



Diocese of Norwich
Office of the Bishop
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MOST REVEREND
MICHAEL R. COTE, D.D.

September 13, 2013

My dear sisters in Christ:

Beginning the weekend of September 28-29, 2013, and throughout the month of October, the annual membership appeal for the Norwich Diocesan Council of Catholic women is being conducted. Every woman in the Diocese is invited and encouraged to become a member of this wonderful church affiliated organization. As we conclude this Year of Faith, by your membership in the Council, you will join women throughout this Diocese in giving witness to their faith and you will foster Catholic social values for women.

My goal is to have every woman in the Diocese join the Council of Catholic Women. If you already are a member of the Council, please renew your membership. If you are not yet a member, please join your sisters in our Diocesan family in their very effective work to build up and strengthen the Church. Through your membership in the Council, you will be linked with women across the four counties of the Diocese of Norwich and Fishers Island in the activities and programs offered by the Council on the diocesan and district levels.

The Council is a voice for the needy and a valiant witness to the sacredness of human life. Through the Council, major topics are addressed that affect society. Significant issues like family and the daily practice of Christian values in the light of the Gospel are examined so that women are enabled to respond to them with their faith convictions.

By serving the poor here and elsewhere, the Council witnesses to the living faith of the dedicated, zealous women of our diocesan family. By educating its members on critical, moral issues and working to promote unity among Christians, the Norwich Diocesan Council of Catholic Women enriches the bonds of love and faith that unite us as God's People.

In a special way, I would like to thank the many men throughout the Diocese who financially supported the Council in the past and invite them to continue their support. Their generosity as well as the generosity of so many dedicated women throughout this Diocese enables the Council "to support, empower, and educate all Catholic women in spirituality, leadership, and service."

Let us ask Our Lady, Queen of the Rosary, during the month of October dedicated to her, to bless with success our campaign to engage the women of our Diocese in the prayer, work, and support of the Norwich Diocesan Council of Catholic Women. Through the intercession of our Lady of Good Counsel, our Diocesan Council's Patroness, may the Lord bless you and your loved ones.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Bishop of Norwich