



Women's Conference
January 29, 2022
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**SUPPORT
EMPOWER
EDUCATE
IN
SPIRITUALITY
LEADERSHIP
SERVICE**



The Dubuque Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women (ACCW) is a volunteer organization for women. We are united for apostolic action at the request of the Archbishop of Dubuque. We are affiliated with the National Council of Catholic Women (NCCW) and the World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations (WUCWO). We are a voice for the women of the Dubuque Archdiocese to speak and act as a unit on matters of mutual interest.

2021 ARCHDIOCESAN COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN OFFICERS

EPISCOPAL CHAIR

Most Rev. Michael Jackels
Archbishop of Dubuque

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Joanne Pohland
dbqaccw@dbqarch.org

VICE PRESIDENT

Mary Esther Pullin

TREASURER

Lisa Hemesath

SPIRITUAL ADVISOR

Rev. Daniel J. Knipper

PAST PRESIDENT

Florine Swanson

SECRETARY

Chris Leichsenring

PARLIAMENTARIAN

Rozena McVey

DUBUQUE PROVINCE DIRECTOR

Florine Swanson

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Monica Fulton

2021 ARCHDIOCESAN COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN DEANERY PRESIDENTS AND REPRESENTATIVES

CEDAR RAPIDS

Billie Burhite, Representative

DUBUQUE

Open

MARSHALLTOWN

Monica Fulton, President

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Yvonne Kisch, Representative

DYERSVILLE

Karol Digmann, Representative

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Julie Vulk, President

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Nancy Strub, Representative

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Marlene Mangrich, President

2021 ARCHDIOCESAN COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN COMMISSIONS

LEADERSHIP COMMISSION

Sheila Rassman - Chair

SPIRITUALITY COMMISSION

Mary Pedersen – Chair

Regina Adams

Leone Bergeson

7 Sisters Representative

Karen Bonfig

Ann Kunst

Dubuque Deanery:

Rev. Msgr. Daniel Knepper

Dyersville Deanery:

Rev. Phillip Kruse

Marshalltown Deanery:

Rev. Rick Dagit

Mason City Deanery:

Open

New Hampton Deanery:

Rev. Msgr. Carl Schmitt

Waterloo Deanery:

Deacon Tom Lang

SERVICE COMMISSION

Sue Martinek – Chair

NCCW SERVICE COMMISSION

Rozena McVey

YOUTH AND ADULT AWARDS

Barbara Sausser

STOLES

Ann Dietrich

NCCW LEADERSHIP COMMISSION

Alma Meyer

EDITOR OF THE LINK

Lynne Chapman

dbqaccwedit@dbqarch.org

SPIRITUAL ADVISORS:

Cedar Rapids Deanery:

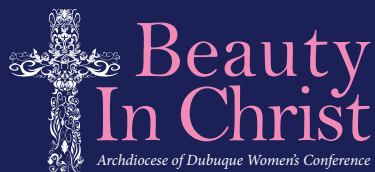
Rev. Wayne Droessler

Decorah Deanery:

Rev. Msgr. Cletus Hawes

HISTORIAN

Rose Ann Jero



Holy Women — of the — Visitation



January 29, 2022 | 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Keynote Speakers:



Liz Kelly

Talks will be available in
English and Spanish!

*Emily
Jaminet*



This year's virtual conference enables women to participate from the comfort of their own homes or to gather in parishes to experience our virtual conference together!

www.ArchWomensConference.org

President

Joanne Pohland



It was such a blessing to be able to gather with many of you for the 2021 Annual Meeting/Convention, to celebrate the Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women, to reflect on the work of the past year, and to look forward to what next year brings!

We were blessed with a great speaker, Virginia Pillars. She graciously shared her journey into mental illness as she accompanied her adult child. Her story is one that brings awareness and hope. If you want more information about



Virginia and her story, go to <https://virginiapillars.wordpress.com/>. The collection at the Mass was given to Catholic Charities, to assist with mental health awareness and counseling services.

Archbishop Jackels offered a welcome at the start of the day. Through the generosity of our members, we were able to present him with a donation of \$1,000, which he graciously accepted. Archbishop challenged us to help promote Eucharistic Adoration. Our Spirituality Commission will be following up on this challenge by providing ideas for how we can do this in our parishes.

The day also included presentations by our Commission Chairs and Historian, helping us to understand the true work of the ACCW. Treasurer Lisa Hemesath introduced us to “Wild Apricot,” the cloud-based membership management system that we are now utilizing to keep track of our current members and to grow our membership. Rose Ann Jero was named this year’s Our Lady of Good Counsel Award winner. Please see p. 8 for more information. The Silent Auction was a great success—thank you to everyone who helped with that!



Our new Province Director, Florine Swanson, who represents all four dioceses of Iowa, brought greetings from the National Council of Catholic Women. We are very blessed to have Florine serving as our Province Director. We know that she will represent us well. You can read more about Florine on p. 6. An image of Our Lady of Good Counsel was presented to her during the 2020 Virtual Annual Meeting. Florine also

served as the Chair of the Bylaws Task Force, and presented revisions which were approved. You can find the updated bylaws at: <https://dbqarch.org/bylaws>.

Fr. Daniel Knipper, our Archdiocesan Spiritual Advisor, once again gave a moving homily at the Mass, and showed his support throughout the day. We were saddened to learn of the death of Msgr. John Hemann, the Mason City Deanery Spiritual Advisor, and remembered him in our prayers. We are very blessed to have such wonderful Spiritual Advisors serving us.

Of course, I would be remiss if I did not give a special “shout out” to Sheila Rassman, who was our Convention Planning Chair and Host! Sheila organized so many “behind the scenes” things, and also arranged for delicious food!

The new ACCW Brochure was distributed at the Convention. You can find the brochure, as well as the placemat that we used at the convention, on our webpage at <https://dbqarch.org/council-of-catholic-women>. You can also pay your dues there!

PRAYER TO OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL
Patroness of the National Council of Catholic Women

God of heavenly wisdom,
You have given us Mary,
Mother of Jesus,
to be our guide and counselor.
Grant that we may always seek
her motherly help in this life,
and so enjoy her blessed presence
in the life to come.

O Mother of Good Counsel,
Patroness of the
National Council of Catholic Women,
intercede for us,
that we may be wise, courageous,
and loving leaders of the Church.

Help us, dear Mother, to know the mind of Jesus, your Son.
May the Holy Spirit fill us with reverence for God's creation,
and compassion for all God's children.

May our labors of love on earth
enhance the reign of God,
and may God's gifts of faith and living hope
prepare us for the fullness of the world to come. Amen.

GOALS OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN (NCCW):

- United voice and presence of American Catholic Women
- Membership is open to ALL Catholic women
- Provides opportunities for personal faith growth
- An avenue to connect with Catholic women across the country
- Visit: www.nccw.org

THE DUBUQUE ARCHDIOCESAN COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN (ACCW) IS:

- A volunteer organization for Catholic women in the Archdiocese of Dubuque
- United for apostolic action at the request of the Archbishop of Dubuque
- Affiliated with the National Council of Catholic Women (NCCW) and the World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations (WUOW)
- A voice for the women of the Dubuque Archdiocese to speak and act as a unit on matters of mutual interest
- Visit: www.dbqarch.org/accw

THROUGH ITS COMMISSIONS/COMMITTEES, NCCW/ACCW PROVIDES:

- Resources
- Prayers
- Programs to enhance members' spirituality, leadership, and service
- Advocacy for Catholic values at local, national, and international levels
- Leadership training and development

SERVICE COMMISSION:
The Service Commission engages the members and all people, in working to address the needs and concerns of their individual communities, and supports and enhances family life within the Church and society.

LEADERSHIP COMMISSION:
The Leadership Commission provides organization development, opportunities for training, as well as public relations resources and publications to strengthen leadership.

SPIRITUALITY COMMISSION:
The Spirituality Commission reinforces faith and supports service to the Church and to the world through discipleship and spiritual growth.

MISSION STATEMENT:
The National Council of Catholic Women acts through its members 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.

I want to thank our Board of Directors, who have worked hard this year, even when we have not been able to meet in person. I look forward to working with them in the coming year!



We are also blessed to be a part of the National Council of Catholic Women, whose mission it is “to support, empower, and educate all Catholic women in spirituality, leadership, and service.” It is one way that we, as women, can live out our baptismal call to go out to all the world and make disciples!

President-Elect

Monica Fulton



Lisa Hemesath, ACCW treasurer, and I lamented about changes at our parishes over the past couple of years. Activities have been curtailed, as they have in other churches. At Lisa's parish, the 150th anniversary festivities have been postponed twice. Parishioners are understandably disappointed.

The Marshalltown Deanery ACCW last met in 2019. To energize this group, Fr. Rick Dagit, our Spiritual Advisor, agreed to lead a celebration of the Year of St. Joseph. Now that has been deferred as well.

Think back to March 2020. We grew used to watching liturgies online or on television, or listening on the radio. Then Masses were offered outdoors, and finally in our churches, with social distancing. Now it's almost back to normal, but with fewer faithful present. Although pews aren't blocked off, they are empty. We know that some Catholics are unable or unwilling to attend Mass in person. They are watching from home, participating as well as they can. Others have chosen to abandon their faith, whether abruptly or gradually. Are they lost forever?

We can help those who have fallen away, through our prayers. Remember them daily, or each Sunday. Light a candle. Meet Jesus in Adoration, as Archbishop Jackels suggested at Convention. During our CCW gatherings, we can join together, asking the Holy Spirit to fill their hearts with his love. Let's each make a commitment to building up the Church. After all, we are the Body of Christ.

Past President

Florine Swanson



The Dubuque Province is well-represented in the leadership of the National Council of Catholic Women (NCCW).

NCCW members represented the Dubuque Province, four dioceses of Iowa, at the 101st NCCW Convention in August. Rozena McVey and Alma Meyer represented the Dubuque ACCW. Sherry, Nancy, Mary Ann and Alma are all former Dubuque Province Directors for the state of Iowa on the NCCW Board.



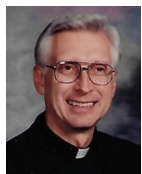
Front row: Sherry Nilles, National CDA Regent, Sheldon; Nancy Larson, Spirituality Commission and retiring Dubuque Province Director, Shenandoah; Rozena McVey, Dubuque ACCW Parliamentarian and NCCW Service Commission, Walker.

Back Row: Mary Ann Ruether, NCCW Spirituality Commission, LeMars; Susan Stein, Davenport Diocese Representative, Donnellson; Fr. Jim Tigges, Spiritual Advisor for Sioux City Diocese, Ft Dodge; Alma Meyer, Leadership Commission and Board of Directors of the Associates of NCCW, Marion; Lin Brinker, Des Moines Diocese, Harlan.

Absent: Florine Swanson, Resolutions Committee and 2021-2023 Dubuque Province Director, Ames.

Spiritual Advisor

Fr. Daniel Knipper



I pray that this Advent season will be a special spiritual journey taking you through Scriptural passages describing God's promise to send a Savior to the world, the acceptance of God's invitation to Mary to be the mother of the Savior, the beautiful "O

Antiphons" describing the various names and qualities of the Savior, culminating with the beautiful Gospel account from St. Luke describing the birth of the Savior at the midnight Mass. For me, the highlight of Advent Scripture is singing the "O Antiphons" and the beautiful melody that accompanies them. The antiphons are perhaps better known in the musical form with the name "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel."

I also pray that the Advent journey leading you to the Christmas season will give new hope that God continues to care about us and continues to love us through His Son, Jesus. The birth of this special Child 2000 years ago gives us renewed hope as we pass from the year 2021 to the year 2022.

A new year always gives reason to make new resolutions in our spiritual life. I ask that you make a resolution to support Eucharistic Adoration in your parish. If at present, there is no Eucharistic Adoration, meet with your pastor and liturgy committee to see what options are available in your parish. Organize people to be present for the various hours of Adoration, and include young people (those 18 to 45) in those hours.

May God bless you during these seasons! Know that I will remember you in my thoughts, in my prayers, and during the Masses I will be offering. Have a Blessed Advent, Christmas, and New Year of 2022!



Spirituality Commission



Mary Pedersen

Spirituality Commission Chair

***One Hour a Week: Change our Hearts -
Change our Parish - Change the World!***

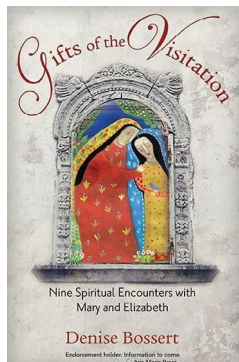
At the request of Archbishop Jackels, and with the guidance of Fr. Dan Knipper, the ACCW Spirituality Committee commits to promoting and helping parishes/clusters to implement Eucharistic Adoration. Adoration may be offered in a number of ways, from perpetual adoration, to one day a week (sun up to sun down, or 24 hours), to one day a month.



"Jesus awaits us in this sacrament of love. Let us not refuse the time to go to meet him in adoration, in contemplation full of faith, and open to making amends for the serious offenses and crimes of the world. Let our adoration never cease" (CCC, 1380).

Resources for One Holy Hour:

<https://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/prayers-and-devotions/eucharistic-devotion>



GIFTS OF THE VISITATION PROJECT

Have you checked out the *Gifts of the Visitation Project*? We're so grateful to hear of the wonderful ways women of all ages are using the Gifts of the Visitation Project in their parishes/small groups.

One group of ten has just finished, and reported they were delighted with the videos and the study guides. They chose to host twelve meetings, because they had such a rich discussion with the first session. Please get the word out about this engaging women's study: <https://dbqarch.org/gifts-of-the-visitation-archdiocesan-retreat-for-women>.

Spirituality Commission

(continued)

2022 ARCHDIOCESAN WOMEN'S CONFERENCE



Saturday, January 29, 2022
Time: 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM



Join us for this teleconference event, as together we explore the Visitation between Mary and Elizabeth! This year's conference features two national speakers: [Liz Kelly](#) and [Emily Jaminet](#), prayer opportunities, music, blessed conversation with other holy women, and more! Talks will be available in English and Spanish. The virtual format enables women to participate from the comfort of their own homes, or to gather in parishes to experience the event together! You are invited to host the 2022 Beauty of Christ: Holy Women of the Visitation virtual conference in your own parish/cluster! Imagine filling your parish center with women of all ages, eager to gather, excited to hear national speakers, and elated to pray together! Find an online Parish Hosting Packet here: <https://www.archwomensconference.org/parish-event/>, or contact us and we'll be happy to walk you through the process for a successful conference!

Individual and group pricing is available. Promotional materials are available [here](#).

To learn more and to register for the conference, go to www.archwomensconference.org!

See page 1 for more information!



ACCW Treasurer, Lisa Hemesath presents a check for \$1,000 to Mary Pedersen, Spirituality Commission Chair, as a donation in support of the 2022 Beauty in Christ Women's Conference.



SEVEN SISTERS APOSTOLATE



Leone Bergeson

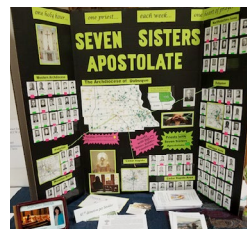
Seven Sisters Apostolate groups are being formed throughout the Archdiocese. The Decorah and Marshalltown deaneries have a Seven Sisters Apostolate group for every active priest. Congratulations!!

A few parishes have also adopted the **Fasting Brothers program**. This program was instituted by Seven Sisters Apostolate foundress, Jeanette Howe. In a nutshell, six men agree to fast for their priest, each on a different day of the week, except Sunday (Sunday is not a day of fast.) The program is usually begun by the Anchoress of the priest, either by word of mouth, or through bulletin announcements. Any men from your parish can join. Fasting can include food, drink, or favorite activity. It can range from a light fast (no salt, desserts or watching sports), to a more severe fast (no food, no TV or media for the day), or something in between. The fast would be coupled with prayer for their pastor.

If anyone would like to begin a group for their priest, or join an existing group, please email me at r1berge@msn.com, or phone me at 563-451-5828.

In Mark 12, we read about the woman who gave her **last** coins to the treasury and in 1 Kings 17, a widow used her **last** flour and oil to make a cake for Elijah. Please consider one hour of prayer for your priest. Every priest needs a sister praying for him and every woman needs an hour in front of the Blessed Sacrament praying for her priest.

I am the Anchoress for Archbishop Jackels, and I would welcome anyone willing to pray a holy hour for him. I have an opening on Wednesdays. It requires one holy hour in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament (can be in the tabernacle), one day a week. Prayers are needed, as it is an important calling to shepherd and pasture sheep. Optimally, three sisters are asked to pray for each of our bishops. Please consider this opportunity to spend an hour a week praying for our shepherds. Contact me.

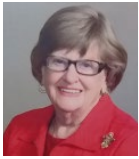


"In strengthening the priest you strengthen the whole Church... Strengthen the priest and you strengthen the whole foundation; you strengthen everything in the Church."

— Fr. Gerald Fitzgerald, S.P.

Parliamentarian

Rozena McVey



Thanks to all ACCW members who attended our Dubuque ACCW yearly meeting! It was beyond “wonderful” to be back together again, to see so many smiling faces in person and not on Zoom or virtually. Protivin hosted an excellent meeting. A great big “thanks” to our officers who were well-prepared for the meeting. Food was beyond scrumptious. Be sure to take time to read through the Bylaws that were passed at the annual meeting. One change involves the quorum at the annual meeting, and the word “convention” has been changed to “annual meeting.”

On another note... We no longer need a motion to approve minutes, if there are no changes. The President can declare the minutes approved as read or published. Also, minutes need not be read at the meeting (if published or sent to members before meeting), unless a member requests that they be read (per *Robert Rules of Order Newly Revised 12th Edition*).

I wish all you a blessed Christmas and New Year to follow.

Leadership Commission



Sheila Rassman

Leadership Commission Chair

A BIG thank you to all who attended our 61st Annual ACCW Convention held in Protivin on October 23. A special thank you to all those who helped out behind the scenes to make this a such great day. It was nice gathering together again, catching up with old and new friends. We heard lots of great comments! God is Good!

The National Council of Catholic Women has many resources on its website to help your Catholic women's groups. Go to <https://www.nccw.org/commissionscommittees/>. Under the Leadership Chair Commission alone, you can find the following resources to print and distribute if desired:

- An Introduction to NCCW
- 12 Ways to Increase Membership
- Everyone is on the Membership Committee
- We are the Voice of Catholic Women
- Team Building
- Mentoring: Women to Women
- LTD (Leadership Training Development)



I like to use Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer as an example for the ACCW. He was chosen to guide the sleigh with his bright light. So, just like Rudolph, may we, the Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women, go down in history!

May the magic and wonder of Advent and Christmas be with you all!

NCCW LEADERSHIP



Our New Dubuque Province Director

Congratulations to Florine Swanson, the 2021-2023 Dubuque Province Director!

We extend a heartfelt “Congratulations” to Florine, who is a member of St. John Parish in Clarion, and completed her term as ACCW President in 2020. As Province Director, Florine represents all four dioceses of Iowa on the National Council of Catholic Women Board of Directors. She is quick to point out that following in the footsteps of Nancy Larson, Alma Meyer, and others before them, has made it easier for her to serve in this leadership role. And we know that Archbishop Jackels has great faith in her leadership, as he wrote her a letter in support of her nomination.



Florine has many goals in mind, and her dedication and hard work will help get many things accomplished. Florine has served the ACCW so well, and she will be a great voice on the NCCW Board of Directors, representing us well!

Let us keep Florine in our prayers and ask God's blessings upon her as she undertakes this role!

Reminder: National Council of Catholic Women's (NCCW) Parish Affiliation is \$100 annually, and is due by December 31, 2021. Individual NCCW membership is \$50 annually.

Checks should be made payable and sent to:

National Council of Catholic Women
10335-A Democracy Lane, Unit 201
Fairfax, VA 22030

NCCW LEADERSHIP COMMISSION

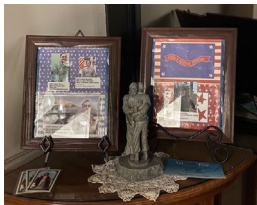


Alma Meyer

I'm currently reflecting on the many November focuses and feasts of All Saints, Holy Souls Day, elections, honoring veterans, homebound caregivers, being grateful for many blessings at Thanksgiving time, and packing Boxes of Joy as we soon begin preparing for Advent.

This month I'll begin my fifth year on the NCCW Leadership Commission, with a continued emphasis on mentoring, membership promotion, recruitment, engagement, and retention. Every attendee at the national convention, and each parish represented at Protivin, received the newly-revised Leadership Commission's "Introduction to NCCW" booklet. This printable booklet is available on the nccw.org website.

As a newly-elected member of the NCCW Nominations Committee, I will assist with recruiting candidates for the NCCW Treasurer election in Spring, with candidate applications due December 15, 2021. I also serve on the Dubuque ACCW Nominations committee, and observed many potential candidates at the Annual Meeting at Protivin. There are many opportunities to expand our organization and blessings derived in areas of spirituality, leadership and service as Council members. Feel free to volunteer, or to recommend qualified candidates to be elected for our organization in 2022.



I attended the recent CEO (Catholic Evangelization Outreach) session at St. Ludmila Church in Cedar Rapids, where a young mom of three sons shared her faith journey with God as she was challenged by her husband's

three military deployments. She noted how, during her husband's absence, parish members supported their family with meals, yard work, child care, and prayers. During her presentation, she acknowledged fellow parishioner, and ACCW Service Commission Chair, Sue Martinek, for maintaining a military display at the church honoring parish families and members currently serving in the military. The display includes a photo, address, branch of service, prayer cards, and opportunity to light prayer candles.

Finally, "woohoo" kudos to the workers, donors, and bidders for a most successful Silent Auction at Protivin to benefit the ACCW treasury, with a record profit of just over \$1,000. Thank you, participants!



GUEST COLUMN

Nancy Larson

Past Dubuque Province Director

National Council of Catholic Women Celebrated 101 Years of Ministry and Service at their 2020 Convention

On August 24-29, 2021, 500 Catholic women from across the United States gathered in Arlington, Virginia to commemorate the 100th birthday of NCCW. Eight members attended from the State of Iowa.



The Convention included presentations on spirituality, leadership, service, and education. Resource ideas included prayers for priests, honoring mothers of priests with rosary meditations and roses, resources on Pope Francis' encyclicals, LTD zoom meetings on helping parish women's groups flourish, and service projects focusing on human trafficking, domestic abuse, Boxes of Joy and CRS.

Liturgical celebrants included His Eminence Wilton Cardinal Gregory, Bishops Michael Burbidge, Oscar Solis, and William Wack, and NCCW Spiritual Advisor, Fr. Miguel Gonzalez. Over 35 ordained Spiritual Advisors were also present. The Spirituality Commission led daily rosaries. NCCW members approved a resolution and prayer card to heal our country and communities from the negative effects of racism and discrimination.

There were many fun memories, too. The Province of Dubuque gathered for dinner. Some explored a few treasures of D.C., followed by the wonderful music of the Jersey Boys Quartet and a grand Irish Tenor at the closing banquet.

NCCW's mission is to act through its members to support, empower and educate all Catholic women in spirituality, leadership, and service. Its programs respond with Gospel values to the needs of the Church and society in the modern world. Check out the NCCW website (www.nccw.org) for resources for your parishes and Catholic women's groups. Or connect with Florine Swanson, the newly-elected Dubuque Province Director, who represents all Catholic women of Iowa.

Save the Date to attend the next NCCW Annual Convention to be held at the Marriott Minneapolis City Center, November 2-5, 2022.



Service Commission



Sue Martinek

Service Commission Chair

I was very proud to be able to attend our annual meeting in Protivin, my hometown. We had a beautiful day. I collected seven wonderful layettes there. These were distributed at Bridgehaven, a crisis pregnancy center in Cedar Rapids. They were very appreciative to get them. I have begun the count for layettes for the 2021 year starting at the annual meeting. We are at seven! How many can we get?



Some Boxes of Joy were taken at our meeting for filling and to drop off at a Drop Off Center in November, either at the Cedar Rapids location or a closer one, if possible. St. Ludmila's Religious Ed incorporated the Boxes of Joy project into their Family Formation night. 105 boxes were filled! St. Patrick's Religious Ed will have a similar number. St. Elizabeth Ann Seton RE took 100 boxes, and St. Stephen's RE in Central City took some. Some individuals took up to 30, and either distributed them among acquaintances or filled them themselves.



YOUTH AND ADULT AWARDS



Barb Sauser

2021 ACCW Our Lady of Good Counsel Award

The Dubuque ACCW's Our Lady of Good Counsel Award recognizes outstanding contributions made by an ACCW member in the areas of service to the Church, her parish, and the community. This year's award was presented to Rose Ann Jero at the Annual Meeting on October 23 at Protivin.

Rose Ann has shown commitment to education, teaching preschool and primary grades. She volunteered at Anson Jr. High and Marshalltown Area High School when her children were in school. She has been a member of Delta Kappa Gamma for 59 years. She is married to Leroy, and is a mother of three and grandmother of seven. Rose Ann has been a member of St. Henry Parish, now St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Marshalltown.

As the person submitting her nomination shared, "This woman makes a difference." Her church involvement has included leading the Rosary, children's liturgy, teaching Religious Education and Vacation Bible School, organizing the parish library, Eucharistic ministry and many behind-the-scenes services. Since 1992, she has placed significant effort on her role as board secretary for the Emergency Food Box. During the pandemic these services have been greatly needed.

The recommendation from Rose Ann's parish priest stated, "We highly recommend her for the award. She has been our 'super volunteer' for as long as she has been with our parishes." The nomination stated "I can't think of anyone more humble and more caring that exemplifies the Lady of Good Counsel. It has been a blessing to work and pray with her."

Rose Ann held the position of CCW president at St. Henry Parish twice, as well as treasurer, president and secretary of the Marshalltown Deanery. She was a member of the Archdiocesan Board of Education, and represented the ACCW on her parish Strategic Planning Committee. She has been Dubuque ACCW secretary, president-elect, president, and past president, and was the editor of *The Link* for 10 years. She continues to support the Dubuque ACCW as historian, which is a perfect position for someone who served at the Archdiocesan level for nearly 20 years. Congratulations, Rose Ann!



ACCW Historian

Rose Ann Jero



Today, and every day, is a gift from God. Our past, our present, and our future belong to God. While we live today, our future is in the hands of the Lord and us. Soon what happens today will be the past, our history.

God has been with humankind since creation. He was in the Garden of Eden with Adam and Eve. In the Old Testament, God sent prophets to warn people and to bring them back when they had gone astray. Then God sent his Son, Jesus to get us back on track. He also gave us our Mother Mary, who spoke to us at Lourdes and Fatima, sharing the good news. God has given us many saints throughout history, who continue to guide us with their wisdom.

I want to remind you of the women of the Archdiocese of Dubuque who, through their prayers and service, have guided us since 1932. The work of the Dubuque ACCW is our history. Looking through the ACCW scrapbooks, we see the challenges that women of the Archdiocese have faced. Challenges are part of life. Remember that, through every challenge, Jesus was always there walking with the women of ACCW. We can learn from those of the past. They never gave up. When something didn't work, they listened to the guidance of the Holy Spirit and tried another plan.

You are making history. Please visit your parish office to confirm that someone is recording what the people in your parish are doing. That is history. Let's pray for those who have made history, who are making it today, and in the future.

Other News



Remembering Msgr. John Hemann

We mourn the loss of Msgr. John Hemann, Spiritual Advisor for the Mason City Deanery, who died on October 9, 2021, at the age of 86. A native of Stacyville, he served in many parishes throughout the Archdiocese of Dubuque. In his retirement, he offered Mass and visited with patients at Mercy One Hospital in Mason City for 15 years, and enjoyed serving at any parish in need of a priest. Msgr. Hemann was also a chaplain in the Iowa Army National Guard, retiring as Brigadier General after 28 years. He obtained his private pilot license in 1963, and was a founding member of the National Priest Pilots Association. Eternal rest grant unto Msgr. Hemann, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Member Spotlight



PASTIMES STRENGTHEN CATHOLIC FAITH



Susan Kuennen

St. Peter Parish, Clermont

Susan Kuennen wears many hats... she is a full-time rehabilitation

nurse at Mayo Clinic, as well as a teacher, master gardener, award-winning basket weaver, and modern-day pioneer woman living in rural Fayette County, Iowa. But Susan's true joy and peace is found in her hobby of rock weaving.

Susan has been weaving baskets since 1985, and teaches workshops where participants spend time wrapping palm-sized rocks with reeds, cane, and sticks. She encourages participants to bring rocks that hold special meaning to them. The art of rock weaving transforms rocks into pieces of art, while providing a meditative and contemplative sense of peace for the weaver. Each rock becomes symbolic, as it brings to mind memories, and appreciation of the silent beauty of the intricacy of the weavings and the timelessness of the stone.



In Susan's own words, rock weaving "has to do with finding inner peace and faith in a 'higher power.' Oftentimes we search for tranquility and inner peace. I find this in my church at St. Peter in Clermont when attending Mass, singing parts of the Mass celebration, especially the hymns. I find when making and then holding the Zen Stone, I realize all the gifts we have received from God. I think of how old the rock/stone is, and the 'life' it has and how it will continue to be around for thousands of years."

Susan also served as the executive secretary for past ACCW presidents Alma Meyer, Sheila Rassman, and Florine Swanson. She was nominated for the Member Spotlight section by Mary Esther Pullin. If you would like to nominate an ACCW member from your parish to be featured in the next issue of The Link contact Lynne Chapman at dbqaccwedit@dbqarch.org.

ACCW Annual Meeting Highlights

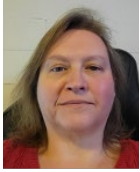


ACCW Annual Meeting Highlights



Deanery News

CEDAR RAPIDS



Billie Burhite

Representative

The Cedar Rapids Deanery has a Facebook page! On this page, we will update meeting dates, etc., as well as support our members and Catholic women in our community. If you are interested in joining, please request to join by clicking this link: [Cedar Rapids Deanery of Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women](#)

At St. Matthew Parish in Cedar Rapids, ACCW is hosting the *33 Days to Morning Glory* book study, followed by Mass celebrated by Fr. Doug Loecke. He will consecrate us to Mary on December 8th.



DECORAH



Julie Vulk

President

A survey was conducted from random contacts throughout the Decorah Deanery to determine if Eucharist Adoration was being held in their parishes. The survey was shared with the pastors, and not surprisingly, some of the information was not correct! That spirited another discussion. Do we, members of the Church, understand what Eucharist is?

In light of the USCCB Conference on the Eucharist, an “education” (a paragraph at a time) of *‘What is This Sacrament Called?’* was sent every week, beginning August 8 through October 17, on the different names for Eucharist. Content was taken directly from the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. Beginning on November 7, the education on Eucharistic Adoration and the benefits continues.

The Decorah Deanery hosted the Annual Convention/ Meeting in Protivin, headed up by Sheila Rassman. Kolaches galore and oh so good! It was a beautiful day. Our speaker, Virginia Pillars, provided great insight into the issues of mental illness; Fr. Knipper and Msgr. Hawes celebrated Mass; and the day ended with talks from the Commissions and door prizes! Thanks to all who assisted in making this happen!

MARSHALLTOWN



Monica Fulton

President

Our celebration of the Year of St. Joseph is delayed until 2022. Three parishes were represented at the Annual Convention in Protivin. Women of the Deanery are encouraged to participate in the virtual *Beauty in Christ* Conference.

Gift cards were sent to priests on Clergy Appreciation Day. Christmas cards and spiritual bouquets will be sent to all active and retired priests, deacons, and religious, and monetary gifts to seminarians.

Story-Marshall Cluster: St. Gabriel, St. Joseph, and St. Mary are ministering to parish families by serving funeral lunches. St. Joseph CCW, in full force with their annual fundraiser, will make 250 cheeseballs on November 8, perfect for Thanksgiving and Christmas. After a year’s hiatus, St. Mary has committed to serve their annual soup supper during the “Christmas in Colo” celebration in December.

Circle of Saints Cluster: CCW members are serving funeral lunches. St. Patrick resumed meetings in September; their garage sale raised over \$2,000 for the kitchen renovation. Julie Kasal, of St. Joseph, presented Fr. Michael McAndrew a check for \$3,000, from the Chelsea Car Show. St. Joseph ladies assisted with a chicken noodle soup dinner to welcome Fr. McAndrew on Oct. 30. St. Michael CCW helped to cook and serve at the Fall Dinner on November 7. The cluster is hosting a parish mission November 15-17 at St. Patrick Church.

St. Francis: Flowers were presented to Rose Ann Jero, recipient of the ACCW Our Lady of Good Counsel award. Proceeds from a bake sale November 6-7, will pay for altar server robes, plus candles for new Advent wreaths at both churches. A parish retreat for women is scheduled for Saturday, December 4.

St. Cecilia: Days for Girls group meets monthly. St. Anne, St. Gerard, and St. Mary circles meet regularly.

Deanery News

(continued)

MASON CITY



Nancy Strub

Representative

Boxes of Joy

St. John Altar Society, Clarion, coordinated the assembly of 26 “Boxes of Joy” to be delivered through Cross Catholic Outreach to children in need in seven different countries. Individuals, couples, families, and Youth Faith Formation classes from St. John and Sacred Heart parishes in the Holy Family Cluster, all filled boxes. The younger students made Christmas cards to insert into each box. Hygiene items, school supplies, and clothing were also included. Younger children were given a handmade doll, and every box contained a sweet



candy treat for Christmas. Mary Waters, Altar Society Vice President and project coordinator, remarked, “This was kind of fun!” Hopefully, it will be as fun for the recipients to open their Christmas presents as it was for the contributors to assemble them! *(Submitted by Chris Leichsenring)*

Christmas Cards As Blessings

Christmas is just around the corner. I love sending and receiving cards and letters from so many friends. For many years, our family has saved all the cards we receive to use as part of the guide for our family prayers. Each week we choose one card at random, and include that sender in all our prayers that week. And I write a letter telling the sender of our prayers for them. It is a great blessing to us to have those once-a-year friends in our thoughts and prayers for a full week.

The other part of the blessing is the many responses I get to the letter I write. It's amazing how often I hear something like: “When we got home from the doctor, your letter was waiting for us...” No matter whose hand drew out the card, I'm convinced the Holy Spirit chooses the card each week.

If you decide to use your Christmas cards this way, I know it will become a favorite part of your prayer life.

NEW HAMPTON



Yvonne Kisch

Representative

Prayers continue for all those suffering from the COVID virus, praying for them at parish Masses, in small groups and personally on church prayer lines. The women of our parishes have been busy with projects, but are still taking precautions to keep everyone safe.

Many parishes held Fall dinners ranging from drive-thru, to carry-outs, to having a Fall Festival complete with a dine-in meal choice, with silent auction, raffle, and games for the children. We are looking to the holiday season as a time to also help the communities with food donations for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Projects are being planned to help with collections for Toys-for-Tots, haircut certificates for the elderly in nursing homes, and collection of personal care items to be distributed to them. We look forward to the time when we can expand on all of these projects.

WATERLOO



Marlene Mangrich

President

The great Fall weather has brought out the beauty of colors for a greater length of time, much to our enjoyment. Thirteen women from the Waterloo Deanery traveled to Protivin for the Annual Meeting in October, enjoying the drive and the colorful view. Keynote speaker, Virginia Pillars' insight into mental illness gave us thoughtful awareness as to how this disease affects the entire family. Thanks, Virginia, for your presentation and time. (Virginia is a member of the Waterloo Deanery, as is Mary Pedersen.)

The Waterloo Deanery is getting acquainted with our new Spiritual Advisor, retired Deacon Tom Lang, with our next meeting taking place on Monday, November 15 at Our Lady of Mt Carmel Catholic Church in Eagle Center. We have some new ladies helping with this program, and hopefully they will continue to join us. During our time together, we plan to discuss the 2022 “Beauty in Christ” Women's Conference.

Dubuque Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women (ACCW)

2021 MEMBERSHIP/CONTRIBUTION GUIDELINES

Individual Sustaining Memberships

Sustaining membership is \$10 which includes the subscription to the newsletter, *The Link*.

The ACCW Membership Contributions form is now available via our website:

<https://d2y1pz2y630308.cloudfront.net/23075/documents/2021/2/2021%20Contribution%20Form-2.pdf>

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Mail contribution forms and checks to:

Lisa Hemesath
ACCW Treasurer
1116 240th St.
State Center, IA 50247

Checks should be made payable to ACCW.

Parish Affiliate Memberships

Suggested affiliate membership is \$5 per woman in the parish.

Parish: _____

CCW President: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Mail parish officers information to:

Lisa Hemesath
ACCW Database Manager
1116 240th St.
State Center, IA 50247

Please submit contributions by December 31, 2021 to close the fiscal year.

National Council of Catholic Women's (NCCW) Parish Affiliation is \$100 annually.

Individual NCCW membership is \$50 annually.

Checks should be made payable to NCCW and mailed to: National Council of Catholic Women
10335-A Democracy Lane, Unit 201
Fairfax, VA 22030

For more information about the Dubuque Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women
Go to www.DBQArch.org/ACCW or e-mail Joanne Pohland at dbqaccw@dbqarch.org

Wild Apricot

Have you received an email from **Dubuque ACCW**, or a URL that contains the words **"Wild Apricot"**?

Good news! It's not spam and no one has been hacked. That email was sent from ACCW's new membership software, called Wild Apricot.

On November 1st, an email was sent with "ACCW Spirituality Committee message" in the subject line. It was packed full of wonderful information on adoration, *Beauty in Christ* and *Gifts of the Visitation*. If you didn't receive the message, check your spam or promotions folder, because you don't want to miss out on the Spirituality Commission's uplifting communications. *The Link* and other communications will be sent in the same manner, and are great resources for keeping informed about ACCW and our Catholic faith!

Wanted:

Contacts for the Following Parishes

We are looking for an ACCW member who is active in her parish, and has an email address, to serve as an ACCW contact in the following parishes.

Balltown – St. Francis of Assisi

Luxemburg – Holy Trinity

Sherrill – SS Peter and Paul

Springbrook – SS Peter & Paul

Volga – Sacred Heart

Winthrop – St. Patrick

If you have a suggested ACCW contact for any of these parishes, please contact Lisa Hemesath or Florine Swanson.

Dubuque Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women (ACCW) 2021/2022 Officer Report Form

Parish Name: _____

Address: _____

Deanery: _____

President: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Vice-President: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Secretary: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Treasurer: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Mail to:

Lisa Hemesath

1116 240th St., State Center, IA 50247

For more information about the

Dubuque Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women,
visit www.DBQArch.org/council-of-catholic-women
or email Joanne Pohland at dbqaccw@dbqarch.org

Monthly News Bulletin from the Archdiocese of Dubuque!

TOGETHER is a monthly bulletin providing news and information from Archbishop Jackels, as well as initiatives and happenings from around the archdiocese. This printable bulletin can be inserted into parish bulletins, placed in common areas of your church, distributed to the home-bound, and shared in email communications. Current and past volumes can be found on the Archdiocese of Dubuque website at <https://dbqarch.org/together>

Take special note of the October 2021 issue which explains parish participation in the Synod on Synodality process initiated by Pope Francis.



ACCW Calendar 2022

January 29	<i>Beauty in Christ</i> Women's Virtual Conference
February 7	Deadline for submissions for the Spring 2022 Issue of <i>The Link</i>
February 10	ACCW Executive Committee Meeting 4:30 PM via Zoom (Tentative)
February 24	ACCW Board Meeting 6:30 PM via Zoom (Tentative)
March 7	Spring 2022 issue of <i>The Link</i> is sent

Educational Videos Available

The Archdiocese of Dubuque recently held virtual sessions on the topics of "Understanding Same-Sex Attraction" and "Understanding Transgenderism" hosted by Matt Selby, Director of Adult Formation/Marriage and Family Ministries, with presentations by Fr. Jerry Kopacek, the Archdiocese's point person for the Courage/Encourage apostolate.

The session on "Understanding Same-Sex Attraction" provides insights into the Church's teaching on homosexuality and same-sex attraction, and how to apply those teachings in parish and school ministry. You can view the recording at: <https://vimeo.com/640136238/c58894a9ad>.

The session on "Understanding Transgenderism" provides insights into the Church's teaching on gender, sexuality, and the complementarity of men and women, in order to help us apply those teachings in parish and school ministry, especially in light of the growing prevalence of gender dysphoria in our society. You can view the recording at: <https://vimeo.com/652548984/394571f1a7>.

Wanted:


Dubuque Deanery Representative
Mason City Deanery Representative

The Dubuque and Mason City Deaneries are looking for ACCW Representatives! If you or someone you know would like to provide leadership for either of these Deaneries as a Representative, please contact Joanne Pohland at dbqaccw@dbqarch.org.

Priest Prayer Calendar

Monthly Prayer Requests for Active Priests in the Archdiocese of Dubuque

Prayer suggestions: Mass, Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet, Eucharistic Adoration, Fasting, Sufferings, or as you are inspired.

1 Pope Francis, Archbishop Jackels, and all bishops	2 Fr. Rodney Allers Fr. Dave Ambrosy Fr. Francis Anane Fr. G. Anderson	3 Fr. Paul Attah-Nsiah Fr. Ray Atwood Fr. A. Awotwe-Mensah Fr. Greg Bahl	4 Fr. Paul Baldwin Fr. David Beckman Fr. Jerry Blake Fr. Scott Boone	5 Fr. Marvin Bries Fr. James Brokman Fr. Scott Bullock Fr. Ray Burkle	6 Fr. Dennis Colter Fr. Dennis Conway Fr. Don Czapla Fr. Rick Dagit	7 Fr. Ralph Davis Fr. Brian Dellaert Fr. Noah Diehm Fr. A. Dietzenbach
8 Deacons & Religious men and women of our Archdiocese	9 Fr. Kyle Digmann Fr. Jeffrey Dole Fr. Richmond Dzekoe Fr. Kevin Earleywine	9 Fr. Solomon Farinto Fr. John Flaherty Fr. Steven Garner Fr. Phil Gibbs	11 Fr. Ken Glaser Fr. Jim Goerend Fr. Frantz Augustin Fr. Bob Gross	12 Fr. John Haugen Fr. Tom Heathershaw Fr. Nils Hernandez Fr. Don Hertges	13 Fr. Henry Huber Fr. Martin Coolidge Fr. Philip Agyei Fr. Aaron Junge	14 Fr. Donald Komboh Fr. Jerry Kopacek Fr. Anthony Kruse
15 Men and women in Religious, Deaconate and Priestly formation	16 Fr. David Kucera Fr. Mark Kwenin Fr. Andy Lawrence Fr. Joshua Link	17 Fr. Paul Lippstock Fr. Doug Loecke Fr. N. Manternach Fr. Nick March	18 Fr. Andrew Marr Fr. Gary Mayer Fr. Michael McAndrew Fr. Tom McDermott	19 Fr. Jacob Dunne Fr. Dennis Miller Fr. John Moser Fr. Martin Obeng	20 Fr. Mark Murphy Fr. R. Nana Andoh Fr. Paul Hta Naw I Fr. Kyle Tietz	21 Fr. Ivan Nienhaus Fr. Anthony Nketiah Fr. Benjamin Nkrumah Fr. Francis Yeboah
22 Retired Archbishops, Priests, Deacons and Religious	23 Fr. Dave O'Connor Fr. Mark Osterhaus Fr. Chris Podhajsky Fr. Dennis Quint	24 Fr. Nick Radloff Fr. Tyler Raymond Fr. Steve Rosonke Fr. Jacob Rouse	25 Fr. David Schatz Fr. Mike Schueller Fr. Jon Seda	26 Fr. Joseph Sevcik Fr. Sean Smith Fr. Craig Steimel	27 Fr. Phil Thompson Fr. Thomas Toale Fr. Andy Upah	28 Fr. Dustin Vu Fr. Doug Wathier Fr. Austin Wilker
29 For an increase in vocations to the Deaconate and Religious Life	30 For an increase in vocations to the Priesthood	31 For all priests in the Archdiocese of Dubuque	 <p>"O Almighty, Eternal God, look upon the Face of your Son and for love of him, who is the Eternal High Priest, have pity on your priests. Remember, O most compassionate God, that they are but weak and frail human beings. Stir up in them the grace of their vocation which is in them by the imposition of the bishop's hands. Keep them close to you, lest the enemy prevails against them, so that they may never do anything in the slightest degree unworthy of their sublime vocation." ~ Cardinal Cushing</p>			

For permission to reprint, call Colleen Pasnik at 563-580-9373 or email bcpasnik@msn.com.



Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women (ACCW)
1229 Mt Loretta Avenue
Dubuque, IA 52003

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The Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women
Empowers, Educates, and Supports all Catholic
Women in Spirituality, Leadership, and Service.

The Link is the official publication of the ACCW
and is available to affiliates and individual
members.

For more information we invite you to visit
www.DbqArch.org/ACCW