



The Mirror

Western DuPage Kendall Deanery Council of Catholic Women Newsletter

Happy Spring to ALL!

This is a time of year when new activities are all around us. The trees start to bud, plants are poking out of the ground, shopping for new clothes in brighter colors, and a new excitement for what is ahead - warm weather, picnics, vacations and all that goes with it.

So I ask you what is new with you. What can you think of to do that puts you in the midst of all the rest of the newness?

How about a new smile that maybe you do not show off enough or a new more positive attitude with a determination to share it all around. Add to that maybe a new approach to giving yourself some prayer time with God. Let yourself volunteer for something you have never done before. Be the CCW woman in your council, deanery or the diocese with the mostest (is that really a word?) of whatever they need.

You can be Spring and bring happiness to ALL!

Blessings with a smile!

Father Jim Antiporek
WDKD Moderator



Debi Rossi
WDKD President
praisegodtoday@aol.com

As I am close to the end of my two years as President of the Western DuPage Kendall Deanery Council of Catholic Women, I have a wealth of gratitude for so many blessings. I began this adventure having no idea of the incredible joys that lay ahead. Nor did I know how many women I would encounter on the way. All the wonderful people I have met while being a small part of this phenomenal ministry overwhelm me.

Each woman having special gifts to contribute, all willing to give what they have. Everyone has changed my life just by being part of it. You all helped me to believe that there really is good in the world. You are the living presence of God here on earth. Thanks to all the women who help make my position meaningful and wonderful. This opportunity to serve has challenged me to grow to become what God truly wants me to be. Many wonderful women founded this ministry in the past that laid down a foundation that has the power of endurance and I would like to express my appreciation to you all.

My prayer is that the Holy Spirit will continue to renew the hearts of all of us so that we will live out our callings with a deeper and more generous love and to continue to create a vision for tomorrow. Great love and service had truly come shining through. Rest and rejoice about the fact that you ladies have been a positive force in the world around you. Duty makes us do things well, but *love* makes us do them beautifully. Because I have known you, my friends, I know more of my God. I am thankful for you all.

"In everything give thanks" 1 Thessalonians 5:18

Your sister in Christ,
Debi Rossi, President

JDCCW Woman of the Year
Mass and Celebration
Saturday, April 24th

Legislation

Carol J. Wright dcwright@flash.net

Our Nation is at war. Not just in Iraq and Afghanistan but in the halls of Congress, in the White House, in our Illinois General Assembly and in our churches. By the time you see this we will probably know if the takeover of health care for every person in the United States has been accomplished or defeated. Has there ever been a time in history when our politics has been so ugly, personal, and embattled? I suppose at the time of the Civil War. At least we're not shooting at each other today. That's about all that can be said for it, however.

How can everything be so black and white? How can one person look at an issue and see it completely opposite from what the other person sees? I fervently believe that abortion has been at the root of the polarization of our country. When people don't see eye to eye on that issue they seem to go into their opposite corners and refuse to give an inch on anything. I know for a fact that I see everything through the prism of the reverence for life. I have a hard time respecting any public figure who basically believes it's all right to kill unborn children. I just can't get past that. I don't feel that I can trust someone who can't see that the most basic right of all is the right to life. Everything else is pretty meaningless if you don't have that foundation.

So does that make me a one issue voter? You can bet it does! I have to agree with Lila Rose, the brave young woman who poses as a 14 year-old and goes into abortion clinics all over the country and secretly films them breaking the law by telling her not to tell them that her supposed boy friend is 22. And not reporting that she is the victim of statutory rape. She says that if someone can tell her about an issue that has caused the death of 52 million children, and has wounded many millions of women physically, mentally and spiritually then she will buy into that issue. Until then, she will continue to make the right to life her number one priority. Amen.

Since legislation moves so quickly I can't even give you information about upcoming bills because it may all be over by the time this comes out. Do try to keep yourself informed, though. Our Bishop is doing a good job of encouraging participation and supplying information. You can go to www.ilga.gov

to find contact information for any of your elected representatives under Legislator Lookup in the lower right hand corner. Click on their name for info. Please don't get turned off by the ugliness. We need good people to be involved. Are they listening to us? You do wonder. There is an election coming up. Don't let anything keep you from registering to vote and actually getting out and voting.

ELECTIONS HAVE CONSEQUENCES. If you're not part of the solution, you're part of the problem. Go to www.icl-life.com to learn where candidates stand on the issues. It is not an endorsement but an educated guess as to how they would vote on the life issues. And pray! 2 Chronicles 7:14 *If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.* We truly need healing.

P.S. Thank you to the women from our Deanery who made the trip to Springfield for the NCCW Legislative Days and Catholic at the Capitol Day, March 2 and 3. It was an unforgettable experience.



Kelly Arcaro – Church Concerns

Greetings to my sisters in Christ and I offer my prayers for you to experience a closer relationship with our Lord during your Lenten journey. I am filled with wonder every year that this 40 day period is a different journey every time and the various missions that I am fortunate enough to attend continue to leave me with new lessons and insights into myself and my relationship with Jesus. Each year I try to find new spiritual readings to guide my journey. I am using "Lent and Easter Wisdom from Fulton J. Sheen". What I like about this book is that I can re-use it every year to guide me on my Lenten journey and his daily notes come from his recorded programs. The short paragraphs call to mind the longer talks that I used to hear on Relevant Radio. (Don't forget to tune into their Holy Friday programs at AM-930.)

The second most interesting “spiritual” reading that I recently completed is a novel by C.S. Lewis, *The Great Divorce*. This is a novel about the passage to heaven and deals with man’s freedom of choice and the choices of various characters as they are presented with the opportunity to enter the kingdom of heaven. Mr. Lewis was not Catholic; he was Anglican and wrote a number of books about religion and novels with strong religious themes. Harper’s magazine made an interesting and accurate comment about C.S. Lewis, “The point about reading C.S. Lewis is that he makes you sure, whatever you believe, that religion accepted or rejected means something extremely serious, demanding the entire energy of mind.” It does take a lot of energy to read some of his books and they always give me pause to consider.

We are preparing for Spring Institute which is Thursday May 20, 2010 at St. Scholastica in Woodridge. I hope that you will prayerfully consider serving the Deanery as a board member. I have found my time dealing with Church Concerns to be enlightening and deeply satisfying. I believe that the most rewarding opportunities have been the preparation of the masses for the Spring Institutes. I look forward to seeing you in May. Here is a quick Lenten recipe:

Fettuccine Alfredo Recipe (from *Cooking Light*)

1 T Margarine 2 small cloves garlic, minced
 1 T all-purpose flour 1-1/3 cups skim milk
 2 T light cream cheese
 1-1/4 c (2-1/2 ounces) grated Parmesan cheese, divided
 4 c hot cooked fettuccine, cooked without salt or fat
 2 t chopped fresh parsley Fresh ground pepper

Melt margarine in a saucepan over medium heat. Add garlic; sauté 1 minute. Stir in flour. Gradually add milk, stirring with a wire whisk until blended; cook 8 minutes or until thickened and bubbly (but not too thick), stirring constantly. Stir in cream cheese, cook 2 minutes. Add 1 cup Parmesan cheese, stirring constantly until it melts. Pour over hot cooked fettuccine; toss well to coat. Top with remaining 1/4 cup Parmesan cheese, fresh parsley and pepper. Yield: 4 servings (serving size: 1 cup)

Jane Wiedmeyer - Special Events Chair

Ladies, mark your calendars for two upcoming important events: the first is in the spring and the second is this fall.

We are invited to grow in his love” is the theme of this year’s deanery Spring Institute. On Thursday, May 20, the women of St. Scholastica parish will be our hosts. Our evening will begin with Mass, and include dinner, election of officers, and a speaker. More information will follow after Easter.

This fall, you, and all women of your parish, are invited to attend the Joliet Diocesan CCW 16th Biennial Convention. “United by the Spirit” will be held on October 22, 23, and 24 at the lovely Hilton Garden Inn in Kankakee. The weekend will include speakers, liturgies, officer elections, entertainment, workshops and more. Bishop Joseph Mark Siegel and our Diocesan Moderator, Rev. John Sebahar will preside at Mass on Saturday. Bishop J. Peter Sartain will preside at the Sunday Liturgy. More information will be mailed to all parishes this summer.



Bernie Dooley – Reverence for Life Mswolfie200@yahoo.com

Sometimes it feels like decisions are taken out of our hands, even when we vehemently express our heartfelt concerns. “What can we do?”, you may ask. We mustn’t give up and we should “pray constantly”. St. Monica is a great example of undiscouraged praying; she prayed for years for the conversion of her son, Augustine, He became a priest, a bishop, a doctor of the church and a powerful saint. Below are two sources of information to help us pray. Remember also that Reverence for life covers our whole life span, from cradle to natural death.

On a local level: Here are the three other clinics to pray at and for:

- Planned Parenthood, 3051 E. New York, Aurora,
- Advantage Clinic, 203 E. Irving Park Rd, Wood Dale,
- Aanchor Abortion Center, 1186 Roosevelt Rd., Glen Ellyn. Join Fr. Jarosz to prayer for a minute, half hour, or hour. Bring your rosary or stand quietly in prayer (every Saturday 8AM-1030AM)

MASSES FOR LIFE

In conjunction with the Forty Days for Life, daily Mass is being offered for Life. Please visit www.dioceseofjoliet.org/life/ for Mass locations and times. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' office www.usccb.org recommends

time for all who wish to support Catholic Education in our diocese. Watch future Mirror issues for information!

SPIRITUAL ADOPTION

Beginning on the Feast of the Annunciation, March 25, 2010, start a nine month spiritual program designed to have your parish pray for babies in danger of abortion, to educate about prenatal development and help mothers in need. A good program can be found at <http://www.flrl.org/SpiritualAdoption.htm>. You can adjust the timeline to fit your needs but beginning at Jesus' conception and ending around the time of his birth would be a great choice.

The Joliet Diocesan Life Office Resource Center can help you with Our Lady of Guadalupe Spiritual Adoption prayer cards and Watch Me Grow brochures. Posters and other resources suggested in the program can be purchased at Heritage House, www.hh76.com

Friends of Bishop Blanchette Scholarship Luncheon by Carie Berger

On Saturday, March 20th the Friends of Bishop Blanchette Scholarship Fund held their annual luncheon at White Fence Farm in Romeoville, IL. The luncheon was attended by 79 supporters of the FBBSF. The afternoon began with a beautiful Eucharistic Service by Father Jim Antiporek; who spoke of his bond with Bishop Romeo Blanchette as the Bishop who accepted him for the priesthood in the Diocese of Joliet. The afternoon continued with a delicious lunch from White Fence Farm and fun with a 50/50 Raffle and gift basket raffles.

All funds raised at the luncheon go to directly support the Bishop Blanchette Scholarship Fund. Application for the scholarship is open to all students attending any of the Joliet Diocese High Schools.

This year's luncheon was attended by various members of CCW from throughout the diocese. In addition, many husbands and friends participated making the event an overwhelming success. Consider attending next year. This is an enjoyable

Spring Institute, 2010
Thursday, May 20th
St. Scholastica, Woodridge IL
Speaker: Mary Sue Kegl

Let Us Go to the House of the Lord

"I rejoiced when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord.'" (Ps 122:1)

Come and share a time of prayer and reflection as you are led up to the house of the Lord, Jerusalem, by a fellow pilgrim, Mary Sue Kegl. She will immerse you in the passion of the Holy Land and the related scriptures through images and reflections from her past journey to this sacred land. See the places of the Bible come alive. See where Jesus, our Jewish brothers and sisters, and the 1st Christians walked and praised God. Once you step inside this biblical landscape, there is no turning back!

Our speaker, Mary Sue Kegl has a Masters Degree in Pastoral Studies from Loyola University and a certificate in Liturgy through San Anselmo in Rome through the Archdiocese of Chicago Office for Divine Worship. She is currently a Pastoral Associate at St. Alexander Parish in Palos Heights where her main responsibilities include the Liturgy, the RCIA process and Bible Study. She has been actively involved with these ministries along with training and formation of various ministers for over 20 years.

From the WDKD Nominating Committee

Well, it's been quite a journey and it isn't over yet! I would like to thank my fellow Committee members, Teri Lindeman, Mary Ann Walper and Fr. Jim Antiporek for their help with this Committee. Following is biographic information on our candidates for the 2010 – 2012 WDKD Board.

We are still looking for a Treasurer, if you are interested in this position, please do not hesitate to call or e-mail me at (630) 615-0200 or stellahoward@sbcglobal.net

I look forward to working with this board in the coming years!

Respectfully,
Stella A. Howard
Nominating Committee Chairperson

Carie Berger for the Office of President
(Photo unavailable)

Candidate's Name: Carie Berger
Parish: St Isidore
Current Position in JDCCW: None
Current Position in WDPK DEANERY: Mirror
Editor (2008-1010)
Current Position in Parish CCW: None
Past Experience in JDCCW: None
Past Experience in WDPK DEANERY:
International (2005-2008)
Past Experience in Parish CCW: President (2
years), Programs (2 years), various committees (St
Joseph Table, Confirmation Bishop Reception,
Craft Fair, Cookies for Kids - International
Children's Charity Fundraiser)
Woman of the Year (2004 or 2005 I was WOY from
St Isidore)
Convention Participation: NCCW: None
JDCCW: 2008 Convention
Other information: I became involved in CCW in
my parish to meet other women and make friends
and give to my parish community. I am proud of the
work we do in our parish, the deanery, diocese and
nationally. I have been married to my husband Don
for 21 years and we are blessed with a wonderful
son, Kevin who is graduating this year from St
Isidore School. Kevin will be attending St Edward
Central Catholic High School in the fall. In addition
to being involved with CCW, I work part time as a
reservationist for a limousine company, volunteer at
my son's school and have until recently served for
three years on the Board of Directors of the Bartlett
Raiders Youth Football League.

Venessa Lopatka Candidate for Vice President



Candidate's Name:
Venessa Lopatka
Parish: St. John the
Baptist, Winfield
Current Position in
JDCCW: Nominating
Committee for 2010

Current Position in WDPK Deanery: Recording
Secretary 2008-2010
Current Position in CCW: St. John the Baptist -
Publicity Chair 2009-2010.
Past Experience in JDCCW: None
Past Experience in WDK Deanery: None
Past Experience in CCW: at St. John the Baptist -
Co-Vice President in 2008-2009 and 2005-2006; Vice
President for two years when I first became involved
with CCW in 2001-2003. President in 2003-2005 and
again in 2006-2007.
Woman of the Year: 2004-2005
Convention Participation: JDCCW October 2006 and
October 2008
NCCW Minnesota, September 2003
Other information: After the NCCW convention in
Minnesota, in the Fall of 2003, I realized how
important CCW was not only on the Parish level but
in the Diocese and in Illinois.

My mother had always been involved with a group
similar to CCW when I was a child growing up in
Bartlett at St. Peter Damien, and I remembered how
she enjoyed it. She encouraged me to become
involved also.

I have been married to Jerry for almost 32 years and
have two sons; 22- year old, Mike and 19- year old,
Kevin. Mike will graduate from the University of Iowa
in May and Kevin is finishing his freshman year at
Iowa this year also. Both my sons attended the
Parish school at St. Johns and St. Francis High
School.

Currently, I am employed in the DuPage County
Treasurer's office in charge of the accounting. I
passed the CPA exam 32 years ago, just before
Jerry and I were married. Jerry also is a CPA in a
partnership in Wheaton. We started our family almost
10 years after we were married, and I was a stay at
home mom for 17 years. During that time I was
involved with La Leché League for 5 years helping
mothers who chose to breastfeed their babies. When
my oldest, Mike, was in 2nd grade and Kevin in
preschool, at our Parish school, I started a long term
involvement with the Parents Club for 9 years. I was
either the Parents Club treasurer or president.
Additionally, I co- chaired two fund-raising events at
St. Francis High School the years before I returned to
paid employment in 2005. I also am grateful to be a
colon cancer survivor for 6 years!

Andrea Closs Candidate for Secretary



Candidate's Name: Andrea Closs
 Parish: St. Matthew, Glendale Heights
 Current Position in JDCCW: N/A.
 Current Position in WDPK DEANERY: Was on the Family Commission only from September 2009 and was "recruited" at NCCW.
 Current Position in Parish CCW: Vice President (first year of a two year term).
 Past Experience in JDCCW: None.
 Past Experience in WDPK DEANERY: None because I just joined WDPK Deanery in September and only went to one meeting.
 Past Experience in Parish CCW: Membership Chair (2 years)
 Woman of the Year: No, not yet ;-)
 Convention Participation: Attended one in Jacksonville, FL in September 2009.
 NCCW 2009 Convention
 JDCCW None.
 Comments: Along with being involved with CCW, I taught English as a Second Language for several years to adult learners while their children were receiving religious education. Currently, I am a Project Gabriel Angel and am helping my second mom. Her baby was born two weeks ago (in March 2010). The first baby will be two years old in June.

Notes from the Mirror Editor

The next Mirror will be published in Mid-April with all the details of our upcoming Spring Institute. Please forward this newsletter to your parish CCW members.

If you would like to send me updated email contacts to receive The Mirror, please do so at my email address: carie.berger@att.net

In our April Issue, we would also introduce the Western DuPage/Kendall Deanery parish Women of the Year. Please forward a brief bio of your

parish WOY so that she may be included in this recognition as we prepare for the Joliet Diocese WOY Celebration Saturday, April 24th.

Around the Parishes will be in our next issue. If you have a parish event you would like to promote, please forward this information to me as well.

Thank you

Carie Berger, The Mirror Editor

