



# Immaculate Conception Council of Catholic Women Newsletter

Vol. 43, No. 7

September 2023

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## 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.

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### —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—

*“The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower;  
All who come to him will have life forever.”  
(Gospel Acclamation)*

Dear IC - Council of Catholic Women,

Hello! We are nearing the end of summer and I have to ask: Where did the time go? It was good to see so many of our CCW Ladies at Summer Jam and to spend a few minutes chatting and catching up on life. Thank you to everyone who helped in any way to make Summer Jam a success.

As we close out summer we often enjoy the abundance of delicious fruits and vegetables of this growing season. All of the fresh corn, tomatoes, cucumbers and yes, even the zucchini, are so plentiful - it brings great joy! If it were not for the people who plant the seeds, take care of the gardens, harvest and share the produce, we would not all be able to enjoy this bountiful harvest. This makes me think about the spiritual seeds that are planted in us and the spiritual seeds we plant in others, with the hope of becoming part of God's harvest one day. Many of the recent Gospel readings have been about seeds and harvest and perhaps it's time for us to look at where we stand in our spiritual growth. I hope you can take time to read the bible, pray, reflect on life and with God's help, take care of your spiritual garden and that of your family and friends.

Peace, happy harvesting, and may God bless you abundantly!

Sandy Sichak

### **—Spirituality Commission— Karen Drews**

**Church Communities**—Thursday, September 14 at Crestview is open for volunteers! If you would like to volunteer please contact me at 763-574-9094. You should be there by 9:45 am for Communion service and then Rosary. We are considering some changes, maybe doing just the rosary from now on, notice later. I will also have schedules out for Crestview on the table for you to take.

### **—Our Sympathy To—**

- Rosemary Leight on the death of her husband, Tom
- 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.

### **—Monthly Mass for Our Deceased Members—**

Our next monthly Mass for deceased members is the first Tuesday of each month 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**

**40 Days For Life**, September 27 – November 5. As you undoubtedly know, there are many opportunities throughout the year to participate in this issue on the sidewalk as a counselor or a prayer supporter. As anyone who has done this knows, keeping up your morale can be a challenge in this arena. To muster our inner resolve, I offer the lyrics to the ***Battle Hymn of the Republic*** (*Mine eyes have seen the Glory of the coming of the Lord*), verse 2: *He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat; He is sifting out the hearts of men before his judgment seat. Oh, be swift, my soul, to answer him; be jubilant my feet! Our God is marching on. Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah! His truth is marching on.*

P.S. Even if you aren't going out to the sidewalk, this tune going through your mind will give a lift to your day.

### **—Community Concerns— Kathy Morales**

Welcome to our first meeting, it is our shower for Our Lady of Peace. Since we have changed our meeting schedule and themes around it does seem like we recently did this shower and we did. Nevertheless, we'll have a short video showing some of the new rooms recently completed at Our Lady of Peace. You may have had the sad experience of knowing first hand about hospice or nursing home services but many, me included, haven't given it a thought. We do not want to be blindsided and be in a position where we make uninformed decisions. I'll have information and resources to share with you about these issues ([www.OurLadyofpeacemn.org](http://www.OurLadyofpeacemn.org)). We will be collecting paper products, personal hygiene products and cash donations.

Please keep the people of Lahaina, Hawaii in your prayers. From the Community Concerns budget, we will send a donation through the Catholic Charities Hawaii, Maui Relief.

### **—Service Commission, Missions— Diane Tieden**

The holidays will be here before we know it and once again it's time to think of our friends in need in the Appalachia area of eastern Kentucky. Last year through your generous donations we collected \$600 that was divided between four churches in the area. I will again be asking for donations this year for the Appalachia Christmas Mission starting in late October and November. Watch for more information in the November newsletter.

### —Special Meeting Note—

Our September meeting will have a somewhat different format. We'll begin with sign-in and refreshments from 6:00-6:30 pm. We'll pray the rosary at 6:30 pm with the meeting to follow.

### —October Rosary—

Come to pray the Rosary in church each Sunday in October. As a change this year, the Rosary will be prayed *before* the 10:00 am Mass, beginning at 9:30 am and will be led from the pew rather than the pulpit. We are looking for one volunteer for each Sunday to lead the Rosary. If you are interested in leading the Rosary on one of the Sundays, please call Sandy at 763-789-3246.

### —October Annual Mass in Body with CCW Members—

Our annual Mass in Body with your fellow CCW members will be Saturday, October 7 at the 5:00 pm Mass. Please meet in the narthex of church at 5:45 pm to process in with Father Quail. We will celebrate Mass together and sit in the front pews. Remember to wear your CCW buttons.

### —Summer Jam 2023 results—

The IC – Council of Catholic Women once again successfully sponsored booths at Summer Jam. The fund raising results are as follows:

**Bake Shoppe** (sponsored by St. Jude's Circle) – \$760.75

**Bottlemania Booth** (sponsored by St. Michael's Circle) – \$192.00

**Jewelry Booth** (sponsored by St. Mary's Circle) - \$726.00

Thank you to everyone who donated items, baked breads and treats, volunteered working at the booths, and supported each of the booths!

### —MCCW Deanery Meeting—

The Minneapolis Council of Catholic Women Deanery Meeting will be held at IC on Thursday, September 28 in Fellowship Hall. The event will begin with registration at 4:15 pm, Mass at 5:00 pm and supper at 5:45 pm followed by a meeting. The group will be collecting baby supplies and monetary donations for Abria. All are welcome. Watch your e mail and the bulletin for pre-registration and additional details.

### —Survey—

In this newsletter, the members of Re-image CCW Committee have included a survey for all CCW members to read and is requesting your feedback. Please complete the survey and return it to the box in the narthex of church or bring it to our September 7<sup>th</sup> meeting. Your input is so very important as we look to ways of improving membership and events for CCW. Thank you in advance for your thoughts. Results of the survey will be given at our November meeting. If you have any questions, please call Sandy at 763-789-3246. All comments and suggestions will be kept confidential.

### —Dues • Dues • Dues—

Ladies, yearly dues were due July 1<sup>st</sup> through August 15<sup>th</sup> for the 2023-2024 year. Thank you to so many who have already paid their dues. However, if you have not yet paid your dues, please consider paying them now or no later than at the September meeting. Dues remain at \$10.00 payable in cash or check. Checks should be made payable to "IC-CCW" and mailed to: Diane Tieden – 1000 41<sup>st</sup> Avenue NE #319, Columbia Heights, MN 55421.

As stated in the past our dues are a large line item on our yearly budget so we rely on all members paying their dues so that we can continue to sponsor and make donations to the needs of our parish, our community, and throughout the world.

Please let Diane know if your address, phone number or circle membership has changed and consider providing your email address to be sure you receive the email messages that are sent from time to time keeping you informed of CCW information and events.

**Immaculate Conception Church  
Council of Catholic Women**

4030 Jackson Street Northeast  
Columbia Heights, Minnesota 55421

*“Walking Together Sharing our Gifts”*

**LOOKING AHEAD**

November 13, 2023: Deanery Meeting at St. Albert the Great (Monday at 9:00 am)

December 2 and 3, 2023: Christmas Bake Sale, Craft Sale and Boutique

**CALENDAR**

**September 2023**

Sept. 4 Labor Day  
Sept. 5 CCW Mass Intention - 7:30 am  
Sept. 7 CCW Membership Meeting  
*Collection for Our Lady of Peace*  
*6:00 pm sign-in & refreshments*  
*6:30 Rosary, meeting to follow*  
Sept. 28 Deanery Meeting at IC

**October 2023**

Oct. Respect for Life Month  
Oct. 3 CCW Mass Intention - 7:30 am  
Oct. 7 Mass In Body  
Oct. 9 Columbus Day  
Oct. 30 CCW Board Meeting  
*Fellowship Hall*  
Oct. 31 Halloween

***Rosary in church all Sundays in October at 9:30 am, before the 10:00 am Mass.***