

"In every age and in every country we find many "perfect" women (cf. Prov 31:10) who, despite persecution, difficulties and discrimination, have shared in the Church's mission...the witness and the achievements of Christian women have had a significant impact on the life of the Church as well as of society..."

--Pope St. John Paul II, "Mulieris Dignitatum"

You – active duty, dependent, and retiree women alike – have been those holy women in our chapel communities: starting and leading ministries and caring for the needs of our service members and their families, all while facing the challenges of military life.

And for more than 60 years, the Military Council of Catholic Women – Worldwide, Inc. has worked side-by-side with you. We've supported you with training to enhance your ministries and opportunities to reflect on and deepen your faith. Today, MCCW is expanding its reach by making its training and programs more portable and reaching out to new chapel communities so women affiliated with each of the five branches of the military, in all geographical locations, can benefit.

To this end, we have sent materials to your chaplain sharing information about our mission and requesting their consideration in scheduling a MCCW designated offering during the coming fiscal year. The generous support of your chapel community will allow MCCW to continue partnering with you through:

- Guidance on starting women's ministry programs
- Chapel leader development and leader discernment support
- Chapel program planning resources
- Access to and support for AMS initiatives like Encuentro, an effort to better serve the Hispanic members of our chapels
- A worldwide gathering MCCW Faith Formation Forum and six regional retreats
- Bible study recommendations
- Resources for prayer, including the globe-spanning Mother's Prayers devotion
- A growing online community with more than 1,100 members to date

We need your help to ensure that MCCW receives the valuable and generous support of our Catholic chapels. If you are not aware of an MCCW designated offering being scheduled in your chapel, please plan to meet with your chaplain to discuss the possibility of scheduling one. The attached "Frequently Asked Questions" sheet will answer many of the questions you and your chaplain may have about making a designated offering to MCCW.

Once an offering is planned in your community, we encourage you to plan activities to highlight women's ministry and MCCW during the week of the designated offering. Resources for promoting your designated offering and celebrating women's roles in our chapels are available online at <u>www.mccw.org</u>.

If you have questions about our designated offering campaign or about MCCW, please feel free to contact me at (575) 914-1661 or via email at MCCWStewardship@gmail.com. We are deeply grateful for your continued prayers and financial support.

Sincerely,

Kim Miller MCCW Stewardship Coordinator



The Military Council of Catholic (MCCW) reflects a visible presence of Christ in military communities by fostering and nourishing women in spirituality, leadership and service. Inspired by the Holy Spirit, MCCW serves as a vital enhancement of the religious support mission of military chapels. - Mission Statement -