

Council of  
Catholic  
Women



**Golden Rose Award**

December 7, 2019

# Golden Rose Award



*Council of Catholic Women  
Archdiocese of Detroit*

*Advent/ Christmas Brunch*

*Saturday, December 7, 2019*

*A beautiful day in the making!*

*We will honor 23 Catholic high school girls  
as the recipients of the Golden Rose Award!*

**10:00 am Mass**

**Felician Sisters Motherhouse Chapel  
36800 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150**

**"Love & Quiches" Brunch  
(Breakfast Quiche, Waffles, Bacon & More)  
De Sales Hall  
(Motherhouse Campus)**



*Guest Speaker*

*Colleen Mitchell*

*Founding Advisor of Catholic Uprise*

# Golden Rose Award

## *Council of Catholic Women Archdiocese of Detroit*

Advent/Christmas Brunch /Golden Rose Award  
Saturday, December 7, 2019

10:00 am Mass  
Felician Sisters Motherhouse Chapel  
Rev. Robert Blondell, Celebrant  
Rev. Jeremy Harrington

Golden Rose Award Ceremony

### De Sales Hall

Welcome & Introductions  
“Love & Quiches” Brunch  
“We are NCCW - 100 Years”

Guest Speaker  
Colleen Mitchell  
Catholic Uprise

# Our Golden Rose Award Recipients

## ALEXANDRA AMBROSIA

### Sacred Heart Church, Dearborn

*"At Sacred Heart Parish, Lexey is an active member of the Liturgy of the Word for Children team, working with young people to teach about the gospel messages and the importance of faith in Jesus Christ in our lives. Alexandra works together with her family on sporting and social events that benefit the Dearborn Special Olympics. Lexey is active in the Peer to Peer programs at Edsel Ford that serve the needs of the Special Education population and was chosen to be a peer leader during the Adaptive Physical Education Field Day, which serves all Dearborn residents with special needs. Lexey will be using her experience in this critical area to serve as a youth counselor this summer at the Lapeer Camp for the Visually Impaired. Lexey was also the Student Council Sophomore class representative at Edsel Ford. With her love for sports, Lexey participated in her school's Turkey Trot to raise canned food for the area hungry and she continues to volunteer for the Edsel Ford Boosters at school games. "*

*Rev. Kenneth Chase  
Pastor, Sacred Heart Church*

## ALICIA COTTER

### Our Lady of the Angels, Taylor

*"Alicia Cotter has been an altar server for several years and also sang in the children's church choir, then in the adult choir and also in her school choir. She excels in poetry and belonged to the Poetry Out Loud group in her sophomore and junior years where she won the school competition and advanced to the State competition. Her membership in the drama club has led her to the lead role in the White Christmas play for this December. In her Junior year she was inducted into the National Honor Society. Besides belonging to the Connection Club which mentors Freshman students, Alicia is also the Student Council President and Senior Class Vice-President. More than her talents, her personality, humility, kindness, and inner and outer beauty shine wherever she goes. In recognition of this talented young lady she was recently voted the 2019 Riverview Community High Homecoming Queen. We thank God for the gift of Alicia."*

*Rev. Dariusz Strzalkowski  
Pastor, Our Lady of the Angels*

# Our Golden Rose Award Recipients

## CATHERINE EICK

Holy Name Church, Birmingham

*“Catherine has volunteered for Seaholm Offers Support (SOS) since starting here. She is now appointed as VP. She has participated and lead activities: leaf raking for the elderly, collecting/wrapping presents for underprivileged kids at Christmas, Beaumont’s ‘Moonbeams for Sweet Dreams’, ‘Shades of Pink Walk’. Catherine has also been involved in the Habitat for Humanity Women’s Build. She has volunteered as a greeter at Holy Name and worked with children of families going through the RCIA classes.”*

Msgr. John Zenz  
Pastor, Holy Name Church

## HEATHER HEIN

St. Francis-St. Maximilian, Ray

*“Heather has been involved in all the Parish activities that youth can participate in since she started the Confirmation program 5 years ago. She is currently a member of the Spanish Choir, and often sings at the English Masses as well. Heather has been an Aide in Religious Ed classes and a co-teacher for the past 2 years .”*

Rev. Christopher Talbot  
Pastor, St. Francis - St. Maximilian

## MIA HERNANDEZ

St. Joseph Church, Trenton

*“In addition to being on the high school campus ministry team, Mia also served last year and again this year on the CYO Youth Council which is the group of youth leaders that plan and execute the Annual CYO Rainbow Conference. Mia met with this council over 135 hours, on Saturdays last school year alone. In addition, Mia very much respects the sanctity of life and has attended the Annual March for Life in Washington, DC in both her sophomore and junior years. I highly recommend Ms. Hernandez for the Golden Rose Award.”*

Mr. Joseph J. Whalen  
Principal, Gabriel Richard Catholic H.S.

# *Our Golden Rose Award Recipients*

## **ALEXANDRA KNIGHT**

Holy Name Church, Birmingham

*“As a student at Sacred Heart, Alex truly lives the goals of a Sacred Heart education. Alex has served as a service leader throughout high school, organizing opportunities for us all to be involved. Her future will be in Social Justice.”*

*Gretchen Parks  
Director of College Counseling  
Academy of the Sacred Heart HS*

## **SOPHIA KOWALSKI**

St. Joseph Church, Rudyard

*“This is Sophia's second year at Madonna University. I first became acquainted with her a year ago when I was conversing with students in a lounge and inquiring if anyone would like to be the Religion Representative on Student Senate. Sophia said she would consider it, contacted me the next day and took the steps to assume that role. She currently remains in that position and has engaged other students in religious activities along with campus ministry involvement. When attending Sunday night or the weekday Mass, she is very willing to serve as Lector and helps with setting up. With another student, she has organized bi-weekly evening Adoration Services and participates in campus ministry and the interfaith dialogue center activities. I have found Sophia to be a young woman who cherishes and lives her faith, is respectful in her interactions, is pleasantly disposed and responsible in setting and achieving her goals. She is a committed leader! I believe she is a good candidate for the Golden Rose Award.”*

*Sr. Nancy Marie Jamroz, CSSF  
Co-Director of the Center for Catholic Studies  
and Interfaith Dialogue, Madonna University*

# *Our Golden Rose Award Recipients*

## **LISA LUECKE**

### Our Lady of the Angels Church, Taylor

*“Lisa is an awesome representative of the (our) Catholic Faith. During class, she was the first to answer. She was interested in learning as much as possible but also applying to her everyday life. She is an altar server and eucharistic minister. She was in the choir. She and her family volunteer for our church festival. She’s an all “A’s” student. Part of the student council. She also runs track. She volunteers for ski trips. She is an interact volunteer which develops leadership skill while discovering the power of service above self. She is a model of a wonderful Catholic.”*

*Rev. Dariusz Strzalkowski  
Pastor, Our Lady of the Angels*

## **MARIEL LUECKE**

### Our Lady of the Angels Church, Taylor

*“Mariel Luecke is a very special young lady. She and her family are a part of our church. She is in the 11th grade and participates as an altar server with grace, respect, reverence and sincerity. She is a straight “A” student. She is part of the green team at her high school, helping the environment. She mentors freshman. She is VP of interact. She volunteers in interact. It’s a program that develops leadership while discovering the power of service above self. She is a beautiful person inside and out. A wonderful Catholic, young lady. She helps at the church festival, belonged to the choir and is on varsity tennis.”*

*Rev. Dariusz Strzalkowski  
Pastor, Our Lady of the Angels*

# *Our Golden Rose Award Recipients*

## **SARA MAOLA**

Ss. Peter & Paul Jesuit Church, Detroit

*“Sara is a smart, creative, fun-loving, driven and determined high school Senior. She is a member of her high school Show Choir and is dually enrolled in vocational classes to earn her Cosmetology license, modeling ambition and hustle. In her role as president of her Cosmetology class she brings vitality and energy to the classroom and exemplifies leadership by attracting others to serving in the community along with her. She has organized fund raising efforts for our parish homeless ministry, a bottle drive to earn money for a fellow student who lost her home in a fire, rallied her classmates to raise awareness and funds for a battered women's shelter and, joined classmates from different classrooms together through a monthly potluck lunch.”*

*Rev. Gary Wright, SJ  
Pastor, Ss. Peter & Paul Jesuit Church*

## **MEGAN MEARNIC**

St. Andre Bessette Church, Ecorse

*“Megan is very involved in our parish. Megan has served as an altar server since our parishes merged 2012. She is a student teacher's aide in our religious education department for several years. When there is ever a parish event, you can always find Megan volunteering! With a smile!”*

*Sharon Resst  
Bookkeeper, St. Andre Bessette*



# Our Golden Rose Award Recipients

## ORLAGH O'DONOHUE

### Old St. Mary's Church, Detroit

*"Orlagh is a life-long member of Old Saint Mary's parish in Greektown, Detroit. She has been actively involved with various parish activities since a very young age. As a child she participated in serving meals to the homeless in the surrounding parish area, preparing toiletry kits for the homeless and decorating the church rectory at Christmas. As a young adult she helps the altar guild during most major feast days and helps the Mother's Club with various activities for younger children. Further, she has volunteered with Right to Life since a very young age helping to protect the unborn. Orlagh is an excellent student and is currently enrolled in several college courses as a high school senior. She is a member of her school's running club, choir and drama program. She really enjoys drama and has had the lead role in Shakespeare plays for the last several years. She is a member of the Miles Christi Catholic girl's group and participates in retreats, camping trips and weekly prayer and fellowship meetings. She volunteers with Miles Christi events throughout the year."*

*Rev. Wayne Epperley, CSSP  
Pastor, Old St. Mary's*

## SOPHIA PANICCIA

### Our Lady of Hope, St. Clair Shores

*"From school projects to sports teams, Sophia has done many things in her young life that required her to step up and be a leader. She believes being a leader means more than taking charge and possesses a myriad of other qualities that make her a leader. When she's working on a project, she tries to inspire and involve her partners as much as possible. When babysitting, she attempts to make the best decisions and be as fair as possible. During tutoring sessions, she uses her communication skills and shows empathy when a student is confused. On sports teams, she shows her commitment by working as hard as possible because, as Joe DiMaggio once said, a quote she lives by, "A person always doing his or her best becomes a natural leader, just by example."*

*Rev. James L. Bjorum  
Pastor, Our Lady of Hope*

# *Our Golden Rose Award Recipients*

## **ANNA PATON**

St. Hugo of the Hills, Bloomfield Hills

*“Anna Paton has volunteered as a Teen Aide each Monday evening during the school year by assisting the Kindergarten Catechist in our Family Faith Formation Program at Saint Hugo of the Hills Parish for the past two years since she graduated from the program following her eighth grade year as a student in the program, In addition to serving the young of our community, Anna has also served the elderly in our community for the past three years by assisting our parish nursing home ministry by playing keyboard in order to provide music for a monthly mass at the Woodward Hills Nursing Center offered by one of our priests. Anna also has been an altar server at weekend masses for the past five years, and she has now trained (and occasionally serves) as an Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist.”*

*Barbara Yugovich  
DRE, St. Hugo of the Hills*

## **LAURA PIOTROWSKI**

Church of the Transfiguration, Southfield

*“Laura is a talented musician. She participates in our youth group, serves regularly at Mass. She assists with Vacation Bible School and weekly religious education for our youngest students. Laura has provided music for parish events. She and her family are regularly involved in pro-life events. She is always available and always generous!.”*

*Rev. Jeffrey Scheeler, OFM  
Pastor, Church of the Transfiguration*

# *Our Golden Rose Award Recipients*

## **LAUREN PIZIALI**

St. Fabian Church, Farmington Hills

*“Lauren is a leader in her school, at student council and Link crew. She is an active member of our parish as a lector, and is very involved as a leader with youth group, has been involved with our Vacation Bible School, our teen mission trip, and as a mentor to our younger teens in high school ministry.”*

*Msgr. Timothy D. Hogan  
Pastor, St. Fabian*

## **VICTORIA POREDA**

St. Charles Borromeo, Newport

*“Victoria is very active as an alumni of our school. She helps out over the summer, after school in our Latchkey and offers to tutor students.”*

*Rev. Hendrico Rebello, SAC  
Pastor, St. Charles Borromeo*

## **LEAH RAYMOND**

St. Lawrence Church, Utica

*“Leah was an altar server at St. Lawrence for several years. She is now Eucharistic Minister and is active in the Parish Youth Ministry. Leah recently participated in the Youth Retreat in Steubenville, Ohio. She gave a feedback talk to parishioners upon her return which she found to be a very rewarding spiritual experience. Leah attends Mass frequently and receives the Sacraments. She is always ready to help. She is firm in her faith, modest and prayerful. Leah is a fine example to all.”*

*Rev. Roman Pasieczny  
Pastor, St. Lawrence*

# *Our Golden Rose Award Recipients*

## **EVELYN RIHACEK**

### St. Isaac Jogues, St. Clair Shores

*“Evelyn shares her gifts and talents with the community by singing in the St. Isaac Jogues Jubilate and as a section leader in Regina High School Chorale Ensemble. She serves those in need by her service work at Gianna House, Mc Rest, and making blankets for our veterans She consistently volunteers at St. Isaac Jogues Center Fish Fry and Summerfest. In the fall she helps her neighbors by raking leaves and other yard work. Evelyn maintains a 4.2 GPA with a full honors/AP courses at Regina.”*

## **SHANNON ROMKEMA**

### Our Lady of the Lakes, Waterford

*“At school, Shannon is a member of the National Honor Society. She runs cross country and is active in the drama department. She is the lead Eucharistic Minister and often lectors at school Masses. In the parish, she helps with Vacation Bible School and leads small groups during Confirmation retreats. Her service includes a mission trip to the Appalachians. She a pro-life advocate and attends the Right to Life March in DC annually. She is active in many outreach activities through the school and parish. Shannon attends NCYC and always seeks to strengthen her faith. She is a wonderful witness and inspiration.”*

*Rev. Scott A. Thibodeau  
Pastor, Our Lady of the Lakes*

# *Our Golden Rose Award Recipients*

## **AUTUMN STEVENS**

St. Andre Bessette Church, Ecorse

*“Autumn attends Mass weekly. She assists her mother who is a volunteer Christnet coordinator. Christnet is a traveling homeless shelter housed at our parish one week of the year. During Christnet, you will find Autumn cooking a dinner, packing lunches, serving dinner, greeting or visiting our guests to name just a few services. She even will get up early and come prepare breakfast before our guest leave at 6:00 a.m. Autumn recently signed up to be a Lector at Mass and is currently in training.”*

*Sharon Resst  
Bookkeeper, St. Andre Bessett*

## **JULIANNA TAGUE**

St. Ambrose Church, Grosse Pointe Park

*“Julianna is a faithful and dedicated volunteer in our religious education program. She assists in our classrooms and with music ministry every week. Additionally, she is a long-standing altar server who steps in to serve when no one else shows up and on Holy Days when it is difficult to schedule students. She is a Girl Scout, honors student, choir member, and mentor in the community. One would be amiss to not mention Julianna’s great faith and deep spirituality. She always steps forward to share her love of God and Faith in the Fire of the Holy Spirit. She has presented her testimonial many times for our program. She is an amazing young woman!”*

*Kelly Woolums  
DRE, St. Ambrose*

# *Our Golden Rose Award Recipients*

## **GRACE TYLUTKI**

Sacred Heart Church, Grosse Ile

*“Grace is an extremely dedicated, hard-working and caring person. She is a true example of a Catholic Christian to her peers. She works hard to make everyone in our school feel welcome and supported. She is a natural leader who has a God first, others second, and me third attitude!”*

*Jason Linster*

*Principal, St. Mary Catholic Central*

## **COLLEEN WALKER**

Everest Collegiate, Clarkston

*“Colleen is our everything. It’s not hyperbole to say that-as an administrative team-we have more than once mused that we should just turn over the running of the school to Colleen Walker. She isn’t just kind-hearted and thoughtful; she’s not just organized, calm, and structured; she isn’t just a motivated, self-sacrificing role model to her peers and teachers; she is also-at the root of all those traits-a tireless warrior for souls in service of her Savior. Colleen seems to do all things with the absolutely joyful mission of renewing God’s kingdom. Her peers look to her as a model of open, all-encompassing faith, and she often invites them to participate in it with her. Whether she is inviting them to pray in the Chapel before lunch, leading youth group or organizing apostolic activities for the community, she finds joy and purpose in the act of service.”*

*Gregory Reichert*

*Headmaster, Everest Collegiate*

# Thoughts & Reflections



## 2018 NCCW Resolutions

### Building our Future Purpose:

**T**o build the future of the National Council of Catholic Women (NCCW) by promoting high school and college membership around the country. WHEREAS, NCCW's Mission states that all Catholic women will be provided spirituality, leadership, and service opportunities through membership in the NCCW, therefore, it is incumbent upon the NCCW to offer membership to young women to ensure their access to the NCCW prayers and programs; and WHEREAS, the NCCW has a program to enroll young women as members through the NCCW High School and College membership program; therefore, be it

**R**ESOLVED that NCCW will support, empower and educate high school and college women to grow their spirituality and service and become active leaders in our councils; and encourage member participation in the established NCCW High School and College program and its protocol; and RESOLVED that our local councils establish and maintain a link between current members and newly formed high school and college affiliates through encouragement and mentoring.

Submitted by: The 2017-2018 NCCW Education Committee

**Prayer to  
Our Lady of Good Counsel**

God of heavenly wisdom,  
You have given us Mary, Mother of Jesus  
to be our guide and Counselor.  
Grant that we may always seek  
her motherly help in this life and  
so enjoy her blessed presence  
in the life to come.

O Mother of Good Counsel,  
Patroness of the National Council of  
Catholic Women, intercede for us,  
that we may be wise, courageous and  
loving leaders of the Church.

Help us, dear Mother, to know the  
mind of Jesus, your Son.

May the Holy Spirit fill us with reverence  
for God's creation, and compassion  
for all God's children.

May our labors of Love on earth  
enhance the reign of God and  
may God's gifts of faith and living hope  
prepare us for the fullness of the  
world to come. Amen.