

Our Lady of Good Counsel, Pray for Us

St. Raphael's Council of Catholic Women

April 2009

<http://st-raphaels.com/ccw.html>

CCW Newsletter



St. Raphael Catholic Church



CCW OFFICERS

President:

Marlene D'Abramo

1st Vice President:

Mary Simoneau

2nd Vice President:

Gina Longino

Recording Secretary:

Kathy Guckenberger

Corresponding Secretary:

Roseanna Costa

Treasurer:

Barbara Dippelhofer



Newsletter Editor:

Louise Barrett

Newsletter/Website Designer:

Theresa McCormick

From the CCW President

Hi Everyone: I want to extend my Best Wishes to all of you and your families for a Most Holy and Happy Easter. During Holy Week may all of you repent and follow in the footsteps of Jesus' final days on earth. Remember His Last Supper with His apostles and His agony and pain that He endured for us on Good Friday and His Glorious Resurrection on Easter! Enjoy your day.

DCCW Convention

It's easy to meet other women from our diocese and have a great time away at the annual DCCW Convention which will be held May 4th - 6th at the Crowne Plaza East in Tampa. Make plans to come with a friend. There will be great sessions, liturgies, fun meals, dinner with the Bishop, entertainment and parties and more parties. Contact Louise Barrett @ 821-2561 for registration information.

Slate of Officers

The nominated candidates for new officers of St Raphael's Council of Catholic Women are:
President: Mary Simoneau, 1st Vice President: Claudia Soucy, 2nd Vice President: Ava Abner, Treasurer: Marty Foreman, Corresponding Secretary: Bernadine Quartetti, and Recording Secretary: Kathy Guckenberger. Voting for the officers for the 2009-2011 term will be at the April 4th CCW meeting. During our May 2nd Meeting, we will have Installation Mass and breakfast

CCW Board *by Mary Simoneau*

We invite all women to look at and read the information on the CCW information board located in the Narthex of the church. The board contains much information about meetings, quotes, events, and a book corner. This month we recommend "Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World" by Joanna Weaver.

From the Pastors Desk *by Monsignor Caverly*

We will soon celebrate the great feast of Easter when we liturgically relive the Pascal mystery through which Christ redeemed the human race and gave glory to the Father. By dying, Christ destroyed our death; by rising, he restored our life. I invite you to be with us during the beautiful Holy Week Ceremonies. The Mass of the Chrism will be at the Cathedral of St Jude's on Tuesday, April 7th at 11:30 AM. We will celebrate the Mass of the Lord's Supper at St. Raphael's Thursday, April 9th at 7 PM. The Liturgy of Good Friday will be at 3 PM and the Vigil will be Saturday, April 11 at 8 PM. Easter Sunday morning we will have a sunrise Mass at 6:30 AM followed by the usual Sunday Mass schedule. The Diocesan wide program for confession at all the Churches between 5:30 and 8 PM on March 18th met with a great response at our Parish. Fr. Spillet and I heard confessions non-stop during those hours. I would like to wish all the ladies of the St Raphael's Council of Catholic Women a very blessed and happy Easter.

CCW Calendar 2008-09

Thursday	April 16	Lower Pinellas Deanery Conference, St Raphael Church 9 AM-2 PM
Saturday	May 2	Installation of New Officers
Mon-Wed	May 4-6	Annual DCCW Convention Tampa Crowne Plaza East Hotel
Saturday	May 16	Mother's Day Tribute
Thursday	May 28	Pot Luck Supper
General Meeting Schedule:		September-May; 7:35AM Rosary, 8AM Mass, 8:30 Continental Breakfast, & Meeting



Lower Pinellas Deanery Spring Conference

Thursday, April 16th right here at St. Raphael's for the Lower Pinellas Deanery Spring Conference. The theme is "Nourished by the Eucharist" and our guest speaker will be Fr. Yost. Registration is \$12 and includes a continental breakfast and lunch. Gathering together with women from other Parishes in the Lower Pinellas Deanery is always an enriching experience. Plan to attend this day of friendship, fun and spiritual growth. Send your check payable to St Raphael CCW to Mary Simoneau at PO Box 56724, St. Petersburg, FL 33732, or drop in it the collection in an envelope marked LPD Conference. See you there!

Too Busy to be Still!

Submitted by Marlene D'Abramo

Help me slow down, Lord, right now, before I think of something else that I should be doing--as if it really is more important than You. Let me sit in the quiet peace of your presence and soak up all that You have to say to me. Give me the patience and perception to do nothing else for these next few moments except to be totally, completely, and wonderfully centered on YOU!

Based on Lk10:38-42

Pregnancy Plus Medical BANQUET OF LIFE!!!!

All are welcome to come and support PPM at our Banquet of Life Friday, April 17 at 6:30pm at Banquet Masters. We will have a Silent Auction, full course buffet dinner (entrees include carved round of beef, chicken marsala, and almond salmon), client testimonies, and a guest speaker. Gus Lloyd will be our Master of Ceremonies. Tickets are \$35/person. Corporate Sponsorship Tables are available. Please call 550-4236 if you would like to purchase tickets, donate an item for the auction, or be a corporate sponsor. Thank you! God bless.

Prayer by Mother Theresa

submitted by Mary Baecher

Dear Lord Jesus, deliver me from Desire and Fear- The desire of being loved. The desire of being praised. The desire of being preferred. The desire of being consulted.

The desire of being popular. The fear of being humiliated. The fear of being despised. The fear of being misunderstood. The fear of being wronged. The fear of being ridiculed. The fear of being suspected. The fear of being insecure... Mother Teresa, M.C.



April Papal Intentions

General: That the role of women may be more appreciated and used to good advantage in every country in the world.

Mission: That the Christians who work in areas where the conditions of the poor, the weak and the women and children are most tragic, may be signs of hope, thanks to their courageous testimony to the Gospel of solidarity and love .

Conscience Protection

This is from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops: "Conscience protection is necessary to protect human rights, said Bishop William F. Murphy of Rockville Centre, N.Y., in a March 24 interview with Catholic News Service. Bishop Murphy, chairman of the Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), addressed the Obama Administration's move to rescind a Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) regulation guaranteeing conscience protections for health care workers and institutions. Taking back the regulations "raises a real issue, because the statutes are intended to protect human rights – rights of conscience and rights of freedom of religion," Bishop Murphy said. "So why should everyone be concerned about this? Because if one person's rights can be compromised, everybody's rights can be compromised." *by www.usccb.org/*

Mercy Ship *by Roseann Halsmer*

"Mercy Ships is a global charity that has operated hospital ships in developing nations since 1978. Mercy Ships brings hope and healing to the forgotten poor... serving all people without regard for race, gender, or religion." The crew consists of both professional medical and non-medical volunteers. Roseann's cousin, David, travelled with the Mercy Ship here is how her cousin got involved. "It seems that a year or more ago, his wife Kris gave David a book about Mercy Ships because it had a big picture of a ship on the cover and she knows he loves ships, so, she thought it would make a good gift. The book happened to be the story of how Mercy Ships got started and David was hooked - especially when he was offered an early retirement package. He spent a week in TX training and went back to get "safety certified" (some Coast Guard program, I think) so that he could "safely" work aboard ship. He headed for the Canary Islands where the ship was in dry-dock for some work. They have been using him in electrical and electronic type work. He was in Tenerife and then headed for Benin on the African Coast.

Dues are Due

Our annual \$15 CCW dues are due in April and delinquent by June 1st. It is a huge task to remind everyone to pay their dues as we have over 200 members. The CCW dues envelope will be in the April envelopes from church. You can also pay the dues in any envelope- just mark "CCW Dues". Congratulations to Rose Grado, Jovita Tuazon, Mary Malusa, Anita Petenzi, Lillian McClelland, Eileen Brady, Mary Beacher, Yolanda Gallagher, Mary Driscoll, Fran Vaccaro, Helen Sourini, Peggy Flatley, Angela Soucy, Joyce Kubala, Mary Wilson, Jeannette Abramo, Mary Condon, Kathy Condon, Susan Hicks(new), Theresa McCormick, Martha Farrell, Marlene D'Abramo, Louise Halsmer, Lisa Hansel(new), Barbara Creamer, Ana Hirt, Teresa Hartley, Debbie Craig, Barbara Dippelhofer, Maggie Moren, Kathy Guckenberger, Judy Geier, Theresa Hamm, Roseanne Halsmer, Jane Winstead, Bernadette Bailey, Mary Beth Sebesta, Margaret Peck, Nancy Rutland, Sara Armstrong, and Gay Hagaman who have already paid their 2009 dues. Thank you, thank you. Louise Barrett, Antoinette Falk, Vivian Frank, Madelon Healy, Ann Kovach, Colleen Lally, Irene Lewis, Ruth Mattick, Bernice McCune, Charlotte Overbey, Anastasia Rossi, Gerry Sweet, and Winnie Young do not have to remember to pay dues ever again as they are life members! Those in nursing homes are exempt from dues and are honorary members. If you cannot afford the \$15 dues please contact President Marlene D'Abramo. We love our members and hope you can get a friend to join this April. Thank you in advance for paying your dues as soon as possible.



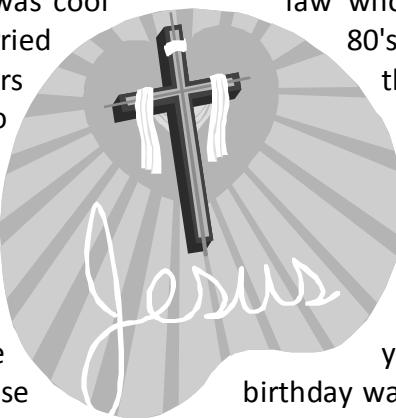
Mary and Martha Brigade

by Maggie Moren

Many thanks to Bernadine Quartetti, Mary Baecher, Bernadette Bailey, Mary Poulin, Terry Hamm, Lillian McClelland, Elaine Brady, Joanne Burkhart, Marlene D'Abramo, Molly Sanger and Maggie Moren. These ladies assisted cleaning the Church on March 26th in preparation for Easter. They were awesome, true handmaidens of the Lord.

Stations of the Cross Walk *by Cherie Mainenti*

(Cherie planned a 17 mile walk to various Churches where she and friends prayed the Stations of the Cross on March 26th. This is her account:) It was truly a glorious day all day long. I actually woke up dreading the walk. Face it, you've all seen me, I'm out of shape. I've not done any preparation. I met Mary Stoft and Beth Scognamiglio at 6:45AM Mass. We started the first two stations in the old church at St R's. Keiran O'Shay and Joan Malone did those stations with us. Then we were off. The weather couldn't have been more perfect, it was cool and comfortable most of the trip. I carried a backpack with a Cross and the prayers requests of everyone. We travelled to St. Mary's which was locked, so we did the next stations in the garden. We walked to St Anthony's and did the next stations in the chapel. From there we went to St Paul's, which had a funeral Mass going on, so we did the stations in Our Lady's garden (for those of you who have never gone, go check it out, it's beautiful). The next leg of the journey was to Holy Family. It was okay at first, but my feet started to hurt. I thought, "You can deal with this" so I persevered, as did the others the last 1/2 mile before we arrived at Holy Family, I had a host of things bothering me. My feet were burning, my lower back was seizing up, and I was chafing beyond belief, but the one thing that actually scared me is that it was getting harder for me to breath and my heart was pounding out of my chest. I'm not sure what happened then, if it was a blood pressure spike or what, but it made it difficult to get to the church. At this point, I realized that I would not be able to continue on foot back to St R's. Beth has problems with her knee and was starting to feel it. Her husband came and picked the two of us up and drove us to St R's, but Mary Stoft was able to continue on foot. I went inside St R's to say the final prayer of the Stations and Mary said she did the same when she arrived about 70 min. later. There were several things that were very special about today. I felt God was definitely there with us. We had 3 people walking, which anytime I hear



the number three I always think of the Holy Trinity, Holy Family, etc. In that last 1/2 mile I really began to see Christ with the Cross digging into his shoulder after being scourged and blood pouring out of him while he walked his final walk to Calvary. I really wanted to continue on, but then thought that I needed to humble myself and realize that I have limits and understand those limits. Also, Mary was praying the Rosary on her way back by herself and her intention was for her stepfather's brother in law who was riddled with cancer and in his 80's. She found out when she got home that he died at the time she was offering up that Rosary. What a wonderful send off. One more thing and then I'm done. I have a classmate from high school that I've been conversing with on Facebook. I knew that his 13 year old son had taken his own life 2 years ago, March 15th and knew his birthday wasn't too far off from that date, but didn't know the exact date. I happened to go on his son's site (his father has it in his memory) and his birthday is March 26th, he would have been 15. That was very special to me even though I didn't know his son. I pray that all of you who entrusted me with your requests will get the answers you desire. But it is, as we all know, in God's time and if it be His will. I do know this, He is always there with us and those that are suffering, no matter what the outcome. Peace to all of you, Cherie

Sunday Complaints: CAN YOU TOP THIS?

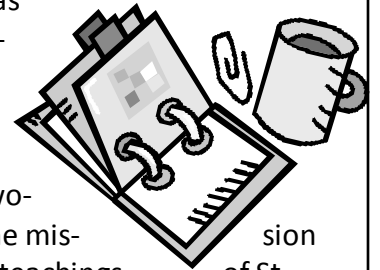
After Church one Sunday, a Mother said "The choir was awful this morning." The father commented. "The sermon was too long." Their seven-year-old daughter added, "You've got to admit it was a pretty good show for a dollar."



Member News:

- ⌘ From CCW member Margaret Peck: I had waited 24 years before making CRHP, and I'm glad I finally did. The team was wonderful, and I was impressed with all the effort and time spent in making it a wonderful experience for everyone. CCW members Carol Irwin and Mary Stoff were outstanding, and "my" team leader, Betsy, was great. I met lots of new people, and wonder why more of them are not members of CCW!!
- ⌘ CCW member Angela Soucy enjoyed a very busy month having her two daughters visiting her, one from Ct and the other from NY. Getting together with their youngest sister CCW member Chris Pelletier made for a fun time for all
- ⌘ From CCW member Debbie Craig about her son Marcus: Marcus arrived in Iraq last Monday. He graduated from the USF ROTC program, graduated from the Infantry program at Ft. Benning and then graduated from Ranger School and Airborne school before being stationed in Fairbanks, Alaska. He is a 2nd Lt. All prayers are appreciated.
- ⌘ From CCW Member Becky Brooks: I have moved to Southwest Florida. If you could please let the ladies know that I moved and I am doing okay. I would appreciate it. God is good. He provided a way for me to move here. We will miss you Becky. Thanks for all you did while you were here.
- ⌘ Congratulations to CCW member Andrea Bulger who was married in March at St Raphael's Church in a beautiful ceremony.

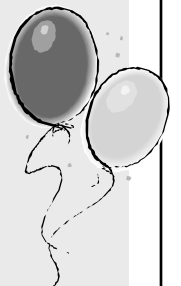
- ⌘ Kudo's to CCW members Susan O'Gara and Mary Brophy who were in the play Auntie Mame in Gulfport during March. They were WONDERFUL- such talent!
- ⌘ From CCW member Stephanie Graham: Here is a very good link to all of our elected representatives in Congress, even our President, as well as agencies and even the Supreme Court. It's an excellent resource.
<http://capwiz.com/fof/dbq/officials/>
- ⌘ Our very own Fr. Thomas Spillett was the key presenter on March 10th and Fr. Sherwood was the key presenter on March 9th at St Paul's two-night parish mission. The mission focused on the life and teachings of St. Paul and how we can carry his message to the world today. The mission was a special celebration for the Jubilee Year of St. Paul. Fr Spillett's presentation was dynamic and gave us much spiritual encouragement.
- ⌘ CCW members Gina Longino and Louise Barrett were Host Families for French Students coming to FL March 27- April 5. The students were 13-14 years old and had planned activities during the weekdays



HAPPY EASTER

April CCW Member Birthdays

- | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| 4 Phyllis Tuttle | 16 Roseanna Costa | 23 Mary Brophy |
| 6 Theresa McCormick | 16 Marjorie Johnson | 23 Miriam Ludes |
| 6 Traci Craig | 17 Evelyn Smith | 24 Jodi Ellis |
| 7 Marie Ballo | 19 Kim Loxton | 24 Susan Langston |
| 7 Mimi Casadonte | 20 Mary Carlomagno | 25 Carmen Marlowe |
| 10 Louise Barrett | 20 Marybeth Finster | 28 Pam Gehrich |
| 13 Bernadette Bailey | 22 Donna Condo | 28 Ann Walsh |
| 13 Barbara Smith | 22 Estella Estevez | |



In Your Prayers . . .

Sick by Lu Perrin

Please keep the following in your prayers: Michael Downs, Francesca Brusini, Mary Calabro, Beth Mastrianna, John Lee, Winnie Granberg, Mary Ann Smelter, Paul Smith, Nancye Barrett, Nancy DeSutter, Mike Heraty, Pat Stromski, Margaret Swing, Theodore Duval, Kay Tolhoek, Karen Cocker, Francis and Louise Halsmer, Joe Kolbe, and Ryleigh Russo,

Homebound and nursing home: Nellie and Charles Bonitati, Truus Stuimer, Eileen Edwards, Esther Lavangie, Ginny Hanson, Susan Neitz, Tom Kunkler, D J Thompson, Catherine Vallette, Julie Schiavi, Adele Buchta, Lily Riconda, Fran Davis, Martha Farrell, Dottie Soots, Montile Sutterlin, and Ann Walsh

Deceased by Bernadette Bailey

The following persons died during the month of March: Richard Renaud (father of MaryAnn Miller), Noemi Abad (daughter in law of CCW member fanny Abad), Mary Butson, Gerald Anthony Baio, Sr. and Rose Satchwell. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

CCW Member Death

CCW member Mary Butson died March 11. A CCW member since 1976, Mary was very active in our group and Parish until these last few years. Mary served our Parish with love. We will miss her. Mary will be buried with services up North, near relatives.



Parishioner Directory

Thank you CCW member Chris Pelletier for heading up the huge project of organizing the new Parish Directory. It has been 6 years since our last Parish directory. Sign up list is in the narthex or call Chris at 526-0218. Please make the effort to have your picture in the directory.

Direct Line to Heaven

On vacation in Rome, I noticed a marble column in St. Peter's with a golden telephone on it. As a young priest passed by, I asked who the telephone was for. The priest told me it was a direct line to Heaven, and if I'd like to call, it would be a thousand dollars. I was amazed, but declined the offer. Throughout Italy, I kept seeing the same golden telephone on a marble column. At each, I asked about it and the answer was always the same: a direct line to Heaven and I could call for a thousand dollars. Then - I went to Ireland. I finished my tour in Ireland. I decided to attend Mass at a local village church. When I walked in the door I noticed the golden telephone. Underneath it there was a sign stating: "DIRECT LINE TO HEAVEN 25 cents." "Father," I said, "I have been all over Italy and in all the cathedrals I visited, I've seen telephones exactly like this one. But the price is always a thousand dollars. Why is it that this one is only 25 cents?" The priest smiled and said, "Darlin', you're in Ireland now. It's a local call."

TEACHER: Harold, what do you call a person who keeps on talking when people are no longer interested? HAROLD: A teacher.

Middle Aged Woman

A middle aged woman had a heart attack and was taken to the hospital. While on the operating table she had a near death experience. Seeing God she asked "Is my time up?" God said, "No, you have another 43 years, 2 months and 8 days to live." Upon recovery, the woman decided to stay in the hospital and have a facelift, liposuction, and a tummy tuck. She even had someone come in and change her hair color. Since she had so much more time to live, she figured she might as well make the most of it. After her last operation, she was released from the hospital. While crossing the street on her way home, she was killed by an ambulance. Arriving in front of God, she demanded, "I thought you said I had another 40 years? Why didn't you pull me from out of the path of the ambulance?" God replied: "I didn't recognize you."

Psalm 38:8: My loins burn with fever; my flesh is afflicted. John 3:16: 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.

Beat with a mixer on high speed for 12 to 15 minutes until stiff peaks are formed. Explain that the color white represents—in God's eyes - the purity of those whose sins have been cleansed by Jesus. Read Isa. 1:18 and John 3:1-3.

Isaiah 1:18 Come now, let us set things right, says the LORD: Though your sins be like scarlet, they may become white as snow; Though they be crimson red, they may become white as wool.

John 3:1-3 Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. He came to Jesus at night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you are doing unless God is with him." Jesus answered and said to him, "Amen, amen, I say to you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above."

Fold in broken nuts. Drop by teaspoons onto wax paper-covered cookie sheet. Explain that each mound represents the rocky tomb where Jesus' body was laid. Read Matt. 27:57-60.

Matthew 27:57-60 When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea named Joseph, who was himself a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus; then Pilate ordered it to be handed over. Taking the body, Joseph wrapped it (in) clean linen and laid it in his new tomb that he had hewn in the rock. Then he rolled a huge stone across the entrance to the tomb and departed.

Put the cookie sheet in the oven, close the door and turn the oven OFF. Give each child a piece of tape and seal the oven door. Explain that Jesus' tomb was sealed. Read Matt. 27:65-66.

Matthew 27:65-66 Pilate said to them, "The guard is yours; 38 go secure it as best you can." So they went and secured the tomb by fixing a seal to the stone and setting the guard.

GO TO BED! Explain that they may feel sad to leave the cookies in the oven overnight. Jesus' followers were in despair when the tomb was sealed. Read John 16:20 and 22.

John 16:20 Amen, amen, I say to you, you will weep and mourn, while the world rejoices; you will grieve, but your grief will become joy. [John 16:22] So you also are now in anguish. But I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy away from you.

On Easter morning, open the oven and give everyone a cookie. Notice the cracked surface and take a bite. The cookies are hollow! On the first Easter, Jesus' followers were amazed to find the tomb open and empty. Read Matt. 28:1-9

Matthew 28:1-9 After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to see the tomb. And behold, there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven, approached, rolled back the stone, and sat upon it. His appearance was like lightning and his clothing was white as snow. The guards were shaken with fear of him and became like dead men. Then the angel said to the women in reply, "Do not be afraid! I know that you are seeking Jesus the crucified. He is not here, for he has been raised just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him.' Behold, I have told you." Then they went away quickly from the tomb, fearful yet overjoyed, and ran to announce this to his disciples. And behold, Jesus met them on their way and greeted them. They approached, embraced his feet, and did him homage.

The Jelly Bean Prayer



*Red is for the blood He gave.
Green is for the grass He made.
Yellow is for the sun so bright.
Orange is for the edge of night.
Blue is for the sins we made.
White is for the grace He gave.
Purple is for His hour of sorrow.
Pink is for our new tomorrow.*

*A bag full of jelly beans colorful and sweet,
Is a prayer, is a promise, is a special treat.*