

SPIRITUALITY COMMISSION REPORT

Mona Matijevich, Spirituality Commission Chair

November 2018

Report from the NCCW Convention

Three of us from my Columbia North Vicariate drove to Pittsburgh for the 98th NCCW convention. What a time we had!!! As MDCCW Spirituality chair, I was overwhelmed with each day. So many faith-filled women with SMILES on their faces!

Every woman there was on a mission to learn as much as she could to bring back to her parish and live her life as a missionary disciple. The mood was contagious, and each day I awoke wanting more. How I wish all our women would have the chance to attend a NCCW convention.

On Thursday I attended the Spirituality Commission session led by Mary Rowley, NCCW Spirituality Chair. She was excited to share with us three mini-retreats NCCW has developed, the monthly call-in with the Rosary, and prayer. It was my first time participating in the International Rosary, said in English, German, Spanish, Latin, and Italian.

We were very fortunate to have so many priests, bishops, and cardinals to say Mass and give such inspiring homilies. We were treated to a new movie, Indivisible, based on a true story about marriage, family, and God. It came out in theaters October 26.

We were blessed to have Jean Kelly as our NCCW president-elect from the Milwaukee province and our very own Carol Brennan sworn in as our Milwaukee province director. Wisconsin was very well represented.

We were advised not to bring up the sexual abuses in the church, yet the priests, bishops, and the cardinals all spoke about these serious crimes that were committed. Bishop Frank Caggiano asked us to pray for the abused and abusers in the sexual scandal in the church. He said we need to be accountable for our actions.

I hope we can make our mission possible, and we can be joyful disciples. Hope is universal.

Ellen Bachman talked about joy. She said women are the movers and shakers of the church.

When someone new comes to church, welcome them. Watch people and look for their talents and encourage them to become active.

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