



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

ON-LINE NEWSLETTER



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May is the month of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Marlene's Musings

Catch the Fire is spreading in Ontario! Facilitators are training members to go into their parishes to both ignite and re-ignite the flame. The good news of the League is about to come to your parish. Invite **all** women of the parish to attend the workshop. Ontario is privileged to have two "Sparks", Hilarion Mitchell and Andrea Tjioe, who will help spread the enthusiasm and excitement. Provincial Council hosted a training day for diocesan organization chairpersons last November. This *Year of Faith* calls us to grow in our faith and to share it with others. Catherine of Siena said: "*Be who you are meant to be and you will set the world on fire*". Let's live these words as we embark on this national project to revitalize the League.

In addition, national council is holding a contest that will reward development and participation at the parish level. Two parish councils with the highest rate of participation will have their 2014 national per capita fees waived. Keep tuned for further details.

Blessings, Marlene

Ontario Provincial Meetings with Government



President-Elect each September. Copies of the briefs are sent to the Premier and the Opposition Critic Leaders. Invitations and copies of the brief are also sent to the Members of Provincial Parliament that we wish to have an audience with. Dates and times are coordinated through the Minister's administrative secretaries. During our 30-minute meetings with the MPPs, current resolutions and concerns that members have brought forward are discussed. The Ministers and/or their Senior Policy

Advisors inform us as to where the Government stands on the issues and what sort of follow-up might be expected in the future. Following the meetings a report is drafted by the Government Visiting Committee, which consists of the president, president-elect, past-president, legislation and resolution chairpersons. Further action items are sent out to the members through the various committees.

Planning begins immediately following the National Convention. All the National and Provincial Resolutions that were accepted at the two conventions are compiled into a brief. The brief is sent to the Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario (ACBO) prior to the meeting with the Provincial President and

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Our thanks to the Pembroke and Peterborough Diocesan Councils and Ontario Provincial Resolutions Standing Committee Chair for their submissions.	

PAPAL INTENTION:

General:

That administrators of justice may act always with integrity and right conscience

Missionary:

That seminaries, especially those of mission Churches, may form pastors after the Heart of Christ, fully dedicated to proclaiming the Gospel

PRAYER OF THE MONTH

TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY FOR MAY

O most august and blessed Virgin Mary! Holy Mother of God! glorious Queen of heaven and earth! powerful protectress of those who love thee, and unailing advocate of all who invoke thee! look down, I beseech thee, from thy throne of glory on thy devoted child; accept the solemn offering I present thee of this month, specially dedicated to thee, and receive my ardent, humble desire, that by my love and fervour I could worthily honor thee, who, next to God, art deserving of all honor. Receive me, O Mother of Mercy, among thy best beloved children; extend to me thy maternal tenderness and solicitude; obtain for me a place in the Heart of Jesus, and a special share in the gifts of His grace. O deign, I beseech thee, to recognize my claims on thy protection, to watch over my spiritual and temporal interests, as well as those of all who are dear to me; to infuse into my soul the spirit of Christ, and to teach me thyself to become meek, humble, charitable, patient, and submissive to the will of God. May my heart bum with the love of thy Divine Son, and of thee, His blessed Mother, not for a month alone, but for time and eternity; may I thirst for the promotion of His honour and thine, and contribute, as far as I can, to its extension. Receive me, O Mary, the refuge of sinners! Grant me a Mother's blessing and a Mother's care, now, and at the hour of my death. Amen.

Peterborough 92nd Diocesan Convention

Peterborough Diocese celebrated their 92nd Catholic Women's League Convention April 20th/21st. They were blessed to have National President, Betty Anne Brown-Davidson and Provincial President, Marlene Pavletic attend. Bishop De Angelis concelebrated the Mass. Saturday Betty Anne spoke on discipleship and our role as woman

to spread God's word and love one another as Jesus loved us. Sunday Marlene shared the Cornerstones of Faith, written by Fr. Ron Rolheiser. Keynote speaker, Dr. Josephine Lombardi expanded on the Year of Faith. They left us spiritually filled with a better understanding of God's plan for us in the way we choose to live our lives. Councils brought new and used items and monetary

donations for 4 shelters in southern Diocese. Saturday evening featured a 50's dance, with poodle skirts, dancing, hula hoop and yo-yo contests and sisterhood shared. (See photos on pg. 5)



Pembroke Diocesan's Resolution Challenge

At the Fall Meeting hosted by the ladies of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Lapasse and Our Lady of Grace, Westmeath, Pembroke Diocesan Resolution Chairperson, Carmel Rumleskie initiated a challenge to every council to study one of the past resolutions and bring a display to the Diocesan Spring meeting April 6th hosted by St. Michaels council in Douglas, Ontario. This challenge was introduced to encourage councils to become more involved in the study of resolutions. The best display would earn \$50.00 to attend the Diocesan convention in May.



St. Michael's Council, Douglas On, won for their display depicting how they studied National Resolution 2011.04 **Caffeine In Energy Drinks.**

Our Lady of Fatima Council, Renfrew On, won for their display demonstrating their action plans of Ontario Resolution 2012.01 **Infrared Breast Screening Thermography.**

News from Pembroke Diocesan Council

The Pembroke Diocese is made up of 33 Councils in Ontario and Quebec with the Ottawa River running between. Most of the councils are small but active in their devotion to the League, their parish and community.

BE A DONOR

On October 27 the Pembroke Diocese Fall meeting was held in Lapasse hosted by the councils of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Lapasse and Our Lady of Grace, Westmeath. Colleen Randall, Past President of the Ottawa Diocese was a guest for the day. Suzanne Mullins, Newsletter Editor and Secretary gave an informative workshop entitled 'Be a Donor'. Input on the Canadian Bioethics Institute pamphlet 'Catholic Prospective on Organ Donation' was given by Carmel Rumleskie as well as her personal reflections being a relative of a recipient. Guest speaker, Joanna Sisk spoke about her journey to receiving a kidney transplant and her life since. Most interesting was the question and answer period following the workshop.

PEMBROKE DIOCESAN ANNUAL DAY OF REFLECTION

On December 8th members attended the Annual Day of Reflection held in Barry's Bay at St. Lawrence O'Toole Parish. Guest speaker Pat Duggan reminded members this was also the Feast of the Immaculate Conception when Our Lady appeared to St. Catherine Laboure. Pat shared some of the many titles for Our Lady throughout the world. Pat spoke to us about praying from the heart and reminded us to pray to Mary for grace and strength in this year of faith. Members appreciated this spiritual day of prayers, hymns and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Other guest speakers, Maria Reilander and Christine Schintgen, staff members from Our Lady Seat of Wisdom Academy in Barry's Bay, presented the history of the school and the various programs offered. Our day also included a beautiful tribute and memorial service to honour the deceased members and spiritual advisors of the Pembroke Diocese.

Catch the Fire

Although the Pembroke Diocese has yet to host this workshop we had the opportunity to attend a Development Day in the Ottawa Diocese on March 23 where ladies from the Kingston Diocese were presenting Catch the Fire. On short notice 7 ladies from across the Pembroke diocese were able to share the flame. We all agreed it was a day worth attending and are most anxious to fan the flame to our fellow League members.



25th Anniversary Celebrated in Peterborough Diocese

Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Women's League in Bobcaygeon celebrated their 25th anniversary on April 27th. Mass was celebrated by Bishop Nicola De Anglis at 6 p.m. followed by a reception in the church hall. Our Diocesan President, Margaret Van Meeuwen, presented a 25 year certificate on behalf of the Diocese. Loretta Falls, a charter member, was presented her 25 year pin and gave an interesting history of their journey since 1988. Jose Foote and Mary Mayer were also presented 25 year pins. Margo Fitzsimmons was presented with her 40 year pin. Congratulations to all!

Resolutions

Resolutions are one of the ways that allow members to fulfill the objectives of the League. We do this:

- to inform CWL members
- to inform government
- to establish policy
- to plan programs
- to request action
- to express views
- to criticize existing conditions
- to motivate members
- to commend/thank
- as a non-political body, we have the freedom to take sides for just causes
- to speak for those who may not be able to speak for themselves
- to share our values

What do resolutions have to do with the CWL?

It is a means:

- to work for transformation of our world
- of taking sides when necessary in the struggle for justice
- to influence authority
- to educate CWL members
- to favourably affect peoples lives
- to bring about changes

Purses With a Purpose

St. Alponus Liguori, Wooler Catholic Women's League tried a different Christmas sharing initiative in December – "Purses With A Purpose". Their parish was asked to bring in unused purses and personal hygiene items, as well as quiet children's games/toys. Then each purse was filled with the various items and distributed to two different women's shelters within their community. The purses were very well received and much appreciated.

Denise Brennan and Bonnie Acton deliver purses to women's shelters



Up-coming Events

May 5 – 11

Catholic Education Week in Ontario

May 12

Ascension of the Lord
World Communications Day
Mother's Day

May 12 – 19

National Week for Life and Family

May 13

Our Lady of Fatima

May 14

St. Matthias, Apostle

May 16

St. Simon Stock

May 19

Pentecost

May 24

Dedication of the Basilica of St.
Francis of Assisi

May 26

Trinity Sunday

May 30

Corpus Christi

May 31

Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary





Quilt draw prizes fund raiser

Peterborough to Host 2014 Provincial Convention

Peterborough Diocese is hosting the 2014 Provincial Convention in Cobourg on July 7th-10th. The convention committee along with the Diocesan Council have been working hard preparing for this event. One of the fundraisers is a raffle draw. Tickets were distributed to parish presidents at our Diocesan Convention for sale within their parish communities. There will be a delegation of members attending the Provincial in Thunder Bay this July to invite and encourage your attendance at the 2014 Convention. Make your plans now to attend this wonderful opportunity to be spirit-filled and enlightened on the great works of your Catholic Women's League.

Highlights of Peterborough Convention in Photos



Ontario Provincial President addresses Members at the Peterborough Diocesan Convention



Members gather for Peterborough Diocesan Convention

Crowning of Mary



Parish presidents process with gifts for shelters



President Margaret Van Meeuwen, processing with Mary's crown

Have you registered for the 66th Annual Provincial Convention?
Full details on the provincial website
www.cwl.on.ca