



Immaculate Conception Council of Catholic Women Newsletter

Vol. 43, No. 6

July 2023

IC-CCW Mission Statement

We are united in Christ by our commitment to educate and empower women in spirituality, leadership and service. Our commissions respond to the needs of people in our parish, community and throughout the world.

—Gifted Women Prayer—

Eternal God, you are the foundation that enables everything we build to stand. You have given gifts to every woman to bless and serve each other. You provide all your daughters with gifts to carry out the mission you have designed for us. Speak clearly to us, so that we may discern your direction for our ministry. Remind us that everything we need is found in you. May your peace, which surpasses all understanding, guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

—Words from Our President—

"I am the living bread that came down from heaven; who ever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world." (John 6:51)

Dear IC - Council of Catholic Women,

Greetings and welcome to summer! As I look back over the last month or so, I think about how blessed we have been to witness so many of the sacraments in just a short time. We have had the opportunity to celebrate these sacraments which are so vital to our well being, both spiritually and physically.

We had the opportunity to participate in the sacrament of anointing of the sick where at the Anointing Mass anyone in need of healing was able to attend Mass and be anointed. We observed the sacrament of holy orders when four young men of our archdiocese were ordained into the priesthood and where we celebrated Father James' 10th anniversary of his ordination with a reception in Fellowship Hall. We've had a number of baptisms in our parish which allowed us to witness the sacrament of baptism. Most recently, we saw 51 of our children receive the sacraments of reconciliation and first Eucharist. Seeing all those children dressed in their finest dresses and suits reminded me of my first Communion and how special that time was. This year we are beginning the second year of Eucharistic Revival. The revival's purpose is to bring back to the forefront the sacredness and importance of the Eucharist. This is a sacrament we can receive over and over by receiving Communion whenever possible. Perhaps over the next year, with many educational opportunities and events happening as part of the revival, we can increase our personal awareness of the Eucharist being the actual presence of the Body and Blood of Jesus and realize just how blessed we are to be able to receive Jesus in this sacrament.

I look forward to seeing all of you at church and at our picnic, and may God bless you as you encounter and receive Jesus in the sacrament of holy Eucharist!

Sandy Sichak

—Church Communities— *Karen Drews*

Lord, Guide me by your wisdom, correct me with your justice, comfort me with your mercy, protect me with your power. I offer you my thoughts — to be fixed on you; my words — to have you for their theme; my actions — to reflect my love for you; my sufferings — to be endured for your greater glory. Amen

This month of July is St. Mary's Circle turn for Crestview Service and August is St. Jude's Circle.

—Monthly Mass for Our Deceased Members—

Our next monthly Mass for deceased members will be Wednesday, July 5th at 7:30 am. Please consider attending if possible.

—Remember in your Prayers—

Remember our members and families who may be having health problems or have moved to Senior Living Centers. Our prayers are much appreciated.

—Family Concerns— *Mary Holmberg*

Greetings from Family Concerns. Our generous \$200 donations have been sent to each of the following groups. Please keep them in your prayers.

Pregnancy Choices, located in Apple Valley. This group is a 'crisis' pregnancy center. In addition to pregnancy and STD testing, it offers ongoing family support through Mom and Dad counseling. This 'life coaching' is a huge part of the mission. The Dad program is especially helpful and somewhat unique in this area. All services are free of charge and no insurance is involved. Website: mypregnancychoices.com

TakeChargeMN, located in Golden Valley. This group is focused on building up the black family through getting back to the basics of faith, family and education. It promotes things that many of us have always taken for granted; marriage and fathers in the home. Website: takechargemn.com

—Community Concerns— *Kathy Morales*

Already it is July and a time to celebrate our independence and freedom. There will be picnics, fireworks, and celebrations. So many people very much misunderstand our freedom and independence today. There are those who think it means we have the right to do whatever we want without responsibility for our actions. In reality, it is the opportunity to do what we ought to do. Our Creator gave us our freedom to pursue the greater good. How can we celebrate a nation where there is such disunity and violence? This was not the freedom and independence that was fought for in 1776. We must hold fast in the pursuit of the greater good that God intended and pray with intentionality for peace and unity in our country. Enjoy a safe 4th of July!

—Service Commission, Missions— *Diane Tieden*

I was happy this year to include a donation of \$300 from CCW's budget to International Concerns to Venezuela. After Father Greg Schaffer from Venezuela celebrated Mass the weekend of Pentecost and talked about the concerns and needs in Venezuela, it was perfect timing to include our donation with the collection from each Mass that weekend for Venezuela. Our budget of \$400 for Missions also allowed me to donate \$100 to the Kitui, Kenya Women's Dormitory. There is a need for safe, affordable housing for young women at two local Universities in Kenya. Over the years we have been blessed to have made several donations to this cause.

—Our Sympathy To—

All those who have lost a loved one. May He uplift you gently, take the sorrow you bear. Then comfort you with healing in the safety of His care.

—May Rosary—

Thank you to all who participated in praying the Rosary in church each Sunday in May and to Diane Tieden, Sue Wintz, Justine Grow, and Mary Ann Hoffman for leading us. Mark your calendars to pray the Rosary in church on Sundays during the month of October.

—Newly Installed Members—

Congratulations to our newest Council of Catholic Women members: Vicki Bazille, Pam Hanson, Molly Rhoe, and Barb Wegleitner, who were installed at our May Installation Mass. Welcome to IC- CCW!

—Summer Meeting and Picnic, July 13—

Our July CCW Member Meeting will be a “Picnic in the Park” on Thursday, July 13 at Sullivan Park located at 721 51st Ave., Columbia Heights beginning at 5:00 pm (rain or shine – they have a covered pavilion). There will be games and prizes, a short meeting, and picnic food. Come, have some summer fun and socialize with your fellow CCW members. There are picnic tables and benches available, but feel free to bring your own lawn chair if you prefer. If there are any questions, please call Sandy at 763-789-3246 or Diane 612-916-8365.

—Last Supper Picture—

Next time you are at church, stop down in Fellowship Hall and check out the Last Supper picture purchased by CCW. It is a nice addition to our Fellowship space!

—MCCW Picnic—

This year’s annual MCCW Summer Picnic will be held Saturday, July 22 at North Mississippi Regional Park, 5114 N. Mississippi Dr., Shelter “B Turtle” Picnic Area in Minneapolis, from 11:00 am until 2:00 pm. There will be a hot dog picnic lunch provided along with games and time to socialize with women throughout the Minneapolis Deaneries. They are asking for donations of white elephant gifts for bingo prizes. There is no cost to attend but please RSVP by July 19 to Kathy Williams, 763-339-3961 (call or text).

—Dues • Dues • Dues—

Ladies, our yearly dues for the July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024, year are now due. Dues remain at \$10.00 payable in cash or check. Checks should be made payable to “IC-CCW” and paid no later than August 15th. As stated in the past our dues are a large line item on our yearly budget which we’ll be putting together at the end of June. So that we can continue to sponsor and make donations to the needs of our parish, our community, and throughout the world, we rely on all CCW members to pay their dues. Dues can be paid at the July 13th picnic, or mailed to **Diane Tieden – 1000 41st Avenue NE #319, Columbia Heights, MN 55421**

Please let Diane know if your address, phone number or circle membership has changed and consider providing your email address if you’re not receiving the many email messages that have been sent over the past year. Sharing your email address will help us to keep you informed of CCW news and information.

**Immaculate Conception Church
Council of Catholic Women**

4030 Jackson Street Northeast
Columbia Heights, Minnesota 55421

“Walking Together Sharing our Gifts”

—Summer Jam, August 4, 5 and 6—

CCW will again sponsor booths at Summer Jam this year. There will be:

- **Bake Shoppe** (*Sponsored by St. Jude’s Circle*) – Sunday only
A variety of breads, muffins, bars and cookies are needed for the Bake Shoppe. Your baked goods will be greatly appreciated. Please drop them off on Sunday morning, August 6. Thank you! Questions? Call Marion at 763-788-1393.
- **Jewelry Booth** (*Sponsored by St. Mary’s Circle*) - Friday, Saturday and Sunday
- **Bottlemania Booth** (*Sponsored by St. Michael’s Circle*) – Sunday only

LOOKING AHEAD

September 7, 2023: IC- CCW Member Meeting
September 28, 2023: Deanery Meeting at IC – (Thursday at 4:15 pm)

CALENDAR

July 2023		August 2023	
July 4	Independence Day	August 1	National Night Out
July 5	CCW Mass, 7:30 am	August 2	CCW Mass, 7:30 am
July 13	CCW “Picnic in the Park” <i>Sullivan Lake Park</i>	August 4-6	IC Summer Jam
July 22	MCCW Picnic <i>N. Mississippi Regional Park</i>	August 14	Sept. Newsletter Articles Due
		August 15	Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
		August 28	Board Meeting, 6:00 pm