

**President Ann Edwards** called the meeting to order at 7:00pm on Monday, May 4, 2026.

The meeting opened with prayer and a pledge to the flag.

**Secretary Ann Beckman** read the Secretary's Report from March 9,2026.

**Treasurer Lexi Niemerg** provided the Treasurer's report noting current balance of \$9,940.26. Still waiting for bill from Kirby Foods for \$893 bill for the Christmas Party.

**Vice President Karla Slifer**

Thank you card from family of LuAnn Niemerg thanking the CCW for the masses for their mother and for praying the rosary at the visitation

Also, the CCW received a thank you letter from the troops in Korea. Christian Blackburn the Battalion Barracks Manager sent a very nice letter of appreciation from his troops for the holiday stockings the CCW sent to them.

Rosina Esker suggested sending a copy of the thank you note to donors. We will get the information from Christy of the businesses and individuals who donated and will send them a copy of the note.

**Commission Report**

**Ellie Niemerg- Community**

Ellie reminded everyone of the SDCCW convention in September. Reminding anyone attending to make their reservations. Ann Edwards will coordinate carpool if anyone is interested in that.

**Christy Repking- International**

Christy not present, nothing to report.

**Julia Thoele- Church**

Christy not present, nothing to report.

## **Judy Repking- Legislation**

Effingham Co Board approved resolution to oppose the legislation of physician assisted suicide.

St Anthony's Hospital has opted out of this legislation, stating "in alignment with the Catholic Church doctrine, will not provide, support, or facilitate medical aid in dying".

Judy also discussed several bills being legislated in Springfield. These bills regarding reproductive issues have largely passed in the House. These decisions have negative impacts to the Rights of the Unborn.

Judy shared a website IL Pro Life Action. This will allow voters to voice their concerns to lawmakers. She encouraged everyone to visit the website send letters to your legislators.

There is a new Bill coming from Pritzker and Democrats – this bill will put Abortion Clinics on all public college and university campus in Illinois.

Wal-Mart announced they have no plans to dispense the abortion pill. Walmart will not cover transgender surgery for minor in the employee healthcare package.

## **Old Business**

Prayer cards- In Julia's absence Ann brought up the idea Julia proposed at the last meeting. Julia and her husband proposed the idea of making prayer cards to put in the St Isidore church and the chapel at St Anthony's hospital to be used during adoration. The decision was made to table this discussion until the next meeting.

CCW Deanery Meeting- meeting was March 16. Noone in attendance had anything to report.

March for Life- Ellie Niemerg went. She had positive feedback about this year's event. 3 busses from this area.

Graduation Mass and Breakfast. Rosina Esker attended and said it was very nice.

In regards to the contribution to the students attending CHWC, it was agreed upon to donate a total of \$500 for the students attending the CHWC from Wendelin Holy Cross.

## **New Business**

Julia was not present but wanted to share an update on the beatification of Archbishop Fulton J Sheen. There will be an event on September 15 in Peoria, as well as an event in St Louis on September 23/24. There is a website available with all the information - Celebrate Sheen.com.

CCW is leading the rosary during masses in May. The sign-up sheet is completed and all the spots are filled.

Women of Distinction will be announced this week. The voting process was changed this year. We wanted the voting process to be a more informed decision, not just a popularity contest. Voting in the past was determined with not much information on what the candidate did for the church community. It was decided to let Fr Juan make the final decision. Ann & Karla provided information to Fr Juan about each candidate and what duties and volunteering each one has done. This allowed Father to make the final decision on his own based on the amount of volunteer work the candidate does. The winner of this year's award will be announced this week.

The SDCCW Annual Convention will be held Wednesday, September 2. We need some ideas of what to donate for a silent auction item. Judy Repking will be going this year and offered to come up with an auction item and bring it to the convention.

In the past CCW donated \$400 to Totus Tuus for supplies. It was proposed that we make the same donation again this year. Stephanie Niemerg made a motion to donate \$400 for supplies, Ellie Niemerg seconded the motion, motion carried.

Stephanie did say that volunteers are needed for lunch and dinner for the Totus Tuus hosts.

Ann received an email from Bernice Probst who is on the funeral committee at St Joseph's Church. She stated they don't have a 30-cup coffee maker to use for funeral dinners. There were also some other items that were needed to stock the kitchen at the parish hall. She was wondering if this is something the CCW should provide or should she take this to the parish. It was discussed and determined that she should just buy the items she needed and give the receipts to Regina.

Do we want to give Cindy from Angeled Kids a donation from CCW? Judy Repking made a motion to donate \$200 to Angeled Kids, Katie Repking seconded the motion, motion carried.

At the last meeting it was decided that we will have masses said for any CCW member that has passed away. Masses have been said for Lily Jansen, Mary Ann Bierman, LuAnn Niemerg, Madonna Vahling and Ruth Jansen.

Our guest speaker was Cindy Bushue from Angeled Kids. Angeled Kids provide support for children and parents in the foster care program by providing basic needs such as clothing and other essentials. By providing these items they are hoping to ease the stress on the children and the families. They have a resale shop in Effingham that helps fund the Foster Closet which provides items to foster families and bio families to get back on their feet.

The next meeting will be in September.

Door prize awarded.

The meeting closed with prayer and the meeting was adjourned.

Minutes prepared by Ann Beckman