

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 2016

Extraordinary

Jubilee Year

of

Mercy



One Heart, One Voice, One Mission:
Palliative and
Hospice Care

ONTARIO PROVINCIAL COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER SPRING 2016

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Editor's Notes

The Ontario Provincial Newsletter was first issued in 1983 and the first newsletter editor was Janice Deslauriers. Over the last 33 years, what we now know as the *Trillium News & Views Ontario Provincial Newsletter* has seen many changes. Today we are able to offer several options to make it easier for our members to stay in touch.

For example: From the homepage on our website at www.cwl.on.ca, you may choose to receive electronic copies of the *Trillium Newsletter* as well as the monthly *ON-Line Newsletter* simply by checking off the boxes under the heading *Subscribe to Our Newsletters*, provide your email address and click on *Subscribe*. Or if you prefer to receive a hard copy to tuck away and read at your leisure, the subscription form can also be found on-line and a copy can also be found in this issue.

The Ontario Provincial Convention will be held in Stratford, Ontario from July 9th to July 13th and will be hosted this year by the members of the London Diocese. Welcome letters from our Provincial President Pauline Krupa and the convention co-chairs, Dara Hartman and Mary Bannon, along with the tentative convention agenda can be found in this issue. Information pertaining to hotel accommodations and the prayer room, at the convention, is also listed. The convention forms along with the complete convention package can be downloaded from the homepage on the provincial website at cwl.on.ca.

I truly hope you enjoy reading this issue. The provincial executive has worked very hard to bring you interesting and informative data on many of the current issues you have been reading about in the media.

Also be sure to check out the "CWL Activity Across the Province" pages. It's so wonderful to see The League in ACTION! Please remember to send in your information for the "Service Awards and Milestone Anniversary" pages. Be sure to also include the photos taken at these events. These are wonderful accomplishments and milestones that should be shared so we can all celebrate together.

Please share this newsletter with others and spread the word! Perhaps you may consider giving a subscription to someone. The order form can be found on page 51.

Happy Reading!

Mary Capobianco, Newsletter Editor

" To make a difference in someone's life, you do not have to be brilliant, rich, beautiful or perfect. You just have to care."

Mandy Hale

Greetings:

As I begin this article and reflect on these past few months an image of the fireworks at midnight to welcome 2016 comes to mind. What a rush; a spectacular display of colour and sparkles lighting the skies in every direction second after second! That is what life has been like for all things CWL in this new year. Important issues keep popping up in every direction, second after second it seems.

Physician assisted dying and all that this will entail has been of great concern. During the month of January the Ontario government held a series of consultations across the province to get opinions and ideas on what the provinces' plan for the law should look like. Many of our members attended the townhouse gatherings in a number of venues. A letter expressing our concerns was sent on your behalf to the Premier and Minister of Health and Long Term Care. Individuals expressed their concerns through responding to the survey and writing letters of concern. In support of His Eminence Cardinal Collins' hopes for 10,000 signatures, memos were sent encouraging members to sign the ecumenical and interfaith declaration on euthanasia and assisted suicide. Happily I can report that on the morning of the day he was to speak at the Special Joint Committee on Physician Assisted Dying there were in excess of 11,000 signatures; many of those being members of The League in Ontario.

For this Jubilee Year of Mercy our national council has added a subtheme *One Heart, One Voice, One Mission: Palliative and Hospice Care*. This year members across Canada "will focus on outward expressions of mercy towards our brothers and sisters as they reach the end of their lives." Individuals and councils are encouraged to sign pledge cards telling how each will support palliative

and hospice care in their communities. The Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association has declared National Hospice Palliative Care week to be May 1 – 7, 2016. The Catholic Women's League of Canada day of action is May 4. (details for all these activities can be found on the national website)

Members have taken to heart the need to support all refugee families coming to this province. Councils are providing financial support, hosting clothing and household drives to outfit the family and their home and making themselves available to help in as many ways as are needed. Groups are going on shopping trips and giving cooking demonstrations to help women to adjust to their new lifestyle. Some have held baby showers for expectant mothers. I received a note from the Ottawa diocesan president telling me that one council in her diocese held a baby shower for the newborn of the family their parish sponsored...a boy, Martin, named after the hosting parish.

Everyone was delighted to hear the result of the Human Rights Tribunal concerning our First Nation's children. Congratulations to Dr. Cindy Blackstock and the Caring Society for all the work they have done to bring the issue of injustice towards First Nations children by the federal government to the Human Rights Tribunal. It has been a long drawn out saga. The Tribunal supports their claim of injustice. It is time to fix the wrongs and heal the hurts.

We are journeying through Lent, a time for us to try to be the best we can be. In his Lenten reflection Bishop Colli suggests that we be active and enthusiastic about sharing our works of charity and love in the same way that Jesus did. I share his prayer for us: "May the Holy Spirit sustain us and increase our concern for one another, so that we can become more compassionate and always act with mercy towards one another. May our journey during this Lenten period, increase our love, deepen our faith and strengthen our relationship with God and with one another."

Diocesan convention time is fast approaching. Your convention is a wonderful time to walk with like-minded women who cherish their faith. You will reacquaint yourself with long time friends, meet new people, share stories, listen, learn, pray and play. Four dioceses will elect new presidents. Our heartfelt thanks are extended to the four presidents leaving our executive council. Thanks Anne, Nel, Marie-Theresa and Joanne for your dedicated service to our provincial executive council. Wishing you all the very best as you continue your CWL journey.

Everyone has welcomed the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy with open arms. At our winter meeting a few weeks ago the executive shared all the good works being completed to emulate their chosen saints and blessed. You have enthusiastically embraced the Works of Mercy and Beatitudes. Many of you pray daily for your blessed/saint. When I was planning this project last spring I thought it would be wonderful if one of our blessed would be canonized during our project year. I am not sure if the prayers of Toronto diocese factored into her canonization, but we will see Mother Teresa sainted in October 2016.

We will celebrate all your good works at the 69th Annual Provincial Convention being held in Stratford Ontario July 9 – 13, 2016. We have planned a special jubilee day. Please take time to review the package for the convention posted on our Ontario website www.cwl.on.ca. Hope to see you there!

Cheers and ttfn

Pauline

Let there be kindness in your face, in your eyes, in your smile, in the warmth of your greeting ... Don't only give your care, but give your heart as well.

Mother Teresa

As I was preparing this newsletter item, I thought of the call by Pope Francis for us to engage in works of mercy during this Jubilee Year of Mercy. I am aware that the members of The Catholic Women's League, in many tangible ways, practice these works of mercy in their daily lives and especially in the work of The League. But I think Pope Francis is asking us, not only to practice these works, but to make them the hallmark of our lives, and to use them to bear witness to the faith we have in the Lord Jesus and in his teachings.

Recently on a trip to Mexico, Pope Francis challenged the bishops and leaders of that country to avoid temptations to worldliness and its lures, but to make sure that their actions reflected the compassion, mercy and love of the Lord in all that they do. In particular, the Pope asked the religious leaders, the bishops and priests, to make sure their actions recognized a special outreach to the poor, the marginalized and the forgotten of their land. Too often we are all tempted to let greed, power and prestige tempt us, and then we do not follow the message of the Gospel. Our Lady of Guadalupe noted this in her appearance to a humble farmer, Juan Diego, and in her request for a church where the people could pray and open themselves to her Son Jesus.

As members of The Catholic Women's League, we are called to be witnesses to the compassion and love of the Lord in our encounters with one another. We are also called to make sure our outreach is not just to those with whom it is easy to respond, but we must take that extra step to reach beyond our comfort level and, as St. John Paul II so often said, "to reach out into the deep" and "to not be afraid" of witnessing to the Lord in the more challenging areas of the church and the world; sometimes in the more messy or uncomfortable areas of society.

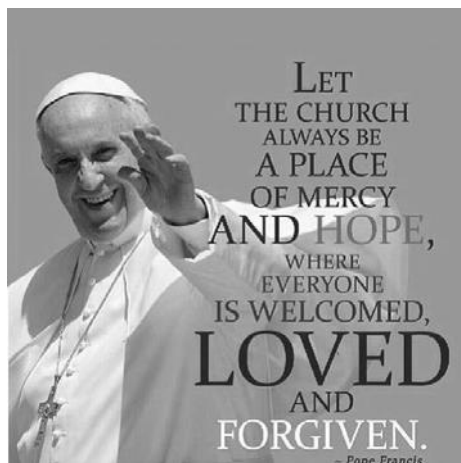
Pope Francis has had much experience in working with the poor of South America. His ministry was always one of tenderness and concern for a people who were forgotten by many. Today the Pope challenges the Church and its members to be more like Jesus in its outreach and concern. We are called to avoid the temptation to power and status, and to humble ourselves, through prayer and good works, in order to be a true image of our loving and caring merciful Father.

This is not always an easy task. It challenges you and me to examine our priorities and to make sure that we make time in our busy lives, to bring some comfort and concern to those who are at the fringes of our society. I know that it has prompted me to re-examine my generosity to the poor, to the St. Vincent de Paul Society, to Catholic Missions, and to local outreach groups in my own neighbourhood. Can I be more helpful to these in any way?

As we continue our journey during this Year of Mercy, we must look again and again at our actions of compassion and mercy in our daily lives. Pope Francis wants us to be a merciful and loving Church, not just in church, but always. We ask Mary, Our Lady of Good Counsel, to guide us through her prayers and to lead us to an even greater desire to witness to her son Jesus, in His love and mercy.

Most Rev. Fred J. Colli
Bishop of Thunder Bay
Provincial Spiritual Advisor

Sub-Chairpersons: Verna Lynn Bergeron and Patricia Moore



"Holiness is nourished by love and knows how to bring upon itself the weight of those who are weaker," Pope Francis said. "A missionary of mercy takes the sinner on his shoulders, and consoles him or her with the power of compassion."

Leviticus 19:18 "Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against anyone

among your people, but love your neighbor as yourself. I am the LORD."

Matthew 32 37:40 "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

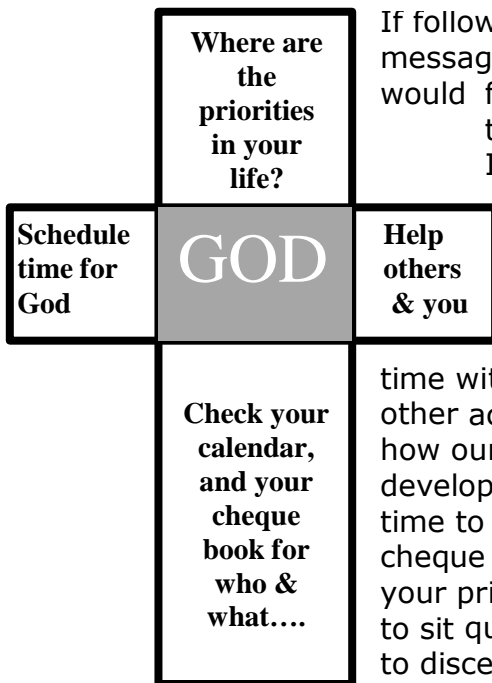
Cozy Book Worm Library – suggested reading

"Confession: The Sacrament of Mercy" – Pastoral Resources for Living the Jubilee. Reflections to better understand the sacrament to experience the merciful love of God.



"The Saints in Mercy" – Pastoral Resources for Living the Jubilee. Expresses how certain saints lived within mercy and expressed mercy in the holiness of their lives.

"The Name of God is Mercy" - By Pope Francis. An intimate dialogue with the Pope on mercy, the central teaching of his papacy.



If following Dynamic Catholic's daily messages during Advent and Lent, you would find many reminders about following the example of Jesus. Most recently, I read the message

inserted into the cross to the left. Is God a priority in your life? What if we scheduled time with God the way we do for the gym, time with friends, music lessons and other activities in our lives? Imagine how our relationship with God would develop, evolve and deepen. Take time to check out your calendar and cheque book to be reminded where your priorities lie ... Book some time to sit quietly with God, to listen and to discern what He is calling you to in your life. The more time we spend with God the more "The Mystery of Divine Indwelling", the presence of God deep within us becomes known to us and the more we recognize His awe and wonder revealed to us in creation and the world around us.

From Our Sunday Visitor Newsweekly Nine ways to live the Jubilee Year of Mercy

The Year of Mercy is meant to be one of those times — a season for Christians to become "stronger and more effective" witnesses to the faith we proclaim, changed both by contemplating the depths of God's mercy and by imitating Christ in the world today (*Misericordiae Vultus*, No. 3). To help make that possible, the Holy Father used *Misericordiae Vultus* not only to reflect on God's mercy but also to outline a course of action. In it, he offered a series of practical suggestions for how Catholics should celebrate the Year of Mercy ahead. Go to Confession - Read Conversion Stories - Perform Works of Mercy - Go on a Pilgrimage - Walk through a Holy Door, obtain

indulgences, pray the *Divine Mercy Chaplet*, forgive those who have hurt you, contemplate God's mercy in scripture.

The logo – The work of Jesuit Father Marko I. Rupnik – presents a small *summa theologiae* of the theme of mercy. In fact, it represents an image quite important to the early church: that of the Son having taken upon his shoulders the lost soul demonstrating that it is the love of Christ that brings to completion the mystery of His incarnation culminating in redemption. The logo has been designed in such a way so as to express the profound way in which the Good Shepherd touches the flesh of humanity and does so with a love with the power to change one's life. One particular feature, worthy of note, is that while the Good Shepherd, in His great mercy, takes humanity upon Himself, His eyes are merged with those of Adam. Every person discovers in Christ, the new Adam, one's own humanity and the future that lies ahead, contemplating, in His gaze, the love of the Father. The scene is captured within the so called *mandorla* (the shape of an almond), a figure quite important in early and medieval iconography, for it calls to mind the two natures of Christ, divine and human. The three concentric ovals, with colors progressively lighter as we move outward, suggest the movement of Christ who carries humanity out of the night of sin and death. Conversely, the depth of the darker color suggests the impenetrability of the love of the Father who forgives all.



*God never tires of forgiving us;
we are the ones who tire of seeking His mercy.*

– **Pope Francis**
The Joy of the Gospel: Evangelii Gaudium

Sub-chairperson: Glenda Klein

"Praise the Lord! Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens! Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his excellent greatness! Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp!"

Psalm 150

Well done! Congratulations! That was amazing!

Everyone likes to receive compliments for their efforts; we in The Catholic Women's League are no different. Everyone loves a nice compliment, but giving one is easier said than done. Giving compliments is an art. You have to get the tone just right or else someone might take your compliment the wrong way. The key; say something you honestly believe to be true, and then deliver your compliment in a sincere tone of voice. Your genuine warmth will not go unnoticed, and you just might make someone's day. Mark Twain noted, "I can live for two months on a good compliment."

Here are four simple guidelines for giving a powerful compliment:

1. Be specific

Memorable compliments are specific. Don't be vague when you give a compliment. Notice what it is that compelled you to want to give the compliment in the first place, and then articulate it to the person.

2. Acknowledge their character

When complimenting an accomplishment, don't just acknowledge what the person did. Acknowledge who they had to be in order to accomplish it. In other words, what did it take for them to make it happen; point to a person's character traits, such as perseverance, kindness, thoughtfulness, loyalty, humour, calmness, creativity or courage. For example, "It took a lot of courage for you to

Speak up like that" or "You are so creative. I love the way you ran today's meeting."

3. Be authentic

If you don't really mean the compliment, don't give it. Everyone has some character strength or gift worthy of acknowledgment. Make a habit of finding the good in others. Sometimes you may be the only person to point it out. Your authentic compliment will be an extraordinary gift for that person because they rarely hear something positive about themselves from others.

4. Express your appreciation

When complimenting someone about something they did that benefitted you, be direct in your praise. For example, "It meant a lot to me that..." or "I appreciate you for...". You might assume that the people in your life know you appreciate them, but don't leave them wondering; say so.

The Catholic Women's League offers awards and certificates that can be used to supplement your appreciation of an outstanding job. You can find specific awards and certificates on the national website under the 'resource' tab. www.cwl.ca. Some examples include: the Bellelles Guerin Award; the Maple Leaf Service Pin; an anniversary certificate; or you could create your own certificate for personal accomplishments.

My challenge to you -

Give a great compliment!



Sub-chairpersons: Sharon St. Jean and Lynn Olenik

Untangling the Catholic Web



There is no shortage of Catholic websites with an abundance of information. Over the past five years more people, apostolate and organizations have taken time to craft really great websites.

The following websites are ones I consider indispensable. Whether you're looking for news or information about the faith, trying to clarify what the Church teaches or to understand some difficult concept, these sites aren't those you bookmark, they're the ones you just know.

The Vatican (www.vatican.ca) You'll find enough here to keep you busy for hours on end. On the home page is a handy way to find all the recent writings, activity and news relating to Pope Francis along with photos and his current and upcoming activities. Do a bit more clicking and you can find just about any encyclical, papal writing or church document you could want to read.

Salt + Light Television (www.saltandlighttv.org) is a Canadian digital cable specialty channel. Launched in July 2003, it is the first Catholic national television channel in Canada and features programming in several languages, although prominently in English. Programs range from daily news and current events to special features and films. Salt + Light Television has been endorsed by national and international Catholic leaders and organizations, including the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, the Vatican Television Centre, and many departments of the Vatican. Salt + Light TV produced the excellent documentary on The Catholic Women's League of Canada titled *Woman on a Mission*.

Dynamic Catholic (www.dynamiccatholic.com) Founded by Australian-born Matthew Kelly, author of the best-seller *Rediscover Catholicism*. The mission of The Dynamic Catholic Institute is to re-energize the Catholic church by developing world-class resources that inspire people to rediscover the genius of Catholicism. It is committed to producing world-class learning systems.

EWTN Global Catholic Network (www.ewtn.com) In addition to the media linkage you'd expect to the TV and radio programming and the tireless news work they conduct, there are also sub-sites on faith. These include devotions, a document library and a dozen mini-sites that are beautiful, educational and awesome. They also have a sub-site dedicated to kids, with games, prayers and TV programs.

New Advent (www.newadvent.org) This website has a bit of everything: the *Catholic Encyclopedia*, St Thomas Aquina's *Summa Theologica* in its complete text, writings of the "Fathers of the Church", the *Bible*, and a library of church documents.

Catechism of the Catholic Church

(www.scborromeo.org/cc/ccc/htm) This is a great site to look up a reference in the catechism or find all the places where a certain phrase was mentioned. While there are a couple of other places you can go to search the catechism, what St Charles Borromeo Parish in Mississippi has put together beats them all. You can search by a search-string or phrase, by paragraph numbers or just peruse the entire book. This site is also mobile-friendly.

U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (www.usccb.org) Definitely one of my personal favourites. You'll find everything from news to readings for the day, beliefs and teachings to the complete *Bible* and much, much more.

Catholic Answers (www.catholic.com) This site works tirelessly to help us all know how to explain and defend our faith by teaching us to better understand it.

Catholic Culture (www.catholicculture.org) In addition to news and commentary, you'll find liturgical readings, links, history, resources and even reviews of Catholic websites. It's a site well-done and one worth visiting often.

News.VA (www.news.va) The Vatican's official news network.

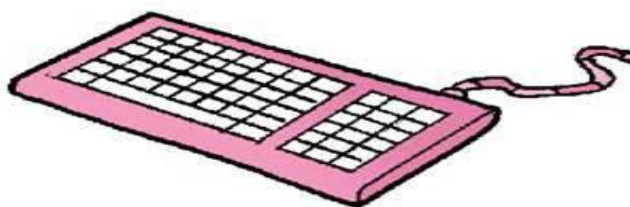
Catholic News Service (www.catholicnews.com) This is compiled by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) and is full of great links and information.

Rome Reports (www.romereports.com) Not just news to read, there's also video. You won't be bored, and you don't have to watch the video if you're more inclined to read.

Zenit (www.zenit.org) It's a newspaper in your Web browser, with Catholic perspectives on everything.

Adapted from an article in *Our Sunday Visitor*
www.osv.com/osvnewsweekly.

There are also excellent blogs online but I'll save that for a future issue. Until then, happy surfing!



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Sub-chairperson: Bernadette Burgess

This Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy, announced by Pope Francis, has been welcomed by The League. All Catholics have been asked to embrace the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. Mercy means to have compassion for, and alleviate, another's misfortune. All individuals are asked to discern misery in another, either their body or soul, and seek the justice necessary to alleviate their suffering. Is that not the purpose of resolutions?

In the Year of Mercy councils could be thinking about writing resolutions to address social issues and implement the works of mercy however, more than that is required. The resolutions are only effective if the action plans are followed. Why not choose a resolution that relates to one of the works of mercy and follow through with the suggested actions? The provincial website (cwl.on.ca) has a list of all the resolutions approved by the provincial council. If every council in the province did take action, imagine what could be accomplished.

For example, one of the corporal works of mercy is ***"Shelter the Homeless"***. Last year the resolution **ON.15.04 Provision of Regulated Housing for the Chronic, Severely Mentally Ill** was adopted. The action plan asked members to: 1. write letters to all levels of government to request safe affordable, regulated, geared-to-income housing. 2. Become aware of the housing needs in their community and develop, or join with other local efforts, to find ways to help. 3. Support others living with mental illness within their own community by being welcoming and compassionate.

During this special year, each member of the Ontario Provincial Executive has chosen a saint for their standing committee. The saint who fits so well with the resolutions committee is Saint John XXIII. Saint John XXIII was an

advocate for human rights; for the right to a healthy body by having food, clothing, shelter, medical care, rest and social services; the right to be cared for in the event of illness, disability, unemployment; and the right to an adequate livelihood.

Saint John XXIII was born in 1881 to a poor family, the fourth of 14 children. He entered the seminary as a teen and was ordained in 1904. After serving in a number of posts in Italy, France and Bulgaria, he became a cardinal in 1953. When he was elected pope in 1958, because of his age, he was expected to be a caretaker pope. He surprised everyone by calling the historic Second Vatican Council. The council opened on October 11, 1962. Unfortunately, he did not live to see the council completed. He was diagnosed with stomach cancer and died in June 1963. When he was canonized in 2014, it was decided that his feast day would be October 11, to commemorate the opening of the Second Vatican Council.

Saint John XXIII opened the door to change in the church. During his pontificate he made many passionate speeches and was loved and respected everywhere. Resolutions are the way that League members can bring about change in the world, too.

As League members, let us emulate Saint John XXIII and work for justice for everyone.

TIME-TESTED RESOLUTIONS

*Before you speak, listen.
Before you criticize, wait.
Before you write, think.
Before you invest, investigate.
Before you spend, earn.
Before you quit, try.
Before you retire, save.
Before you pray, forgive.*

In preparation for writing this article, a quick overview of the "Handbook for Secretaries 2004" clarified once again the duties and role of this position. The duties listed in this document may vary slightly from parish to parish, or at the other levels, but basically the information is pertinent and provides us with the guidelines we need to do the job effectively.

Agenda

Recording secretaries can assist the president in preparing the agenda by bringing to her attention any items that should be brought forward from the previous meeting, the executive meeting and other sources. Providing a copy of the agenda to all participants at the meeting or having it on a flipchart or blackboard will help the members to follow the order, knowing when items will be brought up. A guide to preparing the agenda and a sample agenda are outlined in the handbook.

Motion Book

Although not all councils have a separate motion book, it is certainly something to consider, since it is easier to refer to motions this way than to have to read through the minutes to find them.

The minute book and the motions book should be brought to the meeting for reference purposes. Having the minutes recorded on a memory stick will make for quick access and prevent you from carrying around another heavy binder.

Once the minutes are adopted, they should be signed by the president and the secretary and dated. Provide signature and date lines with the names listed underneath at the bottom of the minutes.

It is important to provide the list of the newly elected executive, with their names, addresses, etc. immediately following the election or when there is a change (addition or deletion) to the appropriate levels. (Please refer to the handbook).

Elections Register

If you are also responsible for the elections register, be sure to add on new eligible members and to take off those no longer eligible. At the parish level, all members, with the exception of associate members, are eligible. At the diocesan level, this includes present officers who have served a full term, parish council presidents who, at the time of the election, have served a full term and a member who is eligible in another diocese, who has moved to your diocese. These officers and council presidents remain eligible for three elections following their last term served. This is why it is important to record the year a member comes onto the executive, the year she becomes eligible and the number of years she has been eligible. The handbook provides sample registers that serve as a guideline.

Continue to serve The League and your CWL sisters to the best of your ability, and be joyful, as your heavenly Father is joyful!

Never cut a tree down in the wintertime. Never
make a negative decision in the low time. Never
make your most important decisions
when you are in your worst moods.

Wait.

Be patient.

The storm will pass.
The spring will come.

Robert H. Schuller

Greetings to all.

Treasurers are the stewards of the finances in each council. It is our responsibility to ensure that our councils carry out its mandate to God and Canada with the financial resources our councils have.

Points to Remember

- If you are sending cheques to the provincial treasurer, ensure that the cheques are made payable to The Catholic Women's League of Canada. Please send a note with the cheque detailing what it is for or note the purpose of the cheque on the line in the left hand bottom corner of the cheque
- Be prompt with payment of bills
- Prepare a budget to assist in the financial life of the council
- Work with the chairperson of organization to collect per capita fees
- A treasurer's workshop, every two (2) years would be a time to share, give suggestions, guidance and review financial responsibilities

League charities we contribute to include:

National: Coady International Institute
Canadian Catholic Organization for
Development and Peace
Catholic Missions in Canada
Euthanasia Prevention Coalition
(until August 18, 2020)
Catholic Near East Welfare Association/
Velma's Dream/

Provincial: Bishop Pappin Memorial Bursary Fund
Be confident in the work you do.... for you are doing God's work.

May your debits and your credits balance – the first time, every time!

God's Blessings to all.

You don't know where you're going until you know where you've been.
English Proverb

In my travels, members have often conveyed how the position of past president makes them feel "out of the loop". It is a major transition from all the responsibilities of being president to what they have described as "being a has been". For some it is relief, yet for others it takes time to adjust to the reduced responsibilities and only speaking at a meeting when asked for advice.

I like to think of the past president/historian as the keeper of the flame. The presidents that have gone before with their incredible works have stayed on as past presidents to serve in a consultative capacity for the president and the council. In doing so she makes sure that those special moments are captured for the history books for future generations to look back on and appreciate. She has been passed the torch; a symbol of faith, devotion and passion for the League that burns within each member. By encouraging and mentoring members, along with maintaining the study and implementation of the *Constitution and Bylaws*, it fuels the flame making sure it doesn't burn out. That is an important responsibility not to be taken lightly.

My recent trip to the archives was truly an adventure! As I picked up the scrapbook and looked at the pictures it was emotional to realize I had our history in the palm of my hand. It was so interesting to see how things changed over the years not to mention the fashion and hair styles! Can you imagine handwriting the minutes of a meeting? Yet there they were in beautiful handwritten pages, capturing the wonderful works of the amazing women that paved the way for us to be able to do what we do today. I smiled at the thought of what they may think of our minutes done on computers. To cut and paste, delete or insert rather than a black carbon paper in between two pieces of white paper is something I'm sure they would be in awe and appreciation.

As they say, "a picture is worth a thousand words" which makes it so critical that the pictures in the archives be preserved properly. Anyone who knows me, knows how much I love pictures. It is extremely critical that you use acid free paper to preserve the pictures and an acid free pen to write the information beside the picture because even though you may know who they are at the time, a year or two down the road your memory may fade.

All the archives should be stored in a filing cabinet that you can lock in a location that is also secure. We are fortunate to be able to use a location that is also climate controlled. Since you may not have that opportunity, be sure to have the archives stored in a facility that will be safe from any flooding or other forms of damage. The "Archives Guidelines of League History Provincial, Diocesan and Parish Councils" can be found on the national website under Programs and Workshops then under the heading "Laws".

Our faith is steeped in traditional rites and sacraments which are rooted in the past and provide a sense of time and place with a continuation or the feeling of being connected to a certain past and an uncertain future. So too is our League. As past presidents/historians, be proud to hold the torch high for all to see.



"Know from whence you came. If you know whence you came, there are absolutely no limitations to where you can go."

James Baldwin

Sub-Chairpersons: Mary Hawkley and Margaret Van Meeuwen

I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you may know what is the hope of His calling.

Ephesians 1:18

The saint chosen for this standing chair is St. Joseph Vaz. As Pope Francis stated St. Joseph showed us the importance of transcending religious divisions in the service of peace. His undivided love for God opened him to love for his neighbour; he ministered to those in need, whoever and wherever they were. Listed below are suggestions for emulating our saint and living out the corporal and spiritual works of mercy:

- 1) Each parish council can support Development and Peace (D&P) through the 1% program. Doreen Gowans, National Community Life Chairperson, challenged each council to contribute to D&P by submitting their donation through to National. Development and Peace feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, visit the imprisoned; including those caught in unjust economic and social structures.
- 2) Help the refugees that have come to Canada. Even if your parish is not sponsoring a family your council can help with your time and talents. Welcome these new people to Canada, be an ear to listen to their concerns and help them settle into the community. Mothers are the “glue” in most families, so let’s concentrate on them. Let’s help them make a home where their family members can come home and see their mother has made their house a home. By making mothers feel secure in their homes, they can help their husbands deal with looking for employment, their children deal with the pressures of school and everyone learning the English language. Parish councils could host a “welcome shower”. Members can give items to equip the kitchen or items for the children’s school supplies.

By having the “welcome shower” the mother or woman of the family has an opportunity to meet women and begin a connection. If you go on www.syriancooking.com, you can find out what is usually found in a Syrian kitchen and it is in English, French and Arabic for easy communication. There is also a grocery list in all three languages for ease when going grocery shopping.

- 3) Each member can also help the refugees by clearing up misinformation or incorrect judgments. Many people have mistaken interpretations or “fear” of the refugees due to certain media reports. Speak up for the refugees, be respectful and correct misinformation.
- 4) Diocesan presidents were given a list of parish councils in Ontario that have a membership of 15 members or less. Let us use the example of St. Joseph to reach out to these councils with encouragement and our support. Send cards or your council newsletter to help them feel connected to their sisters in the League across the province. Help them let their light shine and help strengthen “community” in our sisterhood.
- 5) Finally pray the prayer created for St. Joseph Vaz by Mary Hawkley, Sub-Committee Chairperson and myself:

**O dedicated servant of God who brought Christ
to the people of Sri Lanka,
pray that we may follow your example.**



United Nations Refugee logo

Sub-Chairpersons: Mary Jane Yaeger and Heather Sisk

LYME DISEASE

(submitted by Heather Sisk)

Playing in a grassy field shouldn't be a debilitating activity, however, for an ever-growing number of Canadians that is the case. They have been diagnosed with Lyme disease.

What is Lyme disease? Lyme disease is an inflammatory infection that spreads to humans through tick bites. It is present in Canada and spreading. In June 2015 Dr. Neil Rau, an infectious disease specialist, told CTV's Canada AM that Lyme disease is on the rise. He said that Canada reported 500 cases of Lyme disease in 2014 but expects that number will be close to 10,000 by 2020.

Risk to Canadians: Canadians at risk for Lyme disease include those who live, work or play in close proximity to the "black legged" or "deer" ticks that spread the disease. If not identified and treated early, Lyme disease can cause serious health issues. While not all blacklegged ticks carry Lyme disease, populations of infected blacklegged ticks are growing. They are active throughout the year; however, your risk of a tick bite is highest in spring and summer. People can come in contact with ticks while participating in outdoor activities such as golfing, hiking, camping or gardening. Blacklegged ticks are most often found in forests and overgrown areas between the woods and open spaces. They are most abundant in southern B.C., south-east and south-central Manitoba, south, east and northwestern Ontario, southern Quebec, New Brunswick and Grand Manan Island and parts of Nova Scotia.

Symptoms: Initial symptoms differ from person to person, which makes Lyme disease very difficult to diagnose. Symptoms of Lyme disease can include one or a combination of the following with varying degrees of severity: fatigue, fever or chills, headache, spasms or weakness, numbness or tingling, swollen lymph nodes or skin rash (often, but not always, 'bull's eye' looking).

Additional symptoms can include: cognitive dysfunction (brain fog) or dizziness, nervous system disorders, muscle or joint pain or abnormal heartbeat.

If you develop symptoms of Lyme disease, contact your health care provider right away, as the earlier you receive a diagnosis, the greater the chance of a successful treatment. If you have saved the tick that bit you, bring it with you to your medical appointment. It may help the doctor assess your illness.

Protection & Prevention: You can protect yourself from tick bites by taking these simple steps: wear closed-toe shoes, long-sleeved shirts & long pants, pull socks over pant legs to prevent ticks from crawling up legs, wear light-coloured clothes to spot ticks easier, use insect repellents that contain DEET or Icaridin, shower or bathe within two hours of being outdoors to wash away loose ticks, do a daily “full body” check for ticks on yourself, children and pets.

If you find a tick on your skin, removing it within 24 – 36 hours of the tick bite usually prevents infection. For methods of safe, effective tick removal go to the Canadian Lyme Disease Foundation website @ canlyme.com/lymeprevention/tick-removal/.

Protect yourself, be vigilant and get out there and enjoy the great outdoors.

ZIKA VIRUS

(submitted by Heather Sisk)

Anyone who has tried to sleep on a warm summer’s night and has been kept awake by that irritating drone, anyone who has tried to sit outside during the early evening hours or spend some time doing fun summer activities has most assuredly been heard to exclaim “**those DARN mosquitoes!**”. We know that many diseases and viruses are spread by the bite of “**those DARN mosquitoes**”. The latest one to come to the forefront is the Zika virus, a mosquito-borne virus which is possibly linked to birth defects in Brazil, and has potential to spread to holiday destinations like Florida and the Caribbean.

How is it transmitted? It is transmitted to people by the day-time biting Aedes mosquito.

What are the symptoms? The most common symptoms are fever, rash, joint pain and conjunctivitis (red eyes).

How is Zika diagnosed? See your health care provider if you develop symptoms described above and have visited an area where Zika is found. Your health care provider may order specialized blood tests to look for Zika or other similar viruses.

What is the treatment? There is no vaccine or specific medicine to treat Zika virus infections. Treat the symptoms: Get plenty of rest, drink fluids to prevent dehydration, take medicine such as acetaminophen to reduce fever and pain. Do not take aspirin or other non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs.

Zika and pregnant women: The possibility of a link between the virus and a spike in birth defects such as microcephaly (a condition in which a baby's head is smaller than expected and the brain is underdeveloped) is being investigated. Investigations are ongoing. It is suggested that Canadian women who are pregnant or plan to become pregnant be wary of travelling to southern climates. If you must travel to an area where Zika is prevalent, talk to your doctor first and strictly follow steps to prevent mosquito bites like wearing long-sleeved shirts and long pants, staying in places with A/C and that have screens on windows and doors, using insect repellents, using mosquito nets to cover baby cribs, strollers and carriers and sleeping under a mosquito bed net if you are not able to protect yourself from mosquito bites otherwise.

Yes, it would be understandable if you were heard to mutter "**those DARN mosquitoes!**"



Sub-Chairperson: Celeste Guse

Electoral Reform

For nearly as long as Canada has been a country, there have been people looking to change the electoral system. A 2004 Law Commission of Canada report entitled *Voting Counts: Electoral Reform for Canada* states "For more than 130 years, Canada's first-past-the-post voting system has been a source of discussion and debate, particularly following highly disproportionate election results".

Cries for electoral system reform have continued to be raised over the years, but despite promises in throne speeches, and committees and reports that have followed, none have actually resulted in change. Provincial attempts to reform the electoral system through referendum have all failed.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has assured us that the 2015 federal election would be the last time Canadians cast a ballot under the first-past-the-post electoral system. A national engagement of some kind has been promised, with a committee being struck to study the issue and present their recommendations, after which an alternative system will be presented. The potential alternatives include ranked ballots and proportional representation. As the issue is discussed and studied, other alternatives may evolve.

Based on currently available information, a brief description of the present system, as well as the two alternatives mentioned above follows:

First-past-the-post -- This is the system currently being used in Canada, the United Kingdom, the United States and many other democracies. Basically, the candidate who gets the most votes in a riding wins. It does not have to be a majority. It is often criticized for distorting voters' choices, allowing a party to win a majority of seats with less than 40% of the vote.

Proportional representation -- This system is more complex, and has different models. In one, a voter casts a ballot for a party, as opposed to voting for a prospective MP under a party banner as the current system prescribes. Once all the votes are counted, parties are awarded a number of seats in proportion to the percentage of votes each received. The MPs are those selected by the party.

A second model, called "***mixed member proportional***" is a hybrid system that combines the above with single-member ridings. As described by the electoral body, the system would allow voters to cast one ballot for a specific candidate in their riding and a second ballot for their preferred party. The first vote elects a district MP via first past-the-post, the second ballot determines the number of MPs from each party that will sit in the house of commons based on the popular vote. In the end, if a party ends up with fewer seats than it should have based on overall popularity, they would get some "top up" members from an already established party list of candidates. One of the criticisms of this system is that is too confusing. It is, however, considered by some to be a fair system.

Preferential voting -- is the system some parties use to elect their leaders. Basically, voters list their preferred candidates, ranked from first, second, third, and so on. Different organizations use different means for counting the ballots. A method called the "alternative vote" looks for one candidate to achieve at least 50% + 1 of the vote. If, on first count, no candidate reaches the majority set, the candidate with the lowest number of votes is dropped; the ballots that listed the losing candidate as first choice are reassigned to the candidate listed as their second choice, and so on, until one candidate wins.

Voters are required to list all candidates on the ballot in order of preference, otherwise their ballot is disqualified. Some voters might have a hard time with this requirement, particularly if their views vary widely from those of some of the candidates.

Let's hope that the consultations result in a fair, democratic and workable electoral system, one which will serve Canada and Canadians well.

Remember, voting is both a right and a privilege. Be aware of this issue; educate yourself, so that the next time you vote, if it be under a new electoral system, you fully understand the process.

Elections belong to the people. It's their decision. If they decide to turn their back on the fire and burn their behinds, then they will just have to sit on their blisters.

— **Abraham Lincoln**



Sub-Chairpersons: Anna Brady and Margaret McAllister

The dictionary describes the word "vocation" as: somebody's work, job, or profession, especially a type of work demanding special commitment; a strong feeling of being destined or called to undertake a specific type of work, especially a sense of being chosen by God for religious work or a religious life.

As you can see, the word vocation has different (how about saying important, significant or something like that) meanings.

There is the obvious vocation to the priesthood and religious life, but there are other vocations as well: married life, single life and widowed; each has its own cause for devotions. Each of us has our own vocation in life!

A special way that members across Ontario support those journeying in priestly ministry is by supporting our Bishop Bernard F. Pappin Memorial Fund. According to Kim Scammell, National Executive Director: *"Ontario is the only province that offers a bursary to seminarians."* Congratulations and thank you!

In the late 1990's Bishop Bernard F. Pappin, Bishop of Sault Ste. Marie Diocese was the Ontario Provincial Council's Spiritual Advisor. On August 27, 1998 sadly he passed away while serving his two year term with the League.

The purpose of this bursary is to help seminarians offset their personal costs, such as to help with buying books, car insurance, or it can be used as "fun" money to enjoy an evening out.

Collectively up to ten seminarians can receive a bursary each year. The seminarians must follow the criteria and fill out the application form which is available to them on our website and in the Ontario seminaries. One of the

important criteria for acceptance is that the applicant must serve in an Ontario parish once ordained.

Once the applications are reviewed by the committee, applicants will be notified by the provincial president no later than April 30 of any given year, that they will be awarded the bursary. In the fall, once confirmation of his return to studies is received, the cheque will be forwarded.

This is our opportunity to help support our future priests. So, I ask you personally and collectively as a council, to support *the Bishop Bernard F. Pappin Memorial Bursary Fund*.

A second way to help is by advertising in your parishes to let people know this bursary exists. The normal deadline for applications is January 31. The provincial council has agreed to extend the deadline this year to May 31. The bursary is available to them each year while studying. Seminarians who have received the bursary in previous years can re- apply.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel continue to guide us in all we do for God, Canada and The Catholic Women's League of Canada.

Prayer for Seminarians

Lord Jesus Christ, I pray that you protect and watch over all the seminarians of the Companions of the Cross. Grant them the grace to choose to follow you absolutely, love their brothers, and faithfully serve your people. Kindle in their hearts a fire for evangelization, and a total openness to your Holy Spirit. May they yearn to be in your Eucharistic presence, have a sincere devotion to your mother Mary, and steadfast loyalty to your Church. Give them the desire to pick up their cross daily for the greater glory of God.
Amen.

Companions of the Cross

Privacy – Did you know?

**Submitted by Colleen Randall,
Ontario Provincial Council (OPC)
Privacy Officer**

As members, it is our obligation to educate ourselves on policy at all levels. The following information is taken directly from the tables of the Ontario Provincial Council Manual of Policy and Procedure and focuses on the disposal requirements for each scenario. **Are you disposing of all that you should?**

A1.6.2-01 Provincial Executive

(a)(b)A new contact information list will be issued each time there is a change in provincial or diocesan names. Holders will be asked to destroy the old one when the new one is issued.

A1.6.2-02 Diocesan Officers

(a)(b)(c)(e)Holders will be asked to destroy the old list when a new one is issues. (d)Information will be destroyed by the officer or returned to the corresponding secretary (now admin assistant) once the purpose has been completed.

A1.6.2-03 Provincial Newsletter

(a)The reconciliation list will be retained for five fiscal years with the financial records before destroying them. (b)The personal contact information will be shredded by the newsletter editor one year after the subscription expires. (c) The newsletter editor will instruct third parties to destroy the information when no longer required to mail newsletters.

A1.6.2-04 Screening Officer

The screening officer will shred screening information and screening results after the election, for those who are no longer on the eligibility list. Screening information will be held on file for five years or until a member is no longer on the eligibility list and then shredded by the screening officer.

A1.6.2-05 Bishop Pappin Memorial Bursary

Application forms and letters for all unsuccessful applicants will be shredded following the committee's review and decision. Application forms and letters for all successful candidates will be kept in the active file as long as they are eligible to re-apply or until they are ordained as priests, and then shredded. New forms are issued every two years with the new president's information

and instructions are given to those who are sent the new forms to destroy the old forms.

A1.6.2-05 Convention Forms

The registration committee will shred forms once they have confirmed the information is no longer required by the provincial treasurer and recording secretary.

A1.6.2-06 Life Members

(a)(b)(c)(d) All holders will be asked to destroy the old list when a new one is issued. (e) The convention chairperson, provincial recording secretary will shred the list once the convention is complete. (f) The history book is not destroyed.

A1.6.2-07 Subscriptions, Memberships and other Third Party Requests

(a)(b)(c)(e) These positions will change every two years. Following the post convention meeting the outgoing provincial treasurer will provide third party organizations with new contact information and ask them to destroy the old information. (d) Hotel will be asked to destroy this information once the event is finished and the final invoice paid.

A1.6.2-08 Nominations and Elections

(a) Once elections are complete, the nominations and elections committee will destroy all acceptance forms, nomination forms, pictures and resumes. (b) Once each diocesan executive has completed their nomination form all copies of the acceptance forms and resumes (except for the copy kept by the president) will be collected and destroyed by the diocesan president. (c) Once the provincial election is complete, diocesan presidents will destroy their copy of resumes.

For more information about Consent, Access and Purpose on the above topics The Ontario Provincial Council Manual of Policy and Procedure is available on the OPC website (cwl.on.ca) under the Manuals, Policies & Guidelines button on the right.



*69th Annual
Ontario Provincial Convention
July 9th to July 13th*



Greetings!

Excitement is certainly in the air! Our hosting council has been busy readying Stratford to welcome each of us as delegates to the 69th Annual Provincial Convention July 9 – 13, 2016.

To celebrate the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy, we have proclaimed Tuesday July 12th as Jubilee Day. Keeping in mind the corporal works of mercy, we are asking that **each registrant bring canned foods and / or dry goods to be handed in, when you register.** You can also give a monetary donation should bringing groceries not work with your travel plans.

We are honoured to welcome Bishop William McGrattan, Bishop of Peterborough Diocese and National Spiritual Advisor as our keynote speaker on Monday morning. He will speak on the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy. Tuesday we welcome Anne Shore, who will end our day with a talk on kindness and forgiveness towards others and mostly ourselves. On Wednesday morning we welcome Eugene Dufour who will speak to us on effective and ethical palliative and hospice care.

To accommodate the celebration day a few changes have been made to the traditional agenda most notably the presentation of resolutions will for this year take place on **Monday July 11th in the afternoon.**

Our Jubilee Day will begin with Eucharist and then a symbolic pilgrimage through the Holy Door. Reports will be presented ending with a *Litany of Blesseds and Saints*.

The provincial council will host a Poverty Lunch consisting of soup, bun and water. This is a ticketed item on the registration form so that we can have an accurate number for the dining staff. The nominal donation of \$2.00 will be presented to **The Local**, a Stratford community-based group who provide food and learning to those in need.

The afternoon will be dedicated to action! Representative groups will go to The Local to help out and another group will sort the grocery donations for St. Vincent de Paul. The majority of us will spend time in prayer and reflection. **The sacrament of Reconciliation will be available during this time.**

Looking forward to spending time with you at convention in July!

Pauline Krupa, President,
Ontario Provincial Council of The Catholic Women's League of Canada



A Message from your Convention Co-Chairs

Dear CWL Sisters from all over Ontario,

The planning team from London Diocese are so pleased to invite you to the Provincial Convention for 2016 in Stratford, July 9th to 13th.

Stratford is a gem of a small historic city, home of the world famous Shakespeare Festival, winner of National Communities in Bloom and home to the most helpful and hospitable residents you could find anywhere. We have Art in the Park, a beautiful park system where you might like to picnic, wonderful restaurants specializing in local foods, quaint one-of-a-kind boutiques for the shoppers among you and our own private recommendation for chocoholics- Chocolate Barrs. Any place you may like to go to is within a five minute drive of the hotel. A walk along the Avon to see our swans is also recommended!

We have all been busy working to help make this convention a wonderful experience for you. If you come to London, by air, let us know your flight number and time of arrival and we will be there to take you to Stratford about 40 minutes away. We will also pick you up, if you come by train to Stratford, with the information you provide.

The Festival has provided us with discounted tickets to see *Chorus Line*, on Saturday night. Our Sunday morning tour will show you Stratford and include a backstage tour and costume and props warehouse tour. Opening Mass will be at Immaculate Conception Church, 54 Well St. followed by a reception hosted by the ladies of Huron and Perth counties. Our Prayer Room is dedicated to Mary, Undoer of Knots. Fun Night gives us the chance to dance to the Festival City Big Band or, for the younger members, CWL Junction at Molly Blooms.

We hope you will join us in Stratford this year.

Your Co-Chairs, Dara Hartman and Mary Bannon

Ontario Provincial Convention Agenda 2016

One Heart, One Voice, One Mission: Palliative and Hospice Care

Tentative Program

Saturday, July 9, 2016

12:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Registration
2:00 pm - 4:30 pm	Admin. Committee Meeting
5:00 pm - 7:15 pm	Dinner
7:15 pm	Buses load for <i>Chorus Line</i>
8:00 pm.	Performance at Festival
	Bus pick up after

Sunday, July 10, 2016

	Breakfast on own
8:15 am	Bus loads for tour
8:00 am - 4:00 pm	Registration
9:00 am - 2:00 pm	Pre-Convention Executive Meeting (includes provincial officers, diocesan presidents and diocesan spiritual advisors)
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	Lunch for the executive
2:30 pm - 4:30 pm	Resolutions Dialogue
5:00 pm	Dinner on own
6:00 pm	Shuttle Buses to Mass
7:00 pm	Opening Eucharist, Ceremonies and Reception
9:00 pm	Shuttles depart for hotel

Monday, July 11, 2016

	Breakfast on own
7:30 am - 4:00 pm	Registration
8:00 am - 4:00 pm	Supplies & Vendors (open at non-sessions)
8:30 am	Eucharistic Celebration
9:30 am	Business Session
10:30 am	Refreshment Break
10:45 am	Key Note Address: Bishop McGratton, Bishop of Peterborough

Monday, July 11, 2016 - continued

12:00 pm	Delegates Luncheon Life Members Luncheon Spiritual Advisors Luncheon
1:30 pm	Business Session Resumes Resolutions
3:00 pm	Refreshment Break
3:15 pm	Business Sessions Resumes
4:30 pm	Announcements
5:15 pm	Diocesan Dinners
8:30 pm - 10:00 pm	Fun Night Festival City Big Band at hotel, CWL Junction at Molly Blooms

Tuesday, July 12 2016 – Jubilee Year of Mercy Day

	Breakfast on own
7:30 am - 3:30 pm	Registration
8:00 am - 4:00 pm	Supplies & Vendors (open at non-sessions)
8:30 am	Eucharistic Celebration
9:45 am	Symbolic Pilgrimage
10:00 am	Business Session Resumes Reports
10:40 am	Refreshment Break
11:00 am	Business Sessions Resumes
12:00 pm	Litany of Saints and Blesseds
12:15 pm	Poverty Lunch
1:15 pm	Action!
3:00 pm	Presentation to St. Vincent de Paul Society, Stratford
3:10 pm	Refreshment Break
3:30 pm	Presentation by Anne Shore, Motivational Speaker
4:30 pm	Announcements
6:15 pm	Social Hour, Cash Bar
7:00 pm	Banquet

Wednesday, July 13, 2016

	Breakfast on own
8:00 am -12:00 pm	Supplies & Vendors (open at non-sessions)
8:00 am -10:00 am	Registration
8:30 am	Opening Prayer
8:40 am	Business Session Resumes
9:30 am	Presentation by Eugene Dufour, Palliative and Hospice Care
10:45 am	Refreshment Break
11:00 am	Business Session Resumes
	Invitation to 2017 Convention
	Registration /Credential Report
	Announcements
	Closing Prayer
11:30 am	Shuttles to Mass
12:00 pm	Closing Eucharist
1:15 pm	Shuttles return to hotel
1:30 pm	Closing Luncheon
2:45 pm - 4:00 pm	Post Convention Executive Meeting (includes provincial officers, diocesan presidents and diocesan spiritual advisors)

NOTE: The following convention forms and other information can be found on the website at www.cwl.on.ca

- Convention Registration Form
- Credential Forms for voting & accredited delegates
- Meals and Special Events Form
- Information on how to order your tickets for An Evening at the Stratford Festival Theatre
- Information on the Sunday Morning Tour
- List of possible restaurants for diocesan dinners
- Directions on how to get to Stratford and the Best Western Plus Arden Park Hotel

HOTEL INFORMATION

**Arden Park Hotel Best Western Plus
552 Ontario St. P.O. Box 1040
Stratford ON N5A 6W4**

Reservations 1-519-275-2936

Standard Room: (2 Queens) \$149.95 +HST per night
Suites: \$169.95 +HST per night

FREE PARKING

**Book as soon as possible;
Booking deadline is June 8, 2016**



An Evening at the Stratford Festival Theatre

With "Chorus Line"

July 9, 2016 - 8:00 P.M.



**SAVE AT THE STRATFORD FESTIVAL WITH THE
CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE GROUP PRICING!
(OFFER ENDS June 24th)**

To Order Tickets:

- Call the Groups department at **1-800-567-1600** and use PROMO code **64920**
- You can choose to have your tickets delivered by email
- Add aisle zone seats for only \$5 extra!



**Our Prayer Room in Stratford will be dedicated
to
Our Lady, Untier of Knots.**

We will be inviting everyone to think of a "knot" in their lives which needs to be loosened, unbound, untied, freed.

We will provide little prayer notes which you can tie to the knots in the white ribbon and place before Mary asking her help to untie the knot as she did at the wedding feast of Cana when the "knot" was no wine.

We all have knots in our lives which need to be untied.

The theology of Mary untying knots goes back to the second century - less than one hundred years after the death of the Apostles. Saint Irenaeus of Lyons wrote "the knot of Eve's disobedience was loosed by the obedience of Mary. For what the virgin Eve had bound fast through unbelief, this did the virgin Mary set free through faith"

Pope Francis has a special devotion to this image of Mary.

CWL Activity Across the Province



The CWL Friendship Group meets for lunch once a month in Cornwall. For the Year of Mercy they have decided to help out a different organization each month. For the month of December they helped the local hospice in Cornwall.



Members of the Ottawa Diocese participated in the Day of Remembrance for missing and murdered Aboriginal women. From left to right: Lillian Martineau, Onagh Dooley, Sharon St. Jean and Joanna Sisk.



Star of the Sea Parish Council in St. Catharines attended the Open Door tour at the St. Catharine of Alexandria Cathedral.



St. Joseph Highland Creek, in Scarborough Region in the Toronto Diocese, welcome their new members with a blessing ceremony during Mass. Each new member is then presented with a bookmark with the League prayer which is recited and a CWL pin.

CWL Training Continues..

Carol Richer, Provincial Legislation Chair and Anne Madden, Provincial President-Elect, presenting at the Toronto Diocesan Annual Development Day on Feb. 27th. Theme for the day was **MENTORING** with over 340 members in attendance for the workshop.



From left to right, Shirley Christo, Toronto Diocesan President, Anne Madden, Carol Richer and Ann D'Souza, Toronto President-Elect.

Parish Executive Training (PET)

session was held at St. Edward the Confessor Parish in North York Region, Toronto Diocese on January 30th. 40 members from 5 different councils attended the day.





Catch the Fire workshop hosted by St. Andrew the Apostle council in Sudbury on Saturday, March 5th. The workshop was attended by members from nine councils. Facilitators were Karen McDonald, SSM Diocesan President, Betsy Currier SSM President-elect/Organization Chair, Marlene Sawko, SSM Recording Secretary, Theresa McGuire, Life Member and Anna Tremblay Ontario Provincial Communications Standing Chair and SSM Past Diocesan President.



Parish Executive Training (PET) session held January 9th at St. Dunstan's Parish in Scarborough Region, Toronto. The training was attended by 25 members from 7 councils.

SERVICE AWARDS

Congratulations to the following councils and its members for all their many years of dedication and service to The League.

Our Lady of Fatima CWL Council, Renfrew:

60 YEARS: Jessie St. Louis

40 YEARS: Ella Box

25 YEARS: Margaret Ann Fraser, Diane Larocque and Pat Lepine

Membership Scrolls were also presented to:

45 YEARS: Alice Houwen and Theresa Manion

35 YEARS: Agnes Walker

The Maple Leaf Pin recipient: Charlotte Cleroux

St. Francis Xavier CWL Council, Renfrew:

60 YEARS: Lola Mulvihill, Marie Hefferty and Marguerite McIntyre (posthumously)

55 YEARS: Mary Griese, Marguerite Power and Lila Prince

50 YEARS: Stephanie Nickel

40 YEARS: Joanne O'Gorman, Leona Armstrong, Gen McCallum and Mary Visutski

35 YEARS: Leona Barr, Dolly McDonald and Martha Scott

30 YEARS: Lore Coyne

20 YEARS: Rosemary Donohue, Rose Latendresse and Shirley Utronki

10 YEARS: Katherine Kasprzak



Two Members of St. Margaret's CWL in Thunder Bay receive the Maple Leaf Award



From left to right are Anne Reist, Spiritual Development Chairperson, Sylvia Nordstrom, Secretary (recipient of Maple Leaf Award), Betty Dwyer, Organization chairperson, Maureen Ahokas, President (the other recipient of Maple Leaf Award) and Rosalie Douglas, Past President.

A Woman of Faith

Lord, help us to perform our CWL duties with the same response that Mary gave. Help us to use our special talents to help others. Give us the courage to love and understand, to change the things we are capable of, to make this a better world. Help us to always work together, for ourselves, our parish, our diocese, our province and our country in love. We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen

(Taken from the prayer service *A Woman of Faith*
by Lynn L'Heureux Alberta Mackenzie Provincial Council)

MILESTONE ANNIVERSARIES



Congratulations to St. Paul the Apostle CWL, Northern Region, Toronto Diocese who celebrated their 50th Anniversary. From Left to right: Donna Haueter, Chair Parish Pastoral Council, CWL Co-Presidents Linda Beckstead and Carla Beckett, and Fr. Alan Glass their Spiritual Advisor.



Ann D'Souza, Toronto Diocesan President-Elect presents Anniversary Certificate to Judy Jagger, CWL Council President for St. John Chrysostom, Newmarket in North York Region, on the occasion of their 90th Anniversary!

OPC Executive



Ontario Provincial Council (OPC) Executive and the Ontario Diocesan Presidents attending their Winter Meeting.



Outgoing Diocesan Presidents Anne Vincelli, Alexandria-Cornwall, Marie-Theresa Lamphier, London, Nel Dalcin, Hearst and Joanne Hough, Peterborough.

TRILLIUM NEWS AND VIEWS

Newsletter Subscription Form

Please Print Clearly

Council : _____

Diocese: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Postal Code: _____

Telephone No. _____ ☐ New ☐ Renewal

Email Address _____

Privacy Policy

This contact information will only be provided to the provincial treasurer and the provincial newsletter editor to record your subscription and mail your newsletter and may be shared with a third party for mailing purposes. This information will be destroyed one year after your subscription has expired.

Note: *diocesan spiritual advisors, Ontario life members , honorary life members, and provincial subcommittee chairs, are entitled to a complimentary newsletter subscription.*

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Make cheque payable to: **OPCCWL** or
The Catholic Women's League of Canada.

Mail to : Patricia Rivest
86 Alderton St., Leamington, ON N8H 4R3

Beatitudes For Friends of the Aged

*Blessed are they who understand
My faltering step and palsied hand.*

*Blessed are they that know my ears today
Must strain to catch the things you say.*

*Blessed are they who seem to know
That my eyes are dim and my wits may be slow.*

*Blessed are they that look away
When coffee spilled on the cloth today.*

*Blessed are they with a cheery smile
Who stop and chat for a little while.*

*Blessed are they who never say
"You've told that story twice today."*

*Blessed are they who make it known
That I'm loved, respected and not alone.*

*Blessed are they who know the way
To bring back memories of yesterday.*

*Blessed are they that know I'm at a loss
To find the strength to carry my cross.*

*Blessed are they who ease the days
On my journey home, in loving ways.*

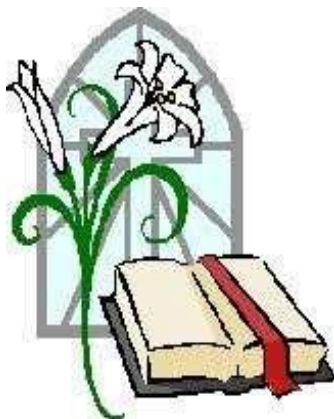
Esther May Walker

A Prayer for Easter Eyes

***My Lord Jesus,
You have risen to new life!
Give me new eyes with which to recognize
your presence in the world around me.
Sharpen my vision so that I can see beyond the
ordinary events of each day and into the
extraordinary reality of your grace.
Brighten my view of the world with renewed
hope in the coming of your Kingdom. Soften
my gaze so that I may view others with the
kind of tenderness and compassion you
showed to so many.
May each day of this Easter season
provide glimpses of your glory.
In your sacred name, I pray.***

Amen.

William H. Sadlier



Return: Mary Capobianco
133 Richland Cres.
Etobicoke, Ontario M9C 4C6



League Prayer

**We humbly pray you, O God our Father
To bless The Catholic Women's League of Canada.
Bless our beloved country, our homes and families.**

**Send your Holy Spirit upon us
To give light to our minds and strength to our wills,
That we may know and fulfill
your great law of charity.**

**Teach us to share with others, at home and abroad,
The good things you have given us.**

**This we ask through Our Lord Jesus Christ
And the intercession of our patroness, Our
Lady of Good Counsel.**

Amen.