



# The Well



The Military Council of Catholic Women-Worldwide **connects, unites, and inspires** U.S. military affiliated women to grow in their Catholic faith.

October 2018

## 2019 MCCW Spring Retreats

**Pacific Retreat**  
St Anthony Retreat Center  
Honolulu, HI  
February 7-10

**Northeast Retreat**  
Malvern Retreat Center  
Malvern, PA  
March 22-24

**Central Retreat**  
Conception Abbey  
St. Joseph, MO  
February 28-March 3

**Southeast Retreat**  
Blessed Trinity Shrine  
Ft. Mitchell, AL  
March 29-31

**Western Retreat**  
Madonna Retreat Center  
Albuquerque, NM  
March 8 - 10

### Volunteer of the Month

This month, MCCW is recognizing Beth Manning as the MCCW volunteer of the month. Beth is a familiar face in the MCCW world — having served on the board and in other capacities for many years, most recently as the Policy and Procedures chairwoman.



During August and September, Beth led the MCCW-W community through the discernment of its new board. This year's discernment was the first ever to be done using teleconference and video conference technology—a change which presented many challenges.

Beth rose to the challenge, though, adapting the MCCW discernment process to fit this technology while keeping the process as close to the original as possible.

Throughout the past two months, Beth has been a reassuring, calming, encouraging presence and her gentle demeanor was a gift to all who participated in discernment.

Thank you, Beth!





### From the President

Dear Sisters in Christ,  
I am humbled and also very excited to be writing to you for the first time as the president of the Military Council of Catholic Women-Worldwide.

I have been on the MCCW-W board for the past four years – a time that has seen so much growth and excitement in our ministry. Attendances at our retreats and forum have grown, we've added a seventh region (Asia!), and our online community now includes more than 1,500 women!

At the same time, the previous board recognized the need to spend time thinking hard about where our ministry came from and where it is headed. This summer, a team of eight women dedicated their time to asking and answering those questions. As part of that process, we talked to many of you about what you value most about MCCW-W.

Your answers focused overwhelmingly on the spiritual growth you experience at our retreats and forums, on the role MCCW-W has played in building community among Catholic military women around the world, and on the important help MCCW-W provides to those generous women leading our chapel-level ministries in military chapels globally.

I, along with the rest of your board, are committed to focusing our attention on those things that matter most to you! We will continue to plan and host amazing, faith-filled gatherings; we will strive to find new and better ways to connect the vast network of Catholic military women; and we will work hard to make sure we are providing the best resources, support, and tools to our CWOC leaders and groups.

I want to leave you this month with an invitation—to servant leadership, to loving your sisters to Christ, to joining us in this important ministry. There is room at the table to YOU—and the ways you can serve are both big and small! Check out our “Servant Leaders Wanted” column on this page to find out where you are being called!

In humble service, Kim

### Seminarian Spotlight Our Promised Priests

For the past ten years, our prayers, love, and support have been present and shared for the AMS co-sponsored seminarians and priests. Established in 2008, the Bishop John



J. Kaising Scholarship Fund for Co-Sponsored Seminarians has helped provide education and schooling for the seminarians. Named in memory of Bishop Kaising, MCCW-W's perpetual charity will forever remember his love and dedication to supporting promised priests in the military. Our largest impact has been giving of service in both financial contributions and/or the adoption of a seminarian.

From 2016-2018, MCCW-W members have donated over \$35,000 to our charity. This donation will directly impact the 46 co-sponsored seminarians currently on the roster at AMS. Donations to the charity may be made as a one-time donation and/or as a monthly recurring donation.

Visit [www.mccw.org/giving/seminarian-support](http://www.mccw.org/giving/seminarian-support) to learn more about various ways to donate.

Twenty-six CWOC groups have shown an interest in supporting and adopting a seminarian. A heartfelt thank-you to each one of you who have participated by praying, sending care packages, etc. for your assigned seminarian. If your local CWOC wishes to adopt a seminarian, please send an email to [MCCWamsliasion@gmail.com](mailto:MCCWamsliasion@gmail.com) and you will receive the name and address of a seminarian once this information becomes available. This year I will add the ten co-sponsored priests to the list of those who could be adopted. All initial letters and correspondence are sent through the AMS and then seminarians/priests have the option to participate in this wonderful program.

Finally, I challenge you to pray for vocations to the priesthood. Plant a mustard seed and see where it may be sown – ask young men to discern the vocation and answer the call. Together, with adopted seminarians, fervent prayers, and love, we will grow military chaplains for our future brothers and sisters who serve our beautiful country.

Denise Hummel  
MCCW-W Director At Large  
Focus: Seminarian Support

### Servant Leaders Needed

#### Well Editor (5 hrs/mo)

Help keep the women of MCCW up-to-date by compiling and editing The Well.

#### Regional Teams (5 hrs/mo)

Pacific, Western, Central, Northeast, and Asia are currently without coordinators. Join your regional team to help with outreach and retreat coordination.

If you are interested in any of these positions, please email: [president@mccw.org](mailto:president@mccw.org)

## Regional Updates

**Tis the season** — of CWOC kick-offs and our CWOCs have been busy planning an exciting amazing kick-off events for the women of their chapel communities.

### Schofield Barracks

kicked off the new year with more than 30 women in attendance. The women heard from three special guests: their chaplain, Sister Cece from the local Benedictine Monastery, and a cadet who is discerning a call to the priesthood!



### Ladies at Fort

**Campbell** enjoyed both daytime and evening kick-offs with a theme of Prayer, Friendship & Service.



The more than 20 women who attended **Fort Sill's** kickoff got to take home an iconic CWOC pin along with other materials about the coming year.



**Stuttgart** CWOC treated their women to a Welcome Tea for their kick-off.

The leadership team at **Fort Bliss** welcomed a huge crowd of more than 70 women for their kick-off event. The women will explore the theme Serenity of a Servant's Heart this year.

**Fort Bragg** welcomed 40 women to their kick-off — but the real blessing was that 20 of those women are NEW to CWOC.

**Women at the Fort Leavenworth** will spend this year exploring liturgical living and will take home a special charm bracelet with charms representing

the many facets of the liturgical year they will be exploring!

**Fort Hood** kicked off both their morning and evening groups and the ladies there are looking forward to starting their study of The Friendship Project.

**Ladies at USAG Baumholder** enjoyed a fun game of Bible Taboo at their kickoff event!

**Fort Carson** welcomed more than 20 women to their welcome where they handed out copies of their first study, "My Badass Book of Saints: Courageous Women Who Showed Me How to Live."

**CWOC is taking root in MCCW's new Asia region** as well. The kick-offs at Okinawa and Misawa both saw great groups come out to learn about the plans for the coming year.

### Liturgical Living @CWOC

Plan ahead for your CWOC, start thinking now about how your group will mark the many fall and early winter feast days and the Advent season.

**13 October**  
U.S. Navy Birthday

**15 October**  
St. Theresa of Avila  
Feast Day,  
First Female Doctor  
of the Church

**18-21 October**  
Europe Regional  
Retreat