



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



ON-LINE NEWSLETTER

March 2013 Volume 1, Issue 8

March is dedicated to St. Joseph

Marlene's Musings



As we begin this month, we pray that the Holy Spirit will inspire and strengthen the Cardinal-electors as they choose a new Holy Father to lead us in faith, love and service.

March brings St. Patrick's Day. St. Patrick dedicated his life to spreading Christianity. It is believed he used the three-leaved shamrock as a symbol for the Holy Trinity. March 17 (the day he died) was declared his feast day. In Newfoundland & Labrador it's a public holiday. We all become a little bit Irish on that day! By month end, we enter Holy Week. The Easter Triduum marks the end of Lent and commemorates the heart of our faith: the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is the culmination of the entire liturgical year and encompasses three days: Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil when we come together as people of God to celebrate our faith. Let us enter fully into the Easter Triduum and experience the transformation it brings. Best wishes for a holy and joyful Easter.

Blessings, Marlene

Bringing Joy to Evergreen Lodge

It is through the generosity of the parishioners at St. Peter the Apostle Parish in North Bay that the Catholic Women's League can offer so many wonderful gifts, including slippers, pajamas, hats, scarves, mitts and candies to the residents of the Evergreen Lodge. We made an appointment to visit on December the 19th 2012 and arrived with a car full of packages. We were warmly greeted and were served

refreshments consisting of coffee and Christmas cookies. We had an opportunity to visit with some of the residents. It was a rewarding experience to

see first hand how some mentally challenged individuals cope on a day to day basis.

In the picture, from left to right: Ann Robb-Mathieu, Communications Chair

Person, Marcelle Beaulieu, President, and Colleen Devoe, Community Life Chairperson.



In This Issue

Marlene's Musings	1
Bringing Joy to Evergreen Lodge	1
Catch the Fire Team	2
Prayer of the Month	2
Pinning Ceremony	2
Catholic Schools Update	2
Councils Amalgamate	3
Regional Prayer Service	3
Tidbits	3
Up Coming Dates	3
Holy Redeemer Donates	4
Catholic School Morsels	4
New Spiritual Advisor	4
Support A Senior Donation	4
Studies Completed	4

Our thanks to Sault Ste Marie Diocesan Council and provincial Education and Health Standing Committee chairperson for their submissions.

PAPAL INTENTION

General: That respect for nature may grow with the awareness that all creation is God's work entrusted to human responsibility.

Missionary: That bishops, priests and deacons may be tireless messengers of the Gospel to the ends of the earth.

Catch the Fire! Team Ready

The Sault Ste. Marie Catch the Fire Team is ready to bring the new program to members in North Eastern Ontario. The team is made up of Sault Ste. Marie Diocesan executive members Linda Squarzollo President, Betsy Currier Recording Secretary, Karen MacDonald First Vice President and Sudbury Regional Chair and Anna Tremblay President Elect and Organization Chair.



PRAYER OF THE MONTH

A Prayer to St. Joseph

O blessed Joseph, faithful guardian of my Redeemer, Jesus Christ, protector of thy chaste spouse, the virgin Mother of God, I choose thee this day to be my special patron and advocate and I firmly resolve to honor thee all the days of my life. Therefore I humbly beseech thee to receive me as thy client, to instruct me in every doubt, to comfort me in every affliction, to obtain for me and for all the knowledge and love of the Heart of Jesus, and finally to defend and protect me at the hour of my death. Amen

"I know by experience," says St. Teresa of Avila, "that the glorious St. Joseph assists us generally in all necessities. I never asked him for anything which he did not obtain for me."

Pinning Ceremony



St. Bartholomew Council of Levack held their pinning ceremony on November 14, 2012. Members received 10, 25, 40 and 50 year service pins.

Elise Charron is the first member of the council to sit on the Diocesan Executive. She is presented a certificate of merit from St.

Bartholomew President Noella Lefebvre and First Vice President Juanita Shayer. Elise is the new Resolutions Chair of the Sault Ste. Marie Diocesan Executive.



Congratulations to all!

Catholic Schools – An Update

(taken from comments by Marino Gazzola OCSTA president)

According to the CD Howe Institute, of the top 29 schools in Ontario, nearly two-thirds are Catholic schools. This is a noteworthy achievement given that our system costs no more per student than the other publically funded systems. In Catholic schools we go beyond the pure teaching of academics. We educate students to embrace a perspective that acknowledges our spiritual connection to each other

and the social responsibility we willingly assume to have respect and care for all people—regardless of race, creed, gender, sexuality, culture, or economic status. The Catholic educational system at once seems both separate from the mainstream and yet very much a part of it. If you were to step into a Catholic school classroom to examine the students there, you would see the kind of cultural diversity and range of academic ability that you might see in any secular

public school. The difference is the recognition and teaching of a value system that highlights above all else in the curriculum our connectedness to each other—not our differences. That's a message Catholic schools are hoping to amplify not just for the benefit of Catholic education but for the future success of all schools in our province.

Councils Amalgamate

Two parish CWL councils in the Diocese of Sault Ste. Marie have amalgamated. Christ the King and Holy Trinity have joined to become Christ the King Council. The two presidents and all of the members of both executives will continue to serve both parish CWL council members. The amalgamation process was facilitated by Honorary Life Member Lucille Cullen and Spiritual Advisor Father Brian Dixon.



Up-coming Events

- March 10**
Laetare Sunday
- March 17**
St. Patrick
- March 19**
The Solemnity of Joseph
- March 24**
Palm Sunday
- March 25**
The Annunciation of the Lord
- March 28 – Holy Thursday**
Mass of the Lord's Supper
- March 29 – Good Friday**
Celebration of the Lord's Passion
- March 30 – Holy Saturday**
Easter Vigil
- March 31**
Easter Sunday
- April 7**
Divine Mercy Sunday

Tidbits

St. Joseph, spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Confessor and Patron of the Universal Church

There are many prayers and devotions to St. Joseph including a Litany and Chaplet. An interesting devotion has to do with real estate. According to tradition, when someone is trying to sell a house, a blessed statue of St. Joseph is buried upside near the For Sale sign. A daily prayer to St. Joseph is recited. Once the home is sold the statue should be given a place of honour and a permanent location in the new home.

Catholic Education Week Theme 2013

This year's theme "Growing Together in Faith" was announced in the fall. Information packages are available on line for parishes. Watch to see how your local school board will celebrate this week. For complete information visit the website.



*"That Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith,
as you are being rooted and grounded in love."
Ephesians 3:17*

Regional Prayer Service



Sister Roberta Low, Sault Ste. Marie Regional Spiritual Advisor facilitated a Regional Prayer Service on November 19, 2012 at St. Jerome Parish. The service, entitled "The Cup of My Life" involved those in attendance sharing why they chose the cup they brought and praying for God's blessing of the cup as a sacred vessel.

Holy Redeemer Council Donates to Maison Vale



Sudbury's Maison Vale Inco Hospice has recently received a generous donation of \$1,000.00 to purchase a bench for their Memorial Garden. The Holy Redeemer Council's theme for 2009 – 2011 was *"Women of Peace and Hope."* To translate these words into action

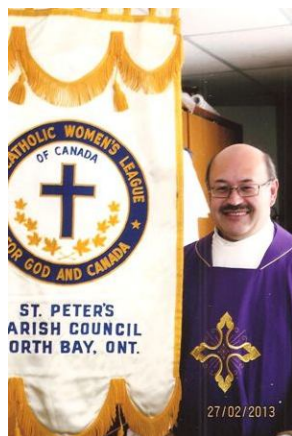
they focused on palliative care and reaching out to women of other cultures and backgrounds. Making the presentation to Mr. Leo Therrien are CWL members Bev Michaud, President, Emma Goedhuis and Noren Cahill.

Catholic Education Morsels

Last year, Statistics Canada and the Council of Ministers of Education released statistics showing that 90 per cent of people in Ontario aged 25 to 64 have successfully completed high school—an increase of four per cent since 2003. This is well above the international average of 74 per cent. Ontario's publicly funded education system is clearly doing something right. But what are Ontario's Catholic schools doing differently to help students to realize their full potential?

For 75 years, the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association (OCSTA) has dedicated itself to the promotion and development of the Catholic school system in Ontario. A major activity of the Association is to represent the point of view, the aspirations and the needs of Catholic school boards to the provincial government and, on occasion, to the federal government.

Roman Catholic trustees elected by Catholic ratepayers carry out their role in a system founded on and nurtured by the convictions and commitments of the Catholic faith. The same distinction guides the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association in providing services to its member boards.



In September of 2012, St. Peter's Catholic Women's League in North Bay welcomed Father Anthony Man-Son-Hing as their new Spiritual Advisor. Welcome Father Tony!

Pat Monpetit, Executive Director, Alzheimer Society Sudbury-Manitoulin, accepts a cheque for \$850.00 from Bev Michaud representing Holy Redeemer CWL. The donation will support the Sponsor-A-Senior program that assists seniors with dementia living on fixed incomes so they can attend the day program.



Anna Tremblay, President Elect of the Sault Ste. Marie Diocesan Executive Council recently received a Diploma in Theological Studies from the Newman Theological College in Edmonton Alberta. Well done Anna!