

Do you know this woman?

“She surveys a field and acquires it; she plants a vineyard; she works energetically; her arms are powerful.” Proverbs 31:16-17.

If a woman sets her mind on something, she will get it done. Who organizes a parish pumpkin patch as a major fund raiser? Episcopal Church Women.

“She reaches out to the needy; she stretches out her hands to the poor.” Proverbs 31:20-21
Women are happy to follow the Lord’s call. Who started the United Thank Offering that grants its Ingatherings to the entire world? Episcopal Church Women.

“Strength and honor are her clothing; she is confident about the future.” Proverbs 31:25
With God’s grace, we have no reason to fear for the future. Who heads Sunday Schools, tends the Altar, volunteers in the church office? Episcopal Church Women. The ECW has been affectively serving the Diocese of Louisiana for more than 136 years.

We are a community of faithful women who believe Jesus’ words in Matthew 19:26 that “with God all things are possible” and Philippians 4:13 that says we can “accomplish all things through Christ who gives us strength.” We acknowledge the true source of empowerment that grows our parish families and helps build our diocese.

Who mentored this little girl acolyte who became the first woman bishop of Louisiana? Was it Episcopal Church Women? The ECW builds lifelong relationships as sisters-in-Christ.

I ask each of you present here today, as clergy and lay leaders in our Church, to pray for Episcopal Church Women. Consider starting an ECW branch in your congregation. Our churches offer safe environments for women to gather and explore ways to become faithful servants of Christ. Our diocesan ECW board members are ready to assist you in organizing an ECW group in your congregation. May God bless ALL our endeavors done in his name.