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Assumption—Aug. 15



DIOCESE OF LINCOLN

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Message from The Most Reverend James D. Conley, Bishop of Lincoln

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Dear Members of the Lincoln Diocesan Council of Catholic Women,

Greetings in the Lord! As we prepare for the Year of Mercy, which is to be opened on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, December 8, 2015, and closed on the Solemnity of Christ the King, November 20, 2016, it is fitting to join with Pope Francis in contemplating Mary as Mother of Mercy. Your own vocations as mothers—both physical and spiritual—is better understood when gazing on Mary, Mother of Mercy. Her motherly love, and your embrace of her example, helps the Church “rediscover the joy of God’s tenderness.” (*Misericordiae Vultus*, 24)

Motherhood bears fruit through both prayer and sacrifice. As Mary, “treasured divine mercy in her heart,” so also your heartfelt prayers for others are a “source of comfort and strength.” (*MV* 24) This witness of prayerful trust in God’s mercy is a tremendous gift offered for the salvation of souls.

Mary stood at the foot of the cross. You, too, stand with her in your daily sacrifices and words of forgiveness. These acts of mercy “attest that the mercy of the Son of God knows no bounds.” (*MV* 24)

My prayer for you, the members of the LDCCW, is that this coming Year of Mercy may be a time in which your own motherly hearts may be ever more open to the loving gaze of the Father of Mercy. May your homes truly be “other Nazareths” so that--with Jesus, Mary, and Joseph--you may continue to bear witness to the joy of knowing the eternal love of the Father.

With my blessing and every good wish for you and your families, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

The Most Rev. James D. Conley, Bishop of Lincoln



Fr. Thomas Lux—Spiritual Advisor
Cell 308.991.4991 fr.thomas-lux@cdolinc.net

Dear NewsNotes Readers

About one third of the priests of the diocese were on the second priests' retreat of 2015. The theme was "The Second Greatest Story Ever Told". The retreat master was Fr. Michael Gaitley, MIC. He was ordained a priest five years ago. I am glad I was on that retreat.

I first heard of Fr. Gaitley through his book "Thirty-three Days to Morning Glory" which I recently used with some parishioners to prepare for consecration to the Blessed Virgin Mary. The style of his presentation is very user friendly. He has written a number of books and they have proven quite popular.

The case was made very convincingly that we are in a time unlike any other in history. The graces of Jesus' mercy are being made abundantly available to everyone who will turn to Him for Mercy. We were told it is absolutely necessary that we try to follow Jesus' Way but that when we fall God wants to give us his Mercy. The more broken, weak and sinful we are the more He wants to give us His Mercy.

The Greatest Story Ever Told is that of the Sacred Scriptures about God's pursuit of humanity down through the ages climaxing with the sending of his only begotten Son who lived among us as one of us and taught us and suffered and died for us and rose again. The Second Greatest Story is about the Love of God made available to us now in the Time of Mercy.

Fr. Gaitley showed the basis of this reality in the Scriptures, the history of the devotion to the Heart of God and the Sacred Heart of Jesus revealed in the 1600's to St. Margaret Mary in France and His desire for us to return love to His Love, the way God has used Poland more than once in truly remarkable times to save Christianity in Europe, the insights of St. Therese of Lisieux and her "Little Way" and the possibility of consoling the Heart of Jesus, St. Maximilian Kolbe in preparing Poland and Nagasaki for World War II, St. Faustina who received the Divine Mercy revelations, Blessed Mother Theresa of

Calcutta's dryness in her serving the Lord, and Saint Pope John Paul II who discerned that God gave him a special mission to proclaim the Divine Mercy message.

We were given the books "33 Days...", "Consoling the Heart of Jesus", "The One Thing is Three", and "The Second Greatest Story Ever Told". They are written in a very readable manner and tell of the beautiful realities of this Time of Mercy. They are available at Catholic book stores and at www.thedivinemercy.org. There is a CD of a one hour talk by Fr. Gaitley available from Lighthouse Catholic Media entitled "The Second Greatest Story Ever Told". There is a downloadable MP3 of the talk also which you can find by searching the internet.

Jesus asked St. Faustina to have an image painted. The artist's results were disappointing to her. She wrote in her diary (paragraph 313):

Once when I was at that painter's, [Eugene Kazimirowski in Vilnius] who was painting this image, and saw that it is not as beautiful as Jesus is, I became very sad, but I hid that deep in my heart. When we left the painter, Mother Superior remained in the city to settle various matters, but I returned



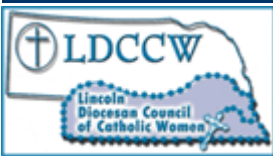
home by myself, immediately I made my way to the chapel and I had a good cry. I said to the Lord: 'Who will paint You as beautiful as You are?' All of a sudden I heard the words: 'not in the beauty of the color, nor of the brush is the greatness of this image, but in my grace.'" ...

The Vilnius image has been cleaned and restored recently. It is available in a high quality print on canvas wrapped around a gallery frame at <http://www.divinemercyart.org/>.

Jesus instructed that the image should be signed at the bottom "Jesus, I trust in You". Let us do so.

Now is the Time of Mercy!

May God bless all of us.



Father Thomas McGuire Assistant Spiritual Advisor
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FOUNDATION OF EVANGELIZATION: INTERIOR LIFE

from St. John Paul II and Pope Francis

There is a painting by Georges La Tour called “St. Joseph the Carpenter” which shows Jesus sitting on a block of wood holding a candle and talking to St. Joseph, his ‘father’, while Joseph is doing carpentry work. Jesus looks to be around 8 years old. He is so wrapped up in what he is telling his ‘earthly father’ that he is not looking at him (like kids sometimes do). Joseph *seems* almost to have stopped his work, looking intently into the face of Jesus, whom he is getting to know and love maybe better than anyone except the Blessed Virgin. Whether he intended to or not, the artist is showing some of the interior life of St. Joseph during the hidden years of Jesus.

In his brief Apostolic Exhortation, *Guardian of the Redeemer*, Pope John Paul II writes, “Joseph was in daily contact with the mystery ‘hidden from ages past,’ and which ‘dwelt’ under his roof.” To Joseph, Jesus was his son, so close they were. The Holy Father goes on, “The total sacrifice, whereby Joseph surrendered his whole existence to the demands of the Messiah’s coming into his home, becomes understandable only in the light of his profound *interior life* (my emphasis). It was from this interior life that ‘very singular commands and consolations came, bringing him also the logic and strength that belong to simple and clear souls, and giving him the power of making great decisions – such as the decision to put his liberty immediately at the disposition of the divine designs, to make over to them also his legitimate human calling, his conjugal happiness, to accept the conditions, the responsibility and the burden of a family, but, through an incomparable virginal love, to renounce that natural conjugal love that is the foundation and nourishment of the family’,” (Paul VI, Discourse (March 19, 1969): *Insegnamenti*, VII (1969), p. 1267.

In *The Joy of the Gospel*, Pope Francis begins with the interior life as he writes encouraging the faithful to embark upon a new chapter of evangelization. He says, “Whenever our interior life becomes caught up in its own interests and concerns, there is no longer room for others, no place for the poor. God’s voice is no longer heard; the quiet joy of his love is no longer felt, and the desire to do good fades... This is no way to live a dignified and fulfilled life; it is not God’s will for us, nor is it the life in the Spirit which has its source in the heart of the risen Christ.”

“I invite all Christians, everywhere, at this very moment, to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ, or at least an openness to letting him encounter them; I ask all of you to do this unfailingly each day. No one should think that this invitation is not meant for him or her, since ‘no one is excluded from the joy brought by the Lord’,” (Paul VI, Apostolic Exhortation *Gaudete in Domino* (May 9, 1975), 22.



Pope Jorge Mario Bergoglio (Pope Francis I): The first Latin American Pope

Greetings from Ann Jansky, LDCCW President!

168 County Road I, Friend, NE 68359 402-826-0219 cell arjansky@gmail.com



The end of my term as LDCCW President is less than 10 months away, so it is time to start making plans for the April 2016 Banquet and Convention. The items listed below require the attention of deanery presidents, with the support of all parishes. Each deanery is asked to please

- Pay \$25.00 toward centerpieces; checks payable to LDCCW and sent to Terry Kerr, LDCCW Treasurer
- Purchase all furnishings for one apartment at St. Gianna Women's Homes-to be displayed at Convention
- Supply a basket with a theme (such as chocolate) for the Basket Raffle (this is in place of a silent auction)
- Sell raffle tickets within your deanery beginning in August 2015 when they become available. The raffle items are pictured on page 11. You need not be present to win.
- Collect money from parishes for the President's Project (St. Gianna's). One check will be given from your deanery to Fr. Kubat or another representative of St. Gianna's at the Convention.
- Continue to donate to the Bishop's Project (shelter for the archery range at Camp Kateri); money will be given to Bishop Conley at the pre-convention Banquet. Send checks to Terry Kerr, LDCCW Treasurer

EWTN NEWS: US bishops, on June 26, encouraged Catholics to maintain witness to the truth of marriage despite the Supreme Court of the United States recognizing a legal right to same-sex marriage. "Regardless of what a narrow majority of the Supreme Court declare at this moment in history, the nature of the human person and marriage remains unchanged and unchangeable," said Archbishop Joseph Kurtz of Louisville, president of the U.S. bishops conference. "Jesus Christ, with great love, taught unambiguously that from the beginning marriage is the lifelong union of one man and one woman." "As Catholic bishops, we follow our Lord and will continue to teach and to act according to this truth."

National Council of Catholic Women (NCCW) Province Director—Barb Vaughn

- ⇒ The Omaha Province meeting, which is a gathering for ladies from all three dioceses, will be held on Monday, July 20, at Blessed Sacrament Parish Hall, 518 W. State St., Grand Island. Registration begins at 8:15 AM. The day will begin at 9:00 with a Living Rosary and also includes a speaker, Mass, a catered lunch and a business meeting, all for just \$12. If you've never been to a Province Meeting before, this is a wonderful opportunity. Everyone is welcome!
- ⇒ I recently attended the June NCCW Board of Directors meeting in Washington, DC where 28 women came together to conduct the business of our national council. Each Province Director had a chance to share ideas about happenings in her province. Nebraska has a reputation for having great, effective fundraising ideas, and several ideas have been used by other provinces.
- ⇒ NCCW has several excellent resources available to use in your parishes, including one on evangelization and one on domestic violence. Check the website, nccw.org, for more information.
- ⇒ Much planning has gone into the National Convention which will be held September 9-12 in Orlando, FL. I hope many of you will be able to attend. The request to hold the National Convention in Omaha in 2017 has been rejected due to not having enough meeting rooms in any one hotel to host a group of our size. Dallas, Texas, is still under consideration for the 2017 NCCW Convention. ~Barb~

Wishing each of you a fun-and-faith-filled summer!

Endow is coming to Western Nebraska!***by Terri Sullivan, LDCCW President-Elect***

As many of you are aware, Bishop Conley has strongly supported the LDCCW's goal to bring Endow (Educating on the Nature and Dignity of Women) to each parish of the Lincoln Diocese. Endow is a women's study group which takes place over the course of 8-12 weeks (with no homework) where the women read together, unpack the content of the material, discuss, share, and pray. The mission of Endow is captured perfectly in their early slogan: *Love the learning, Build the friendships, Live the faith.*

Eileen Love, senior manager and facilitator trainer for Endow, conducted a training workshop in Hastings in July 2014 and is now coming to western Nebraska to help others learn about Endow. Her first stop will be in North Platte at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish Hall on Friday, July 17, at 7:00 p.m. This will be a Ladies Night Out where you will learn "What is great about being a Catholic woman today". There will be no charge for this informational event.

Then on Saturday, July 18, from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at St. Patrick's Parish Hall in McCook, there will be a Facilitator Training workshop for those who wish to lead their own small groups. The cost for this event is \$25.00 and you **are encouraged to pre-register** online at <https://store.endowonline.org/eileen-love-p2352.aspx> to attend Saturday's workshop in order to have the materials needed for this training. Eileen will then travel to Grand Island on Sunday, July 19, where you are invited to "Come see what Endow can do for you!" as Eileen presents another information night at Blessed Sacrament beginning at 6:00 p.m. Again, there will be no charge for this evening event.

The LDCCW hopes that, by attending any or all of these events, you will share what St. Pope John Paul II called the gift of the "feminine genius" in your own parishes.

The weekend of July 17-19 promises to be a special time for women to learn more about Endow. You are strongly encouraged to take advantage of these three exciting events being hosted by the LDCCW. For more information on any of these events, please contact LDCCW representatives Terri Sullivan at (308) 650-1850 or wfsshj@wirelessnet.net or Janice Goracke at (402) 423-3001 or vgoracke@aol.com. You can read more on the history of Endow in the June 26 edition of the Southern Nebraska Register.

"Faith Matters"***by David City Deanery President—Maru Whitmore***

Holiness is the objective of our lives. St. Jose Maria Escrivá and the Little Flower are some of my favorite saints. Their teaching is that in whatever vocation we have and in the different stages of our life we will be doing God's work if we are willing instruments of His Plan. Every step may not be perfect but those imperfect steps will also teach us what not to do. Staying close to our confessor and spiritual guidance will help us discern.

Our Trust in The Lord should always be present. Our Catholic Faith provides us many tools to achieve this with the Grace of God. The ENDOW program and in particular the "Letter of Pope John Paul II to women" has opened my eyes to the appreciation of being a woman and to embrace every aspect of my being God has given me. This understanding in the mind and heart has brought a new awareness, appreciation and true enjoyment of my vocation and my life, in addition to Adoration before the blessed sacrament to refuel my soul with the Lord.

I was probably 17 in my first silent retreat; during Eucharistic Adoration is where I became aware of the tremendous love God has for us, of the amazing channel of communication we have with our Lord. It is where Heaven and Earth meet. The reality of the blessings that come not only to individuals but also as a community is very evident when Eucharistic Adoration is what focuses our lives and our Parish community. Our free time with The Lord is where we "swim in eternity". I have always loved sharing my Holy hour with my children. A few years ago they would dance for Jesus, tell Him stories, bring him drawings. I loved seeing their friendship grow as did mine. This tremendous love filling our hearts and lives sustains our family and guides us back to Him.

The funniest time of Eucharistic Adoration was when I was in Labor with my first child and my mother was here to help me. We headed down to church for a while for a Holy hour on our way to the Hospital. I don't remember how long we were there but our Priest at the time was very wary of this decision. When he saw us in church and came to greet us, he probably was thinking I could deliver at any minute and that seemed to alarm him a bit. (My labor process has always been very slow!) I had to "load up" on the Lord's peace before heading to the Hospital.

I was very touched by this part of the meditation for daily mass on June 16th in my "Magnificat": "The awareness of being chosen to participate in the building of the kingdom of God unleashes a new wave into our hearts which -through that narrow path that is called cross, sacrifice- makes loving feelings become genuine mutual charity. To live this is to work together for peace and therefore for conscientiousness for the support of life, for the perception of life as full of meaning, as we await the fulfillment of its final meaning." Monsignor Luigi Giussani

We are all part of Salvation History; we have to be willing instruments to work hand in hand as "The Bride of Christ" we all are part of. Stay close to Jesus every day; make Him the center in your own vocation and all things your family does.

Endow in the Lincoln Diocese

Endow (Educating on the Nature and Dignity of Women) is an educational apostolate created for the “woman in the pew.” The

Endow ministry brings women of all ages together for prayer, study, and friendship. Grab your sister, mother, or another friend and plan to join us for one (or more!) of these great events. Learn what Endow can offer you!

Ladies Night Out

What is great about being a Catholic woman today?

Friday, July 17th
7:00 p.m.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
3301 Echo Dr.
North Platte, NE
Parish Hall
No Charge

Facilitator Training

Learn how to lead your own small group.

Saturday, July 18, 9 a.m.—3p.m.

St. Patrick's Parish Hall
409 East F Street, McCook, NE

You must pre-register at
<https://store.endowonline.org/eileen-love-p2352.aspx>
\$25

Main

Information Night

Come see what Endow can do for you!

Sunday, July 19th
6:00 p.m.

Blessed Sacrament Parish Hall
518 W. State St
Grand Island, NE
No Charge



~ Endow is endorsed by Bishop James D. Conley

and many women in the Lincoln Diocese are already participating! ~

(720) 382-7128 or www.endowgroups.org

Leadership Chairman-Judy Weston ldccwleadership@gmail.com 402-984-5856

Legislative Chair-Elaine Swanson wswanson@atcjet.net 308-962-7247

As many of you know I work at a local community college providing programming to youths and adults. We recently completed a camp for the youth on the emergency medical careers. We implemented squad leaders to help encourage leadership but one individual was really struggling being a leader. We sat down and had discussed that maybe some of the trouble they were having was the lack of delegation on their part. Once we came to a solution, I realized our PCCW's and DCCW's struggle with the same problem of delegation. We fall into the "I created this and look what a great job I've done" mentality, but remember Philippians 2:3 'Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves.' Think about it and apply when creating leaders of your council.

Here are a few things to discuss when working with your council and developing an effect leader.

- Consider when delegating a task to a person on the council.
- Spell out in writing the task and degree of responsibility that goes with the task. Written job descriptions are a MUST! (No one want to be blind sided)
- Allow ample training and turn over time. Help create a timeline for projects.
- Point out resources to help with the job. Is there someone who is an authority on the task at hand? Can they help mentor?
- Goal setting and standards of performance are necessary. Talk about expectations. Be an active listener.
- Explain the check points and controls that will be exercised over her performance.
- Affirm the person as an individual and let them know you support them and their efforts.
- Remember, giving a shout out as to the good work they are doing isn't going to fill their head to the point they will explode, it will only encourage them to do more for the council.

Don't forget to like us on Facebook! You can find us at www.facebook.com/LDCCW

ROSTER UPDATE—PLEASE! Check out the live link to your deanery's roster. Many of the women have done a wonderful job collecting the names, addresses and phone numbers of the officers of the deaneries and councils. There are a few deaneries who need more information on the spreadsheet. If you are unsure as to how to fill out the spreadsheet please email me your contact info and I will get in touch with you and walk you through it. https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1d8jd3M03xT5OVuusLskgwVujx6JAr2AdAuZ2VmX_1-l/edit?usp=sharing

NCCW Past President, Patty Johnson, Receives Papal Honor

Washington, D.C. May 6, 2015 – The Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice, the highest honor a pope can bestow on Church laity for those who distinguish themselves in service, was awarded to National Council of Catholic Women (NCCW) immediate [Past](#) President Patty Johnson. Congratulations, Patty!



PROFILE SHEET OF LDCCW MEMBER

This profile sheet will be kept on file as a resource for the LDCCW.

Date: _____ Deanery Council: _____ Parish: _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Cell Phone _____

City _____ E-mail _____

Offices and Chairmanships

Parish Organization

<input type="checkbox"/> President	<input type="checkbox"/> Vice-President	<input type="checkbox"/> Secretary	<input type="checkbox"/> Treasurer
<input type="checkbox"/> President	<input type="checkbox"/> Vice-President	<input type="checkbox"/> Secretary	<input type="checkbox"/> Treasurer
<input type="checkbox"/> President	<input type="checkbox"/> Vice-President	<input type="checkbox"/> Secretary	<input type="checkbox"/> Treasurer

Deanery

☐ President ☐ Vice-President ☐ Secretary ☐ Treasurer

Deanery Commissions _____

LDCCW

☐ President ☐ Vice-President ☐ Secretary ☐ Treasurer

Diocesan Commissions _____

Community Involvement

Would you be willing to serve as an elected LDCW officer _____

<input type="checkbox"/> President	<input type="checkbox"/> President-Elec	<input type="checkbox"/> Vice President (3)	<input type="checkbox"/> Recording Secretary
<input type="checkbox"/> Financial Secretar	<input type="checkbox"/> Treasurer	<input type="checkbox"/> Auditor	

Other talents/interests you would be willing to share with the LDCCW _____

(see back for short description of duties)

Thank you for completing this profile sheet. God Bless you for your contributions and continuing answer to His call through your work in your Parish, Deanery and LDCCW.

Please return form to: Kathy Rowell

P.O. Box 73

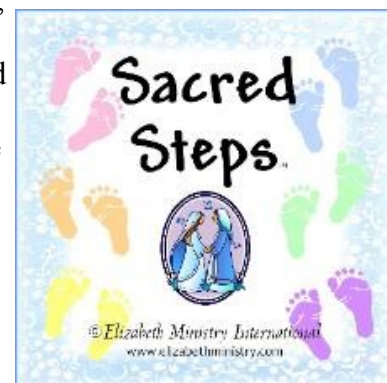
Loomis, NE 68958

krowell@atcjet.net

Spirituality Commission – Ellen Jirovsky 402-643-4802, cell 402-705-2612
ej53546@windstream.net

Divine Mercy Chmn.: Jeanette Stengel jstengel5@gmail.com 402-759-4811; Ash Wednesday Day of Recollection: (Hastings) Charleen Gleason & Eleanor Clark cgleason@charter.net 402-462-6897 or grmaellie@hotmail.com 402-762-3721 and (Waverly) Caroline Helget chelget@gmail.com 402-419-0460; Council Women of the Eucharist: Kathy Broz 308-737-1052 kc.broz@gmail.com

The subject of most concern for the Spirituality Commission at this time is the future of the **Parent Educator packets**. Definition: At the present time, these are envelopes given to parents of the first child Baptized in each family, which consists of a Lighthouse Media CD or Spanish booklet, a holy card signed by the Bishop, and a Holy Family medal blessed by the Bishop. The second, third, etc., baby Baptized receives only the holy card and the blessed medal. Committee members met with Fr. Sean Kilcawley, Director of the Diocesan Family Life and Evangelization Office, in May, and discussed ways in which the Diocesan office and the LDCCW can work together to best help parents in raising children in the Catholic faith. Questions raised included: Are the packets being given out by parishes? Are the CDs being utilized by parents? Are the booklets being read? The committee is looking at a pre-school program from Elizabeth Ministry International to coincide with a Diocesan program for elementary-aged children. “This program provides a way to nurture the young families in a church by providing educational and spiritual materials on the birthdays and baptism anniversaries of their little ones” through the age of 4. A decision will be made at the LDCCW Fall Full Board meeting in August 2015. Please contact LDCCW Spirituality Commission Chairman, Ellen Jirovsky (contact information above) or Ann Jansky (arjansky@gmail.com or 402-826-0219) with comments or suggestions.



In the last few months, my personal e-mail has been bombarded with “action” organizations. They are very good, and I hope for more communication back to these websites from us as Catholics, Christians & common-sense political thinkers! Answer an e-mail—most ask for money, but they will accept your opinion without sending a donation. THAT is what counts. Some of these websites are: >>>> mrc.org (Media Research Center), nationformarriage.org, prolifealliance.org, actright.com, liveaction.org, catholicvote.org, paramountcommunications.com, Lila Rose, Helen Alvare and others.

Comments from these organizations include:

The Dept. of National Intelligence removed Iran & Hezbollah from the Terrorist List(!). *Last year there were 168.8 million BIASED social media messages sent out in the U.S. – anti-life, anti-Christian, unfair support of wrong politics. *There are assaults EVERY day on Israel & Jewish people by ISIS, Hamas, Al Qaeda. *Loretta Lynch, U.S. Attorney General as of April 27, 2015, is the highest lawyer in the land; she spoke of individual racism vs. institutional racism(?). The law states NO racism, ever. Att. Gen. Lynch follows the guidelines of assuring equality and eliminating discrimination in the workplace. *CBS, NBC, & ABC all are biased in their support of same-sex marriage, LGBT rights; make fun of political candidates who are trying to return America to its former ideals. *Support “No Taxpayer Funding For Abortion Act”! It passed the House of Representatives vote 242 to 176 (great!) in January 2015, but has yet to pass the Senate vote; then goes to the President for signing. Pray that this bill becomes a law, as soon as it can.



As for me and my house,  *we will serve the Lord.*

Chairman, Diane Wehrman

d.wehrman@hotmail.com

How the year 2015 is going by quickly. May of 2015 was a special month for our family as our daughter was united in marriage at St. Mary's Cathedral in Grand Island. It was a very beautiful day and we thank God for his blessings. Since most marriages occur in the summer



months, I thought I would share information about different aspects of marriage and family that pertain to the Service Commission.

Engaged Encounter Catholic Engaged

Encounter is an in-depth, private, personal, marriage preparation experience within the context of Catholic faith and values. Catholic Engaged Encounter is a weekend retreat away with other engaged couples with plenty of time alone together to dialogue honestly and intensively about their prospective lives together-- their strengths and weaknesses, desires, ambitions, goals, their attitudes about money, sex, children, family, their role in the church and society--in a face to face way. The weekend is open to any engaged couple wanting to prepare for a deeper, more meaningful life together in a marriage recognized by the Catholic Church according to its Church law.

The next engaged encounter is scheduled for July 17-19. Please go to the following link for more information:

<http://www.lincolndiocese.org/ministries-offices/family-life-office/engaged-encounter>

Natural Family Planning

The National Natural Family Planning Awareness week is July 19 through July 25. This year's theme is: **All Natural! Natural Family Planning Good for the body. Great for the soul!** The dates of Natural Family Planning Awareness Week highlight the anniversary of the papal encyclical *Humanae Vitae* (July 25) which articulates Catholic beliefs about human sexuality, conjugal love and responsible parenthood. The dates also mark the feast of Saints Joachim and Anne (July 26), the parents of the Blessed Mother. On our local level, Natural Family Planning Group Introductory Session hosted by the Lincoln FertilityCare™ Center. The next session is scheduled for July 14 and 30th. Rev. Sean Kilcawley is the director and Michele Chambers is the coordinator. For more information please contact Michele at 402-488-2040, Ext. 320 or visit the following website:

<http://www.lincolndiocese.org/natural-family-planning/introductory-sessions-for-nfp>. SPREAD THE WORD IN THE DIOCESE AND THE LOCAL COMMUNITY about Natural Family Planning.

Divorce and the Catholic Church

Happily ever after? When you married, you intended it to last a lifetime. But what happens if it doesn't? Now you have been faced with a difficult situation and a time of grief and great pain for the loss of the dream you had for your life. You are single again and probably have many responsibilities that will need your attention. The first thing you must do is to take good care of yourself. Your children, your job, your extended family will all suffer more if you are not healthy and hopeful for the future.

Professional counselling is available from [Catholic Social Services](#) to assist you in a time of mixed emotions and many changes, to guide you in finding tools to deal with the emotions you are experiencing and decisions you need to make.

The Family Life Office recommends the Catholic Divorce Survival Guide program. This 12 week program features 30-minute DVD segments that cover topics of shock, denial, anger, grief, guilt, forgiveness, money, the courts, kids, the ex-spouse, annulment, dating, sexuality, spirituality, remarriage and much more. Whether you got divorced recently or 10 years ago, this program offers valuable insight for everyone. For more information, contact the Family Life Office, 402-488-2040. Remember you are not alone, and the Catholic Church is here to help. A retreat is scheduled at Our Lady of Good Counsel October 2 – 4, entitled, "Divorced: Beginning Again With Christ's Mercy"

I hope you enjoy the rest of the summer and May God's Blessings be upon you. Don't forget about the CSS Memorial Golf Tournament & Auction August 19 and the Raffle for Husker tickets.

In Christ's Love – Diane

A genuinely blessed person is one whose most prized possession is God.

Mark Your Calendar!

- **July 17 @ 7 p.m.—Ladies Night Out (Endow Information Night)**
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton parish hall, 3301 Echo Dr., North Platte, no charge
- **July 18—9 a.m. to 3 p.m.—Endow Facilitator Training Workshop,**
St. Patrick's parish hall, 409 East F St., McCook; \$25.00; **pre-register at**
<https://store.endowonline.org/eileen-love-p2352.aspx>
- **July 19 @ 6 p.m.—Endow Information Night,** Blessed Sacrament
parish hall, 518 W. State St., Grand Island; no charge
- **July 20: 9-3—Omaha Province meeting @** Blessed Sacrament, Grand
Island. Lincoln Diocese is hosting the event. Everyone is welcome.
- **July 31-Aug. 2:** Worldwide Marriage Encounter in Lexington
- **August 21-22:** LDCCW Fall Board Meetings, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
parish hall, North Platte
- **January 15-16, 2016—Winter Symposium @** Retreat House, Waverly
- **April 15-16, 2016—LDCCW Banquet @** McCool & Convention @ York



July women saints:

July 4: St. Elizabeth of Portugal, Opt. Mem.—PATRON SAINT of charities, difficult marriages, brides & widows

July 6: St. Maria Goretti, virgin & martyr - Opt. Mem.—PATRON SAINT of chastity, rape victims, youth, girls, teenage girls, poverty, purity & forgiveness

July 16: Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Opt. Mem.—PATRON SAINT of Holy Scapular, Carmelite Order, contemplative prayer

July 22: St. Mary Magdalene, Memorial—PATRON SAINT of the contemplative life, converts, glove makers, hairstylists, penitent sinners, people ridiculed for their piety, perfumeries and perfumers, pharmacists and women.

July 23: St. Bridget of Sweden religious, Opt. Mem.—PATRON SAINT of Europe, Sweden & widows

July 29: St. Martha, Memorial—PATRON SAINT of cooking and hospitality

LDCCW Biennial Convention Raffle Items



St. Francis
Garden Status



Early stage of a scenic picture that my sister-in-law is painting for the raffle. Only she knows the end result.



Lourdes Rosary with
meditation booklet