

The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Ontario Provincial Council
"Care for our Common Home"

Date: February 9th, 2019 Directive #10
 To: Diocesan Community Life Chairpersons
 From: Joanna Sisk OPC Communication Chairperson
 Bcc: Ontario Provincial Officers, Diocesan Presidents, Archbishop O'Brien,
 National Community Life Chairperson, Sub-Committee

I am please and proud to join with OPC communications chairperson, Marie Theresa Lamphier, to report the results of the Warmth and Comfort Project; October 1st - December 31st, 2018

Diocese	# Pairs of Socks	#of Jars of Peanut Butter	#of Boxes of crackers
Alexandria-Cornwall	4323	0	0
Hamilton	10523	180	149
Hearst	281	52	56
Kingston	946	116	119
London	452	198	201
Ottawa	466	74	56
Pembroke	1978	59	61
Peterborough	524	105	113
St. Catharines	785	41	15
SSM	2349	20	19
Thunder Bay	525	65	69
Timmins	360	62	61
Toronto	13953	180	1977
Total	37465	2812	2896

Congratulation for gifting many with new, clean, dry socks and peanut butter with crackers.

Besides, the above, some councils decided to gather toiletries, other food products, toys, gloves, scarves, hats, mitts, toques, underwear, several bags containing 100 coats and 11 boxes of canned soups. Not all councils counted their booty to report and not all councils submitted pictures.

The results have been astounding! Great job! Pictures of this project may be viewed at "opccwlwarmthandcomfortproject" on Facebook. Sending in your pictures really highlighted what we did. Other provincial presidents followed on Facebook and requested more information from our president, to initiate this project, in their province. Way to go girls.

I have heard from many members, how our theme of Homelessness has been educational, has highlighted local issues, relieved some fears, fueled an awareness of existing needs and educated them on outreach opportunities to serve and support local good works.

As we move into the last part of this term, Homelessness is not finished. You are encouraged to keep doing what you are doing for the homeless in your area. Continue to send pictures and notes to OPC Communication Chairperson to be shared.

Our national president has chosen to focus on water under the theme *Care for our Common Home*. OPC has decided to focus on water conservation, for our theme, this year. March 22, 2019 is World Water Day. We are encouraging all to take steps to become aware of water usage and reduce consumption. Information will be posted on the website, suggesting ten ways to becoming more aware of decreasing water usage.

I look forward to hearing from you on how you, your councils and dioceses are conserving water.

Some might find this article interesting: "Aboriginal Women, Water and Health: Reflections from Eleven First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Grandmothers", by Kim Anderson. It covers topics such as; Reflections of Aboriginal Grandmothers on "Water can heal, water forms relationships, water is life"

Perhaps if we understood the significance of water to these women, it might help us appreciate what we so often take for granted.

Follow Marie Rackley, National Chairperson of Community Life on the National CWL Website. She shared information on the Canada Summer Jobs Program 2019, Dignity and Rights of Persons: Human Trafficking, upcoming events and special dates – February & March 2019

From the Community Life Standing Committee handbook:

Wherever there are people in need of food and drink, clothing, housing, medicine, employment, education; wherever (people) lack the facilities necessary for living a truly human life or are afflicted with serious distress or illness or suffer exile or imprisonment, there Christian charity should seek them out and find them, console them with great solicitude, and help them with appropriate relief. This obligation is imposed above all upon every prosperous nation and person.

(Decree on the Apostolate of the Laity)