

April 23, 2013

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Re: Mrs. Johnnette S. Benkovic

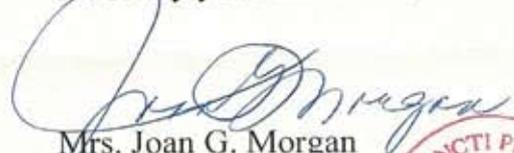
By this letter I wish to confirm that Mrs. Johnnette S. Benkovic is recognized in this Diocese to be a solid Catholic woman, committed to her Catholic faith in her teaching and in her practice of her faith.

Mrs. Benkovic is the founder of Living His Life Abundantly and Women of Grace. These apostolates of evangelization have done much to proclaim the Gospel message of Jesus Christ throughout the United States and the world.

The Diocese of St. Petersburg is pleased to endorse her and we trust that she will be a great asset to any gathering.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Mrs. Joan G. Morgan
Chancellor



: mtg



The Roman Catholic
Diocese of Phoenix

400 EAST MONROE, PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85004-2336 TELEPHONE (602) 257-0030
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

November 2014

Dear Pastors, Parochial Administrators and Parish Directors of Religious Education,

Re: *Full of Grace: Women and the Abundant Life*

I recently had the privilege of meeting Ms. Johnnette Benkovic, the author of the Women of Grace Foundational Study, *Full of Grace: Women and the Abundant Life*, along with several women of the Diocese who are currently offering this study at their own parishes. After hearing how fruitful and transforming this program has been in the lives of these women, I am writing to endorse, for your consideration, the use of this program in other parishes of the Diocese of Phoenix.

This program provides women with the opportunity to encounter Christ and His Blessed Mother while exploring their dignity as daughters of God and discovering their own gift of authentic femininity. Challenging women to become active participants in the New Evangelization, the program is designed to aid all women, as they seek to live out their Catholic faith.

This study program brings together Sacred Scripture, the Catechism, other formal Church documents and the wisdom that is found in the lives and writings of many women saints and offers women the opportunity to grow in their knowledge and appreciation of topics which include; the call and gift of women, prayer, the sacramental life and Marian spirituality.

While no formal training or educational background is needed for those who would lead the program at a parish, assistance in forming new groups is offered both locally and on a national level from the Women of Grace Apostolate headquarters. For more information, please contact Ms. Claire Dwyer at Ddwyer17@cox.net.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Thomas J. Olmsted
Bishop of Phoenix



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(315) 393-2920 • Fax (315) 393-2150
www.dioogdensburg.org

25 October 2012

Dear Brothers in Christ,

Last April, our diocese was very blessed to have Johnnette Benkovic, author of the book, Full of Grace Women and the Abundant Life, lead a weekend retreat at Wadhams Hall. Over one hundred women from around the Diocese attended this event. Many of the participants shared with me their deep gratitude for hosting such a powerful experience for them.

Women of Grace, a Catholic Foundational Study, based on Johnnette Benkovic's book, presents to women a structured format for learning about their Catholic faith through DVD teaching presentations by Johnnette, based on Scripture, the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, other Church documents, and the lives of women saints.

Throughout the study, women are invited to understand who they truly are in the eyes of God. This spiritual awakening and the discovery of the truth of their Catholic faith strengthens them. The fruits are efficacious within the family, the parish, community and workplace. The vision of **Women of Grace** "is a civilization and culture imbued with the spirit of the Gospel renewed, revitalized, and healed through the love of God."

Through the efforts of Mary Dillenback, regional coordinator, the Diocese of Ogdensburg wishes to make the *Women of Grace Study Series* available to our parishes. For more information, please contact:

Mary Dillenback
Facilitator and Regional Coordinator for *Women of Grace*
marydillenback@twcny.rr.com
315 771-1377 or 315 686-4107
marydillenback@womenofgrace.com

I appreciate your thoughtful consideration of this opportunity for the women of your parish, particularly during this *Year of Faith*. Know that the daily prayers of the *Women of Grace* in our Diocese include prayers for our consecrated religious, priests, deacons and seminarians. Be assured, as well, of my continued prayers and gratitude!

Fraternally yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Terry R. LaValley
Bishop of Ogdensburg



ARCHDIOCESE OF MIAMI

Office of the Archbishop

January 24, 2013

Reverend Monsignors / Fathers:

As Archbishop of Miami, I am pleased to witness many spiritual blessings bestowed by God upon the Church in general and on the Archdiocese in particular. Among those blessings are the many programs and ministries which bring our people to a deeper relationship with God. One such opportunity of spiritual growth for women, which has taken root in Broward County, is *Women of Grace*.

I was happy to be informed that it was in response to Pope John II's call to make "speedy progress in achieving full respect for women and their identity" that *Women of Grace* was founded. The program laudably affirms women in their dignity and vocation as daughters of God and in their gift of authentic femininity by exploring the divine plan for women.

The primary objective of the *Women of Grace Foundational Study Series* is to explore with women the authentic understanding of the gift of their femininity, and equip them to bring the grace they receive to bear upon their interior being, their relationship with God, their interpersonal relationships, and the culture of the day. The feminine person is studied in conjunction with Church reaching and Sacred Scripture. Mary, our Mother, is held as the role model and example for all women.

Women of Grace seeks to supplement the good work already being accomplished by other existing apostolates throughout our Church. This program provides material and resources to aid women in our Church to grow closer to God and benefit from the teaching of our Church.

I endorse the *Women of Grace Foundational Studies Series* as an opportunity for women to grow in their faith. I also endorse the *Women of Grace* retreat experience with conferences, Mass, Confessions and Eucharistic Adoration as a spiritual experience which offers great blessings to those who attend.

I express gratitude to all those who work to promote this program at the service of women and their calling in Christ's Church, and thank you personally for the priestly support that you offer them.

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Thomas G. Wenski
Archbishop of Miami

ARCHDIOCESE

OF BIRMINGHAM

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8 SHADWELL STREET
BIRMINGHAM
B4 6EY

Mrs Monica Hynes
8 Greenside
Harborne
Birmingham
B17 0BT

10 July 2012

Dear Monica

Thank you for your recent letter and for the information about the Women of Grace event taking place on the 24 July 2012. I think this is an excellent initiative and I hope it will be well supported. If there is time, I will certainly include information about this in my next *ad clerum*.

Thank you for all you do and please be assured of my prayers and kindest wishes for you and your family.

Yours sincerely in Christ

+ Bernard Longley

✠ Bernard Longley
Archbishop of Birmingham



Archdiocese of Philadelphia
Office of the Cardinal
222 North 17th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103-1299

February 20, 2007

Reverend Monsignor Robert Powell
Pastor
Saint Cyril of Jerusalem Parish
1410 Almshouse Road
Jamison, PA 18929

Dear Monsignor Powell,

As Archbishop of Philadelphia, I am pleased to witness many spiritual blessings bestowed by God upon the Church in general and on the Archdiocese in particular. Among those blessings are the many programs and ministries which bring our people to a deeper relationship with God. One such opportunity of spiritual growth for women, which has taken root in Central Bucks County, is *Women of Grace*.

I was happy to be informed that it was in response to Pope John Paul II's call to make "speedy progress in achieving full respect for women and their identity" that *Women of Grace* was founded. The program laudably affirms women in their dignity and vocation as daughters of God and in their gift of authentic femininity by exploring the divine plan for women.

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Reverend Monsignor Robert Powell
February 20, 2007
Page Two

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I express gratitude to all those who work to promote this program at the service of women and their calling in Christ's Church, and thank you personally for the priestly support that you offer them.

Sincerely in Christ,


Cardinal Justin Rigali
Archbishop of Philadelphia

“The vision of the dignity and vocation of women is one of the most exciting events of our era. The Women of Grace program has enabled women participants to be aware of the invaluable “manifestations of the Spirit” that empowers them in their vocation and mission in the family, the church and the world and thereby demonstrates “the fruits of feminine holiness” - a phrase oft repeated by Pope John Paul II in his addresses to women.

During the course of the year, I had the privilege of participating in the closing sessions of many Women of Grace study groups at St. Joan of Arc Parish. Evidently, it is one of the most vibrant programs in the parish, which is well attended and appreciated by many women. The number of women interested in this program was so high that several study groups needed to be formed and facilitated...

I have been inspired and touched by some of the testimonies and experiences the women shared at the end of the program. The stories of their personal spiritual journey, renewal of prayer and faith life, transformation in their family and ecclesial life, deeper interest in the Word of God and the Sacraments and their inner calling to active involvement in ministries demonstrate that the program befits every woman in the socio-psychological and spiritual dimension.”

Rev. Victor D’Souza, St. Joan of Arc Parish, Boca Raton, FL

“...As a result of the women’s desire to continue their spiritual growth, many of the women have now moved into other ventures of learning and praying together. One such endeavor has been to form groups, usually meeting in private homes, called Women of Grace. They rely on material which is scripturally orientated and also on meditations and spiritual reading that focus on the Blessed Mother. Particularly helpful has been the material called “Full of Grace: Women and the Abundant Life” The fruit of this is that there are many groups coming together on a regular basis to learn, pray and support each other in our Catholic way of life. For many of them the Eucharist has become a daily occasion, while the rosary, meditation and journaling have sparked a whole new and exciting way of praying and discerning God’s ever loving invitation to deepen both spiritual and human relationships...”

Rev. Louis Petruha, Pastor, St. Joseph Catholic Church, York, PA

“It was a pleasure to meet all the dedicated women of the Bishop’s Commission. Thank you for the components of the “Women of Grace” program. I have reviewed it and now endorse the use of this program. Those who are already using it seem very enthusiastic.”
Most Reverend Daniel Jenky, C.S.C., Bishop of Peoria, IL

“I write this letter to tell you about the success of Women of Grace in the Central Bucks County parishes of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. In the last two years, women from a number of parishes have used Women of Grace to deepen their personal relationship with God. They have organized the program in just about every parish with our area of the Archdiocese.

It is wonderful to see the impact of Women of Grace on the ladies of our parish and the other parishes.”

Rev. Msgr. Robert Powell, Pastor, St. Cyril of Jerusalem, Jamison, PA

“One of the joys of Parish Ministry for me as a priest and Carmelite these last few years has been sharing the journey of so many women in our Parish who have attended the Women of Grace Study Series.It was a privilege to listen to all of them as they share the new light of faith and grace poured upon them as they grew in great knowledge of our sacred scriptures.....When the women complete the study they are inspired to use their gifts and talents given by God to become involved in one of the ministries at their parish to help strengthen the parish..... I was delighted to see women in our parish after the Study Series concluded to discover the value of belonging to a group of Catholic Women who I believe will renew the Catholic Church in America for the next century.”

Rev. Guy S. Fiano, O.Carm., Parochial Vicar, St. Jude Catholic Church, Boca Raton, FL

"As Archbishop of Philadelphia, I am pleased to witness many spiritual blessings bestowed by God upon the Church. Among those blessings are the many programs and ministries which bring our people to a deeper relationship with God. One such opportunity of spiritual growth for women, which has taken root, is Women of Grace.I endorse the Women of Grace Foundational Study Series as an opportunity for women to grow in their faith. I express gratitude to all those who work to promote this program at the service of women and their calling in Christ's Church and thank you personally for the priestly support that you offer them."

His Eminence Justin Rigali, Cardinal Archbishop Emeritus of Philadelphia

“I see women of all ages falling in deeper love with Jesus and His Church. And, in turn, they are going back to their families and being the heart of Christ. They are also extending themselves to their Church family, and beautifully showing the uniqueness of their femininity and the God-given gifts that are inherent to them as mothers, wives, and sisters.”

Rev. Michael Russo, Pastor, Our Lady of Fatima, Lafayette, LA