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ORANGE DIOCESAN COUNCIL OF

CATHOLIC  WOMEN

# Fragments

OCTOBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

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## **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.*



Love is a fruit in season at all times,  
and within reach of every hand.

Mother Teresa

## **A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT**

**Janine Meckler**  
ODCCW President

The month of October on a Catholic Calendar is filled with richness and the recognition of many saints – Saint Francis of Assisi, Saint Faustina Kowalska, Saint John XXIII, Saint Hedwig, Saint Paul of the Cross, Saints Simon and Jude to name some.  
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In addition, we acknowledge Our Lady of the Rosary and the Holy Guardian Angels. Let us thank God together for giving us faithful men and women we can learn from and Guardian Angels who protect us. God cares deeply about humanity, and I am so grateful we have each other to grow with in faith and friendship.

Please bring a friend or two to our monthly gatherings. I look forward to all of us being together on October 17 at Saint Martin De Porres in Yorba Linda.

Blessings, friends.

Janine Meckler  
ODCCW President



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## 2023-2024 ODCCW BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Congratulations to our 2023-2024 Board of Directors!  
Thank you for your leadership and dedication to our ministry.

**PRESIDENT**

Janine Meckler

**PRESIDENT-ELECT - LEADERSHIP**

Inez Moss

**1st VICE PRESIDENT - SPIRITUALITY**

Pat Martin

**2nd VICE PRESIDENT - SERVICE**

Open

**RECORDING SECRETARY**

Jackie Brandon

**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY**

Carol Palmer

**TREASURER**

Kathy Kent

**PAST PRESIDENT**

Susan Navarrete

**SPIRITUAL ADVISOR**

Fr. Chris Heath

**EMERITUS ADVISOR**

Dr. Ida Pennella

*Thank  
you*

## OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

By Dr. Ida Pennella, PhD



As we celebrate the feast of **Our Lady of the Rosary** this month, let us ponder for a moment some of her most notable blessings.

“Saint Pius V established this feast [Our Lady of the Rosary] in 1573. The purpose

was to thank God for the victory of Christians over the Turks at Lepanto—a victory attributed to the praying of the rosary. Clement XI extended the feast to the universal Church in 1716.”

Our Lady of Lourdes first appeared to Bernadette Soubirous on February 11, 1858 and was followed by 17 more apparitions. On March 25, Mary said these words to Bernadette: “I am the Immaculate



Conception.” The Immaculate Conception is the Patron Saint of the United States and the solemnity is celebrated on December 8. Even before Mary’s apparition, Pope Pius IX proclaimed the dogma of the Immaculate Conception on December 8, 1854.

Possibly the most famous apparition is that of Our Lady of Fatima in Portugal who appeared “to three young Portuguese shepherds, Lucia Santos, and her cousins Jacinta and Francisco Marto” on May 13, 1917. Most talked about and visited shrine because of the “three secrets” revealed to Lucia.

Secret #1: on July 13, 1917 she saw a vision of hell with flames and demons. Secret #2: she prophesied that World War I would end but that another war would follow during the reign of Pope Pius XI The became known as World War II. The second part of the secret



that “Russia be consecrated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary”. Secret #3: on January 3, 1944, the third secret was sealed until it was published on June 26, 2000 by Cardinal Angelo Sodano who said that the “20th Century persecution of Christians culminated in the failed Pope John Paul II assassination attempt on May 13, 1981, the 64th anniversary of the first apparition of Our Lady of Fatima”. Following the attempt on his life, Pope John Paul II consecrated the world to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and composed a prayer called “Act of Entrustment”, read on June 7, 1981. In 2002 Pope John Paul II concentrated the world to Divine Mercy.

## OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

By Dr. Ida Pennella, PhD



The Patron of the Orange Diocese, Our Lady of Guadalupe, appeared to an old Mexican man while on his way to an early morning Mass. He was later given the name of Juan Diego. He tried several times to tell the Bishop of the apparition and he was never believed, until Our Lady filled his robe with beautiful fresh roses to drop at the feet of the Bishop.

Sources:

1. <https://www.franciscanmedia.org/our-lady-of-lourdes/>
2. <https://www.franciscanmedia.org/our-lady-of-the-rosary/>
3. [http://www.vatican.va/roman\\_curia/congregations/cfaith/documents/rc\\_con\\_cfaith\\_doc\\_20000626\\_message-fatima\\_en.html](http://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/congregations/cfaith/documents/rc_con_cfaith_doc_20000626_message-fatima_en.html)



## REFLECTION FROM POPE FRANCIS

“Brothers and Sisters, the power of Jesus is love. Jesus gives us the power to love in this way, which for us seems superhuman. This ability, though, cannot be merely the result of our own efforts: it is primarily the fruit of God’s grace. A grace that must be implored insistently: ‘Jesus, you who love me, teach me to love like you. Jesus, you who forgive me, teach me to forgive like you. Send your Spirit, the Spirit of love, upon me.’ Let us ask for this grace. So often we bring our requests before the Lord, but what is essential for us as Christians is to know how to love as Christ loves. His greatest gift is the ability to love, and that is what we receive when we make room for the Lord in prayer, when we welcome his presence in his transforming word and in the revolutionary humility of his broken Bread. Thus, slowly, the walls that harden our hearts tumble, and we find our joy in carrying out works of mercy towards everyone.”

## MESSAGE FROM MAGNIFICAT

Dear Friends,

October is the month of the rosary—a wonderful time to make it a daily habit if you have not yet done so, or to renew your commitment to it if it has become routine. The power of this prayer lies in its simplicity. It makes meditation on the mysteries of our salvation accessible to all, however wise, learned, or simple. At the same time, it brings us into Mary’s loving presence—and so before the face of her Son—when we pray it with love and attention, doing our best to remember that we are in conversation with our Mother. I hope you experience every blessing of this wonderful prayer that we can all too easily take for granted.

In Jesus and Mary,

Rev. Sebastian White, O.P.  
Editor-in-Chief

## FROM ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

### Novena Prayer to Our Lady of the Milk Grotto



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## NCCW ROSARY CALL

Please join the National Council of Catholic Women in praying the rosary together by phone. The Rosary Call will take place on the 13th of each month at 4:30 PM (PT). All are welcome. Please join in.

Free Conference Call Number: (202) 926-1107 - Access Code: 703993



For many who attended the 2023 convention in Salt Lake City, Utah it seems like it was just yesterday that we were heading back home after a wonderful experience filled with challenges, laughter, friendship and a sense of renewed hope in our faith journey. If you missed this past convention, please watch for a summary in the next Catholic Women Magazine and mark your calendar for the 2024 convention in Oklahoma City August 13-17. Please note the change in dates.

The overall arching theme for the next 2 years is: Women on a Journey - Sharing our Stories. The reason for this theme is simply that we do not share enough of our stories about our councils. Many times, I have heard that we are the best kept secret in our church. Council sisters, we need not be shy but in deep humility we need to share our stories of the mission of NCCW. We are called to support, empower, and educate all Catholic Women in spirituality, leadership, and service. So, let's share these stories.

## Join us in our Fall Service Project



FOR CHILDREN WHO WISH  
FOR JUST ONE GIFT

Box of Joy is an annual Christmas shoebox gift ministry organized by local Catholic schools, parishes and groups across the United States and facilitated by Cross Catholic Outreach. Participants bless children suffering from extreme poverty by filling boxes with toys and other gifts, sharing the joy of Christmas and planting seeds of hope. We will collect boxes, items and monetary donations at our **October** meeting so we can send them off in time for Christmas. See below for more information or learn more at [boxofjoy.org](http://boxofjoy.org)

## GIFT IDEAS

### PERSONAL NOTES & PHOTOS

Children who receive Box of Joy gifts love when you enclose a personal note or a handmade Christmas card and share a photo of yourself or your family. (It is advisable for parents or teachers to review notes written by children.)

### TOYS

Handheld toys  
**Small plush animals\***  
 Small balls (tennis, etc.)  
**Ball (deflated) with pump\***  
 Cars or trucks  
**Doll\***  
 Mini puzzle  
 Finger puppets  
 Unopened fast-food toys  
 Binoculars  
 Lego building blocks  
 Harmonica, kazoo or other small instrument  
 Jump rope  
 Yo-yo  
 Slinky  
 Mini board games  
 Balloons  
 Craft kit (beads, elastic, etc.)

### SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Pencils, colored pencils  
 Solar calculator  
 Pencil sharpener  
 Small board books  
 Erasers  
 Pencil case  
**Crayons\***  
 Pens, markers  
 Ruler  
 Glue stick (no liquid)  
 Safety scissors  
**Coloring book\***  
 Notepads  
 Stickers  
 Flash cards

### HARD CANDY & GUM

**Please do not include any candies that will melt (Jolly Ranchers, chocolate, etc.). Please place candy in a sealed bag.**

### APPAREL

Socks  
 Shorts  
 Underwear  
**T-shirts\***  
 Flip-flops  
 Bandanas  
 Hats  
 Plastic poncho  
**Dresses\***

### NECESSITIES/HOME

Comb or brush  
**Cup or bottle with lid\***  
**Bar soap\***  
**Toothpaste (still in the box)\***  
**Toothbrush and floss\***  
 Bandages  
 Hand wipes  
 Lip balm  
 Manicure kit  
 Nail clippers or emery board

### ACCESSORIES

Watch  
**Purse or wallet\***  
**Sunglasses\***  
**Necklace\***  
**Hair ribbons\***  
**Hair bands or headbands\***  
 Barrettes  
 Bracelets  
 Earrings  
 Scarf  
 Cross or rosary

### USEFUL ITEMS

Sewing kit  
 Utensils  
 Compass  
 LED flashlight keychain  
**Drawstring bag\***

\*Highly desired items.

## PLEASE DO NOT PACK

The items listed below are not acceptable for packing in a Box of Joy. Please do not include:

Toy Weapons • Knives or Tools • Combative or Military-Style Toys • Bottled Liquids (Shampoo, Body Wash, Nail Polish, Etc.)  
 Glass or Breakable Objects • Food or Beverages • Cash, Checks or Gift Cards • Chocolate or Jolly Ranchers  
 Medicine or Vitamins • Bubbles • Gels (Hand Sanitizer, Etc.) • Vaseline • Lotions • Battery Flashlights • Liquid Paints or Glues

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## ODCCW EVENTS

Register for our events at <https://odccw.org>

### **October General Gathering**

Tuesday, October 17, 2023 | 9am-12pm

St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church

19767 Yorba Linda Blvd, Yorba Linda, CA 92886

Speaker: Elizabeth Herdershot from WISEPlace

### **November General Gathering**

Tuesday, November 14, 2023 | 9am-12pm

Our Lady Queen of Angels Catholic Church

2046 Mar Vista Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92660

**\*NOTE: This month's General Gathering is on the second Tuesday of the month due to the Thanksgiving holiday.**