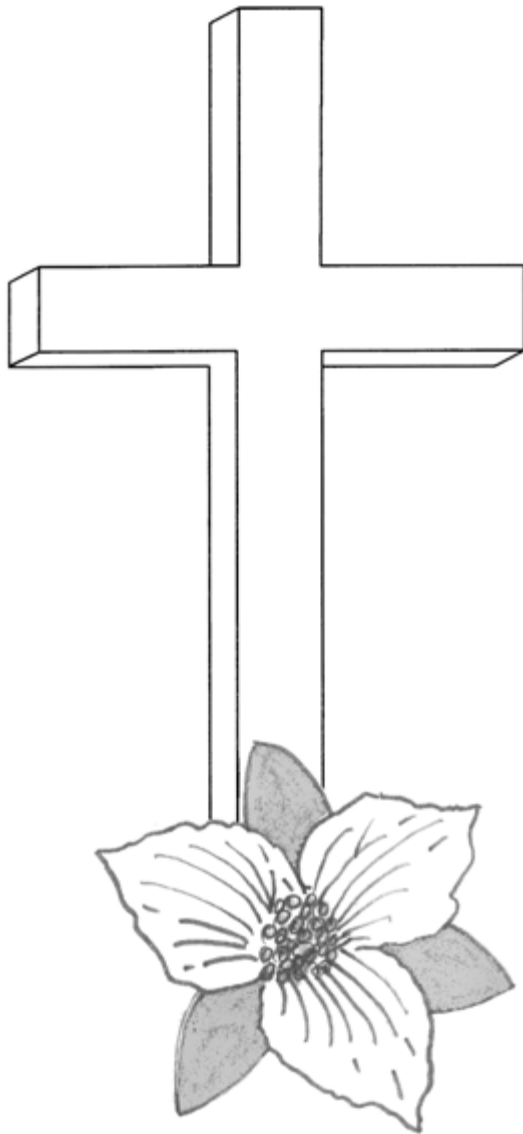


TRILLIUM

NEWS AND VIEWS

**Newsletter
of the
Ontario
Provincial
Council
of The
Catholic
Women's
League
of Canada**



www.cwl.on.ca

For God and Canada

Spring 2012

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Editor's Notes:

The *Trillium News and Views* and the provincial website: www.cwl.on.ca provide information on the League in Ontario, which we hope you will share with others in your council.

The 13 provincial officers and the 13 diocesan presidents form the provincial executive. They meet in the fall, the spring, immediately before and immediately after the annual convention, to plan, direct and oversee the work of the League in Ontario. In this issue we introduce the recording secretary, corresponding secretary, treasurer, spiritual development chairperson and diocesan presidents from Hamilton, Kingston, Pembroke and Ottawa.

This year as we focus on *Spiritual Poverty*, Provincial Corresponding Secretary Glenda Klein, has provided some sample blessings we could use when giving an appreciation or closing correspondence. You will find these sprinkled throughout this newsletter. See if you can find all **9** of them.

Honorary Life Member Lucille Cullen reminds us that the first provincial newsletter was published during her term as provincial president in 1983 and that Janice Deslauriers was the first newsletter editor. Twenty-nine years later the newsletter is available to read and download from our website. Communications Chairperson, Pauline Krupa, has been working with our website programmer to create the ability for members to subscribe on line to the newsletter instead of receiving a paper copy in the mail. **Please complete the newsletter survey on page 35** and provide your feedback on this new endeavour as well as any other comments. We are always interested in your feedback.

We applaud Life Member Hazel Hawrish, of Barrie, for her gift of a one-year subscription to the *Trillium* for 5 parish councils in the Sault Ste Marie diocese.

Enclosed with this issue is the convention information and registration package for the 65th provincial convention, to be hosted by the members of the Kingston diocese, from the 7th to the 11th of July. **Deadline to register for convention is 7 June 2012.**

Mary Lou

Centred on Faith & Justice ~Dignity for All
Ontario Provincial President
Marlene Pavletic

“Do to others whatever you would have them do to you”.

Matthew 7: 12

In January 2012, the provincial council introduced the new sub-theme, *Dignity for All*. The executive was blessed to have Bishop Colli speak on the theme at the executive meeting in February. He challenged us to think about how we act in our own person. Do we show respect to others? Do we, ourselves, act in a dignified manner?

Pope Benedict XVI emphasizes the importance of the human person and the need to show dignity to all human beings as Jesus demonstrated by reaching out to the poor, the sick, the helpless, the needy and the children. We are called to the same outreach for every human being. Do we see the face of Jesus in everyone we encounter? Do we practice what we believe?

Centred on Faith & Justice ~ Dignity for All challenges us to examine ourselves. Membership in the League holds us to a higher standard. We are called to bring dignity to others in various ways; to lead by example, to share with others and to be the shining light that brings love and hope. As Bishop Colli remarked, our membership helps us demonstrate to others, this dignity that dwells within us.

We continue to focus on poverty at home and abroad. A national project, *Velma's Dream*, focuses on the Holy Land. Current unrest in this area of the world has caused hardship and suffering for many women and children. National council has partnered with the Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA) to support an Infant Welfare Center in an effort to help the children and youth to a better future. Donations for support of these projects are welcomed. Read more about the project in the community life article in this newsletter and in *The Canadian League* magazine.

Conventions are excellent learning tools that provide a perspective on the League beyond the parish level. Parish members are the grassroots and are vital to the organization. Conventions provide essential nourishment to make them grow. I am hopeful councils will make every effort to encourage members to attend a convention this year. First time attendees at provincial conventions are always amazed at the scope of our organization. They return home impressed and more active in their parishes. In July, four newly elected diocesan presidents will join the provincial team.

Plans are progressing for the 65th annual Ontario provincial convention to be held in Kingston at the Ambassador Conference Resort, July 7-11, 2012. The committee has a multitude of exciting events planned including a mystery dinner, boat cruise and excellent entertainment. The business sessions will include a focus on the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace. The provincial communications and legislation chairpersons will lead an interactive computer workshop so delegates are invited to bring a laptop for the Tuesday presentations. There will be resolutions to

debate beginning Tuesday morning. Check the convention agenda in the enclosed package for more information and/or access the provincial website www.cwl.ca.

The 92nd annual national convention is being held in Edmonton, August 12-15th at the Westin Edmonton Hotel and the Shaw Conference Centre. This year is the 100th anniversary of the League's existence in Canada and many exciting things will be happening. *Catch the Fire*, a new leadership-training program, will be introduced. In addition, national council will be asking for support to establish a foundation in a joint venture between The Catholic Women's League of Canada and the Sisters of Service (SOS). This partnership will seek "to enhance the role of women in church and society".

Make your convention travel plans early to avoid disappointment and bring a friend. Hope to see you there!

May Our Lady of Good Counsel guide you in your ministry through the League

Recognition and Importance of Catholic Lay Leadership Today

by Joleene Kemp



On Monday, February 27, 2012 a dinner was held at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Thunder Bay to recognize and celebrate the provincial leaders of The Catholic Women's League of Canada and the Knights of Columbus.

Marlene Pavletic, Ontario Provincial President of The Catholic Women's League of Canada and Joseph Salini, Ontario State Deputy for the Knights of Columbus, both from the Thunder Bay Diocese, were honoured

for accepting their call to serve. This is the first time in the history of the diocese that both provincial leaders have come from Thunder Bay. Bishop F. Colli, Bishop of Thunder Bay spoke to those assembled about the importance of the laity in today's world. At the conclusion of his talk he presented Marlene and Joseph with diocesan medallions, a visible appreciation for all they are doing. Marlene and Joseph each spoke briefly about their journey and how and why they responded in the positive to their call to serve. The evening was a time for the diocese to show its support and appreciation for these two leaders and the distinct yet similar organizations they represent.

Spiritual Advisor
Most Reverend Fred J. Colli
Bishop of Thunder Bay

March 2012

Dear Members of the Catholic Women's League:

With the month of March we are into the Lenten season, which is a time of great prayer, reflection and fasting. It is a season for taking stock of our spiritual lives and if we have neglected our relationship with the Lord and His Church, it is an opportunity for us to set things aright and begin again on a new journey of spiritual growth.

I know that each year the Lenten season is a special time for me to examine my prayer life and the weaknesses, which are a part of my personality. During my prayer I ask the Lord to help me to be more patient in my actions and work; to be more reflective; to set aside more time for prayer; to help me curb any pride or selfishness that can tempt me in my relationships with others and to help me to live a holier life and a life more reflective of the mercy and compassion of Jesus Himself. For each of us, no matter what our life situation, we know that the 40 days of Lent is a good time for this self-examination and for renewal. It prepares us for the greatest feast of our faith, the resurrection of the Lord at Easter.

In his Lenten message this year, Pope Benedict XVI uses the phrase, "let us be concerned for each other, to stir a response in love and good works". This is taken from the letter to the Hebrews and it is quite appropriate for us as members of The Catholic Women's League of Canada for our Lenten prayer and reflection. The Pope calls this reflection an opportunity for us to look at the very heart of our call as Christians. It is a call to charity.

To be concerned for one another is to be attentive to the needs and conditions of others. This challenges us not only as members of the League in our outreach for God and Canada, but it also challenges us to look at our own lives, our relationship with our spouse and family, our response to neighbour and our own personal relationship with the Lord Jesus Himself.

The Lenten season prompts us to be grateful for the abundance we share, but also to be mindful of the struggles of those around us. The Pope notes that this reflection also situates us in our journey of life and faith, a journey that begins here but ends in the kingdom of God. As a community we travel this road together and we support one another in our prayers and sharing.

A major theme during Lent is that of forgiveness. I would be remiss if I did not mention how important mercy and forgiveness are in our journey. Lent is a time to seek forgiveness from God for our sins, and to strengthen that bond of love that links us to the Father through Jesus. But mercy and forgiveness are also necessary in our relationship with one another. Lent is a time to heal wounds and to reestablish broken friendships that might have been caused by our selfishness or pride. We seek the forgiveness of the Lord and with that grace we can forgive one another.

May this season be a time of greater prayer for us, a time of deeper reflection on our call to holiness and a time to once again recognize in a more compassionate way, our concern for our brothers and sisters. May the sacrificial spirit of Lent help us to truly prepare for the celebration of Easter joy.

Spiritual Development Committee **Patricia Rivest, Chairperson**

“This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another”
John 13:35

Our Mission Statement affirms the holiness and spirituality of the League. *“The Catholic Women’s League of Canada is a national organization rooted in gospel values, calling its members to holiness through service to the people of God.”* (National Manual of Policy and Procedure – page 3)

The #1 Object of the League is *“to achieve individual and collective spiritual development”*. Members have an opportunity and yes, a desire to achieve this object. (Constitution & Bylaws 2006 – page 2)

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishop’s publication service is a wonderful resource for books and DVDs that support Roman Catholic beliefs and doctrines. Check out <http://www.cccbpublications.ca/> for today’s hot finds at a great price!

The following are a few suggestions, from the site, that may assist you in your own personal spiritual development through the study of Catholic teachings and ministry.

Responsibility in Ministry – A Statement of Commitment: sets out some of the responsibilities of ministering in the Church today. Areas of responsibility identified are: to those to whom we minister; to colleagues; to the diocesan and universal Church; to the wider community and to ourselves for personal and professional development in the service of others. Workshop models and other suggestions for study and action are also included to assist with diocesan adaptation and implementation of the Statement of Commitment. 48 pages: Price: \$1.00 **Code: 184-318R ISBN: 978-0-88997-344-2**

Spiritual Thoughts: In the first year of his papacy this collection of 175 short reflections from Pope Benedict XVI’s talks, homilies, and writings are prayerful, at times forceful, and always resonate. They offer wonderful insights on how to live out our Christian faith today addressing themes like forgiveness, commitment, freedom, life, atheism, and suffering. *Spiritual Thoughts* is a perfect complement for meditation or spiritual reading. It also makes a beautiful gift. 128 pages **Price: \$1.00 Code: 184-619R ISBN: 978-0-88997-546-0**

Apostle of the North: The Most Reverend Gary M. Gordon, Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Whitehorse (encompassing the Yukon Territory and Northern British Columbia), invites us to join him as he travels through this vast territory, meeting God’s people, shepherding his flock and bringing the sacraments to remote communities spread out over an area the size of France. As a self-described *Fisher of Souls*, Bishop Gary casts his net near and far as he searches for those with the calling to minister to and with the people of the Far North. The film, *Apostle of the North* is a call to action and an

inspiration to all in the process of discerning their vocation. Written, Directed and Produced by Larry Lynn. DVD – 29 ½ minutes Price: \$10.00 Code: **184-767**

This site is also a perfect place to buy **Salt & Light DVDs** like *Coady's Dream*. Doctor Rev. Moses M. Coady founded a movement for social change in Nova Scotia in the early 1900s, which attracted development leaders of the world. The international development leaders and young Canadians who go through the Coady International Institute at St. Francis Xavier University in Antigonish, Nova Scotia, continue to experience his vision of the full and abundant life for all that they bring back to their home countries. *Length: 27 minutes Price: \$19.95 Code: SAL-011*

A New Canadian Saint: Archbishop Richard Smith, President of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB), stated: *“It is with great joy that we the Bishops of Canada, welcome the announcement of our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, will canonize Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha elevating her to sainthood this coming October. This event will be a great honour to all of North America, but also in a particular way to its Aboriginal Peoples, who Kateri will be the first to receive this dignity”*. You can read further about this event at the www.cccb.ca

Dates to Remember and Celebrate

March 26	Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord
April 1	Palm Sunday
April 8	Easter Sunday
April 15	Feast of the Divine Mercy
April 26	Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel – Women Against Poverty
I urge all members to pray for an end to poverty in our world and participate in your council’s specific project to help eradicate poverty.	
April 29	World Day of Prayer for Vocations- I suggest all members say a Hail Mary for vocations when you sit down as a family at meal times.
May 1	St. Joseph the Worker & International Workers Day
May 13	Mother’s Day
May 20	Ascension of the Lord
May 27	Pentecost Sunday
June 3	Trinity Sunday
June 10	Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ
June 15	Sacred Heart of Jesus – World Day of Prayer for Priests
June 17	Father’s Day

As we continue to journey through Lent, I encourage you to continue your daily Lenten reflections or start now with daily Lenten reflections, as we prepare for the great Easter Feast – the Risen Christ. During Lent, let us pray that God will grant us a new heart and a new spirit.

May God continue to bless you as you work for God and Canada

May Our Lady of Good Counsel guide and direct you in all that you do

Organization Committee
Betty Colaneri, Chairperson

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” Matthew 28:19

As I look out at the grey day, a bird flew by as if to remind me that spring is around the corner. Spring is also a time that brings the desire to clean out closets, purge and look to Easter for our spiritual spring. This is the time we should be looking at our councils as well to purge any negative feelings and outlooks and give it a pick me up with a fresh outlook. Sometimes we take for granted what we have. If we take a moment to reflect on the beautiful gift of our spirituality you realize just how precious it is and how blessed we are. That is what we need to convey to the ladies of our parish so they too will want to be part of the League. The statistics from national are alarming! There are 4,166 members who did not renew their membership in 2011 and we are down by 1,271 this year.

Time to be fishermen ladies. Now more than ever we need to show our enthusiasm, dedication and (again my favourite word) passion for our God, our faith, our League. Do we believe? Do we talk the talk and walk the walk? Being a member is not having a switch that changes when we put our pins on. As Bishop Colli recently reminded us, “we are on all the time.” It is ministry for us, a calling from our baptism.

The welcome brochure that is available from national office says it beautifully.
“Why am I a member? Faith, Fun, Fulfilment I belong because...”

“The CWL is the united voice of Catholic women expressing their values and promoting dignity and justice for all”.

“The CWL is a gift of faith, friendship and support, offering leadership development and affirmation.”

“The CWL gives members the opportunity to serve as Beatitude women for God and Canada. Through standing committees, members can feel the pulse of what is happening in church and society.”

“The CWL is a blueprint for all Catholic women. Together members share their gifts and make a difference in their community and beyond.”

Membership offers acceptance of one another. The League gives the opportunities to learn new skills like public speaking, how to run a meeting, how to chair a convention, how to meet with a politician, how to write a letter, how to walk with our sisters internationally. What a gift the League is! Leadership is also very important. Statistics have shown that leadership training is key to membership recruitment, that it increases numbers and encourages members to take executive positions.

Did You Know?

Membership gift certificates are available from national office. The membership voucher is another way to promote membership in the League.

To Recruit Members:

- Reach out to people personally. Even if you only have five people in your council right now, if everyone talks to five other people and gets them to join, you'll have 25 members. Talk to people in person. Tell them about the League with enthusiasm so your passion and energy will inspire them to join you.
- Recruit people with specific talents. People are more likely to get involved if they feel needed or have a specific role.
- Give people opportunities for different levels of involvement. Some people might want to be leaders. Others might be too busy to be involved in all the planning but you may still get them to commit and show up for certain events.
- Advertise: Set up a table where you can hand out flyers and talk to people; post flyers place articles in the church bulletin; ask your parish priest if it would be possible to make announcements from the pulpit or host a fun event like a kickoff pizza party. Show what a fun bunch you are and they won't be able to resist joining.

To retain members and make sure people keep coming back:

- Follow up regularly with people after meetings and projects to get feedback. Some people might not come anymore because they feel like they don't have a say or they want to do different projects. Make sure that people's opinions are heard and respected.
- Schedule social time outside of meetings and projects to help strengthen connections in your council. People who don't have as many friends in the council might feel shy, so help build friendships by going out for ice cream after an event, for example. Giving yourselves outside time to get to know each other can also help make the meetings more enjoyable.
- Offer incentives like door prizes, themed treats or recognize different members each month.
- Ensure your meetings are effective and efficient. Have an agenda that you adhere to and keep your meetings short. Sometimes, less is more. This will leave more time to socialize and get to know each other.

Grab your tackle boxes ladies. It is time to go fishing and reel them in. Do you believe?

*May the Lord grant you many more blessings as you continue your League ministry
"For God and Canada" as member of The Catholic Women's League of Canada.*

Communications Committee
Pauline Krupa, Chairperson
Sub-chairperson: Mary Lou Watson

“Indeed, the media, taken overall, are not only vehicles for spreading ideas: they can and should also be instruments at the service of a world of greater justice and solidarity.”
Pope Benedict

Provincial Website (www.cwl.on.ca)

If you recall in the fall newsletter a goal was set to make our provincial website more user friendly. Our webmasters Blue Earth Media Inc. produced a home page that, based on feedback received, achieved that. As you click on the boxes across the home page you will notice that we posted all the active resolutions by year and have included an excel file of archived resolutions by standing committee. The links box connects you to the diocesan councils in Ontario that have websites, as well as other sites important to you as members. Icons on the right side of the home page allow easy access to a variety of resources. Directives are at your fingertips. As members of the League, we must get comfortable with browsing and searching on-line to keep current. We are all very busy. Finding time to search the net might be considered yet another task...might I suggest *Website Wednesday*.

Website Wednesday

Simply stated choose a time each Wednesday to go to the Ontario provincial CWL website to see what is new. Once you have read the home page and found what has been recently posted, move up to the links bar and use it to check out other important websites. Start with the national website and move onto the CCCB and ACBO. From there you might consider seeing what is happening across the province in each of the dioceses.

News from National Council

National Communications Chairperson Mary Nordick reminds us of the up and coming 46th World Day of Social Communication on May 20. This year's theme is *Silence and Word: Path of Evangelization*. In his message concerning this day, Pope Benedict XVI said, “Word and silence: learning to communicate is learning to listen and contemplate as well as speak.” You can read the full text on the Vatican website (vatican.va). Ms. Nordick also reminded us that one of our duties is to promote good media content. Many of us spend part of our leisure time reading or watching television. Take time to share a good book you have read or program you have watched. She shared an interesting idea based on a new book by Liz Gray, *99 Words*. Basically, if you have breath for no more than 99 words what would they be? Perhaps you could consider this exercise for a council meeting

Popular Catholic Media in Ontario

Very often we want to get the Catholic perspective on an issue and don't exactly know how to get started or where to look. In Canada and more specifically Ontario, we have a variety of resources close at hand. In today's world, many would start by looking on-

line. To some, this is as simple as tying your shoes and for others it is comparable to running the Boston Marathon. To that end, here is a list of “non computer” popular media for you to investigate:

Salt + Light Television – dubbed the Catholic channel of hope, has as its motto “*light for the world through media*”. It features Catholic current affairs programming that centres around witness talks, life stories, music and reflections. Presently, Rogers Cable carries the network in selected areas. It is best to call your cable provider to see if it is available in your area. If not, advocate for Salt + Light to be made available.

Vision Television – is classified as a multi-cultural and multi-faith channel that provides family oriented programming. This Canadian channel features a variety of British programming, Christian series and the most popular Daily Mass for Shut-ins. Many cable providers include Vision TV as one of its available channels.

Catholic Radio – does exist. In some communities, there are Catholic and/or Christian radio stations. Some radio stations have specific programs, which provide good content. In many cases you can access these stations via satellite radio providers.

The Catholic Register – a weekly newspaper published in Toronto, Ontario (47 issues a year). It is the oldest English language Catholic newspaper in Canada, which strives to present a broad spectrum of views within the Catholic community within the local, national and international Church.

The Prairie Messenger – a weekly newspaper of Catholic opinion (45 issues a year) published in Muenster, Saskatchewan. Its goal is to “mirror for the church of the Prairies the whole reality of the pilgrim People of God...” Although it is primarily a “western paper” it is well worth the read.

The Catholic Digest Magazine – a monthly magazine (11 issues per year) published in the USA but distributed worldwide. The magazine is oriented towards Catholic family life. It offers fresh, insightful articles on inspirational issues, spiritual advice and provokes spiritual discussion.

Celebrate- The pastoral magazine with the Liturgical heart- published by Novalis 4 times a year.

For those of you who do “google”, each of the above has a website for you to visit. I was overwhelmed when I visited <http://www.catholiclinks.org/medioscanada.htm> and discovered Catholic News Service <http://www.catholicnews.com/> (Use a Wednesday to do a bit of browsing)

Have you read the latest issue of the *League Magazine*? Two of our resolutions were featured in articles. Congratulations to our resolutions standing committee chairperson for her excellent article.

May the Holy Spirit continue to lead you as you offer your gifts through the League

Resolutions Committee
Anne Madden, Chairperson

Sub-chairpersons: Joleene Kemp, Bernadette Burgess

“Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?” 1 Corinthians 6:19

Taking care of our bodies is of utmost importance especially in today’s world where there are so many environmental concerns which impact negatively on our health. Along with societal pressures to look good, we often participate in activities naively and without much thought. One such pressure is the trend we see today, especially among our youth, to suntan.

Sun tanning has a long and interesting history. In ancient times, the sun was venerated as a source of life in some cultures. The question of "to tan or not to tan" dates back to ancient Roman times. The debate still wages on today. The history of tanning is steeped in cultural preferences and social status. During ancient Roman times, tans were considered to be unattractive, so much so that women actually went out of their way to make their skin look lighter.

Untanned skin continued to be fashionable during Shakespearean times when lighter skin was considered to be a sign of higher status. During the 18th and 19th centuries, fair skin that was freckle-free was considered to be attractive throughout Europe. Only people who performed manual labor had tans from working outdoors and on farms. Light skin was considered to be a sign that a person was wealthy and able to hire someone else to do his or her work.

During the 20th century, more people were working indoors. Tanned skin began to be seen more as a sign of leisure rather than labour. Coco Chanel, a world famous fashion designer, returned from a trip to the French Riviera with a dark tan in the 1920’s starting a new fashion. This trend continued into the 1960’s when tanned skin was considered to be a sign of wealth and good health. In the 1930s and 1940s, the medical profession promoted sunbathing as beneficial for children. The popularity of sun tanning emerged, promoted by the availability of more leisure time and, eventually, the development of sunlamps and commercial tanning salons. Although the precise role of ultraviolet light in the pathogenesis of melanoma is uncertain, a melanoma epidemic began to be noticed in the 1970s.

Ultraviolet radiation from indoor tanning beds causes premature aging of skin and increases the risk of skin cancer including melanoma, the deadliest form of skin cancer. According to the Canadian Dermatology Association (CDA), indoor tanning before the age of 30 has been associated with a significant increase in the risk of melanoma. Recently Ultra Violet (UV) tanning beds were moved up to the highest cancer risk category “Group I carcinogenic to humans” by the World Health Organization’s International Agency for Research on Cancer.

Who is at most risk of developing cancer? People with fair skin that tends to burn are at higher risk of problems from indoor tanning than those with darker skin. Young people also have delicate skin and are more likely to damage it by using tanning beds.

Melanoma is a less common but most dangerous form of skin cancer since it can spread in the body. Doing a self-skin exam could save your life.

5 steps to skin cancer self-exam:

1. Using a mirror in a well-lit room, check the front of your body, face, neck, shoulders, arms, chest, abdomen, thighs and lower legs.
2. Turn sideways, raise your arms and look carefully at the right and left sides of your body, including the underarm area.
3. With a hand-held mirror, check your upper back, neck and scalp. Next, examine your lower back, buttocks, back of thighs and calves.
4. Examine your forearms, palms, back of the hands, fingernails and in between each finger.
5. Finally check your feet – the tops, soles, toenails, toes and spaces in between.

The best way to protect yourself is to find your risk factors. Learn the early signs of melanoma. Protect yourself from the sun and avoid tanning beds. Check your skin once a month and take action if you see any suspicious spots.

The following resolution topics were received from the dioceses as of December 15, 2011:

Hamilton:

- On human trafficking and laws to end it
- For the national council to adopt Canada Fights Human Trafficking as a permanent recipient of donations
- For accommodation from Ontario Hydro concerning “smart meters” and the affect of high costs on people who require medical equipment that is electrically powered. These added costs are unavoidable and not tax deductible.

Kingston:

- Indoor Tanning

London:

- For national to change the policy on the instructed vote

St. Catharines:

- Provincial Health Insurance Coverage for Thermography. This screening for breast cancer is an alternative to mammograms, and does not subject women to high doses of radiation through x-ray.

Toronto:

- Seasonal Agricultural Workers and Permanent Resident Status
- Raising Awareness of ALS and Increased Funding for Research

Please pray for these councils who are currently preparing resolutions for presentation to conventions. These resolutions have the potential to be our voice for a better Canada!

Resolution Committee Members 2011-2013

Review Committee:

Anne Madden – Chair, 2nd VP
Marlene Pavletic –President
Betty Colaneri – President-elect
Shari Guinta – Past President
Pauline Krupa – Past Resolutions Chair, 1stVP
Colleen Randall – Legislation Chair
Pat Wilson – Secretary
ACBO rep

Reading Committee:

Edith Mockler
Joleene Kemp
Muriel Murphy
Bernadette Burgess

Government Visit Committee

Anne Madden, Marlene Pavletic
Betty Colaneri, Shari Guinta,
Colleen Randall

Recording Secretary Carol Richer

Winter is quickly passing, and in just a few short months we will once again be blessed with all the wonders of spring. With spring comes renewal. Four of our dioceses will be experiencing their own renewal, as they elect a new slate of officers at their annual conventions. Their recording secretaries will already have updated the elections register, and handed it over to the chair of the election committee. It is important to always keep the elections register up to date, so that potential problems are avoided at election time.

Outgoing recording secretaries are reminded that it is important to have their minutes and motions books in order and up to date, with all approved minutes signed by both the president and recording secretary. Don't leave it to the incoming secretary to have to complete this task. Make an effort to have the minutes of your final convention completed as quickly as possible, while events are fresh in your mind and the minds of your editing committee.

Approved and signed minutes are an ongoing record of your council's history, and will become part of your archives. They should be kept in a binder clearly identifying that they are the *official minutes* of your council, and *must not* be destroyed. This applies not only to diocesan councils, but also to parish councils.

The process for archiving will vary from diocese to diocese and from parish to parish, depending on your council's policy. A good reference to use is found at <http://www.cwl.ca/Programs/Archives%20guidelines.pdf> on the national website under the committee of Laws. Part of your responsibility is to ensure that they are kept in a safe, secure place, so that those members of the League who come after us will be able to see and appreciate the commitment and dedication of those who have worked so diligently to make the League such an important part of our parishes, our communities and our country.

May God grant you many blessing for all the good works you do For God and Canada

Treasurer Colleen Martin

Assistant: Elizabeth Bortolussi

As promised, more details on
Five Smart Financial Controls



1. Require 2 signatures

To ensure the requirement for 2 signatures, and other council policies and procedures, are known to future executive, it is helpful to develop a Financial Policy and Procedures (Fin P&P). Ensuring the Fin P&P is always reflective of current practice, it should be reviewed by a committee at the end of each term, updates recommended to the members and, if accepted, amendments approved through a motion.

2. Maintain a paper trail

All financial transactions should be supported by either an approved Fin P&P, an approved budget item or a motion of direction approved by the members at a general meeting. Supporting documentation should be filed according to council procedure. A filing system can be as simple as a binder with plastic sleeves where the financial report, back up documentation and bank statements can be stored; one sleeve per month. The binder, the general journal and cheque book would provide the individual reviewing your books with all required information.

3. Report monthly

Develop a template or utilize the sample report format included in the National Manual of P &P. Whatever you use, carry forward the balance, from the previous month, add deposits,

deduct cheques, total and provide an update on actual disbursements to date for the year against the approved budget. If you would like an excel template with formulas, email me at cmartin@tbaytel.net.

4. Review and reconcile monthly

Each month you should reconcile your bank balance to the statement received from your financial institution. On the left side of a page, in a column, start from the bank balance and adjust for any items entered to your records that have not yet been recorded by the bank (add deposits, deduct cheques). On the right side of the page (again in a column), start from the bank balance in your records and adjust for any items entered to the bank that are not in your records (add deposits, deduct cheques or service charges). The balance at the bottom of each calculation must be the same if all differences are accounted for. The items on the right side should be entered into your records.

*Love cannot remain by itself –
it has no meaning.
Love has to be put into action,
and that action is service*
Mother Teresa

NEW PER CAPITA FEE STRUCTURE
EFFECTIVE 2012 MEMBERSHIP

National \$13
Provincial \$3
Diocesan (varies \$1.50 to \$5.00 in Ontario)
Parish (varies depending on total membership fee charged by each council)

*It may be time to consider an increase to
continue to support your good works.*

Past President-Historian Shari Guinta

It is no accident that “The past president shall: (a) serve in a consultative capacity” is the very first instruction in the *Constitution & Bylaws* of The Catholic Women’s League of Canada under Duties of Officers, Section 7. The past president is there to “help”.

We are here to support not only the president, but all members of the executive and council. The past president has experience and should always have the best interest of the council at heart.

Sometimes members of an executive, especially at parish council level, are not experienced and have many questions. We should encourage them and all members to read the *Constitution & Bylaws (C & B)*. We should study them in fact. I mentioned in one of my directives to make it fun.

- Have members take turns reporting on a section at a meeting.
- Create questions on the C & B and have members try to answer them at a meeting. Funny little gifts could be offered for right answers.
- When a question comes up, make a habit of consulting the C & B.
- The C & B should be consulted when planning for elections.

Speaking of elections, the past president is often asked to chair the elections committee and this is so important. Elections are the lifeblood of the League in that they bring new faces to the future of the council. We are sometimes tempted to just let things stay as they are and leave women in the same positions because they have done a good job and *perhaps*, we are a little “lazy” about working at getting new women to run for positions.

In the latest issue of *The Canadian League*, national Past President Danielle MacNeil Hessian says “Sometimes one can spot a natural leader in her council’s midst, while other times it may not be easy if the particular potential leader is a woman who lacks confidence. This woman needs a lot of encouragement, just as a flower needs love and care to blossom into its full beauty.” How true! If you are a past president, remember what it was like when you started out?

We need to encourage, support and nurture. The women who we bring along by the hand are the League’s future. You know good women belong and lead the League. We need more good women. Ask them!

May God bless the seeds that you have planted and nourish them to fruitfulness

Community Life Committee

Verna Lynn Bergeron, Chairperson

Sub-chairpersons: Suzanne Mullins, Linda Marie O'Hagan, Connie Parry,
Annette Kelly

Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA)

A papal agency for humanitarian and pastoral support and special agency of the Holy Father

"Let us be concerned for each other, to stir a response in love and good works." (Heb 10:24)

The Holy Land is the centre of our faith. We are called to make every effort to support our fellow Christians who live there. CNEWA is a specialized Vatican agency that serves the churches and peoples of the Middle East, Northeast Africa, India and Eastern Europe. It was founded in 1926 by Pope Pius XI, and continues today under the guidance of Pope Benedict XVI.

I became aware of CNEWA at a League convention several years ago when a gentleman at their information table told me about their work. I added my name to a petition and picked up various pamphlets and information. Sadly, my fear surrounding unrest, war, and persecution in the countries they serve, and unfounded thoughts of retaliation towards anyone who was trying to help, kept me from reaching out any further.

My faith journey has awakened in me a new desire to live my baptismal vows. My fear has been transformed into knowledge that our faith community transcends borders. I've journeyed twice to the Holy Land. In the days leading up to the first pilgrimage, all I could think of was that I was "going home" to God on this journey. The true meaning of these words was revealed when we landed in Tel Aviv and the first words we heard from our Jewish guide, Moses, was "welcome home, this is your home!"

Because the Christian community is only two percent of the total population of 7.5 million, the Holy Land is at risk of losing its Christian heritage. Sacred sites are becoming tourist attractions. Some of the holy places we visited there were: *Cana* where Jesus performed his first miracle; the *Church of the Transfiguration* on Mt. Tabor where Moses and Elijah appeared to Jesus in the presence of Peter, James and John; the *Church of the Annunciation* where the Angel Gabriel appeared to Mary; the *House of St. Peter*; the *Mount of The Beatitudes* where Jesus delivered the Sermon on the Mount; the *Church of the Feeding of the Multitude* where Jesus performed the miracle of feeding 5,000 people; the *Primacy of St. Peter* where it is said the risen Jesus cooked breakfast for His apostles; the *Church of the Nativity* where Jesus was born; and the *Church of the Holy Sepulcher* where Jesus was crucified and buried. I sailed on the Sea of Galilee, renewed my baptismal vows in the Jordan River and prayed the Stations of the Cross while walking in the footsteps of Jesus along the *Via Dolorosa*. These are all sacred sites on the holy ground of our faith history and they must be preserved.

As our group travelled throughout the Holy Land, we crossed checkpoints that were manned by military personnel carrying machine guns. We saw army tanks camouflaged among groups of trees. We saw the city of Bethlehem surrounded by an ugly stonewall that separated and segregated families and friends. We experienced fear as a young army

girl, with a large Uzi strapped over her shoulder, boarded our bus and walked from front to back before allowing us to leave Palestine and enter again into Israel. These are everyday experiences for Christians living in the Holy Land. Can we even imagine a life such as this? The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops was invited by the Holy See to open an office of CNEWA in Canada. In February of 2005 a Canadian office was officially opened in Ottawa. Its priority is to provide humanitarian and pastoral assistance, to the Christians of the Middle East, by caring for needy families, orphans, the handicapped, the sick, the elderly and victims of war. It pays special attention to the needs of Christian communities that are persecuted and excluded. It supports programs to raise consciousness about the churches and peoples of the Middle East and advocates respect for human dignity, justice, peace and understanding among all peoples.

The national executive recently approved an international poverty project in the Holy Land being referred to as *Velma's Dream*. The project provides an education program for at-risk children and youth. The Infant Welfare Center recognizes the need to convince youth and their families that education is the key to a better life. It works with children, their parents and teachers to help youth with their studies and teenagers to reintegrate into school, and to accompany them until they graduate. As members, *Centred on Faith & Justice* and active in our *Women Against Poverty* campaign, we can offer hope to Christian women and children in the Holy Land. Councils and individuals can join Velma, our national president, in assisting the Christian minority in Jerusalem to fight the battle of poverty by supporting this project financially and with prayer.

Four ways members may give:

1. **By Mail:** Mail to **CNEWA Canada, 1247 Kilborn Place, Ottawa ON K1H 6K9**
Make your cheque to CNEWA Canada. Please specify that the donation is for the CWL Holy Land Project.
2. **By Phone:** Call via our toll-free number **1-866-322-4441**. You can make your donation by Credit Card. CNEWA accepts Master Card, Visa and American Express. Please specify that the donation is for the CWL Holy Land Project.
3. **By Web:** Go to www.cnewa.ca. You can make a donation via the CNEWA Web site general donation page. Please specify that the donation is for the CWL Holy Land Project.
4. **Monthly:** You can also give monthly to support this initiative. Contact CNEWA to receive your monthly-donation form. cnewa-canada@cnewa.org.
 - CNEWA Canada is a registered charity: #86775 7502 RR0001
 - A tax receipt will be issued to individuals who donate \$10 or more.

Let us also support these Christians with our prayers:

- ♥That Christians in the Holy Land will keep the message of Jesus alive.
- ♥That violence will come to an end in the Middle East so Christians may remain safe at home in their homeland.
- ♥That the Christian presence in the Holy Land will not disappear.

Education and Health Committee

Marlin Taylor, Chairperson

Sub-Chairpersons: Suzanne Mullins, Carol Pitcher, Theresa McGuire,
Hannelore Crawford

The Holy Spirit is the one who teaches us every truth. - Saint Angela Merici (1474-1540)

Catholic Education Week is **May 6-11, 2012** and the theme is *Catholic Education- Walking in the Light of Christ*. Please remember to purchase or view the video –*The Enduring Gift- Catholic Education in the Province of Ontario*.

Recently, the Minister of Education, the Hon. Laurel Broten, introduced into the Legislative Assembly Bill 13 - the Accepting Schools Act, 2011. The Ontario Catholic School Trustees Association (OCSTA) responded to Bill 13 with the document *Respecting Difference-A resource for Catholic Schools in the Province of Ontario*. At the same time, PC MPP Elizabeth Witmer introduced Bill 14, the Anti-Bullying Act, 2011. The OCSTA is reviewing both bills, has provided them to Catholic school boards and will keep boards updated as the draft legislation moves through the process. Our responsibility is to continue monitoring any movement in regards to these two bills and how it will affect our schools and students. You may follow these bills by visiting http://www.ontla.on.ca/bills/bills_current.do?locale=en.

March is Colorectal Cancer (CRC) Awareness month- have you had your colon checked?

ON.11.03 Raising Awareness of Colorectal Cancer and the Importance of Early Detection. It is recommended that men and women 50 years of age or older who do not have a family history of CRC be screened every two years using the Fecal Occult Blood Test (FOBT). Studies show that when this test is done every two years it reduces death from CRC by 16% over one decade. The best way to treat CRC is to prevent it from starting in the first place and it is essential to catch it early through screening. For individuals who are at an increased risk, it is recommended that they have a colonoscopy test, especially if they have had a positive FOBT result (Cancer Care Ontario) taken from Brief on Resolution 11.03.

What can we do?

- Write to Ontario minister of health urging her to continue the funding for research and education on colorectal cancer
- Encourage and educate members to:
 - Become better informed about the early signs of colorectal cancer
 - Become informed about the importance of early detection and all available diagnostic options
 - Take a proactive and informed role in their own health and well-being
- Invite guest speakers to inform members and your communities about colorectal cancer.

ON.09.02: Make Dementia a Health Care Priority is a resolution for us to focus on.

What can we do?

- Invite a guest speaker from the Alzheimer's Society to speak about dementia.
- Contact the local MPP to urge the Ontario Minister of Health and Long-Term Care to establish achievable strategies to make dementia a health care priority.
- Monitor new scientific research, particularly preventative measures, treatments, care and assistance for caregivers.

May Jesus bless each of you for the many things you have done to make the work of this committee such a success

Christian Family Life Committee
Mary Jane A. Yaeger, Chairperson
Sub-Chairperson: Bev Drouin

Spiritual Poverty seems to be the topic under much discussion these days including in the recent League magazine. During this season of Lent we should take this time to pray and reflect on our journey with Christ. One suggestion to bring our families closer to God is to attend the Stations of the Cross held in most parishes at this time. In my own parish each Friday a different group in the parish leads a different version of the stations. In this way all parishioners are involved and it makes each week special for those attending.

Another suggestion is one made by Peggy Roche, National Christian Family Life Chairperson, in her last communiqué. She mentioned that we should recommend to our clergy to consider making a healing prayer service part of their ministry to give a spiritual and energetic lift to those who are ill or facing surgery. Both suggestions assist League members and parishioners, young and old, through their Lenten journey.

There is one other item in Peggy's latest communique that I want to draw your attention to and that is the brochure that she mentions that can be found on the Catholic Organization for Life and Family website (<http://www.colf.ca>). It is entitled **Families, did you know? Love is calling your children.** Encourage members to read this brochure and to utilize the last page entitled "Giving this more thought". As stated in the brochure, "*we are responsible as parents to nurture the budding vocations that God planted in the souls of our children. Blessed John Paul II said it best: Parents will best help their children live their lives to the fullest if they teach them to make their whole lives a gift to God and to others. They need to respect their choices and encourage every vocation with joy, including religious or priestly. The family will play a fundamental role in the development, growth and final maturing of their vocation.*"*

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May you receive many blessings as you continue to respond to the call and minister in the Lord's vineyard

Legislation Committee **Colleen Randall, Chairperson**

Sub-Chairperson: Bev Weiler

The next instalment on our legislative journey is **How a Government Bill Becomes Law**. *The following presentation is available on the web site of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario at www.ontla.on.ca under Bills and Lawmaking.*

“In a Westminster-style parliament such as Ontario’s, most significant legislation and any that specifically directs the expenditure of public monies, is introduced as a Government Bill. ‘Government’ in this usage refers to the Executive Council (the Cabinet), which serves as the government so long as it maintains the confidence of the legislature.

In this system, the Cabinet is a collective executive, and although a Government Bill is typically introduced to the House by a Minister (usually of the department most affected by the Bill), this is on behalf of the Cabinet, whose full support stands behind the Bill. This is why the defeat of Government Bills has broader implications, such as the possible withdrawal of confidence in the government. It is also why any Minister unable publicly to support a Government Bill is expected to resign from Cabinet.

It was in part to ensure the passage of Government Bills that strong party discipline evolved in parliamentary systems, and in today’s legislature, a Government Bill is expected to have the full support not only of the Cabinet, but also (with minor exceptions) of the entire caucus of the governing party(ies). This has at least two significant effects. One is that under conditions of majority government it is extremely unlikely that a Government Bill will be defeated. It may be delayed, or held up in committee, or be pushed aside on the legislative timetable by more pressing bills, or die on the Order Paper when the House prorogues or is dissolved, but it is unlikely to suffer actual defeat in the chamber. Another consequence is that Government Bills, unlike private bills or private Members’ bills, are the end-product of processes of consensus-building: within Cabinet, between Cabinet and caucus, and between senior administrators and political advisors. These actions all happen in the pre-legislative stages, out of public view, and it is in these stages where the fate of a legislative proposal is still very much ‘up in the air’.

Once a Government Bill is introduced to the legislature, it is the government’s expectation that barring opposition stalling, shifting government priorities, or unforeseen circumstances, the Bill will pass, and the government will bring its considerable resources to bear on making sure this happens. Once a government bill passes the pre-legislation stages it moves to the formal legislative stages below.

First Reading

- Bill is introduced in the House and given First Reading and put on the agenda (Orders and Notices Paper) of the Assembly
- Minister may make statement or explanation of purposes of Bill
- First Reading is decided without amendment to the text of the Bill and without debate

- Compendium of background information is supplied to Opposition Parties
- Bill is printed and distributed

Order for Second Reading Discharge and Bill Referred to Standing Committee

- Before second reading debate begins the Bill may be ordered referred to a Standing Committee for review and/or hearings
- As the principle of the bill has not yet been adopted, the committee's consideration may be wide ranging
- When the bill is reported to the House it is ordered for second reading

Second Reading

- Debate on the principle of the Bill
- Minister may make a speech to open debate
- Each member may make one speech only
- Minister may make a closing speech
- No amendments to the text of the Bill at this stage
- After debate concludes, Speaker puts question on the motion for second reading
- If the Bill is given second reading, it may, by unanimous consent, be ordered for third reading
- Otherwise, the bill is referred to Committee of the Whole House or a Standing or Select Committee as designated by the minister or parliamentary assistant
- If 8 or more members require that bill be referred to a standing committee the minister designates the committee

Third Reading

- Debate is more restricted than at second reading and is limited to the contents of the bill
- No amendments to the text of the bill may be moved at this stage
- After debate concludes, the Speaker puts question on the motion for third reading

Royal Assent

- Bill is presented to the Lieutenant Governor for assent
- Lieutenant Governor assents to Bill in the Queen's name
- When the bill is given Royal Assent it becomes an Act and is given a statute number and is reprinted

In Force

- Statute is in force upon Royal Assent or when it is proclaimed by the Lieutenant Governor (by and with the advice of the Executive Council of Ontario) or on a day specified in the Act
- Different sections of the Act may come in force at different times"

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Remember to keep all elected officials in your daily prayers

Provincial Executive Profiles

Glenda Klein Corresponding Secretary

Glenda joined the League in 1969 in Brechin, Ontario as recording secretary. She has since held all executive positions at parish and diocesan levels. Due to her husband Wayne's employment as a banker, she has belonged in four dioceses and been parish president of three different councils.

Wayne and Glenda have three children and four granddaughters. Her career included banking, retail credit, manufacturing, and church comptroller and cemetery administrator. In her retirement she is an active member of St. Mary's CWL in Lindsay (diocesan life member liaison, parish treasurer) Society of St. Vincent de Paul (food bank scheduler), Diocesan Finance Committee, Diocesan Policy Committee (chair), and Women's Inter-Church Council of Canada (board member for finance).

She enjoys reading and writing. The League has been a great blessing in her life.



Carol Richer Recording Secretary



A member of the CWL for over 43 years, Carol has held an executive position at either the parish council or diocesan

level in all but six of those years. She is currently past-president of the Kingston diocesan council, and recording secretary for the Ontario provincial council. Born and raised in the Windsor, Ontario area, she married Murray in 1960. They have two children and three grandchildren. She serves as a reader and communion minister, and was active on the parish council for many years. For the past fourteen years, the last five as chairperson, she has been active in the South Dundas Christmas Exchange, which provides Christmas hampers to over 200 needy families each year. Carol's teaching career was often interrupted by relocations during Murray's time in the military. In 1977 he retired from the military, and they moved to Morrisburg. She then embarked on her second career, working as an office administrator for a real estate company. In 1985 she obtained her real estate license, and worked in that field until her retirement in 2005.

As a member of the CWL, Carol has been blessed with many opportunities to meet a wonderful group of women across the country, to share ideas and to help make a difference. The League is truly a gift she treasures.

Provincial Executive Profiles

Colleen Martin Treasurer



Colleen Martin is the second youngest of eight children, born and raised in Atikokan, a

small rural community in northern Ontario. She graduated from Carleton University with an Honours Bachelors of Commerce degree in 1985. Colleen has been a member of the Catholic Women's League of Canada since 1997 and held numerous positions at the parish level as well as communications, corresponding secretary, organization, president-elect, president and past-president of the Thunder Bay Diocesan Council finishing her last term in May 2009. She remains an active member of her parish council assisting in whatever capacity requested by the president. Married for 24 years to the love of her life Bruce, Colleen is very proud of her two children, Tamara 23 and Jarred who will be 22 this fall. Most exciting in her life recently was the birth of their first grandchild. On Easter Sunday Colleen's family was blessed with the birth of Noah. She also enjoys photography and scrapbooking, volunteers as a member of the Children's Liturgy team at her parish, St. Patrick's Cathedral Thunder Bay, and works full time for an organization assisting Aboriginal people to establish and maintain business interests across northern Ontario.

Patricia Rivest Spiritual Development Chairperson



Pat was born, raised and educated in the Leamington area. She has been employed in various areas of the workforce –

a Catholic elementary school secretary, customs/finance department of a manufacturing company, several law offices and the finance department of municipal government. She is now retired. Pat and her husband, Vic, have been married for 39 years. She enjoys working in her flower garden, watching old movies, reading and visiting her 2 sons – one in Sudbury and one in Winnipeg. She also enjoys whatever time she spends with her precious granddaughter – Sophie who lives in Winnipeg. Pat has been a member of St. Michael's Council since 1975. She is currently past president of the London diocesan council. Pat has presented workshops on Organization, Leadership, Spirituality Elder Abuse and Mentoring. She facilitated the Field Worker's Program, Project Grow and how to create a Manual of Policy and Procedures for a parish council. She initiated the London diocesan council annual Lenten retreat and the Advent Tea for the members of the diocese. Currently, she sits on the national leadership committee. Pat is also a board member of the Holy Family Retreat House in Oxley in the London Diocese.

Provincial Executive Profiles

Ottawa Diocesan President



Heather Sisk

Heather was born and raised in a small town called Cantley, Quebec. She moved to Ottawa in 1975 when she started working at the Ottawa

Hospital as a clerk. She is still working full-time there but is looking forward to retirement within the next couple of years. She married in 1986 and lives with her husband Ken in Limoges, a small town approximately 50 kms east of Ottawa and home of the new *Calypso Water Theme Park*. They have no children but are very proud of their 4 nieces and 2 nephews. Heather joined the League in 2000 at Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal parish in Russell. At the parish level she has held the positions of treasurer, organization chair, president and past president. In 2007 she moved on to the diocesan council where she served as secretary, organization chair and in May 2011 was elected president. She is proud to say that her mother-in-law, 3 sisters-in-law and one niece are all active members of the League and the years of service for the 6 of them combined is somewhere around 160 years. She is active in her parish as a lector, Eucharistic minister and sacristan and was on the parish pastoral council for 6 years. In her spare time she likes to read, do word puzzles and go for walks. She is quick to admit that joining the League was one of the best decisions she has ever made and looks forward to many more years of faith, fun and fulfillment.

The Ottawa Diocese has 28 parish councils, 1725 members, 1 honorary life member and 9 life members.

We hold executive meetings in January, April, June and September. The September executive meeting is open to all members and includes a potluck lunch and guest speaker or workshop. We hold a League development day in March. A leadership and public speaking course is offered each year and is held if enough members sign up. The feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel is celebrated at a different parish every year with a mass and simple reception following. At the mass we remember our deceased members and acknowledge members who have received years of service pins and special awards during the previous year. Our annual diocesan convention is held in May and is hosted by a different parish each year. One of our most popular events is our annual advent retreat, which is held in late November. In addition to these diocesan events each council holds a variety of events over the year in support of many charities and causes. We have just set up a leadership development fund to help pay for our League development activities, to provide financial assistance to councils to hold workshops or special projects to promote the League and assist members to attend diocesan and provincial conventions. Our plan is to replenish this fund each year by holding one fund raising event. As with most dioceses we are always looking for new ideas and innovative ways to attract new members.

Provincial Executive Profiles



**Kingston
Diocesan
President
Kathy
Huffman**

Kathy is a retired elementary school teacher and has been a League

member since 1968 as a result of receiving a gift membership from her mother. Upon election to the Kingston diocesan council she has held the positions of resolutions chairperson and organization chairperson. At the provincial level legislation sub-chair and facilitator for the resolutions dialogue.

She has also co-convened the conference for "Trafficking in Women and Children" and has been the national council representative to The Church Council on Justice and Corrections annual general meeting.

Her parish activities have consisted of catechism teacher, choir member, reader and extraordinary minister of the Eucharist, church decorator, clustering committee chairperson for Centreville and Erinsville, parish pastoral council member, member of the implementation committee on the needs of parishes and personnel and chairperson of St. Anthony of Padua 175th anniversary committee.

For many years she enjoyed interior and exterior decorating and presently enjoys her responsibilities as property and maintenance manager of a parish community.

The Kingston Diocese

The 3,600 members, of Kingston diocese, are very excited to be hosting the 65th annual convention of the provincial council in Kingston, July 7-11, 2012.

We are also celebrating the 90th anniversary of the charter of the Kingston diocesan council of The Catholic Women's League of Canada. At our annual convention on May 5-6, 2012 we will celebrate ninety years of involvement in church and society. We will celebrate our past accomplishments; remember the lives of our dear deceased members and spiritual advisors; and celebrate the present endeavours, notably *Women Against Poverty* Projects. The 47 parish councils will have their projects highlighted in the annual report book as well as pictorial displays.

Members of the Kingston diocesan council are proud of their history and continue to work "*For God and Canada.*"

Pembroke Diocesan President Donna Provost

Donna was born and raised in Pembroke, Ontario and now resides in Quyon, Quebec with her husband Eric. She is the mother of four, Todd, Christopher, Michel and Marie-Eve and the grandmother of three boys and one girl. While her children were in school she was active on school committee's in four different schools in three different towns either as secretary or president. She helps her community by being active in a service club and has held the positions of secretary, director, treasurer and president. She has also acted in local fundraising productions. Donna has worked with the youth by giving teens a program called '*Jesus Invites Us to Love*', coaching a baseball team, teaching the sacraments and the *Faith First* program. She has participated on a Cursillo team and the baptism committee. She volunteers in her parish choir, as a lector and Eucharistic minister. Since joining The Catholic Women's League of Canada in 1982 in her parish she has served her council in various positions and was president three times. On the diocesan executive she served as secretary, legislation, education and health and organization chairs and now as president. It is through the League that she has met numerous faith filled women working for God and country that have inspired her spiritually.

The Pembroke Diocese consists of 33 councils located in Ontario and Quebec with a total of 2,203 members. We held an overnight retreat for our new executive. The purpose was to create a bond among the group and help us to work together as a team. A committee worked on updating our Manual of Policy and Procedure and presented it to our members. We have been preparing leadership workshops and have given one with plans to give three more. Our past president, Bev Drouin, with the help of Colleen Randall worked on creating a website for our diocese and we are very excited that it is now up and running at <http://www.pembroke.cwl.on.ca/>.

St. John Chrysostom CWL, Arnprior, Celebrates 90th Anniversary



Donna Provost, Pembroke Diocesan President presents Helen McGregor, St. John Chrysostom's President with a 90th anniversary certificate to mark a major milestone in the council's history on Sunday, September 11, 2011. The evening began with a beautiful mass celebrated by Father Pat Tait, Diocesan Spiritual Advisor, with Father John Burchat, Parish Spiritual Advisor, and other diocesan clergy concelebrating. The Eucharistic celebration was followed by a social hour and dinner, attended by 150 guests. The history of the council was recorded through a superb display entitled "A Stroll Down Memory Lane" by Past President, Jacqueline Gaudreau. Life Member, Suzanne Mullins, newly installed, was presented with a spiritual bouquet and a gift by Tina, her daughter and the youngest member of the council. Guest speaker, Betty Anne Brown-Davidson, National President-elect, gave an inspirational talk, challenging the members to continue to fulfill their mission and the objectives of the League.

Provincial Executive Profiles

Hamilton Diocesan President

Rosanne Sogan

Rosanne was born and raised in Hamilton being the youngest of four children with Italian heritage



and married her high school sweetheart Bruce in 1976. They have been blessed with two children, Nicole who married Ryan two years ago, and Tim. September 2011 she was blessed with the birth of her beautiful granddaughter Kinley Rose. Rosanne has been an active League member of St. Luke's Parish since joining in 1984. She also has been Eucharistic minister, on the founding committee of parish council and served as education liaison. She is on committees for decorating, angel tree nibbles and dibs, hospitality Sunday and alternate for money counter. She was regional secretary and co-chaired the 75th annual diocesan convention. At the diocesan level she has served as chairwoman of communications, Christian family life, spiritual development, resolutions, and organization, secretary and is currently president. Rosanne has presented the Leadership Workshop, assisted in the Healing Waters Workshop, facilitated the Project Outreach Day, helped to develop the pamphlet "Abortion Risks and Consequences – Are you fully informed?" and "Human Trafficking = Slavery" both being distributed to school boards and agencies throughout the diocese. She loves being with her family and friends and the League is a monumental part of her life where she has learned more about her faith and herself.

The Hamilton Diocese

has the second largest membership in Ontario with 100 councils, 4 regions, 10,855 members and 16 life members. In July we were proud to host the 64th annual provincial convention and to celebrate the service of the outgoing provincial president, Shari Guinta, a life member of this diocese.

Last fall at our *Day of Spirituality* Fr. Rico Passero and Fr. Ted Hughes spoke to over 100 members on spiritual poverty. This was such a success with members that we are already planning our next *Day of Spirituality* for October 2012 - theme yet to be determined. Naomi Baker, an incredible speaker and the president of *Canada Fights Human Trafficking*, spoke at various locations throughout the diocese.

We continue to support our annual *Pornography Hurts Campaign* by placing notices on billboards and on local buses. In September we will celebrate our 11th annual diocesan Vocations Mass, which we sponsor along with the Knights of Columbus and the Serra Club. Members support local seminarians through *Cents for Seminarians* a project that began many years ago but has seen a recent increase in support so hopefully we will have a large donation to present to Bishop Douglas Crosby at our convention in May 2012. We present leadership workshops when requested by councils. We present the Frances Lovering Woman of the Year Award annually at our convention from the nominations sent in by councils. We look forward to continued support of our priests and religious at the annual *Celebration of Priesthood and Religious Life Dinner*.

Awards

Celebrations

Special Events



Hamilton Diocese

St Mary's of the Assumption council (Owen Sound) celebrates its 60th anniversary on the 13th of June 2012.

Holy Family council (Hanover) celebrates its 90th anniversary on the 29th of April 2012

Ontario Provincial Executive



Shari Guinta is presented her past president's shawl by Rosanne Sogan, Hamilton Diocesan President, at the opening mass of the fall provincial executive meeting. The shawl was made especially for Shari by members of the Hamilton diocese and was blessed by Bishop Colli, Provincial Spiritual Advisor, prior to presentation. Pictured also is Provincial President Marlene Pavletic reading the presentation prayer.

Anne Madden 2nd VP, who became a Canadian Citizen on the 23rd of September 2011, was celebrated at the fall provincial executive meeting with a pair of Canadian olympic mitts and a cake. She is now practicing how to speak Canadian eh!



Awards

Celebrations

Special Events

Pembroke Diocese



St. John Chrysostom Council (Arnprior) awards 3 fifty-year service pins
Pictured above are Council President, Helen McGregor (R), Spiritual Advisor Father John Burchat (L) and the recipients, Helen Colton, Catherine McMaster and Geraldine Paquette.

Kingston Diocese- It's a Family Affair!

Membership in the League is definitely a family affair for this group of ladies, four members of the St. Mary's/St. Cecilia's CWL Council in Morrisburg /Iroquois, and one "member in waiting". As though having four generations all members of the same council weren't unusual enough, this council also boasts of having three generations holding the same executive position at three different levels of the League. Carol Richer, Ontario provincial recording secretary, has served the League for 43 years; Nancy Richer, Kingston diocesan recording secretary, 18 years; Madeline Richer, St. Mary's/St. Cecilia's recording secretary, 4 years; Angela Richer, 11 year member, and "member in waiting" Shailynn Richer, who has worked on special projects with the Catholic Girl's League at St. Mark the Evangelist parish in Prescott, and assisted with CWL projects and events in her home parish for several years. Carol's mother, Josephine Lauzon, has been a member for 57 years. That's over 130 years of service and counting. Wonder how many hours of League work that involves? Faith, fun and fulfillment... the League is truly a gift they share with each other.



front row -- Carol Richer, Josephine Lauzon, Angela Richer
back row -- Nancy Richer, Shailynn Richer, Madeline Richer

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Subscription deadline date is 31 August 2012 to receive the fall issue

Newsletter Survey

The Trillium newsletter has been available to read on the website for the last couple of years. Now we are working to make it possible to subscribe to the newsletter on line. If you subscribe on line you will automatically receive an email telling you that the newsletter has been posted giving you a link to where it is on the site. You may then go directly to that site and read or print out the newsletter. We are interested in your feedback on this endeavour and on the newsletter in general.

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OPC COMMUNICATIONS BULLETIN

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Bishop Bernard F. Pappin Memorial Bursary Fund

- Funded solely by donations from members and parishes in Ontario
- Assists diocesan seminarians with personal financial support
- Awarded annually to qualifying applicants studying for ministry in an Ontario diocese
- Applications available from the three seminaries in Ontario, diocesan vocation directors, the ordinary of each diocese and the CWL provincial website.

Bishop Bernard F. Pappin died suddenly on August 27, 1998 while serving as Spiritual Advisor to the Ontario Provincial Council of The Catholic Women's League of Canada. In his memory, the Ontario Provincial Council established the Bishop Bernard F. Pappin Memorial Bursary Fund to assist those called to a priestly vocation.

Please Support the Fund

**For more information
Contact your diocesan president
Visit the provincial website at www.cwl.on.ca**

- ✓ Make a personal contribution
- ✓ Honour your spiritual advisor by making a donation in his name
- ✓ Make a donation in honour of a family member / friend for a special birthday, anniversary
- ✓ Honour the memory of a loved one by making a donation in their memory

"Rabbi, where do you live?" He said to them, 'come and see'; so they went and saw where He lived, and stayed with Him that day." (John 1:38-39)

Submitted by Pauline Krupa, Communications Chairperson
Ontario Provincial Council (OPC) of The Catholic Women's League of Canada