

West Central Deanery Council of Catholic Women

Our Deanery currently consists of four wonderfully active Councils: St. Margaret of Scotland CCW in DeFuniak Springs, Holy Name of Jesus CCW in Niceville, St. Mary CCW in Fort Walton Beach and Christ Our Redeemer CCW in Niceville.

Our Deanery Officers are Mary Sauvageau-President, Dottie Kime-Vice President, Julie Hitson-Treasurer and Carol Giguere-Secretary. Our Spiritual Advisor is Fr. Dominic Dat Tran of Holy Name of Jesus Parish. Our Commission Chairs are Virginia Green-Spirituality, Vivian Green-Service and Carol Giguere-Leadership. We are blessed to have such a great group of dedicated and faith-filled women!

Each Council has been busy doing all sorts of activities; some are traditional activities such as the Annual Lenten Fish Fry Fundraiser at St. Margaret of Scotland Parish. Each year Fr. Rick Dawson (DCCW Spiritual Advisor) and Janice Pence (President) get to work chopping cabbage and frying fish for their parishioners and their community. St. Margaret CCW hosted our Advent Day of Renewal with Msgr. Slade Crawford our spiritual speaker and Fr. Rick's Chicken Pot Pie our lunch.

Women of Holy Name of Jesus CCW hosted our Fall General Meeting this year where we were informed about homelessness in our local community. The Council members at Holy Name are very fond of their Seminarian Letter Writing/Prayer Program and they continue to serve many people in their community including senior adults, mentally challenged adults and the residents of an assisted living facility.

The St. Mary Council hosted our Lenten Day of Renewal with Fr. John Licari our spiritual speaker and a "biblical meal experience" for the 65 attendees. The Council recently began sponsoring a Spiritual Book Club and continues to transform 400 pillowcases into dresses for little girls in Africa; a project introduced at a Lake Yale Symposium. Members continue to pray for their spiritually adopted unborn babies!

The women of Christ Our Redeemer CCW hosted our Spring General Meeting this year. Guest speaker was Lancy Colaco, Social Worker/Intake Coordinator of Waterfront Rescue Mission who spoke on the facility's mission and shared some of her experiences. Also worth noting, an evening group for women with young children aka the Priscilla Group has been established through the Christ Our Redeemer CCW.

Our Deanery chose to send Hugs for the Homeless money to *Opportunity Place* of Fort Walton Beach. This facility serves women and children in need of secure temporary shelter and provides guidance and counseling. Additionally, this year we have been soliciting one dollar from each attendee at each of our four deanery events. Our Board chose to send this money to *Cross Catholic Outreach's Women Helping Women Project #1243* to aid starving children in Guatemala.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel continue to bless us in our efforts to grow and serve in faith, love and charity!

Mary Sauvageau, West Central Deanery President