



## ON-LINE NEWSLETTER

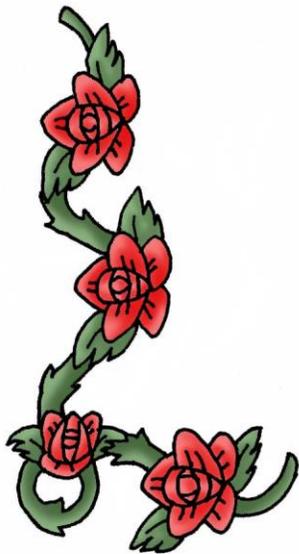
May 2015 Edition

Featuring the Hearst and Timmons Dioceses and the Past President/Historian Standing Committee

**ONE** HEART VOICE MISSION

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K.Pizarro 2008.

### Betty's Blog



From Mary we learn to surrender to God's will in all things.  
From Mary we learn to trust even when all hope seems gone.

From Mary we learn to love Christ Her Son and the Son of God.  
*Saint Pope John Paul II*

It was a beautiful sunny Mother's Day that seemed even sunnier with the celebration of the Eucharist. Often times I find myself extremely moved when I am proclaiming the Word of God, that it is difficult to fight back the tears. So it was with the second reading. "God is love, and whoever remains in love, remains in God and God in him." Then in the gospel, "No greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friend". A love beyond all telling. Jesus for us. It seemed so appropriate to be speaking of love on Mother's Day. The love of a mother is so profound and we need only to look at Mother Mary for the perfect example. She showed us the meaning of unconditional love that began with her "yes" and continued to the agony at the foot of the cross and holding her Son in arms for the unforgettable image of La Pieta. Mother Mary shows us how to be women of compassion as we encounter others. As nurturers, we can't deny the desire to help those in need and to serve others. We research issues and concerns with our minds yet feel it so deeply with our hearts. For love of God and country. After having a wonderful dinner with my family, I returned home and reflected on the events of the day. It was quite surreal to be sitting across from my sons that used to call me "Mummy" to now see two men sitting there. Where has the time gone? I feel the same about my term as president.

I recently attended diocesan conventions that my son fondly referred to as my "world tour". With every mile, I grew in anticipation of the conventions and the amazing women I would see again or meet for the first time. My journey began with the first convention in Peterborough and as soon as that one ended, I headed for London. Driving alone for hours at a time gives one a



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great opportunity to not only pray in peace but reflect on many things. It also gave me the privacy of singing a duet with Andrea Bocelli without worrying if someone heard me. I'm sure there are those that passed me on the highway that now have stories to tell of what they saw! Right after the London diocesan convention ended, I headed for Parry Sound to pick up Jeannie Coleman and together we enjoyed the drive to the Sault Ste. Marie diocesan convention. After dancing up a storm with our sister members, it was time to return to Parry Sound. I felt privileged to witness firsthand how Jeannie lives her ministry beautifully as she cares for her aunt. What a joy it was to spend time with this wonderful woman, Aunt Vimy, who just turned 96! The time came quickly as I found myself on the road yet again for Toronto. The convention ended on Friday night and Saturday morning I was on a plane to Timmins before driving to Chapleau. Each convention had their own unique style and ways of celebrating their accomplishments. Hearing all the incredible works being done in the diocese, one could not help but feel pride in the members and hope for the future of the League. What an amazing opportunity to spend time with my sisters in the League! It reminded me of how you know you have seen a good movie. We laughed, cried, shared stories and left feeling better for having been there. It was two weeks well spent! As I drove home from Toronto, I reflected on all the wonderful women I had the pleasure of spending time with. The hospitality and love they showed not only to me but all who were at the conventions conveyed their love of the League and all God's people. I look forward to the last three conventions I will be attending at the end of the month.

... faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

*1 Corinthians 13:13*

I send you all blessings, hugs and love!

*Betty*



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### **Archives**

Submitted by OPC Historian Marlene Pavletic



During my term as Past Provincial President/Historian, I have attempted to visit the provincial archives several times. I first visited a year ago. I took an inventory and gained an understanding of where we were located. A second visit to the archives recently proved to be an interesting one. In 1998, an agreement was signed by Provincial President Joan Durand and Hamilton Diocesan President Mary Van Dyk to provide storage space for the Ontario Provincial Council archive materials at the Hamilton Office in Guelph.

Since then, the archives have been moved and are located in the Chancery Office of the Diocese of Hamilton in Hamilton. The office continues to be shared by the Hamilton Diocesan Council and the Provincial Council. The arrangement has worked well over the years. Recently it was necessary to do some re-arranging and with the help of Past Diocesan President Rosanne Sogan and the generosity of the Diocese of Hamilton, we acquired an additional filing cabinet. As I transferred files, I was absolutely amazed. The provincial charter, previous resolutions, newspaper articles pertaining to our visits with government and the topics we have been continuing to address over the past 20 years kept me intrigued! Topics like pornography, Catholic education and membership in the League are topics we continue to work on today. This demonstrates our persistence and commitment!

The League is so important. It is vital that we take the time to preserve our history. I encourage members to take time to reflect and review our history. Once you do this, you will be even more committed to the work of the League knowing we really do achieve great things!

### **New Collaborator Priest at Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Hornepayne**

Father Cyrille Rigobert Ogbabo arrived at the Hearst Diocese at the end of August 2014. Although he is originally from Central Africa, he was serving in the Diocese of Fort Nelson, B.C. before he came here. He was appointed by Bishop Cadieux as Parish Administrator to the Parish of Mattice, and Collaborator to the Cathedral Parish in Hearst. As Collaborator, he was offered our Parish by our Parish Priest, Father Jacques Fortin. As a Missionary Priest, Father Cyrille offered us a Mass every week, which we accepted, a Blessing not seen by our Parish in 24 years.





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### Hearst Diocesan Convention 2014

Our convention was hosted by St. John the Baptist Council in Longlac. The theme was 'We have Seen the Lord-CELEBRATE and celebrate we did. Mgr. Pat Stilla from Thunder Bay, our keynote speaker presented "Celebrate our Faith through Prayer"'.

Our provincial representative Pauline Krupa's workshop helped us to celebrate the league. Lynn Olenik, diocesan president discussed ways which we could boost our self-confidence. This was followed by a mini-fashion show - 'dressing with confidence'.

Both the opening liturgy and Sunday liturgy provided great opportunity to pray, sing and celebrate our faith.





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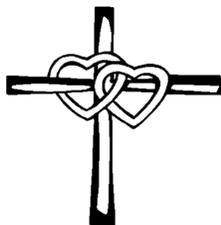


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Two members of **St. Theresa's Council in Geraldton**, Pauline Savage and Lynn Olenik, who are also members of the Bucket of Hope missionary group, are seen in front of the Honduran and Canadian flag in the newly completed library/resource center in the mountain village of Monte Verde, Honduras. The building was begun in 2008 and with financial assistance from the group, it now consists of a beautiful children's room, computer room, meeting room/audio visual room and common area.

**St. Theresa's Council in Geraldton** leads the Way of the Cross each Good Friday. The members are seen here gathered around the flowers following the Garden Way of the Cross



A special day was held this year for a group of seniors in **Monte Verde**. After playing games, doing crafts and sharing a snack Pauline and Lynn assisted them in planting seeds. They all went home smiling and appreciative of the door prizes, raffles and their budding gardens.



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### Alexandra (Sandra) Levesque Receives Her 60 Year Pin

In October **Sandra Levesque** was presented with her 60 year pin for dedication and service to the Catholic Women's League of Canada. Once Sandra became a member she rolled up her sleeves and became an active member of the **Our Lady of Fatima Council in Cochrane**. She has held the position of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Education Convenor, Visitor to the sick, Legislation and Resolutions Convenor for our Parish council. She has also held positions at the Diocesan level as well. These positions included Diocesan President, Legislation and Resolutions Convenor, Historian as well as a few others that she couldn't specifically recall. She was honoured with Life Membership to the league in 1995.



Sandra is a retired school teacher, mother, grandmother and great grandmother. Although not as active as she once was, she still enjoys visits from family and friends and CWL sisters in her new place of residence in Timmins, Ontario. She also still loves to have a good laugh now and then.

Sandra was so proud to receive her 60 year pin and a dozen roses. She truly cherishes the sisterhood of the CWL.

Respectfully Submitted, Nancy Bouvier, Past President- Our Lady of Fatima Council



The **Longlac Catholic Women's League** continues to be involved with Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School in Longlac. The Longlac CWL held a contest at the school to celebrate Anti-Bullying Day. Members of our CWL also came into the school to read to the JK-SK students.





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### [Joint CCCB-CCODP campaign for earthquake victims in Nepal](#)

April 29, 2015

The Most Reverend Paul-André Durocher, Archbishop of Gatineau and President of the [Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops](#), has announced a joint emergency campaign with the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace to raise funds for the victims of the earthquake in Nepal. In addition, the Government of Canada has announced it will match any contributions to assist Nepal which are collected by May 25, 2015.

Catholic Bishops across Canada are already encouraging parishes and other groups to organize special collections, with the funds collected to be received by Development and Peace before May 25. Donations sent to CCODP should be marked "Nepal Earthquake Relief Fund". Development and Peace is working in collaboration with the other Caritas members in the region, including Caritas Nepal, Caritas India, and the Catholic Relief Services office in India.

In his *Regina Coeli* message on April 28, Pope Francis prayed "for the victims, those wounded and for all those who suffer because of this calamity." He said he hoped those affected would find support in "fraternal solidarity". The Holy See also announced that the Holy Father contributed \$100,000 through the Pontifical Council *Cor Unum* to assist the victims of the earthquake.

Based on current information, the April 24 earthquake has affected some seven million people in Nepal's 34 districts, leaving one million homeless and around two million children in need of assistance, with an estimated 400,000 buildings destroyed. Media report that people and whole villages have been buried by landslides and avalanches triggered by the earthquake and aftershocks. The number of casualties is expected to become much higher as rescue teams try to make their way into more remote areas.

Donations can be made by telephone (1 888 664-3387), online at [www.devp.org/donate/nepal](http://www.devp.org/donate/nepal) or by sending a cheque made out to Development and Peace and indicating Nepal Earthquake to:

Development and Peace  
1425 René-Lévesque Blvd. West. 3rd Floor  
Montreal QC H3G 1T7



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***Our next issue will be in June  
Featuring the Hamilton Diocese and  
the Organization Standing Committee***

