



What's the real secret to true happiness?

Psychologists agree that truly happy people have found meaning and purpose in their lives by being a part of something bigger than themselves. In our society today, we have become a people who judge other by their "highlight reels" shown in Christmas letters and social media. We often don't even know our neighbor's names. We often get bogged down in worry and regret.

Being a part of something bigger than yourself is more than just joining a club or organization just to be a part of something. It should align with our faith and values. The organization should have a solid background and should be something you can be proud of being a part of. It's a way to let your voice be heard on a stage bigger than your back porch.

By being a member (as an individual member or an affiliate) of the National Council of Catholic Women, we are spiritually strengthened and renewed, presents opportunities to live out our faith in service to others, affords us ways to positively impact others as a Catholic woman leader, and provides a place to make friends and have fun.

I realize many of you may want to pinch a few pennies, but I urge you, in this polarized world, to maintain membership or join the National Council of Catholic Women. Not only is our voice heard in the United Nations, the Vatican and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, we are making powerful impacts in the lives of others around the world, in the United States, and in our own diocese. Together, we are making an impact!

NCCW Affiliate members are a vital part of fulfilling our mission - to educate, empower, and support Catholic Women in spirituality, leadership, and service. This is a special time in our history as we celebrate 100 years of service to God and the Church. The United States Bishops created us in 1920 with the purpose of responding with Gospel values to the needs of the Church and society in the modern world.

When you join the National Council of Catholic Women, you are part of a national organization that speaks for your Catholic values.

*Lorraine Riedl*