

**JUNE
2025**

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Connecting Catholic Women!

A Monthly Newsletter of the Madison Diocesan Council of Catholic Women (MDCCW)

Affiliated with the National Council of Catholic Women (NCCW) and your local parish Council (CCW)

Uniting Catholic Women throughout the Catholic Diocese of Madison, Wisconsin

THE PEN

"Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labor in vain." Psalm 127:1

Building the Body of Christ

Dear women of the Diocese of Madison - It's CONVENTION TIME!

With Saturday June 28th falling on the Feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, it is the perfect day for us to honor our Blessed Mother on this Day of Spirituality with a theme of Renew Our Hope in Christ! See page 5 for Program details and Registration information. Hurry as the deadline to register is June 20th!

June is also a month dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. As each month is dedicated to a particular Catholic devotion based on the liturgical calendar or historical events, this month honors the pierced Heart of Jesus as the inexhaustible source of grace for mankind; a 2nd century devotion! The blood and water from His side were symbols of the sacraments and of the early Church itself. From 1673-1675 Jesus appeared to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, revealing His burning love for humanity. Christ asked her to establish the communion of reparation on Nine First Fridays to make up for the indifference, ingratitude, and sacrilege heaped upon Him in the Blessed Sacrament. He also asked that the feast of the Sacred Heart be celebrated after Corpus Christi.

See [THE PEN](#) continued on Page Four



CAROL ROGERS

President, Madison Diocesan
Council of Catholic Women

CONTACT ME:

PHONE: (608) 391-2564

carrogmdccw@gmail.com

**Register
NOW!
See
Page 5**

United Across the Diocese

RENEWING HOPE IN CHRIST

*** A Day Of Spirituality ***

MDCCW Convention

Saturday, June 28th

8:00am-3pm at St. Francis Xavier Church,
Holy Cross Parish, Cross Plains, WI

MDCCW has a phenomenal day planned for you, with ladies across the Diocese - your sisters of hope, your sisters of Catholic voice, your sisters in faith! Nationally acclaimed speaker, and singer Vallimar Jansen will put the Power, Passion & Presence of the Holy Spirit in this uplifting day! See **page 5** for details and make sure you check out her video clips!



Our Lady of Good Counsel

PATRONESS of the National Council of Catholic Women

Pope Leo's visit to the [Shrine of the Mother of Good Counsel in Genazzano, Italy](#)

On May 10th, Pope Leo XIV became the first pope from the Order of St. Augustine (OSA), to make a visit very early in his pontificate to the Shrine of the Mother of Good Counsel in Genazzano, Italy, near Rome. It houses a famous image of the Virgin Mary that according to tradition appeared there under miraculous circumstances.

Known by the title "Our Lady of Good Counsel" or "Mother of Good Counsel," the small image of the Virgin Mary housed in the church at Genazzano has been held dear by the Augustinians for centuries. The Midwest Augustinians, which Pope Leo led as prior provincial before his election, oversee the Province of Our Mother of Good Counsel.

Continue 'Pope Leo's Visit' on Page 3

VOICE of the SAINTS

Feasts, Memorials and Solemnities

- THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD, 6-1
- St. Charles Lwanga, 6-3
- St. Boniface, 6-5
- St. Norbert, 6-6
- PENTECOST 6-8
- The Blessed Virgin Mary of the Church, 6-9
- St. Barnabas, 6-11
- St. Anthony of Padua, 6-13
- THE MOST HOLY TRINITY, 6-15
- Father's Day, 6-15
- St. Aloysius Gonzagz, 6-21
- The MOST HOLY BODY & BLOOD OF CHRIST, 6-22
- The Nativity of St. John the Baptist, 6-24
- The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, 6-27
- The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary, 6-28
- STS. PETER & PAUL, 6-29

MEMBERSHIP

AFFILIATIONS:

ALL PARISH women are council women if your pastor/ate CCW pays dues.

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIPS:

Available to individual Catholic women in parishes without MDCCW & NCCW affiliation to receive full benefits and resources.

CONTACT MDCCW:

www.mdccw.com

CONTACT NCCW:

3211 4th St. NE, Suite #338
Washington, DC 20017
www.nccw.org

LEADERSHIP

Inspiration for Local Councils by Sue Barker, MDCCW Leadership Commission Chair

The Catholic Church celebrates many events in honor of our Lord Jesus Christ in June. In most areas, The Ascension of Jesus into heaven is celebrated Sunday, June 1. This feast was previously held 40 days after Easter, always a Thursday, but is now held the Sunday after that Thursday. Pentecost Sunday will celebrate the descending of the Holy Spirit on the apostles. They were told to go out into the world and preach the gospel. June 8 is also the end of the Easter Season. The following Sunday, June 15th, celebrates the Most Holy Trinity. A week later, Sunday June 22, celebrates The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi). Friday, June 27 is set apart as the feast of The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Don't forget to attend the MDCCW yearly convention on Saturday, June 28th in Cross Plains, where we will celebrate Catholic Women in our diocese with prayer, food, entertainment and fun!

Pope Leo XIV !

On May 8, 2025, Cardinal Robert Francis Prevost, O.S.A., was elected the 267th pope, taking the name Pope Leo XIV.

Pope Leo was born September 14, 1955, in Chicago, Illinois. Before his election as pope, Cardinal Robert Francis Prevost served for over two decades in Peru. In 2014, Pope Francis appointed Cardinal Prevost as Apostolic Administrator of Callao. As a member of the Order of Saint Augustine (O.S.A.), he brings to the papacy decades of experience in missionary service, especially among the poor, marginalized, and migrants. He has been an advocate for ecclesial reform and deeper dialogue within the global Church.

He served as Prior General of the Augustinians from 2001 to 2013. Before becoming a bishop, he worked in Peru as a seminary professor, judicial vicar, parish pastor, and diocesan official. He was elevated to the College of Cardinals by Pope Francis on September 30, 2023. His prior roles include serving as Prefect of the Dicastery for Bishops from 2023 to 2025, where he played a key role in shaping episcopal leadership worldwide. An excerpt from Diocesan resources.

LEADERSHIP

LEADERSHIP TRAINING

A Day to Nurture your Spirit and Grow your Christian Community!



Saturday, July 19, 2025 9am - 3pm
At. Bronislava Parish, Plover, WI

Refresh and nurture your spirit, revive your sense of fun, add a bit of prayer as you spend an enlightening day in the company of women from around the state who seek to grow their Christian Community! Included for your \$30 fee: continental breakfast, lunch and multiple presentations and discussions! The LTD Registration Form is on page 7 and has all the details!

by Coreen Marklein of NCCW's Leadership Team

SPIRITUALITY

Faith Finds a Home at Home

With a certain detachment only a mother can know, I watched as my newly licensed teenaged son drove the car out of the garage and down the road. His smile was wide, and I knew why: independence. He'd been waiting for this for a long time. Silently I prayed a "Hail Mary," swallowed the lump in my throat, and turned away from the window as he drove out of sight. In everyday moments like these, trying to learn from the example of the serene surrender of Our Blessed Mother becomes palpable. May we always look to her and pray for the grace to do the best we can to accept the situations in our lives that require detachment from all things -- except for love of Our Lord.

"Silently I prayed a 'Hail Mary'"

By Julianne Nornberg

Contributor to the Catholic Herald and member of Holy Cross Parish (formerly Pastorate 19)

Prayer Intentions

for the Month of June by Pope Francis

'that the world might grow in compassion'

"Let us pray that each one of us might find consolation in a personal relationship with Jesus and, from his heart, learn to have compassion on the world"



Planting your Garden Bed Pope Leo XIV's way

"Let us ask the Lord for the grace always to welcome this seed that is his word. And if we realize we are not a fruitful soil, let us not be discouraged, but let us ask him to work on us more to make us become a better terrain."

An excerpt from Pope Leo XIV on his inaugural catechesis of the theme "Jesus Christ Our Home," begun by Pope Francis.



PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

MDCCW has distributed postcards with every Diocesan Priest's name and address to alert them to an entire Year of Prayer for them by a Diocesan woman!

Have an **EVENT** or **ACTIVITY** that you wish to see in The Pen?

Forward request 3 weeks before the first of the month you wish to see your listing to:

Carol Rogers

carrogmdccw@gmail.com

with subject line:

'Newsletter Event'.

Praying a Holy Hour for your Priest

Priest assignments have been announced by Bishop Hying and many pastorates and parishes are affected. Change is difficult at times for the lay faithful, but have you considered how difficult it is for the priests? As always, our priests need our prayers. The Seven Sister's Apostolate is the perfect remedy for getting a steady stream of spiritual gifts bestowed on our priests. To strengthen the Church by ensuring a Holy Hour is prayed each day of the week for one priest or bishop, seven women easily provide this lavishing of prayer for the priest's deeper conformity to Christ. Gather 7 women, organize and register your group through the Seven Sisters Apostolate and let the Holy Spirit do the rest!

sevensistersapostolate.org

'In strengthening the priest, you strengthen the whole church.' Fr. Gerald Fitzgerald, S.P.

'Pope Leo's Visit' Continued from Page 1

During his May 10 visit to the church, Leo spoke of the Virgin Mary's protection and the importance of devotion to her. He prayed at the altar and before the Marian image there, and also prayed a prayer to the Mother of Good Counsel with the assembly.

"Pope Leo spoke of the Virgin Mary's protection and the importance of devotion to her.

(During his May 10th visit)

Information from the Catholic News Agency (CNA)



SERVICE: Pick-A-THEME

THEME for a PASTORAL CALENDAR:

Pentecost: Fundraise for sacramental supplies

THEME for JUNE:

No Summer Picnic for the poor - do a food drive

Sponsor a camper at Totus-Tuus or Camp Gray

THEME Based on 'BE-ATTITUDES':

Feed The Hungry - Hold a picnic to welcome new members to the church with admission of food donations.

THEME Based on NCCW-Endorsed Projects:

Refugee awareness is clearly stated in Catholic Relief Services and Catholic Charities. Know all the issues facing today's uncertain times.

Mark Your Calendars!

Fri., May 30th

Priesthood Ordination.
Reception Hosted by MDCCW. Help us welcome our 4 new Priests! St. Maria Goretti Church, Madison.

Sat., June 28th

MDCCW Convention RENEWING HOPE IN CHRIST to be held at St. Francis Xavier Church, Holy Cross Pastorate, Cross Plains See Page 5

Sat. July 19th

NCCW's Leadership Training Workshop at St. Bronsislava Parish, Plover, WI. Learn leadership skills for all Council women! Coreen Marklein & Jody Watermann will lead this LTD Program.

Aug 19-23,

NCCW Convention BELIEVE IN THE EUCHARIST Orlando, FL www.nccw.org

EVENTS IN THE DIOCESE

Friday, May 30th Priesthood Ordination and Reception Hosted by MDCCW!

Four Priesthood Ordinations will be held at St. Maria Goretti Church in Madison 7pm-8:30pm and the reception afterward is expected to be HUGE! MDCCW is again honored to be the Host! Coordinated by Linda Ripp, she will need a small army of women - this means 'YOU'! Contact her for details at linmdccw@gmail.com or (608) 849-7643. Details about the Ordination are on diocesan website: www.madisondiocese.org.



THE PEN CONTINUED from Page 1

The Divine Mercy chaplet and feast as given by Christ to St. Faustina in 1931 expanded devotion to the Sacred Heart. From this devotion our trust in God's limitless love and mercy is rekindled.

The triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary follows the triumph of the Sacred Heart. Our Blessed Mother herself told the three children at Fatima, Portugal, in 1917 that she would return to ask for the Communion of Reparation to console her Immaculate Heart for offenses committed against her. In 1925 she appeared to Sister Lucia in the convent at Pontevedre, Spain, and related the details of the First Saturday Devotion, which was to be observed in five consecutive months by completing four requirements. She revealed that this devotion to her Immaculate Heart would eventually lead to her triumph over the evil in the world.

When we observe the Nine 1st Fridays and Five 1st Saturdays, we stand at the foot of the cross with Mary. We honor the love and humble obedience of Jesus and Mary in opposition to the pride and hateful disobedience of Satan. We unite our wills with the will of God and follow Mary's advice as spoken at Cana, "Do whatever He tells you." As a tribute to the Sacred Heart, attend Mass on the 1st Friday of nine consecutive months. Honor the Immaculate Heart of Mary by attending Mass on five consecutive 1st Saturdays. In 2023 NCCW passed a resolution urging every parish to begin to hold 1st Saturday devotions. Many graces will come to you and your family if you find a way to begin them in your parish and complete these devotions yourself.

With our MDCCW Convention just a few weeks away, register now to reserve your seat at the table, insert a Honorarium or Memorial into the program booklet or become a sponsor yourself! Join in the exciting day, inspiring mass with the Bishop, raffles to benefit the Women's Care Center in Madison and the Care Clinic in Platteville and witness life-changing presentations by international performer and story-teller Vallamir Jansen! SEE YOU THERE!

Our Lady of Good Counsel, Pray for us.

In His Mercy and Her Love,

Carol Rogers

Madison Diocesan Council of Catholic Women
President

Mustard Sales Continue at the MDCCW Convention!

The MDCCW mustard fundraiser continues throughout the MDCCW Convention with a special display table. Get your fair share of mustard for this great and much needed fundraiser!

Contact me for all mustard needs!

Suzanne Koch, Chair, Ways & Means Committee
kochspeech@gmail.com or 920-229-4150



Convention Committee

CHAIRS

Carol Rogers
 carrogmdccw@gmail.com
 Kathy Roelke
 roelke@tds.net

HOLY CROSS PARISH HOST and BEVERAGE TEAM

Joan Pregler
 joanpregler@gmail.com
 Judy Williams
 jwilli5041@aol.com

HOSPITALITY VENDOR & DISPLAY

Sue Barker
 suehurleysue@tds.net

DECORATIONS

Sue Koch
 kochspeech@gmail.com

PROGRAM EDITOR

Joan Pregler
 joanpregler@gmail.com

REGISTRATION

Coreen Marklein
 csmarklein@gmail.com

FOOD TEAM

St. Maximilian Kolbe
 Pastorate 18 and
 Rosa Ropers
 rosa.m.ropers@gmail.com
 Linda Ripp
 linmdccw@gmail.com

ADVERTISING

Jane Grinde
 janegrinde@gmail.com

SILENT AUCTION and RAFFLE TEAM

Kathy Loy jkloy@tds.net
 Sue Barker
 suehurleysue@tds.net

FINANCES Patty Spragg
 pattyspragg@gmail.com

MAKE A PILGRIMAGE

See details for a pious visit and pilgrimage on the Madison Diocesan website

madisondiocese.org/jubilee

MDCCW 2025 CONVENTION NEWS!

REGISTER NOW! To UNITE all Catholic Women at this Convention, we are engaging you at every possible opportunity! Immerse yourself, your friends, your parish, your pastorate in a most profound way to build the Kingdom of God. Registration is limited... REGISTER EARLY and don't forget to add a Memorial or Tribute (due by June 9th).

DONATE: Gift Baskets for the Silent Auction and/or prizes for the Raffle. Please contact Kathy Loy to reserve your basket's space. Bring your checkbook to bid on some amazing baskets!

VOLUNTEER: Greeters, Registration Assistants, Raffle and Silent Auction Helpers are all needed. Get to know a handful of new faces this day! If you are able and willing to assist, please call Carol at 608-391-2564.

Our keynote speaker, ValLimar Jansen, will fill your mind, heart, and soul with hope, joy, and love for the Lord through song, Scripture, and storytelling. Please invite friends and relatives to share the day with you. Registration fee is (\$50) which includes breakfast and lunch, Mass at 11, and both morning and afternoon presentations by ValLimar Jansen.

Besides spiritual growth, information gained, and friendships made and renewed, this event provides opportunities to support worthy causes: The Offertory benefits the renovation project at St. Bernard of Clairvaux Cathedral sponsored by women of the Dicoese, a Bucket Raffle and a Basket Silent Auction will be held, and Uncle Phil's Mustards will be on sale for \$3 a bottle.

The day includes Continental Breakfast, Mass with Bishop Hying, Lunch, and several Keynote presentations by ValLimar! The Registration Form is on page 6 of The Pen, and you can also find it at MDCCW.org.

The Day's Program:

- 8am Registration
Light Breakfast
- 9am Program begins
First Keynote
Address by ValLimar
- 11am: Mass with Bishop Hying
- Noon: Lunch
- 1:05pm 2nd Keynote
Address
- 2:45pm Silent Auction
wraps up,
Closing Prayer

ValLimar Jansen

International Speaker, Composer and Recording Artist!

Come and experience Dr. Jansen's signature blend of Scripture proclamation, relection, music, costumed storytelling, prayer, and inspirational exhortation.

8:00am - 3:00pm St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church
 2947 Thinnes Street Cross Plains, WI

See Registration Form on page 6

REGISTRATION FORM



Madison Diocesan Council of Catholic Women (MDCCW)
70th MDCCW Convention
A DAY of SPIRITUALITY, Saturday, June 28, 2025
RENEWING OUR HOPE IN CHRIST
 St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church,
 2947 Thinnes Street, Cross Plains, WI. 53528 (wheel chair accessible)

Complete registration online at www.mdccw.com or send paper registration and payment to: Coreen S Marklein, 1307 Crawford Street, Baraboo WI 53913. Contact Coreen via email at csmarklein@gmail.com or phone (608) 393-0880 if you have questions. Fee(s) **must** accompany registration form. Registrations are transferable but **not** refundable. Be sure to invite, register and pay for your parish priest(s) and religious.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____

Parish Name/Location: _____ Pastorate: _____

Please check all that apply:

- CCW Member Guest First-time MDCCW Convention Attendee
 Past president of MDCCW Parish CCW President Member MDCCW Board

A continental breakfast will be available in the morning. Please select one item from the lunch menu below. Meal includes apple, cookie, chips, coffee and water.

- Tuna Sandwich Ham Sandwich Turkey Sandwich
 Special Dietary Needs: _____

If you would like to honor someone special or a group by having a memorial/honoree listed in the program, complete information below. Request/payment must be submitted **BY JUNE 9** to be included in the program (25 word-maximum).

memorials or honorees @ \$25 each. _____

Memorial Honoree

Example of a memorial or honoree: In honor of M. Rita Marklein, from Your Family

In memory of _____

In honor of _____

Registration Convention Fee: \$50.00
 Memorial or Honoree @ \$25.00 each

Registrations **DUE BY JUNE 20, 2025.**
 Memorial/Honoree **DUE BY JUNE 9, 2025**

TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____ Send cash or checks payable to MDCCW.

Guest Speaker/Performer: Dr. ValLimar Jansen.



You will be amazed by Dr. Jansen's ability to blend Scripture proclamation, reflection, music, her costumed dramatic storytelling, prayer, and inspirational exhortation in her presentations. She will have two separate presentations – one in the morning and one in the afternoon. She will also be our song leader for Mass. You will not want to miss seeing this truly awe-inspiring and gifted speaker.

Gift basket silent auction and bucket raffle will be held (cash or check only). Offertory collection will go to the St. Bernard of Clairvaux Cathedral building project.

MDCCW is an Affiliate of the National Council of Catholic Women.



Calling All Women

LTD Day
Saturday
July 19

Registration Form

Join us for a day of nurturing ourselves in spirit, fun, prayer and enrichment to grow our Christian women's communities. This training is an NCCW custom designed program to meet the needs of our ladies' groups as identified by local leadership.

Saturday, July 19, 2025, 9am - 3pm
St. Bronislava Parish, 3200 Plover Road, Plover, WI

\$30 per person includes continental breakfast, lunch and all printed materials.
Please mail your payment to Jean Kelly, 800 Terrace Dr., Elm Grove, WI 53122.
Checks made out to the Province of Milwaukee.

Questions? Contact Jane Schiszik janeschis@hotmail.com or Bridgette Adler bridgetteadler@gmail.com

ATTENDEE INFORMATION

Full Name: _____

Parish/Organization: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

Diocese: _____

HOTEL INFORMATION

Hampton Inn by Hilton

3090 Village Park Drive
Plover, WI 54467

Group Name: NCCW LTD

*arrival date: July 18, 2025 Departure date: July 19, 2025.

Group Code: NCC

Rate: \$179.00 a night plus tax for a Room

Rooms 4 - Double Queen Rooms

7 - Single Queen Rooms

Cancelation 24 hours before arrival

FOR RESERVATIONS: Call the hotel: 715-295-9900; Press "0" to speak to a Front Desk Agent.

Guest will need to mention they are booking under a group block. **Last date for Room Block**

Reservations at the Hampton Inn is June 18th, 2025.

AmericINN by Wyndham Plover, Stevens Point

1501 American Drive, Plover, WI 54467

Phone: 715-342-1244

email: plover.wi@americinn.com

Phone Number: 715-342-1244

Group: NCCW Province of Milwaukee LTD (NCCW)

Arrival Date: July 18, 2025

Room Rate: \$160.00 plus tax

Rooms available:

3 Single King Rooms

8 Single Queen Rooms

Last date for the AmericINN Room Block: June 15, 2025