



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



ON-LINE NEWSLETTER

March 2017 Edition Featuring the Archdiocese of Toronto and the Christian Family 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**



Pauline's Ponderings...

Greetings

A few weeks ago I attended my last national meeting as Ontario provincial president, representing each and every one of you. These have been exciting times. Palliative and hospice care have been a major focus. We gave birth to the *May 4th 12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative and Hospice Care*, which, because of its popularity, is being planned again this year. An added bonus this year is the beautiful prayer card printed for us by the Edmonton Catholic School Board. Each member will receive one. Your diocesan presidents received them in February and distribution is on-going. I encourage you to pray the prayer often, especially during National Hospice Palliative Care Week, May 7 to 13, 2017.

In the next while the League will be adapting to change... change that is necessary in today's world. A strategic planning team has been struck to explore ways that we can best meet the needs of Catholic women in today's world. The five-year project is in its very early stages. At the last national meeting the executive council enthusiastically assured the committee of its support.

We have just started our journey through Lent to the greatest feast day of The Church, Easter Sunday. The days of giving up have gone by the wayside, in favour of doing something positive for ourselves and others. These are days for prayer. In just over a month dioceses will begin hosting conventions. Nine councils will hold elections. Pray for those discerning their call to service. This year we had 16 young men apply for the Bishop Bernard F. Pappin Bursary, which reminds us to pray for our seminarians and an increase in vocations to the priesthood.

Since it is March and I'm half Irish, here is my wish for you: "Always remember to forget the troubles that passed away. But never forget to remember the blessings that come each day."





OVER 150 YEARS OF SERVICE



St. Francis Xavier Catholic Women's League, Stoney Creek, Diocese of Hamilton, will be celebrating the 100th birthdays of two of its long-time members this year. Cecilia Ford, an 82-year member, will be 100 years old on June 13 and Rose Drotar, a 72-year member, will celebrate her 100th birthday on June 23. Both ladies have been active members, serving on the executive and Cecilia was a founding member of our council.



Members from Scarborough Region, belonging to 10 CWL councils, lend their voices to perform at the annual diocesan convention held in Toronto. The choir is led by Alice Warford. The Scarborough CWL Choir also sings at other Toronto Diocesan events

FEATURING COUNCILS FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF TORONTO



In the fall of 2016, a member of **St. Joseph the Worker CWL Council, Oshawa**, Anne Marie Bardwell, put together a proposal for our council to support the emotional needs of the children/students of Attawapiskat First Nation with art supplies. Anne Marie purchased the art supplies and shipped them to Attawapiskat. The supplies were to be used in an after school project, so that all children/students in the community could have access and participate in the art therapy classes. Pictured above among supplies sent, are cell phone cases, a sample of how the art supplies have been put to use. Students are also making mitts and dream catchers!!

St. Isaac Jogues Parish, Pickering, held their annual Fall Turkey Dinner on Saturday, November 19th, 2016. The ladies lovingly prepared all the food from scratch and served it with a big smile. From turkey, homemade bread, mashed potatoes, homemade pickles and cranberry sauce to our delicious cakes, our parishioners were well served. It was more fun than hard work with much laughter in between. One hundred forty five parishioners enjoyed a hearty meal with a lot of friendship thrown into the mix. This event was so popular; many had to be turned away.



For about 35 years, members of the **St. Bonaventure CWL, Don Mills**, have put together gift bags for the ladies who dine at the Good Shepherd Centre on December 26. Items collected include toiletries, stationary, hats, gloves, scarves, toothpaste, tooth brushes, and a candy treat. One member crocheted little Santa's that hold an individual Hersey Kiss, for each bag.



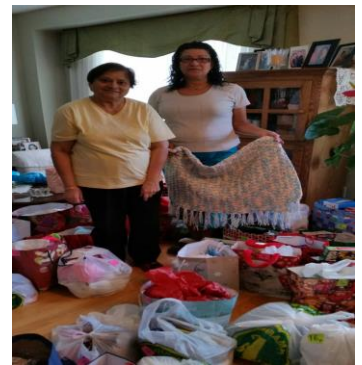
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Precious Blood Parish Council, Scarborough, has been involved in carol singing at the Wexford Seniors Home for over 20 years. Our members showed up with their colourful outfits and elves hats. This year was special because our Spiritual Advisor Father Xavier, joined the carol singing. The residents clapped and sang with us. All present enjoyed a wonderful time.

St. Joseph Highland Creek Council, Scarborough, embarked on a project to donate Christmas gift bags to indigenous children in the community of Little Buffalo in Peace River, Alberta. In addition a monetary donation was also sent to aid in feeding the members of this community, who were in great need. It was greatly appreciated as this type of help has not been extended in the past. The families were in awe and speechless by our generosity towards them.



Serving at St. Francis Table is a project close to the hearts of **St. Maria Goretti CWL, Toronto**. Members have served there for over a decade, preparing and serving hot meals and assisting in the clean-up at this community-based soup kitchen. When interviewed recently one member said: "It is nice to help out because I know there are a lot of less fortunate people who come here to have a nice meal and to serve them makes us feel good". This activity has given members an opportunity to perform a corporal work of mercy, as witnesses to Christ.

St. Margaret Mary CWL Council, Woodbridge, planned and participated in a day excursion to the Midland region, on Tuesday September 13, 2016. Members visited the historical Martyr's Shrine, participated in the Holy Door ceremony and visited Ste. Marie Among the Hurons. The outing included not only a geographical and historical element, but also a spiritual component. It was a well-rounded outing, which included sightseeing, mass, lunch, shopping and supper in Midland. Fun was had by all.





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CHRISTIAN FAMILY LIFE STANDING COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Rosanne Sogan

Sub-chairperson: Anna Brady

Our world has been exposed to so many off-colour movies, TV series, videos, music and more. *Mary Kills People*, is a prime example of just that! Why do the media need to sensationalize the sad realization that people want to die by means of their own hand or by the hands of medical personnel? This, as we know, goes against our faith and our Catholic teachings.

Mary Kills People, is a six-part Canadian series. This series was previously shown on *Global* but has now ended. If you have not already written a letter to the *Canadian Radio-Television Telecommunications Commission* (CRTC), I ask that you do so now in hopes that this show will not be slated for any further production and/or re-runs.

In the *January 2016 Trillium News and Views*, I provided information on tax savings courtesy *Service Canada* and the *A Guide to Programs and Services for Seniors in Ontario*. Check out www.servicecanada.gc.ca or call 1-800-277-9914 or TTY: 1-800-255-4786 for helpful tax guidelines. Previously mentioned areas were: Ontario Trillium Benefit, Ontario Senior Homeowners' Property Tax Grant, Low-Income Energy Assistance Program, Ontario Electricity Support Program, Tax Credit for Caregivers, Property tax relief for seniors or people with disabilities, Pensions and Other Benefits, Old Age Security (OAS) Pension, and Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS).

Tax season is now here! The due date for tax submissions is April 30, 2017. However, as the 30th is a Sunday, your return will be considered filed on time if received on or postmarked on or before May 1, 2017

May Our Lady of Good Counsel continue to guide you in all you do for God, Canada and The Catholic Women's League of Canada.



Ways you can transform our world this Lent ...

1. Write the CRTC regarding *Mary Kills People*. See <http://www.cwl.on.ca/sites/default/files/resources/1444.pdf>
2. Write your Member of Parliament regarding Internet Pornography. See www.cwl.on.ca/sites/default/files/directives/1454.pdf
3. Participate in *The Call for Conscience* Campaign before March 31st. See <http://www.cwl.on.ca/sites/default/files/bulletin/1445.pdf>
4. Participate in *12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care* on May 4th. See <https://www.cwl.ca/12-hours-of-prayer-for-palliative-care/>
5. Pray for persecuted Christians