#### What is Catholic Women of Zion?

#### CATHOLIC WOMEN OF ZION is a

ministry to evangelize Catholic women. Its purpose is to help Catholic women open more and more to the Holy Spirit through a deeper commitment of their lives to Jesus as Lord and Savior and to impart the Holy Spirit to one another by their love, service, and sharing the good news of salvation. It provides opportunities which will foster a desire to grow in holiness.

### When Did it Begin?

CATHOLIC WOMEN OF ZION was started in the Diocese of Trenton on February 11, 1989, the Feast Day of Our Lady of Lourdes. Its purpose was to provide Catholic women a faith-sharing experience in a relaxed social setting. The ministry began with the support and encouragement of the late Bishop John Reiss

CATHOLIC WOMEN OF ZION is a private association of the Christian faithful. Its statutes were originally approved by the Diocese of Trenton and are in accord with the norm of Canon 305.2 of the 1983 Code of Canon Law. It was incorporated in the State of New Jersey in 1990.

#### What Does Catholic Women of Zion Mean?

Zion in the Old Testament was the site of the Temple of Jerusalem, the seat of worship and government. The New Testament Zion symbolized the New Jerusalem, our heavenly home. As the earth temple of Jesus and the Queen of the heavenly Zion, Mary becomes our intercessor as we gather to glorify Her Son and to grow in faith and love.

### What Does the Ministry Offer?

CATHOLIC WOMEN OF ZION is a ministry that is inspired by the Holy Spirit to meet the needs of today's women. It is a ministry of healing of mind, body, and spirit and meets to share Mass, prayers for healing, talks by guest speakers, and a luncheon.

It has proven to be a point of unity for women in the Renewal, the Marian movements, and Catholic women in general. This is attributed to prayer as the foundation of the ministry and the unifying force of Mary, the Mother of God.

## CATHOLIC WOMEN OF ZION's Objectives are to:

- Help support Catholic women's spiritual, mental and physical needs
- Provide a forum for personal and spiritual growth
- Sponsor retreat days and other events
- Help Catholic women to deepen their commitment to Jesus as Lord of their lives and to make real the Holy Spirit to one another by their service, love, and sharing the Good News of salvation.
- Encourages Catholic Women to grow both personally and in holiness through the following means:
- 1. Daily prayer
- 2. Awareness of the personal love of God the Father
- 3. Personal knowledge of and loving relationship with Jesus Christ as Lord
- 4. Experience of the power and presence of the Holy Spirit and openness to all His gifts
- 5. Frequent participation in the sacraments of Holy Eucharist and Reconciliation

- 6. Study and daily reading of the sacred scriptures, the Living Word of God
- 7. Faithfulness to the Catholic Church and its teachings on faith and morals, as expressed by the Pope and the Bishops
- 8. Awareness of the needs of the Church and a desire to address these needs through the corporal and spiritual works of mercy
- 9. Reverence, love and devotion to Mary as mother and model for all Christian women
- 10. Reverence for the sanctity of life from its origins to its fulfillment in God
- 11. Fostering the ministry of intercessory and healing prayer
- 12. Promoting the work of evangelism as expressed in Zechariah 2:14, 15
  "Sing and rejoice, O daughter Zion! See I am coming to dwell among you, says the Lord. Many nations shall join themselves to the Lord on that day, and they shall be His people, and He will dwell among you."

# Where and When Does the Ministry Meet?

Both chapters meet on a Saturday morning at various churches located in the Diocese. The meetings consist of Mass, music, prayers for healing, a guest speaker and a luncheon.

#### Monmouth and Ocean Counties Chapter I Chapter II

# How Can I Learn More about the Catholic Women of Zion?

Visit the CATHOLIC WOMEN OF ZION website at cwoz.org or email <u>cwoz@cwoz.org</u> for specific dates and times of retreats and other events.

Catholic Women of Zion

# A Ministry to Catholic Women



"May the Lord Bless You from Zion; May You See the Prosperity of Jerusalem All the Days of Your Life"

Psalm 128