



# Orlando Diocesan Council of Catholic Women National Council of Catholic Women

## ODCCW President's Report January 14, 2017

My focus these past few months have been centered on convention, meetings, membership and attending funerals. Convention is planned, speakers have been engaged, meals have been decided on, and meetings have been had. I am excited to report that the author of *Stolen*, Katariina Rosenblatt will be speaking on Sunday about human trafficking. Derrick Saldanha, one of our seminarians will also be speaking on Sunday. Gary Tester, executive director of Catholic Charities of Central Florida, Jane Carter, member of the NCCW LTD team and the person responsible for the counting of the Million Works of Mercy endeavor, and are own Sylvia McCormick and Kathy Leigh will all be presenters. On Saturday, Mass will be held in the hotel and the evening is free. One of the reasons that we are not going to a local parish is because of the parking situation at the hotel. They provide FREE valet parking and moving 200 women in cars for two Masses would be a bit of a problem....so we will have Mass at the hotel. On Sunday afternoon, there will be time to take a walk on the beach, take a nap, have a drink by the pool or go shopping. I cannot promise that will not rain but everyone will have the opportunity to listen to the surf and take advantage of some quiet time outside enjoying the beauty that God has created for us. That evening, we will continue the fun and fellowship of spending time in the deanery suites. The suites are spacious and have full kitchens making it easy to provide refreshments. On Monday, the Bishop's Mass will be at St. Brendan, one of our newest affiliations with their pastor and spiritual advisor, Father Tom Barrett. The banquet entertainment has yet to be secured; I am working on this.

I attended deanery meetings in Central, Northern and Eastern deaneries. I hope that I receive invitations from the other deaneries to attend their meetings. I attended two meetings at Holy Name of Jesus and spoke at the second meeting. Before the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting, I met with Karin Alcock and we discussed ideas to unify the women and to resurrect their CCW successfully. Continue to pray for them. I was a speaker at the January meeting of St John Vianney and I shared my journey in Council asked them to re-join the ranks of CCW. Barbara told me that they would discuss becoming part of the CCW at their February meeting. Pray for them also.

Christmas cards were sent to everyone on the ODCCW Board and every Spiritual Advisor in the diocese. I hand wrote a note to the SA's informing them of the date for the Bishop's mass and location inviting them to be there. I did receive a couple of cards in return. Father Bill Slight was so sweet; in his card, he thanked me for remembering him.

Pray with me Wednesdays was initiated and we continue to pray together every Wednesday. The elected members of the board met by phone and we have decided to have a monthly phone meeting with the deanery presidents except for the months that we meet in person. Meeting more often will enable us to keep each informed of the happenings in the deaneries and diocese and assist each other in resolving any issues that we are experiencing. The leadership symposium at Lake Yale planning will begin soon and that information will be available by email as soon as it is available and will be distributed at convention.

Working does present its challenges in attending funerals. But I have attended either the wake or funeral for Mary Wortman, George Petroff and Colleen Lally. Some of our members did have private services for their loved ones and those details remained private. I continue to pray for all our sisters and their families in my prayers.

Our Lady of Good Council pray for us.

*Mary Mathews*  
President