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## Ontario *Sparks Catch the Fire!* Bi-Monthly Online Newsletter June 2014

It just takes a  
**spark**  
*Catch the Fire!*

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### Ontario Provincial Organization Chair, Pauline Krupa

Each year as part of the Easter season we hear the road to Emmaus story. We know that two disciples of Jesus are returning home and along the way they meet up with a stranger who helps them to make sense of all that had just taken place in Jerusalem. It is not until much later, in the breaking of the bread that they come to know it is Jesus who has been with them. When he leaves them, the men are not sad; rather they are filled with joy... their "hearts were burning ...while he was speaking..." (Luke 24:32). They were overjoyed because they now understood scripture and knew that indeed the Lord had risen from the dead. They were so taken with all that had happened they turned around and went back to Jerusalem to share their encounter with the risen Lord.

As members of the League, we have been privileged to have the "opportunity to look at our personal relationship with Jesus: to look for Him in the people we see every day and to be the hands and feet of Jesus in a world desperately needing His help" (Betty Colaneri). We put our faith into action; we share the gospel stories, using words only when necessary.



## Ontario **Spark's Report**

Summertime! This final issue of the **Catch the Fire!** Newsletter arrives as councils are on their summer break. Still, CWL activities continues as our provincial and national councils are preparing for their respective conventions. We look forward to seeing many of you at the provincial convention in Cobourg July 6 – 9<sup>th</sup> where **Catch the Fire!** is the Monday Night entertainment theme.



Since the April newsletter **Catch the Fire!** workshops were held in Hamilton, Kingston, Thunder Bay and Timmins dioceses. A grand total of **1462** members have been trained in Ontario since July 2013 to present.

The focus of this issue is the final three **Catch the Fire!** modules, **Hospitality of the Hearth**, **Pass the Flame** and **Wildfire** which summarizes workshop content and participants learning. Members thoroughly enjoyed participating in the **Catch the Fire!** workshops and it is evident that **wildfires** are spreading to **ignite** our councils and the League in the coming years.

**Catch the Fire!** was an ambitious, basic League leadership training program that was unveiled at the 2012 national convention in Edmonton. We were sent forth with the quote from Catherine of Sienna "**Be who you are meant to be and you will set the world on fire!**" As your Ontario **Sparks**, we enjoyed being able to facilitate this newsletter to share "**Good Things Glow in Ontario**". Best wishes as we all embrace the **S'mores** workshops the next phase of the League Leadership training.

## Featured **Catch the Fire!** Modules (10 – 12)

**Hospitality of the Hearth:** "Were not our hearts burning within us while He was talking to us on the road? (Luke 24:32). This module participants are asked to be still as they reflect on their experiences during the training, engage in a prayer service and closes with everyone singing of "*Christ, Be Our Light*".

**Pass the Flame:** The goal is to spread the fire by evaluating this **Catch the Fire!** workshop with the following questions:



- What resonated with you?
- What did you like?
- What did you learn today?
- What future plans might grow from the workshop?
- How can we improve?

**Wildfire:** This is the review module and the inspiration is "The light of Christ be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you". Facilitators review the training, focusing on what participants will take back to their councils with their renewed League knowledge and tools to be **fire**-starters. These will help others better understand the League and take leadership opportunities. It closes with members forming inner and outer circles moving the music of "*This Little Light of Mine*" and when the music stops make a sign of the cross on the forehead head "The light of Christ be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." Campfire edible treats are shared as participants complete the evaluation and **S'mores** list for future workshop suggestions.

## Hamilton and Kingston Diocese Participants Testimonials

**How were you stirred today?**

*The group song  
The participants  
Sense of unity, oneness*

*Our shared companionship and laughter*

*The professional format and presentation*

*The fellowship and how to try and make our League more visible and important to tell everyone about it*

*The Candle song & looking into the eyes of my neighbor*

*Writing the names to make the chains - I didn't realize how much those people meant to me*

*Praise & worship, candles & singing, spirituality & fellowship and fun, music, friendship of the League sisters, great day, hearing the speakers and their knowledge, many things, being a part of a great sisterhood, "Why I joined the League" testimonials.*



**How will you use what you learned today?**

*Ways to enrich our council use resources that are available to us*

*Take one idea and work on it-set goals, time frame and then do it!*

*Search each person's face that I come in contact with-find Christ in them*

*I will be prouder of being a Catholic Women's League member*

*I'll be checking websites*

*I will use the resources available. Educate myself so that the tasks might be less intimidating*

*Wear the CWL pin more often*

*"Through use of the bulletin we can let the ladies know about resolutions passed by the League*

*To go and make a better parish member & to talk about resolutions etc.,*

*Share hopefully "lighting the match" to invite new members, encourage someone to join, pass it on,*

*I will make new steps to communicate and make awareness about the League, learned about resource materials,*

*To be a more active member, attend more meetings, energy meant to be shared take back to meetings, share it with others*

*I better understand the League.*



**National Update:** In her most recent communique, Barbara Dowding, national organization chair, sets the reflective tone to evaluate the impact that the *Catch the Fire!* training has had on members over the past two years.

Barbara writes: "Take some time to listen to one another, especially to talk about how the Lord has been seen among you. Share stories of how *Catch the Fire!* has inspired members, transformed them and hopefully added a new vigour to how the League is viewed and accepted. Consider how to measure the success of how *Catch the Fire!* Is it in hard numbers? Is it a new attitude? Is it even measurable?"



Barbara is requesting that we share with her by the end of June, personal testimonials or stories from councils such as an increase in membership, accepting leadership roles, etc. as a result of the *Catch the Fire!* Training. She will then summarize this in her report for the National convention in August.



## We are Set For Our 67<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention in Cobourg July 6 – 9, 2014



The Peterborough Convention Committee will use *Catch the Fire!* as the theme for the Monday Night entertainment following the diocesan dinners. The thirteen provincial dioceses and provincial council will be **ablaze** with their song choices, dancing and costumes. Hopefully at this time practice for the respective song choices is well underway so let the show begin... **lights ... camera ... ACTION** Wait 'til you see what your Ontario Sparks have planned!

As part of our presentation on Tuesday, we are asking all diocesan presidents, diocesan organization chairs and provincial executives to wear camouflage or leopard print tops accented with the *Catch the Fire!* colors (**yellow, red, orange**) in scarves, bandannas, bracelets etc. Your participation in this event is most appreciated. More information will come via e-mail soon.



We have started to put your pictures into a Power Point video. You can still submit pictures until June 27, 2014.

We can hardly wait to see all the creativity and fun as we transition to **S'mores** which is the next phase of individual training workshops.

