



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

## ON-LINE NEWSLETTER



**September 2017 Edition**

**Featuring Alexandria Cornwall and Ottawa Councils**

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

### **This Issue**

**Annie's Annotation.....1**

**Alexandra Cornwall Diocesan  
Council.....2**

**Ottawa Diocesan Council.....3**

**Communication News.....5**

**Food For Thought.....6**

**Historian Tid-Bits.....7**

**New Life Member Checklist.....7**

**Education & Health.....7**

**Master Musician &  
Congratulations.....8**



**IT'S TIME TO GET  
ORGANIZED!**

**WHAT IS BURNING IN YOUR  
CONSCIENCE???**

**ARE YOU PASSIONATE ABOUT A  
CHANGE YOU WISH TO MAKE  
IN THE WORLD???**

**MORE TO COME IN NEXT  
MONTH'S ON-LINE  
NEWSLETTER**



## *Annie's Annotations*

Fall is upon us, we have finished another productive season of conventions. We have been challenged by the national steering committee to take a hard look at what we do as League members, how we do it and why we do it. Each of us have valuable opinions and ideas on how to move the Catholic Women's League of Canada into the future, making it a viable, dynamic and inclusive organization that all women will want to join. Please share your thoughts with national office.

The world is changing in many ways. Respect for life and all aspects of it are challenged on many fronts. As a province, we will be focusing on homelessness for this term and how we as individuals and councils can help those caught in these unfortunate situations.

I challenge you to think about the many faces of homelessness; it includes many groups besides the obvious ones. On the surface, you might think that your community doesn't have any homeless people but think about the individuals who have a house but no one ever visits or cares for them. They really do not have a "home".

There are three main types of homeless:

1. Situational or transitional: when someone is forced into homelessness because of uncontrollable circumstances such as losing a job, important material lost, kicked out of home (teenager who couch-serfs)) loss of main breadwinner (father, husband, wife).
2. Episodic or cyclical: when a person repeatedly falls in and out of homelessness. This often happens with drug addicts and with people experiencing mental health issues.
3. Chronic: when an individual is on the street for a long period of time and very few or no resources are at their disposal to modify their situation.

Stay tuned for ideas from your provincial officers and diocesan councils for ideas on how you can be involved. Are you up for the challenge?



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

## ON-LINE NEWSLETTER



### 100TH ANNIVERSARY PROJECT TRAIN RIDE



*Take the train to the  
2018 Annual National  
Convention in Winnipeg,  
Manitoba!*

All Aboard! The 2018 100th anniversary project is an invitation to travel by train to the annual national convention in Winnipeg, Manitoba, August 12-15, 2018. Imagine how much fun it would be travelling to or from the convention, just as members did during the first 40- 50 years of the League's existence. VIA Rail will never be the same!

If you have any questions about travelling to the 2018 national convention by train, email: [cwlconventiontrain@gmail.com](mailto:cwlconventiontrain@gmail.com).

### FEATURING COUNCILS FROM THE DIOCESE OF

#### ALEXANDRA CORNWALL



What an honour for our Diocese to install our newest Life Member Jeannie Coleman! As a newer member we haven't seen a Life Member installed as the last was approx. 20+ years ago. Jeannie is receiving a special blessing from our Diocesan Life Members. It's really official as Jeannie also received a blessing and installation at our Provincial Convention from

Bishop Fred Colli and at National Convention by Bishop William McGrattan. We know Jeannie will be a great mentor to us all.



To kick off the summer we had a Canada 150<sup>th</sup> Celebration, which we were encouraged to celebrate our heritage with dress or costume of our country however the majority of us went with the red and white theme! In the 2<sup>nd</sup> photo you see Corry Olstrom & Aleida Sturkenboom sharing their historical dress – I still don't know how they walk in those wooden shoes!!



We enjoyed a pot luck lunch, sunshine, friendship and some laughs and we even made God laugh as we had a little sprinkle of rain! As a diocese we collected kitchen items for the refugee family that is due in our Diocese this fall, pictured are our Parish Presidents with gifts of money and in kind items.



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



## ON-LINE NEWSLETTER

At our Diocesan Convention we presented the ladies of the Lutheran Church with a hanging of the Lutheran White Rose inspired by a stain glass window, created by Helen Couture. This idea stemmed from Pope Francis invitation to all Catholics to celebrate with the Lutheran Church on their 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.



Jeannie and Lucy can be seen with a close up view of the wall hanging and the picture to the left - pictured are Carol Campbell and Sybeille Seidel accepting the wall hanging on behalf of the Lutheran Church in Cornwall and to the very right of the photo is the creator Helen.

### FEATURING COUNCILS FROM THE DIOCESE OF OTTAWA

Every provincial convention offers all members in the League an opportunity to participate and interact with old friends while making new ones. God works through these conventions to inspire, transform, re-energize and re-dedicate our work for ourselves, our councils, our communities, our province, for God and Canada. We bring back home excitement and have a fresh vision for our mission as we open our hearts and minds. Through the tears and the laughter, together, our voices are moved in a powerful unison of empowerment. The support of our sisterhood makes it a miraculously spirit-filled experience! We are blessed!





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

ON-LINE NEWSLETTER



At the 70<sup>th</sup> Annual Ontario Provincial Convention of The Catholic Women's League of Canada in Thunder Bay, the Ottawa Diocese was represented by 15 members who all agreed the convention experience was a memorable one. On the first full day of this year's convention, attendees were asked to wear red and/or white to commemorate the 150<sup>th</sup> birthday of Canada. Ottawa's human Canadian flag celebrating this occasion consisted of (from left to right): Diocesan Christian Family Life Chairperson Teresa Psutka, Diocesan 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President and Community Life Chairperson Rosanne Nadon, Diocesan President Onagh Dooley, Diocesan Treasurer Diana Baines and Diocesan President-Elect and Organization Chairperson Lynn Lavictoire.

**HAPPY 150<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY CANADA!**



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



## ON-LINE NEWSLETTER



### **Communications Chairperson: Marie-Theresa Lamphier**

I have been a CWL Member for over 25 years. My parish council is Visitation Parish in Comber, ON. I consider myself blessed to sit at the table of the Ontario Provincial Council. I look forward to learning and growing as I journey with my sisters of the League for the next two years. I am fortunate to have two wonderful people to assist me in this position – Mary Ellen Villeneuve and Lisa Henry. They have already been an immense help to me.

**Mary Ellen Villeneuve writes:** I was born and raised in Cornwall, Ontario. The first of two children and was educated in the Catholic school system. In 1964 graduated as a Registered Nurse from St. Joseph's School of Nursing, Hotel Dieu Hospital in Cornwall where I worked in the operating room until 1971. On Oct. 8, 1966 I married my husband Andre and moved to a very busy and active dairy farm just north of Maxville Ontario. God has blessed us with six children two sons and four daughters. In 1989 I became a member and president of St. James CWL Council when they reactivated after a 10-year lapse. From there I went onto the Diocesan Council of Alexandria-Cornwall holding many positions. In Cornwall at the 2001 Provincial Convention which I co-chaired I was elected onto the Provincial Council and named to the Communications Chair, then re-elected in 2003 and named to the Legislation Chair. On May 25, 2003, I was awarded my Life Membership (What a beautiful blessing!). In 2004 due to my husband's very ill health I resigned from provincial council to be able to take care of him. In 2006 our youngest daughter passed away very suddenly at home and is our angel helping us daily. The League has given me many gifts of faith, leadership, love and friendship. I thank God and Mother Mary daily for their wondrous love and guidance in my journey for God and Canada.

**Lisa Henry writes:** I have been a CWL member for 10 years and my home parish is Pro-Cathedral of the Assumption in North Bay. I have been married to my wonderful husband Art for 29 years. I have worked in the Royal Canadian Air Force for the past 10 years now as an Aerospace Control Operator and I can honestly say I am proud to serve God and Canada! I have held various positions at the parish and diocesan level and feel tremendously honoured to assist the Provincial Communications Chairperson in this capacity. Being a part of the CWL is such a blessing and I am so thankful to be able to share this journey with such gifted women!



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



## ON-LINE NEWSLETTER

With the retiring of the Trillium you will start to see more updates from your Ontario Provincial Council (OPC) executive, so be sure to read your monthly issues and encourage others to sign up for the free on-line newsletter as well. We hope to bring you recommendations for books, some touching prayers and personal testimonies from our OPC executives .... and more. Don't forget to check the website every Wednesday for any updates at <http://www.cwl.on.ca>.

We encourage you to join our group (Ontario Provincial Council of the Catholic Women's League) on Facebook. We encourage you to **Like** and **Share** with others in order to increase our reach. Hopefully there will be something that you can relate to!

Our project for the next two years will be focused on the Homeless.

You will find "50 Plus Ways to help the Homeless":

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/homeless/events/faithcommunities/50-plus-ways>

Please review and see if there is any way, you personally or as a group can assist. It may be as simple as making more people aware of the homelessness issue and how it affects so many unfortunate people.

I look forward to a challenging two years!

- Submitted by Marie-Theresa Lamphier, Communication Chair



A Church goer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday.

He wrote: "I've gone for 30 years now, and in that time I have heard something like 3,000 sermons, but for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them. So, I think I'm wasting my time, the preachers and priests are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all".

This started a real controversy in the "Letters to the Editor" column.

Much to the delight of the editor, it went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher: "I've been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But, for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this:

They all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today. Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!"

~ Submitted by Anna Tremblay – Spiritual Development



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

## ON-LINE NEWSLETTER



### Historian Tid-Bits

Anniversaries are a wonderful time to celebrate the past. This year our provincial council celebrated its 70th anniversary in fine style during the convention in Thunder Bay. These joy-filled celebrations can only happen if members keep their history current. As historians be sure your stories are up to date. Photos are an important part of every story. Be sure to label each one and keep them safe. In a digital world you can keep them on a memory stick.

~ Submitted by Pauline Krupa – Past President/Historian



**NEW! Life Member Checklist for Diocesan Councils** is available on the OPC website. <http://cwl.on.ca/resources>

You are reminded that nomination forms for Life Membership need to be postmarked to the Provincial President by **September 15<sup>th</sup>**.

~ Submitted by Colleen Randall – Organization Chair



### Education and Health

The 42<sup>nd</sup> Ontario General Election will be held on June 7, 2018. Now is the time to find out the candidate's position on palliative/end of life care. Also Catholic Education can be a "hot button" issue this election with further talk of amalgamating Catholic and Public schools. Be sure to know their stand on these very important decisions and make your voice heard by the candidates. Other provinces have lost Catholic Education—let's not let that happen in Ontario.

~ Submitted by Wilma Vanderzwaag – Education and Health Chair





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



## ON-LINE NEWSLETTER

### The Master Musician



In his later years Beethoven spent hours playing a broken harpsichord. The instrument was worthless. Keys were missing. Strings stretched. It was out of tune, harsh on the ears. Nonetheless the great pianist would play till tears came down his cheeks. You'd think he was hearing the sublime. He was. He was deaf. Beethoven was hearing the sound the instrument should make, not the one it makes.

Maybe you feel like Beethoven's harpsichord? Out of tune.... inadequate...your service ill-timed or insignificant? Every wonder what God does when the instrument is broken? How does the Master respond when the keys don't work? Does he demand a replacement? Or does he patiently tune until he hears the song he longs to hear? If you've asked those questions (and who hasn't)! I want you to know that the Master Musician fixes what we can't and hears music when we don't! And He loves to hear the music that comes from your life.

*(A reflection from Max Lucado)*

~ Submitted by Patricia M. Rivest, Treasurer



At St. Francis Xavier CWL Council's June 20th dinner the Maple Leaf Service Pin was presented to Carol Sulpher. This pin is intended for presentation to members who have served the League in an exceptional or meritorious manner. It recognizes a member who has made a specific high impact in a particular project, or a member who has given exceptional service to the League over many years.

The recipient, Carol Sulpher, has done both. In this past year, Carol has orchestrated the English Second Language program for Renfrew's Syrian Refugee family. Assisting with the sponsorship was our CWL Year of Mercy project, and that, in itself would make her worthy of receiving the Maple Leaf Pin, but Carol has served the League exceptionally in many capacities in her 26 years as a member, including 2 years as president in 1993 -1994. In photo Carol on left with St. Francis Xavier CWL President, Joan Lemay.