



THE “LINK”

May 2023

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Sisters in Christ,

I pray that all mothers, grandmothers, godmothers, and spiritual mothers enjoy a joyous and blessed Mothers Day.

Events in May include the Annual Blue Mass for first responders and Blessed Carlo Acutis’ exhibition of Eucharistic miracles. See page 2.

Our Virtual Tea this month offers a look into the Post Cana program for widows and widowers of all ages. Registration on page 3.

There are still several opportunities to join us for our series, “Presence: The Mystery of the Eucharist.” A great way to celebrate the National Eucharistic Revival. See page 3 for details.

Looking ahead: claim your spot now for the National Black Catholic Congress in July. Lots more info on page 4. And registration is open for the annual NCCW Convention in August. See page 4.

Are you a CCW-ADW member? You know how great it feels to support us in connecting Catholic women in the Archdiocese. If you haven’t joined yet, you can do that on page 5!

Your Sister in Christ Jesus,



Cheryl Holley
President

**Council of Catholic Women-
Archdiocese of Washington**
ArchdioceseCCW@gmail.com
Facebook: WashACCW
<https://www.councilofcatholic-women-adw.com/>

2021-2023

Spiritual Advisor

Rev. Msgr. Robert Amey

President

Cheryl R. Holley

Vice President

Carol Monaco

Treasurer

Michelle Dorsey

Secretary

Mary Leibolt

Immediate Past President

Carol-Ann Parker

Commission Chairs

Spirituality: Carol Monaco

Service: Mary Leibolt

Leadership: Mary Flood

Province Director

Shelia Parker

Archdiocesan Liaison

Sally Daniel

Parliamentarian

Ellen-Jane Pairo

LINK Editor and Designer

Rose Folsom

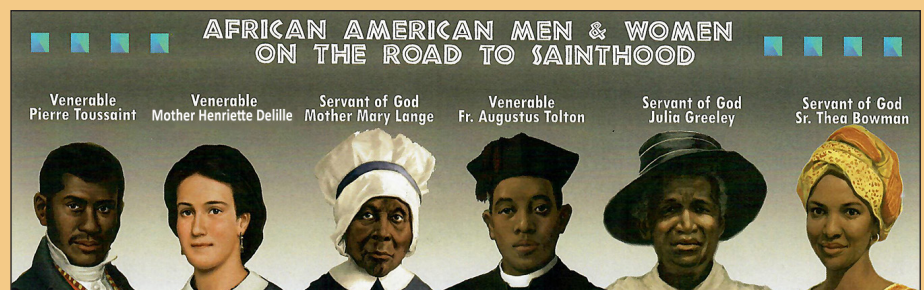
Web Manager

Mary Leibolt

Online Meeting Manager

Michelle Dorsey

Let’s keep our six African Americans on the road to sainthood in our daily prayers.



TUESDAY, MAY 2

At the annual Blue Mass, first responders gather to remember the contributions of those who have served in law enforcement and public safety agencies and to ask for continued protection for them in the future.

Representatives of federal and local law enforcement and public safety agencies from the Washington, D.C.

Metropolitan Area and around the country attend. <https://adw.org/event/annual-blue-mass-2/>

11:45 am - 1:00 pm

St. Patrick Catholic Church in DC

SATURDAY, MAY 6

Blessed Carlo Acutis Exhibit of Eucharistic Miracles

10 am - Mass

11 am - 6 pm - Blessed Carlo Acutis Exhibit (open to public, parishes, etc.)

Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center, 7007 Bradley Boulevard, Bethesda, Maryland 20817

<https://ourladyofbethesda.org/programs/special-events/exhibit-eucharistic-miracles>

SATURDAY, MAY 13



Deaf and Disabilities Ministry
The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Washington

Mass for Persons Living with Mental Health Challenges

MAY 13, 2023 | 10:00 a.m. ET

Pope Francis Center
7202 Buchanan Street
Landover Hills, MD 20784

MAY IS MENTAL HEALTH MONTH

All are welcome as we gather as a faith community of persons living with mental illness, family members, friends, and supporters to accompany and pray for one another.

FATHER ANDREW WAKEFIELD
Celebrant



Hosted by the Office of Deaf and Disabilities Ministry

For additional information, contact
specialneedsministry@adw.org
301-853-4560, 301-200-5430 (VP)

The Roman Catholic
Archdiocese of
Washington

MONDAY, MAY 1 & 15

Join Us

Our Lord invites us to the source and summit of our Faith—The Holy Eucharist. For this Eucharistic Revival journey, the Council of Catholic Women-Archdiocese of Washington is hosting a special **virtual** series:

Presence: The Mystery of the Eucharist.

Session 1: God is With Us

Jan. 30- Part 1

February 6- Part 2

Session 2: Story of the Eucharist

February 20 – Part 1

March 6 – Part 2

Session 3: Bread for the Journey

March 20 – Part 1

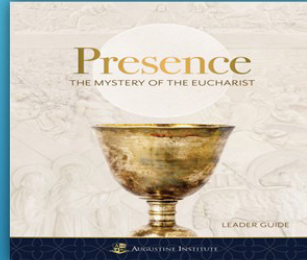
April 3 – Part 2

Session 4: Biblical Foundations

April 17– Part 1

May 1 – Part 2

May 15 – Part 3



Explores:

- The truth and beauty of Christ's real presence in the Eucharist,
 - From its origins in Sacred Scripture,
 - To its profound role in the life of the Church and her members.
 - Join us Mondays, 7:00-8:00 p.m.
- Registration is free. To register for Session 4:
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/516956309837>

Starting April 17, join us for the **Biblical Foundations of the Eucharist** to help foster a deeper appreciation for the gift of the Eucharist. This series, carefully designed by the Augustine Institute, examines the effects of the sacrament and its setting in the Mass; explores the scriptural foundation of the sacrament; and discover the beauty of Holy Communion and the transformative power of the grace God offers us in this sacrament.

SUNDAY, MAY 21

Virtual Monthly Tea

Council of Catholic Women-Archdiocese of Washington's Virtual Tea & Reflection



*Lives change
dramatically after the
death of a spouse.*

*Post Cana members engage in
spiritual, social, intellectual, and
other positive programs that
promote and enrich their lives
through fellowship.*

Explore the Archdiocese of Washington's Post Cana program



Sunday, May 21
3:00-4:00 pm

Register today for this free event at
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/624527477497>

Join us to learn about the Archdiocese of Washington's Post Cana organization, for the mutual support of widows and widowers of all ages and faiths sponsored by the Office of Family Life of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Washington, DC. **Speaker: Mary Dugan, President of Post Cana**

JULY 20-23



The National
BLACK CATHOLIC
Congress

CONGRESS XIII

JULY 20-23, 2023

Founded in 1987, the National Black Catholic Congress organizes a national gathering every five years, renewing our mission with a Pastoral Plan.



Write the Vision
A PROPHETIC CALL TO THRIVE
THE NATIONAL BLACK CATHOLIC CONGRESS

FEATURING:



WILTON CARDINAL GREGORY

Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Washington, DC will give the opening Keynote Speech and celebrate the Opening Eucharistic Liturgy



LYNNE' GRAY

Director of Music for Congress XIII. Ms. Gray is Music Ministry Director at St. Anthony of Padua Church, Washington, D.C.; Chair, NPM African-American Musicians Interest Section.



RAWN HARBOR

Director of Liturgy for Congress XIII, Rawn is one of the preeminent African American Catholic liturgists and musicians in the U.S. today.

Early Registration ends February 28, 2023.
Regular registration ends July 15, 2023.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, INCLUDING
A PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF EVENTS,
AND TO REGISTER:

nbccgathering2023.org

Join with other Black Catholics and those who minister to Black Catholics in the United States for a celebration of our faith and culture.



Scan Me for
More Information!

VENUE: GAYLORD NATIONAL RESORT

201 WATERFRONT ST., NATIONAL HARBOR, MD 20745



AUGUST 24-26

National Council of Catholic Women
Annual Convention
Hyatt Regency Salt Lake City

Registration is now open!
<https://www.nccw.org/nccw-convention/>

Membership is now opened!

If you're a member, thank you!
If you haven't joined us yet, please complete the form below and return to us.

JOIN US TODAY!



Individual Membership

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ ZIP _____

Parish _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Birthday month _____ day _____

Individual Membership is only
\$25.00 per year.

Make check payable to ACCW.
Send to Michelle Dorsey, Treasurer
5757 Gladstone Way
Capitol Heights, MD 20743

Membership Contact:

ArchdioceseCCW@gmail.com



WASHINGTON
ARCHDIOCESAN COUNCIL OF
CATHOLIC WOMEN

Join us to respond to the needs
of the Church and society
through a focus on spirituality,
leadership, and service.

Membership Benefits

Putting faith into action by:

- ❖ Learning about issues
- ❖ Visits to sacred sites
- ❖ Service projects
- ❖ Monthly e-newsletter with upcoming events
- ❖ Monthly tea
- ❖ Access to NCCW resources.

Members receive a discount on
ACCW sponsored programs.

Join the **National Council of Catholic Women**
directly to receive NCCW's *Catholic Woman*
magazine with national and international news
and inspiring stories. Dues are \$50.00 per year.
Visit www.NCCW.org.



Prayer to Our Lady of Guadalupe, “Patroness of all Americas,” and CCW-ADW’s Patroness Saint.

Remember, O most gracious Virgin of Guadalupe, that in your heavenly apparitions on the mount of Tepeyac, you promised to show your compassion and pity towards all who, loving and trusting in you, seek your help and call upon you in their necessities and afflictions; you promised to hear our supplications, to dry our tears, and to give us consolation and relief.

Never has it been known that anyone who fled to your protection, implored your help, or sought your intercession was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, we fly to you, O Mary, ever-Virgin Mother of the true God!

Though grieving under the weight of our sins, we come to prostrate ourselves before you. We fully trust that, standing beneath your shadow and protection, nothing will trouble or afflict us, nor do we need to fear illness or misfortune, or any other sorrow.

O Virgin of Guadalupe, you want to remain with us through your admirable image, you who are our Mother, our health, and our life. Placing ourselves beneath your maternal gaze, and having recourse to you in all our necessities, we need do nothing more.

O Holy Mother of God, despise not our petitions, but in your mercy hear and answer us.
Amen.

CCW NIGHTLY ROSARY FOR HEALING OF THE CHURCH



**Call in at 8:00 p.m. 7 days a week
605-468-8016, code 357090#**

Since September 2018, the Council of Catholic Women has been hosting a nightly Rosary call for the healing of the Church. We believe that prayer is the foundation of action.

“Prayer will help us move forward,” says Sharon O’Brien, Director of Catholics for Family Peace. In our effort to connect Catholic Women, we want to thank **Lisa Williams**, Sodality Union Immediate Past Prefect; **Margaret Short** of the Knights of St. John International Supreme Ladies Auxiliary; and **Cynthia Morris** of the Knights of St. Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary for leading our Rosary Call.

All are welcome to participate.

Join us as we read meditations on the Rosary’s mysteries, and pray together every evening at 8:00 pm.
Questions? Email me at ArchdioceseCCW@gmail.com –Carol Monaco, *Spirituality Commission Chair*

PONDER WITH MARY



Bragging Like a Saint

by Rose Folsom
VirtueConnection.com

In this month of Mary, we contemplate her humility. But what exactly is humility, and what *isn't* it?

A friend said, “I love being accountable to a prayer partner for my week. Because I’m kinda braggy: ‘I made it to Mass every day.’”

My friend is in good company. The Blessed Virgin said that her soul magnifies the Lord because He has done great things for her. Paul wrote that he boasts in Christ, and him crucified. The saints brag all over the place, but they brag about God, not themselves.

What about humility?

Humility is seeing ourselves as God sees us—to see our strengths and weaknesses as realistically as possible. Which means realizing that relying on God is what makes us truly strong. And it means we can admit our dependence on God without shame and our virtues without pride, like the Blessed Virgin does.

Inspiring brags

The saints inspire me to holiness when they describe their victories over the devil and themselves. Like the time St. Therese of Lisieux overcame her temptation to clobber the nun in the next pew who constantly clicked her false teeth as she prayed the Rosary. When you’re in a Carmelite monastery, that nun ain’t going anywhere and neither are you. So you need to overlook it, go insane, or face assault and battery charges. Our hero Therese chose the first option (after narrowly escaping the second).

If Therese can get over the clicking sister, I can overlook the lady in the adoration chapel who spends half the time rummaging through her plastic bag. As a new Catholic, I gained confidence to accept annoyances because Therese showed me it was possible and showed me how. And all because she “bragged” about her victory in her autobiography.

Holy bragging

We can be good at beating ourselves up if we fall short of what we think we should do. So why not “holy brag” to a prayer partner when we succeed in listening to God and following his inspiration? It’s a way to share the joy, as Mary did with Elizabeth, of how God is working in our lives. Brag away, I say, as long as we put the credit in the right place—and as long as our joy comes from success in putting our preferences second to God’s loving will.

Then we can rejoice with Mary: “the Almighty has done great things to me and holy is his name.”