

Spirituality Commission Report
Knoxville Diocesan Council of Catholic Women
Saturday, October 1, 2011

Promotion of NCCW's Campaign for Human Dignity

As adopted at KDCCW convention, I believe the Promotion of NCCW's Campaign for Human Dignity should be one of the most important focuses for the Spirituality Commission for this year. This campaign encompasses a variety of issues that impact our members, their families, our parishes and communities, and our world. They include Domestic Violence, Energy and Integrity of the Environment, Immigration, Pornography, Human Trafficking, Marriage, National Health Care Reform, and Respect for Life. We may already be educating ourselves on these individual issues and may be raising money or doing other service projects or may be supporting legislation on these issues, but are we fully aware of what the Catholic Church teaches about these issues and what the Biblical foundations of those teachings are? It is my hope that each KDCCW affiliate will familiarize itself with the Campaign for Human Dignity and with at least the basics of Catholic Social Teachings so that we can share with others in our parishes and communities this foundation of our Catholic actions, promoting the dignity of all persons from conception to natural death. A great place to start is to download The NCCW Campaign for Human Dignity Resource Manual from www.nccw.org.

Of equal importance is the need for prayer. Please pray for the success of Building a Campaign for Human Dignity as well as for the individual issues included in the campaign. If you have any non-copyrighted prayers on these issues that you would like to share, please send them to me, and I will post them on the KDCCW website.

Education and Support for the Implementation of the Revised Roman Missal

The inauguration of the new Roman Missal is such a major event for Our Church and a source of much anxiety for many of her members. As included in NCCW's proposed resolutions for our upcoming convention, women of Council should be educated about these changes and seek to deepen our experience of the Sacred Liturgy through them. We should support our parishes in planning for and implementing the Revised Missal and offer support to parishioners as they grieve for the old and work toward accepting—and perhaps even embracing!—the new.

Vocations

I will be representing KDCCW on the Vocations Promotion Board and will be arranging lunches for the Diocesan Discernment Program, which meets at the Chancery approximately once a month. I need volunteers to provide lunch for 11 men on Saturdays November 12, December 10, February 18 and March 17. Just drop off the food in disposable containers—a very simple way to show our support.

Remember to pray for vocations and for our seminarians, priests, and all those in consecrated life. You should receive a list of our seminarians at today's meeting.

Prayer Request E-mails

What a wonderful opportunity we have to get support for our needs and the needs of our loved ones or those in our community—and also to join our prayers with those of the other women of KDCCW. Take advantage of the power of prayer in numbers!

Share Spirituality Opportunities with Other Affiliates

I encourage affiliates to share your resources with others in Council. Consider inviting other affiliates to join you for a Day of Reflection or to hear a special speaker at your meeting or for a special event at your church or in your community. Or at least share recommendations for speakers and resources with other groups; forward the details to me, and I'll post them on the KDCCW website.

Everything we do in Council should start and end in our spirituality!!

Make sure to include prayer in all of your planning and activities! It's not just what we do, but how we do it and why we do it that counts!

Note these upcoming events:

KDCCW Day of Prayer and Fasting (1st Monday of each month)—“for the purposes of gaining God's knowledge, peace and love and unifying and strengthening its members for the work of Council” (adopted at 9th annual convention, April 1998)

NCCW Day of Prayer (every Wednesday, 8am local time)—pray with and for your sisters in Council

40 Days For Life (September 28-November 6)—see www.40daysforlife.com

Respect for Life Sunday (October 2)—Silent Prayer Chain at Sacred Heart Cathedral (4-5pm)

National Domestic Violence Awareness Month (October)—wear a purple ribbon!

White Ribbon Against Pornography (WRAP) Week (October 30-November 6)—wear or display white ribbons; see www.moralityinmedia.org

International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church (November 13)

NCCW National Day of Prayer and Fasting (November 17)

Bishop Stika's 26th Anniversary (December 14)

Prayerfully Submitted,
Marilyn Hafner
KDCCW Spirituality Commission Chair