



Toledo Diocesan Council of Catholic Women

Council Contact



Diocese of Toledo

(419) 244- 6711 or 800-926-8277 (outside Toledo, Ohio only) FAX: (419) 244-4791

Spring 2007

Kenneth Brown the father of our moderator, Rev. James Brown, died on the 15th of March, 2007, at the age of 93. His funeral liturgy was at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church on Oswald Street in Toledo on Monday, March 19th.

Father's mother has just suffered a severe stroke and is in a Hospice Care Center. His parents had been married 64 years.

Please keep Father and his family in your prayers.

A Note from Our President

My Dear Friends,

As we come into the Lenten season we can prepare ourselves for Christ's Resurrection and look forward to spring and new life. There are some events coming that your group will want to attend and participate.

Our Volunteer Luncheon is April 28, 2007, at Crystal Arbors in Fremont. Please be thinking about whom you want to nominate for the award.

May 9, 2007, is the Retreat in Carey and Sister Gemma Fenbert, OSF, will be the Retreat Leader. It will be a wonderful day and Carey is lovely.

We have two Leadership Enrichment Days planned for you. On May 23, 2007, we will be at St. Rose in Perrysburg at 7:00 p.m. and then June 4, 2007, Findlay will be the place. It will be at the Knights of Columbus Hall with two sessions: 2:00 - 3:30 or 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

The Diocesan Pre-Convention and Convention will be September 11-12, 2007, at Sauder Village in Archbold.

Ohio is very fortunate this year to host the National Convention September 20-23, 2007. This is a chance for you to attend the Convention since it will be in Columbus.

Our diocese is in charge of the Ohio Province Sales Table. This helps to defray some of our costs for hosting. We sell crafts, homemade goodies, wines from Ohio or other items. If any of you would choose to donate something for the table, we would be very pleased to accept it. Just contact me.

We are working on getting the deaneries set up as they should be with the new changes. We would love to have some ladies volunteer to be deanery representatives.

God's blessings and have a blessed Easter.
Jan Hazen



Respect Life

In the year of the 10th anniversary of the great encyclical *Evangelium Vitae, the Gospel of Life*, its author, John Paul II, died. While no one, not even a pope, could alter the contents of the Gospel of Life, it can be said with all sincerity that this particular pope was capable of infusing this gospel with particular meaning, to the last moment of his papacy.

In the days surrounding the death of John Paul II, each of us saw the power of this Gospel with its good news. If we, like Christ, lay down our lives in service to others, there will burst forth love, joy and real freedom. A life lived this way—as gift—opens up as nothing else the full meaning of human life. People the world over could sense this, even if they could not articulate what it was that drew them to Rome three million strong—or to their television sets at ridiculous hours of the early morning and late evening, to be with John Paul II as he died.

We should reflect on the power of a document that has inspired not only the theologians and philosophers, but also journalists, politicians, and others to begin facing more honestly the “culture of death” and the possibilities of “culture of life”.

The death of Pope John Paul II, or rather the celebration of his life we have now witnessed, is a call to continued conversion and action for the pro-life cause. We came to understand, perhaps as never before, how to explain what we are fighting for.

Evangelium Vitae has made philosophers, theologians, and aspiring saints out of ordinary citizens who struggle against the killing of vulnerable human beings. Its effects on us, and on our culture, will be felt for generations.

Taken from “The Gospel of Life and Its Great Exemplar” by Helen M. Alvare, Esq., consultant to the USCCB Committee for Pro-Life Activities.

In life,
Betty Beham, Pro Life Chair

International Concerns

With Easter just under one month away, the promise of New Life, it’s an appropriate time to review the “Water for Life” video. This is the 2006 updated version and runs eighteen minutes just enough time for a program for your Rosary Altar group and a good educational tool.

The Water for Life program began in 1978 for the NCAA in partnership with Catholic Relief Services. Its purpose is to make water safe, clean and easily accessible. The collection, storage, and treatment of water is determined by the area served. Other components include training technicians to maintain pumps and education on health and hygiene.

In the spirit of our Lord who offered himself as living water, consider viewing this and using the accompanying Discussion Guide for your group (call the office to access the video).

Have you seen RED campaign ads for GAP or Motorola? This project was the brainchild of Bobby Shriver and BONO. Its purpose is to donate a portion of sales of select items to supply HIV medication to people in Africa afflicted by this disease. Thank you for all your donations to International Concerns.

God bless you,
Carol Olshefski

**JESUS CHRIST SAVED US
THROUGH THE BATH OF REBIRTH.**

Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7



Legislation

It is important that we keep in contact with our representatives and legislators. They pay more attention to a hand-written note than they do e-mails and petitions sent by e-mail.

The bill to allow embryonic stem cell research is at the state house. They still have not proven that it provides help.

Always keep in prayer that we need to respect life in all stages.

As we watch the political candidates come forth, please note whether they are for or against abortion. As Catholics we need to pay attention to this as a factor in our choice.

Girls Religious Awards

On January 10, 2007, four new specialists were trained at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Findlay

1. Mary Henning, Sandusky
2. Ruth Lame, Maumee
3. Betty Barwig, Findlay
4. Raye Williamson, Grove City

Opening prayer service was led by Lorraine Henry. The Award training was given by Peg Logsdon, Specialist.

The final pilgrimage of this year will be at Holy Relic Shrine in Maria Stein on May 12, 2007, with Sister Barbara Hoying as Director for the day. The day begins with registration at 10:30 a.m. The theme for the day will be "World Peace".

The Girls Religious Award Committee and T.D.C.C.W. will honor the girls who have completed one of the four programs and earned their medal at the Award Ceremony at Holy Rosary Cathedral on June 10, 2007, at 2 p.m.

The ceremony will include Blessing of Medal, Sermon, Rosary and Benediction. Reverend James Brown T.D.C.C.W. Moderator will be assisted by the Award Committee.

DIOCESAN RELIGIOUS AWARDS CEREMONY Sunday, June 10, 2007

Our Lady, Queen of the
Most Holy Rosary Cathedral
2535 Collingwood Boulevard
Toledo, Ohio

The Girls' Religious Awards Committee and the Diocese of Toledo will honor the girls who have earned medals for completing any of the following: Family of God; I Live My Faith; Mary, the First Disciple; and Spirit Alive programs for 2006-2007. The awards will be presented at Rosary Cathedral on June 10, 2007, with a special ceremony, Blessing of Medals, Sermon, Rosary and Benediction.

These children have worked hard and have spent much time developing their faith and leadership skills. They are the Church of tomorrow and we want to bring them together to congratulate them. We encourage families to join their children in this celebration.

Please bring your organizational flag from Camp Fire Boys and Girls, Girl Scouts, or make one to indicate your parish and hometown. Meet on the steps of the Cathedral at 1:30 p.m. to line up for the processional. Services begin at 2:00 p.m.

Please send award applications and medal requests along with a check to cover the costs of the medals to: Toledo Diocesan Council of Catholic Women, P.O. Box 098, Toledo, OH 43697, by May 15, 2007.

Cost of Medals

Family of God	\$ 4.50
I Live My Faith	\$ 4.50
Mary, the First Disciple	\$ 6.50
Spirit Alive	\$10.00

If you have any questions, please call Peg Logsdon at 419-422-8002.

Church Commission

From the NCCW Church Commission Chair

“Our role in the Church Commission is to help women keep the focus on our call to holiness. Ultimately we are called to pray without ceasing to be holy. We are called to be Mary in a Martha world.

The highest form of prayer is the liturgy. In liturgical prayer we are united to other believers in obedience to Jesus who said, “Where two or three are gathered there am I in their midst” (Mt. 18-20). The liturgy of the hours continues the prayer of Jesus and has its purpose, the sanctification of the day the hours and activities of our lives. It extends the Eucharist throughout the day.

Our annual Day of Renewal at Our Lady of Consolation in Carey is Wednesday, May 9. Sister Gemma Fenbert, OSF of Tiffin will be the director for the day. The theme of the day is “Women at the Well Thirsting for Holiness”.

By the time you receive this newsletter Lent will be half over. Hopefully you will have found time to meditate on the Passion and Death of Our Lord Jesus. We fast as a means of conversion of turning away from the desires of this world and turning toward God. Fasting is not the same as dieting. Both require discipline. Dieting focuses on ourselves while fasting focuses on our union with God, the difference being our intention.

May you all have a Glorious Easter celebrating the Risen Christ with your families. We are hearing more about Mercy Sunday celebrating the fullness of Christ’s Resurrection. The promises and desires that are available to us on Divine Mercy Sunday include complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. We need to learn more about the Divine Mercy of our God.

Dorothy Blum
Church Commissioner



Friendly Visitor

Spring is around the corner, make use of the nice weather by visiting the Shut-In’s in the Rest Home or in their own home. Let’s bring the sunshine in. These people really need you.

With so much tragedy happening, these shut-ins have a lot of time to dwell on. There are sad accidents; maybe it brings back memories that might have happened in their life and family, so please take time to bring some sunshine into their life.

Take the time to send them a card. They have a lot of time to read that card over and over. Give them a phone call; it sure would help make their day go by faster.

I do know many of the parishes send out a lot of cards, so they tell me.

I have a lady that makes lots of rosaries. She gives them to me to give away. Is there any place that you know that would like rosaries?

Take that smile with you when visiting the shut in’s.

God bless you for all you do!

Diocesan Friendly Visitor
Gertrude Knueven



Rural Life



It will not be long until the farmers will be tilling the soil and planting. There are so many issues that the farmer of today has to take into consideration. The rules and regulations have changed over the years.

Today we have concerns over corn being turned into ethanol. Is this a good thing? Will it help the farmer? Will there be enough food for the hungry? This is all worth thinking about.

The corn sold to ethanol plants must be dry enough to sell there. Most small farmers do not have dryers so they will have to sell to the local elevator. Will the small elevator stay in business? Already we now that much of our farmland was put in the soil bank. This is being taken out and will be planted to corn or beans. Then will we have a surplus of grain? Corn prices have gone up in price and so has food. It costs the farmer more to feed the livestock.

We know that ADM (Arthur Daniel Midland) owns the most ethanol plants. This is sad because they are a big corporation. They are part of the people who will one day control the food market.

Back in December, Wal-Mart had a contest in which the Putnam County Schools were challenged to see which school would be able to collect the most plastic bags. All together they collected a ton of plastic. Leipsic St. Mary's was the winner.

Lima City Schools collected paper. This is the one thing that has such a big effect on the landfills.

The Rural Life will take part in the Catholic Conference of Ohio Advocacy Day—April 25, 2007 and the Global Climate Change Conference April 14.

Rural Life Day was March 18 at the new St. Isidore Parish. Mass was at 4:00, followed with a potluck.

The Bishop will visit a hog operation on September 11, 2007.

Kate Wischmeyer Rural Life Chairman

Upcoming Events 2007

April 28 Volunteer Luncheon
Crystal Arbors, Fremont

May 9 Annual Retreat
Shrine, Carey

May 12 Maria Stein Pilgrimage
Shrine of the Holy Relics
Maria Stein, Ohio

May 23 Leadership Enrichment Day
St. Rose Church, Perrysburg

June 4 Leadership Enrichment Day
Knights of Columbus Hall, Findlay

June 10 Girls Religious Awards Ceremony

September 11-12 Pre-Convention and Convention
Sauder Village, Archbold

September 20-23 National Convention
Columbus, Ohio



Council Contact

Spring 2007

Toledo Diocesan Council of Catholic Women
Secretariat for Pastoral Leadership
Diocese of Toledo
P.O. Box 985
Toledo, OH 43697-0985