

# Pencil Points

Council of Catholic Women Diocese of  
Pensacola/Tallahassee

July 2014

## President's Message

I have a little prayer that I often say and it ends with "I ask the Holy Spirit to direct my efforts, show me the way." I never thought that "the way" would lead me to "HERE." I want you to know that I am honored to serve our Pensacola/Tallahassee Diocesan Council of Catholic Women as your President for the next two years.

I want to thank the outgoing Officers and Board of Directors for their sacrifices and hours of service during the past two years as they have worked to support, empower and educate all of us in spirituality, leadership and service. I am grateful for their encouragement and friendship in the past and hope that will continue in the future.

I have been busy! I attended my first Burse Club luncheon which was hosted by St. Margaret's Ladies

Society in DeFuniak Springs on June 4th. Bishop Parkes thanked the group in attendance and informed us that this year there are 16 seminarians, an increase of four over last year and it costs approximately \$50,000.00 to educate each candidate, yearly. I was very impressed with the group of young men we are supporting through the Burse Club. A reminder that Burse Club Sunday will be at the end of July or the first of August of this year. Please try to make a special effort to emphasize the importance of the Burse Club by asking your Pastor if you can speak before or after the masses or have a special collection outside, after mass to support this worthy cause.

I also attended the FCCW Board Meeting in Orlando on June 7th where I was formally introduced as President of our Council

and felt very welcomed by everyone. Also at the meeting I received information on the ODCCW Leadership Symposium at Lake Yale—*Walk on the Wild Side* scheduled for July 26-27. This symposium offers 14 different workshops and after you look over the topics I am sure you will have a difficult time choosing which ones to miss. The FCCW Conference—*Women of Faith Sharing His Love* is scheduled for October 23-26 in Ft. Lauderdale. The speakers including our Bishop Parkes will surely inspire, inform and motivate all who attend. Please make an effort to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to share His love.

Our journey continues...  
enjoy your summer....

Be Blessed. Be a Blessing.

*Cynthia Lacour*  
President

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### Special points of interest:

- Our very own Shelia Hopkins of the Eastern Deanery of the Pensacola/Tallahassee Council of Catholic Women is running for President Elect of the National Council of Catholic Women. The election will be held at the NCCW convention in Grand Rapids Michigan September 24-27, 2014.

# 39th Annual Convention a Success!

Although few in numbers the women who were present felt the Holy Spirit moving across the convention. The speakers were interesting and exciting as they explored the theme of the convention—*“Jesus Christ — the source of our hope.”*

**Rosi Schuhmacher** the President of FCCW began the discussion by speaking about the negativity in our affiliations and how to combat it. If we want to grow our affiliations get to know the women in your group. It is the members who run the organization, not just a few. Always remember gossip can kill an organization God puts us in the place where he wants us at the time he needs us. God calls each of us to be the best “me” we can be. The Council of Catholic Women is the CIA of the Catholic Church. That is **Christianity In Action!**

**Peggy Dekeyser**, the editor of our diocesan publications and communications liaison for the diocese, spoke on falling in love with the Good News. What does love have to do with it? Evangelization begins with a love encounter with Jesus Christ. You want to learn all there is about Jesus. What we were “taught” to believe and what we know in our heart is true. We no longer believe, WE KNOW!! We are called to respond. We are to welcome one another as Christ welcomes us. There is no place for judge mentalism in evangelization.

**Sr. Chris Witrakis** spoke at the banquet and at the Saturday morning workshop. She emphasized commitment to the message of Jesus. Don’t ever think you can retire from the message of the Gospel. We must be available to God each day. If you are

not challenged by the message of Pope Francis then you are not listening. Pope Francis uses his actions to proclaim what his message might be. The Joy of the Gospel is contagious. Jesus calls us to a deep personal relationship with Him as our Lord and Savior. People must know Jesus before the sacramental life of the Church is important to them. “God never tires of forgiving us—we are the ones who get tired of asking for forgiveness. Joy by its very nature overflows.”

The Holy Spirit was moving among us in Tallahassee this May.

The Past President’s Charity was collected for the “Open Door Clinic” in Tallahassee. They were presented with \$775.00 collected at convention and a playpen overflowing with baby gifts. The generosity of the women was very impressive.

The Burse Club check of \$166,000.00 was presented to Bishop Parkes at the Friday Banquet. Virginia Williams, long time Eastern Burse Club coordinator was honored with a testimonial for her service.

**In council we see women who have the heart of Jesus.**

## *Important Upcoming Dates To Remember*

August 23, 2014 DCCW Board Meeting, Bonifay FL

NCCW Convention, September 24-27, 2014, Grand Rapids, MI

October 23-26, 2014 FCCW Conference, Ft. Lauderdale, FL

March 3-4, 2015, Catholic Days and Red Mass, Tallahassee FL

April, 2015 DCCW Convention TBA, Pensacola FL

Mark your calendars and make plans to attend these events!

## Caps of Love

The insert in this newsletter, describes this program in detail. It is presented so that you can copy it and use it as a “Caps of Love” drive in your affiliation and/or parish.

Please consider this worthy cause when you are compiling your upcoming yearly calendar.

Think of how many caps the Council of Catholic Women of the Pensacola/

Tallahassee Diocese could collect!

This is an ideal way to have your women connect with a service project of the National Council of Catholic Women.

## Every Member is on the Membership Committee!

Membership begins with relationship, is strengthened by diversity and grows one by one!

1. **Each One Reach One** Every member brings a friend to the next meeting and the attendance doubles, but the membership is unlikely to be diverse! If the group welcomes and embraces her, she will come again. If the group has fun and a spiritual focus, she may join. If the group listens to her ideas and suggestions, she will become ACTIVE. This is GOOD — but not complete.
2. **Parish wide membership meeting.** Announcements and good public relations work and attract women who are comfortable jumping into a group, the “joiners”, but might leave the others in the pew! If the group welcomes and embraces her, she will come again. If the group has service programs, she may join.

If the group listens to her ideas and suggestions, she will become ACTIVE. This is BETTER when added to #1.

3. **Membership Outreach Plan.** The membership committee enlists the help of every member in an ongoing effort to bring potential members into the group throughout the year. If members of the group issue personal invitations and potential members are accompanied to meetings, everyone will be more comfortable. If the group’s varied activities and scheduling make membership possible for women of all ages, everyone will feel welcome. If the group shares the success of programs and service projects, everyone will want to help. If the group is willing to adapt and change in response to new ideas and suggestions, everyone will benefit. This is BEST when added to #1 and #2.

Jane Carter, Leadership Commission Chair,

### The Body of Christ

He has risen, He has risen,  
Jesus is His name.

He has risen, He has risen,  
the world won’t be the same.

He has touched us, He has taught  
us, He has shown us all the way.

He has risen, He has risen,  
and He’s here with us today.

Look around you, Look around  
you, tell me what you see.

Look around you, look around  
you,

His body is you and me!  
He is with me.

**By Rosi Schuhmacher**

Council of Catholic Women Diocese  
of Pensacola/Tallahassee

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● Pencil Points

## Top 10 reasons to attend an NCCW Convention

10. It is the only thing that will cost you less this year than last...
9. You only have to be convinced to attend once, after one, you'll be hooked...
8. It's like a shot of B12 without the needle—it recharges your battery...
7. You can bid on amazing Auction items....
6. You'll learn new ideas and skills to improve your affiliation meetings....
5. You will hear inspiring speakers and discover empowering workshops.....
4. You will see long-time friends and meet new ones from across the country...
3. You will become a part of the VOICE of Catholic Women...
2. To celebrate Eucharistic Liturgies and other prayer experiences  
with your wonderful, faith-filled Council Sisters  
and our dedicated Spiritual Advisors.....

And the NUMBER 1 REASON:

You will make a personal connection with YOUR National Organization!



national council of  
**catholic women**

## Caps of Love

### A Service Project of the National Council of Catholic Women

NCCW has long been advocating the need to RECYCLE plastic and other materials in an effort to be good stewards of our earth.

**Here is a fun, free and easy way to fulfill that mission and help provide wheelchairs for disabled children! Start with your Council of Catholic Women members---include your school aged children, parish scout troops, high school teens and preschoolers---get everyone involved!**

#### Which caps should you save?

**HARD PLASTIC CAPS** from laundry detergents, hand sanitizer, beverages, toothpaste, shampoo, spray paint, tennis ball can lids, grated cheese, cream cheese, salad dressing, peanut butter, medicines and so many others. Color is not an issue---save them all!



**NO METAL!**

**PLEASE REMOVE ALL PAPER INSERTS!**

**PLEASE SEND ONLY THE CAPS!**

(see "what to collect" at [CapsOfLove.com](http://CapsOfLove.com) )

"Caps Of Love" is **the only US affiliate** (led by Valerie Jones-Mathieu) of the International Charity "Bouchons D'Amour, dedicated to helping the disabled. Recycling plastic caps raises money to buy wheelchairs for disabled children. This also has an environmental benefit as discarded caps are put in our landfills or incinerated which harms the earth if not recycled. Plastic caps are a different grade of plastic from the bottles and are valuable in bulk. They can be sold to companies using recycled "post-consumer" plastic to create new products such as plastic shipping pallets, park benches, plastic paint cans and many other items. For more information, please visit: [www.CapsOfLove.com](http://www.CapsOfLove.com).

#### WHERE TO SEND THE CAPS YOU COLLECT:

Caps of Love

7235 Pine Forest Circle Lake Worth Fla. 33467

QUESTIONS? Please contact **NANCY POLL**, NCCW Service Commission Chair