Gaylord Diocesan Council of Catholic Women
Gaylord, MI
Detroit Province
2016 Fall Newsletter

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK
J.M.J.

Gaylord DCCW: Who are they and what do they do?
By Eileen M. Oposnow, DCCW correspondent
Year 1999

If you are a woman and a member of one of the 82 parishes within the Gaylord Diocese, you are a member of the Gaylord Diocesan Council of Catholic Women (DCCW).

The organizational leadership of the Council of Catholic Women does not transcend in pyramid fashion but radiates outward from the center.

At the center of that wheel is the National Council of Catholic Women. From that center (at the hub) national reaches out to the 81 diocese and archdioceses within the United States.

The Gaylord DCCW as one of those 81 spokes, absorbs NCCW works and incorporates them with works of our own diocese passing them on to the six vicariates through regional Councils of Catholic Women. Each regional CCW then stretches out to the grassroots of the council, the PCCW.

If you are a parish Council of Catholic Women (dba CCW), Altar Society, Sodality, etc.), you need to let the organizational circle work for you. Every other year in May the women of the diocese at the annual May DCCW convention elect an executive board. The DCCW board is also composed of vicariate representatives, a president and delegate at large is elected by the members of the six regional Councils of Catholic Women.

Also on the diocesan board are commission chairmen and sub-chairmen appointed by the DCCW presidents to add a constant level of experience to the board.

The president attempts to reach out to regional and parish councils to appoint commission chairmen on the diocesan board to get new women to understand the inner workings of the diocesan board.

We welcome guests from parishes throughout the diocese to attend. The six regional CCW presidents forward on information to the parish councils within their vicariate. This is how the information funnels to 82 parishes.

Parishes that have women on the diocesan board should utilize that expertise. PCCWS could invite women from surrounding parishes that are on the diocesan board to update them on current happenings.

Contact you parish CCW (Altar Society or Sodality) president and attend the next meeting of the women of your parish.

EPISCOPAL CHAIRMAN:
Bishop Steven Raica

SPiritual Advisor:
Rev. Patrick Maher

prOvince Director:
Janet Regan

Elected Officers
President – Marcia Albosta
President Elect – Angie Yarch
Secretary – Mary Stawasz
Treasurer – Ruth Grant

Commissions
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Service – Roseann Kujawa
Spirituality – Sandra Williams
Sunshine Chair – Joan Kiwawa
Joann McConnell
Historian – Shirley Hofer
Parliamentarian – Genevieve Sieting
Public Relations – Sydney Martin
Susan Gibbons

Region Officers
East – Linda Stemen
Southeast – Colleen Barker
Central – Vacant
West – Vacant
North – Vacant
Southwest – Vacant
FROM OUR PROVINCE DIRECTOR
Janet Regan

Big News! Our province (all dioceses in the State of Michigan) is preparing for a convention on April 21-22, 2017. It will be held at the Holiday Inn near University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. It’s easy to get to; right off US 23 exit for Plymouth Road. We will need your support & attendance! So far we have Fr. John Riccardo (pastor of OLGC, Plymouth & radio personality) & Fr. Patrick Gonyeau (Evangelization Coordinator) from the Archdiocese committed as speakers. Plus we have three bishops, including Bishop Cistone, committed for our liturgy! So please plan to join us in the spring for a wonderful day and a half of blessings!

We are participating in the NCCW project “A Million Works of Mercy”. Our members are encouraged to engage in corporal and spiritual works of mercy from April 3, 2016 through Christ the King Sunday, November 20. Can we reach our goal of 1,000,000???? I am reporting each month to National for our Saginaw diocese members. Just email, call, or write me with your numbers & activities at the end of the month (such as: 3 get-well cards sent; 2 attended funeral; 31 prayed for living/deceased daily, etc.). It is easy. Did you: work at a food drive, donate food/clothing to the needy, volunteer at VBS, attend a funeral, prepare/serve a funeral luncheon, visit/take communion to the homebound/sick, join on a prayer line, make pillowcase dresses, help with the migrant ministry, and much, much more!! Let Me Know! 😊

COMMISSION REPORTS

Spirituality Commission
By Sandra Williams

Thanksgiving and Autumn Harvest Reflections
By Bishop William H. Bullock, Bishop Emeritus of the Diocese of Madison

As nature decorates the hillsides with the beautiful autumn leaves, our thoughts turn to the harvest.

No mere artist can model the natural hillside of trees in arrangement and color, nor the bounty that feeds all creatures.

God is revealing himself to people and gives us abundant reason in which to see, honor, and be grateful for the order in nature.

As we behold this autumn, let us stop to praise God not only for the beauty we see in nature but also for his providential care through crops — corn, soybeans, squash, pumpkins, and all — each of which has a color, form, and purpose.

It has always caused me to raise my often preoccupied heart in real gratitude for all that our loving God has given us — the fruits of Earth in all their color and splendor.

We also know that following this burst of nature’s fruitfulness and beauty in autumn will come winter. With its snow, ice, and freezing temperatures, winter will cause all of us to bundle up, stay warm, and wait with real longing for spring and all its promise of new life in the ordered cycle of nature.

God in his goodness has also gone beyond nature in telling us who he is. He gave us his Word in the Old Testament and, after Christ’s birth in time and history, a New Testament: the Gospels according to our four evangelists — Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John — and the epistles and other works of Paul, the Apostles, and others.

We recall from the Letter to the Hebrews that God, who in diverse manner through the prophets of old, spoke to the people he chose as his own, now speaks to us in the name of his only begotten Son, Jesus the Christ.

We hear a lot about Evangelization these days as a need in the world. A simple translation: to be evangelized is to be “Gospelized.” My definition of evangelization is: “making God known and loved.”

A third level of God’s revelation to us is His Body, the Church: a gift of a community of faith entrusted to us in a hierarchical form to give us truths to believe in, sacraments to celebrate, and moral precepts to live by.
The Catholic Church is our name. We are made up of two major rites: Roman and Eastern. Both rites blend with each other in the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church. We are that universal Church, Christ’s mystical body.

As people of faith, we praise God for the Church. We thank him for his goodness to us.

It is now autumn, a moment of the year for gathering the fruits of nature and human toil in the harvest.

It is a time before winter, when all in nature appears to die and we must await the emergence of new life in the spring that grows and matures throughout summer.

In every season, may we rejoice in the Lord of creation, our God who reveals himself through nature, by his spoken Word, and most fully in Jesus, who founded his Church.

The Lord who is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit is a God of life on all levels of his revelation to us.

As members of our holy Church, by the waters of our Baptism, may each one of us answer the call to be a bearer of the Gospel of Christ in order to make God known and loved.

Let us pray for one another, reflecting on God’s love and goodness that we see in nature, in his Word, in the Church to which we belong, and in every person made in his image.

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**Service Commission**
By Angie Yarch

The Service Commission engages the members of NCCW, 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**
By Elizabeth Watters

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

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**HERE’S WHAT’S HAPPENING IN YOUR AREA**

**Southeast Region CCW News** (Yellow)
From Colleen Barker

**West Branch, Holy Family Church**
On September 23-24 there will be a Fall Garage Sale at the Hall from 9-5 on Friday and on Saturday from 9-6.

**Oscoda, Sacred Heart Church**
Over the Labor Day week-end we made over $1000 so CCW decided to split it equally and give half to the Augustine Center for their repairs and half to our Parochial Vicar, Fr. Emmanuel Tizhe, for his home community in Nigeria.

The Southeast Region CCW will meet in Roscommon, at St. Michael’s, on Wed., September 28th, starting with Mass at 9 a.m. and ending with “Mary’s Way of the Cross” at about 2 p.m., with “Breakfast treats” and lunch included.

Oct. 2 will be the Life Chain held at Furtaw Field, Oscoda, at 2 p.m.

Oct. 16th is World Mission Sunday

**Whittemore, St. James**
Every Thursday the Quilters meet in the hall and usually make 2 quilts a week to be given to the Police, the State Police, Assisted Living in Hale, the Pregnancy Center in West Branch and Harbor Lights Pregnancy Center in E. Tawas. They have made 41 quilts since February.
East Tawas, Holy Family Parish
The Tawas Grande Giveaway for Holy Family School is Sat., Sept. 24, from 5:30 p.m.-Midnight. Tickets are $30.00 and it includes dinner, drinks, entertainment, Live Auction, Silent Auction, Raffles and Games. The Grande Raffle Tickets are $100 each, or split with friends to make it more affordable. Call 1-989-362-5651 for tickets.

East Region CCW News  (Light Blue)
From Linda Stemen

St. Anne's, Harrisville, September 20th, at 6:30 pm, Year of Mercy presentation with Father Bischoff. Bishop Racia will have Holy Hour with reflections at 7:30 pm.

St. Raphael's, Mikado, October 1st, at 11am, blessing of the Animals. All animals are invited.

St. Raphael’s, Mikado, October 3rd, at 6 pm, movie night; Mother Teresa

St. Augustine, Hillman, September 27th, 9 am to 2 pm, ERCCW meeting; The Icon of Our Lady of Good Counsel from Albania to Italy. $7 for lunch. Send to Mary Marquardt, 14992 Co. Rd., 451, Hillman, MI 49746 by Sept. 19th.

North Region CCW News  (Royal Blue)
From Joan Lemerand, St. Mary of the Assumption Charlevoix, Michigan

ST MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION FESTIVAL CELEBRATION
On August 13th and 14th the celebration of the Assumption of Mary Feast Day was celebrated at St Mary of the Assumption Parish in Charlevoix, MI with a Family Style Pot Luck Dinner, a Eucharistic Adoration and a Pancake Breakfast sponsored by our parish Youth Group.

The two day event began with the Assumption Mass at 5:00 PM followed by the Family Style Pot Luck Festival dinner.
Our Pastoral Administrator, Father Peter Wigton opened our Festival Dinner with a blessing to those attending and then leading the group in prayer.

Featured at the Festival were donated homemade pies and an ice cream social sponsored by the Rosary Altar Society. Also highlighting the event was a display of flower arrangements created by parishioner Kathy Riche from our Parish Gardens all surrounding Mary, who is overlooking a flowing water fountain.

Beginning at the end of the 5pm Mass and continuing throughout the night until Sunday at 8:30 am members of the parish were invited to sign up for time slots for the Eucharistic Adoration.

FIVE WISHES PRESENTATION
St May's Health Ministry will have a presentation on the Five Wishes at the Parish Gym on Sunday September 25, 2016 after the 11:00 mass. Members of the Health Ministry will be present to provide copies of the Five Wishes form, and answer questions. The Five Wishes document gives a person a way to control how they wish to be treated if they become seriously ill. Anyone eighteen years or older is encouraged to attend the presentation and have the opportunity to ask questions and to fill out a form.

ST MARY'S ALTAR SOCIETY OCTOBER SOCIAL
St Mary’s Rosary Altar Society will host its inaugural card party luncheon social from 1 - 4 pm on Sunday October 23 at St Mary Parish Church in Charlevoix.

Admission is $5.00 for an individual and rates for families at the door. A 50/50 Raffle will be held during the event and cards or board games are welcomed after lunch. The luncheon menu will be pulled pork, rolls, coleslaw, homemade apple sauce and assortment of homemade desserts. For more information call the Parish Office at (231) 547 6652
ST MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION BUS TOUR
Father Peter Wigton invites you to join him on a Pilgrimage of the Diocese of Gaylord Holy Doors of Mercy on October 9th through the 12th. The tour begins on Sunday, October 9th at 2:30 leaving for Beaver Island for the first Holy Door experience. Returning to Charlevoix on Monday the tour will then continue to Petoskey on to Indian River then to Alpena, Hale, Mio and finally to Gaylord. There will be Mass everyday along with a presentation at each door site. This will be a wonderful opportunity to experience the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy, make a pilgrimage, pass through a Door of Mercy and obtain a Jubilee Indulgence.

Price of the tour is $245.00, which includes Bus and Driver, two Hotel stays with each Hotel offering a free Breakfast. Cost is per a person and is for double occupancy. Please call the Parish office at (231) 547 6652 for more details, questions and to make your reservations. Space is limited and reservations must be made by September 30th.

West Region CCW News (Lavender)
From Susan Gibbons

FIRST OUTDOOR MASS IN TRAVERSE CITY
Over 2,000 people gathered on September 9th for the first outdoor Grand Traverse Area Catholic Schools mass. The mass was held on the site of the future Immaculate Conception elementary school. The project is part of the GTACS capital campaign and over the past year they’ve raised more than $9 million. They’ll be replacing the 103-year-old school building with a brand new one. A change that Bishop Steven Raica says benefits the whole community.

More blessings! Baraga Broadcasting (Catholic Light) has elected to rebroadcast the September 9 Outdoor All School Mass on their stations on Saturday, September 17 at 2:00 pm. In Traverse City, that'll be FM 88.3. The program can also be heard on their website: www.thecatholiclight.com or via the Baraga Broadcasting smart phone app. Thank you, Baraga Broadcasting!

“AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL” GLADHANDER ROAD RALLY 2016!
The Gladhander Road Rally is a ladies night out “fun”draiser to benefit the annual auction!

ROAD RALLY DATE & TIME: Saturday, September 24, 2016 5:00-9:00 pm
COST: $25 per person
GENERAL INFORMATION: You may organize your own car or contact the Gladhander Office at 941-GLAD, and they will help you join an existing team.

The event culminates with a get-together at the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Dining Hall for camaraderie, a meal, and beverages. All proceeds benefit the Grand Traverse Area Catholic Schools, providing a faith-based education to over 1,000 students. Capacity is limited...so register your team TODAY!

FOCUS ON LIFE 2016 ANNUAL BENEFIT DINNER - Grand Traverse Area Right to Life
Lisa Gigliotti will be the special guest speaker at the 29th Annual Focus on Life Benefit dinner to be held at the Grand Traverse Resort on Monday, September 26. Social hour begins at 5:30 pm, dinner and program at 6:30 pm. The cost is $65 per ticket. You will be moved and inspired by Lisa’s message. For more information, please call (231) 946-9469 or e-mail office@gtartl.com

GTARTL-40 Days for Life
From September 28 through November 6, you’re invited to join other Christians in our area for “40 Days for Life” — 40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion.

RELICS OF THE PASSION
Relics of the True Cross and Christ’s Passion will be presented at Holy Rosary Church on Tuesday, October 18th at 7 pm (for one hour—but the relics won’t be taken away until all get a chance to see them). This event allows participants of all ages to deepen and grow in their faith. A unique collection of relics has been brought together in a program of meditations, music and prayers commemorating the events of the Passion of Our Lord, Jesus Christ. Rare collections such as the Relics of the Passion are generally seen only in Rome or the Holy Land. We encourage you to join us in this Year of Mercy for a special opportunity that is sure to touch your heart.
RESPECT LIFE will host a parent conference on Saturday, November 5th from 9:00 am to 3:30 pm at St. Francis High School in Traverse City. The headliner for the day will be Dr. Ray Guarendi, father of ten, clinical psychologist, author and professional speaker. There will be special children, youth and high school programs and activities throughout the day. A catered lunch will be provided. The day will end with Holy Mass with Bishop Raica presiding at 4 pm. Register now for early bird discount pricing online at www.respectlifegaylord.com or call Jackie Fate at 231-633-2146.

Saturday, September 24th, All Women's Retreat at St. Mary's Lake Leelanau. Guest Speaker is Teresa Tomeo, Baraga Radio talk show host. Back by popular demand is Keri Tarrant from the Marion Center. Registration is limited to 200. Registration fee is $25 and registration kicks off in July. After September 18th, the fee is $30.

**NEWS AND EVENTS**

**Guest Speaker Theresa Tomeo coming to St. Mary’s 13TH Annual Women’s Retreat**

Registration has begun for this annual event! Get your registration in early so you won’t miss out. The retreat is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 24, 2016, beginning at 9:30 am. Speakers will begin at 10:00 followed by adoration & confession, lunch and an afternoon session of presentations. Book sales, signing and religious goods will be available. Registration fee is $25 ($30 after 9/18) and limited to ONLY 200.

Go to www.leelanaucatholic.org for more info.

Gaylord Diocesan Council of Catholic Women’s Silent Retreat
October 14-16, 2016
Augustine Center, Conway

Retreat Director: Fr. Bert Gohm
Finding Inner Peace and Happiness: A Saints’ Guide

For more information please contact Adam C. Chittle - Director at the Augustine Center, P.O. Box 84, Conway, MI 49722—0084
(231)347-3657, augustinecenter@gmail.com

NCCW IS SPONSORING A PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY

Wow! The trip will be from March 28 to April 7, 2017 & members, friends, & family are welcome. There will be visits to Rome, Florence, Assisi, Padua, Siena, & more. $3,595/person. See our website, www.nccw.org.

Save the Date: May 10, 2017
GAYLORD DCCW Annual Convention, Mary, Mother for All Seasons
All Gaylord Diocesan Parishes are invited to join the “Decorate the Tables” competition (more details to follow soon!)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: AUGUST 15, 2016
Gaylord DCCW sponsors Heart of Mercy Women’s Retreat

Gaylord Diocesan Council of Catholic Women’s (GDCCW) annual workshop brought 92+ women to St. Mary, Our Lady of the Woods Shrine, in Mio on July 26, 2016. As the Catholic Church worldwide continues to observe an Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy, this day was focused on the “Heart of Mercy.”

GDCCW President Marcia Albosta opened the day with prayer and welcomed the women who made the pilgrimage to the Shrine. In this Jubilee Year, Pope Francis has encouraged Catholics to make pilgrimages both physically and spiritually. Bishop Steven J Raica, Bishop of the Diocese of Gaylord, designated eight sites in the diocese as pilgrimage sites with special Holy Doors where visitors could “come away” to spend time with the Lord and learn more about the faith communities in northern Lower Michigan.

After the morning Mass celebrated by Rev. Santiago M. Hoyumpa, Mio parishioner Tina Troyer explained the history of the Shrine and explained the various areas and statutes the guests would encounter as they toured the grounds of Our Lady of the Woods Shrine.

Elizabeth Gengle, Director of Faith Formation and Youth Ministry at St. Francis Xavier in Petoskey, was the guest speaker. Gengle, who holds a Bachelor’s degree in Theology from Franciscan University in Steubenville and has participated in several workshops through the Theology of the Body Institute, offered four talks: Invitation, Surrender, Infinite Love, and Transformation. She guided participants through each step, exploring God’s love, the role that Mary played in the Mercy for the Heart of Jesus, and how lives can be changed by Trusting in God. The women reflected on “matters of the heart,” one’s spiritual callings and heart’s desire. God’s love is infinite, an eternal exchange, that extends to all human beings with no exceptions.

The finale of the retreat was time for personal reflection before walking through the Jubilee Holy Door of Mercy completing the pilgrimage.

Overwhelmingly, participants noted they found the day both healing and refreshing. “I have had a heart full of sadness and [Gengle’s talks] brought me peace,” one woman commented while another summed it up for many saying, “I was deeply moved. I feel as if I was ‘called’ to be here and I was aware that I was in the right place at the right time.”

The Gaylord Diocesan Council of Catholic Women was formed in 1971, when the Diocese of Gaylord was established, and provides opportunities for involvement in fulfilling the mission of the Church as well as opportunities for individual and collective sharing, networking, learning and growing.

GAYLORD DCCW MISSION STATEMENT

To unite the Catholic organizations of women of the Diocese to develop their spiritual growth and leadership potential.
To motivate, to assist, and to act upon current issues in the church and society.
To serve as a medium through which the Catholic women of the Diocese may speak and act on all matters of common interest.
To further spiritual and material undertakings recommended to the Council by our Bishop or Spiritual Advisor.
To work as a part of the NCCW in the interest of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). This council will in no way interfere with the autonomy of any organization affiliated with it.