

# MIAMI ARCHDIOCESAN COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN

## NEWS NOTES

FLORIDA COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN — NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN

**NEWSNOTES** is the official publication of the Miami Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women, an affiliated organization of the National Council of Catholic Women.

### Organization Objectives

To unite all Catholic Women Organizations of this Archdiocese in purpose, direction and action in religious, educational, social and economic fields

To stimulate these organizations to greater efficiency and usefulness in meeting the needs of the times

To give full support to the statements and programs of the United States Bishops Conference and to render them assistance in these efforts

### NCCW Mission Statement

The National Council of Catholic Women acts through its affiliated organizations 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.

<http://www.maccw.org>



## Catholic Days at the Capitol

# April 2014

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2012-2014**

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Assumption Catholic Church  
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# A message from The President



Dear Council Sisters,

We have been hearing homilies at each District Spring General Membership meeting with our theme “God is Love”. It is befitting for these weeks of Lent for us to remember and meditate on God’s Love for us. God loves us so much that he gave his only son to suffer and die for us that we may have eternal life. Only God’s Love can sustain us unconditionally. Let us continue to participate in the Lenten mission programs and reconciliation services in our parishes. May we have the courage to allow God into our lives so that we may share his love with all of the children of God.

On Tuesday March 25, 2014, at 5:00 A.M., forty-four of our members will be on the bus to Tallahassee for Catholic Days at the Capitol. It has been quite a turnaround for us from the days when only a handful of our members were participating. We owe this to God’s direction and the support and encouragement from many of our Pastors plus their donations toward our transportation to Tallahassee. We thank God for these holy men and we pray that God will continue to give us the grace to continue to be compassionate leaders in our affiliations and parishes. We strive to be the leaders that our pastors will reach out to when they need help in the parish. God is good, all the time!

We are in full preparation mode for our 56th Annual Convention coming up on April 25-27, 2014 at the Miami Airport Marriott Hotel. The theme is “MACCW: Missionaries of Hope; Strengthening Family Life”. In case you are wondering, why you should attend? All scheduled sessions are about giving hope to the families of the Archdiocese of Miami. Our Keynote speaker on Friday at the opening business meeting is Marta Vargas, Director of the ADOM Family Program. In addition, our Province Director, Rosie Schumacher will be speaking to us with news from the Florida Council of Catholic Women. Our Opening Liturgy begins at 5:00 P.M., with principal celebrant Msgr. Andrew Anderson. Dinner will be immediately following the Mass.

On Saturday, sessions begin at 9:00 A.M., with Father Richard Vigoa giving a talk on Sacramental Life. The memorial mass is scheduled for 10:30 A.M. with our Spiritual Advisor, Father Greer, presiding. After lunch, we will have a workshop

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with Louise Scott. Louise will instruct us in making a Pillow Case Dress. These dresses will be for little girls in Africa. The Living Rosary will follow the workshop.

On Sunday, we will start with praise and worship led by Linda Rose Ingrisano from St. Gregory Parish. Next will be Deacon Edgardo Farias. , Deacon Farias will be giving us insight into the ADOM Prison Ministry. We will end the morning with the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and blessing of religious articles.

The Closing Liturgy with Installation of Officers for 2014 – 2015 starts at 5:00 P.M., with Archbishop Wenski presiding. Following the Mass, the Closing Banquet wraps up the evening. We will be presenting the Scholarship Awards to three eighth grade girls to help them continue their Catholic education and we will also present the donation for the Seminarian Burse fund to Fr. David Zirilli, Vocations Director of the ADOM.

We encourage all the women of the diocese to come and join the fun.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel continue to intercede for us, that we may be wise, courageous and loving leaders of the church.

Many Blessings,

Josephine

## From the desk of Fr. Greer

### MACCW Spiritual Advisor

As we continue our Lenten journey the sacrifice(s) made unite us with Christ and the merits of His suffering on our behalf. Thereafter we share in His rising which brings us new life.

During this period we are also planning and preparing for the 56th MACCW Convention. More than what is presented therein is the importance of your presence and participation in this yearly event. Not only the speeches that are given benefit you but also ones sharing socializing and more so the spiritual experience.

Make the time to be there. Let's together grow in faith and have some fun!

Blessings,



Very Reverend Michael J. Greer, V. F.  
Spiritual Advisor

# Church

Claudia H. Charles, Commission Chair

## What is the Neocatechumenal Way?

*A formation process aimed at rekindling the faith in nominal Catholics*

To most it is a mystery. To some it seems like a sect. It is not a movement, like Cursillo or the Charismatic Renewal, but it has the approval of Popes dating back to Pope Paul VI and including, just last month, Pope Francis. One thing is certain: the Neocatechumenal Way definitely moves people to a new life as Christians. It is a series of steps — similar to the RCIA, or Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults but lasting much longer — aimed at rekindling the faith in people who have been baptized Catholics.

Miami's new auxiliary, Bishop Peter Baldacchino, is a product of the Neocatechumenate, which his family joined when he was thirteen in his native Malta. He describes the Way as “small communities of rediscovering the faith.”

Bishop Baldacchino, a Malta native, is the first bishop in North America to come from a Redemptoris Mater seminary, and only the third such bishop worldwide. One of his classmates, an Italian from Salerno, is vicar general in Estonia. A Redemptoris Mater seminary opened in Miami in December 2011 and currently has 13 seminarians enrolled. One Redemptoris Mater priest already has been ordained for the Archdiocese of Miami, and another will be ordained this May.

### Fast facts about the Neocatechumenal Way

- Founders Kiko Argüello, a painter, and Carmen Hernandez, a graduate in chemistry and theology, met in the shanty town of Palomeras Altas, on the outskirts of Madrid, Spain, and developed a program for evangelizing the slum's residents, many of them gypsies, prostitutes, drunkards and robbers who had no relationship with the Church.
- In 1974 the Congregation for Divine Worship, while preparing the reintroduction of the catechumenate for adults (known as RCIA), published a laudatory note, “Praeclarum exemplar,” and settled on the name “Neocatechumenate” to indicate an itinerary of post-baptismal formation for those who are baptized but not sufficiently catechized.

- On May 8, 1974 the Neocatechumenal Way was approved by Pope Paul VI during a meeting with Argüello and Hernandez.
- In 1987 Pope John Paul II opened the first Redemptoris Mater seminary in Rome to prepare priests for the New Evangelization; today, there are 100 Redemptoris Mater seminaries worldwide, with almost 2,000 priests already ordained and 2,000 seminarians in formation. Eight of those seminaries are in the United States, including the one in Miami.
- In 1990 the Neocatechumenal Way was recognized by Pope John Paul II as “an itinerary of Catholic formation valid for our society and our time,” and an instrument for the New Evangelization.
- On June 13, 2008 five Congregations of the Holy See — Doctrine of the Faith, Divine Worship, Bishops, Catholic Education, and Council of the Laity — approved the final statutes of the Neocatechumenal Way
- On January 17, 2011 Pope Benedict XVI approved the “Catechetical Directory of the Neocatechumenal Way.”
- Families in mission: Neocatechumenal Way send families to areas on the periphery of
- can contain the spread of Protestant sects until priests can be sent and new parishes founded. Currently, there are about 1,000 families in mission all over the world.
- Missio ad gentes: Groups consisting of a priest and four or five large families who, at the request of a bishop, receive a mandate to evangelize de-Christianized or pagan areas. There are now 95 missio ad gentes in the world, including six in the United States dioceses of Brooklyn, Boston and Philadelphia.
- On February 1, 2014 Pope Francis met with about 12,000 members of the Neocatechumenal Way, A formation process aimed at rekindling the faith in nominal Catholics sent 450 families in mission and established 42 new missio ad gentes.
- Today, there are about 25,000 Neocatechumenal communities in 800 dioceses and 6,000 parishes in 124 nations, including 1,000 communities in 300 parishes and 75 dioceses in the United States.

The Archdiocese of Miami has thirty communities in eight parishes.

*Excerpts: Taken from an article by Ana Rodriguez-Soto - Florida Catholic, March 21, 2014*



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# International

Louise Scott, Commission Chair

NCCW is putting out a lot of information on Cross Catholic Outreach and Catholic Relief Services. Each of these organizations help restore dignity to destitute women and children around the world. We are encouraged to support these organizations. I want to thank you for your donations and continued support of these programs, especially Change for Change-Help a Child, The Madonna Plan and Water for Life.

If any affiliation wants to support Fair Trade I have some information or you can go to [CRSFAIRTRADE.ORG](http://CRSFAIRTRADE.ORG).

[CRS.ORG](http://CRS.ORG) is a wonderful website full of information and you can sign up for weekly updates. Please consider checking out both of these websites.

Here in South Florida many of us support Food for the Poor. I know that Food for the Poor is not sponsored by NCCW but because they are local I encourage you to continue your support which helps our less fortunate neighbors in Central America and the Caribbean. 95 % of Food for the Poor's donations go directly to aiding others.



Catholic Relief Services is the official international humanitarian agency of the Catholic community in the United States.



# Family

Ana Portela, Commission Chair

## Spoil the Child with Faith

Pope Francis said: "How important Grandparents are for Family Life, for passing on the human and religious heritage which is so essential for each and every society! How important it is to have intergenerational exchanges and dialogues, especially within the context of the family."

As a CCD teacher for many years I have spoken to countless students who proclaim that it was their grandmother who taught them how to pray. It was their grandmother who took them to mass. It was their grandmother who taught them about the saints. Although a not so good grade for the parents, it just goes to show you how important the role of the grandparent is in the faith education of the child.

Whether the grandparent is the primary transmitter of faith or whether they help to support and nourish an already strong family faith life, grandparents must be totally aware of their essential role and take advantage of the times when you are with them. So now, when they come over to the house, or you go over to their's think about how you may teach them something new about our rich Catholic faith.

Many people say the best thing about grand parenting is that you can spoil the grandchildren and then give them back! Now think about what you are going to spoil them with!

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# Organization

Deanna Cook, Commission Chair

national council of  
**catholic women**

Dear Friend in Faith,

Please join us and become a member of the National Council of Catholic Women. NCCW has, for more than 90 years, responded with Gospel values to the needs of the Church and society in the modern world. In today's hyperkinetic world, the foundations of faith have never been more important.

We invite you to consider membership in NCCW. While we are an organization of nearly 6,000 affiliate and individual members, we think of ourselves as apostles to an even greater audience. Our members can be found in 3,800 parish and diocesan-based organizations throughout the United States.

This year NCCW is focusing on the Campaign for Human Dignity. Whether it is protecting young children from the pervasive influence of pornography to ensuring the rights of the unborn, this Campaign will benefit greatly from your support and involvement. It is through you that we can make a difference!

In September 2014, NCCW will convene its Annual Convention in Grand Rapids, MI, which will feature major speakers, educational programs, and liturgies that address our mission of supporting, empowering and educating all Catholic women in spirituality, leadership and service. We invite you to join us for this unique opportunity to hear from major thought leaders on the issues and subjects that matter to Catholic women.

Connectivity...Connector....Connection. These words are thrown about quite frequently today. You are no doubt connected already, to your family, to your community and to your church. By joining NCCW, you will directly connect with other women who share your values and beliefs.

The cost for an individual membership is just \$100 for Supporting Membership or \$60 for Regular Membership, a nominal amount compared to the benefits of joining a community of Catholic women who have been making a difference since 1920. We invite you to fill in the attached application and return it today.

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Fax: 703-224-0991

nccw01@nccw.org  
www.nccw.org

May God bless you and your family.

Yours in Christ,



Dr. Rebecca Woodhull  
President

*To support, empower, and educate all Catholic women*

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# Legislation

Monica Kramer, Commission Chair

## Catholic Days at the Capitol

March 25- 27, 2014

The day began very early Tuesday morning when fifty-four members of the Archdiocese of Miami made their way to Tallahassee to participate in Catholic Days at Capitol. Forty-four of those travelling to Tallahassee are members of the Miami Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women.

We arrived in Tallahassee to join delegates from the seven dioceses of the State of Florida. We gathered at the civic center to attend a legislative briefing on the four issues we would be discussing with the Legislators followed by a breakout session to prepare further for the meetings at the Capitol scheduled for the following morning.

On Wednesday morning, we made our way to the Capitol for meetings with our assigned Legislators. All delegates gathered again for Diocesan pictures followed by a luncheon with some of the state legislators in attendance and many of the Florida Bishops including our new Auxiliary Bishop, Bishop Peter Baldacchino.

At this luncheon, the Florida Conference of Catholic Bishops awarded Honorable Renee Garcia of Hialeah the Defensor Dignitatis in appreciation for his ongoing effort to protect the human dignity of residents of our state. In addition, the Defensor Vitae Award was given to Honorable Thad Altman from the Orlando Diocese for his ongoing effort in defending the sanctity of life.

Later that evening we headed to fill up all the pews at St. Thomas More Co-Cathedral for The RED MASS. This celebration of the Mass is known as the mass to invoke the Holy Spirit for guidance upon the Executive, Legislative and Judicial Branches of Government in the state of Florida. There were nine Florida Bishops, numerous Priests and Deacons from around the state. The Homilist for the mass was Bishop Robert N. Lynch, from the Diocese of St. Petersburg.

That evening over dinner, we talked about the activities of the day and the hope that we truly planted seeds with our Legislators to facilitate a better understanding of the proposed bills to assist them in their decision when the votes are taken.

In conclusion, CDAC is one of those “you just have to be there” types of experiences. Not all of the observations and events can be conveyed in writing.

We are grateful for the financial support we received from some of the Pastors and Parishes of the archdiocese. We know that we are supported by many prayers and the bonus of financial support enables more participants due to the reduced personal cost of the trip.

On a footnote, there was a drawing for a gift certificate to be awarded to any prior attendee who brought their tote bag from last year. Our very own, Margaret Wright won a \$25 gift certificate!

God is Good, All the Time.

Below are the four bills presented this year for at Catholic Days at the Capitol:

### UNBORN VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE

**SUPPORT:** SB 162 (Stargel); HB 59 (Ahern)

#### Bill Provisions:

- Replaces the term “unborn quick child” that is currently used in the vehicular homicide, DUI homicide, and killing of an unborn quick child by injury to the mother, with the term “unborn child”
- Provides for a separate offense if a person commits any crime that causes the death of, or bodily injury to, an unborn child
- The provision cannot be used to prosecute for conduct relating to an abortion the pregnant woman consents to or any medical treatment by for the pregnant woman or unborn child.
- Provides that the death penalty may not be imposed for an offense against an unborn child.

#### Rationale:

The Florida Unborn Victims of Violence Act creates an added protection for women, particularly pregnant women and unborn children from assault and homicide crimes.

## UNANIMOUS JURY RECOMMENDATIONS IN DEATH PENALTY CASES

**SUPPORT:** SB 334 (Altman); HB 467 (Rodriguez)

### Background:

Whether one supports or opposes the death penalty, a unanimous recommendation for a sentence of death ensures a more reliable and fair sentencing process. Delaware and Florida are the only two states that require a simple majority vote of 7-5.

### Bill Provisions:

- Requires that an advisory sentence of death be made by a unanimous recommendation of the jury.
- The jury must find each aggravating circumstance used to support the jury's recommendation of death beyond a reasonable doubt and by a unanimous vote.
- A special verdict form must be submitted by the jury confirming unanimity on any and all aggravating circumstances relied on to support the death penalty recommendation.

### Rationale:

Florida has reversed 24 death sentences, the highest number of any other state by far, due to innocence. Death and executions are irreversible; therefore, as long as the state of Florida maintains the death penalty, our state has an obligation to respond to these egregious errors by altering our current death penalty process.

## VOLUNTARY PREKINDERGARTEN (VPK) EDUCATION PROGRAM

**SUPPORT:** Bolstering VPK Scholarships through Budget Process

### Budget Requests:

- Increase the per-pupil scholarship amounts by at least \$100 per child served
- Offer scholarships for VPK teachers to improve credentials

### Rationale:

The VPK program makes it possible for families to have a pure form of school choice (without "means testing" or financial-need requirements) for their children at a crucial and foundational stage for academic development.

## KIDCARE EXPANSION FOR LEGAL IMMIGRANT CHILDREN

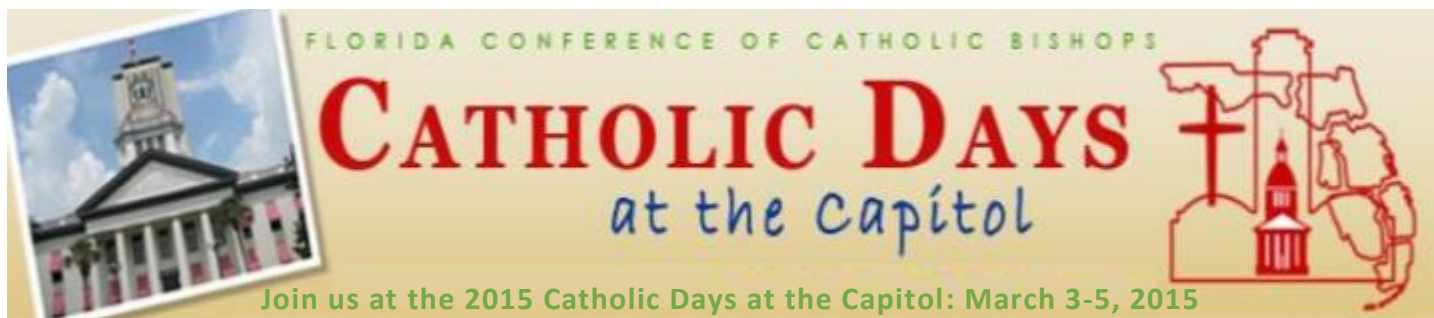
**SUPPORT:** HB 7 (J. Diaz); SB 282 (Garcia)

### Bill Provisions:

This bill allows approximately 26,000 low-income, legally residing immigrant children to participate in the KidCare insurance program affordably, an increase of about 1%. Both bills maintain the exclusion of eligibility for undocumented immigrants of any age.

### Rationale:

This promotes healthier children and families in Florida. Low-income legally residing immigrant children are also more likely to receive preventive care and less likely to use hospital emergency rooms.





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# Community

Marcia Perez, Commission Chair

## John 3:16

### I don't understand it.

A little boy was selling newspapers on the corner; the people were in and out of the cold.

The little boy was so cold that he wasn't trying to sell many papers.

He walked up to a policeman and said, "Mister, you wouldn't happen to know where a poor boy could find a warm place to sleep tonight would you?"

You see, I sleep in a box up around the corner there and down the alley and its awful cold in there for tonight. "Sure would be nice to have a warm place to stay."

The policeman looked down at the little boy and said, "You go down the street to that big white house and you knock on the door. When they come out the door you just say John 3:16 and they will let you in." So he did. He walked up the steps and knocked on the door, and a lady answered. He looked up and said, "John 3:16." The lady said, "Come on in, Son."

She took him in and she sat him down in a split bottom rocker in front of a great big old fireplace, and she went off. The boy sat there for a while and thought to himself: John 3:16... I don't understand it, but it sure makes a cold boy warm

Later she came back and asked him "Are you hungry?" He said, "Well, just a little. I haven't eaten in a couple of days, and I guess I could stand a little bit of food,"

The lady took him in the kitchen and sat him down to a table full of wonderful food. He ate and ate until he couldn't eat any more. Then he thought to himself: John 3:16... Boy, I sure don't understand it but it sure makes a hungry boy full

She took him upstairs to a bathroom to a huge bathtub filled with warm water, and he sat there and soaked for

a while. As he soaked, he thought to himself: John 3:16 ... I sure don't understand it, but it sure makes a dirty boy clean. You know, I've not had a bath, a real bath, in my whole life. The only bath I ever had was when I stood in front of that big old fire hydrant as they flushed it out. The lady came in and got him. She took him to a room, tucked him into a big old feather bed, pulled the covers up around his neck, kissed him goodnight and turned out the lights. As he lay in the darkness and looked out the window at the snow coming down on that cold night, he thought to himself: John 3:16 ... I don't understand it but it sure makes a tired boy rest

The next morning the lady came back up and took him down again to that same big table full of food, after he ate, she took him back to that same big old split bottom rocker in front of the fireplace and picked up a big old Bible

She sat down in front of him and looked into his young face. "Do you understand John 3:16?" she asked gently. He replied, "No, Ma'am, I don't. The first time I ever heard it was last night when the policeman told me to use it," She opened the Bible to John 3:16 and began to explain to him about Jesus. Right there, in front of that big old fireplace, he gave his heart and life to Jesus. He sat there and thought: John 3:16... Don't understand it, but it sure makes a lost boy feel safe.

You know, I have to confess I don't understand it either, how God was willing to send His Son to die for me, and how Jesus would agree to do such a thing. I don't understand the agony of the Father and every angel in heaven as they watched Jesus suffer and die. I don't understand the intense love for ME that kept Jesus on the cross till the end. I don't understand it, but it sure does make life worth living.

John 3:16: For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.



Dear Madam President,

As some of you are aware of Miami ACCW now holds the office of Province Director-Elect for the Florida Council. With that said, one of the responsibilities of the office is to host the FCCW Conference in 2014. The dates and the venue have been chosen by our FCCW Province Director Rosi Schuhmacker and as your Province Director-Elect, I have asked our MACCW President Josephine Gilbert for permission to raise funds to host this Conference.

After much discussion we have decided to have an **"EVENTLESS EVENT"**. With everyone's calendars **so full** we thought this would be our easiest way to raise the funds needed for the conference. We are asking each Affiliation **to sell 2 sheets** of raffle tickets at **\$10.00 each** or **6 for \$50.00**, deadline for money and raffle tickets to be returned will be **JUNE 1st, 2014**. The winners will be drawn at the MACCW Board Meeting. **The prizes are as follows**; #1 a 19"HD LED Backlit LCD TV with built-in DVD player, #2 1Full FCCW Conference package and #3 a lovely Pamper Yourself Basket.

**Please mail your checks and filled out raffle tickets to Kitten Auer, MACCW Treasurer @ 385 Caribbean Dr., Key Largo, FL 33037.** If you have misplaced your tickets or would like more please see ME at the upcoming MACCW Convention. Thank you to those Affiliations who have returned their tickets already. As always thank you for your continued support and generosity. These major events cannot be done without your help and support.

As always your faithful servant,

In Peace, Love & Joy,

Diane Tugander,  
FCCW Province Director-Elect

### **New districts of Miami archdiocesan council of catholic women and its affiliations**

Effective April 28, 2014

#### **NORTH DISTRICT OF MACCW**

All Saints CCW  
St. Gabriel CCW  
St. Andrew CCW  
St. Vincent CCW  
Assumption CCW  
St. Clement CCW  
St. David CCW  
St. Bernard CCW  
St. Sebastian CCW  
St. Helen CCW  
St. Henry CCW  
St. Paul The Apostle CCW

#### **CENTRAL DISTRICT OF MACCW**

St. Bartholomew CCW  
St. Bernadette CCW  
Cathedral CCW  
Centro Hispano  
St. Rose Of Lima CCW  
St. Mary Magdalen CCW  
Little Flower CCW

#### **SOUTH DISTRICT OF MACCW**

Christ The King CCW  
Daughter Of Isabella  
Good Shepherd CCW  
Our Lady Of Lourdes CCW  
Holy Rosary St Richard CCW  
St. Raymond CCW  
St. Thomas The Apostle  
St. Justin Martyr CCW

# 56th Annual MACCW Convention

April 25–27, 2014

## “MACCW: Missionaries of Hope; Strengthening Family Life”

Linda Rose

“Praise and Worship”

Deacon Edgardo Farias

Archdiocese of Miami  
Detention/Prison Ministry

Martha Vargas

Archdiocese of Miami  
Family Program Manager

Keynote Speaker

Rev. Richard Vigoa

“Sacramental Life”

Louise Scott, Facilitator

“Pillowcase Dresses  
For Africa” Workshop

“Put on your Dancing Shoes”

Welcome Reception

Come dance  
the night  
away!



April 10, 2014

### Deadline for Registrations

Convention Package:	\$ 145.00
Single Day Registrations:	\$ 35.00
Saturday Awards Luncheon:	\$ 45.00
Sunday Closing Banquet:	\$ 60.00
Friday Dinner (optional)	\$ 35.00

#### Registration Contact:

Kitten Auer 385 Caribbean Dr., Key Largo, FL 33037  
305-451-3021 Keyskitten@aol.com

Meet  
Old  
Friends

Make  
New  
Friends

### Award Presentations

Outstanding Member

Our Lady of Good Counsel

MACCW Scholarships

### Celebrate Liturgies with

Archbishop Wenski

Msgr. Anderson

Fr. Greer

Meditation Room

Divine Mercy Chaplet

Living Rosary

Presidents' Appreciation Lunch

Installation of 2014– 2016 Officers

“Gently Used” Jewelry Sale

Raffle & Pot Of Gold

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**Miami Archdiocesan  
Council of Catholic Women  
NEWS NOTES**

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April 2014

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**Miami Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women  
WELCOMES**



**Bishop Peter Baldacchino  
Miami's 10th Auxiliary Bishop**

**Congratulations on your new mission.**

**We pray that the Holy Spirit will continue to direct your path.**