

Service Commission, July 18, 2020

Coreen Marklein, Chair

My Service Project for 2020 is the **Box of Joy** project through Cross Catholic Outreach (CCO). I hope to have as many vicariates take part in this worthy project and spread the project to your parishes and/or schools. In 2019, the Boxes of Joy project reached over 75,334 children in seven countries. Steps for the project:

	1. Coreen Marklein is the overall MDCCW project leader. The project leader registers the group with CCO and requests materials. However, each parish/group should select their parish project leader as well. 2. 300 gift boxes will be distributed to the vicariate presidents the weeks of July 27 to August 9. Contact Coreen Marklein or CCO directly if more boxes are needed. Each vicariate will receive boxes, a Project Guide, date timeline, GIFT IDEA handout, and promotion materials. 3. Vicariate Presidents distribute materials to Parish/Groups. Parishes should select their own project leader. Leader works with parish groups, etc. to plan, promote and track the parish project. Leader may order additional gift boxes if needed. 4. Project leader distributes boxes to parish members, groups, etc. and provide a copy of the GIFT IDEAS page with each box. 5. Individual(s) take a Box of Joy and fill it using GIFT IDEAS page. Label each box for a boy or girl in a pre-selected age group. A \$9 check (payable to Cross Catholic Outreach) is attached to the cover of the box to cover the cost of shipping. Do not seal individual shoeboxes. 6. Parish Project Leader(s) and/or volunteers deliver Boxes of Joy to area's Drop-off Center. 7. Filled boxes of joy are brought to our area selected Drop Off Center: St. Peter's Parish, 7121 Co Hwy K, Middleton, WI 53562. DROP OFF TIMELINE is the week of November 7 to 15, times to be determined (during week drop off by appointment only) 8. For questions, contact Coreen Marklein 608-393-0880 or csmarklein@gmail.com.
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Another Service Project that has been adopted by the USCCB is the WALKING WITH MOMS IN NEED: A Year of Service. Pregnant and parenting moms in need are in our parishes and our neighborhoods. As Pope Francis reminds us, our parishes need to be “islands of mercy in the midst of a sea of indifference.” Everyone in the parish community should know where to refer a pregnant woman in need.



All three NCCW commissions are involved with this project and have adopted this project. The Service Commission is responsible to track the efforts of our members, their parishes, etc. More information is available at: www.walkingwithmoms.com. You may go to that link to sign up to stay informed about this project.

Don't forget that October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Many tools are available through the NCCW website such as the program below. This program provides information on how to raise awareness in your parishes and vicariates.

NCCW Women Healing the Wounds
Implementing an Effective Domestic Violence Awareness Program

Other Service Projects:

- **Prepare Birthday Bags for Food Pantries (cake mix, frosting, card, miscellaneous items)**
- **Adopt a Family in Need**
- **Set up a contact list for CCW – who can call on fellow members and/or parish members to check in during this COVID-19 pandemic.**
- **Pen Pals – Sent greeting cards/note cards to local nursing homes, assisted living, correctional institutions, etc. So many individuals will welcome your note of kindness during COVID-19.**