



September 2014 Edition

Featuring Ottawa and Alexandria Cornwall Dioceses and our Spiritual Advisor

We Have Seen the Lord

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Betty's Blog



Where has the summer gone? Fall is just around the corner and members are already back into the routine of preparing for meetings and workshops. The Peterborough Diocese did an excellent job of hosting our provincial convention in Cobourg. Details and reports of the provincial and national conventions are in the Trillium News and Views. We are thrilled and overjoyed that our past provincial presidents, Margaret Ann Jacobs and Shari Guinta were re-elected to the national council; Margaret Ann Jacobs as president-elect and Shari Guinta as secretary/treasurer. Conventions are such a wonderful time to re-connect with our sisters in The League, become spiritually enriched and gather knowledge to bring back to our councils. Once you catch the convention bug, you don't want to let go! The new theme beginning 2015 was announced with a presentation. "One Heart, One Voice, One Mission". It is a beautiful continuation of our present theme, "We Have Seen the Lord". Now that we have shared our stories with one another it's time to reach out and proclaim the good news with "One Heart, One Voice, One Mission". It was truly an honour and privilege to represent all the amazing members across Ontario at the national convention. What a humbling and emotional feeling I experienced at the opening and closing Eucharistic Celebrations as I carried the Ontario flag along with all the thoughts and prayers from my sisters across the province. Did you know that this was the first time that the national council had the president and spiritual advisor both from Ontario? On behalf of the Ontario Provincial Council, we extend our blessings and best wishes for your upcoming meetings and workshops. Please know that we are here to assist you on our journey together of mission, For God and Canada.

Pictured below: National Past President, Betty Anne Brown Davidson, National Spiritual Advisor, Bishop McGrattan, Provincial President, Betty Colaneri; Provincial Spiritual Advisor, Bishop Bergie.



Good things "Glow" in Ontario!



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



ON-LINE NEWSLETTER

The following is a submission from **Fr. Jerome, Diocesan Spiritual Advisor** from the diocese of Alexandria-Cornwall who attended the Provincial Convention for the first time in July:

Paging the Bible where this theme of the 2014 CWL Provincial Convention is located, I found the following texts:

WE HAVE SEEN THE LORD. (John 20:24).

This was a group testimony of the disciples who were witnesses of the Risen Lord to the doubting Thomas. Gathered in a locked and dark room, Jesus stood by them. The disciples sorrow turned to joy.

I HAVE SEEN THE LORD (John 20:18)

Having encountered personally the Risen Lord, now Mary Magdalene went proclaiming to the downcast disciples, **I HAVE SEEN THE LORD**. It was for her a journey from despair, looking for the stolen body of Jesus towards coming to faith in the risen Christ, and to the joy of announcing this good news.

The appearances of the Risen Lord were powerful encounters transforming the disciples. In turn, the disciples who witnessed the Risen Lord became incredible testimonies moving individuals and communities to believe in the Risen Lord. From despair the disciples journey to Emmaus with their on hearts on fire; From tears of sadness, Mary Magdalene looks for a lost body, until her joyful faith proclamation; From hardened disbelief and conditionality (a doubting Thomas); to belief and sheer surrender; From hopelessness (Peter back to fishing), to a renewed vision and mission.

The CWL CONVENTION was an occasion of faith sharing experiences and of listening to each other's joy and frustrations. The solemn liturgical celebrations where we brought all our successes and not-so-successful plans were filled with gratitude to the transforming power of the Risen Lord. The socials in the evening were filled with such joy of a family.

To all CWL members and spiritual advisors, the CONVENTION 2014 was an authentic encounter with the Risen Lord. I can honestly say: **I HAVE SEEN THE LORD!** Listening to the charitable work, involvement in parish activities, and resolutions made to protect the dignity of life, I could only see the transforming power of the Risen Lord ever alive today.

How can we keep that fire burning in our hearts? How can we enkindle many more with the light of the Risen Lord?

As we part ways, back to our respective parishes, the challenge remains: "Modern men and women listen more to WITNESSES than to PREACHERS; and if they listen to preachers, it is because they are witnesses." (Evangeli Nuntiandi).

I look forward to the CWL 2015 CONVENTION.

Father Jerome Pastores

CWL Spiritual Advisor

Diocese of Alexandria – Cornwall (See Fr. Jerome's pic with the ladies of AC on page 5)



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ON-LINE NEWSLETTER

Congratulations!! St. Margaret Mary CWL Parish Council Celebrates 65 Years of Service

Sunday October 5th, 2014 will mark the 65th Anniversary of St. Margaret Mary's Catholic Women's League Parish Council, Cumberland, Ontario. What a wonderful milestone to celebrate the "life" and "heart" that its members have brought to the parish and community at large. Originally called the "Rural Women's Club", the club was formed on February 23, 1949. On October 5, 1949 the members decided to join the Catholic Women's League, almost two years before St. Margaret Mary church was built. In September 1964, it was unanimously agreed to change the name of the Parish Council to St. Margaret Mary. The CWL Charter identifies Margaret Paquette as the Council's first President and Bertha Fitzpatrick-Fogarty as our first Secretary. Father Paul Mondou was the Spiritual Advisor. Since 1949, the Council has been blessed with many dedicated women who have taken active roles in the affairs of their faith, community and society. St. Margaret Mary CWL Parish Council will be marking this anniversary with a Mass at 10am October 5th followed by a social gathering where all parishioners are invited to browse through the Council's collection of historical photo albums, memorabilia and displays.

God Bless, Marie-Claire Patterson, President, St. Margaret Mary CWL Parish Council, Ottawa Diocese





A CWL member from St. Alphonsus Liguori, Wooler in the Peterborough Diocese has been busy **knitting toques for newborns**. **Corry Wanjon** just recently finished her 100th hat and they will soon make their way over to Africa to be distributed, from the hospitals, to newborn infants.

On Saturday March 22, 2014 a retreat was held by St. John the Evangelist CWL in Kirkfield. The retreat, "**Spend Some Time With Mary**", was developed by a committee from St. Mary's Lindsay CWL and lead by Glenda Klein (life member) and Joanne Hough (President Peterborough Diocesan CWL). The CWL from Kirkfield, along with women from the parish learned about Mary's life from childhood to life after the crucifixion and resurrection of her son, Jesus. The retreat included music, prayer, Crowning of Mary and personal journey stories from the participants.



Betty thanks the wonderful youth choir at the convention mass in Cobourg.



St. James Catholic Women's League (Maxville) was honored to receive this plaque from the **Children's Treatment Centre** in appreciation for their outstanding contribution.

The plaque was accepted by Barbara Macdonell, Past President, at the Children's Treatment Centre's AGM, where guest speaker Glen Canning, father of Rehtaeh Parsons, spoke of the benefits of such a centre to a community. St. James Council held a Soup and Sandwich Luncheon to help raise the funds for this donation.





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ON-LINE NEWSLETTER

Alexandria – Cornwall Diocese: Delegates to Provincial Convention 2014

Nineteen delegates joined Father Jerome Pastores, Diocesan Spiritual Advisor for a photo at the Ontario Provincial Convention in Cobourg. Thank you to the Provincial Executive for a well-planned educational and inspirational program.



Bellelle Guerin Awards were presented to Phyllis Leroux and Monique Ingram at the annual Alexandria – Cornwall diocesan convention held May 25, 2014. Both members are former Diocesan Presidents and have served their parishes and diocese for many years. We join our members in extending warm congratulations, and may Our Lady of Good Counsel continue to bless them with good health and many more years of service to God and Canada.

Adeline Mathieu and Margaret Hannah, members of Our Lady of Grace/St. Pius X Council began a **Layette Basket** program, inviting parishioners to contribute knitted items and baby necessities. The baskets are donated to the Children's Aid Society and the Cornwall Community Hospital as gifts to young mothers in need with a little note that reads:

*This gift comes to you from the hands and hearts of Our **Lady of Grace/St. Pius X CWL and parishioners**, who believe that our hope for the future lies in the health and welfare of the children of today. May you find joy and satisfaction in raising your baby, knowing that there are many people who care and*





ON-LINE NEWSLETTER

Peterborough Diocesan Convention

One of the speakers at our recently held Peterborough Diocesan Convention, April 25th/26th, was the Provincial President-Elect and Organization Chair, Pauline Krupa. A most interesting and motivating speaker, she presented a workshop on "Celebrating The League". She inspired us to celebrate our achievements as league members; humbly recognizing our service to others through what we give, and in turn, what they receive.



Bellelle Guerin Award

On June 13, 2014, at their regular monthly meeting, Genevieve Jourdain was recognized for her years of dedicated service with the Bellelle Guerin award from Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Women's League.

Bellelle Guerin was the first president of the Catholic Women's League of Canada. This award is presented to an individual who have been a member of the League in good standing for at least 25 years, has served on the Parish and Diocesan executive and has demonstrated her love of the League through her words and actions.

Genny served three terms on the Diocesan Executive Council as Resolutions Convenor, Corresponding Secretary and Recording Secretary.

She has been a member of Our Lady of Lourdes CWL Council for 31 years serving in several positions but most effectively as President and has been an unwavering source of information and direction.

Not only a League member she has been a member of the Parish Council for a number of years. She has been a lecture, Eucharistic Minister, brings communion to the sick and shut-ins and is a member of the choir.

Our Lady of Lourdes CWL Council was formed in 1962 and is the only First Nations Catholic League Council in Ontario.



Toronto Diocesan Convention – Special Moment

Mary Matthews (who is 99 years old/young) met our youngest CWL member, **Leila Freire** from **St. Mary, Nobleton (North York Region)**. Leila is seventeen years old and joined her council when she turned sixteen. Her mother, Linda, is the current president at the council. Mary and the other long serving members in the room were happy to meet our youngest member.





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91st Annual Ottawa Diocesan Convention

On May 3, 2014 the 91st Annual Ottawa Diocesan Convention was held in the hall of St. Philip's Parish, in Richmond. Two guest speakers captured the hearts of those in attendance. Patricia Guylay, from Canadian Catholic Missions had a wonderful presentation on the northern missions in Canada. The Catholic Missions were the recipient of the conventions charity collection. Marsha Wilson, Executive Director, for St. Joe's Women's Centre spoke on the issues which face the women who frequent this centre; issues which included abuse and trafficking. St. Joe's Women's Centre was the focus of the Ottawa Diocese's Social Justice Project for 2014. Marsha was absolutely overwhelmed by the generosity of the CWL members of the Ottawa Diocese. A 22 foot truck was needed to transport all of the items that had been collected, to the centre.



***Our next issue will be in October
Featuring
The St. Catharines Diocese and the Resolutions Standing Committee***

