



# Western DuPage Kendall Deanery Diocese of Joliet



## *The Mirror*



Joliet Diocese Council of Catholic Women  
402 S. Independence Blvd. Romeoville, IL

**Western DuPage Kendall Deanery**  
Council of Catholic Women Newsletter

**Winter, 2008**

**Carie Berger, Mirror Editor**

Happy New Year to all! As the holidays end, Ordinary time begins in our church calendar, all leading up to Lent and the beginning of the most wonderful time of the year, Easter. I hope you enjoy the latest edition of *The Mirror* and if you have any ideas or suggestions, please forward them along! My home email [berger389@netzero.net](mailto:berger389@netzero.net) The next deadline for *The Mirror* is Monday, March 3, 2009. I received the following update from Fr. Jim:

I wanted everyone to know I am just fine and grateful for all the kind thoughts and prayers. The new year certainly took a different twist. Most of you know I was scheduled for my right knee surgery on the 5th of January. One of the doctors did not like a number from my stress test. After several other tests, they did an angiogram on January 9th and found some blockage in one artery and inserted a stint. I had no symptoms or pain and the good news is all is fixed and I am fine. The down side is I now must wait 6 to 8 weeks before they can do the knee surgery. I am smiling and happy to know my guardian angel was looking after me. Thank you my wonderful CCW ladies for your support and prayer. Fr Jim

**Father Jim Antiporek**  
**WDKD Moderator**

We look forward to the next big Church Season LENT! This is not a negative dark season but a wonderful opportunity to get rid of old, useless, habits and develop some positive, life enriching ones. Ask yourself what is keeping you from being totally happy with how your life is going? No you cannot sell the children or exchange your husband (ha ha he he!). Are you spending too much time with worry? Do you find yourself involved in too much gossip that goes nowhere? Have you allowed yourself to become a little lazy and now wait for someone else to do the job? Or what? Now is the time to pick your old self up and dust off the past. Put on a new look and commit to being a new person. Remember in Baptism you were named for Christ and He took up residence within you. Let the Christ in you lead the way. Yes, a few changes may need to happen but you can do this. Make some time for prayer each day. It does not have to be hours but you do need to connect with God often. Just a quick, Hi God I'm still here and need You, several times a day will help keep you focused. Take part in a Penance service and get the Lord's forgiveness and grace. Try a weekday Mass or Stations of the Cross. When we change up the old routine we often find new energy and that peace and happiness we have been looking for. I am ready for Lent, a Happy Lent that is. I hope you are too! Let's be prayer partners for the season and together look forward to a Happy Easter!

Peace and Blessings,  
Father Jim Antiporek

**Debi Rossi**  
**WDKD President**  
[praisegodtoday@aol.com](mailto:praisegodtoday@aol.com)

### **A Life out of Balance**

So, the holidays are over, the long list of activities that takes us from Thanksgiving to New Years are done. What do we do now? No more long days of preparation, no more long nights of creating menus, cookies, lists and memories!! It was all a resounding success- families bonded, children were inspired, and our community achieved a higher level of unity through the power of working together on one service to mankind after the other.

We should be proud!! Right?? So what is that sinking feeling that gnaws at us, you know the one. It gets you right in the middle of your chest. You try to ignore it, - but that does not work. As the days go by, it becomes more of a sense of foreboding, like something really bad is going to happen, but what could it be? When we continue to ignore it, it will continue to migrate towards a high level of anxiety that, at its peak, releases itself into a kind of loneliness, an ache that you cannot seem to fill. Sound familiar??

It is called: a life out of balance. We spend so much time doing all that the material world requires of us; the food, the presents, family gatherings, cleaning, cooking, shopping, the parties,

time spent in service to church - and we spend very little time being still. That nagging feeling is kind of like a cell phone calling you from Heaven, God is present, He wants you, He needs you to help His children to remember Him here on earth. He is calling you to account each day, to reflect on your progress towards an everlasting life with Him. Now you would never consider not answering your husband, or your friend, or your child would you?

He reminds us to recognize that we are, primarily, *spiritual beings having a human experience*, not vice versa. We are called, by God, to just be still and know that I am God.. When we do not take the time to nurture our souls through communion with the Creator, we lose a little of who God wants us to be everyday.

How do I do this? Simply take a couple of minutes every day to listen, sit in the quiet and ponder your life's purpose and service to humanity. When the holidays come around, and our families silently make demands on us to be everything to everybody, let us not forget that God comes first, and that we should begin and end our days in silent reflection of His wondrous creation, and offer Him praise and gratitude with our deepest humility and grace.



### **Please pray for Vocations.**

*For more information about Vocations:*

<http://vocations.com/Joliet/> Father Burke Masters, Vocations Director 815.834.4004

**Deb Drager**

**WDKD Vice President**

[dragerworks@wowway.com](mailto:dragerworks@wowway.com)

**630.790.1764**

As I sit here writing this article for our Deanery Mirror amid the final boxes of Christmas decorations to be put away, I now feel as though Christmas season is over. Such a wonderful time filled with family, friends, celebrations and good food. Our beautiful church decorated with the season and filled with joyous music. Now my home, my church and my life is filled with the ordinary days of winter. Cold, sparkling, sunny days that chill your bones but still feel peaceful compared to the hectic Christmas season. I enjoy these days of getting back to normal, to eating less and healthier, to exercising more, back to meetings and deadlines. But the ordinary lasts such a short time, for our next season is just a month away, Lent.

I do love Lent! I guess it's because word "Lent" comes from the Middle English word "Lenten" which meant "springtime." Lent is the Church's spring - a time for renewal and a reminder of the new life of baptism. I will be filled with that renewal for 6 whole weeks! The

weather will change, the church environment will change, my household will change and spring will come as well. I wish you time to enjoy some peaceful ordinary days and I will pray for your Lenten Season to be a great time of renewal!

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS! The 2009 National Council of Catholic Women Convention will take place in Jacksonville, Florida September 24th through 27th.**

**Organization Commission**  
**Arlene Kelly**  
**630.668.8299**

#### NCCW Mission Statement

*The National Council of Catholic Women acts through its affiliated organizations 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.*

Thanks to the guidance and blessings of our Lord and Savior and the dedication and talent of our members, we, the affiliates of NCCW, using its structure of Commissions with assistance from Deanery Boards and the Joliet Diocese Council of Catholic Women, carry out the mission supporting, enhancing, educating and empowering women to respond in faith with justice and compassion. So what are we doing in West DuPage/Kendall Deanery?

Communicating, cooperating, being flexible, planning, delegating to involve more women, answering the knock of opportunity, working in collaboration with a spirit of service, and trying to meet the needs of our parish councils to name a few!

#### **Your assistance is needed! CONSIDER:**

1. **NOMINATING COMMITTEE CANDIDATES:** Our Deanery needs to provide at least three nominees for our Nominating Committee. Women who are nominated should have experience in CCW at the parish level and should have attended some of the Deanery and /or JDCCW events. It is preferred that they come from the parishes so we do not have to rely on Deanery Board Members to fill these positions. **The candidates will be voted upon at the 2009 Spring Institute.** *Please consider whom your parish will nominate to serve on this important committee.* Your Parish President should submit those names and contact information for your candidates to President Debi Rossi by Monday, March 16, 2009.

The work of the Nominating Committee is to submit a slate of candidates for election as Deanery officers (President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, and Treasurer) for 2010-2012. The committee would begin its work in January, 2010 and most of this can be done by tele-

phone and e-mail. The chair should present the slate of officers to President Debi Rossi prior to Monday, February 15, 2010.

Actual voting for these candidates takes place in May of 2010.

2. SPRING INSTITUTE: This is a meeting not to be missed when West DuPage/Kendall Deanery holds its 2009 Spring Institute Thursday, May 14 at St. John in Winfield. Save the date so you and your fellow CCW members and guests will be there for the mass, dinner, program to be announced, and Debi Rossi's President's Report that includes a demonstration of communication methods including e-vite and callingpost.

3. WACI: Women Attending Convention, Inc. is something that may work for your Council and was suggested at JDCCW October 2008 Convention. This involves fundraising locally for many of your membership to attend the September, 2009 NCCW Convention in Jacksonville, Florida. Those who participate in the fundraising get a portion of the money raised to use toward their registration fees. Women who give so much of themselves, their time and energy, may refresh themselves with education and motivation gained from associating with key Catholic women! Sending at least two women provides an instant support system and the possibility for them to attend more sessions and bring back more ideas!!

4. TRACKING VOLUNTEER HOURS: In May or June, 2009, JDCCW will be asking parish presidents to report the number of hours served by their members in activities according to the six commission areas. Beginning and maintaining an on-going report will simplify this task. Some parish presidents distribute a sheet at every meeting for members to record their volunteer hours collecting them at the end of each meeting and distributing at the next. Some remind members monthly to be sure to record hours served as they occur. Sample sheets in use may be had from out-going JDCCW Organization Services Chair, Marianne McKeague at [mariannemck@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mariannemck@sbcglobal.net) and from Deanery President/St. Irene Parish President Debi Rossi. Forms are also available at [www.nccw.org](http://www.nccw.org) on the home page, Still Current, 2008-2009 Volunteer Hours, Tracking Forms. Why keep track of these hours? Because there are donors who give dollars to NCCW based on the number of volunteer hours given by the members of NCCW. Nationwide it is amazing to see what we accomplish. I know how difficult it is to do this but it is so important to give value to the work that we do.

5. JUBILEE YEAR OF ST. PAUL: **Catholic Woman, Volume 34, Number 6, November/December 2008** had a great special section by Carla Walsh, NCCW Program Director, about the Pauline Year- a year of study, prayer, and celebration which began June 29, 2008 and ends June 28, 2009. It included back-ground information, ideas for celebrating the jubilee year and resources. It's not too late to use some of the ideas.

*Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and your plans will succeed. Proverbs 16:3*



## **Reverence for Life**

### **Co-Chairs:**

**Carol Wright** [dcwright@flash.net](mailto:dcwright@flash.net)

**Bernie Dooley** [mswolfie2000@yahoo.com](mailto:mswolfie2000@yahoo.com)

Congratulations to the bishops for being quick out of the gate to try to stop the dreaded Freedom of Choice Act. They have asked every parish in the country to participate in the postcard campaign project that should take place at your church the end of January or beginning of February after every Mass. Please be sure to sign the postcards and urge every member of your family to do the same. Remember that the FOCA would overturn every law that has been passed in the past thirty-six years to limit abortion in any way, such as parental notification, banning of partial birth abortions, conscience clauses for doctors, tax-payer funding, etc. We need to stand very firm on this. It is much easier to keep a bad law from passing than to overturn it once it's in place. You could check with your parish to see if they need any help in distributing, collecting, or tabulating the postcards. There has been a novena going for this cause that started on January 11<sup>th</sup> for nine days of a rosary a day. Even though you're receiving this late you could still make your own novena. This is so important!

Abortion is once again being forced on America in the overturning of the Mexico City policy by our new President on his second day in office. Our tax dollars will now go to the funding and promotion of abortion as "family planning" to third world countries. The amount of the funding does not change but now the organizations that support abstinence, and the teaching of natural family planning, and the prevention of AIDS by avoiding multiple sex partners will not receive the funding. Organizations such as Planned Parenthood will be the benefactor of our tax money, on top of the 300 million of our tax dollars that they already receive to undermine morality in our own country. The United Nations Population Fund will also resume funding from us to help promote the forced "one child policy" in China. Lots to pray about. And a real call to get involved. The Life Office website is [www.dioceseofjoliet.org/life](http://www.dioceseofjoliet.org/life)

We mourn the passing of Father Richard John Neuhaus on January 9<sup>th</sup>, at the age of 72. He was an outstanding intellectual and defender of the Catholic faith. His clear, honest defense of the unborn as well as logical and concise presentation of the teachings of the Church made him much beloved. As a former Lutheran pastor, he was ordained a priest one year after being admitted to the Catholic Church. May he rest in peace



## Legislation

**Carol J. Wright**

630-469-2165

[dcwright@flash.net](mailto:dcwright@flash.net)

Plans are all finalized for the Legislative Action Day and the Catholics at the Capitol Rally on March 3 and 4, 2009, sponsored by the Illinois Councils of Catholic Women and the Catholic Conference of Illinois. All we need now is for YOU to join us in promoting gospel values to our elected state officials. There is so much planned that you will really enjoy it. Like the tour and luncheon at the Governor's Mansion (photo ID required). You also will need a photo ID to be admitted to the Capitol. The registration fee of \$50 covers all materials, lunch, Mass, reception and dinner. Breakfast on Wednesday is provided at the hotel, and lunch will be on your own. Your Parish President will have a copy of the form, but you could just send your name, email address, mailing address, phone, and cell phone number along with your check made out to the *Chicago Province* to: Treasurer Bev Hoffman, 6139 N. Walnut St. Rd., Springfield, IL 62707. The deadline is February 15, 2009.

The CCW will be staying at the Mansion View Inns and Suites, 529 South Fourth Street, Springfield, IL, about a block and a half from the Capitol. Please make your own reservation by calling 217-544-7411. Ask for the Chicago Province rate of \$75.00. The first General Session begins at 10:00 a.m. with registration opening at 9:30 a.m. It is about a three hour drive to Springfield from the Chicago area. If you wish to arrive the night before, Dr. Rebecca Woodhull, Chicago Province Director, is hosting a reception at her home at 2 Linden Lane, Springfield, at 6:00 p.m., for any early attendees. Please call her if you plan to attend at 217-585-0664.

A full day of presentations, along with the lunch and mansion tour, is planned on Tuesday ending with Mass at 4:15 p.m. at the Little Flower Parish, 200 Stevenson Drive, Springfield. (The Cathedral is being renovated.) After Mass, there will be a wine reception and dinner also at Little Flower. The next morning, Wednesday, there will be a briefing at the Capitol with representatives of the Catholic Conference of Illinois. Since they are holding their board meeting there, Cardinal George and the bishops of the other five dioceses will all be in attendance. They plan to attend the Catholic Schools Rally in the Capitol Rotunda at 11:00 a.m. and have individual meetings along with the laity to their own State Representative and State Senator.

You can make an appointment in advance by calling the Springfield switchboard at 217-782-2000. Or go to [www.ilga.gov](http://www.ilga.gov) and under Additional Resources click on Legislator Lookup. Then click the option of search by zip code and enter your nine digit zip code. All of your elected officials will come up. By clicking on the name you will get their contact info, or by Googling them, you can get their email address or a "contact" option. You may want to see if others from your parish or district are planning a meeting and go along with them. Or, if they

are in session you can send a note in and they will come out to the gallery to speak with you briefly. You will be coached on all of this if you've never done it before. If you have any interest in politics and in sharing your core values, this is the place for you. You will be representing the hundreds of people who are unable or unwilling to travel to Springfield. You go, girl!

### AROUND THE PARISHES

This section of The Mirror is to highlight upcoming events at the deanery member parishes. Please forward information on your events to The Mirror Editor [berger389@netzero.net](mailto:berger389@netzero.net)

#### **From St. Irene Parish, Warrenville, IL**

**May 3<sup>rd</sup> - May Crowning at 11:00 mass**

**May 23<sup>th</sup> - Wine Tasting**

**May 29<sup>th</sup> – Bingo**

**More details in the next Mirror!**

St. John the Baptist Parish CCW in Winfield will be holding it's annual Bake Sale & More on Saturday, February 28th from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Sunday, March 1st from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

We will be having our Parish Bake Sale along with crafters and vendors. We are offering for sale, Spring Floral Arrangements, Premier Design Jewelry, Hand Painted Windows and Glassware, Tastefully Simple, Kitchen Angels, Suburban Living, Hand Made purses, doll clothes, Marinara and Marinade Sauces, Hand Made Soaps and MORE!

Join us in Sebahar Hall, the lower level of the Church, located at 0S233 Church St., Winfield. If you have questions? Please contact Stella Howard (630) 615-0200.

St. Luke Parish  
421 Cochise  
Carol Stream, IL 60188

All are welcome at our St. Joseph Dinner on Mar. 21st following our 5pm mass. It is \$3, and we request you bring a meatless dish or dessert to share

Ph. 630-871-8084 CCW President for more information



**Western DuPage Kendal Deanery is part of the Joliet Diocese Council of Catholic Women  
Please check out our **award winning** website  
for more information!**



