



# NEWSLETTER

## WEST DANE VICARIATE

### Council of Catholic Women!

Affiliated with the Diocese of Madison  
Council of Catholic Women (MDCCW) &  
National Council of Catholic Women (NCCW)

March 2023

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MESSAGE from  
Our Vicariate President  
GATHER

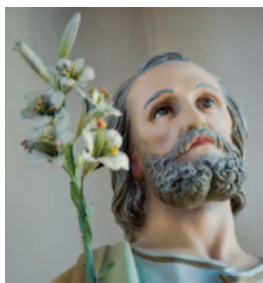
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SPIRITUALITY  
SERVICE  
LEADERSHIP + Invitation

Connecting Catholic Women in the West Dane Vicariate of the Diocese of Madison

### In March, We Celebrate Feasts, Memorials and Solemnities!

The church season of Lent, St. Katharine Drexel, Sts. Perpetua and Felicity, St. Patrick, St. Joseph - Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and The Annunciation of the Lord.



#### St. Joseph

Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
March 20th

*'But as he considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; she will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."*

Matthew 1:20-21

### Vicariate President's Message

Lent began one week ago and we are now in a time of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Are you off to a holy, solid start? If you do not have specific ideas for prayer times, you can find many apps available to help you. Below my message is a listing of some of the sites available to help you Grow Your Faith.

NCCW is offering 2 Zoom Sessions and a 72 Hour prayer vigil which may fill your needs. Pro-Life Madison has a 40 Days for Life Sidewalk Vigil. You can sign up for a time to pray or just drop-in if that fits your schedule. Although Rowe was overturned by the Dobbs decision, we have a new fight on our hands. Wisconsin is one of several states where abortion is still illegal, but we must fight to keep that. The best way is to vote for candidates with the same beliefs we have, especially the Wisconsin Supreme Court in the April election. Walking With Moms in Need is another way to show your support. Please consider attending the "Eucharistic Blessed Miracles Exhibit" touring our diocese. We were honored to view part of this exhibit at the NCCW Convention in November. It is currently being shown at St. Francis Xavier Church in Cross Plains. This event can be enjoyed by the whole family.

During Lent we put special emphasis on the Stations of the Cross. Attend as a family if you can. Do you have a special station? Mine is the 8th - Jesus Meets the Weeping Women. Imagine yourself at that time, seeing Jesus scourged, walking through Jerusalem with the cross on his shoulder, and feeling sorry for him. It is said that his precious body had 5,430 marks from this horrible lashing! Still, he told the women not to cry for him but for themselves as they rejected him. Have we also rejected him or have we accepted Jesus and the graces offered every day?

Last but not least, Bishop Hying has issued a letter stating we will not be required to abstain from meat on Friday, March 17th. Happy Saint Patrick's Day!

Sue Barker,

President West Dane Vicariate Council of Catholic Women

**God Love You!**

### PARISHES

#### In the West Dane Vicariate

##### Ashton - St. Peter Parish

Rev. Christopher Gernetzke, Pastor

##### Cross Plains - St. Francis Xavier

Rev. Scott Jablonski, Pastor

##### Martinsville - St. Martin of Tours

Rev. Christopher Gernetzke, Pastor

##### Mt. Horeb - St. Ignatius

(St. Michael the Archangel Parish)

Rev. Chahm Gahng, Pastor

##### Paoli - St. William

(St. Christopher Parish)

Rev. Robert Butz, Pastor

##### Perry - Holy Redeemer

(St. Michael the Archangel Parish)

Rev. Chahm Gahng, Pastor

##### Pine Bluff - St. Mary of Pine Bluff

Very Rev. Richard M. Heilman, Pastor

##### Verona - St. Andrew

(St. Christopher Parish)

Rev. Robert Butz, Pastor

##### Waukegan - St. John the Baptist

Rev. Msgr. James Gunn, Pastor

##### Westport - St. Mary of the Lake

Rev. Msgr. James Gunn, Pastor

#### No Parish CCW?

Connect with Catholic Women around the area!

Contact Rosa Ropers at  
rosa.m.ropers@gmail.com

## GATHER (VIRTUALLY) IN PRAYER

### On-Line Prayer Communities Abound

There are many resources to join prayer groups via apps or video or audio recordings, so that your Lent can be filled with rich spiritual food! Explore sources now to enhance your prayer life!

#### Apps:

[www.Hallow.com](http://www.Hallow.com) will invite you to install their app. You will find prayer, rosary, spiritual music and learning sessions including prayer challenges to join thousands in offering spiritual bouquets.

**Podcasts:** (via your favorite source: YouTube, Apple, or direct subscription via [www.ascensionpress.com](http://www.ascensionpress.com))

Bible in a Year with Fr. Mike Schmitz. Receive daily links to 365 recordings

Catechism in a Year with Fr. Mike Schmitz. Receive daily links to 365 recordings

#### E-Mail free subscriptions:

[www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org) gives you access to scripture readings of the day,

[www.nccw.org](http://www.nccw.org) (with membership) provides prayer resources and invitations to on-going prayer groups

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CALENDAR of EVENTS

Sept. 29 - Oct. 1, 2023 - A 3-day Congress

Plan now and pre-register to attend the Madison Eucharistic Congress at St. John the Baptist, Waunakee.



**St. Patrick:** Missionary and first bishop in Ireland. He is credited with bringing Christianity to Ireland's pagan society by showing people the three-leafed clover (shamrock) to describe the Trinity; three persons in one God.

SPIRITUALITY

Stations of the Cross

The Stations of the Cross devotion has evolved over time beginning with legalized Christianity in 313AD by Constantine. In Bethlehem, St. Jerome indicated crowds of pilgrims visiting the holy places, following the Way of the Cross. By the 16th century, the pathway which follows Christ's movements from Pontius Pilate's praetorium to the tomb was given a proper name: Via Dolorosa (Sorrowful Way), or the Way of the Cross and numbered as Stations of the Cross.



Today, 14 Stations comprise the devotion, which is on display at almost every Catholic Church and now available in book form, on-line and audio prayer recordings. Take time this Lent to spend time walking the Way with Jesus during His passion, and death.



AROUND OUR (WEST DANE) VICARIATE EUCHARISTIC MIRACLES EXHIBIT - March 4 -12

St. Francis Xavier Parish  
Cross Plains, Wisconsin

The work of young Carlo Acutis, has culminated in an exhibit of all the Eucharistic Miracles documented throughout the world. Completing his work in 2½ years at 14 years old, Carlo passed away at age 15. Now beautified, Carlo can live in spirit through his internationally displayed exhibit, which is traveling to our vicariate in the Diocese of Madison!

Its breadth of information fosters devotion to the Eucharist and will be displayed March 4- 12th at St. Francis Xavier Parish in Cross Plains during regular office hours and before/after masses

See the parish websites for more information:  
www.sfxcrossplains.org  
www.facebook.com/sfxcrossplains1853

SERVICE AND ALMSGIVING



Catholic Multicultural Center

Yes, this is what Catholics can do....

Serving the community with a food pantry, food pantry garden, transportation services, English as a 2nd Language, childcare, employment search, homework club, meals, immigrant services etc.

See the many options for volunteering your time and talent at the Catholic Multicultural Center via their website

at <https://cmcmadison.org>

Or United Way's website: <https://volunteer.yourtime.org>

Or Contact Sarah at (608) 441-0117

MEMBERSHIP

**AFFILIATIONS** If your parish CCW pays dues to NCCW, then ALL parish women are already members!

Contacting NCCW

NCCW  
10335 -A Democracy Ln.  
Fairfax, VA 22030

**Individual Members** Catholic Women in parishes that do not have an organized Council (CCW) but would enjoy becoming active and support the work of MDCCW, can become Individual members! Dues are only \$10.00/year.



Did You Know NCCW is at the forefront of cultural and social challenges?

NCCW is on the leading edge of recognizing the need amidst families and have worked with USCCB to draw attention to solutions. This effort has resulted in

- The Pregnant Workers Fairness Act
- The Afghan Adjustment Act,
- The EARN IT Act to help create a better framework governing the prevention of online sexual exploitation of children.

[www.nccw.org](http://www.nccw.org)

Walking With Moms in Need



Now, as always we are called to serve and protect life at all stages. The most vulnerable being the unborn, who have been given a gift with the ruling on the Dobbs case in the Supreme Court. The fight now moves to each state, where women are again bombarded by evil choices. Raise your Pro-Life voice by offering resources for alternatives!

The USCCB has prepared materials and a website to introduce the Walking With Moms in Need program. Training Webinars are still viewable.

Access all Pro-Life Activities through [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org)

Contact [wminmadison@gmail.com](mailto:wminmadison@gmail.com)

You're Invited!

WOMEN: TAKE THE LEAD

Attend Walking with Moms in Need

**Feast of the Annunciation Celebration!**

Saturday, March 25th 9am-noon

At Holy Name Heights, 702 S. High Point Rd, Madison

You're invited to a morning celebration, inspiration and collaboration for parishes striving to implement Walking with Moms in Need! The program includes success stories, Q & A's, updates from diocesan teams and Mass with the Bishop!

Reserve your spot now by emailing [wminmadison@gmail.com](mailto:wminmadison@gmail.com) for the sign-up link.