

Our Lady of Good Counsel, Pray for Us

St. Raphael's Council of Catholic Women

January 2010 - Year for Priests

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

CCW Newsletter



St. Raphael Catholic Church



CCW OFFICERS

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Rosemary Early

2nd Vice President:

Ava Abner

Recording Secretary:

Kathy Guckenberger

Corresponding Secretary:

Bernadine Quartetti

Treasurer:

Marty Foreman



Newsletter Editor:

Louise Barrett

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Theresa McCormick

Matt Maher Concert, Jan. 9th

Matt Maher is coming to the Cathedral of St. Jude for a free concert hosted by the WTL Youth Ministry! Matt is a worship leader, a young adult minister and leads a college Bible study at St Timothy's Catholic Church in Tempe AZ. He is a nationally known contemporary Christian songwriter and performer. This event is for teens, families, young adults, parents, basically EVERYONE!!! A free will offering will be collected! No tickets necessary! Sat., Jan. 9th! Doors open at 7pm, Concert begins at 7:30pm.

Joyce Jam Concert, Jan. 8th

by Joey Talley

Here's a chance to help the Kubala family! York Illustrations and Rock & Blues Academy are sponsoring a benefit concert, the Joyce Jam, on Friday, January 8. The concert will be held at the St. Raphael's Parish Center; doors open at 7pm. You can call ahead and reserve tickets for the pre-sale price of \$8, or buy at the door for \$10. There will be entertainment for the whole family with performances by Ron Knight,

Bernadette Zeender and Daisy Ashe, and members of LifeTeen, as well as student rock bands from the Rock & Blues Academy. Please join us to Rock the Face off Cancer and help the Kubalas! Tickets can be reserved by calling me at 741-3967 or email joycejamstraphaels@gmail.com.

February CCW Meeting

Please attend the next CCW General Meeting on February 6. New members are always welcome.

Rummage Sale January 16

by Suzanne Kelley

We will have the St. Raphael Catholic Church CCW Annual Pack Rat Rummage Sale on Saturday, January 16, 8am to 1pm. The setup/drop off will be Friday, January 15 from 4pm to 8pm. Volunteers are needed for setup and sorting on Friday. Volunteers are needed for day of sale and clean up on Saturday. Goodwill will pick up our leftover treasures by 2pm Saturday. Call Suzanne Kelley for questions/to volunteer at 641-6575; or email suzkelley101@yahoo.com.

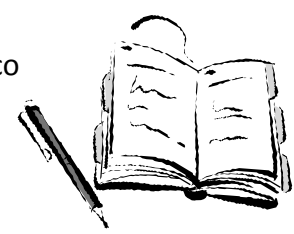


St. Raphael CCW President's Message

Dear Sisters of the St. Raphael's Council of Catholic Women: St. Nick was so happy and pleased to see all of you at the Christmas Party last month. He even told me that he did not have any reason to bring his coal with him. You're all angels. . . . just as I thought. I'd like to wish you all a Happy and Blessed New Year. We have a busy month coming up and I know all of you will do your best to help in any way you can. Prayers and service are what we need to make this Council Year the best one of all. Remember, we are Women of the Council, and we can make a difference in this world, our community, our parish, and our families. Blessings, Claudia Soucy

CCW Calendar 2010

Saturday,	January 2	General Meeting
Thursday,	January 7	Lunch & Field trip to FIM - Quilt Exhibit
Friday,	January 8	"Joyce Jam" Concert - 7PM
Saturday,	January 9	Matt Maher Cathedral of St. Jude - 7:30 PM
Friday,	January 15	Set up Rummage Sale 4-8 PM
Saturday,	January 16	Rummage Sale 8AM-1PM
Wednesday,	January 20	Pontifax- Holy Family 9:30 AM-11:30
Sunday,	January 24	Matthew Kelly Guest Speaker- St Stephens, Valrico
Monday,	January 25	Matthew Kelly Guest Speaker
Tuesday,	January 26	Matthew Kelly Guest Speaker- St John, SPB
Saturday,	February 6	General Meeting
Tuesday,	February 9	Pilgrimage to St John Vianney Seminary
Saturday,	February 13	Fashion Show
Saturday,	March 6	Mini Lenten Retreat
Saturday,	April 10	General Meeting
Thursday,	April 15	Lower Pinellas Deanery Spring
Saturday,	May 1	General Meeting
Mon-Wed,	May 3-5	DCCW Convention Tampa
Saturday,	May 15	Pot Luck Luncheon



General Meeting Schedule:

September-May; 7:35AM Rosary, 8AM Mass, 8:30 Continental Breakfast, & Meeting

From the Pastor's Desk

I wish all the members of St Raphael's Council of Catholic Women a Blessed and Happy New Year. I hope you had a very happy Christmas. Thank you for my Christmas Gift from the ladies of the CCW. Attendance was great at all the Christmas Masses, especially the 4 PM and 6 PM Masses on Christmas Eve. I was happy to have our seminarians, Chris McBride and Bob Angel, home for the Christmas break. Please keep them in your prayers. Thank you for all you do for our Parish.

Florida International Museum Quilt Exhibit

Our CCW is organizing a luncheon and field trip to the Florida International Museum Quilt Exhibit on Thur. Jan 7. We will meet for lunch at noon and visit the museum as a group around 1:15 PM. Group price of ten or more is \$5 per person. So far, we have the following ladies on the list- Lynn Edmonds, Claudia Soucy, Susan Langston, Jane Winstead, Lillian McClelland, Margaret Peck, Cheryl Murphy, Carol Zimmerman, Terry Hamm, Bernadette Bailey, Francine Mailhiot, and Louise Barrett. Call Louise Barrett 821-2561 to sign up.



January Papal Intentions

General: That young people may learn to use modern means of social communication for their personal growth and to better prepare themselves to serve society.

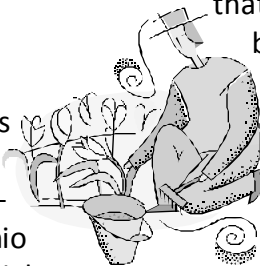
Mission: That every believer in Christ may be conscious that unity among all Christians is a condition for more effective proclamation of the Gospel.

Pontifax January 20

You are invited! On Wed. Jan. 20th, the St. Pete Diocesan Council of Catholic Women, the Episcopal Church Women of the Diocese of Southwest Florida, and the Lutheran Synodical Women's Organization of the Florida-Bahamas Synod invite all clergy and members of the congregations to join with others in our area in the annual Pontifax Day of Prayer for Christian Unity. Since 1989 these three groups, and their respective Bishops, have worked together in sponsoring this annual day of prayer to increase mutual understanding and community service. The day will be held and hosted by Holy Family Catholic Church, 200 78th Ave. NE, St. Petersburg, Florida. Registration, refreshments and fellowship at 9:30 AM with worship at 10:30 AM. The homilist will be Lutheran Bishop Edward Benoway on the theme: "You Are Witnesses of These Things" Luke 24:48. Please plan to attend.

Around Our Parish

We've all seen him tending the grounds at St. Raphael Parish. Ralph Downs "retired" 16 years ago, but he is still going strong at 80+. Ralph was born in Ohio where he later worked for the State Highway Department. He also drove an oil tanker truck. He bought 272 acres and had a working farm. In 1971, Ralph moved to Florida where he worked for Kane's furniture, as a mechanic, in the warehouse, and doing delivery. He worked 11 years with Fr. Dechering doing maintenance and landscaping at St. Raphael's. Ralph went back to Ohio briefly to work on his farm (which his son now owns and works), but ended up again at St. Raphael's caring for the grounds during Monsignor Caverly's tenure. Ralph's first wife, Mildred, mother of their 5 children, died of cancer several years ago. Now, Ralph and his lovely wife Patricia enjoy traveling up to Ohio each year when Ralph helps his son with harvest. The highlight of Ralph's life has been raising his children and seeing them succeed in life. Three are retired military and several of the grandchildren are also in the military. Thank you, Ralph, for your loving service spanning two pastors. Our landscaping is beautiful and we appreciate all your work.



Matthew Kelly

Internationally acclaimed speaker Matthew Kelly will be at St. Stephens in Valrico, Sun. Jan.24 at 7 PM (Becoming the Best Version of Yourself), St Raphael's on Monday, January 25th at 7PM (Making Sense of Suffering) and at St John Vianney on St. Pete Beach Tuesday, January 26th at 7PM (A Call to Joy) . Matthew Kelly was born in Sydney, Australia, where he began his lay ministry in 1993. Since that time he has travelled in more than 50 countries and spoken to over three million people. During his presentations on January 24, 25 and 26, he will discuss the challenges and opportunities we experience in our quest to become the-best-version-of-ourselves. Do you feel stressed? Overwhelmed? Have trouble experiencing joy in your daily life? Have you ever wondered why? Are you just going through the motions? Do you feel your world is in a delicate balance that would fall apart if you didn't keep going at breakneck speed? Are you wondering where your passion and energy have gone? Is everything just another obstacle keeping you from living the life you want to live? Slow it down... pace yourself...take a deep breath...you are not alone...and the life God has dreamt for you is waiting. All you have to do is show up.

February 13 Fashion Show

"Fabulous Fashions for Faith", a Fashion Show featuring clothes from Patchington's in Isla del Sol will be Saturday Feb 13. Doors open at 11:30, lunch at noon and Fashion Show at 1 PM. Our models are Kay Yennie, Ethelyn Henderson, Marty Foreman, Mary Beth Finster, Roseanna Costa and Susan O'Gara. We will have Chicken Pasta Salad and Waldorf salad, with a dessert buffet. Tickets are \$18 for adults and children 12 and under \$10. Make check payable to CCW and drop in the weekend collection in an envelope marked "Fashion Show" or send to Marlene D'Abramo 3800 Huntington St NE St Pete FL 33703. We need helpers for cooking, making desserts, setting up and clean up. We also need door prizes. Contact Claudia Soucy 520-8502.

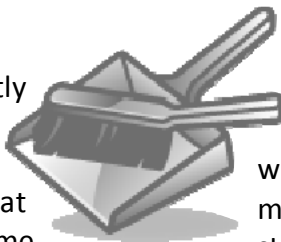


Celebration for Our Lady of Guadalupe

Thank you to Adela Vidal for her efforts to make the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe on December 12th a very special day. We celebrated the Feast Day at 8 AM daily Mass, followed by blessing of statues and pictures of the Blessed Mother. Refreshments were served after Mass. This Feast commemorates the 1531 appearance of the Blessed Virgin to a peasant, Saint Juan Diego, at Tepeyac, a hill northwest of Mexico City. The Blessed Mother miraculously left a beautiful image of herself wearing an Aztec robe on a fiber tilma which resulted many conversions.

Cleaning for a Reason

If you know of any woman currently undergoing Chemo for any type of cancer, please pass the word to her that there is a cleaning service that provides FREE housecleaning - 1 time per month for 4 months while she is in treatment. All she has to do is sign up and have her doctor fax a note confirming the treatment. Cleaning for a Reason will have a participating maid service in her zip code area arrange for the service. <http://www.cleaningforareason.org/> Please pass this information on to a woman going through cancer treatment. This organization serves the entire USA and currently has 547 partners to help these women. So pass the word and let them know that there are people out there that care. Be a blessing to someone and pass this information along.



DCCW Changes

DCCW President Roe Berardo spoke about the NCCW Conference held in Jacksonville Florida September 2009 and about the upcoming changes in the DCCW. In 2011, the following three "new" commissions will be created- Spirituality, Leadership, and Service. They will encompass the "old" six commission structure. "Old" Church and Legislation Commissions will be consolidated under "new" Spirituality. "Old" Organization Commission will move under "new" Leadership. "Old" Family, Community and International Commissions will be consolidated under "new" Service.

Serving in Afghanistan

by Joe McCormick (Joe is CCW member Theresa McCormick's son) Just wanted to drop a line and let everyone know that things are going well in Afghanistan. Today was one of the coldest days we have had this winter with a temp of -1. The platoon was able to "smuggle in" 3 whole turkeys from Germany courtesy of the Air Force CCAT Team. We had the chow hall prepare the turkeys for us and were able to feed 80 soldiers that stay with us in the hanger and or help us in completing our medevac mission on a daily basis. Things have not slowed down much here, we are still getting a ton of missions and it seems for me that the critical patients I am getting are getting tougher to treat and keep alive... I medevac'd a U.S soldier the other day who was hit with a IED while on patrol (nothing too major, hand had massive trauma, shrapnel in the stomach, and some cuts on his face). Normally patients like this are very easy for us to treat in flight for 20 to 30 minutes. However this young man decided to make me work a little bit with some very odd vitals, and to add more pain, my equipment decided to stop working. We ended up getting him to the hospital alive and they were able to stabilize him rather quickly. ...I really try to separate myself from the patient and try not to make things personal but this was hard to avoid. So I decided to do something I normally don't do at all, and that's check on my patients at the hospital... So I went there and he was fine was going to fly to Germany shortly. While I was there, I saw several of the kids I had brought in over the past few weeks, and they were playing in the hospital, rolling around in their wheel chairs and having a good time. One child who had an amputation to the right hand and leg along with shrapnel in the brain was playing with them, too. His injuries were 3 weeks old and he was playing like nothing had happened. Resilience is in the blood of these young people and these are the hearts and minds we must win over to bring this thing to an end. I wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Thank you very much for all of the packages and candy! The Tribe 3rd Platoon thanks you as well!

Vocation News

by Seminarian Bob Angel

It has been a most joyous Christmas break spent with family and catching up with close friends. The Spirit is certainly alive and here for God's people. In the wake of a new year, let us remain here and vigilant with our God. To paraphrase the wisdom of Kung Fu Panda, "yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery, but today is a gift. That is why it is called the 'present.'"

Year for Priests Pilgrimage to St. John Vianney Seminary

There will be a pilgrimage to St John Vianney Seminary in Miami on Tues. Feb. 9. Buses will be leaving from St. Jude in St. Petersburg. The cost is only the bus fee of \$20. We will leave very early and eat lunch at the Seminary, tour, attend Mass and prayers. We return the same day. If interested, contact the Louise Barrett at 821-2561 so we can have a large group from St Raphael's to visit our Seminarians Chris McBride and Bob Angel.

Feeding the Homeless at Pinellas Hope *by Claudia Soucy*

What a blessed night of service to our Lord, Jesus Christ. On December 10th, our CCW fed the hungry and fed our souls at the same time. There were 250 clients who were so appreciative and commented what a pleasure it was to have us there. Thanks to all who helped on the three previous nights preparing our dinner: Louise Barrett, Susan O'Gara, Chris Winstead and her daughter, Autumn, Linda Bragg, Wesley Bragg, and Mary Lou Price. Our servers were: Claudia Soucy, Linda Champion, Winnie Young, Kay Yennie, Maggie Moran, Rod Moran, Mary Stoft, Molly Sanger, Terry Hamm and Anthony Fernandez, our student apprentice. We packed up all the warmed food at 5:00 pm and arrived at Pinellas Hope at 5:45 pm. It had down poured steadily while we packed the four vehicles but the sun returned just as we drove into Pinellas Hope. Many of our volunteers came every night to help. Of course, the biggest "thank you" goes to

Celeste Brown. Her dinner was a delightful mix of deliciousness and perfect portions; roast pork, corn bread stuffing, gravy, coleslaw, applesauce, green beans, and of course, rolls and butter. For dessert we served white, red velvet, yellow and chocolate cakes made by other members of the Council of Catholic Women and frosted with Celeste's secret cream cheese frosting. She did all the planning and shopping and the dinner was just perfect!! What a delightful group of blessed women, and men, too, doing the Lord's work. Thanks to all and let's do it again soon!

Joining St Raphael CCW

It's easy to join St. Raphael's Council of Catholic Women. Simply drop an envelope marked CCW in the weekend collection. We need your name, address, phone, email address, birth day and birth month and a check for \$15 payable to St. Raphael CCW. Dues are payable after January 1 and late by June. Membership gets you to be part of a great group of women whose job it is to serve God in our family, Parish, community and world. We have a Mass intention said for our members monthly. You do what you can, when you can and this way, with over 230 members, we get a lot done for St. Raphael's. Women of all ages, professions, interests and talents are welcome and urged to join.

Nursing Home Gifts

We collected a record 110 Christmas gifts for Shore Acres Nursing Home Residents. Thank you everyone who was able to help in some way. St Raphael First Graders were a big hit when they visited the nursing home with little decorated gift bags, Christmas songs and poems. CCW member Robin Ahlquist's daughter's Brownie Troop also visited the Nursing home to bring Christmas cheer.

Three retirees, each with a hearing loss, were playing golf one fine March day. One remarked to the other, 'Windy, isn't it?' 'No,' the second man replied, 'it's Thursday.' And the third man chimed in, 'So am I. Let's have a beer.'

In Your Prayers . . .

Sick *by Lu Perrin*

Please keep the following in your prayers: Bishop Lynch, Bishop Ricard, Bernice McCune, Ruth McDonald, Rebecca Lettelleir, Louis Bonsey, Mary Montecki, Betty Burke, Alice Leary, John Lee, Joyce Kubala, Karen Cocker, Jeannette Abramo, Rachael Blair, Ryleigh Russo, Margaret Swing, Kay Tolhoek, Joe Kolbe, Catherine Vallette, Margaret Bonanno, Sue Brady, and Francis Halsmer.



Homebound and Nursing Home: Nellie and Charles Bonitati, Truus Stuimer, Eileen Edwards, Ginny Hansen, Elsa Tugman, D J Thompson, Julie Schiavi, Lily Riconda, Montile Sutterlin, and Ann Walsh

Deceased *by Bernadette Bailey*

May the souls of CCW member Earl Layton (Antoinette Falks step father) Geraldine Graffum (Mary Hanlon's mother), Francis Synott, (father of Barbara Dippelhofer). Henry Carlomagno (Mary Carlomagno's husband) and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. Amen. Our deepest sympathies to all who have lost a beloved family member.

Sacristans *by Maggie Moren*

Many thanks to the ladies who volunteered their time to serve the Lord at the Christmas and New Year Masses by insuring that each Mass was carefully prepared and orchestrated, demonstrating their devotion and love in serving the Lord. The sacristans for the Christmas Masses where: Cherie Mainenti, Maryann Miller, Donna Condon, Marja Beaufait, Mary Lou Price, and Ava Abner. Those who served at the New Year Masses were Cherie Mainenti, Ava Abner, Maryann Miller, and Mary Stoft. Again, thank you.

Member News

- ♥ CCW member Mary Lou Price is helping with the H1N1 clinics in the Pinellas County Schools.
- ♥ From CCW member Anita Currier: I visit stroke patients as a part of the Stoke Association's Sharegiver's Program. I go every Wednesday or on a special call if one of the head nurses thinks it necessary. My part is to answer their questions as a stroke survivor myself. I share my experience and can answer a lot of questions about problems that go along with a stroke.
- ♥ CCW member Susan O'Gara went to New Hampshire for Christmas to be with her son, daughter in law and four grandsons
- ♥ Thanks to CCW member Amy Robison who works at the Times and sponsored our ad for the January 16th rummage sale. The ad will run Friday and Saturday and will be part of the internet interactive garage sale map on Saturday too.
- ♥ DCCW President Roe Berardo will undergo colon cancer surgery on Jan 8th. Please keep her in your prayers.
- ♥ From CCW Past President Marlene D'Abramo: Our annual trip to Magnolia Ark., where the highlight of the town is Super Walmart, was very successful for my husband Sonny. He shot two bucks. It is very laid back there in Ark. I read two and half books and also did three Bible study lessons. We had some good southern cooking. We had a great time.
- ♥ From Father Tom Spillet - to all my friends at the Council of Catholic Women - thank you so much for your generous gift. God bless you all.
- ♥ From CCW member Cheryl Anderson: Thank you so much for the beautiful sympathy card. My mom would have loved the day lily bouquet on the front of the card. (Muriel Anderson passed away November 2nd)