

fragments

MARCH 2021 NEWSLETTER

ODCCW Mission Statement

*To promote among our Catholic women a greater devotion to Christ and the Church,
as we share the Blessed Mother's role of bringing others to Christ
through spirituality, leadership, and service.*

FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD
THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY SON,
SO THAT EVERYONE
WHO BELIEVES IN HIM
MIGHT NOT PERISH
BUT MIGHT HAVE ETERNAL LIFE.

John 3:16



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Susan Navarrete
ODCCW President

March 28, 2021, Palm Sunday. As I sit in my prayer chair contemplating the start of Holy Week, it took me back to a year ago as our country was on lockdown due to Covid-19. We could not attend in-person services at our parishes, we could not celebrate Easter mass in-person or celebrate Easter with our families. For me, I felt disappointed and discouraged during one of the holiest celebrations of the Catholic faith. Feeling as I did, I still never gave up my hope in Jesus Christ. *(continued on next page)*

What a difference a year makes! I went to Palm Sunday mass in-person and it was beautiful to be in the presence of Jesus. Listening to the Passion of the Lord made His passion come to life in my mind and brought tears to my eyes. I thought about Jesus when he was in Bethany at the house of Simon the leper, the woman who broke her alabaster jar that contained costly perfumed oil and poured it on Jesus head. Who was she? What was her name? How did she anticipate Jesus death?

Have you ever thought about what person you can imagine yourself being during the time of Jesus' passion? I challenge you this Holy Week to pick one of the cast of characters and contemplate their involvement during Jesus' passion. For the woman, Jesus came to her defense in saying "Let her alone. She has done a good thing for me. The poor you will always have with you, and whenever you wish you can do good to them, but you will not always have me. She has done what she could." Wow, so beautiful...

**BLESSED IS THE KING
WHO COMES IN THE
NAME OF THE LORD!**

Luke 19:38

During 2020 we all had to carry crosses as Jesus did. Some crosses were heavier than others. Some of us had to carry more than one cross at times. However, no cross was more burdensome than the cross Jesus carried for our salvation. During December 2020, within a three-week period, four of my cousins (ages ranging from 48-51) died of Covid-19. Two of the four were parents to an eight year old boy, now orphaned. My family was devastated from the tremendous loss. The crosses we carried were very heavy. Still, we find comfort in knowing that Covid-19 did not win over Jesus, or death. We hold on to the promise God made to us, our family members will rise with Him on the last day. This Easter season will not be the same for my family as we continue to heal from our loss. We give thanksgiving to God for all the support from our faith community, extended family, and friends. I pray that your families are healthy and safe.

On behalf of ODCCW, we pray that you and your families have a fruitful Holy Week and a blessed Easter season with our Risen Lord Jesus Christ. We look forward to the time when we can gather again in-person. We miss you all!

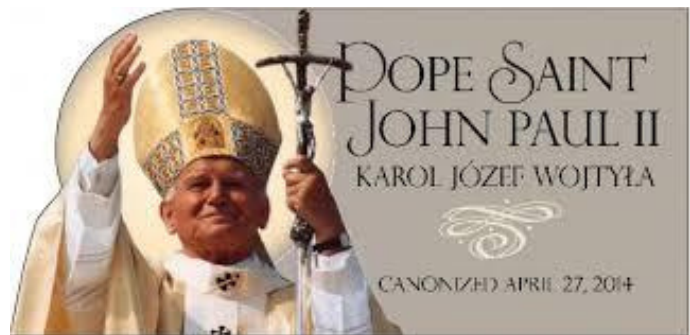
In Christ,
Susan Navarrete
President, ODCCW

THE LENTEN CHALLENGE

By Dr. Ida Pennella, PhD
ODCCW Executive Board



FOR THE SAKE OF THE UNBORN: In his encyclical, the Gospel of Life #77, Saint John Paul II said, "It is therefore a service of love which we are all committed to ensure to our neighbor that his or her life will be promoted and defended..." Therefore, the Commandment, "Thou Shall Not Kill," according to his encyclical, has "positive aspects of respecting, loving and promoting human life..."



Although Ash Wednesday began on Wednesday, February 17, you still have plenty of time to give up something or do something positive. It's easy to give up something during Lent like alcohol, cigarettes, and desserts, but it's harder to really do something positive like 1) sharing your talents and creativity, 2) donating blood, food, and clothing, 3) volunteering at a food bank or helping to distribute clothing, 4) visiting the sick and homebound, or 5) attending vigils and/or funerals.

Join the Orange Diocese as it encourages parishes and individuals to participate in peaceful prayer vigils outside of abortion clinics as well as offering personal or parish prayers and sacrifices during the 40 Days for Life in Orange County.

- Understand the abortion issue and what's at stake! Babies are killed up to and including birth! Read articles!
- Join a ProLife group that supports life shelters, hosts baby showers for unwed mothers, and prays at local Planned Parenthood facilities.



- Advocate, support, or argue in defense of ProLife and ProLife issues by speaking and writing in every arena where you have a chance. Share ProLife news and events. Use social media.
- Bring flowers to place on the sidewalk at the PP facility.
- Bring a Cross or a Rosary to hold while you pray at PP.
- Pray regularly with others for life.
- Sponsor a fundraiser, plan a baby shower for unwed mothers, collect diapers.
- Collect women's clothing and bring to a ProLife center.

Attend one of these Planned Parenthood Facilities during Lent:

PP - Mission Viejo
26137 La Paz Road, #200
Mission Viejo, CA 92691

PP - Costa Mesa
1520 Nutmeg Place, #101
Costa Mesa, CA 92626

PP - Anaheim
303 W. Lincoln Ave., #105
Anaheim, CA 92805

PP - Westminster
14372 Beach Blvd.
Westminster, CA 92683

PP - Santa Ana
1421 E. 17th Street
Santa Ana, CA 92705

PP - Orange
700 S. Tustin Street
Orange, CA 92866

FR. SCOTT BORGMAN'S INCARDINATION



Congratulations to our Chaplain Father Scott Borgman for his recent incardination and gratitude to Bishop Vann, who, has allowed him to serve more permanently in the Diocese of Orange. Fr. Scott was originally ordained in the Diocese of Frejus-Toulon in the south of France, and Bishop Vann transferred his incardination to the Diocese of Orange on March 19, 2021.

What is incardination? It's kind of like getting a green card, like getting citizenship to serve more permanently in the Diocese of Orange. Incardination is also very much like baptism which introduces us into the family of God.



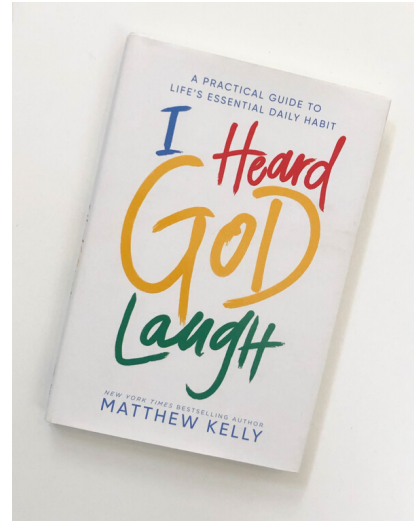
For this special occasion, ODCCW presented Fr. Scott with a beautiful vestment adorned with the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe. The vestment was created by the talented Fr. Melvin James of the Divine Word Seminary in Riverside.

We are so blessed to have Father Scott as our Spiritual Advisor to ODCCW! We look forward to growing our relationship with Father through our mission statement of Leadership, Spirituality and Service.

A CONVERSATION WITH GOD

By Janine Merkel
ODCCW VP Elect

I recently read *I Heard God Laugh* by Matthew Kelly. Matthew, a truly dynamic Catholic author and speaker, shares his very personal experience during his teenage years with learning how to pray. Sure, we pray. We pray in the way we each know how or are accustomed to. Matthew shares a deep, personal conversational prayer with God daily.



Matthew's insight and wisdom imparted in a daily habit of prayer-the prayer process-is changing my life. I look forward to this conversation with God each day and am grateful to Matthew for sharing it. If you have not yet read his book, an easy read I might add, I highly recommend it. If you have read it, I encourage you to share it with others. God wants to hear from us daily. He wants to hear our voices. After all, He gave us these voices and our very lives.

I am grateful I can talk with God at anytime. He is always waiting to hear from us.

101 BIRTHDAY OF NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN



This month we celebrate 101 years of Catholic Women sharing a unified voice in the United States of America. On March 4, 1920, the United States Bishops created the National Council of Catholic Women to support, empower, and educate all Catholic women in spirituality, leadership, and service. NCCW programs respond with Gospel values to the needs of the Church and society in the modern world.

<https://www.nccw.org>

EASTER BASKETS FOR THE SISTERS AT REGINA RESIDENCE



The sisters at the Regina Residence (Orange, CA) have been in isolation for so long and they were truly looking forward to this event! They each received Easter baskets and their aides received snack bags. Major donors were St. Martin de Porres Yorba Linda, Women in God's Spirit (WINGS), a Small Christian Community (SCC) group, and Joanie's Purse, Orange, CA (<https://www.facebook.com/JoaniesPurseProject>).

The collection was organized by ODCCW's Shirley Espique (Treasurer) and Elizabeth Drouillard (Recording Secretary).



UPCOMING EVENTS

ODCCW APRIL GENERAL GATHERING WITH FR. FELIX JUST

Join us on Tuesday April 20 to hear our special guest Fr. Felix Just's talk on "St. Joseph". More information to follow!



SPRING OPPORTUNITY BASKET

We will be having a fun opportunity drawing for a Spring Basket in April/May. Ticket donation information and basket details coming soon!



HOW CAN WE SERVE YOU?

We would love to know how we can best serve you, our ODCCW community!

- What can we help you with? Food, rides to appointments, regular phone calls to check on you?
- Do you have Internet access so you can attend our Monthly Gatherings virtually and view information on our website? Do you need technical help or instructions on how to do this?
- Are there speakers or topics you would like to hear about at our Monthly Gatherings?
- Do you have any questions or suggestions for the ODCCW Board?

Please let us know how we can help you by emailing us at info@odccw.org.

ST. JOSEPH NOVENA



*O St. Joseph whose protection is so great, so strong,
so before the Throne of God, I place in you
all my interests and desires.*

*O St. Joseph do assist me by your powerful intercession
and obtain for me from your Divine Son all spiritual
blessings through Jesus Christ, Our Lord; so that having
engaged here below your Heavenly power I may offer
my Thanksgiving and Homage to the Most Loving of Fathers.*

*O St. Joseph I never weary contemplating you and Jesus
asleep in your arms. I dare not approach while He reposes
near your heart. Press Him in my name and kiss His fine Head
for me, and ask Him to return the kiss when I draw
my dying breath.*

St. Joseph, Patron of departing souls, pray for us.

Amen

Say for nine consecutive days for anything you may desire.
It has seldom been known to fail.