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Office of the President

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Cardinal Francis George, OMI
Archbishop of Chicago

November 2010

National Council of Catholic Women
200 North Glebe Road, Suite 725
Arlington, VA 22203

Dear Friends and Members of the National Council of Catholic Women:

As President of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, I am truly pleased to write to you to offer a word of congratulations and of thanks.

This year, the National Council of Catholic Women celebrates the 90th anniversary of its founding. Such longevity is a reflection of fidelity, especially as it is in service to Christ and to His Church. This is a moment to reflect upon how many faithful and committed Catholic women have passed through the ranks of the Council during those years, upholding the values of faith and family, with a special emphasis on the contributions of women to the Church and to our society. This anniversary is truly a moment to celebrate. On behalf of the Bishops of the United States, Congratulations!

This is also a moment for the Catholic Bishops of the United States to say thank you to all the past and present members of the Council. Since its inception, the Council has had a close link to the Bishops and has, both by prayer and by action, been supportive of the role of the Bishops in fostering Church unity. Your mission statement proudly proclaims that the Council responds to the challenges of each era "with Gospel values to the needs of the Church and society in the modern world". As we face the challenges of our own day, such as catechizing our children and bringing them up in the faith, fostering vocations to the priesthood and religious life, defending the institution of marriage, protecting the life of the unborn, and praying for the Church and the world, it is a comfort to know that you stand in solidarity with the Holy Father, the Apostolic See and with the Bishops of the United States. Thank you for all that you have done, are doing and will do for Christ. You are remembered in my prayers; please keep me in yours.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Francis Cardinal George, OMI
Archbishop of Chicago
President