

**Resolutions Approved by
South Carolina Council of Catholic Women
2006 Convention**

Resolution #1 The Year of Stewardship

Whereas, Bishop Robert J. Baker has declared 2006 to be "The Year of Stewardship", and

Whereas, all Catholics in the Diocese of Charleston are asked to embrace the biblical message of Stewardship and to understand it better through prayer, study and reflection.

Resolved, that we, as members of SCCCW will encourage the recognition of stewardship as an important aspect of our spiritual life, and use our time, talent and treasure to support the Bishop's Stewardship plan.

Resolution #2 2006 NCCW Book Club

Whereas, "Precious as Silver: Imagining Your Life With God" by Bishop George H. Niederauer was chosen as the 2006 Book Club selection at the National Convention in Atlanta, Georgia, and

Whereas, the author, Bishop Niederauer will speak at the Milwaukee NCCW General Assembly

Resolved, that the South Carolina Council of Catholic Women (SCCCW) will encourage clubs and individuals to provide opportunities to invite women to reflect and pray as they read Bishop Niederauer's important and sometimes troubling questions that challenge their efforts to live as disciples of Jesus.

Resolution #3 The Death Penalty

Whereas, our nation should eliminate the use of the death penalty because the sanction of death, when it is not necessary to protect society, violates respect for human life and dignity, and

Whereas, state sanctioned killing in our names diminishes all of us, and

Whereas, its application is deeply flawed and can be irreversibly wrong, is prone to errors, and is biased by factors such as race, the quality of legal representation, and where the crime was committed, and

Whereas, life imprisonment in a high security cell with a guarantee of no parole would render a person, now punishable by the death penalty, incapable of doing harm, and

Whereas, ending the use of the death penalty would be one important step away from a culture of death, and towards building a culture of life

Resolved, that SCCCW members petition the South Carolina Legislature to change the laws for which the death penalty is now imposed by removing the death penalty and substituting life imprisonment in a high security prison with a guarantee of no parole.

Resolution #4

Education on Planned Parenthood

Whereas, we understand from news accounts that Planned Parenthood has a serious effort underway to establish so called "health centers" in South Carolina, and

Whereas, Planned Parenthood in 2004 performed 255,015 abortions in the United States (including 1,335 abortions at its facility in Columbia), making Planned Parenthood the largest abortion chain in the nation, and

Whereas, Planned Parenthood promotes the sexual revolution as evidenced by its website for teens, teenwire.com

Resolved, that SCCCW will educate its members on the anti-life agenda of Planned Parenthood through such actions as promoting the use of the website of American Life League STOPP International, www.all.org.stopp/plan.htm, writing letters to the editor, contacting businesses, politicians and health officials to inform the public about the true nature of Planned Parenthood.

Resolution #5

Protection for South Carolina Disabled Adults

Whereas, a recent report, based on a two year research project conducted by "Protection and Advocacy for People with Disabilities, Inc." revealed that some South Carolina disabled adults were abused and neglected, and

Whereas, additional findings revealed that incidents of neglect and abuse, if reported, were not properly investigated so that offenders could be held accountable, and

Whereas, Senate Bill #1116, sponsored by Senators McConnell, Lourie, Ford, Cleary and Knotts is designed to propose changes for the existing programs to eliminate abuse, neglect and exploitation of vulnerable adults and vulnerable adult fatalities

Resolved, that members of the South Carolina Council of Catholic Women will ask members of the Legislature for early passage of this revised Bill that is so important to all families in South Carolina who have disabled loved ones.

Resolutions Committee 2006

Mary Frances Oliver, Chairperson

Reverend William F. Pentis, C.O. Diocesan Moderator

Loretta Voghel

Susan Propst

Clare Richter

Phyllis Atkins

**Resolutions Approved by
South Carolina Council of Catholic Women
2007 Convention**

Resolution #1

PLANNED PARENTHOOD

WHEREAS, Planned Parenthood is the most zealous promoter of abortions, and performs more abortions than any other abortion business in the U. S., and

WHEREAS, Planned Parenthood receives about one-third of its annual income from government grants and contracts,

RESOLVED, that SCCCW members oppose any allocation of federal, state or local taxes for Planned Parenthood "health clinics".

Resolution #2

SCHOOL CHOICE

WHEREAS, the members of SCCCW support School Choice Legislation, and

WHEREAS, School Choice Legislation should enable all parents to fulfill their God-given responsibility to educate their children as they see fit,

RESOLVED, School Choice Legislation must include these three elements as enumerated by the Catholic Diocese of Charleston, South Carolina:

- ensure freedom of choice for the poor as defined by federal poverty guidelines AS WELL AS working families whose jobs place them beyond federal poverty guidelines but leave them financially unable to freely choose how their children are to be educated
- allow all parents to freely choose amongst public or private schools or homeschooling
- empower families with special needs children to choose public or private schools or homeschooling

FURTHER RESOLVED, that SCCCW members will support and lobby for legislation that encompasses the first resolve.

Resolution #3

EMBRYONIC STEM CELL RESEARCH

WHEREAS, in 2005, SCCCW passed Resolution #6, Adult Stem Cell Research, that stated:

“**WHEREAS**, in embryonic stem cell research, human embryos are created and destroyed for experimentation or grown for body parts, and

“**WHEREAS**, researchers are reporting some major new accomplishments for adult stem cells that are unrelated to the destruction of human embryos and are in accord with human dignity and a culture of life.

“**RESOLVED**, that the SCCCW will support funding of adult stem cell research and will oppose funding of embryonic stem cell research that treats human life as a commodity to be bought and sold,”

RESOLVED, that the SCCCW reaffirms the commitment to this resolution.

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE, 2007 Convention

Annabell Seabrook, Chairman

Reverend William F. Pentis, C.O., Diocesan Moderator

Barbara Bluemle

Claire Richter

Mary Oenbrink

Pearl Harris

Loretta Vogel

**Resolutions Approved by
South Carolina Council of Catholic Women
2008 Convention**

Resolution #1

FOSTERING VOCATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD AND RELIGIOUS LIFE

Whereas, we have become aware of the lack of priestly and religious vocations in our diocese, and

Whereas, each passing year makes us more conscious of the lack of priests, sisters, deacons and lay brothers.

Resolved, the members of the South Carolina Council of Catholic Women will encourage, support, nurture, and affirm religious vocations.

Resolution #2

ABSTINENCE SEX EDUCATION

Whereas, there is strong and widespread support of teaching sexual abstinence to American teens, and

Whereas, teens who abstain from sex are less likely to be depressed and to attempt suicide; to experience STDs; to have children out-of-wedlock; and to live in poverty and welfare dependence as adults.

Whereas, abstinence sex education has been tried and it works, and there are growing efforts to terminate it,

Resolved, that the South Carolina Council of Catholic Women membership strongly supports the teaching of abstinence education in South Carolina schools.

Resolution #3

YEAR OF ST. PAUL

Whereas, our Holy Father Pope Benedict XVI has proclaimed a year especially dedicated to St. Paul, to mark the 2000th anniversary of the birth of the “Apostle of the Gentiles”, and

Whereas, St. Paul was a great teacher of both Jews and Gentiles.

Resolved, that our SCCCW affiliates will use the writings and life of St. Paul to enhance their meetings and personal lives.

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE, 2008 CONVENTION

Rev. William Pentis, C.O., Diocesan Moderator

Annabelle Seabrook, Chairperson

Martha Becht

Carol Loskill

Nancy Kuykendall

Penny Clements

Clare Richter

**Resolutions Approved by
South Carolina Council of Catholic Women
2009 Convention**

Resolution # 1 WELCOME BISHOP ROBERT E. GUGLIELMONE

Whereas, Bishop Robert E. Guglielmono was installed as the 13th Bishop of the Diocese of Charleston on March 25, 2009, and

Whereas, he stands in need of our continued prayer,

Resolved, that the members of the South Carolina Council of Catholic Women daily pray and make sacrifice for his needs.

Resolution # 2 OPPOSITION TO THE FREEDOM OF CHOICE ACT [FOCA]

Whereas, abortion supporters have been trying to pass the Freedom of Choice Act [FOCA] since 1989 – and now we have a Congress more disposed than any in recent years to pass the bill, and

Whereas, FOCA would create a right to abortion the government could not limit, and being about a national abortion policy far worse than the U.S. Supreme Court's *Roe v Wade* decision, and

Whereas, for the first time, abortion would become an entitlement the government must fund and promote, and citizens would lose the freedom they now have to enact even modest regulation of the abortion industry. FOCA would:

- force American taxpayers to fund abortions
- force every state to allow partial-birth abortions
- run roughshod over the conscience right of physicians, nurses and hospitals that oppose abortion on religious, moral or ethical grounds
- strip parents of their right and responsibility to be involved in their minor daughters' abortion decision
- eliminate regulations that protect women from unsafe clinics and abortionists.

Resolved, that members of the South Carolina Council of Catholic Women strongly oppose the Freedom of Choice Act [FOCA] and encourage people of like minds to continue the education and lobbying process against this bill.

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE, 2009 CONVENTION

Rev. William Pentis, C.O., Diocesan Moderator
Barbara Lux, Chairperson
Mary Oenbrink / Vera Guinn
Clare Richter
Kathy Himes
Pat Kull Pee
Mary Brooks

**Resolutions Approved by
South Carolina Council of Catholic Women
2010 Convention**

Resolution # 1

VOCATION PROGRAM

Whereas, the Year for Priest continues until June 19, 2010 with the Diocese of Charleston stressing the campaign to increase vocations, and

Whereas, a new prayer for vocations was sent to each parish asking that it be offered at every Mass,

Therefore, we will participate in this campaign for new priests and ask God to inspire men and women to join religious life.

Resolution # 2

DIOCESE PHYSICIAN GUILD

Whereas, Bishop Guglielmone has established Catholic Physician's Guild in the Diocese of Charleston for all doctors, and

Whereas, the Bishop and leaders of the Catholic Medical Association have met to determine the purpose of the group, and

Whereas, key concerns for Catholics include possible government funding for abortion, affordability of medical care, fairness to legal immigrants and issues regarding the sanctity of life,

Therefore, let us pray for the success of this organization, encourage physicians to participate and support Bishop Guglielmone in this effort.

Resolution # 3

NATURAL DISASTERS

Whereas, natural disasters, by their nature, occur anywhere around the world mostly without warning and cause immeasurable devastation and destruction to everything in its path, and

Whereas, Catholic Relief Services are one of the first “on the ground” services to respond,

Therefore, practicing our faith to love and serve God, we will help all residents of disasters as presented to us by Catholic Relief Services.

Resolution # 4

IMMIGRATION REFORM AND HUMAN DIGNITY

Whereas, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops together with the Interfaith Platform on Humane Immigration Reform have called for the Obama Administration and the 111th Congress to

- *uphold family unity as a priority of all immigration policies
- *create a process for undocumented immigrants to earn their legal status and eventual citizenship
- * protect workers and provide efficient and proper legal channels for entry for new migrant workers
- *facilitate immigrant integration
- *restore due process protections and reform detention policies
- *align the enforcement of immigration laws with humanitarian values.

Therefore, members of the South Carolina Council of Catholic Women support this endeavor and pray daily that our leaders and legislators will take measures to enact the above Platform.

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE, 2010 CONVENTION

Rev. William Pentis, C.O., Diocesan Moderator
Barbara Lux, Chairman
Debra Drennon
Mary Mazzaraco
Carol Hatosy
Norman Dopson

**Resolutions Approved by
South Carolina Council of Catholic Women
2011 Convention**

RESOLUTION #1 Legalize Raffles

Whereas, the South Carolina Council of Catholic Women has relied on funds received from raffles to support many charitable endeavors and operational costs, and

Whereas, raffles are currently illegal in South Carolina, and

Whereas, it will take a South Carolina constitutional amendment to make raffles legal,

Be it resolved, that the South Carolina Council of Catholic Women members will actively work to contact their legislators and speak out in the community in support of the passage of S.256 (joint resolution) and S.255 (implementing legislation) which will make raffles legal for religious, charitable, educational and non-profit organizations.

RESOLUTION #2 Domestic Violence

Whereas, more than 36,000 victims annually report a domestic violence incident to law enforcement in South Carolina , and

Whereas, South Carolina ranks ninth in the nation for the amount of homicides caused by criminal domestic violence, and

Whereas, domestic violence not only permanently scars the immediate victims involved, it also deeply affects the entire family, community, and world in a severely negative manner, and

Whereas, the act of domestic violence is spurred by anger and hate, but the command of Jesus is to love,

Be it resolved, that the South Carolina Council of Catholic Women members will use resources to educate the community about the dangers of domestic violence, and support victims by having information for assistance available in public places, and

Be it resolved, that the South Carolina Council of Catholic Women members will pray diligently to the Holy Spirit to remove this violence from our society, and

Be it resolved, that members will support groups that assist domestic violence victims and advocate programs that help victims and support legislation that aids victims.

RESOLUTION #3

Human Trafficking

Whereas, human trafficking is the illegal trade in human beings for the purposes of commercial sexual exploitation or forced labor, a modern-day form of slavery with more than 14,500 to 17,500 people primarily women and children trafficked to the United States annually, and

Whereas, South Carolina has reported instances of the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion of abduction, fraud or deception and,

Whereas, it was reported to South Carolina by the federal government that there are persons who are giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve control over another person for the purpose of exploitation in the form of sexual exploitation, forced labor, slavery, servitude or the removal of organs for profit, and

Whereas, the act of human trafficking is immoral and fueled by greed, but the command of Jesus Christ is to love and,

Whereas, human trafficking is considered one of the fastest growing criminal industries with over 100,000 children estimated to be in the sex trade in the United States each year,

Be it resolved, that the South Carolina Council of Catholic Women members will use resources to educate the community regarding human trafficking laws at the state and federal levels and to increase public awareness of the dangers of human trafficking, and

Be it resolved, that the South Carolina Council of Catholic Women members will support groups that assist victims of human trafficking by having information for assistance and detection available in public places, and

Be it resolved, that the South Carolina Council of Catholic Women members will pray diligently to the Holy Spirit to remove human trafficking from our society.

Resolutions committee – 2011 SCCCW Convention

- Ruthann Howard, Legislative chairman
- Teena Manzira, Lowcountry Deanery
- Barbara Lux, Columbia-Midlands Deanery
- Mary Mazzaraco, Pee Dee Deanery
- Leslie Barhyte Moulton, Piedmont Deanery

**Resolutions Approved by
South Carolina Council of Catholic Women
2012 Convention**

Resolution #1

Virtus Training

Whereas the Catholic Church affirms the inherent dignity of each human being as created in the image and likeness of God, and

Whereas the sexual abuse of a minor is a violation of that person's dignity for which there is no justification, and

Whereas minors especially deserve the protection of society, since they cannot adequately provide it for themselves, and

Whereas the Diocese of Charleston is adamant that the abuse of children, including physical injury, sexual molestation, sexual exploitation, or grave emotional damage will not be tolerated by anyone, and

Whereas the Diocese of Charleston has implemented a Safe Environment training program for all church personnel and volunteers who have access to children,

Be it resolved that S.C.C.C.W. members will engage in the Virtus Safe Environment training program if they have not already been trained.

Resolution #2

H 3757 Human Trafficking

Whereas human trafficking is the illegal trade in human beings for the purposes of commercial sexual exploitation or forced labor, a modern-day form of slavery with more than 20,000 people primarily women and children trafficked to the United States annually, and

Whereas the S.C.C.C.W. formally adopted at the S.C.C.C.W. 81st annual convention in March of 2011 to increase our efforts to stop human trafficking in South Carolina, and

Whereas House bill H 3757 will provide for certain human trafficking offenses, will provide penalties and will provide restitution for victims of human trafficking offenses, among other provisions, and

Whereas South Carolina House bill H 3757 has not come to vote for ratification,

Be it resolved that we as Catholic women are encouraged to contact our state leaders requesting their support of this bill.

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Resolutions committee:

Father Fabio Refusco, C. O., Spiritual Moderator
Ruthann Howard, Legislative chairman
Tommie Blake, Resolutions co-chair, Columbia-Midlands Deanery
Teena Manzira, Lowcountry Deanery
Pearlie Harris, Piedmont Deanery
Mary Mazzaraco, Pee Dee Deanery

**Resolutions Approved by
South Carolina Council of Catholic Women
2013 Convention**

Resolution # 1

YEAR OF FAITH

Our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, and all bishops call upon Catholics that this Year of Faith be a time of spiritual renewal and personal encounter with Christ for us all.

Whereas, may this Year of Faith be a time to renew our love for Christ and the Church and to enter into a deeper devotion to the Virgin Mary.

Whereas, may our deepening of faith during this Year of Faith help us to long for justice and peace in the world.

Whereas, may this Year of Faith be an opportunity for Catholics to renew their baptismal vocation and grow in zeal to share the gospel with others.

Be it resolved, that The South Carolina Catholic Council of Catholic Women members will encourage and inspire others to proclaim their love for Christ and His Church and remind us of ways to serve those in our midst who are overlooked, ignored, or rejected, so that all may experience the peace and healing of Christ's love.

Resolution # 2

CHERISH THE ROSARY

Pope Benedict, XVI asked the Faithful to "Cherish the Rosary" during the Year of Faith.

Whereas, as we invite everyone to cherish the Rosary and allow ourselves to be guided by Mary in meditating upon the mysteries of Christ, and day after day we are helped to assimilate the Gospel so that it can shape our lives.

Be it resolved, that the members of SCCCW will be encouraged to pray the rosary each day during the Year of Faith, and

Be it resolved, that the members of SCCCW will encourage their families and others in the community to pray the rosary, and to place themselves in the school of Mary who leads us to Christ, the living center of our faith.

Resolution # 3**RELIGIOUS FREEDOM**

We are Catholics. We are Americans. We are proud to be both, grateful for the gift of faith that is ours as Christian disciples, and grateful for the gift of liberty that is ours as American citizens. To be Catholic and American should mean not having to choose one over the other. Our allegiances are distinct, but they need not be contradictory, and should instead be complimentary. That is the teaching of our Catholic faith, which obliges us to work together with fellow citizens for the common good of all who live in this land. That is the vision of our founding fathers and our Constitution, which guarantees citizens of all religious faiths the right to contribute to our common life together.

Whereas, we must ensure that as Americans we retain our religious liberty to bring our principles and moral convictions into the public arena.

Be it resolved, that SCCCW members will pray and educate themselves and others to the threat to our Religious freedoms, and

Be it resolved, SCCCW members will advocate for conscience protections at the local, state, and national levels consistent with Church teachings.

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE, 2013 CONVENTION

Father Fabio Refusco, C. O., Spiritual Moderator
Susanne Wolfe, Chairman
Maria Stephens, Coastal Deanery
Chris Segars, Columbia-Midlands Deanery
Lois McCue, Lowcountry Deanery
Marlene Grover, Pee Dee Deanery
Mamie H. Boyd, Piedmont Deanery

**Resolutions Approved by
South Carolina Council of Catholic Women
2014 Convention**

Resolution #1

Purpose: To unite all Catholic women in a time of renewal and commitment through encouragement, mentoring, and prayerful support.

Whereas: We believe that through the guidance of the *Holy Spirit*, our faith can and will be renewed.

Whereas: We believe that our commitment and support will contribute to the success of our organization as we fulfill the *laws of Christ*.

Be it Resolved: That the members of the SCCCW will create mentoring opportunities to be visible in their parishes, committees, and communities.

Suggested Action Items:

- Develop an ongoing relationship with new attendees at the SCCCW Convention.
- Listen to the needs, ideas, and topics that all women are interested in.
- Form a committee to develop ways to encourage younger women to become more active in their Church and community.
- Support the Reverend William F. Pentis Memorial Scholarship recipients with communication, mentoring, and prayer.
- Be an example to others, which creates visibility.

Resolution #2

Purpose: To continue our service to the poor, marginalized and underprivileged in our state and beyond as called by *Holy Father, Pope Francis*.

Whereas: We challenge our Sisters in Christ to be Cognizant of the poor in our Ministries and communities at large.

Whereas: We shall follow the lead of *Pope Francis* by ministering to the marginalized and visiting the poor and sick.

Be it Resolved: That our SCCCW will continue to pray for the poor, marginalized and underprivileged remembering them in our daily vigils and giving generously to charities, families, and children.

Suggested Action Items:

- Become informed, develop strategies, and implement effective ways to help prevent causes of poverty in the specific community.
- Establish committees to cultivate relationships among the marginalized.
- Assist and give when there is an emergency or disaster.
- Show unconditional love towards those you help.

Resolution #3

Purpose: To promote and encourage cooperation and awareness of everyone's role in the New Evangelization.

Whereas: The clergy need affirmation and attention in different ways or reasons and at different times, and

Whereas: The women need motivation to feel relevant and engage in their thriving and struggling, and

Whereas: All the faithful look for evidence and inspiration to share and communicate in as many ways as possible the *Joy of the Gospel*, therefore be it

Resolved: That the SCCCW will see themselves first as an evangelizer who uses a variety of communication tools targeting active Catholics, inactive Catholics, and non-Catholics.

Suggested Action Items:

- Work closely with a communications ministry.
- Assist parishes in press release.
- Form an Evangelization Committee of parishioners.
- Help by creating opportunities for workshops on Evangelization.
- Promote collaboration with other parish ministries and organizations.
- Increase small group faith sharing opportunities in each parish meeting.
- Provide evangelization resources according to the needs of ministries.

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE, 2014 CONVENTION

Father Fabio Refusco, C. O., Spiritual Moderator

Suzanne Wolfe, Chairman

Vivian Hernandez, Columbia-Midlands Deanery

Esperanza Riols, Coastal Deanery

Eileen Filan, Lowcountry Deanery

Marlene Grover, Pee Dee Deanery

Mamie Boyd, Piedmont Deanery