



BULLETIN BOARD

national council of
catholic women

IMPORTANT DATES

DECEMBER 2009

- 1 World AIDS Day
- 8 Feast of the Immaculate Conception
- 12 Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas
- 25 Christmas

JANUARY 2010

National Eye Care Month

National Volunteer Blood Donor Month

- 1 New Year's Day
- Feast of Mary, Mother of God
- World Day of Peace
- Affiliation Membership Dues deadline**
- 3 Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord
- 3-10 National Migration Week
- 10-16 National Vocations Awareness Week
- 18-25 Annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
- 21-24 NCCW Board of Directors meeting, Washington, DC**
- 21 National Prayer Vigil for Life, Washington, DC
- 22 Day of Penance and Prayer
- March for Life, Washington, DC
- 31-2/6 Catholic Schools Week

FEBRUARY 2010

Catholic Press Month

Black History Month

- 7 World Day for Consecrated Life
- 7-10 Catholic Social Ministry Gathering – Washington, DC
- 11 World Day of the Sick
- 17 Ash Wednesday
- 22 Feast of the Chair of St. Peter the Apostle

MARCH 2010

90th Anniversary of NCCW

Women's History Month

- 25 Annunciation
- 28 Palm Sunday

APRIL 2010

- 1 Holy Thursday
- 2 Good Friday
- 3 Holy Saturday
- 4 Easter Sunday

Dear Readers:

As you know, the National Council of Catholic Women is changing to meet the needs of our members. As a result of the bylaws that were approved at the Jacksonville convention, three new commissions—Spirituality, Leadership, and Service—have been created to support NCCW's mission. Among several changes, the Regional Vice Presidents are now serving as the national commission chairs.

This change in the national commission structure can be implemented by diocesan, subdivision, and parish organizations, but it is not required. Affiliated organizations that decide to keep their current commission or committee structure should note that the Spirituality Commission encompasses Church and Legislation, the Leadership Commission includes Organization, and the Service Commission encompasses Family, Community, and International Concerns.

May the peace of our savior, whose coming in time we celebrate, fill your hearts and lives,

Karen Painter, Service Commission Chair
Joanne Pohland, Spirituality Commission Chair
Judy Powers, Leadership Commission Chair

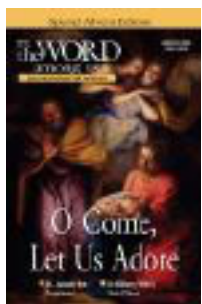
MISSION STATEMENT

The National Council of Catholic Women acts through its membership to support, empower and educate 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.

Combined Commission newsletter of the National Council of Catholic Women, 200 N. Glebe Rd., Suite 703, Arlington, VA 22203. Phone: 703-224-0990; fax: 703-224-0991. E-mail: nccw01@nccw.org. Bulletin Board is produced twice a year and posted on the NCCW web site: www.nccw.org.

Year for Priests Pope Benedict XVI has declared a “Year for Priests” beginning with the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus on June 19, 2009. The year will conclude in Rome with an international gathering of priests with the Holy Father from June 9-11, 2010. With the announcement of this Year for Priests, the Pope has declared St. John Vianney the Universal Patron of Priests on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the death of the Curé d’Ars. You will find a number of resources to aid your parish’s celebration of the year for priests at www.usccb.org/yearforpriests/announcement.shtml. There is also information regarding events for priests that will occur throughout the Year for Priests. Please pray for our priests that they might always be faithful to their sacred calling.

The Word Among Us This resource offers daily meditations based on the Mass readings of the Catholic Church, inspirational essays and stories of the saints, and other Christian heroes and more! It is available in several editions including English, Spanish, and online versions. One of the versions even includes the Mass readings for every day of the year and the complete order of Mass. The website also has a daily meditation as well as all the information for subscribing to this daily prayer resource. Check it out at www.wau.org.



Electronic Liturgy of the Hours Universalis Publishing was begun in 1995 with the aim of harnessing computer technology to help in enriching the spiritual life of Christians specifically by making the liturgical and devotional resources of the Catholic Church available on the new electronic media. The Universalis web site does all the calendar calculations for you and presents you with the

Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta’s Prayer for Priests

Mary, Mother of Jesus, throw your mantle of purity over our priests. Protect them, guide them and keep them in your heart. Be a mother to them especially in times of discouragement and loneliness. Love them and let them belong completely to Jesus. Like Jesus, they too are your sons, so keep their hearts pure and virginal. Keep their minds filled with Jesus, and put Jesus always on their lips, so that He is the one they offer to sinners and to all they meet. Mary, Mother of Jesus, be their Mother, loving them and bringing them joy. Take special care of sick and dying priests and the ones most tempted. Remember how they spent their youth and old age, their entire lives serving and giving all to Jesus. Mary, bless them and keep a special place for them in your heart. Give them a piece of your heart, so beautiful and pure and immaculate, so full of love and humility, that they, too, may grow in the likeness of Christ. Dear Mary, make them humble like you and holy like Jesus. Amen.

psalms and readings for each hour of the day. Now, more than ever, it is important that we obey the Lord’s command and pray without ceasing, to sanctify time, the world, and ourselves. The Universalis website has been created to give us all, wherever we are, at all times, the chance to participate in the Church’s universal prayer. One click—one bookmark—and we can pause for a moment in our busy lives and contemplate what really matters. Check it out at: <http://www.universalis.com>.

Family Night Have you been searching for materials for “Family Night”? Emily Cavins has developed materials to help you and your family spend some spiritual time together. The plans include fun activities, discussion time, and even the sharing of a creative snack. Each family night corresponds to the current Sunday readings. You can find out more about these materials at <http://jeffcavins.com>.



The Great Adventure is a Catholic Bible learning system that makes the complex simple by teaching the story (the narrative) of the Bible. Developed in 1984 by Jeff Cavins, *The Great Adventure* identifies the 14 narrative books that tell

the big story of the Bible from beginning to end and helps people to continue reading Scripture on their own. *The Great Adventure* Catholic Bible study system provides related materials that include video DVDs, audio CDs, and workbooks. In addition, other Bible studies are also available. For more information, go to <http://greatadventureonline.com>.



Bookshelf

The Glory of Angels by Edward Lucie-Smith, a large-format book, provides brilliant images of how artists through the ages have imagined angels—Christian and in other religious traditions—along with quotes from Scripture, saints, and authors. Collins Design ISBN # 9780061787775. 192 pages, hardcover. \$35.00.

In 150 Bible Verses Every Catholic Should Know Patrick Madrid selects key verses to provide a window into Scripture that works for both beginners and regulars who read and pray with Scripture often. Servant Books, ISBN # 8780867169027. 168 pages, paperback. \$14.99.

Can God Be Trusted by Rev. Thomas D. Williams explores the most common obstacles to trusting God, including personal betrayals and seemingly unanswered prayers. FaithWords, ISBN # 9780446515009. Hardcover, 224 pages. \$19.99.



Leadership Defined (Websters Online Dictionary) In common usage, leadership generally refers to:

1. The position or office of an authority figure, such as the President;
2. A group of influential people, such as the union leadership;
3. Capacity or ability to lead, as in the phrase "she exercised effective leadership."

The question is which common usage of Leadership is used in the context of the National Council of Catholic Women? They all apply—we have officers, CCW is an influential group, and we encourage our members to develop leadership abilities. The Leadership Commission will be addressing these issues and more.

Leadership = Organization

The commissions may have new names and the structure may be different, but the core beliefs and message remain the same. The Leadership Commission will include: Communication, Publicity, Membership Recruitment, Membership Retention, Leadership Development and Training, Bylaws, Meetings, Mentoring, Image, and Programs. Under each of these "headings" are many sub-headings as well. The goal of this commission will be to help each affiliated organization become true leaders within their church and local communities.

Campaign for Human Dignity

The National Council of Catholic Women has chosen to work on "Building a Campaign for Human Dignity." Our Immediate Past President, Bobbie Hunt, represents NCCW on the Religious Alliance Against Pornography, and an article will appear in the January-February issue of *Catholic Woman*. While we realize that your calendars are in place and you may have set your programs for 2009-2010, the Leadership

Commission will be providing suggestions for weaving this campaign into your current programming. If you are able to add a program to your activities this year, this will go even further to promote this vital and relevant campaign.

What is the Image of your CCW?

We hear it time and time again, "The CCW only bakes cookies, they are a nice group of ladies, and they do receptions." Is that what you are really all about? Many of you are saying, "We are so much more than that." That is true, but what is the message you are sending? Let us take the bake sale, for instance. This is a good fundraiser and there is no reason to do away with bake sales. So how do we take this good idea and use it to improve the CCW image?



One place to start is to look at the advertisement for the bake sale—the bulletin announcement, the posters, etc. Does your advertisement include what you do with the proceeds? How about a bulletin announcement that reads, "The St. Mary CCW supports Catholic Relief Services programs such as Water for Life and is holding a bake sale to continue this effort." By putting the purpose first, you help change your image!

Hats Off to NCCW!



was started by a past Deanery President, Karen Meiring, and it all boils down to "passing the hat." (We use a black top hat.) It is simply passed

around the entire room as part of the **Membership Committee** report and women are invited to put in a dollar or so....and then the money is totaled and **NCCW Memberships** (at \$25 each) are awarded to parishes, also "drawn from the hat." We put all parishes in our deanery into the hat....represented at the meeting or not. Yesterday we collected \$90....so

we gave a **NEW NCCW Membership** to three of our parishes and a fourth runner up got \$15 and was told to add the extra \$10 from their parish funds (which they easily agreed to do). The parishes may award this **NEW NCCW Membership** to a member in any way they choose. (Cumberland Mountain Deanery, Knoxville DCCW)

NCCW Memberships make a great Christmas gift!

More Ideas

Evelyn Lompa, Past Organization Chair

The Gift of Now

Times are tough. Helping your neighbor is the word of the day. Why not start with



your parish? Talk to your pastor or parish administrator about starting an "Unemployment Ministry." People who have experienced job loss can network with other parishioners. Create a part of your parish bulletin for want ads—people might share their personal information and find local business openings. Adopt a family year round. Link families who are struggling economically, with "angels"—other parishioners who can offer some joy!

Take Out—Family Faith On the Go

Share a Point of View

Listen
Ask questions
Listen again
Ask more questions
Listen some more
Then—respond.
From *Winning With People* by John C. Maxwell

Membership

Visit the NCCW website frequently—stay informed!
A Great Idea—for membership!
Become a "Membership Pen Pal"
Susan Snider, OC Chair

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Leadership continued from page 3

A/DCCW Portland, Oregon

A Strategy for Developing Leaders
Leaders understand that it takes one to know one, show one, and grow one. Believe in them. Encourage them. Share with them. Trust them.

John C. Maxwell **Mentoring—Share Your Stories and Dreams**

Enjoy the journey together!
Mentoring helps train new leaders.

Mentoring helps to re-energize a stalled council.

Mentoring improves communication between affiliated and non-affiliated parishes.

Mentoring helps to develop a rapport

between all women—established and new members.

Mentoring 101, John C. Maxwell
NCCW Mentoring Program

Leadership Training Development (LTD)

NCCW has its own Leadership Training Program!
Available to members at all rings of council!
Have you checked the website for

SERVICE

Family, Community & International Concerns

National Coalition for the Protection of Children & Families

"For the Lord loves justice...

" Psalm 37:28

The National Coalition launched *p.u.r.e. JUSTICE* earlier this year, an initiative calling on the Christian community to take individual and collective action against the evils of sex trafficking, prostitution, and pornography. The National Coalition's primary goals for the initiative are to educate the community about the facts surrounding the commercial sex industry while advancing the biblical call to a justice lifestyle founded upon integrity and purity of mind, body, and soul. You can read the white paper, "Exploited: Sex Trafficking, Porn Culture, and the Call to a Lifestyle of Justice," at www.purejustice.org.



iCare... about protecting children. With the goal of 1 million members, *iCare...* about protecting children continues to impact thousands of families by offering prayer, education, and mobilization for the protection of children and youth from sexual exploitation through wireless technology. Results from this past year include:

✓ Distributing more than 35,000

copies of *Sex and Cell Phones... protect your children* booklets to help parents understand and deal effectively with this challenge.

✓ Using the technology for good with an *iCare* Facebook page and monthly web-based discussion and prayer through TalkShoe.com.

We must stay on the forefront of this changing technology so that we can effectively educate and mobilize parents about the real threats of this wireless world.

Catholic Guide to the Internet

"These technologies are truly a gift to humanity and we must endeavor to ensure that the benefits they offer are put at the service of all human individuals and communities, especially those who are most disadvantaged and vulnerable."

Pope Benedict XVI
Message for World Day of Communications 2009

It only takes a minute to make a difference in the life of a child. There are lots of small, positive things we can all do to help protect and nurture our children that only take a minute, "A few words of praise and encouragement to a child, listening carefully to what a child has to say, showing a child you care, saying 'I love you' – all are simple actions that added together have been shown to have a profound impact on a child's life." In these very real ways, we can all support children and strengthen families.

Catholicmom.com Faith, family, and fun from a Catholic perspective are all discussed here in the form of podcasts and articles from various columnists and contributors. www.catholicmom.com.

There's a Catholic app for that...

A list of popular applications for your iPhone includes iBreviary if you want to pray and listen to the Liturgy of the Hours but left your breviary at home.

World Beat

Afghanistan's Women Breadwinners Beat Hunger In Afghanistan, impoverished women are escaping poverty and hunger through CRS-supported self-help groups. Read more at www.crs.org.

Rape in Congo: Grim Statistics, Tender Victims and counselors in Goma, Democratic Republic of the Congo, report that civilian men are joining the ranks of armed groups committing rapes. More at www.crs.org.

Catholic Relief Services, the official humanitarian agency of the U.S. Catholic community, lists relief organizations and ways to get involved internationally. www.crs.org.

Human Life International works with people of all faiths and cultures throughout the globe to spread the pro-life message: www.hili.org.