

BULLETIN BOARD

IMPORTANT DATES

MAY

WUCWO Day of Prayer
Older Americans Month

- 9 Mother's Day
- 9-15 National Women's Health Week
- 11 Proposed NCCW Resolutions due**
- 13 WUCWO Day of Prayer**
- 13 Feast of the Ascension (observed)
- 15-16 NCCW Board of Directors' meeting**
- 23 Pentecost
- 31 Memorial Day (observed)

JUNE

10th Anniversary of Mary's Garden
Home Safety Month

- 1 Registration opens for 2010 NCCW National Convention, Washington, DC**
- 14 Nominations for President-Elect due**
- 20 Father's Day
- 20 World Refugee Day
- 30 Nominations for NCCW's Our Lady of Good Counsel Award due**

Dear Readers:

We heard you! You told us how much you value *Bulletin Board* so we are pleased to produce the second of four issues for 2010. We hope this new quarterly schedule will provide a wealth of timely resources for your commissions and committees. As you know, *Bulletin Board* is now available primarily here on our website, www.nccw.org.

In this issue, take note of the ways you can attune your council and personal efforts to promote the NCCW "Campaign for Human Dignity": the legislative and spirituality resources, the service projects, and the leadership activities that promote the inherent dignity and value of human life.

We are planning in earnest for the 2010 National Convention which will take place in Washington, D.C., November 10-13: Celebrating 90 Years: Rejoice and Renew. This promises to be a blockbuster convention with a pre-convention workshop, breakout sessions, panel discussions, general session speakers, visits to sites particularly relevant to Catholic women, and a gala celebration of NCCW's proud history and promise for the future. Now is a good time to ensure that each diocesan and parish organization will be there. There is time to host a fundraiser to send multiple representatives to Washington so you and your council can share in the benefits for the whole year. You will return inspired and energized, armed with practical ideas for education, service, and renewal for your council.

We look forward to seeing you in Washington!

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.

Church & Legislative Concerns

There's a New App for That

Magnificat USA, publisher of the monthly Catholic worship aid, *Magnificat*, has announced the launch of its daily prayer application on iPhone, which will be available at the iPhone App Store. Presented in a day-by-day format, the Magnificat app includes the following features: morning, evening, and night prayers inspired by the Liturgy of the Hours; readings and prayers of each daily Mass; daily meditations drawn from the best writings of the Church Fathers as well as recent spiritual masters; essays on the lives of the saints from yesterday and today. The rates are: 99 cents per week; \$2.99 per month; \$14.99 for 6 months; and \$19.99 for one year. For more information please contact: Paul Snatchko at Tel.: (914) 502-1846 or Email: press@magnificat.com. Check it out online at: <http://www.magnificat.net/english>.

Masstimes.org Mass Times was developed in 1994, to help traveling Catholics in the USA find a nearby church with a schedule of religious services. Their previous toll-free telephone inquiry service is now a toll-call. Since 2005, Mass Times provides a link to connect the visitor with the parish/diocesan web site or Mass Times provides the church location and contact information. The service offer a user-friendly Internet web page program for parish/diocesan/volunteer updates of church worship, contact, and location data.



Strengthening Marriages In the National Pastoral Initiative for Marriage (NPIM) the U.S. Catholic bishops call attention to the meaning and value of married life for the Church and for society. Bringing Catholic belief into dialogue with contemporary needs, the bishops urge the Catholic Church to become

The Holy Father's Prayer Intentions

June 2010

Respect for Human Life

General: That every national and transnational institution may strive to guarantee respect for human life from conception to natural death.

The Churches in Asia

Missionary: That the Churches in Asia, which constitute a "little flock" among non-Christian populations, may know how to communicate the Gospel and give joyful witness to their adherence to Christ.

Mark Your Calendar

2010 NCCW Convention

Celebrating 90 Years:

Rejoice and Renew

November 10-13, 2010

Washington, DC

a community of hope and help for marriages and to join others in building a culture of marriage. The initiative weaves together the Catholic faith tradition and its pastoral practice, the data of social science, and the experience of married couples to offer guidance and resources, including a pastoral letter, in order to promote, strengthen, sustain and restore marriages. Go to: <http://www.usccb.org/laity/marriage/npim.shtml>.

Theology of the Body

Resources—

To Get You Started

Websites

www.christopherwest.com

www.theologyofthebody.com

www.ewtn.com (lists JP II's audiences on the theology of the body—short summaries)

www.aquinasandmore.com

Legislative Concerns

Legislative Updates For the latest information on legislative issues, see the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' website: <http://www.usccb.org>.

Immigration Reform Justice for Immigrants Campaign has developed a series of resources that address a wide range of topics related to immigration. These educational tools include information on how to reach out to the media, tips for pastors who are developing homilies on immigration related issues, and a fact sheet debunking commonly held myths. We encourage you to use these resources to educate yourselves, to educate others, and prepare your community on the upcoming debate on comprehensive immigration reform. Find more information at <http://www.justiceforimmigrants.org>.

Daily Prayer for the Success of "A Campaign for Human Dignity"

Almighty Father, please help the National Council of Catholic Women to educate and inspire its members to embrace the Campaign for Human Dignity. Help the members show leadership by writing or calling their legislators or by informing others on the importance of human dignity from conception to natural death. Let us be open to a deeper understanding of the truth God is proclaiming in our own bodies, that we are created to give. Let us learn to be a gift to all as we reach out to help others. May a study of John Paul II's Theology of the Body inspire and educate us in the meaning of life. We ask this through the intercession of Our Lady of Good Counsel. Amen.

How Do We Communicate With You?



NCCW is increasing communication via email, and we need current information for individual and affiliate members.

Many affiliated organizations have leadership changes in April and May. Send us your updated information as soon as possible! Send all membership record updates—an individual's, new President's, or Moderator's contact information—to Donna Principe, nccw01@nccw.org. Please put **Update my contact information**, in the subject line. For affiliation records, please include the name of the affiliation, the President, and Moderator information, including **mailing address, phone number, and email address**. It is most important that an email address is included for both the President and Moderator. It is helpful to name the past president so that her name can be removed from the affiliation information. All officers, both past and present, will continue to receive *Catholic Woman* magazine as long as their individual memberships are current and their contact information is up-to-date in the database.

Seeking the Best Ideas for Attracting Members!



How do we encourage women to join NCCW?

✓One idea is to give the gift of NCCW membership. When women see a connection with a national organization and the areas where NCCW members serve as leaders in the Catholic Church, they seek out participation at the local level.

✓Use your *Catholic Woman*! Right now, where is your current issue? Is it on your coffee table for all to see? Do

you take it to your meetings and mention it? If you have an extra copy, ask if you can leave it in your doctor's waiting room. It is a valuable tool in attracting members.

✓The "Hats Off" Idea from the Cumberland Mountain Deanery, Knoxville DCCW is one great idea, but is it the best idea? We are seeking the ten best membership recruitment ideas. Send them to Judy Powers—jepowers@bellsouth.net. The members of the Leadership Commission will choose the best ten ideas and the organizations will be recognized at the NCCW Convention in November.

Get More Done With Teamwork

Most of our Council work is done in committees or commissions. It is important these groups work as a team. According to Kristin Arnold, author of "Team Basics: Practical Strategies for Team Success," there are key things team members should do to say to your teammates, "I am going to be a good team player":



1. Be Prepared. To win the trust of your teammates, come to meetings well-prepared.

2. Know Your Strengths. Volunteer to do what you do best.

3. Ask for Help. It's a good thing. Many times people avoid asking for help because they don't want to look bad to their teammates.

4. Watch Your Air Time. The currency of teams is air time, in other words, talking time. While it's important to have the courage to

share your ideas, you also want to balance that with listening to what others are saying.

5. Assume Positive Intent. If other team members upset you, it's best to assume they don't mean to. After you calm down, find a quiet time to talk directly with the person about the situation.

6. Learn to Communicate. Communication is the foundation of a successful team. Avoid bad habits: Don't be a know-it-all; don't gossip; and don't complain. "By being prepared and on time, by sharing your talents and asking for help when you need it, and by practicing positive communication habits, you'll be a valued team player, your team will get more done and you'll also have more fun," says Arnold.

Is your Council on the Web?

Has your organization decided to create a website? Do you know how to get started? Check out <http://www.catholicweb.com>. This site offers free website hosting and the tools to create your own website. All your activities can be posted on your website as well as registration forms for events. In this era of "going green," it offers a paperless way to communicate with not only your members, but with potential members. Widen your "audience" by asking your parish, A/DCCW Council and other appropriate websites to add a link on their website to your website. On your website, be sure to include links to your A/DCCW's website, your Province's website, and to the NCCW website. Appoint one or two people to update the website on a regular basis. A website is only as good as the content, and if it is not kept current, members or potential members will lose interest. You can send out an email when new information is posted to generate interest. If you keep your website current and interesting, your members will soon visit it on a regular basis. When developing your website, make sure that you are protecting the privacy of members. Post only email addresses and not street addresses.

Family, Community & International Concerns

Landmark Law Passes in Nebraska! Tuesday, April 13, the Nebraska Legislature passed the "Pain Capable Unborn Child Protection Act" which prohibits abortions in Nebraska after the unborn child can feel pain, which happens at twenty weeks. NLRC and Nebraska Right to Life lobbyists worked closely with Nebraska Speaker Mike Flood to make the bill's language as strong as possible. The legislation is the first of its kind. It is being described by observers as nothing short of "landmark." No state has ever passed a similar pain law.

The law is expected to be reviewed by the Supreme Court. If so, it could redefine a state's legitimate interest in protecting the child in the womb. For information, contact National Right to Life: nrlc@nrlc.org

Pornography is not just "harmless fun." The British newspaper *Daily Mail*, in its *Mail Online*, reported "Teen boys watching hours of Internet pornography every week are treating their girlfriends like sex objects." Teenage girls in London have themselves revived the concept of a chaperone for protection from the sexual demands of boyfriends who are growing up on porn. According to teens and experts, the pervasiveness of online pornography is quite literally changing young men into sexual predators, leaving young women seeking refuge and desperately desiring their parents' guidance. "I wish my parents would say I'm not allowed to be alone with a boy," one sixteen year-old told the *Daily Mail*. "They make this big deal about 'trusting us,' but that's not helping me." The article reports only 37% of parents in the U.K. have activated parental controls on their teenager's electronic devices.

The clear lesson is parents must talk with their children, talk with them about sex and our consumer culture's sexualized messages, and demonstrate their love by setting boundaries. The National Coalition for the Protection of Children and Families recommends that parents



consider installing filtering software on computers, phones, and gaming consoles. Covenant Eyes, as well as InternetSafety.com's Safe Eyes, are the programs they recommend. More information at www.national-coalition.org

Why Give to Catholic Relief Service? Because CRS is efficient, effective, and accountable. Of CRS's 2009 annual operating expenses, 94 percent of monetary donations were used for programs; CRS used only 6 percent of the money for fundraising, awareness, and administration. CRS meets all 20 Charity Standards of the Better Business Bureau. Please continue to give to Catholic Relief Services; they are always one of the first humanitarian relief agencies to respond to the world's tragedies.

If You Want To Cultivate Peace, Protect Creation

Pope Benedict XVI's 2010 World Day of Peace Message

Prudence calls the Church to engage in the issue of global climate for the common good. In the words of Pope Benedict, prudence is the virtue that "tells us what needs to be done today in view of what might happen tomorrow." The Church's efforts promote prudent action to address the growing impact of global climate change and pursue the common good in a very polarized debate. The bishops' primary concern within the current public debate is to place the needs of the poor and vulnerable at the center of climate legislation. Both at home and abroad, the poor contribute the least to climate change, but are likely to suffer its worst consequences.

God's creation is a gift and humans are stewards of this gift. As

Catholics, we believe that the earth and the entire web of life is a gift, created and found "very good" by God. The web of life is one, and our mistreatment of it diminishes our own dignity and sacredness. Humans are called to be stewards to God's creation, safeguarding the created world and by our creative work, even enhancing it. But we must remember that we are "co-workers" with God, called to care for and protect the world; we are not to take the place of God.

To learn more about how Catholics can respond to climate change, visit the Catholic Climate Covenant web site at <http://catholicclimatecovenant.org/>.

Going Green



Recycle old Christmas, Easter, birthday, thank you, and all occasion greeting cards by cutting off the fronts and sending them to:

St. Jude Ranch for Children
Recycled Card Program
100 St. Jude's Street
Boulder City, NV 89006

Thirty-four years ago, Father Ward, wanting to show donors his appreciation for making St. Jude's Ranch for Children possible and having no money to buy gifts, came up with the idea of turning the previous year's Christmas cards into Christmas gifts. Father Ward and the children worked diligently at recycling the cards. The recipients were so delighted with their recycled cards that they asked Father and the children to recycle more cards, but this time, the donors wanted to buy the cards. As of May 1, the St. Jude Ranch website noted a particular need for birthday and thank you card fronts. For information: <http://www.stjudesranch.org/index.php> or phone 1-877-977-7572 to order cards.