

President's Report

December, 2020

Judy Lyons, MDCCW President

My Dear CCW Sisters, I hope this finds you, your families, and friends well. As this strange, challenging, and basically unprecedented year is drawing to a close, I am reminded of the lines from Charles Dickens, ***A Tale of Two Cities: It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of light, it was the season of darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair.***

The way we did things a year ago has, in many ways, changed dramatically. And we took so many things for granted...

The list of the events of 2020 is long: wildfires, hurricanes, tornados, extensive flooding, divisive elections, looting and pillaging, and more. It seems overwhelming! We have suffered isolation from family, friends, and church; and economic woes.

'Reset' Time

But through it all, there are things I count in the "good" column. It has been a time to reprioritize, regroup, and adapt. My sometimes-frenetic schedule slowed to a crawl. I have more time for prayer. And, I find that I have had to find different ways to accomplish things — adapt. In some ways, I see this as a gigantic "reset" event.

Ladies, we have made it this far which is cause for hope in our future. We are a people of hope. In our natural human condition, it is so very easy to get our priorities skewed. Now is the perfect opportunity to realign them, reprioritize them. We must ask, what is really important? How are we called to serve God and our sisters and brothers under these conditions? How do we accomplish that in these difficult and different times? These are the questions we must address and bring to God and the saints in prayer.

Our prayer lives have been given an opportunity to expand and mature. It is a time for spiritual and personal growth. The question is how will we proceed?

One of our greatest challenges is just keeping in touch. Remember: Christ has no hands but ours! We are called to love one another, to help one another, to pray for one another. Keep in touch with your folks!

Grateful for your work

I am profoundly grateful and amazed at the things we have been able to accomplish, despite the necessary restrictions around us. A style show that happened virtually; Boxes of Joy that have been filled; and so many other works of compassion, mercy, and love.

Sisters, you are amazing and awesome. I know that our Lady of Perpetual Help and the Holy Spirit have our backs and our hearts, helping us to move forward in the work we do. I along with everyone else look forward to some normalcy in our lives and activities, but let us be thankful for the opportunities brought about by our current situation.

With the coming of Advent, may we truly prepare for and embrace the birth of our Lord and Savior.

Blessings, health, and peace to you in this most holy season.