr, Vice-President; Joanne Kolanski, Secretary; DeDe Kidder, Treasurer; Elizabeth Duché, Auditor; Carolyn Estadt, Historian.

Pam can be contacted by phone 740-546-3685 or send mail to P.O. Box 234, Harrisville, OH 43974.





Silence & Gratitude

A Lenten Day of Spirituality - Presented by Anne Kertz Kernion

Sponsored by the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women

April 1, 2017

St. Mary Church, St. Clairsville, Ohio



Anne's creative bookmarks, magnets and cards, as well as her new book, are available at www.cardsbyanne.com.

Each year during the Lenten season, the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women sponsors a Day of Spirituality for all the women of the diocese. This year Anne Kertz Kernion led the retreat for 142 women gathered at St. Mary's Church in Saint Clairsville. Combining insights from science and theology, she encouraged grateful daily practices and life styles. A resident of Pennsylvania, author, artist, wife, mother, and grandmother, she combined a mix of breathing exercises, videos, and music with her interesting PowerPoint presentations for two sessions: "Lessons from Silence: Our Catholic Tradition" and "The Grateful Life." She also facilitated a time of reflection and discussion among participants. The day's schedule included the Sacrament of Reconciliation and praying "The Stations of the Cross with Mary the Mother of Jesus." At the conclusion of the day, the women

were joined by Bishop Montforton who spoke of his desire to meet with various groups around the diocese - youth, married, men, women, those interested in a religious vocation. He took comments and questions from the group and remained at St. Mary's to celebrate the 4:30pm Mass to conclude the day.

Some of the points of Anne Kernion's presentations included:

- ◇ See every circumstance as a gift from God.
- ◇ Throughout the tasks of your day, offer a glance toward God.
- ◇ Find something new to be grateful for every day.
- ◇ Consider a new meaning for "www" as you contemplate your day - "what went well."
- ◇ Celebrating the blessings of the day and savoring the positive will help us to flourish and be happy.



WEAR YOUR GREEN

and plan to attend:



2018 DCCW Day of Spirituality

Saturday, March 17

St. Mary's Church

St. Clairsville



With Great Joy
We welcome our newest DCCW affiliate
St. Mary of the Hills Catholic Woman's Club
in Nelsonville,
Nativity of Mary Deanery!





St. Ann's CWC - Doing God's Work in Chesapeake

Situated along the Ohio River in Ohio's most southerly county, the women of St. Ann's are working to help the parish and the wider community. Our latest project is a ministry to the Catholic students at nearby Marshall University's Newman Center. We are sponsoring selected Thursday evening meals for students, "Dinner for a Dollar" gatherings in Huntington, WV at the university. This important ministry brings a bit of home cooking and interaction with mothers/grandmothers like their own to the far-from-home Marshall students.



Our group pursues several yearly worthy activities including holding clothing drives for the homeless and veterans; providing monetary donations to the local food bank, *Community Mission Outreach*; sponsoring the Baby Bottle Campaign and providing donations of baby items for the local pregnancy help centers; and scheduling pancake breakfasts to fund our CWC college scholarship for parish graduating seniors. Our annual rummage sale provides an inexpensive way for local community members to obtain items of need for their families.

Several activities sponsored by the women benefit our students. They include trips to the Fatima Shrine near Haverhill, purchase of items such as TVs, and sponsorship of the "Dress like a Saint" Halloween party. Reaching out to the larger community, the group supplies hygiene

items for needy public school children and contributes annually to four area public elementary schools to help their teachers supply necessary items to at-risk children.

Many activities help keep the focus on our faith. They include an annual Women's Retreat, a trip to the Huntington WV Synagogue to learn about Jewish culture, and sponsorship of other spiritual activities such as special presentations during CWC meetings and for the parish as a whole.

The women of St. Ann's are doing a small part to fulfill the mission of the National Council of Catholic Women to "support, empower and educate all Catholic women in spirituality, leadership, and service while responding with Gospel values to the needs of the Church and society in the modern world."

Thanks to Theresa Adkins for this submission!

Friendly Faces in St. Agnes CWC, Mingo Junction



The women of St. Agnes CWC invite new members through personal contact and parish bulletin announcements. They are warmly welcomed when attending their first meeting and introduced to everyone present. Through a presentation on the unit's activities in the parish, deanery and diocese, new members learn about the purpose of the group's projects and are invited to share their time and talents by participating. New faces are always welcome at all functions and meetings of the Catholic Woman's Club.



LORENA HOERCHLER has graciously offered her services as Photographer for DCCW events to assist DeDe Kidder with the council's webpage, as well as the council's newsletter *The Spirit*. She is Historian of Holy Family CWC and also Historian of Mother of Hope Deanery. Originally from Richmond, OH, she now resides in Steubenville where she is a Eucharistic Minister of Holy Communion and Lector at Holy Family Church. She is blessed with 3 children, 13 grandchildren, and 2 great-grandchildren.

Thank you, Lorena, for stepping up and offering your services!





Ministry to the Aging and Homebound in Bridgeport

One of the goals we hold dear to our hearts is our Ministry to the Aging and Homebound.

To remind older parishioners that we value their many years of contributions to our parish, the CWC sends birthday wishes to everyone who is 70 years old or older.

Specially-designed "Candle Cards" are sent to both men and women in our parish who are experiencing health issues or to let them know that we are thinking about them and praying for them. A candle is lit for them in church to accompany the sentiments in the card.

A project that we do every Christmas and Easter season is to deliver gifts (generally handmade by CWC women) to our aging and homebound parishioners. We have also offered masses for them and lit candles in church. The women of the CWC find that in visiting these individuals they come away with many blessings.

Our nearby nursing home is transitioning to new ownership. The CWC spearheaded a collection at both Bridgeport parishes (St. Joseph & St. Anthony) of small prizes for the nursing home's Bingo games

held twice a week for residents. The outpouring of generosity in providing prizes was tremendous! The residents thoroughly enjoy playing and winning! This has become a new year-round service project for us.

Our CWC supports the work of the parish by having several members serve as Ministers to the Sick taking Holy Communion to them each Sunday.

The sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is celebrated at a noon mass each spring and fall. Members of the CWC serve as Greeters in church, as well as exercise other liturgical ministries. In addition, we prepare a light lunch to which all are invited following the service.

Our Ministry to the Aging and Homebound of the parish does not cost us very much since most of what we need is donated. BUT the rewards we receive in sharing ourselves are PRICELESS!

Thanks to Barb Trytko for sharing this story!

Veronica's Viewpoint on



MENTORING

Thoughts from Veronica Way, Province Director of Cincinnati, Leadership Commission of NCCW

The future of our leadership is mentoring. Mentoring is asking someone to take on a title or project, giving them the direction they'll need, and then letting them take wing and fly using their time, talents, and treasure. If they need help along the way, be available to answer any questions that they ask. When the project is completed, whether perfect or a little rough around the edges, thank them... thank them... thank them, offer your tweaks, and then tell them that you are looking forward to working with them again. Realize that while you have the same goals, there is not always only one way to accomplish them. Be a source of encouragement as you invite women to accept new roles in the Council of Catholic Women at all levels!

DONNA TURNER is the new Editor of *The Spirit*. With a background as an elementary school teacher and church secretary, Donna has created newsletters for several groups. Hoping to acknowledge, appreciate, and celebrate the "gifted and talented" women of the Catholic Woman's Club around the diocese, the biannual publication will be an inspiring tool for sharing activities at both the parish and deanery levels. Donna is Historian of St. Joseph (Bridgeport) CWC. Originally from Weirton, West Virginia, Donna & her husband Jeff are members of St. Mary's Parish in St. Clairsville.





St. Henry's, Harriettsville Celebrates 150 Years

What a milestone!

The ladies of St. Henry's CWC took on a special project to mark this momentous parish occasion. It had been 35-40 years since a parish cookbook had been published. Not only does the new "St. Henry Catholic Church 150th Anniversary Edition" cookbook contain recipes of about 40 women, but current members also contacted former parishioners who have moved away to invite their contributions. By reviewing the previous cookbook and talking to family members, recipes from ladies of the parish who are now deceased were also gathered for inclusion. These "memorial recipes" honor women throughout the parish's existence.

In part, the *Appreciation* page of the cookbook reads: "With much gratitude and sincerity we thank the forefathers of St. Henry's for their tireless hours and sacrifices in constructing our beautiful church...Our parish

community is rooted in the deep faith of those members who lived the faith and took pride in passing it down to us. In addition to passing on the faith, the women of St. Henry's past and present have created a legacy of building a God-filled community through the sharing of prayers, stories and food. The CWC of St. Henry's is well known for its homemade noodles, angel food cakes and homemade pies that we serve at the annual Mother's Day dinner. Members of the St. Henry's Catholic Woman's Club (CWC) are proud of their accomplishments and wish to share some of their most cherished recipes. Some of the recipes are new and others are ones that have been passed down from generation to generation.

Happiness is like potato salad - when you share it with others, it's a picnic."

Thanks to Donna Archer for contributing this information!

Our Seminarians

Father Michael Gossett, Diocesan Vocation Director, introduced the seminarians present at the DCCW Convention. Pictured with Pope Francis at the convention are seminarians Peter Stetson, Nicholas Ward, newly-ordained Deacon Josh Erickson, and Jeremiah Hahn.



The CWC units of Visitation Deanery provided sixteen baskets for a raffle held at the DCCW Convention this year. The \$1500 that was raised from this activity was given to the Seminarians Assistance Fund.

The Mass offering from the Convention totaling \$534 was donated to Catholic Charities (Diocese of Steubenville).

THANK YOU to all the units who responded with a donation toward the Vigil Lights Memorial in Our Lady's Chapel on behalf of all women of the Diocese of Steubenville.

THANK YOU to all the CWC units who have contributed funds in 2017 for the Madonna Plan, the Archdiocese of Cusco, Peru, and Cross Catholic Outreach. If you still have funds to contribute, your check (payable to Steubenville DCCW) can be mailed to DeDe Kidder, DCCW Treasurer, PO Box 31, Tornado, OH 43964.





Behold the Handmaid of the Lord

72nd Annual DCCW Convention

June 7, 2017



When Catholic women gather to celebrate the blessings of God, great joy abounds in their fellowship! This was true when 165 women gathered at Holy Family Parish in Steubenville to celebrate their convention with the theme *Behold the Handmaid of the Lord*. The participants were encouraged to recognize Mother Mary and St. Teresa of Calcutta as role models. The Bishop encouraged them (in his homily during mass) to share two attributes of Mary: be simple of heart and be docile to the movement of the Holy Spirit in their lives. Sister Teresa Condit, OSIHJM in the convention Dedication reminded them that St. Mother Teresa was a holy woman, united to God and caring for others with kindness as if caring for Christ Himself. Blessed and loved by God, the women of the DCCW, like Mary and St. Teresa. are handmaids answering God's call to service.

The keynote address at the convention was given by Emilia Alonso-Sameño, a parishioner of St. Paul in Athens. Emilia is a member of the diocesan Mission Advancement Planning Advisory Task Force. She is also part of the Steubenville Diocese's task force that was created in response to Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si* (which translates "Praise be to you," the recurring phrase in St. Francis of Assisi's prayer *Canticle of the Sun* which praises God for creation). In his encyclical, Pope Francis offers a call to action to care for our common home. He encourages us to change our hearts and develop a healthy relationship with creation that makes loving creation and all its creatures an essential part of our faith.



During the Memorial Service, three representatives from each Deanery placed pink roses in a vase before the banner of Our Lady of Good Counsel beside the names of the past year's deceased members from all the CWC units.

Mass celebrated by Bishop Monforton and concelebrated by diocesan priests followed.



The afternoon's activities included awards to 26 parish CWC units for special service projects.

Father Paul Hrezo spoke about his trip to Cusco and the difference that donations from the DCCW have made. A photo display was available all day.

June Lawrence from Cross Catholic Outreach spoke of a wonderful international Christmas giving project called "Boxes of Joy."

Province Director Veronica Way rounded out the group of speakers with encouraging words for the group. Baskets and door prizes were awarded before the group sang "God Bless America" to close the convention.



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Prayer to Our Lady of Good Counsel

God of heavenly wisdom, you have given us Mary, Mother of Jesus, to be our guide and counselor. Grant that we may always seek her motherly help in this life and so enjoy her blessed presence in the life to come. O Mother of Good Counsel, patroness of the National Council of Catholic Women, intercede for us, that we may be wise, courageous and loving leaders of the Church. Help us, dear mother, to know the mind of Jesus, your son. May the Holy Spirit fill us with the reverence for God's creation, and compassion for all God's children. May our labors of love on earth enhance the reign of God and may God's gifts of faith and living hope prepare us for the fullness of the world to come. Amen.



Our Lady of Good Counsel
Patroness of the National
Council of Catholic Women

