



February 2015 Edition

Featuring the Kingston Diocese and the Community Life Standing Committee



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Betty's Blog



"...faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love."

1 Corinthians 13:13



We were gathered in our provincial executive meeting when we heard the news that the Supreme Court of Canada had ruled unanimously to strike down the Canadian ban on physician-assisted suicide. This ruling will allow Canadian adults who are mentally competent and suffering intolerably to seek a doctor's help in taking their own lives. National office immediately sent out a press release stating our position on euthanasia and assisted suicide which can be found on the national website. We stopped to pray together for our hearts were heavily saddened. All will be going back to their dioceses with the press release and to promote prayer for all those that will be affected. During the meeting, our Provincial Spiritual Advisor, Bishop Bergie, recommended that we give even more focus to palliative care to ensure that the dignity of, not only our loved ones but all God's people, will be preserved and respected. I feel so grateful to belong to such an amazing organization that has prayer filled, like minded women that can make a difference.

The prayers will be resounding from the province of Ontario for this extremely sad, disappointing decision and to never give up hope. A quote from Helen Keller comes to mind. "Do not think of today's failures, but of the success that may come tomorrow. You have set yourselves a difficult task, but you will succeed if you persevere. Remember, no effort that we make to attain something beautiful if ever lost."

With Valentine's Day quickly approaching, the famous scripture reading that is often read at weddings comes to mind from 1 Corinthians 12:4-8 "Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things."

The agape love is selfless, sacrificial, unconditional love of the highest of the four types of love in the Bible. It is that agape love of God that gives us the strength to persevere in dark times. He will always look after us for He is our ever-present help and He has set a seal on our hearts with a love stronger than death. It is our ministry that calls us to show that love to others in the world. There are so many references to how love can move mountains and change the world. After all, "all you need is love, love is all you need".

May His Holy Spirit illuminate brightly in us so we can become beacons of hope to shine the love of God on others not only this month but throughout the year.

Blessings and hugs,

Betty Colareci



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



ON-LINE NEWSLETTER

A Prayerful Reminder from Community Life Chair Mary Jane Yaeger

There have been so many events in 2014 and into 2015 that have caused us to stop and pray.

Ebola outbreak

Malaysia airlines Flight MH370 missing

Protests in Ferguson

Ukraine crisis

Missing and murdered aboriginal women

Moncton shooting

ISIS and terror

Ottawa shootings

Events in our own communities (fires, floods, accidents, etc.)

Deaths of friends and those in our own families

Edmonton shooting

We must remember that we are members of the Catholic Women's League, and our own League prayer states: "...Bless our beloved country, our homes and families.Teach us to share with others at home and abroad, the good things You have given us. Amen"

Ecumenical Prayer Service

On Thursday, October 5th, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Council, Belleville, met with College Hill United Church UCW for an Ecumenical Prayer Service lead by our Spiritual Advisor Father Hibbard and Rev. Brenda Timpson. Following the service, guest speakers from our local hospice informed us of the many services available through Hospice Quinte. Over afternoon tea, we looked at their literature and displays, and ask questions on an informal basis. We were delighted to be able to collectively contribute to their fundraising campaign, "Friends and Food for Hospice Quinte".





St. Paul the Apostle Kingston

St. Paul the Apostle CWL took on a new project for our Christmas Potluck. Our members and parishioners were asked to donate items such as toiletries, mitts, hats, scarves, candies and stamped cards. After discussion with St. Vincent de Paul, these were found to be items that are in need by those less fortunate in our community.

We gathered for our Potluck and were astounded at the generosity. All donated items covered four tables! 100+ bags were stuffed and labeled. We held a draw with proceeds being donated with the "care packages" and the winnings were also donated. When the charity received the donations, they were extremely grateful; we were overwhelmed.

The Good Lord saw fit to help us realize the true meaning of the Christmas Spirit. It is with pleasure we can say: this will certainly be an annual event for our council.



HEALTHY AND FAITHFUL



In October 2014, the councils of ST. JOSEPHS KINGSTON, & ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE KINGSTON, hosted a "Healthy And Faithful" workshop focusing on Mental Health. Key note speaker, Caitlin Fitzpatrick spoke about "Discernment In Your Life". Various workshops were offered, such as "Mental Toll Of Loss" -Dr. Phil Carney, "Stress & Our Faith" - Jaclynne Smith-Neri, "Caregiver Mental Health"- Candice McMullen, & "Everyday Tips For A Balanced Life"-Susan Ward-Mosier, Queens University Pro Life Ministry. Over 50 people attended from across the diocese. Feedback was very positive.



2014 Good Thief CWL 90 Years Celebration

On Saturday June 28, 2014, Church of the Good Thief Catholic Women's League Council celebrated 90 years of service. Mass celebrants were Fr. Brian McNally Diocesan Spiritual Advisor, Fr. Granger, and Deacon Robert Wojcik our spiritual advisor. A heartwarming greeting from National President Betty Ann Brown Davidson recalled the determined ladies who started and kept the council together in good and in trying times. Our cozy hall brightened once more with warm hospitality, colourful food and flowers, and special cake cut by Archbishop Brendan O'Brien. Thanks to all who made the day special. A bell ringing sent us back on our journeys with other Kingston councils and churches as we carry a humble pride of history and dedication.



ONTARIO PROVINCIAL COUNCIL
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ON-LINE NEWSLETTER

Communications Basic Rule

The Vatican's top communications official said that true interaction requires more than just phones and internet – and that dialogue is an interpersonal encounter we learn even from our mother's womb.

"The first way of communication, the source of my learning is the womb of my mother," Archbishop Claudio Maria Celli told CNA at the Jan. 23 presentation of Pope Francis' message for World Communications Day.

And true communication, he added, "is how I am able to listen to you, how I can open my heart to you...this is the real human communication."



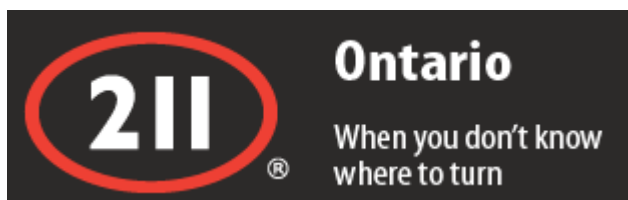
211 ONTARIO

From the simplicity of the three-digit number, to the comprehensive database of human services, to the expertise and professionalism of 211 Information & Referral Specialists, community and government partners are leveraging 211 to enhance access to information and services for their residents.

The following was taken from the Annual Report 2013-2014 – Ontario 211 Services

527,212 calls to 211 in 2013 **including** 62,646 overnight calls

More information and resources may be found at www.211ontario.ca



DEVELOPMENT & PEACE – SHARE LENT CAMPAIGN

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 18, 2015. Share Lent campaign material is available on the D&P national website. To receive material in time for Lent, place orders early and allow up to one month for delivery. (www.devp.org/en/sharelent)

New this year: Lent Calendar app!

DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE has created a new app for the Share Lent campaign for smartphones and tablets. Guiding you day by day through the Lenten season, the app invites you to take three simple steps every day: learn, pray, and act. Learn about DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE partners who are working to build a world of justice.

Our Lent Calendar app is available for download on the website for free from the App Store or Google Play!



Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Council



Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Council in Belleville celebrated their 60th anniversary on September 14th, 2014 with a catered luncheon in their parish hall. It was a wonderful afternoon of reacquainting with old friends, sharing stories, and happy memories while looking back with gratitude and pride at all that has been accomplished over the years. Special guests included our Diocesan President, Stephanie Spinelli, Life Members Bernadette Burgess and Rolande Oliver, many of our past presidents and two very special women who have been members the entire 60 years! Years of Service pins, as well as two Maple Leaf Service pins were presented.



THE FRANCIS EFFECT

In Brockville, on November 30, 2014, about 50 members of the St. Francis Xavier and St. John Bosco CWL along with some guests had a screening on the documentary "The Francis Effect". This documentary which was produced by Salt & Light Catholic Media Foundation has Church leaders discussing openly and honestly about the impact Pope Francis is having on our world today. This film focuses on his Holiness and his down to earth style in both his words and actions and how Pope Francis is generating such positive global attention around the world. The ladies found this documentary very interesting and it was a wonderful way to start our Advent preparations together.





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ON-LINE NEWSLETTER

HUNGERCOUNT 2014

HungerCount 2014 uncovers the hard data on food bank use, tells the story behind the numbers, and digs deep to explore the root causes of hunger in our country. It then provides recommendations to bring about real and lasting change. In March 2014, **841,191** people received food from a food bank in Canada. Food bank use increased by **1%** compared to the same period in 2013 (March 2013, 833,098 people). **Thirty-seven percent** of those helped by food banks are children. Food bank use increased in **six of ten** provinces this year.

- 841,191 people received food from a food bank in March
- 310,461 of those receiving food were children
- 87,533 people asked for help from a food bank for the first time in March
- 110,754 people received food from rural food banks in March
- 14,178,252 visits will be made to Canadian food banks in 2014
- 4,308,140 meals and snacks were served by soup kitchens, shelters, school breakfast initiatives, and other programs

HungerCount 2014 bears witness to the need for food banks across Canada and moves beyond this, to seek solutions that address the root causes. The five recommendations are simple:

1. More affordable house
2. Help for the North
3. Revolutionize welfare
4. Investment in child well-being
5. Better training



The full report can be read at <http://www.foodbankscanada.ca/HungerCount>



***Our next issue will be in March
Featuring the Toronto Diocese and
the Christian Family Life Standing Committee***