



ONTARIO PROVINCIAL COUNCIL  
OF THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S  
LEAGUE OF CANADA



## ON-LINE NEWSLETTER

**February 2016 Edition**

**Featuring the Diocese of Thunder Bay and the Organization Standing Committee**

**ONE** HEART  
VOICE  
MISSION

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### ***Pauline's Ponderings...***

#### **Greetings:**

Traditionally we think of February as the month of love. It seemed so fitting that we recently heard the reading that is very often proclaimed at weddings – 1 Corinthians 13: 4 – 7. It has often been called the manual for a good marriage. In his homily, Father Terry suggested that we substitute the word love with our own names. As we welcome the season of Lent and strive to live the corporal and spiritual works of mercy, wouldn't it be great to not give up dessert but strive to be able to say I am patient, kind, not envious or not easily angered. I trust, hope, and rejoice in truths. Love is action, so during Lent take action to be the best you can be.

As of February 6 physician-assisted dying in Canada has become a reality. We must continue to urge government to make funding available to provide excellent, ethical palliative care for all. As members we must educate ourselves and others of the meaning of physician assisted dying along with other terms like euthanasia and assisted suicide. I suggest that you visit the COLF website to view the collection of articles and leaflets that deal with the topic of end of life. <http://www.colf.ca/index.php/en/>

To quote Father Chris this morning: "Lent is three days away. I can hardly wait....in just three days I will be able to give up my New Year's resolutions...." Smile and be happy!

Cheers and ttfn...

*God loves each  
of us as if there  
were only one of  
us.*  
~ Augustine

***The March issue will  
feature the Hamilton  
Diocesan Councils and  
the Spiritual  
Development Standing  
Committee.***

***Stay tuned!***



### St. Dominic's CWL Council ~ Thunder Bay



St. Dominic's CWL celebrated with one of their outstanding members in 2015.

Anne Teschke, who is a Life Member, celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday in February. A celebration was held and many of her CWL sisters joined her for this joyous occasion. She is past president of both St. Dominic's Council and the Thunder Bay Diocesan Council. She was part of the community life project, which worked directly with immigrants as well as with World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations in Mexico. For her outstanding contributions to the League, Anne was a recipient of the League's distinguished Maple Leaf Service Pin and presented with a Life Membership. On March 25, 2001, Bishop Fred Colli presented Anne with the Benemerenti Medal and Papal Award conferred upon by her by Pope John Paul II for her distinguished contributions to church, community and family. Anne's contributions to the church have been immeasurable. May God continue to bless you Anne!

### Holy Family CWL ~ Thunder Bay

Holy Family CWL is a small but very active group. We continue to try and recruit members by personally approaching and asking women of our parish to join. This personal touch has always worked for us with the most success.

Some of our upcoming activities and commitments include our annual food hampers for several of the needy families in our area as well as the annual shoe box campaign. We also do some work with Development and Peace and support them financially. Some of our members attended the CWL Annual Diocesan Convention, CWL League Days as well as *Catch the Fire!*. All that did attend enjoyed these gatherings.

The CWL of Holy Family also plays a big role in the various parish activities such as coffee Sundays, funerals, parish picnics and dinners that take place in our church. Several members of the CWL also do the decorating of the church for the various liturgical church seasons throughout the year.





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## St. Mary's ~ Fort Frances



♥ **Hearts Across the Border:** St. Mary's Council, Fort Frances, hosted mass and a fall dinner for area councils and included members of St. Thomas Catholic Daughters from International Falls, Minnesota. President Diane Revus and CWL member Maria Slusarchuk welcomed these members to the gathering.

## St. Patrick`s ~ Emo

St. Patrick CWL , Emo celebrated its 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2014. As a project celebrating this event, members prepared a book of history of our CWL and the Parish with text and pictures titled *Journey in Faith*.

The book begins with the coming of homesteaders to the area and the naming of Emo after Emo, Ireland. Four St. Patrick`s churches were built here and the history traces the time when mass was said in homes, to being said in these four churches for over 115 years. The story is written in view of the journey in faith that parishioners carried over the generations and the determination and faith that they lived. We presented this history to our CWL and the CWL councils in the area on our 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. In addition, copies were donated to the diocesan archives in Thunder Bay, the parish office, the local library, and one kept one for our CWL archives. Contact with the Emo National School, Ireland was made during the Emo 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in Canada and continues today.





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### Membership

**“Life’s most persistent and urgent question is, ‘What are you doing for others?’”**

*Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*



Dr. King’s question in the above quote could be applied to each of us in relation to our commitment and involvement in the League. Consider the impact the Catholic Women’s League has had on society. As a national organization, we as individual members have the ability to change the

face of the nation through letter writing campaigns and resolutions at every level of government. We have a united voice that is respected and valued. All Catholic women should have the opportunity to share in our collective voice. Have you invited all the women in your parish to join the League, offered to bring them to a meeting, or invited them to sit with you at a meeting, ensuring they feel welcome, included and involved? It is a simple step that will produce great results. Membership in the League is a multifaceted gift that is often taken for granted, but one that should be treasured for all the benefits it generates not only for the individual but for the nation too. By December 31, 2015 there were 85,246 members in Canada; can we in Ontario help to increase these statistics?



There is a new award available to any active member in Ontario who has been a CWL member in good standing for the past 5 years. The nominee must have demonstrated extraordinary service in social justice issues contributing to her community, having demonstrated exemplary leadership and generosity of spirit while living the mission of the League. This award was instituted at last year’s convention and will be given annually at future conventions. The criteria and nomination forms will be available on the OPC website. Diocesan presidents will have this year’s special time-line, please forward prospective applications to your president for consideration as soon as possible.