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NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN ANNOUNCES

ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION, NOV. 10-13, 2010, IN WASHINGTON, DC

Arlington, VA—The National Council of Catholic Women (NCCW) will convene its 2010 national convention November 10-13, 2010, in Washington, DC. The theme of the convention is “Celebrating 90 Years: Rejoice and Renew.

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, more than 800 Catholic women are expected to attend the convention at the Renaissance Washington, DC Hotel.

“The National Council of Catholic Women was founded in Washington, DC, 90 years ago,” notes NCCW president Patty Johnson from the Diocese of Knoxville. “It’s fitting that our anniversary gala celebrating 90 years of service to Church and community take place in Washington.

“Church and society have changed in many ways since NCCW was founded,” continues Johnson, “and we’ve changed, too. What hasn’t changed is our commitment to serve those in need and to speak for those who are marginalized by society. Back in 1920, the local Catholic women’s groups represented by the founding members committed themselves to ‘social works,’ including the ‘girl problem,’ and challenges of child welfare, public morality, and immigration. Today, the NCCW Campaign for Human Dignity is aimed at the 21st century version of those same issues—sexual trafficking of women and children, pornography delivered via the internet, the sanctity of marriage, and immigration reform.”

The convention sessions are being developed to educate about issues and provide concrete models of projects that are within the scope of local Catholic women’s groups, Catholic parish communities, or individuals. “Meeting in Washington, DC, will allow us to tap the expertise and inspiration of social justice advocates, Catholic commentators, and federal policy makers,” says Joanne Dunne, Interim Executive Director of NCCW. “It also allows our members to enjoy the premier offerings of the nation’s capital—federal architecture, museums, theater, grand vistas, and great restaurants.”

All Catholic women interested in spiritual enrichment, leadership development, and service to the Church and society are invited to register and attend the convention. Full registration information will be available June 1 at **www.nccw.org**.

The National Council of Catholic Women represents more than 8,000 affiliated Catholic women’s organizations and individual members nationwide.

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