

DCCW President's Report—September 26, 2026

Susan Porter, St. John the Baptist Parish, Draper Utah

Welcome autumn and goodbye to a long, hot summer! September brought a full calendar of Catholic events, beginning with the annual Bishop's Dinner on September 4th. Last weekend provided an opportunity for Catholics from all over the state of Utah to gather at the Utah Catholic Conference on Saturday and to support our Carmelite nuns at their annual fair on Sunday. These events are a reminder that God calls us to community, and we are part of something greater than ourselves. For this reason, one of my summer highlights was attending the National Council of Catholic Women (NCCW) convention at the end of August.

I was blessed to join eighteen other women from Utah and Father Ariel in my hometown of Grand Rapids, Michigan, for prayer, learning, fellowship, and support of our own Amy Kennedy, NCCW President. Our delegation included two first time attendees, three affiliate CCW Presidents, two current and many past deanery presidents, members of our executive board, three of our four commission chairs, and **many** past DCCW Presidents. Past NCCW President Patricia Voorhes and San Francisco Province Director Jeanne Audiss were recognized on the national stage, and Marcie Downs and Bonnie Siegrist were installed as co-Province directors during the closing ceremonies. Congratulations to all and thank you for your service! I hope, with this variety of representations, we will all be able to share a bit of wisdom we gained with our diocesan council, deaneries, and affiliates.

Although many councils pause during the summer, preparations for the year continued. Our DCCW Finance Committee met in July to prepare the proposed budget we will be presenting today. Our Bylaws and Standing Rules committee has met twice on Zoom and plans to present revisions in November. Our Convention Committee began our monthly planning meetings on September 3rd, and many affiliates have welcomed members back for the year. October is designated as Council Sunday month-an opportunity to showcase your Council of Catholic Women in your parishes. We have such a variety of marketing materials and technology available at our fingertips to publicize our mission of uniting Catholic women in the state of Utah in areas of spirituality, service and leadership. Affiliates might host membership teas, officer installations at Mass, mini-retreats, or special rosaries. Please publicize your event and consider inviting Intermountain Catholic Newspaper editor Marie Mischel at marie.mischel@dioslc.org to provide coverage.

