



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



**ON-LINE NEWSLETTER**

**September 2013 Edition**

**Featuring Kingston Diocese and the Organization Standing Committee**

***We Have Seen the Lord – As People of Faith***

**In This Issue**

Betty's Blog	1
Marketing the League	1
The Fire is spreading	2
Kingston Diocesan Convention	2
Reflections on GUIDANCE	3
Come and See	3
Recognition	3
Tips for planning Catch the Fire	4
Membership	4

**Marketing the League**

Kingston Diocesan Council accepted an invitation from the Youth Office to provide a promotional display at The World Youth Day at Home held on Saturday, July 27<sup>th</sup> at St. Mary's Cathedral, Kingston. Members volunteered to distribute materials and answer questions from the youth and young adults participating in this successful one day event.



**Betty's Blog**



**Why the butterfly?**

What an honour and privilege to be sending this to you as your provincial president. I look forward to getting to know you better and sharing our stories. Allow me to begin by saying that symbolism is one thing that I find to be quite profound. This is why I chose the butterfly as my symbol for my two year term.

I had read a story that moved me greatly as the symbol of our story as followers of Jesus Christ. His resurrection story is our story. When the Lord took my sister home, the butterfly became very symbolic of her journey's end. Her struggle on earth prepared her to emerge into new life with wings that have unfurled with the breath of God.

This particular butterfly appealed to me because of its colours. The following are what the colours mean to me. The colour blue symbolizes Our Lady and one of the colours of The Catholic Women's League of Canada. The light blue symbolizes heavenly realm and prayer. White is another colour of the League and water from the Divine Mercy. Red symbolizes the Holy Spirit, the blood from the Divine Mercy, Catch the Fire and passion. Orange symbolizes healing, vitality, endurance, praise fruitfulness and JOY. The significance of the number 10 in the bible is a perfect number and perfection of divine order. It relates to the Ten Commandments, 10 clauses of The Lord's Prayer just to name a few.

I look forward to our journey together.  
Blessings and hugs,  
Betty.



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### ***The Fire is Spreading in Kingston Diocese***

At the conclusion of the fall season we will have gifted 20 parishes with the 'Catch the Fire' Workshop. With 12 trained facilitators ready and excited to spread the fire, they are looking forward to share the sisterhood and fellowship of the League. Participant's comments continue to inspire and ignite the fire. One member shared, *"I was stirred by each person's witness to the ways in which we have been touched by our calling and how each person's gift has benefited our League. The work to be done is not daunting, but a wonderful invitation"*.

### ***Kingston Diocesan Convention***

#### ***We Have Seen the Lord - As People of Faith***

Well chosen entertainment provided great fun, reports indicated a sense of fulfilment on the part of the outgoing officers, and the faith aspect was aptly handled by the judicious selection of speakers at the Annual Kingston Diocesan Convention in May. Father Tom Lynch addressed evangelization everyone can do; Dr. Josephine Lombardi helped us rediscover the Lord's Prayer; Eleanor Glenn shared thoughts on faith as a servant, and Pauline Krupa encouraged Praying It Forward. Election and installation of a new slate of officers, the awarding of Life Membership to Carol Richer and the musical talents of the Clerical Crew wrapped up a great weekend.

#### **The newly elected Kingston Diocesan Council**





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### ***Reflections on GUIDANCE***

When I meditated on the word GUIDANCE, I kept seeing "dance" at the end of the word. I remember reading that doing God's will is a lot like dancing. When two people try to lead, nothing feels right. The movement doesn't flow with the music, and everything is quite uncomfortable and jerky.

When one person realizes and lets the other lead, both bodies begin to flow with the music. One gives gentle cues, perhaps with a nudge to the back or by pressing lightly in one direction or another. It's as if two become one body, moving beautifully. The dance takes surrender, willingness, and attentiveness from one person and gentle guidance and skill from the other.

My eyes drew back to the word GUIDANCE. When I saw "G," I thought of God, followed by "u" and "i." "God, "u" and "i" dance."! God, you, and I dance. This statement is what guidance means.

As I lowered my head, I became willing to trust that I would get guidance about my life. Once again, I became willing to let God lead.

Dance together with God, trusting Him to lead and to guide you through each season of your life. Lord, guide us in your gentle mercy, for left to ourselves we cannot do your will.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. AMEN

*authorized for use by Knights of Columbus State Deputy Kevin Daudlin  
Taken from the "2013 Ontario State District Deputy Training Sessions"*

### ***Come and See***

This summer, members of the Kinston Diocesan Executive were gifted with a retreat, facilitated by our Diocesan Spiritual Advisor, Father Brian McNally. Father led us in two meditations with the invitation to 'Come & See-With Eyes Enlightened by Faith'. The first meditation invited us to focus on excerpts from Pope Francis' latest encyclical, "Lumen Fidei". The members were then encouraged to enter the practice of Lectio Divina for our second meditation. Celebrating the Feast of St. Bartholomew, our meditation focused on the gospel for the day, which further invited us to 'Come & See-and Encounter Jesus'. Our retreat culminated with Mass.



### ***Recognition***

New to the ON-Line newsletter – send in any pins and/or awards for publication

***St. Stimon & St. Jude Council in Belle River, ON London Diocese***

***New Members:*** Kathy Blyth, Geralyn Cote, Alicia Davey, Georgette Killaire

***10 Years:*** Annette Bellemore, Cathy Beneteau, Denise Jobin, Marcella Jobin, Dianne Mc Vitty, Jo Anne Tellier

***25 Years:*** Lorette Barrette, Jeanette Brady, Sharon Gagnier, Rita Meloche, Jeanne Rosati, Mariette St. Pierre, Sally Sauve

***40 Years:*** Jacqueline Denis-Benard

***May the blessings of the Lord be upon them- We bless them in the name of the Lord!***



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### ***Tips when Planning Catch the Fire! in your Parish***



Parishes across the province have one more year to plan and host *Catch the Fire!* Presentations. Barb Dowding National Organization Chair has stated that “through *Catch the Fire!* it is hoped that participants will experience our treasure, the faith, fun and fulfillment that we gain by belonging to the League.”

Here are a few tips when planning a presentation in your parish:

1. Plan how to best reach out to the women in your parish
  - a. Invite and welcome all women
  - b. Plan for your parish or a cluster of parishes
2. Gather your team
  - a. Ideally have four facilitators
  - b. Plan together and keep in touch with one another
3. Advertise well in advance
  - a. Prepare eye catching posters / use the bulletin / use personal invitation
  - b. Be inclusive
4. Gather resources
  - a. Prepare a kit with required resources (there should be one in your diocese)
  - b. Presentations require use of a laptop, LC projector, speakers and screen
5. Prepare the location
  - a. Make the room “ablaze” and bring your enthusiasm.
  - b. Use bright colours / dress the part
6. Post the overall goal and objectives
  - a. Use visuals – posters for each objective / post them as you go through the day
  - b. Use soft music in quiet times.

### ***Membership in The Catholic Women's League of Canada***

In a few short months councils will begin their membership drives. The time has come for us to make it well known that we are not the kitchen staff of the parish, nor are we the fundraisers. There is a small bit of that in councils we know, but today's woman is a missionary of the church, a disciple of Jesus, the new evangelizer and needed by humankind. We are respected by government at all levels as a strong voice for the voiceless. During your membership drives speak to all that we are as women who ***Have Seen the Lord***. Make personal contact with members who have not renewed in the past while. Find that young woman who desires to make a difference and let them know that together we can!