



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



ON-LINE NEWSLETTER

June 2017 Edition

Featuring Hamilton Diocesan Councils and the Organization 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 from the GTA!

I am writing this just after attending the last diocesan convention held in Ontario and just before the resolutions committee meetings.

Firstly, I want to express my gratitude to the four executive members who journeyed across the province to be with you when I was elsewhere. As provincial representatives we were so inspired by everything that is happening in our wonderful province. You are to be commended. Everywhere we travelled we met encouraging and caring Bishops and Spiritual Advisors. How blessed we are to have their support. I remind you to take time to celebrate accomplishments...I have said this before...if we don't toot our own horns, who will?

The national executive has entered into a strategic plan to bring the League into the future. As a member of the steering committee it is my task to ensure your voices are heard. To that end I encourage councils to plan to participate in the Town Hall meeting, being held during the national convention. This dialogue will be live streamed so that every member has the opportunity to tune in and participate. Full details on how to participate will be outlined on the national website through a communiqué by national's communications standing committee chairperson. Think about finding a Wi-Fi – friendly spot so that you can gather together to log in and take an active part.

The 70th annual provincial convention is just weeks away. I hope that many of you will come and experience my part of this huge province. In Thunder Bay people boast that we are superior by nature! Certainly that could be part of the drawing card to bring you to the head of the great lakes, but I hope it will be your desire to gather with your sisters for a time of fellowship, faith development and fun.

This is my last pondering as your provincial president. Thank you for all the kindnesses shown to me over these two years. May Our Lady of Good Counsel guide you as you journey for *God and Canada*.



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As my term comes to an end, I extend my sincere and heartfelt thanks to all diocesan presidents and communications standing committee chairpersons, for your outstanding cooperation over these past two years. Submitting your wonder-filled articles on time each month, made my job publishing this Newsletter nothing short of pure joy. It has been a privilege to serve you as provincial communications standing committee chairperson. May Our Lady of Good Counsel bless you abundantly in your service of God and Canada.

Anna Tremblay



The Provincial Convention is now less than one month away. Have you registered yet? If not, all the forms are

available at www.cwl.on.ca. There's still time! Join your sisters in the League as we celebrate our 70th anniversary. Don't wait. Register now.

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FEATURING COUNCILS FROM THE DIOCESE OF HAMILTON

Hamilton Diocesan Council held its 97th annual convention, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, May 26 – 28. Joyce Cotter, Hamilton Diocesan Spiritual Development Chair, took this opportunity to launch the countdown to the 100th Anniversary of the Hamilton Diocesan Catholic



Women's League in 2020. In the photo above, members of the diocesan executive, dressed to represent the last ten decades, announced the launch graphically. Joyce also presented a digital video and sound "trailer" to all members present. If you haven't seen the inspirational video yet, keep your eyes and ears open – coming to a council near you soon.



health, the history of the League, and books (Exodus, Constitution & Bylaws, national and parish manuals of policy and procedure, etc). It was a fun way to learn about the League and a great way to open up communication with members.

For the "Back to Basics" workshop, at the recent Hamilton Diocesan Convention, our members participated in a modified version of Jeopardy – JEOPARDY – developed by Catherine Feren of the Hamilton Diocesan Council. They learned about legislation, resolutions, communication, education and



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Mary Immaculate Council, Chepstow, held a very successful All Saints Party, on Friday, October 28, 2016, as an alternative to a Halloween party. We invited the children of the parish to dress up as their favourite saint. We were pleased that 11 saints attended, along with their parents and a couple of 'future saints'.

We made a craft, sang songs, answered a Saints Quiz, and heard the story of St. Dominic Savio. Then each saint told us a little about him/herself, followed by a short video on St. Francis.

Father Luc Payette, Pastor and Spiritual Advisor, visited and happily blessed all in attendance. Pot luck snacks, cold drinks and some take-home treats, provided by our council, were enjoyed by all.

St. Luke Council, Hamilton, have begun a campaign, **Women helping Women**, providing needed dignity to homeless women. Feeling clean is often a luxury that's out of reach for women who are homeless. Most don't have access to proper sanitary and hygiene products, and often have to decide whether to buy these products or food. This campaign involves collecting sanitary pads, tampons, toothbrushes, wet wipes, combs, deodorant, socks and mitts. The items go to the Good Shepherd Centre - Mary's Place, Hamilton.





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CWL HAD A STRONG PRESENCE AT THE MARCH FOR LIFE





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Organization Standing Committee

Chairperson: Anne Madden



June marks the beginning of summer, the warmest season of the year, between spring and autumn, astronomically from the June solstice to the September equinox; it is a time for growth, blossoming and great happiness. According to the 2002 Old Farmer's Almanac, June is the most popular month to get married. Our gardens are jumping with newly sprouted plants, as we envision a bountiful harvest. It is a truly

beautiful time of year!

June is traditionally a slower time for CWL meetings, with end-of-year potlucks and picnics wrapping up the main business, for councils, until fall. It is also an opportunity to reflect on how the year transpired. Were you able to accomplish all the goals you set in September? Did you have new members join your councils? Were they welcomed with open arms, given a welcome kit and a mentor to explain what was happening? Are those new members still part of your council, now that the year is winding down? Congratulations, if they are, you are doing an amazing job! If they have decided that CWL is not for them, what went wrong?

As an organization, we are starting to look at ways to stimulate new growth in our League. I encourage you to think about what the League offers you now and how it could be made better as we move forward. Many League members and people in general, do not understand who we are or what we really do. We do not do a very good job of promoting ourselves! We are seen at masses, funeral lunches and bazaars, helping with the liturgies or in the kitchen, but there is so much more to the League. Did you know that the League writes resolutions and then presents them to the provincial and federal governments? I encourage you to look at our resolutions on the provincial www.cwl.on.ca and national www.cwl.ca websites to get an idea of the issues we have taken on that have helped to change the face of Canada and the world.

Please take time this summer to think about ways to make the League more appealing, better understood, more welcoming and dynamic. I welcome your ideas!

Your sister in Christ,

Anne



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Bellelle Guerin Award

Jean Weaver

St Thomas More Council

Niagara Falls



Introducing... Ontario Provincial Council Pin

This year the Ontario Provincial Council will celebrate 70 years of service to God and Canada. To mark this milestone we are pleased to introduce an OPC pin. This pin is available to all current and former OPC executive members (elected or appointed). The pins are \$10.00 each (includes shipping and handling) and measure approximately 1.25" x 1.25" (3.5 cm x 3.5 cm).

To order, complete the form below and bring (with payment) to the provincial convention in Thunder Bay or mail form (with cheque), to

Patricia Rivest, 86 Alderton St., Leamington ON N8H 4R3.

Following the provincial convention,
pins will be mailed upon verification of term and position.

Please make cheque payable to The Catholic Women's League of Canada.

Please print/write clearly.

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____

Term(s) Served on Provincial Council: _____

Position(s) Held: _____