DCCW November 2026 President's Report

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As we welcome November, I reflect on how quickly the month of October has flown by. It seems like we were all just saying goodbyes in Cedar City after our last DCCW Board meeting in September. I cannot thank everyone enough for coming from near and far to share in a very fun, yet productive meeting. I also want to express my appreciation to our gracious hostesses from Christ the King Parish.

I hope October provided meaningful opportunities to celebrate Council Sunday month, and I look forward to hearing how your parishes recognized their Councils of Catholic Women. This observance allows us to celebrate who we are and what we do, express gratitude for the gifts of time, talent, and friendship, welcome new members, and raise awareness of DCCW, NCCW, and our shared mission.

Last week, our entire DCCW Executive Board and Father Ariel met with Vicar General John Evans for our Annual Diocesan Pastoral Meeting. We presented the budget approved at our September meeting and shared our goals for the coming year. Father Evans offered several interesting proposals, including exploring how our savings account might be used to support the growth of our scholarship fund. This proposal aligns with our goals of increasing the number of affiliates, individual NCCW memberships, and attendance at our annual convention. We also received a tour of the new Archive space at the diocesan office. Several of us have noted the importance of this resource for preserving DCCW records and supporting officer transitions as materials, which we affectionately refer to as "Bins of Joy, "are passed on to successors.

October also offered opportunities to honor many saints, including St. Thérèse of Lisieux, St. Francis of Assisi, St. Teresa of Ávila, St. John Paul II, St. Luke, Saints Simon and Jude, and St. Carlo Acutis. I would like to highlight St. Thérèse and St. Teresa as models of "Servant Leadership," our theme for the next two years under NCCW President Amy Kennedy's leadership. Through her "Little Way," St. Thérèse reminds us that Jesus does not ask for extraordinary deeds, but calls us to humility, surrender to God's will, and gratitude for our God-given gifts and abilities. St. Teresa of Ávila teaches us to approach God in prayer as a friend. In the Gospel a few weeks ago, Jesus reminded us that the greatest commandment is to love God with all our heart, soul, and mind. Prayer and attentive listening deepen our relationship with Him and guide our service.

In November, we turn our attention to Gratitude. The Catechism of the Catholic Church (799-801) says each of us are blessed with spiritual gifts and charisms. We are called to receive these diverse and complementary gifts with gratitude and use them to build the Church. Let us pray for the ability to discern our gifts, remain forever grateful for them, and put them into practice through our service in our Councils of Catholic Women.

