We unite our prayer intentions this day with the prayer intention of Pope Benedict XVI, "That the role of women may be more appreciated and used to good advantage in every country of the world".



The Commission for Women Mission Statement

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.



The Commission for Women Office for Social Action 900 So. Woodward St. Allentown, PA 18103-4179 610-289-8900



The Commission for Women—Diocese of Allentown "Day of Spirituality"

Thirsting for Living Water: On the Dignity and Vocation of Women

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# Donna-Maríe Cooper O'Boyle

best-selling author and international speaker



St. Mary's Ave María Hall Hamburg, PA

8:30 AM Registration 9:00 AM — 3:00 PM

## Donna-Marie Cooper O'Boyle is a best

selling author and international speaker. She has been blessed with a long relationship with Blessed Teresa of Calcutta. She was also chosen to be the North American delegate to the Vatican for the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of John Paul II's *Mulieris Dignitatem*,

On the Dignity and Vocation of Women.

Donna-Marie has been a frequent guest on EWTN's "Faith and Culture" programs, which highlights women's issues and the Catholic response. Donna-Marie's ministry helps women to

celebrate the gift of their vocation.

#### **Meditation**

"The hour is coming, in fact has come, when the vocation of women is being acknowledged in its fullness, the hour in which women acquire in the world an influence, an effect and a power never hitherto achieved. That is why, at this moment when the human race is undergoing so deep a transformation, women imbued with a spirit of the Gospel can do so much to aid humanity in not falling."

Quote from *Mulieris Dignitatem* (taken from the Second Vatican Council's *Message to Women* (1965)

#### **Prayer for Women**

O God, Creator of the heavens and earth, help us to see one another through eyes enlightened by understanding and compassion. Help us listen to the voices of all our sisters with respect and attention. Open our ears to the cries of women who have been the victims of violence, women who have been denied dignity, education, food, health, even life itself, because they are female. Empower us to be instruments of justice for all, for in the wholeness of Christ, we are all one. Amen.

### Women's Day of Spirituality

Thírstíng for the Líving Water: On the Dignity and Vocation of Women

#### Agenda

Agenua	
8:30 a.m.	Ave Maria Hall Registration and refreshment
9:15 a.m.	Church Welcome and Opening Prayer Rev. Donald W. Cieniewicz Pastor-St. Mary
	<b>Opening Comments</b> Very Rev. E. Michael Camilli, M.S.C. Secretary, Catholic Life and Evangelization
	Introduction Mrs. Jill Dennin Commission for Women-Chair
9:30 a.m.	<b>Presentations</b> Speaker: Mrs. Donna-Marie Cooper O'Boyle <i>Meeting Jesus at the Well</i>
10:45 a.m.	Break
11:00 a.m.	<b>Church</b> <i>The Perfect Woman:</i> <i>Dealing with Society's Demands</i>
Noon	Ave Maria Hall Lunch
1:30 p.m.	<b>Church</b> <i>Awareness of a Mission:</i> <i>Our Call to Evangelization</i>
2:30 p.m.	Meditation / Closing Prayer

Mrs. Paula Olexa—Commission for Women—Past Chair

Our prayer is offered in thanksgiving for the inspiring gifts of faith and fellowship that we share today and for a deeper spiritual understanding of the dignity and vocation of women everywhere.