

February 2017 Edition Featuring the Diocese of Kingston and the Community Life Standing Committee

Inspired by the Spirit, Women Respond to God's Call

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70 years of Faith filled Service!

Plan now to attend the 70th
Annual Ontario Provincial Council
Convention

July 8 – 12, 2017 Thunder Bay ON

Registration forms and information/at/www.cwl.on.ca

Come join your League Sisters



Pauline's Ponderings...

Greetings

The provincial council has just wrapped up its winter meeting. With it came the realization that my time

with you is winding down. As Carol Burnett would say ... "seems we just got started!" At the meeting we bid farewell to nine diocesan presidents, which means election-time for many, and in particular, for our own provincial executive. Please pray for those discerning their call to service at all levels. When the time comes to make choices, please look carefully at each woman's gifts to know where she can best serve.

Thunder Bay diocesan president shared the 70th annual provincial convention package with members of the executive. The package is now posted to the website. Take time to review it. Plan to attend. I encourage you to book rooms early. Thunder Bay is hosting a number of events the same time as convention so accommodations will be at a premium.

We are being asked by our national council to take action on a number of issues. Take time to visit the national website to keep current. Most recently we heard that the Ontario government has introduced a bill that will disallow physicians and health care staff the right of conscience with regards to medical assistance in dying. Please take time to write to the Premier and MPP's expressing your opposition to Bill 84. There is a limited amount of time to act so write today!

At mass yesterday Father Chris challenged each of us to be "Salty for God". Being from an Irish mariner's family, the statement had great significance to him in relation to the gospel. What kind of thoughts does that bring to your mind?



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

ON-LINE NEWSLETTER





World Day of Prayer 2016 was hosted by St. Paul's Anglican Church in Cardinal on March 4, 2016. Sacred Heart of Jesus CWL, Cardinal, members joined other churches for a day where we all came together in unity. The day began in song. Lectors read the Word of God, as World Day of Prayer was written by the women of Cuba. The theme for 2016 was "Receive Children. Receive Me". Special keynote speaker was Joy Jones who frequently visits Cuba. Her talk consisted of telling stories of how she helps out in Cuba in various wavs. The service ended with fellowship in the hall. Pictured from left to right are Darlene Orzel, Joan Toupin, Betty DesChamps, Beryl Riddell, Sheila Lawrence, Joy Jones, Joan Graham and Carol McLaughlin.



The March edition of the ON-Line Newsletter will feature councils

from the Toronto Diocese and the Christian Family Life Standing Committee.

Stay Tuned!

FEATURING COUNCILS FROM THE DIOCESE OF KINGSTON



Catholic Girl's League

These young ladies were on hand at the Annual Craft Show and Tea Room on October 22, 2016 at St. Mark, Prescott. They meet monthly, have a full slate of officers, and concentrate on the gifts God has given them. They made different crafts, jewellery and centerpieces, for the show. These young ladies are chaperoned by leader Diane Jozefowicz assisted by Anne Wade. The CGL is making news in the diocese, and a number of CWL councils are interested in having a CGL in their parishes.





St. Mark CWL, Prescott, celebrated their annual celebrations and potluck with mass at St. Mark's church. Following everyone mass was treated to a delicious potluck supper at the parish hall. After supper, President Brenda Wardrop, Organization Chairperson Patricia Warren, and Spiritual Father Advisor Brent Brennan presented CWL pins to ladies from brand

new members to some with 70 years' service to the CWL."





One of the members of **St. Gregory the Great** Council in Picton, is a faithful knitter. Recently, Joan Lent (I) worked tirelessly to knit 'therapeutic muffs' for distribution to local nursing homes and to individuals. These colourful creations help people calm their minds and occupy their hands; they are especially useful for patients with dementia who often feel agitated. A variety of wools and bright objects carefully attached provide something for busy hands to handle. To date, Joan has made over 40 muffs – a true labour of love and evidence of the corporal works of mercy!

This project was brought to the council's attention by Bea Papiz (r). The muffs originated with women at St. Joseph's Hospital in London, Ontario. Here is a link to the program and the originators of the craft:

http://www.cbc.ca/radio/thesundayedition/elbowgate-

 $\frac{the-trump-effect-in attentional-deafness-gore-vidal-1.3589053/comfort-and-warmth-for-people-suffering-from-dementia-1.3589063$

Here is a link to directions for making these items (from St. Joseph's Hospital):

https://www.sjhc.london.on.ca/our-stories/hand-muffs-dementia/therapeutic-hand-muffs





The Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi) was outwardly celebrated by **St. Mark/Sacred Heart** in Prescott. Procession of the Blessed Sacrament was held high by Father Brennan and followed by Deacon Larry Judge through the streets of Prescott on Sunday, May 29th, 2016. The Catholic Women's League attended the celebration. After the procession, everyone was treated to a barbecue outside the Parish Hall."





Community Life Standing Committee

Chairperson: Wilma Vanderzwaag

"Seek to help our brother and sister refugees in every possible way by providing a welcome Show them an open mind and a warm heart."

St. John Paul II

There is so much happening in our country and the world that urges all members to do what they can to show an open mind and a warm heart. It seems that divisiveness and discord are the norms. Instead of looking for our similarities we seem to highlight differences. Fear is bred by the unknown;-not understanding or having knowledge of the person. We can all help by learning and educating ourselves at every opportunity. Knowledge is power and with that power we can be the women that respond to God's call. Let us all be agents of change and help our communities become places of harmony. Encourage your parish council to organize a visit to a mosque or invite a Muslim woman to come and speak to your council. Ask her to explain the importance of the hijab. Find out about their traditions and the meaning behind them. Extend your support and condolences to the local Muslim community about the recent tragedy in Quebec City.

February is Black History month. What do we know about black history in Canada? Do we know about Viola Desmond and that she will be the first Canadian woman on the Canadian \$10 bill? Learn more though the Ontario Black History Society and/or TVO.

Our Indigenous people are dealing with ongoing issues with regards to water safety. The Grassy Narrows community has been dealing with toxic pollution in the Wabigoon and English Rivers affecting their water for over 30 years. The Ontario government has committed \$300,000 for a study to locate sludge sites but has been noncommittal on a clean-up. The federal government has yet to make any promises. Let us keep writing to both the federal and provincial government to work effectively to keep the promise that Prime Minister Trudeau made that "my government is committed to ending boil-water advisory across the country". This is only one issue; there are many more issues that our Indigenous people face, especially funding for education and health care for the youth in their communities. The inquest into the murdered and missing Indigenous women seems to have stalled. Stay informed and keep our federal and provincial representatives focused on the issues of our First Nations people.

Each of us can also do simple things to help our communities too. Take walks in your neighbourhood - smile and greet people as you do. Make an effort to get to know your neighbours. Introduce yourself to someone you don't know in your parish and sit in a different pew in church to get to know other people in your parish. Show the joy in responding to God's call in word and action. We can make a difference!

