



THE WELL

MILITARY COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN - WORLDWIDE, INC.

MARCH 2014

THE WELL CONTENT

BETWEEN FRIENDS

- 3 Letter from Our President
Looking forward to Conference and a letter from
Archbishop Broglio
- 6 Worldwide Board Updates
Journey of Faith Conference information, Exploring
Chattanooga and all that is to come at Conference,
and discernment guidance
- 19 Around the Regions
In Memoriam, Ok Yong Song Ohlfest

IN EVERY ISSUE

- 21 Prayer Intentions of the Holy Father
- 22 Contact Us

“And the Word
became flesh and
dwelt among us, and
we have seen his
glory, glory as of the
only Son from the
Father, full of grace
and truth.”

John 1:14

***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.***

LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT

April is fast approaching, and along with the glories of Easter we also get to look forward to reunions at our Conference in Chattanooga. As the speakers and schedule become more locked in, I am really getting excited. I know this weekend will be one of reflection, spiritual growth and renewal for all attendees.

One of the most important facets of Conference is the selection of the 2014-16 Board of Directors. Michelle Hokenson has written a fabulous article touching on the discernment process we will be using this year. If you have ever felt a call to serve on the board in any capacity - from President to Regional Coordinator - please contact Marlene Cullum at marlene.cullum@gmail.com for more information.



Erin Raymond
President

New this year at Conference will also be t-shirts! If you are artistic at all and would like to see your design on our first Conference shirt, please let me know. Or if you have a talented child/sibling/husband - all entries are welcome! I need your design by March 15, so please email them to raymonds3@hotmail.com.

Finally, I encourage you to register soon for the Conference if you haven't done so already. MCCW-Worldwide will continue to be an excellent resource for the women at the chapel level, but we need your help to do that! Attending Conference is a great way to help us continue our mission.

“For the word of God is living and active,
sharper than any two-edged sword,
piercing to the division of soul and spirit,
of joints and marrow,
and discerning the thoughts and
intentions of the heart.”

Hebrews 4:12



ARCHDIOCESE FOR THE MILITARY SERVICES, USA
The Most Reverend Timothy P. Broglio

22 January 2014

Dear Father/Monsignor,

As you know, the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA, (AMS) has been greatly enriched by the programs and gatherings of the Military Council of Catholic Women-Worldwide (MCCW).(<http://www.mccwinternational.org/>)

This group continues to enjoy the endorsement of the Archdiocese. Bishop Buckon is my representative, as Episcopal Moderator of MCCW. Due to some organizational issues, the AMS assisted the MCCW's establishment as a 501 C corporation in the District of Columbia.

Our cherished religious freedom, God-given, but recognized by the First Amendment, permits me, as the Chief Shepherd of the AMS, to determine what organizations and groups will be encouraged in the Archdiocese. Among the programs that the AMS fosters, e.g., Why Catholic?, Rachel's Vineyard, local Councils and Roundtables of the Knights of Columbus, MCCW has a special place. MCCW was incorporated by the AMS, not to compete with your installation's Catholic women's group, but rather to serve as a resource to your local Catholic women's organization and as a umbrella uniting all Catholic women of the chapels worldwide to each other and to the AMS.

It is my hope that you will encourage the women of your Catholic community to participate in the international meeting (this year 24-27 April in Chattanooga, TN). I consider the meeting so important that I am foregoing participation at the canonization of Blessed Pope John Paul II, who ordained me an archbishop, so as to participate in this gathering.

To the extent that you are able, I also ask you to encourage your communities to support financially this important meeting so that participation from your installation will be facilitated. Please include the success of this gathering in the Prayers of the Faithful.

Some of the activities of MCCW-Worldwide are included in the enclosure to my letter.

Grateful for the attention you will give to this letter and for all of the good that you do, I remain

Fraternally in Christ,

(Most Reverend) Timothy P. Broglio

THE MILITARY COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN-WORLDWIDE

The Military Council of Catholic Women – Worldwide (MCCW) operates both within the United States as well as overseas. The objectives of the MCCW contribute to objectives of the Archdiocese for Military Services.

It was established to:

- a) promote the spiritual enrichment of all Catholic women in the Archdiocese for the Military Services;
- b) coordinate and stimulate the work and ministries of Catholic women throughout the Archdiocese;
- c) foster and nourish the Catholic Faith within the Archdiocese.

MCCW-Worldwide serves as a resource for all women of the Archdiocese through online material, on-site training, a bi-annual international conference and bi-annual regional retreats. The conference and retreats provide leadership and board training, spiritually enriching speakers, and opportunities to exchange ideas with women from other chapel programs. Please consider appointing a liaison from your chapel to MCCW, and encourage your chapel programs to seek out MCCW's resources and attend these events, as the training and spiritual renewal are vital enhancements to your community.

WORLDWIDE BOARD UPDATES

My site visit to Chattanooga, TN was exciting, busy and a wealth of information. Meeting with the staff and seeing the Read House hotel gave me a better understanding about preparations for the conference. The Basilica of Saint Peter & Paul is rich with history, design and grace. I'm happy to report Father David is excited about MCCW visiting the Basilica. The city of Chattanooga is very much in tune with southern hospitality and Tennessee pride. Chattanooga celebrates beautiful mountain landscapes, history and art.



April Golden
1st Vice President

Conference Check-in /Thursday - April 24th:

3:00 pm: Begin check in

5:00 pm: Mass - The Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul

6:00 pm: Dinner - On Your Own

7:00 pm: Welcome and introduction of MCCW Worldwide board members/ Chapel Roll Call/

Explanation of "Opportunity to Support Donation Drawing/Silent Auction"

8:00 pm: Social time

Conference Reservations:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/evangelizing-our-catholic-faith-mccwworldwide-conference-2014-tickets-9719111123>

After March 1st conference fee is \$199 (Non-refundable).

If you pay by check for the conference make sure you email the list of attendees to Ashli Dunphy (ashli.dunphy@gmail.com) and Elizabeth Tomlin (tomlin.elizabeth@gmail.com)



Hotel Reservations:

<https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/StarGroupsWeb/res?id=1311184090&key=E0400>

(copy and paste the following link into a web browser)

Please email your travel itinerary information to april.goldenoo@yahoo.com. This information will be helpful to the hotel staff to ensure rooms will be ready at check-in. If you are traveling as a group email one travel itinerary... When assigning roommates and making hotel reservations the first individual on the list for each room will be the primary name on the reservation.

Contact Chris Warf (chris.warf@sheratonreadhouse.com) if you plan to make a group hotel reservation on one credit card. Mr. Warf can help with those reservations...

The Read House Hotel:

The Read House Hotel has four entrances: The front, sides and the rear for the parking structure. There is an ATM machine in the lobby.

There are four elevators.

There is an indoor heated pool with waterfall. If you decide to swim bring wear a swim cover, pool shoes and swim entire. Towels are provided in the pool area along with seating area.

A full gym equipped with cardio and weight machines.

A business center with computers.

Inside the hotel you will find a Starbucks and Porter's Steakhouse, is open for Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner 7 days a week. The front desk has a list of restaurants that deliver.

A beverage table featuring water and coffee will be located outside of the Ball Room during the conference.

A full service Valetis available.

Parking will be free at the hotel for our conference.



Chattanooga Convention & Visitors Bureau:

CCVB has been a great resource for MCCW Worldwide. They will be providing bags for every attendee filled with goodies and information about Chattanooga.

On Thursday, April 24th during check-in the CCVB will be available for questions and information about Chattanooga.

Chattanooga Regional Airport:

Contact the cab companies below for a group rate before arriving to Chattanooga, TN:

Ryan with Checker Cab: 423-315-0794

Travis with Millennium Taxi: 423-760-1396

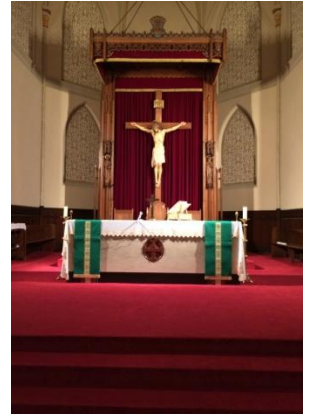
Valeria with Checker Cab: 423-401-8255

The Chattanooga Airport has an easy layout with the rental car companies available at the baggage claim. Rental car pickup is next to baggage claim.

Saint Peter and Paul Basilica:

The walk from the hotel to the Basilica is 0.3 miles. If you don't care to walk, parking is available at the Basilica.

Pictures are allowed, but guests are asked to be sensitive to others.

**Vendor Fair:**

The Fair will be open throughout the conference, starting at noon on Thursday April 24th and ending on Sunday, April 27th at 5pm.

Please contact Michelle Nash for further details or questions at kmn444@hotmail.com

Silent Auction and Opportunity Drawing:

For more information about this event please contact Beth Manning (Central Regional Director) at

bethmanning88@yahoo.com

If you would like to mail your item(s) for the Silent Auction and Opportunity Drawing instead of bring them with you on the plane, please mail them to *Michelle Nash, 418 Rice Road, Huntsville, AL 35808*.

Hotel Check-Out Monday, April 28th:

You can check out of your hotel room any time before 11:00am on Monday.

The Valet can store your luggage until it's time to depart.

Please check-out The Military Council of Catholic Women Worldwide Facebook page and press the LIKE icon. I look forward to seeing you in Chattanooga, TN in April!



Journey of Faith at the Worldwide Conference

This month, I'm happy to introduce you to our Journey of Faith conference trainers and our line-up of presentations. Your trainers will be presenting two Journey of Faith training modules at conference as well as several original presentations and workshops. Whether you are seeking challenge or solace, learning to embrace the demands of raising children or figuring out how to navigate an empty nest, building a new chapel group or sustaining a strong chapel group, we have a presentation for you! In addition to presentations from Journey of Faith trainers, we are partnering with the American Bible Society to present Engage Your Strengths training to every lady attending conference! Engage Your Strengths will help women discover their gifts and consider concrete ways to put their gifts into practice for God's Church. Our Journey of Faith presentations at conference will be:



Elizabeth Tomlin
2nd Vice President

Praying with Icons: Presented by Michelle Hokenson. Do you love the imagery and art of Christianity? If so, we have a presentation for you! Praying with Icons will instruct attendees in the steps of writing icons and in the practice of praying with icons as windows to heaven. Come see how this spiritual practice can enrich your prayer life.

Growing Leaders - Best Practices for Chapel Group Boards: Presented by Alba Thompson and Beth Manning. Through the analogy of gardening, this program will help current chapel leaders consider how to identify the talents within the chapel groups. It will also help chapel leaders learn how to grow future leaders. Participants will have an opportunity to share their best practices and experiences in chapel leadership.

Feminine Spirituality: Presented by Elizabeth Tomlin and Marcia Stokes. Have you ever struggled to find balance in your role as a wife, mother, professional, and disciple of Christ? If so, you're not alone! This presentation will explore how each of us uniquely lives out our Christian calling, and how, as Blessed Pope John Paul II said, all of our roles "should be harmoniously combined" as we seek discipleship. This presentation will challenge women to work in community through the chapel group to encourage and equip each other in developing their feminine spirituality.

Our Continuing Journey: Apologetics, a Lifelong Journey of Learning and Sharing: Presented by Lisa Miklos and Eleanor Gentilini. Apologetics is a call to share what we know with others. In this program, we will explore how we each arrived at our current point on our spiritual journey, and how we might grow in our own faith and be an example for others to grow forward in theirs through. We will consider ways to teach other about the Catholic Faith through examining some frequently raised questions about Catholicism.

I'd also like to introduce you to our talented trainers who are volunteering their talents to present at conference!

Eleanor Gentilini



Eleanor has been with MCCW for many years. She served two terms as Stuttgart Area President and three times as Western Area Coordinator /Regional Director. Eleanor has held various chapel level positions as well a term on the European Board when it was a separate organization and more recently 2 terms on the European Regional Board while living in Qatar. Eleanor was one of the original team of MCCW: Journey of Faith Trainers when the program was initiated in 2002. She has presented at chapels from coast to coast including Alaska, as well as in Europe. She also has an amazing wealth of historical knowledge of MCCW!

Rachel Granger



Rachel Granger has been involved with MCCW for 15 years in various servant leadership capacities. Recently, she has started Fishers of Men at her local chapter and leads breakout sessions for conferences and retreats. She and Dewey Granger have been married for 23 years. They have two children Zach, 20 and Abi 17.



Michelle Hokenson

Michelle has a wealth of experience serving MCCW. She currently serves MCCW as stewardship chairperson and as a JOF trainer and has served as the Financial Manager for MCCW-Worldwide. Michelle's other areas of service include parish coordinator, faith study and religious education coordinator, and catechist. She is active in Ft. Belvoir's CWOC where she coordinates devotions for the monthly program. Michelle started writing icons in January of 2012 and has been active in the iconography group at Ft. Belvoir ever since. She received the 2011 Sheila Baker award in recognition of her dedicated service to MCCW. Michelle's husband of 30 years, Michael is retired Army and they live in Fairfax Station, Virginia. They have 4 adult children and a daughter in-law.



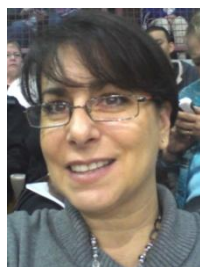
Erin Lunday

Erin has been a facilitator, trainer, instructor, briefer and curriculum developer for over twenty years. She has spent her life in service to the Army and military families. Erin was raised in a military family, and served in the military for eight and a half years. She has been active in MCCW since 2001 and has loved the community, love and warmth that she feels whenever she enters a new duty station and experiences a great MCCW program. As an Army Spouse, Erin began volunteering with Army Community Services and the Army Family Team Building Program. While in this program, she continued to hone her facilitation, briefing, and instructor skills and was selected to become a Core Trainer in 2008. Her talents and enthusiasm as well as her drive to always learn more about her faith has encouraged her to combine her love of teaching, team-building, and curriculum enhancements with her love of MCCW to assist in making our community even better.



Beth Manning

Beth first actively participated in MCCW in Schweinfurt, Germany back in the summer of 2002. Since then, she has served in a variety of MCCW positions at the local, regional, and worldwide level. She currently serves as the Central Regional Director and previously served two terms as the Vice President for Journey of Faith. Her articles of reflection for the Grapevine started back in October 2003 while serving as the Family Life Chairperson for MCCW-Europe. Based on her involvement in the local MCCW, regional MCCW and other organizations around post, she was recognized as the Catholic Community Chapel Outstanding Community Volunteer in 2006 in Vicenza, Italy. She is a West Point Graduate, an Army Community Master Trainer, Army Family Team Building Master Trainer, and Cooper Institute Certified Personal Trainer. She has been married to Ed for over 18 years and has 2 children, John and Emily, and she currently resides in Kansas and participates in Women of St. Ignatius MCCW.



Lisa Miklos

Lisa has been an Army Spouse for 29 years, and a newly retiree spouse for 5 months. In those 29 years, Lisa has been active in MCCW for close to 20 years and has been a Journey of Faith Trainer for 8 years. Having served in various chapel and Worldwide positions within MCCW, Lisa shares that bringing the joy, mission, and promise of MCCW to each of you is a highlight of her continued ministry. Lisa enjoys writing and developing programs and studies for MCCW. She enjoys presenting those programs and studies, as well as speaking on various topics, even more. Married to Michael for 29 years, together they have two grown children (Angela is 23 and lives in Fort Worth Texas. Mikey is 18 and is enjoying his freshman year at Becker College) and one granddaughter, Ava. Lisa, for this moment in time, lives in Bronxville N.Y. and participates in the West Point CWOC.



Marcia Stokes

Marcia is the Immediate Past President of MCCW-Worldwide and has been involved with MCCW for nearly 14 years. She has been married to Jeffrey Stokes for 14 years and is the mother of four boys: Simon 8, Shane 6, Sebastian 2.5, and Shannan 1 month old. A former MCCW-Worldwide board actually named Marcia's third child! Marcia has served MCCW as a chapel President and even started a chapel group at Fr. Rucker. Marcia also has a passion for parish ministry and has served as a religious education coordinator, assistant parish coordinator, and is a lector and EMHC. She brings a wealth of energy and creativity to the team.



Alba Thompson

I am a long time member of MCCW and have served at various levels of the organization to include Europe and at the Regional (NE) and Worldwide levels. As one of the "original" trainers, it has been a joy and a gift to bring Journey of Faith to our members. I use the words "Joy" and "Gift" knowing that while I travel to bring Journey of Faith to others, I leave with so much more.



Elizabeth Tomlin

Elizabeth has been in service to MCCW since she married into the Army. She is the Second Vice President for MCCW-Worldwide, Inc. and serves as the President for her CWOC group at West Point, New York. Elizabeth has a passion for studying theology, teaching, and equipping women to serve actively and as leaders in their faith communities. The relationships that Elizabeth has formed through MCCW motivate her to continue to dedicate her time and talents to the organization so that other women can experience the warm community, spiritual growth, and friendship that flourishes through our unique ministry. A lawyer by profession, Elizabeth works outside the home part-time in the field of leader and character development. She has three children, ages 12, 8, and 15 months who challenge and inspire her daily!

MCCW-Worldwide, Inc. Awards Nominations

It is my privilege to announce that nominations are now open for both the MCCW-Worldwide, Inc's *Sheila Baker Award* and the *Mary Ann Ernst Harmony Award*. The nomination period is from now through March 20th, 2014. Please submit all completed nomination packets to Lisa Miklos at: mccw0610@gmail.com. Please feel free to ask questions regarding any potential nomination as well as about the process. Please open both attachments to read about the selfless women in whose memory we give these awards. You will be able to tell by the write ups which award best suits your nominee.

This year, 2014, both awards will be given at the same conference. In the future, the Mary Ann Ernst Harmony Award will be given at Regional Conferences and the Sheila Baker Award will be given at the Worldwide Conferences.

REMEMBER, this year's MCCW-Worldwide Conference is 24-28 April, 2014 in Chattanooga, Tennessee. Check the website for registration and details.

PLEASE don't pass up the opportunity to nominate a deserving woman. If your chapel president has not brought this up, please bring this up to her. **Any one of you can make a nomination through your chapel group.**

You should be able to find awards packets attached here, on the MCCW-Worldwide, Inc's website (www.mccw.org), on the MCCW facebook page, as well as on the Catholic Military Women's facebook page. Feel free to email me and I will forward a packet directly to you (mccw0610@gmail.com).



Lisa Miklos
Awards & Appreciation

Military Council of Catholic Women-Worldwide

Sheila Baker Award for Outstanding Achievement

1. Description

The Sheila Baker Award for Outstanding Achievement is established by the Board of Directors of the Military Council of Catholic Women – Worldwide in memory of Sheila Baker. Sheila was a true leader and role model. She was a mentor and friend of MCCW for nearly thirty years.

Sheila Baker began her involvement with MCCW in the early 1970's. She worked tirelessly at all levels of MCCW...at the chapel level, at the area (now reorganized as regions) level and at the national level. Sheila was president of MCCW-Europe for two terms in the early 1990's.

When she returned to the states, Sheila held several board positions with MCCW-USA. She was the Northeast Area Coordinator until her death in 2005.

Sheila's dedication to the mission of MCCW to empower, educate and support Catholic women in spirituality, faith, leadership and service was evident by her loving service to the Catholic chapel communities at which she worshipped. In addition to her involvement in MCCW, Sheila was active in religious education, RCIA and many other chapel ministries.

In 1992, Sheila was awarded the Archdiocese for the Military Services Award. This award recognizes persons who "in their personal lives are outstanding in all respects, motivated by religious values, practice religion faithfully, give good example to others and are held in high esteem by associates."

Clearly, Sheila was well loved and respected. She faithfully served as a mentor to many subsequent and future leaders of MCCW-Worldwide.

In order to honor Sheila and her memory, this award is to be presented to members of MCCW... members who have exhibited enduring and outstanding support and accomplishments in furthering the goals and mission of MCCW-Worldwide.

Sheila Baker's legacy to the Military Council of Catholic Women is one of dedicated leadership, love and grace. May we all strive to live up to this legacy and may Sheila enjoy eternal rest in God's heavenly kingdom as we honor her memory.

2. Nomination Process

The MCCW Sheila Baker Award for Outstanding Achievement will be awarded at its Worldwide Conference to recipient(s) who meet the qualifications set forth and who are favorably reviewed by the MCCW-Worldwide Recognition and Appreciation Committee. [The Recognition and Appreciation Committee is an advisory committee of the Board of Directors. Its chairperson is appointed by the President, and its membership consists of representatives of the Regions of MCCW-Worldwide.]

Nominations may be made by submitting a nomination form (which is at the last page of this document or available from regional directors, or downloaded from the MCCW-Worldwide web site at www.mccw.org) to the Recognition and Appreciation Committee Chair by mail or e-mail.

A. Nominee must have been an active member of MCCW as defined in its by-laws.

B. Nominees must have exhibited outstanding and selfless service in MCCW and performed duties at chapel level and Region/Worldwide level for a prolonged period of time (measured in years).

C. Each Chapel community/installation may forward one nomination to the Recognition and Appreciation Committee Chairperson by 20 March, or 45 days prior to the date the Worldwide Conference is held.

D. Should any nominee hold a position on a regional board or the worldwide service resource committee, she will excuse herself from the selection process.

3. Selection and Presentation

The Recognition and Appreciation Coordinator will acknowledge receipt of nominations within seven working days.

The Recognition and Appreciation Committee will follow up with the nominee (or the person who submitted the nomination), gather complete information regarding her MCCW involvement, discern whether the nomination meets the qualifications criteria and make the final selection of that year's recipient(s). The nominee's chapel and regional affiliation will be removed from application before consideration by the Committee.

The recipient of the Sheila Baker Award for Outstanding Achievement will be announced and presented at the Worldwide Conference. The awardees of the Sheila Baker Award will be recognized by the inscription of their name on a Perpetual Plaque that is displayed at the Archdiocese for Military Service headquarters. As a token of appreciation, the awardees will be given a pin that has a golden angel holding the MCCW-Worldwide logo.

Sheila Baker's legacy to the Military Council of Catholic Women is one of dedicated leadership, love and grace. May we live up to this legacy and may Sheila enjoy eternal rest in God's heavenly kingdom as we honor her memory. Thanks be to God!

Sheila Baker Award Nomination Form

Nominee must have performed outstanding and selfless service in leadership position(s) at the chapel, regional, executive level or as an appointed board member over an extended period of time (measured in years).

Nominee's Name:

Nominee's Address:

Nominee's Phone: _____

Nominee's E-mail Address:

Nominee's Current Installation/

Chapel Community:

Nominee's Region:

Nominator:

Date: _____

On the reverse, or separate sheet of paper, please include a narrative summary for nominee:

- Length of service
- List positions held
- Brief description of contributions

Please provide as many details of the nominee's service to MCCW-Worldwide as possible, however, the Recognition and Appreciation Committee will follow up with the nominee and gather complete information regarding her MCCW involvement and discern whether the nomination meets the qualifications criteria. For Award Description, Nomination and Selection details, please contact the MCCW-Worldwide Recognition and Appreciation Committee Chairperson.

The Mary Ann Ernst Regional “Harmony” Award

For Selfless Service within an MCCW Region which resulted in the harmonious blending of the MCCW-Worldwide Mission with the Religious Support Mission of our Chapel Communities

1. Description

The Mary Ann Ernst Regional “Harmony” Award for Selfless Service is established by the Board of Directors of the Military Council of Catholic Women – Worldwide in memory of Mary Ann Ernst. Mary Ann was a selfless servant and a unifying leader. She was a mentor and friend of MCCW for more than 20 years.

Mary Ann began her involvement with MCCW as soon as she began worshipping in Military Chapels. She worked tirelessly at all levels of MCCW...at the chapel level and at the Regional level, as well as on the MCCW-Worldwide Board of Directors. She held the first two year term as Regional Director of MCCW-Europe and was instrumental in unifying the European Region with MCCW-Worldwide.

Mary Ann’s dedication to the mission of MCCW to educate and support Catholic women in spirituality, leadership and service was evident by her loving service to the many Catholic chapel communities at which she worshipped. In addition to her involvement in MCCW, Mary Ann was active in religious education and RCIA, as well as serving as a Lector, Cantor and as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion. Mary Ann also served on Pastoral Councils both as Formation Commission Chair and as President. In fact, when Mary Ann had to leave her home in Germany for her cancer treatments at Walter Reed Hospital, she ran and was elected as Pastoral Council President at the Fort Dietrich Army Chapel and put forth a concerted effort to revitalize their MCCW group. This was Mary Ann’s final offering of earthly service before her death.

In order to honor Mary Ann and her memory, this award is to be presented to members of MCCW’s Regions... members who have exhibited selfless service and outstanding support in furthering the goals and mission of MCCW-Worldwide and in bringing harmony to the communities she has lived and worshipped in.

Through her efforts in MCCW, Mary Ann Ernst worked tirelessly in the service of Our Lord and His Church. She was always available to counsel and guide Catholic women, as groups and individuals, using her tremendous knowledge of and love for her Catholic faith. She was always alert to bringing the outsider in-to feed the hungry, to clothe the naked, to comfort the sorrowful. Mary Ann was, indeed, a touchstone of faith and harmony for all those who came in contact with her and was truly the hands and feet of Jesus. May we all strive to serve as unselfishly and harmoniously as she did.

May Mary Ann enjoy eternal rest in God’s heavenly kingdom as we honor her memory.

2. Nomination Process

The MCCW Mary Ann Ernst Regional “Harmony” award will be awarded at its Regional Conferences to recipient(s) who meet the qualifications set forth and who are favorably reviewed by the MCCW-Worldwide Recognition and Appreciation Committee.

[The Recognition and Appreciation Committee is an advisory committee of the Board of Directors. Its chairperson is appointed by the President, and its membership consists of representatives of the Regions of MCCW-Worldwide.]

Nominations may be made by submitting a nomination form (which is at the last page of this document or available from regional directors, or downloaded from the MCCW-Worldwide web site at www.mccw.org) to the Recognition and Appreciation Chair by mail or e-mail.

A. Nominee must have been an active member of MCCW as defined in its by-laws.

B. Nominees must have exhibited outstanding and selfless service in MCCW and performed duties at chapel level and Region level for a prolonged period of time (measured in years).

C. Each Chapel community/installation may forward one nomination to the Recognition and Appreciation Committee Chairperson by 20 March (or 45 days prior to the Conference at which this award will be given)

D. Should any nominee hold a position on a regional board or the worldwide Recognition and Appreciation committee, she will excuse herself from the selection process.

3. Selection and Presentation

The Recognition and Appreciation Chairperson will acknowledge receipt of nominations within seven working days. The Recognition and Appreciation Committee will follow up with the nominee or the person who submitted the nomination, gather complete information regarding her MCCW involvement, discern whether the nomination meets the qualifications criteria and make the final selection of that year's recipient(s). The nominee's chapel affiliation will be removed from application before consideration by the Committee.

The recipient of the Mary Ann Ernst Regional "Harmony" Award will be announced and presented at each of the Regional Conferences. The awardees of the "Harmony" Award will be recognized by the inscription of their name on a Perpetual Plaque that is displayed at the Archdiocese for Military Service headquarters. As a token of appreciation, the awardees will be given a pin that has a golden angel holding the MCCW-Worldwide logo.

Military Council of Catholic Women

Mary Ann Ernst "Harmony" Award Nomination Form

Nominee must have performed outstanding and selfless service in leadership position(s) at the chapel and regional levels.

Nominee's Name: _____

Nominee's Address:

Nominee's Phone: _____

Nominee's E-mail Address: _____

Nominee's Current Installation/Chapel Community: _____

Nominee's Region: _____

Nominator: _____

Date: _____

On the reverse or separate sheet of paper, please include a narrative summary for nominee:

- ☐ Length of service
- ☐ List positions held
- ☐ Brief description of contributions

Please provide as many details of the nominee's service to MCCW Chapels and Regions as possible, however, the Recognition and Appreciation Committee will follow up with the nominee or the nominator and gather complete information regarding her MCCW involvement and discern whether the nomination meets the qualifications criteria. For Award Description, Nomination and Selection details, please contact the MCCW-Worldwide Recognition and Appreciation Chairperson.

Why Discernment?

The MCCW-Worldwide Bylaws have been written and approved to include a discernment process which replaces voting by membership for identifying leadership for MCCW. Technically MCCW no longer has “members” who could vote at conference according to the new bylaws. There have been many questions about discernment and this article gives some background and attempts to explain how this will work at conference.

Discernment is a letting go and letting God guide the process of leadership selection. As women of faith, this is an opportunity to put our trust in God using prayer, information and a willingness to allow the Holy Spirit to work among us. The new MCCW discernment process is adapted from scripture and the St. Ignatius Model with input on implementation by the current MCCW Board of Directors.

In the past, MCCW has experienced division and distraction at conferences as “campaigning” for office sometimes takes place. The process of voting consumes precious time when the conference attendees could be having more opportunity with a speaker, be in prayer or even have some free time. Discernment allows for the leadership selection to be completed before the start of conference and then the new servant leaders have the opportunity to shadow those currently in the position throughout the entire conference. The new leadership is not official until they are installed at the installation mass of the conference.

How does it work? First, candidates prayerfully discern whether they are being called to serve on the MCCW board. If they discern that they are being called, they nominate themselves through the nominations committee chairperson, currently Marlene Cullum. **Please note that candidates may have a position in mind, but the Holy Spirit may have other plans.** After the necessary review and acceptance process (conducted by the nominations committee) the candidates will assemble one day prior to the conference to participate in the Discernment Procedure. The only voting that takes place is by the nominees voting amongst themselves for the specific board positions. The Executive Board has one combined vote to be cast anonymously and counted only in case of a tie.

Since MCCW is no longer able to use the secular model of voting, would not the natural choice be to try a spiritual model used by the Catholic Church for centuries? Consider the College of Cardinals voting among themselves for the next pope. Upon further research I found that discernment is not only used at the Vatican but in Catholic religious communities as well as for selecting church pastoral councils in dioceses and archdioceses around the country. This is a new beginning in so many ways for MCCW, let us all join in prayer asking the Holy Spirit to guide our discernment process in identifying and selecting our new servant-leaders.

I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.

John 15:5-8



Michelle Hokenson
Stewardship Manager

February Prayers for Paul Shovelain, AMS Co-Sponsored Seminarian

Loretta Endres, AMS Co-Sponsorship Liaison

Does your military chapel have a full-time Catholic priest? Was your service member able to attend Mass and the sacraments regularly on their last deployment? The answers to these questions probably brought home the fact that the number of Catholic chaplains has dropped almost 50% since 2001. Today there are less than 250 active-duty Catholic chaplains for the 275,000 active-duty troops who identify themselves as Catholic (the largest religious group except for those who list no faith preference at all).¹ Catholics make up about 25% of the military while Catholic priests account for less than 8% of military chaplains.¹

The Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA (AMS) and Fr. Aidan Logan, O.C.S.O., the AMS Director of Vocations, are working hard to increase the number of priests for the military. Currently there are 35 seminarians who have made a commitment to become Catholic military chaplains. It takes time and money for these men to become priests and this is where we as Catholic women can help.

All of the current seminarians have designated sponsors, but funds are still needed. The AMS has two retreats a year for men discerning a call to the priesthood and military chaplaincy. In addition, the Co-Sponsored Seminarian Program provides monetary and moral support for seminarians approved by their bishops for future assignment as military chaplains. These programs make continual demands on the financial resources of the Archdiocese. The AMS receives no government funds. Please consider making individual donations to the Archdiocese for the Military Services and designate them for the Co-Sponsored Seminarian Program. Donate to the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA, PO Box 4469, Washington, D.C. 20017 or online at www.milarch.org.

This month the Well is highlighting Deacon Paul Shovelain. Below is Salute Magazine's interview with Paul. Please pray for Deacon Paul as he will be ordained to the priesthood this year. Consider saying three Hail Marys for him every day. Offer up a weekly rosary for his studies and commitment. Pray for him during your Catholic Women of the Chapel meeting and Mass each week. Consider writing Brian a letter of encouragement and gratitude. You can do it with the women in your chapel group, with your family or on your own. Your letter could be exactly what he needs to hear today. Letters may be sent to the AMS and they will be forwarded on to him (addressed: Paul Shovelain, Co-Sponsored Seminarian, Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA, PO Box 4469, Washington, D.C. 20017). My family will be praying for him and thanking God that he has answered God's call to serve our community and our military members overseas.

Paul Shovelain

Armed Forces Branch: USAF

College: University of St. Thomas

What were some of the spiritual events or activities that helped you develop and share your relationship with Christ and His Church?

The youth ministry program in my parish was very active and through it I was able to participate in a mission trip to Mexico, discipleship week retreats, Extreme Faith Camp and Steubenville Conferences. I also attended World Youth Day in Australia and spent a semester in Rome. In both those activities, I gained a glimpse of the diversity of our church, but we are united in the Eucharist!

What is your favorite spiritual book?

In the Shadow of His Wings by Father Gereon Goldman. I received it as a confirmation gift in 10th grade and it was the first thing that inspired me.

AROUND THE REGIONS

Central Region

On Thursday, March 6th, Women of St Ignatius will be hosting a one day Lent retreat with Cheri Bowe of School of Faith as our speaker. We are hoping to exceed the 49 women we had present during the Advent retreat with a format to include adoration, mass, reconciliation, presentation talks, soup and salad lunch, and meditative rosary along with fellowship throughout the day. We are anticipating the MCCW-WW conference in April, and the theme of evangelization which coincides with Pope Francis' apostolic document *Evangelii Gaudium* (Joy of the Gospel). For those of you who would like to send in your silent auction items, we are partnering with the Southeast Regional Director who lives just 90 minutes away from conference to bring items mailed to her. Please email Michelle at kmn444@hotmail.com to receive the actual mailing address to send something you do not want to travel on the plane or in the car with you. The Central region will be running the silent auction with the intention of raising funds for the AMS Co-Sponsorship Seminarians, so whether you are able to come to conference or not, you can make a difference by either sending in an item to auction or simply writing a check to AMS with Co-Sponsorship in the remarks section of the check. May we all courageously live like the disciples of long ago sharing our faith through our words, actions, and deeds so that all may know we are Christians by our love.



Beth Manning
Central Region Director



Northeast Region

Maria Capestany, Northeast Region Director

"Protect us, Lord, as we stay awake; watch over us as we sleep,
that awake, we may keep watch with Christ, and sleep, rest in His peace."
-Night Prayer of the Church

The Catholic Women of the Chapel at Fort Belvoir mourn the loss of our beloved Ok. She was a kind, loving, and faith-filled woman who touched many lives at Fort Belvoir. She was very active and volunteered for nearly every possible opportunity to include both the Catholic and the inter-faith community.

She left us too soon. It is hard to understand why God has called her now. She touched all of us and we are all better Catholic women because of our relationship with her. May we always remember her. May we always close our eyes and see her beautiful smile. Most of all, may we remember her wonderful relationship with God. May she rest in peace and the Eternal Light shine upon her.

Ok Yong Song Ohlfest

Born into this life October 3, 1955

Born into Eternal Life February 15, 2014



My Dear Sisters in Christ-

This is truly a historic time for our organization—we have come through this transition from OCCH Auxiliary to 501(c)(3) stronger than ever, due in large part to your unwavering support. Now that the paperwork is complete and we are an independent corporation under the tax-exempt umbrella of the Archdiocese, it is time for us to rebuild our financial resources.

I can't help but think of the story of the 5 loaves and 2 fish—how Jesus was able to meet the needs of so many with the simple offering of one boy. MCCW-Worldwide, Inc. has a variety of programs and trainings we invite you to use to enrich your Chapel group (like the Conferences that have spiritually fed so many women, and our training programs that have nourished Chapel groups all over the world), but we need your offering to make that happen.

Are you able to share your 5 loaves and 2 fish with us, so that we may continue to feed Catholic military women's groups around the world? Please consider sending in an individual contribution, or taking up a collection at your next gathering. (Check with your chapel fund manager regarding the regulations for taking up an offering—it could be as simple as having the fund clerk supply an offering control sheet.) All contributions are tax deductible, but we must have the donor's email address to send an electronic receipt (we will send *only* electronic receipts).



Thank you for your prayers, and I look forward to meeting you at the 2014 MCCW-Worldwide Conference in Chattanooga, TN in April. Your sister in Christ,

Erin Raymond

Erin Raymond

President, MCCW-Worldwide, Inc.

Detach here and mail to: MCCW-Worldwide, Inc., PO Box 4456, Washington, DC 20017-9997. Questions? Email Michelle Hokenson, Stewardship Manager at stewardship@mccw.org

YES! I would love to support MCCW-Worldwide, Inc.
Enclosed please find my tax deductible donation of:

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Please make checks payable to *MCCW-Worldwide, Inc.*
Thank you for your gift!

PRAYER INTENTIONS OF THE HOLY FATHER

General Intention: Respect for Women.

That all cultures may respect the rights and dignity of women.

Mission Intention: Vocations.

That many young people may accept the Lord's invitation to consecrate their lives to proclaiming the Gospel.



Prayer for Vocations

Father, we're your people, the work of your hands.
So precious are we in your sight that you sent your Son, Jesus.
Jesus calls us to heal the broken-hearted,
to dry the tears of those who mourn,
to give hope to those who despair,
and to rejoice in your steadfast love.
We, the baptized, realize our call to serve.
Help us to know how.
Call forth from among us priests, sisters,
brothers and lay ministers.
With our hearts you continue to love your people.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God forever and ever.

**"All of us who are baptized
are missionary disciples.
We are called to become a
living Gospel in the world."**

Pope Francis via Twitter, @Pontifex

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MCCW Prayer to Our Lady of Good Counsel

O Lord of heavenly wisdom,
Who has given us Your own Mother Mary
to be our guide and counselor in this our lives,
Grant that in all things we may have the grace to seek
maternal instruction

and to profit by it in humility and love.

O Mother of Good Counsel,
Patroness of the Military Council of Catholic Women,
help us to understand and fulfill
the mind and will of your Divine Son, Jesus Christ.

Under the blessing of the Father,
and by the power of the Holy Spirit,
may we be responsible and intelligent
daughters of the Church.

May we labor in the spirit of renewal
to realize more perfectly the kingdom of God here below
as the only true preparation for our share
in the Kingdom of Heaven.

Amen.