



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



ON-LINE NEWSLETTER

Forgive others...
Not because they
deserve forgiveness,
but because you
deserve peace.

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**Our thanks to Toronto
Diocesan Council and Ontario
Provincial Community Life
Standing Committee
Chairperson their submissions.**

PAPAL INTENTION

General: That in this **Year of Faith**, Christians deepen their knowledge of the mystery of Christ and witness joyfully the gift of faith in him.

Missionary: That the Christian communities of the Middle East, often discriminated against, receive from the Holy Spirit the strength of fidelity and perseverance.

January 2013 Volume 1, Issue 6

January is the month of the Holy Name of Jesus

Marlene's Musings

Happy New Year! ***We Have Seen the Lord – As People of Faith***

It's especially exciting to begin a new year with a new theme. It should energize us at all levels in the League. For the next two years, the national theme ***We Have Seen the Lord*** will guide us in our planning and actions. This year the provincial subtheme ***As People of Faith*** is especially appropriate during this Year of Faith as we focus on ways to strengthen our knowledge and understanding of our Catholic faith. What are you doing to increase your faith this year?

We are invited to participate in the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity this month and throughout the year. Christians all over the world will explore, in ecumenical fellowship, what it means to do justice, to love kindness and to walk humbly with God as they focus on the question: *What does God require of us?* (cf. Micah 6:6-8) Search online and learn more about the eight subthemes (www.vatican.va).

As we begin this year, let us go forward joyfully and with great hope. Best wishes for a successful year!

Blessings,
Marlene

Humber Valley Speaks Out

On December 17th 2011 the CWL councils of Immaculate Conception, St Margaret Mary and St Padre Pio combined. Representatives met with the Honourable Julian Fantino MP Vaughan to discuss the legal challenge made by the British Columbia Civil Liberties Association to the Attorney General of Canada regarding the decriminalization of Assisted Suicide and Euthanasia in Canada. Encouraged by Minister Fantino's support the Project Challenge was born.

Phase 1 was launched at the

Toronto Diocesan 90th Annual Convention in May 2012. Display boards and pamphlets provided information on Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide and the dangers it posed, specifically for people with disabilities and the vulnerable elderly.

Phase 2 carried the message further to the community of Vaughan. On September 20, 2012 over 120 guests and speakers attended the *Euthanasia and Elder Care Awareness Evening* at Immaculate Conception Parish in Woodbridge. The presentations by Minister

Fantino, Father Robert O'Brien, Spiritual Advisor for the CWL Diocese of Toronto, and representatives from Hospice Vaughan and Toronto Right to Life were well received. Attention was given to the care of the elderly and hospice care. Truly a community effort!



Members from the three councils meeting with Honourable Julian Fantino, MP Vaughan

Happy New Year from the Toronto Diocesan Council !

How fitting that our diocesan theme for 2013 is We Have ***Seen the Lord in the Faces of Many*** since we can offer you greetings in any of the different languages from 36 ethnic and linguistic communities that make up our church in the archdiocese. Our councils are therefore very multi-culturally diverse and each is unique.

Our councils understand the need for their involvement in their parish communities, to promote their neighbourhoods as places to be proud of; and the Community Life projects outlined here are as diverse as the communities they serve.

President, Mary Hawkley

PRAYER OF THE MONTH

Jesus, the very thought of Thee With sweetness fills the breast! Yet sweeter far Thy face to see And in Thy presence rest. No voice can sing, no heart can frame, Nor can the memory find, A sweeter sound than Jesus' name, The Savior of mankind. O hope of every contrite heart! O joy of all the meek! To those who fall, how kind Thou art! How good to those who seek! But what to those who find? Ah! this Nor tongue nor pen can show The love of Jesus, what it is, None but His loved ones know. Jesus! our only hope be Thou, As Thou our prize shalt be; In Thee be all our glory now, And through eternity. Amen.

---Roman Breviary

Link to the Litany of the Most Holy Name of Jesus

<http://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/prayers/view.cfm?id=903>

Laps for Literacy

St. Patrick's, Markham



"Laps for Literacy" is a 5 km walk-a-thon held every two years, in June to raise awareness and

fund for literacy programs in the St. Patrick parish elementary schools as well as building relationships with community, parents and church.

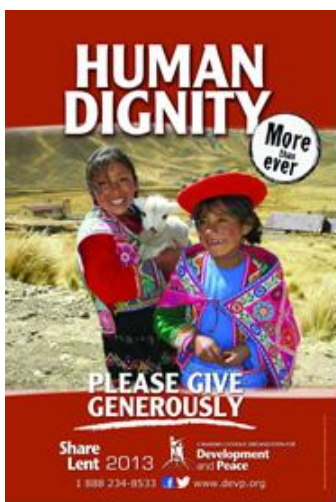
The St. Patrick Parish schools, community and parish are invited to participate in a walk-a-thon and BBQ, beginning with an outdoor Mass. Local dignitaries participate at the official launch of the walk and then everyone

joins in on the fun with raffles, music, face painting, and "Clifford".

The first event held on June 6, 2011, raised \$10,000 in donations from business sponsors, participating schools, and church families, which was distributed to the schools.



Development and Peace – Share Lent Campaign Begins Ash Wednesday, February 14



Share Lent campaign material is now available on the D&P national website. To receive material in time for Lent, place orders before January 16 and allow up to one month for delivery. (Orders can no longer be sent by Priority or Express Post.) The following tools have been developed to help us learn more about Development and Peace's Share Lent campaign and

make it known. Materials include Human Dignity poster, Mini-Magazine, Solidarity Calendar, Solidarity Cards, Organizer's Guide, Solidarity Booklet, - THINKfast poster, and Share Year-Round Monthly Giving Brochure.

The general order form is available at:

<http://www.devp.org/sharelent/order>.

Hunger Count 2012

In their report on hunger and food banks use in Canada titled, *Hunger Count 2012*, Food Banks Canada states "The need for Canada's charitable food assistance programs grew in 2012, and they are now assisting more people than ever. In March 2012, 882,188 people received food from a food bank in Canada.

The ten most needed items at a food bank are: baby formula, canned meals, juice boxes, canned fish/meat, soup, canned fruit, powdered milk, canned vegetables, pasta & pasta sauce, and healthy cereal. The full report can be read at:

<http://www.foodbankscanada.ca/getmedia/3b946e67-fbe2-490e-90dc-4a313dfb97e5/HungerCount2012.pdf.aspx>.

St. Gregory the Great Council, Oshawa, Ontario

In an effort to improve the quality of living in our community, we hosted a free "Harvest Dinner" for our neighbours in need. Working with St. Vincent de Paul, Knights of Columbus, parish volunteers and students from local High Schools we cooked a full Thanksgiving dinner, and served over 100 meals, with many taking home take-out for a second meal. The following day St. Vincent de Paul volunteers were making their visits, and one woman expressed that she was treated so well, especially from the students, that she actually felt like a "somebody" Maybe this dinner has changed a life. (Pictured below we see Erica Boone, the student, service the family)



"Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." (Matt 2:13)

Welcome the Stranger

Joseph and Mary faced a death threat against their son. Upon divine counsel, they sought asylum in Egypt. Just as The Holy Family had to flee out of Israel, there are many people today who are being driven out of their homeland.

Refugees are people who have been forced to flee their country because of persecution, war, or violence. In Syria alone there are currently almost 400,000 refugees either registered or waiting for registration in neighbouring countries.

The theme of Pope Benedict XVI's annual message for the 99th World Day of Migrants and Refugees, is "Migrations: pilgrimage of faith and hope". His message contains many principles of Catholic social teaching: the call to family, community and participation; rights and responsibilities; helping the poor and vulnerable; solidarity; protection for asylum seekers and refugees; respect for human rights and dignity. The day will be celebrated on January 20.

Please read the complete message at http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/benedict_xvi/messages/migration/documents/hf_ben-xvi_mes_20121012_world-migrants-day_en.html.

The 2nd National Catholic Conference on Resettlement was held in Toronto last month, presided over by His Eminence Thomas Cardinal Collins, with the theme, "With One Voice – We are the Hope". Three main goals were: to focus on refugee resettlement, to strengthen networking and cooperation among refugee sponsors within the Catholic Church, and to establish a Catholic Refugee Sponsorship Council. More information on how we can help achieve these goals will be available in the coming months.

As Jesus asks of us, let's welcome the stranger. After all, aren't we all migrants on a journey to our eternal homeland? May our Lady of Good Counsel lead us home to her son, Jesus!

“Velma’s Dream” A Holy Land Mission for Children and Youth was introduced by Velma Harrison, CWL National President at the 91st Annual Convention.

As the League Prayer implores “Teach us to share with others at home and abroad the good thing, You have given us”. CWL members of the St. Bartholomew’s Parish, Scarborough Region, Ontario, held a fundraiser in support of “Velma’s Dream”. The function, entitled “A Garden Tea House” was held in the garden of CWL member Sonia DaCosta-Spence. It was well attended and we had “High Tea” with the ambience and setting and fit for the Royal Family. It was an afternoon of togetherness, fun and laughter, with delightful scrumptious English delicacies. \$630.00 was raised towards the cause.



(l-r Back row standing) May; Marie Woon-Fat; Sonia DaCosta-Spence; Maria Lim. (l-3rd row standing): Lisa Silva, Theresa Greasley; Maria Kong; Brenda Bourne; Mary Charbonneau; Anne Wylie; Michelle Maulucci. (l-2 row standing) Ramona Coutinho; Joan Tang; Shirley Fung; Phyllis Chan; Veronica Kong; Maily. (l-r front row sitting) Lise Chung; Marcelle Glean; Sheilah D’Souza; Annette Van Kemp; Roslyn O-Connor.



Procession at Midland

October 21, 2012 marked The canonization of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha , “Lily of of the Mohawks”, in Midland, ON. Many Catholic Women’s League members attended.

Inserts:
Left: Valerie Egerton, Toronto Diocesan Community Life Standing Chair
Right: Margaret Ann Jacobs, National Chairperson of Christian Family Life, with Romalda Pottage

Catch the Fire!

The first official “Catch the Fire” session in the Toronto Diocese was held on Saturday, November 24th at Nativity of Our Lord Parish with 110 members in attendance. The session was led by four gifted ladies, Mary Ellen Stinson, Carole Pitcher, Lucia Vacca and Donna Capobianco (left to right in the photo). Judging from the feedback, the members caught the “Spark” and the “Fire” is definitely starting to spread across our Diocese.



Up-coming Events

January 3
Most Holy Name of Jesus

January 6
Epiphany of the Lord

January 7
Ukrainian Christmas

January 13
Baptism of the Lord

January 12
St. Margaret Bourgeoys

January 20
World Day of Migrants and Refugees

January 21
St. Agnes

January 22
Day of Prayer for Unborn

January 24
St. Francis de Sales
Our Lady of Peace

January 25
Solemnity of the Conversion of St. Paul

January 28
St. Thomas Aquinas

January 31
St. John Bosco

January 31 – February 2
Ontario Provincial Council
Winter Meeting, Toronto, ON

CWL is On-Line!
www.cwl.ca National
www.cwl.on.ca Provincial