



MILWAUKEE ARCHDIOCESAN COUNCIL  
OF  
Catholic Women

# NewsNotes



SEPTEMBER / 2025

## PG. 13

### Scholarship opportunity

Attention 8<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Girls! 4 - \$2,000  
Scholarships available

## BOXES OF JOY

Please consider participating  
this year. Find out more  
information on items needed  
and how to get your boxes  
on **p6**.

## FOOD PACKING

Our event held May 31, 2025  
was a success. Thank you  
to everyone who helped us  
surpass our goal. **p.7**.

## MEMBERSHIP

We appreciate your ongoing  
support of our organization  
through your membership.  
The renewal form is on **p15**.

## President's REPORT Barb Ludka

*I am humbled to be your new president as we continue our  
journey through the Jubilee Year as 'Pilgrims of Hope'.*

Welcome to this exciting year as we spread joy and  
love throughout the archdiocese by following our  
mission as MACCW sisters – growing spiritually, honing  
our leadership skills and serving our communities! I  
look forward to meeting many of you at our regular  
meetings, special events and fellowship opportunities.  
The Board has been busy finalizing our schedule for  
the year – which is included in this NewNotes issue.  
Plan to join us as often as you can.

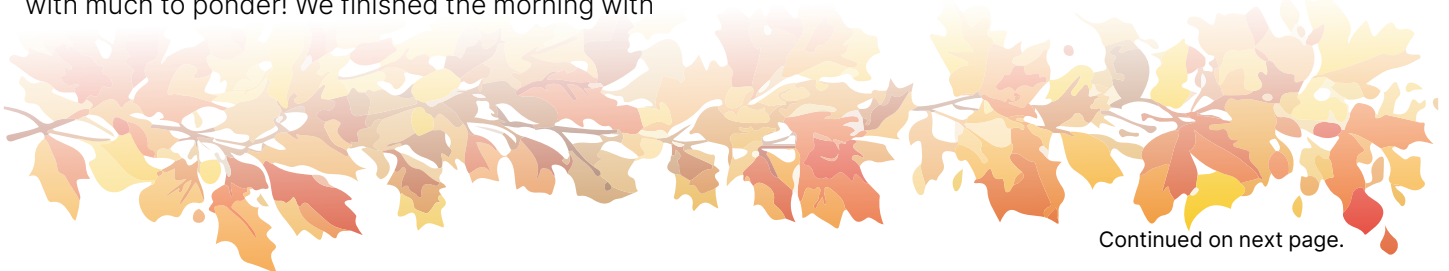
We began with a Morning of Reflection provided by our  
gifted Spiritual Advisor, Fr. Brad Krawczyk on Monday,  
August 4th at St. Mary Visitation. Holy Mass was  
followed by social time and then two reflections on  
Sin, Hope and Compassion. One phrase that struck  
me – 'sin is bleeding to death; God's grace cauterizes  
the wound' - has given me much reflection time.  
Fr. Brad offered much more to satisfy the spiritual  
yearning we all hold in our hearts and sending us forth  
with much to ponder! We finished the morning with

Adoration/Benediction. Thank you, Fr. Brad for sharing  
your time and talent with us!

I did have the opportunity to attend the National  
Convention in Orlando, FL – for one whole day - before  
my health required me to return to WI. Please see  
Diane Oakland's report for some of the highlights of  
the convention.

A silent retreat "**Spiritual Wisdom from St. Ignatius  
Loyola**" by Fr. Rob Kroll, SJ on September 12-14 will  
be our fall spiritual growth opportunity at Benet Lake.  
This year we will have 25 attendees and hope to see  
this grow in the future.

As part of our Service Programs, we will be distributing  
the "Boxes of Joy" at our first meeting on Sept. 27th  
at St. Stephens' Parish. Be sure to stop in and join us  
for Mass, social and a short meeting to introduce the  
Board and our new members and updates.



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We have numerous exciting programs to assist your individual councils in moving forward as 'pilgrims of hope' as we continue to build MACCW and the influence we have within our parish communities. See our "Upcoming Events" for more information. One of the areas that I will be focusing on is visiting as many of the councils as I can in the next year to see where we can work more closely to achieve our spiritual, leadership and service goals. Please feel free to call me or one of the board members with questions or concerns you may have. I will be connecting with presidents to determine how I can meet your group, share ideas and projects and strengthen our impact within the archdiocese and beyond.

To assist you in publicizing your 'spiritual growth opportunities' for greater attendance, we are able to post them on the MACCW website this year. If you are opening your parish programs to outside women – we will try to get it on the [maccw.com](http://maccw.com) website to help advertise i.e.: Advent by Candlelight, special speakers, holy day gatherings, etc. Please send your event with topic, date/time, location to me [barbludka@gmail.com](mailto:barbludka@gmail.com). Give us as much lead time as possible so we can encourage attendance for your event!

Please continue reading for scheduled events; updates on the Scholarship Program (4-\$2000) this year; the Tea for Moms of Seminarians and Priests; the Layette Luncheon to support Moms in Need; start-up of the Golden Rose Program and our MACCW Raffle to raise funds to enable us to continue and grow our programs. Mark your calendars, check the [maccw.com](http://maccw.com) website often and plan to attend these events to continue your journey as 'Pilgrims of Hope'.

I want to thank all of the women who have stepped forward to help out in every way to bless me with them sharing their time and talent for an exciting term as your president. You are in my prayers each day! I look forward to a busy and fruitful year with your continued prayers and commitment! May Our Lady of Good Counsel continue to bless your efforts!

*Barb*

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MACCW

*Spiritual Advisor***Father Brad Krawczyk**Reprinted with permission from  
*The Catholic Herald*, July 24, 2025**Good Old Summertime: Sacred Time, Through 'Ordinary'**

Summer is here, and the long days with all the accompanying hot and humid weather lets us know it for sure! Many will be fortunate during this time to take a vacation and relax a bit with family and friends. During the good old summertime, we might take the opportunity to recharge and even begin to evaluate our spiritual life and devotional life and how it impacts our day-to-day routine — our ordinary life.

It so happens that much of the summer falls into "Ordinary Time" of the liturgical year. Ordinary Time is defined as a liturgical "season" that occurs a couple of different times of the year: between the Solemnity of the Epiphany and Lent, and between the Solemnity of Pentecost and Advent. Pope Benedict XVI had this to say about Ordinary Time: "The beauty of this season lies in the fact that it invites us to live our ordinary life... as a journey of holiness, that is, of faith and friendship with Jesus continually discovered and rediscovered as Teacher and Lord, the Way, the Truth and the Life of man." (Angelus Address, 25 January, 2006) These days after Epiphany and days after Pentecost are a good time to consider how we spend our days, i.e., how we use our time.

As Christians, time matters and so does the liturgical year. The Catechism of the Catholic Church helps give us some insight into why when it teaches that "Beginning with the Easter Triduum as its source of light, the new age of the Resurrection fills the whole liturgical year with its brilliance. Gradually, on either side of this source, the year is transfigured by the liturgy.

It really is a 'year of the Lord's favor.' The economy of salvation is at work within the framework of time, but since its fulfillment in the Passover of Jesus and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, the culmination of history is anticipated 'as a foretaste,' and the kingdom of God enters into our time." Chronological time, years, months, days, hours and minutes of our lives are impacted by God's kingdom and transformed by God's sanctifying grace received in and through the "ordinary" (regular, consistent and fitting) sacramental life. Indeed, time — the time we have been given — can become "sacred," being set apart for God's use.

Preface V of the Sundays in Ordinary Time helps make this idea clear: "It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God. For you laid the foundations of the world and have arranged the changing of times and seasons; you formed man in your own image and set humanity over the whole world in all its wonder, to rule in your name over all you have made and for ever praise you in your mighty works, through Christ our Lord." We have been given a beautiful and awe-inspiring duty to praise God and build his kingdom of merciful love every day of our lives.

During these summer days, perhaps we can look at how we might liturgically and devotionally shape our days, months and years as we prepare for heaven. In addition to participating in the sacramental life of the Church, e.g., Holy Mass and the Sacrament of Penance, what might we be doing to bolster our devotional life? The document "Directory on Popular Piety and the Liturgy" suggests that it is crucial that popular devotions be in harmony with the liturgy, drawing inspiration from it and ultimately leading back to it because "the liturgy and popular piety are two forms of worship which are in mutual and fruitful relationship with each other." (No. 58) In order to worship well, something to consider is the customary dedications for the months of the year. Since at least the 16th century, Catholic piety has assigned entire months to special devotions. Here are the more common ones:

Continued on next page.



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**January:** The Holy Name of Jesus

**February:** The Holy Family

**March:** St. Joseph

**April:** The Most Blessed Sacrament

**May:** The Blessed Virgin Mary

**June:** The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

**July:** The Most Precious Blood

**August:** The Immaculate Heart of Mary

**September:** Our Lady of Sorrows or  
The Holy Guardian Angels

**October:** The Holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary

**November:** The Holy Souls in Purgatory

**December:** The Immaculate Conception

We could even consider how we focus on spiritual matters each day of the week. We are reminded by Eucharistic Prayer III how we are called to give praise and thanks to God daily, "You are indeed Holy, O Lord, and all you have created rightly gives you praise, for through your Son our Lord Jesus Christ, by the power and working of the Holy Spirit, you give life to all things and make them holy, and you never cease to gather a people to yourself, so that from the rising of the sun to its setting a pure sacrifice may be offered to your name." Traditionally, the days of the week have a customary devotional focus that might inspire our prayer:

**Sundays:** Resurrection and the Holy and Undivided Trinity

**Mondays:** The Holy Spirit and the Souls in Purgatory

**Tuesdays:** The Holy Angels


**Wednesdays:** St. Joseph

**Thursdays:** The Most Blessed Sacrament

**Fridays:** Christ's Passion and His Most Sacred Heart

**Saturdays:** The Most Blessed Virgin and her Immaculate Heart

As we take time this summer to relax, enjoy the beauty of creation and spend quality time with our families and friends, let's prepare ourselves to make what spiritually matters ordinary, i.e., regular and life-giving, so that all we say and do might help to build God's kingdom and prepare us for eternal life with God, the Blessed Mother and all of the saints and angels. Enjoy the rest of summer!



## LIAISON TO *St. Francis de Sales Seminary* Lynne Miller

St. Francis de Sales Seminary has a rich history filled with incredible stories. In August 2025, over 85 young men moved into their temporary quarters during the renovations, beginning a new school year and continuing their own, unique stories. Let us keep our seminarians in our prayers.

### **Prayer for Our Seminarians:**

*Lord Jesus, we pray for all seminarians, your future priests. We ask for your special blessing and outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon them.*

*Grant them the grace to grow in faith, hope, and charity, and may their hearts overflow with your compassion, understanding, and generosity.*

*May they be filled with humility and a burning zeal for souls, and may they always know and love you, the one and only eternal priest.*

*Lord, help them to be attentive to your Word and to make wise decisions for their future, inspired by faith in you.*

*May they be open to your calling and have the strength to follow you wherever you lead them.*

*We pray for their perseverance in studies, their growth in prayer, and their ability to embrace the Cross through all difficulties.*

*May Mary, the Mother of God, protect them from all harm and obtain for them all the graces they need to grow in your image.*

*We ask this through your name, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen*

## FROM OUR *Treasurer* Diane Zayeck

### Charitable Giving

A qualified charitable distribution (QCD) from a traditional individual retirement account (IRA) is generally a nontaxable distribution, when made directly from IRA trustee to a qualified charity. A qualified charity is a 501(c)3 organization; MACCW is a 501(c)3 organization. The rules are the IRA owner must be at least 70½ years of age when the distribution is made. The maximum QCD per year is \$100,000. A married couple, filing a joint return, each must be at least 70½ years, and each have their own IRA; each can give \$100,000. You must receive an acknowledgment from the charity of your donation. MACCW sends out a thank you letter. This acknowledgment should be

dated either 60 days after donation, or January 31 the following year; whichever is earlier. For IRA donations to MACCW, contact Treasurer, Diane Zayeck at 414-545-6062.

*MACCW cannot provide tax or legal advice. You should consult your attorney or qualified tax advisor regarding your situation. This content should not be depended upon for other than broadly informational purposes. Specific questions should be referred to a qualified tax professional.*

## *Golden Rose Award Program*

The goal of the Golden Rose Award Program is to recognize and promote the value of young women who make a difference in their parish and community. Every parish in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee is invited to participate in this program. Letters will be sent to each pastor to recognize one teen girl for the award. The Golden Rose nominees will be honored at a special reception with their families and MACCW members. Each nominee will be presented with the Golden Rose Award and an individual Student Membership in the Milwaukee Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women.

### Criteria

- High school woman who is residing within the Diocese of Milwaukee
- Practicing Catholic, attending Sunday Mass regularly
- Active member of her parish, showing leadership in activities and service projects (youth groups, ministries, volunteer work)
- Exhibits spirituality and reflects the Gospel values in her everyday life

Look for more information on the [maccw.com](http://maccw.com) website.



The Milwaukee Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women is participating in the Box of Joy again this year. These are sent to children in developing countries and may be their first Christmas gift ever! Fill the box with small toys, hygiene items, school supplies, hard candy, etc. Donation of \$9 for each gift box can be made at [boxofjoy.org](http://boxofjoy.org) (the preferred option) or mail check to Cross Catholic Outreach using the self-addressed envelope found in the brochure. Boxes are available at the MACCW meeting on September 27 at St. Stephens in Oak Creek or by contacting Jean Kelly at 262-797-0937 or [jeanakelly@hotmail.com](mailto:jeanakelly@hotmail.com). You can order them directly from Cross Catholic Outreach.

**Boxes need to be returned on Friday, October 31 from 7 am - 3 pm (MACCW meeting will be at 8 am), or Sunday November 2 from 8 am - 12 pm to St. Mary's Visitation Parish, 1260 Church St., Elm Grove.**





NCCW

# President's Pen

NATIONAL PRESIDENT **Beth Mahoney**

August is a busy time for many NCCW members as we are gearing up to attend the NCCW Convention in Orlando. **Our theme: Believe in the Eucharist: Blessed, Broken and Shared will be our focal point for our days together.** We will celebrate the Liturgy every day, experience an Encounter with Mary– Mother of the Eucharist on a retreat day, pray in the presence of the Eucharist at Adoration and as St. Augustine states, become what you eat, the Body of Christ.

We will hear presentations and talks on the NCCW mission, interact with friends, make new friends all while we will support each other as we are Women on a Journey – Sharing our Stories. Of course, we will take in some Florida sunshine, engage in some fun activities like our Purse Auction fundraiser, and taste some delicious food all while conducting business and reviewing By-laws.

Our commissions and committees have worked very hard all year on various projects, programs and events assisting our membership on living out the NCCW mission. Those in attendance will be given resources to take home, gain some valuable ideas to utilize within your local Councils and be energized to return home renewed in God's graces and blessings.

This is the last edition of the President's Pen for my term as NCCW President. I am grateful for this experience, and my heart is full of memories that will remain with me forever. Thank you!

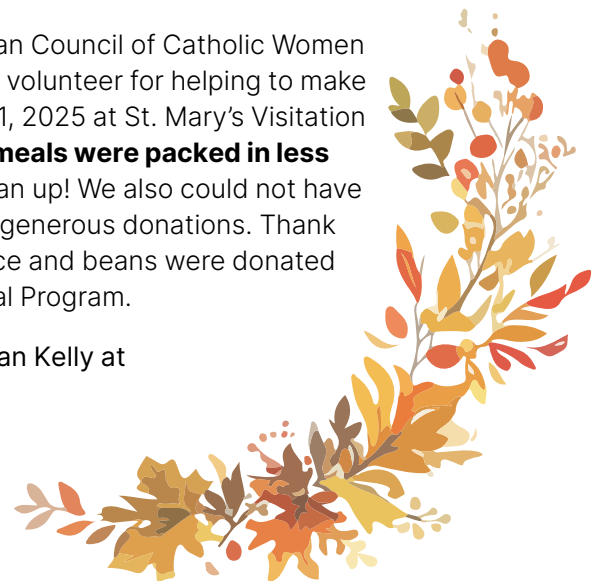


## Food Packing Event

### Thank you!

The Milwaukee Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women wants to thank every single volunteer for helping to make the Food Packing on May 31, 2025 at St. Mary's Visitation a huge success. **60,000+ meals were packed in less than 4 hours**, including clean up! We also could not have done it without you or your generous donations. Thank you. The leftover bags of rice and beans were donated to St. Ben's Community Meal Program.

Any questions? Contact Jean Kelly at [jeanakelly@hotmail.com](mailto:jeanakelly@hotmail.com) or 414-430-6136.





As we recently marked three years since the overturning of Roe v. Wade, we see some very disappointing developments here in Wisconsin.

The overturn of Roe returned the regulation of abortion back to the individual states. At that point Wisconsin's pre-Roe abortion ban (940.04) was recognized, saving countless lives while it was adhered to for 15 months. At that point a rogue Dane County judge illogically ruled that 940.04 only banned feticide, not abortion. While challenges to that ridiculous opinion began, Planned Parenthood and Affiliated abortion mills resumed the slaughter of precious preborn babies. All along our pro abortion Attorney General Kaul worked toward getting 940.04 completely overturned. He obviously recognized that it did indeed ban abortion with a broad "life of the mother" exception.

On July 2, 2025 a politicized Wisconsin Supreme Court ruled in Kaul v. Urmanski that Wisconsin's (near total) ban 940.04 is no longer in effect. Basically the pro abortion judge majority, ignoring precedent, ruled that post Roe v. Wade Wisconsin laws enacted to merely regulate abortion (while we were subject to Roe's federal mandate) were intended by our legislature to nullify 940.04. They falsely hold

that those minor regulations are all that now control abortion in our state, and not the 940.04 ban.

As abortion continues in full force in Wisconsin, the baby killers are so emboldened that they opened a third abortuary in Milwaukee at 35th Street and Wisconsin Ave., in a low-income neighborhood. Ironically the nonprofit mill is named Care for All WI.

As you can see, we have our work cut out for us. Protecting the pre-born and helping their parents is more important here than ever. Some simple ways to help that you might consider are:

The Fall 40 Days for Life Sept. 24 - Nov. 2 - Visit [40DaysforLife.com](https://40DaysforLife.com) for locations, details and to sign up for your local prayer vigil.

Life Chain - Sunday Oct. 5 Visit [MilwaukeeLifeChain.org](https://MilwaukeeLifeChain.org) and click on "Other Life Chains" for your local hour and a half prayerful vigil.

- Pro-Life Wisconsin's Love for Life Gala, Oct. 10 Brookfield Conference Center, Keynote Abby Johnson
- Jan. 21-25, 2026 March for Life Pilgrimage to DC. Visit [ProLifeWi.org](https://ProLifeWi.org) or call 262-796-1111 to register for either one.

Last but not least please start preparing for our own Spring Layette baby shower on March 7, 2026 at St Martin of Tour Parish in Franklin. What better way is there to assist pre-born babies and their parents in these challenging times than to support crisis pregnancy centers. This year we will be showering:

- Anchor of Hope Health Center Sheboygan [anchorofhopewi.org](https://anchorofhopewi.org)
- Women's Support Center of Milwaukee [wscmil.org](https://wscmil.org)
- Life's Connections, Waukesha, Mukwonago and Menomonee Falls [LifesConnection.org](https://LifesConnection.org)

Please take a look at their respective websites to see the incredible work they do for families throughout our area. Each one of the centers have committed to being present to accept your generous gifts and to speak briefly on how they will utilize your help.

As always please join me in prayer for God's precious gift of life.

In Christ, Peggy Hamill [DefendingGodsPlan@gmail.com](mailto:DefendingGodsPlan@gmail.com)



# MACCW *Spirituality Commission* Maria Schulner



It is my hope, my Dear sisters in Christ, that we take some time this summer or fall to take advantage of the graces God is waiting to bestow upon us.

"Hope is the theological virtue by which we desire the kingdom of heaven and eternal life as our happiness, placing our trust in Christ's promises and relying not on our own strength, but on the help of the grace of the Holy Spirit." (CCC 1817)

(Romans 5:1-5) 'Brothers and sisters: Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in hope of the glory of God. Not only that, but we even boast of our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, and endurance, proven character, and proven character, hope, and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.'

Looking for hope or the positive aspect is good and wonderful in life. We need to maintain hope in difficult times as well as the good times. During good times, hope helps to maintain a positive outlook. In difficult times, it seems more of a challenge.

## **In the Jubilee year – 2025 let's all be Pilgrims of Hope!**

We have many opportunities to spend time with the Lord and receive a plenary indulgence. To obtain a plenary indulgence during the Jubilee Year, Catholics must be in a state of grace, have complete detachment from sin, receive the Sacrament of Confession, receive Holy Communion, and pray for the intentions of the Holy Father. Here are some ways to do that:

- A visit to The Basilica of St. Josaphat 2333 S. 6th Street, Milwaukee, WI
- A visit to The National Shrine of Our Lady of Champion. This is the first and only approved Marian apparition site in the United States. 4047 Chapel Dr. New Franken, WI
- A visit to Holy Hill Basilica and National Shrine of Mary Help of Christians 1525 Carmel Rd, Hubertus, WI
- A visit to Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe 5250 Justin Rd, La Crosse, WI

**August 15**, is the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This is a beautiful day to spend time in front of The Blessed Sacrament and honor our Blessed Mother. This is a great day to start or renew a Marian Consecration!

Suggested Prayers: The Litany of Loreto; the Rosary; The Memorare

### **Suggested books to help you:**

- 33 Days to Morning Glory by Fr. Michael E. Gaitley, MIC
- Mary's Mantle Consecration by Christine Watkins
- The Flame of Love, The Spiritual Diary of Elizabeth Kindelman
- The Miraculous Medal Pendant of Power by Christine Watkins
- Champions of the Rosary by Donald H. Calloway, MIC

**These are just a few suggestions - our faith is rich in beautiful prayers and devotions!**







## MACCW IMMEDIATE *Past President* Diane Oakland

What a delight it has been to welcome our new MACCW President, Barb Ludka, sure to be an excellent leader for all of us. As I passed on the duties as MACCW President to Barb, thankful for all of her help, what a pleasure to see her finding her way, knowing the joy that lies ahead for her. I am very proud to have had the opportunity to serve these past 2 years, grateful and honored to walk in the shoes of all the women who came before me, meeting so many remarkable MACCW friends and sisters in Christ.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all who worked diligently along the way, our generous Board of Directors, especially Jean Kelly, who helps in all ways and Chris VanderBloemen, Immediate Past-President, Diane Zayechek, Treasurer, and Mary Kay Kuenzi, Bea Sikorski, Lynne Miller, Peggy Hamill, Sandy Huhn, Ann Newkirk, and Stephanie Kern, for all of their support.

We are so grateful for the women and pastors of the Archdiocesan parishes and councils who welcomed us to their parishes, especially those who generously hosted our events, and all who joined us as we gathered together to celebrate with joy the blessing of our faith and serving others.

A special thank you to Fr. Brad Krawczyk, our Spiritual Advisor, Archbishop ListECKi and, currently, Archbishop Grob, for their prayers, inspiration and support, and all our priests who have guided us along this journey of our faith bringing us hope every day through the love of our Lord.

One of the events that we were so excited to bring to our community this past season was the MACCW Layette Convention on March 29 at St. John Vianney Parish in Brookfield. Members and friends of MACCW, from parishes throughout the Archdiocese, came together generously caring for Moms in Need, donating mounds of layette items, clothing, diapers, and more to three centers, Life's Choices in Burlington, Life's Connection of Waukesha, Mukwonago, Menomonee Falls, and Women's Support Center of Milwaukee.

What a gift to have Bishop Hying with us! The Bishop beautifully celebrated the Sacrifice of the Mass and as featured speaker, shared the message, "Hope does not disappoint" during this Jubilee Year of Hope. Jesus is the door through which we enter into the Father's heart and the glory of the Blessed Trinity, our destiny to be one with the Trinity. Bishop Hying reminded us that we are beloved daughters of the Father, we are to invite the Holy Spirit to pray in us, and as the hemorrhaging woman touched the hem of Jesus' cloak and was healed, to realize how much power we receive when we receive Christ, urging us to lead others to that vision.

Jane Schiszik, Director of the Province of Milwaukee CCW, celebrated amazing women as leaders in the community and invited all to the NCCW Province Leadership Training Development in Plover in July. Deacon Jim Matthias, Director of the Archdiocesan Respect Life Ministry, displayed information, and had a fun raffle for a very popular Bishop Hying Bobblehead. Watch for the invitation to our Layette event in 2026!

I am excited to continue in the MACCW mission with great hope and trust in the future of this steadfast organization with the incredible spirit, faith and generosity of the women in our community and beyond. I pray that our Lady of Good Counsel will continue to pray for us and the Holy Spirit will guide us along the way.





## 8TH GRADE GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL

# *Scholarship Opportunity*

Milwaukee Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women (MACCW) strongly supports Catholic Education. Attending a Catholic High School is very expensive, but, well worth the price. This year MACCW will be offering 4 Scholarships of \$2,000 each to deserving 8th grade girls who are planning to enter a Catholic High School in the Fall of 2026.

Please help spread the word to any eligible daughters, granddaughters, nieces and friends or relatives' children. The young ladies may have attended public or private schools or been home schooled for their elementary years.

### Requirements include:

- Applicant must currently be a member of a church in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee and plan to attend one of our outstanding Archdiocesan Catholic high schools.
- Complete the application form and write a 500 - word essay based on one of the 2 questions listed on the application.
- Submit a letter of recommendation from a non-relative.
- All applications and recommendation letters must be postmarked by Monday, March 30, 2026 and winners will be notified by phone no later than Monday, May 4, 2026.
- Application forms and details will soon be available on our website: [maccw.com](http://maccw.com). Any questions call: MACCW Scholarship Chair, Beatrice Sikorski at 262-363-4312 or Jenny Moyer at .414-248-3310.

The 2025 award recipients were chosen from 61 applicants representing 34 elementary schools and 1 home schooled young lady. The applicants planned to attend 10 different Archdiocesan Catholic High Schools. Each winner received a \$1,500 scholarship toward their ongoing Catholic education.

### The winners were:



**Audrey Bonen**

Shepherd of the Hills going on to  
St. Mary Springs Academy



**Evelyn Roach**

St. Leonard's going on to  
Catholic Memorial High School.



**Marisol Zylstra**

Woodlands School Bluemound Campus  
going on to Pius XI High School





MILWAUKEE ARCHDIOCESAN COUNCIL  
OF  
*Catholic Women*

Attention ALL 8th Grade Girls entering a Catholic High School  
Four \$2000 scholarships are available thanks to the  
John and Kathleen Schneider Family Foundation and an anonymous donor  
**High School \$2,000 Scholarship 2026 Application Form**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Parish and School you are registered for in 2026: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents: \_\_\_\_\_

**Requirements:**

- 8<sup>th</sup> grade girl entering a Catholic High School in the Fall of 2026
- Application Form filled out (Please print clearly)
- Write a 500-word essay on your choice of either question:
  - Going forward, how can you demonstrate the Catholic values you learned thus far?
  - If you have a favorite saint, how can you use that saint as an inspiration in your high school life?
- One letter of recommendation from a non-relative

**DEADLINE:** In order to be considered for the scholarship, your application and letter of recommendation MUST be postmarked no later than Tuesday, March 31, 2026.  
Winners will be notified by Monday, May 4, 2026

**Send completed requirements to:**

MACCW

P. O. Box 472, Brookfield, WI 53008-0472

ATTN: Scholarship Committee

For more information on MACCW visit our website at: [www.maccw.com](http://www.maccw.com)



NCCW CONVENTION, AUGUST 19-23, 2025

# *Believe in the Eucharist - Blessed, Broken and Shared*

**Diane Oakland, Director of the Province of Milwaukee CCW**

What a blessing for us to be a part of the incredible National Council of Catholic Women (NCCW)! What a joy gathering for Convention in Orlando with 550 women and clergy from around the United States, sharing in the love of our faith and celebrating the service we bring to others, through the organization, for the love of our Lord!

The opening Liturgy, with Rev. Thomas Washburn, Chairman of the NCCW Spiritual Advisors, set the tone and focus for the Convention. We women of the church come to Jesus, as we are called to be, with lives that are blessed, broken and shared. As Mary comes to Elizabeth who rushes to greet her, "Blessed are you among women," not because she was spared suffering, but because of her "Yes," submitting herself wholly, carrying within her body the Word made Flesh, the first tabernacle, the same Jesus we have in the Eucharist! Mary bears Christ and brings him to others. We, too, are blessed as living tabernacles, carrying Christ into the world, not as who we are but who we carry with us, walking, talking tabernacles. We bring our lives that are broken, letting go of our carefully made plans, with God's plan stretching us everyday in the little

things we do with patience and perseverance, in faithfulness. In our weakness, Christ's strength shines brightly! As Fr. Tom said, "Our world desperately hungers for this, and who better than you, the women of faith, not only adoring him here but carrying him out there!" Throughout the Convention, we heard from remarkable women serving on Commissions and Committees sharing the word carried throughout the nation and beyond in the areas of spirituality, leadership, and service to our communities.

On Thursday, we were immersed in a Spiritual Day of Reflection, "Eucharistic Encounter with Mary/ Mother of Hope" at the amazing Mary Queen of the Universe Basilica and Shrine, with inspirational messages of hope from Fr. Michael MacInnis of St. James Seminary in Brighton, MA, and Sister Pamela Smith, SS.C.O.M., Ph.D, from the Diocese of Charleston. The heavenly music by the Basilica Choir included Ave Maria.

On Friday, Most Rev. William Wack, Bishop of the Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee, our NCCW Episcopal Liaison to the USCCB, celebrated the Sacrifice of the Mass for both living and deceased

members. At the Saturday evening Liturgy, Very Rev. John Noonan, Bishop of the Diocese of Orlando, delivered an endearing message of the importance of encountering God, and allowing Jesus to encounter us, so we can truly get to know him. This was followed by the initiation of officers and final blessing.

We were most delighted to be present with Jane Schiszik, our out-going Director of the Province, as she was installed as NCCW's President-Elect, in preparation for the role of NCCW President, 2027-2029! Congratulations, Jane! As for me, newly Installed incoming Province Director for 2025-2027, I am very excited to follow in Jane's footsteps, and to welcome Rev. Brad Krawczyk, Spiritual Advisor of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, as Spiritual Advisor for the Province. We look forward to serving our Province, our state Councils of Catholic Women, with your help as we walk and pray together with Our Lady of Good Counsel, along this journey on the mission of NCCW.

Watch for more info from the Convention in our next Province Post coming in October. You'll want to join us at Convention in Grand Rapids, Michigan, in August, 2026!





MILWAUKEE ARCHDIOCESAN COUNCIL  
OF  
*Catholic Women*

## Individual MACCW Membership 2025

New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Parish: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Yearly membership – \$20 per year - Email communications only including NewsNotes.

\_\_\_\_\_ Yearly membership – \$25 (Due to increase in the cost of postage) NewsNotes Mailed.

\_\_\_\_\_ Check here if you wish to donate to help further the mission of MACCW. \$\_\_\_\_\_ Amount

I would like to volunteer for the following, check as many as you would like to do:

\_\_\_\_\_ Box of Joy

\_\_\_\_\_ Tea for Moms of Seminarians and Priests

\_\_\_\_\_ Convention/Layette Event

\_\_\_\_\_ Food Packing

\_\_\_\_\_ Golden Rose Award

\_\_\_\_\_ Publicity/Marketing

\_\_\_\_\_ Other – what would you like to do? \_\_\_\_\_

You will be contacted upon receipt of your membership form.

Questions? Contact Jean Kelly, Membership Chair 262-797-0937 or [jeanakelly@hotmail.com](mailto:jeanakelly@hotmail.com)

**Mail check and form to: MACCW, P. O. Box 472, Brookfield, WI 53008**

MACCW is a 501(c)3 organization and all donations are tax deductible.



# Pilgrims of Hope

As 'Pilgrims of Hope' we invite you to join us at our scheduled events! Consider joining MACCW to get our NewsNotes publication and emails to help keep you informed and up to date on upcoming events as you strive to grow on your spiritual travels this Jubilee Year.

## 2025-2026 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### MACCW Meetings

#### Saturday - 09/27/25

St. Stephen's Parish – pick up your 'Boxes of Joy' and join us for program information & videos

#### Friday - 10/31/25

St Mary Visitation – return 'Boxes of Joy' and join us for hallowed fun and speaker Sue Knutson:  
"Service – where and when we encounter the need"

#### Saturday - 3/7/26

Layette Luncheon event at St Martin of Tours – start gathering your baby items and gather friends to join us for Mass, light breakfast, speakers, lunch, raffles and more. We have 3 centers we will be supporting & donating baby items

### "Hope-filled" Events

Archdiocesan Jubilee Mass for couples married 25, 50 or 50+ years on Oct. 10th at St. Stephens' Parish. Contact Beth Ulaszek with questions at [ulaszekb@archmil.org](mailto:ulaszekb@archmil.org) or 414-758-2226.

Women of Christ - 'Anchored in Hope' at Brookfield Conference Center on Sat, 11/15/25. Speakers include Fr. Chris Alar, MIC; Msgr. James P Shea; Julianne Stanz & more. Archbishop Grob will celebrate liturgy. Check your parish bulletin for more information or register at [www.womenofchrist.net](http://www.womenofchrist.net).

Advent by Candlelight gatherings at many parishes – check [maccw.com](http://maccw.com) for events open to women from outside parishes!

### Recognition & Service Opportunities

Golden Rose Program – information will be sent to pastors and parishes on this exciting program for our active teen girls to be recognized for sharing their talents and gifts with their parishes and communities. Applications and due dates will be available soon. Watch the website: [maccw.com](http://maccw.com) for updates.

#### Saturday - 2/07/26

Tea for Moms of Seminarians and Priests – A 'Heart Felt' appreciation to these moms hosted at St. Mary Visitation with Fr. Brad Krawczyk, MACCW Spiritual Advisor and other speakers. All women are encouraged to attend to celebrate these special Moms.

#### Wednesday - 4/01/2026

2026 Scholarship applications (a form is included in the NewsNotes) and recommendation letters due to Bea Sikorski or Jenny Moyer.

#### Raffle

As I mentioned in the President's Note, we are selling raffle tickets this year! \$10 each for a chance of 2-\$500; 1-\$400; a \$300; \$200 & \$100 prize. A limit of 600 tickets will be available and winners will be chosen at the Layette Luncheon on 3/7/2026. All councils and members will be provided with a letter and tickets to sell and return to Barb or Prudy by 2/28/2026. Come to the 9/27 meeting at St. Stephen's Parish to pick up your tickets and get in on this chance to help us grow our programs in 2025-26!



Continue to check the [maccw.com](http://maccw.com) website for additional events!

Would you like to include your events on our website?

Contact MACCW President Barb Ludka 414-423-9203 or [barbludka@gmail.com](mailto:barbludka@gmail.com)

