

I cannot believe that it is already FALL! This is my favorite time of the year. The weather is just right, the excitement of the holidays is just starting - and with that excitement comes much business! For all of us! Our communities are bustling, planning for holiday projects are underway and we can find ourselves in the race to the end of the year. But, I would like to invite and even challenge you to slow down, enjoy the fall colors and crisp mornings that warm up as the day emerges and really lean into what God is telling you during this time. Enjoy the activities you are involved in and look at them with joy and cherish those you spend those hours of preparation with.

Speaking of those you spend time with, get ready to show off your council! **October is Council Recognition Month.** During October, we are given the opportunity to celebrate the magnificent, holy, and sometimes wonderfully chaotic work of our councils. It is also a great time to educate the women of your parish on what your council is all about and maybe recruit some new members! I encourage every council to take a moment this October to celebrate. Host a special coffee donut social, hand out little tokens of appreciation, or simply pray together in a special way. We see you, we love you, and our churches would not be the same without your joyful service.

Now, I know we are just getting into sweater weather, but I need you to fast-forward your imagination to the beautiful blooms of spring! Mark your calendars right now for our **DCCW Convention April 16th - 18th, 2027.** It is going to be an unforgettable weekend of faith, fellowship, and renewal. While the official convention packets won't land in your inboxes until **the beginning of 2027**, it is never too early to be thinking about ads! As always we are **looking for convention ad contributions!** Whether you want to shout out your parish council, honor a spiritual director, or advertise a local business, securing an ad is a fantastic way to support our mission. Don't wait for the winter snows—start gathering those ad sponsorships today!

Thank you for your endless energy, your beautiful faith, and for making our diocese the most welcoming place to be. May your autumn be filled with abundant blessings, holy laughter, and just the right amount of apple cider.

In Christ's Joy,
Gabby Gauchay
DCCW 1st Vice President/President Elect