



THE “LINK”

**Council of Catholic Women-
Archdiocese of Washington**
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2019-2021

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

January 2021

Dear Sisters in Christ:

Happy New Year! We have some great things for you to do this month, even though we're mostly still zooming instead of meeting in person.

On the very next page you'll find the link to attend the virtual Mass celebrating the life and mission of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The celebrant will be our own Wilton Cardinal Gregory.

Our former VP, Rose Folsom, is offering a free workshop on January 17 to help us have a little more patience. (Isn't that something most of us could use more of?) Register on page 2.

Encounter Grace is holding some enticing events in Southern Maryland and via zoom. Check them out on page 3.

The Archdiocese is offering timely workshops on marriage and parenting, which have sometimes been more challenging in the past year! Learn how to keep your family strong by signing up for these workshops on page 4.

As always, we pray the Rosary together every evening at 8:00 pm. We'd love you to join us when you can. The call-in number is on page 6.

Not a CCW-ADW member yet? Join today on page 8!

In Christ,
Carol-Ann Parker
President



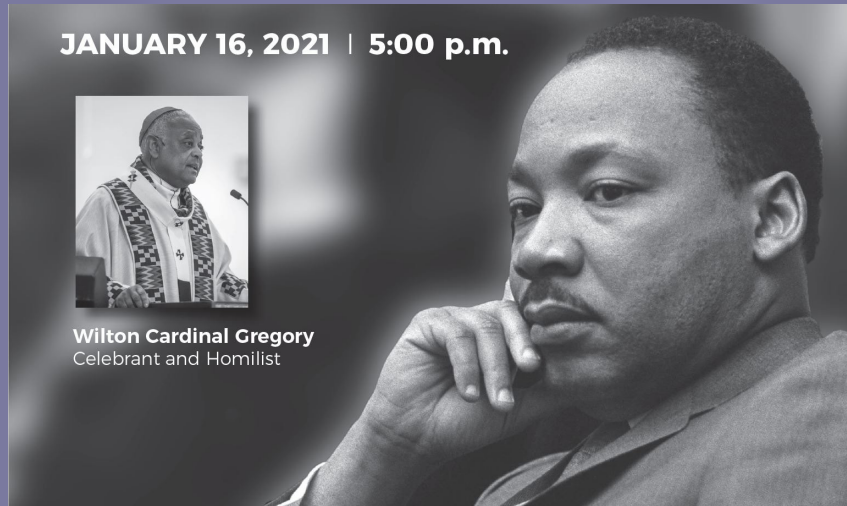
“You aspire to great things?
Begin with little ones.”

St. Augustine



JANUARY EVENTS

Saturday, January 16



The Archdiocese of Washington Office of Cultural Diversity

is proud to announce that the

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration

will be held on Saturday, January 16th at 5:00 pm.

All are invited to attend this virtual event!

<https://adw.org/event/rev-dr-martin-luther-king-jr-celebration/>

Mass will be celebrated by His Eminence Wilton Cardinal Gregory.

Sunday, January 17

Hi, I'm Rose Folsom, Lay Dominican and founder of VirtueConnection.com.



You're invited to my FREE Jan 17 workshop called

3 Ways to Keep Your Patience

where you'll find out how the *saints* did it!

I'm offering this 1-hour virtual workshop because most of us could use more patience, right?

Here's how you get in for free:

1. Click here to register now: <https://event.webinarjam.com/register/22/39085tr>
2. You'll get an email with a link. Click the link when the time comes and you're in!

Have other plans at 7 pm on the 17th? No worries—if you're registered, you'll get the replay :)

EVENTS FROM ENCOUNTER GRACE

Beginning Wednesday, January 13

BeLoved [1] Online Bible Series

An online Bible Series that involves written reflection, lectio divina, and discussion. The Series will look at six ordinary women in the Bible and how they were transformed after an encounter with Jesus Christ.

The goal will be to examine the areas of our lives where we aren't allowing Jesus to love us, to emulate the openness and receptivity of these Biblical women, and make strides to opening our hearts up for Jesus to love us and transform us.

\$49.00 includes either a print or interactive pdf of the workbook and all other materials.

Click here to register today: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/be-loved-1-online-bible-series-tickets-133333803997?aff=ebdssbeac>

An online Bible Series for women



Saturday, January 16



Workshop & Retreat: Tuesday's Journal

What better way to begin your 2021 than with other women who are using *Tuesday's Journal* weekly devotional!

Part workshop and part retreat, this morning will include time for lectio divina and small group discussion as well as tips and techniques for getting the most out of your journal.

\$49.00 includes a copy of Tuesday's Journal Vol. 1 (or if you prefer, Vol. 2) and the workshop/retreat.

Space is limited! Register today at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/tuesdays-journal-workshop-and-retreat-tickets-133272350187>

Begins Monday, February 1

BeLoved [2] in-person Bible Series

We'll look at how five ordinary men in the Bible were transformed after an encounter with Jesus Christ.

We will also ask ourselves where we encounter Jesus, and how we might be changed by Him.

Our goal will be to examine how we, like they, are called by God in the midst of our ordinary lives, to do rather extraordinary things.

\$49.00. Register today at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/be-loved-2-bible-series-monday-session-tickets-133338508067>



LOOKING AHEAD

February 27–March 31



Tools for Marriage: Marriage Enrichment for Young Married Couples

Are you engaged or newly married? Looking for a way to grow closer to God and each other? The Archdiocese of Washington Office for Family Life is offering a 6-week small group series for young married couples, in collaboration with Teams of Our Lady entitled: *Tools for Marriage*. Topics will include: praying as a couple, the reality of married love, love in daily life, enriching married love, serving others, and your marriage in action. The series will take place on Wednesday evenings from February 27–March 31 from 8:00pm–9:00pm. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/tools-for-marriage-tickets-125660749685> to register. For more information, contact the Archdiocese of Washington Office for Family Life at 301-853-4546 or visiblesign@adw.org.

March 4–25



Workshop for Parents

Every Thursday, March 4 through March 25 from 7:00pm–8:00pm the Archdiocese of Washington Office for Family Life in collaboration with the Christian Family Movement will be offering a four-week virtual workshop series for parents. Topics will include recognizing God in our families, using our time faithfully, caring for our relationships, faith-building customs and activities, and guiding our children to live for Christ. Materials for all sessions will be provided. The cost per family is \$10.00. To register go to: <https://workshopforparents.eventbrite.com> or call the Archdiocese of Washington Office for Family Life for more information at 301-853-4546 or email visiblesign@adw.org

WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO



Our Advent Virtual Tea on December 6 was a big success. Fifteen women joined us via zoom in prayer and conversation as we looked forward to the birth of the Christ Child. The music by Gretchen Ehrlichman was beautiful. One participant said, “It was a lovely way to spend the afternoon. Very uplifting.”

And an update on Gretchen: she'll enter the Dominican Monastery of Our Lady of Grace as soon as she raises more money to help pay off her student debt. Hear her story in this 3-min video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rNaJm_Q95-I&feature=youtu.be



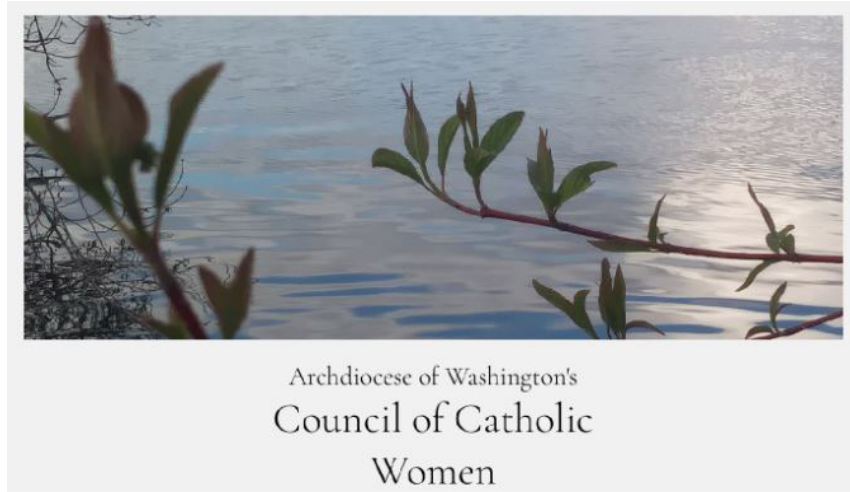
On December 18, ADW-CCW Webmaster Mary Leibolt delivered 59 hats and headbands, 40 pair of gloves, and 10 scarves to the Harriet Tubman Women's Center in the District. The mix of store-bought and handmade gifts made a lovely, colorful array for residents.

Many thanks to the Creative Knitting Guild in Kensington and the Yarn Ministry at St. Paul United Methodist in Kensington for pooling their donations with those from the Council of Catholic Women to support the women who live at this shelter. It is so hopeful to see the good hearts in the region working together to make the world a little bit nicer.



CCW-ADW WEBSITE

<https://www.councilofcatholicwomen-adw.com/>
gives you up-to-the-minute news on what's happening for women in the Archdiocese.



Our website features useful information such as:

- a calendar of events
- a page for parish website links
- a photo gallery of past events
- easy access to the CCW's newsletter The "Link"

For more information contact Mary Leibolt by email at mfleib@verizon.net

CCW NIGHTLY ROSARY FOR HEALING OF THE CHURCH



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. We are blessed to have so many faithful callers.

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

With the intercession of our Blessed Mother and by the power of the Holy Trinity, praying the Rosary can help restore the Church to a place of safety and moral guidance during this time of great need. "Prayer will help us move forward," says Sharon O'Brien, CCW's Immediate Past President. In our effort to connect Catholic Women, we want to thank **Lisa Williams**, Sodality Union President; **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 joining our Rosary Call.

All are welcome to participate.

Each night, individuals dial 605-468-8016, ID 357090#, read meditations on the Rosary's mysteries, and pray together.

–Carol Monaco, *Spirituality Commission Chair*

PONDER WITH MARY



Rejoice Always—How Can I Do That?

by Rose Folsom

“In Him we were destined by His will that we might exist for the praise of his glory.” So if you ever wake up and wonder why you were born, just refer to Ephesians 1:12 for the answer :) !

But it doesn't always feel that way, does it? At the very least, a grayness can creep into our existence. Weariness, and for many, physical, mental, or emotional pain. Loss. Disappointment. There are so many temptations in this fallen world, in our fallen hearts—temptations to not experience the joy of praising his glory.

So how do the saints do it?

2 Maccabees describes the martyrdom of Eleazar. “When he was about to die under the blows, he said: “The Lord in his holy knowledge knows that I am enduring terrible pain in my body from this scourging, and suffering it with joy in my soul because of my devotion to him.”

St. Faustina endured decades of being misunderstood, despised for her gifts and her weaknesses, and disappointed in her most earnest efforts. And yet she wrote this: “Act in such a way that all those who come in contact with you will go away joyful. Sow happiness about you because you have received much from God.”

What's in it for me?


St. Augustine says that “there is a joy that is not given to the ungodly, but to those who love You for Your own sake, whose joy You Yourself are. And this is the happy life, to rejoice to You, of You, for You; this it is, and there is no other.”

So, according to Augustine, what's in it for us to praise God's glory is joy. Even when we're in pain or feeling blah.

How do I rejoice always?

Paul gives us a handy tip to help us do that—a tool we can use to become joyful. He says, “Give thanks in all circumstances.” That I can do. I can't feel joyful in all circumstances, but I can give thanks. I have found that thanking God when I burn my finger cooking or can't find my keys helps put the pain in perspective and brings joy into the mix.

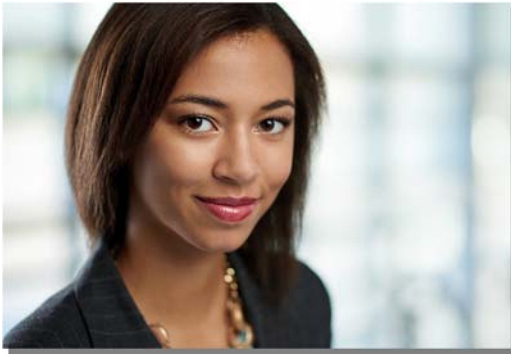
No one is more joyful than the Blessed Mother. “My spirit rejoices in God my savior,” she proclaims. Mary rejoices in her own salvation and that of her children.

The great things the Almighty has done for us, the promise of eternal joy that we have not seen or even imagined—and the confidence that God is true to his promises—this gives us the joy that the first witnesses to the Resurrection experienced 2000 years ago. Praising God's glory gives us a joy that can never run out. 

To register for Rose's FREE workshop, *3 Ways to Keep Your Patience*, click the link below:

<https://event.webinarjam.com/register/22/39085tr>

JOIN US TODAY!



Individual Membership

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Individual Membership is only \$25.00 per year.

Make check payable to ACCW.
Send to Kathy Foley, Treasurer
3306 Farthing Drive
Silver Spring, MD 20906

Membership Contact:

Carol-Ann Parker, President

904-699-6255

ArchdioceseCCW@gmail.com



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
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- ❖ Facebook group
- ❖ Access to NCCW program information and 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.