



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

ON-LINE NEWSLETTER



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Many thanks to John Schelling, official photographer, for all the pictures. View all the photos at cwlpictures.blogspot.ca

Resolutions Dialogue

Delegates spent time together discussing the one resolution brought forward for consideration. Prior to the discussions, a mini workshop was presented by the resolutions and legislations chairpersons. Resolution ON.13.01 Reduce the Stigma Attached to Mental Illness was discussed by a large crowd.



July 2013 Special Edition

Convention news - 2013

Flag Raising - City Hall

On Friday, July 6, 2013 the CWL flag was raised to fly above City hall for the convention week. In her remarks, President Marlene Pavletic extended thanks on behalf of members to all city council for generously recognizing the Catholic Women's League of Canada and our over 50,000 members in Ontario. She stated that the flag raising was an historic event, a rare happening in Canada. Mayor Hobbs said that the CWL was a part of his life growing up as his mother is a member (formerly from St. Andrew's parish). The Mayor congratulated members for the good works they do in their parishes and in the community. Reverend Terry Sawchuk, Spiritual Advisor, Thunder Bay Diocese, spoke of how members bring the Gospel message to others by their actions.



Opening Liturgy and Official Ceremonies



The Opening Liturgy was celebrated at St. Patrick Cathedral. Prior to mass beginning, a woman's drum group from St. Kateri Parish welcomed and blessed delegates through their songs.

Most Reverend Bishop Fred Colli, Bishop of Thunder Bay and Provincial Spiritual Advisor was the celebrant. A number of diocesan and parish Spiritual Advisors concelebrated. Following the mass, dignitaries from across the city and diocese brought greetings. Delegates heard words of welcome and encouragement from a variety of dignitaries. Most memorable was the entrance of Chief Georjann Morriseau, Chief of Fort William First Nations and her message

of sisterhood among all women. Following the official opening of the convention, declared by the provincial corresponding secretary, delegates enjoyed a time of fellowship in the parish hall.



Pictured here: Chief Georjann Morriseau and Betty Colaneri



Msgr. P. Stilla, Keynote



Anne Jamieson

A Mary Monday

Using a scriptural Rosary, Bishop Colli led the delegates in the first decade of the Joyful Mysteries – the Annunciation. We heard Mary's call to service and her "Yes!" reply. After lunch the awe-filled prayer service centred on Mary as we prayed her Litany. As the choir led us in singing the hymn to *Our Lady of Good Counsel*, diocesan presidents graced Our Lady with beautiful white roses and Marlene crowned her.

Speakers Inspire Delegates

Monday's business sessions began with routine but necessary agenda items. Keynote speaker, Msgr Pat Stilla, V.G., inspired delegates with his presentation entitled *Celebrations and Challenges as Women of Faith*. He stated that life challenges are not necessarily problems but rather times when we can get excited to solve those challenges. He used Station VI as an

example of how we as women can bring joy to outcomes that are out of our control.

Betty Ann Brown Davidson thanked provincial president Marlene Pavletic for her service at the National table. She enthusiastically spoke of the pending National Convention being held in August in Regina, Saskatchewan.

Speaker Anne Jamieson, Director of Catechesis, Diocese of Hamilton,

spoke on the *Spiritual Resiliency of Women*. She stated that being resilient means being able to bounce back. It is important to remember that we never walk alone. We are always in relationship with Jesus. Her two most noteworthy statements were: "Children are not care-less, rather they are care-free" and "we have seen the Lord, because he is". The day closed with a faith-filled celebration of the liturgy.

Business Continues on Tuesday

Tuesday began with the Eucharist, celebrated by Bishop Colli. The presentation of the Resolution ON.13.01 Reduce the Stigma Attached to Mental Illness followed. It will now be forwarded to the National Resolutions Committee for consideration at the National Convention in Regina, Sask. this August.

Reports were heard from the 13 diocesan presidents. Each spoke about ways councils are embracing the theme *We Have Seen the Lord – As People of Faith*. You can read the reports on the provincial website.

We were truly blessed with the presence of Grand Chief Harvey Yesno during the lunch hour. He spoke of the hardships of treaty rights, the impact of residential schools, the unemployment rate and the cost of groceries in our Northern communities, which in turn affects the health and well-being of these people. National President Betty Ann Brown Davidson and Provincial President Marlene Pavletic were gifted with beautiful hand sewn and beaded moccasins. Grand Chief Yesno stated he was honoured to have the opportunity to open doors for discussion with League members.

Tuesday afternoon, standing committee reports were heard. They too spoke on the theme. (See convention reports online) Of particular note was the "Catch the Fire!" presentation, which led to singing and dancing in the aisles. An informative workshop followed.

Patricia Rivest: *How to Plan a Prayer Service*

Vern Lynn Bergeron: "It's when knowledge moves from our head into our heart that we become passionate, and we truly hear the call to service".

Mary Jane Yaeger: The ministries of the Christian Family Life standing committee.

Carol Richer closed the workshop with the convener's prayer and blessing.



President Marlene Pavletic,
crowns Mary.

Bishop Colli celebrates Liturgy
assisted by Rev Terry Sawchuk (l)
and Mrsg. Pasquale Stilla (r).



Spiritual Advisors Luncheon

As part of their discussions, Bishop Colli asked the Spiritual Advisors to think about the Year of Faith, and its influence on the spiritual development of League members. They also discussed how the Diocesan Spiritual Advisor can support the Parish Spiritual Advisors in their diocese; and finally a few comments on the Role of the Spiritual Advisor. The full report is posted on the provincial website. (Spiritual Advisor, Convention Report 2013)



Life Members Luncheon

Life members joined together for a luncheon hosted by Provincial Life Member Liaison, Donna Shaddick. The time was spent renewing friendships and welcoming new life members: Mary Jane Yaeger (Hamilton) Carol Richer (Kingston), Patricia Rivest (London) and Marlin Taylor (Toronto). A prayer service to remember deceased members was held. Honoured were: Joan Monette (Ottawa), Joan Durand (Sault Ste Marie), Sheila Howard (London), Dorothy Bird (Hamilton) and Connie Lavallee (Timmings). Bernadette Burgess was appointed the new provincial life member liaison for 2013 – 2015.



We Have Seen the Lord

National Anne Brown Davidson presented a very moving account of how she arrived at the national theme while sharing personal stories. Through a variety of activities, she encouraged each of us to look into the eyes of our league sisters to find Jesus.

6:00 am on a cool and damp morning
did not stop this enthusiastic group.



Sunrise Ceremony led by Elder Cindy Crowe
Spirit Garden, Marina Park



Grand Chief Yesno addresses delegates.



Registration Table
hard at work.

"Gotta love those
Ambassadors!"



Members presented a Spiritual Bouquet and prayer shawl to Edith Mockler, Parliamentarian in thanksgiving for her service. Pictured here are delegates giving her a blessing.

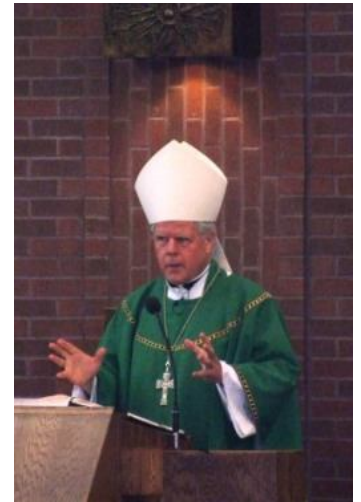
2013 – 2015 Provincial Executive

President	Betty Colaneri
President Elect	Pauline Krupa (Organization)
First Vice President	Anne Madden (Spiritual Development)
Second Vice President	Colleen Randall (Communications)
Recording Secretary	Patricia Rivest
Treasurer	Lucy Hendrix
Corresponding Secretary	Jeannie Coleman
Past President	Marlene Pavletic (Historian)
Standing Committee Chairs	
Christian Family Life	Marlin Taylor
Community Life	Mary Jane Yaeger
Education and Health	Carol Richer
Legislation	Linda Squarzolo
Resolutions	Rosanne Sogan



May Our Lady of Good Counsel guide you as you journey in your service to God and Canada

Closing Liturgy



The Closing Mass was celebrated at St. Agnes Church. Most Reverend Bishop Gerard Bergie, Bishop of St. Catharines Diocese and newly installed Provincial Spiritual Advisor was the main celebrant. In his homily, Bishop Bergie expressed his excitement in his new role stating it would be a growing experience for him and a time to learn from members.



Newly elected executive is blessed by Bishop Bergie.



Betty's family at the Closing Mass

The "Un-conventioal!"

St. Anthony's Pasta Night

Kitchen Crew

They sure worked so hard to provide an extraordinary meal.



Trivia Night Master of Ceremonies and Magician Joshua Sullivan up to one of his tricks!

Adrianna – the techno queen!



Thanks St. Anthony's CWL!

Dancing the night away with Quest



Resolutions Skit – a one women teaching experience.



Vendors ready to sell their ware



Taking a moment to renew and make new friendships.

The St. Catharines gang surrounds the big flame during the Gala Banquet.

This *Catch the Fire!* creation came all the way from their diocese
Thanks for sharing!



Peterborough Diocese asks:

"Are you ready for the masquerade?"

See you in Cobourg – July 2014



Thanks, Thunder Bay!