

The Commission for Women

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**For additional information or  
to offer suggestions,  
please contact any member of**

***The Commission for Women***

*or*

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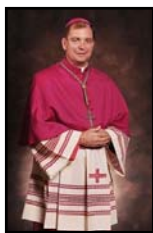
Website: [www.allentowndioocese.org](http://www.allentowndioocese.org)

## *The Commission for Women*



**2010 - 2011**





## Comments from Bishop Barres ...

"I am pleased to encourage the work of our Diocesan Commission for Women. Their important work is to advise me on matters that impact the lives of women, especially their spiritual lives. May Mary, Mother of the Church, inspire their deliberations and activities to more closely follow her Son."

*The Most Reverend John O. Barres, D.D.  
Bishop of Allentown  
September 2009*

## An Open Invitation ...

"The Commission for Women is committed to identifying and exploring issues of concern for the women of our diocese. It is our hope that our unique female perspective and insight will help to deepen the Diocese's understanding of these issues. It is our goal to not only provide dialogue but encourage action and change as we explore the evolving roles of women in our Church. Women and men of the diocese are encouraged to participate in this process. Please join us in this unique opportunity to serve the Diocese by contacting any member of the Commission (listed in this brochure) with your stories, concerns, problems, and ideas. Thank you."

Jill Dennin  
Chairperson, Commission for Women

## The Commission for Women

### Statement of Purpose

*The Commission for Women shall serve as an advisory board to the Bishop of Allentown offering the woman's perspective on issues of concern to our Bishop and the Church. It shall function as a liaison between laywomen in the Diocese and the Bishop, raising and promoting awareness of the evolving roles of women in the church and society.*

### Membership

The Bylaws of the Commission for Women allow for a maximum of fifteen (15) laywomen as members. Members shall be practicing Catholics of the Diocese of Allentown and shall be appointed by the Bishop. Membership shall be as inclusive as possible, representing women from various walks of life, age groups, ethnic backgrounds, and areas of the Diocese. Term of service shall be three (3) years, renewable once.

### Officers

The Officers of the Commission for Women shall be a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Treasurer and Secretary. These officers shall be approved by the Diocesan Bishop.

### Meetings

The Commission for Women holds four general meetings each year. The Executive Committee determines dates, times, and sets agendas of general meetings. The Office for Social Action provides staff support for the Commission.

**" ... the Church gives thanks for each and every woman: for mothers, for sisters, for wives; for women consecrated to God in virginity; for women dedicated to the many human beings who await the gratuitous love of another person; for women who watch over the human persons in the family, which is the fundamental sign of the human community; for women who work professionally, and who at times are burdened by a great social responsibility; for "perfect" women and for "weak" women—for all women as they have come forth from the heart of God in all the beauty and richness of their femininity."**

*Mulieris Dignitatem  
Pope John Paul II*

