DCCW Spirituality & Legislative Commission Chair

SPIRITUALITY & LEGISLATION COMMISSION CHAIR

The Spirituality Commission aims to create a community that is educated and dynamic. Catholic women called to discipleship and holiness respond with personal witness and service to the Church and the world. The commission work reinforces faith and assists in meaningful ecumenical dialogue.

It serves as a conduit for helping councils focus on the spiritual aspects of our faith and how we can act on our convictions in the public sphere through daily Mass attendance and praying of the Liturgy of the Hours, the official prayer of the Church that unifies us with women and men throughout the world in giving glory to God; promotion of Eucharistic Adoration, the personal connection we have with our Savior here on earth; praying other favorite devotionals which keep us connected to God; and providing support materials.

The Commission also provides information and materials from the United States bishops on Catholic social justice principles and issues that form legislative advocacy.

This Commission provides information on both state and federal legislation that requires a response from the Catholic Community. (USCCB advocacy) The Legislative Subcommittee of the Spiritual Commission works to inform our members of pending legislation and legislative issues related to the dignity of human life, the common good, care of the environment, human rights, and other matters related to the moral teaching of the Catholic Church.

Spirituality Commission Objectives:

- Opening and closing prayers for all meetings and CCW events
- Prayer services
- Days of reflection
- Living Rosaries
- Liturgy of the Hours
- Encourage members to participate in regional or diocesan retreats and days of reflection.
- Visit the USCCB website for updates on social justice issues that are central to our Catholic faith.
- Encourage members to attend legislative days and sign up for alerts from their state's Catholic conferences.
- Read Catholic Woman, NCCW Connect, Action Alerts, and Bulletin Board for information on current issues and programs.
- Utilize and promote the use of Spirituality Resources available from NCCW:
- A Spirituality Monograph: Reading Scripture, Church Documents
- Enhancing Our Spirituality: A collection of prayers and readings for personal or group reflection
- Our Lady of Good Counsel Prayer Card
- Prayer Card for the Membership of the National Council of Catholic Women

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- Spirituality Summary (NCCW Guidance and Resource Manual p.89-90)
- Opening/Closing prayers at meetings
- Liturgy of the Hours
- Study of Theology of the Body
- Memorial Mass
- Legislative updates
- Living Rosaries

RESOURCE DOCUMENTS:

- SPIRITUAL ADOPTION OF UNBORN HUMAN LIFE
- MARY'S MANTLE: A PRAYER MINISTRY FOR BRIDES AND GROOMS
- <u>RESPITE BROCHURE</u>
- <u>CHILDREN OF MARY</u>

10 Things that the Spirituality Commission Can Do:

- 1. Set goals for the two years long and short.
- 2. A sponsored program from NCCW on inter-religious dialogue that could be carried out on a parish level.
- 3. Offer education on social justice teaching of the Church and how to correlate it with everyday life
- 4. Share anything you find on the spirituality of women with your councils.
- 5. Encourage your board to have a small retreat (scheduled before fall activities begin).
- 6. Be knowledgeable about diocesan vocation programs and offer support whenever possible.
- 7. Develop an article on a pro-life issue, building on the belief that all life is precious from conception to natural death.
- Secure a copy of the USCCBN Publications Catalogue. Call 1-800-235-8722 or visit the internet at <u>www.usccb.org</u>.
- 9. PRAY! PRAY! PRAY!