



May 2019 Edition

Featuring the Diocese of London and
OPC Treasurer, Patricia Rivest

"Care for our Common Home"



Annie's Annotations

This Issue

Annie's Annotations.....	1
Mother Kept a Garden.....	2
Life Lessons	3
London Diocese	4-7
Food for Thought	7
Thunder Bay Convention.....	8
Awards/Recognition	9-10
Good Read.....	11
Holy Rosary Council.....	12
Water Project.....	13

Spring is slow to arrive this year; the calendar says its May, but it is still so cool. We had frost one morning this week! Even when the temperature rises to 14 degrees the wind remains cool. It doesn't really feel like global warming when it this cold, but the reality is that our climate is changing and we as humans must change our ways and be more responsible towards God's creation. The earth is crying out in the form of floods, earthquakes, hurricanes, tornadoes and record-breaking storms. Small changes in our personal life styles will make a huge collective difference. We can reduce our water consumption; use reusable products and shopping bags to name a few.

It is up to us as individuals to care for this wonderful gift that God gave to us!



My Mother Kept A Garden

My Mother kept a garden,
a garden of the heart,
She planted all the good things
that gave my life it's start.
She turned me to the sunshine
and encouraged me to dream,
Fostering and nurturing
the seeds of self-esteem...
And when the winds and rain came,
she protected me enough-
But not too much because she knew
I'd need to stand up strong and tough.
Her constant good example
always taught me right from wrong-
Markers for my pathway
that will last a lifetime long.
I am my Mother's garden.
I am her legacy-
And I hope today she feels the love
reflected back from me.

-Author Unknown



*All women are mothers because all women bring life to
the world in some way.*

- Holley Gerth

Life Lessons Learned

Submitted by Patricia M. Rivest, OPC Treasurer

Every day, I gather words, words of wisdom, of Life Lessons and of Lessons Learned. I use these words to assist in my daily life. I find encouragement, comfort, support, laughter and joy in these words. I pray that you will find the same.

- ❖ Focus on all the simple blessings that surround us everyday.
- ❖ Life is short – we can't change the past, or predict the future – so enjoy today, the present.
- ❖ You are blessed – Believe it.
- ❖ One of the best feelings in the world – when you hug someone you love and they hug you back even tighter.
- ❖ A good life is when you smile often, dream big, laugh a lot and realize how very blessed you are for what you have.
- ❖ Joy is the echo of God's love in our hearts.
- ❖ Sometimes music is the only medicine the heart and soul need.
- ❖ Take chances – make mistakes – that's how we grow.
- ❖ When you forgive, you in no way change the past, but you sure do change the future.
- Bernard Miltzer
- ❖ Where flowers bloom, so does hope.
- Lady Bird Johnson
- ❖ There are 2 kinds of worry – those you can do something about and those you can't. Don't spend anytime on the latter.
- Duke Ellington
- ❖ Tomorrow hopes we have learned something from yesterday.
- John Wayne
- ❖ The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched – they must be felt with the heart.
- Helen Keller
- ❖ Being deeply loved by someone, gives you strength, While loving someone deeply gives you courage.
- Lao Tzu
- ❖ Mathematics of Life – Life + Laughter x Love – Hate = Happiness.

Diocese of London

London Region In Action



The London Region living the CWL Mission Statement - **The Catholic Women's League of Canada calls its members to grow in faith, and to witness to the love of God through ministry and service.**

St. John the Divine Council delivered over 200 care bags containing personal hygiene products to My Sisters Place.

Our Lady of Sorrows collected 240 pairs of socks and members generously donated items from the St. Thomas Women's Shelter wish list.

St. Martin's held a baby shower and all proceeds from their Copper Carnival Bazaar supported Anova, Birthright shower, Men's Mission and Women of Hope!



St. Peter's members serve a Lenten lunch every Friday to the community during Lent.

St. Michaels provided parishioners with Lenten Prayer cards. It was a wonderful opportunity for parishioners to support one another in prayer and to build a sense of community as they journeyed through the season of Lent.

- Submitted by Dianne Kehoe, London Regional Chairperson

Huron Perth Happening

Councils in Huron Perth have been busy collecting socks donating them to various homeless shelters in the area, as well as making monetary donations. To date 1,410 pairs have been collected with still more coming in. One of the councils also collected long underwear.



St. Boniface Zurich and St. Peter's St. Joseph's Councils are hosting a Huron Perth Fun Night on May 7th. It has been a number of years since the last fun night and they are anticipating a good turn out to reconnect with our League Sisters and their Spiritual Advisors. A great night of food and entertainment!

Attached are pictures of some of the sock collections as well as other items from St. Joseph's Listowel, St. Patrick's Kinkora, St. Joseph's Stratford and St. Peter's St Joseph in that order.



- Submitted by Mary Barnes,
Huron Perth Regional Chairperson

Essex Region

Many of our councils have been collecting and distributing socks, hats, scarves, and gloves to give to the needy in our area. Backpacks and school supplies were donated to the Children's Aid Society. To promote save water, some did attend the evening at Villa Nova high school to be educated on the Detroit River Clean up. We are encouraging all to conserve water in their homes by being more diligent in their use of it. Gleaners, the Bridge, Feeding the Hungry, and the Downtown Mission have all been served either financially or physically by our members. To keep feeding our soul, the lenten retreat day was well attended as well as some held reflection days in their parish. Preparing for our convention in Windsor has brought forth many talents and charisms of our presidents. We look forward to hosting and sharing time with our diocesan sisters at convention.

- Submitted by: Rose Beneteau, Essex Regional Chairperson

The London Diocese is proud to announce that two Resolutions were presented at their London Diocesan Convention held April 29th – May 1st: 1) Abortion, and the Effects on Mental Health and 2) Equal Access to Permanent Resident Status, an Amendment to the Express Entry System under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act, as it relates to Religious Workers. Both were passed!



By participating in the OPC Water Conservation Initiative it was easy to see how we can make a difference. In a span of about six weeks I saved approximately 42 gallons of water by simply turning off the tap while brushing my teeth. Yes indeed, one by one we can make a difference!

- Submitted by Joan Lobsinger, London Diocesan Resolutions Chairperson



Our London diocese has been working with **Farmtown Canada** on their historic provincial human trafficking public awareness initiative. The director Kelly Franklin, spoke at our Fall Regional meetings and informed us, Ontario is the Province highest in human trafficking across Canada.

The minor aged victims have created media ads to show 2 million screen impressions at the 20 ONroutes in Ontario over the 30 days in July. Funding and work is being done by volunteers.

We are saving the date July 30th for the International Day to End Slavery when our London diocesan CWL members are joining others at an ONroute location on

the 401 in solidarity for their Project for Freedom. The time is 9:20am to 10:20am. Come share the hour with us.

RSVP at: www.farmtowncanada.ca.

- Submitted by Mary Ann Horne-White, London Diocesan Community Life Chairperson

What's new with Christian Family Life?

Throughout the Diocese, there have been post cards, petitions, phone calls and letters sent to our politicians-locally, provincially and nationally, to keep them up to date with our beliefs and let them know we are a force to listen to. We continue to support our sisters with Prayers, parades (Right to Life) and lunches (funerals) and numerous fundraisers for the homeless and the multitude of charities we support.

Right after Easter we will be honouring Our Lady of Good Council, celebrating Divine Mercy Sunday and then will engage in 12 hours of Prayer for Palliative Care on or around May 4th.

Our newest endeavour is HUG (Helping, Understanding, and Giving). This is the centenary project promoted by national. Throughout the next year we will collect and deliver personal care products, gift cards and some specialty clothing to all who are in need.

- Submitted by Denise Lalonde Morris, Diocesan Christian Family Life Chairperson



The Wooden Bowl

A frail old man went to live with his son, daughter-in-law, and four-year-old grandson. The old man's hands trembled, his eyesight was blurred, and his step faltered. The family ate together at the table. But the elderly grandfather's shaky hands and failing sight made eating difficult. Peas rolled off his spoon onto the floor. When he grasped the glass, milk spilled on the tablecloth.

The son and daughter-in-law became irritated with the mess. 'We must do something about father,' said the son. 'I've had enough of his spilled milk, noisy eating, and food on the floor.'

So the husband and wife set a small table in the corner. There, Grandfather ate alone while the rest of the family enjoyed dinner. Since Grandfather had broken a dish or two, his food was served in a wooden bowl.



When the family glanced in Grandfather's direction, sometimes he had a tear in his eye as he sat alone. Still, the only words the couple had for him were sharp admonitions when he dropped a fork or spilled food.

The four-year-old watched it all in silence.

One evening before supper, the father noticed his son playing with wood scraps on the floor. He asked the child sweetly, 'What are you making?' Just as sweetly, the boy responded, 'Oh, I am making a little bowl for you and Mama to eat your food in when I grow up. The four-year-old smiled and went back to work.

The words so struck the parents so that they were speechless. Then tears started to stream down their cheeks. Though no word was spoken, both knew what must be done.

That evening the husband took Grandfather's hand and gently led him back to the family table. For the remainder of his days he ate every meal with the family. And for some reason, neither husband nor wife seemed to care any longer when a fork was dropped, milk spilled, or the tablecloth soiled.

- Submitted by Anna Tremblay, OPC Spiritual Development Chairperson

66th Annual Convention in Thunder Bay

The 66th Annual Convention for Thunder Bay was held April 26th – 28th. The officers were elected for the 2019-2021 term. New Diocesan President is Maria Bertoldo. Congratulations Ladies!



The St. John Bible was displayed at the 66th Annual Convention in Thunder Bay.

Docent Edwina McDonald presented a workshop on The Gospels and Acts volume. She was available all weekend for convention participants and parishioners to view the Bible. At times the line up was the length of the church. What a wonderful opportunity to view this piece of art.

The Bible resides in the Hamilton Diocese at the Bishop Farrel Library.

- Submitted by Past-President, Mary Wilson

Awards/Recognition



Congratulations Ladies!

The first cohort of ladies graduated after a two-year term from the Catholic Women's Leadership Foundation Program on May 4th, 2019. These women were chosen from various gifted and talented applicants from across Canada. Here they are seen with certificates in hand. Our lovely Provincial President, Anne Madden, stands 5th from the left in the back row.

The second group of ladies has been chosen and you can read about them at:

<https://cwlfcanada.ca/our-leadership-program/2019-program-group/>

Congratulations to Lisa Fillingham, the Diocesan Communication Chairperson from St. Catharines, for forming part of this group. This certificate program is through Saint Paul University's Providence School of Transformative Leadership and Spirituality.



St. Theresa of Calcutta Faith in Action Award



On May 6th, 2019, Denise Lalonde-Morris was awarded the **St. Theresa of Calcutta Faith in Action Award**, by the Huron Perth Catholic District School Board for exemplary model of Catholic service. Awards are presented annually to dedicated individuals who have demonstrated exemplary commitment and service to Catholic education beyond their workplace by: Nurturing and celebrating their own and other's gifts, self-worth and potential in a Christ-centred environment; promoting social justice and awareness; and parish involvement. Denise is a member of St. Joseph's Parish in Clinton, a CWL member, and London Diocesan Christian Family Life Chairperson. Bishop Ronald Fabbro presented this award to her.



Ontario Provincial Convention – July 13th – 17th, 2019 Kingston, Ontario

Have you registered yet?

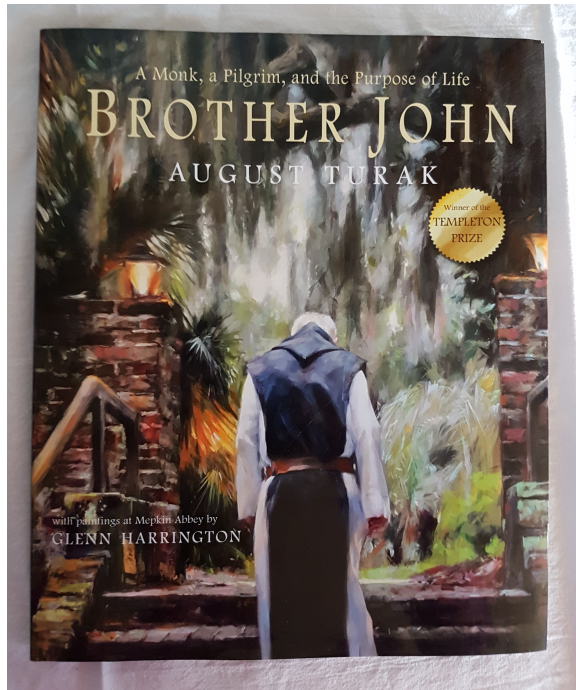
Registration closes June 12th, 2019!

We are quite thrilled to present the 2019 Ontario Provincial Convention Package. Please review and send in your registration as soon as possible. We are looking forward to seeing you there! Details can be viewed on the website at:

<http://www.cwl.on.ca/sites/default/files/bulletin/1842.pdf>

Check out the fundraising items at:

http://kingston.cwl.on.ca/?page_id=1390



Good Reading

A beautiful, inspiring read about the encounter of the author with a Trappist monk - A guide to the redemptive power of a purposeful life. Beautifully illustrated with paintings by Glenn Harrington at Mepkin Abbey.

- Submitted by Mary Wilson, Past-Diocesan President, Thunder Bay



Holy Rosary Parish CWL – Installation of New Executive – January 17, 2019



Installation Mass of new Executive members took place on January 17, 2019 at **Holy Rosary Parish, Milton, Diocese of Hamilton**. The Mass was officiated by the Spiritual Advisor, Father Artur Geringer.

While a cold winter evening roared outside, fellowship, friendship and laughter carried the night for those in attendance.



- Submitted by Margaret Doma



THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA

NATIONAL THEME 2019-2020

FOCUS FOR 2019 : WATER

ONTARIO PROJECT KICK OFF



FIRST REPORT RECEIVED

Our Lady of the Holy Rosary, Thorold, Ontario Catholic Women's League Council, submitted their estimated annual water savings.... 3,320 gallons per year! That is only one household and calculated on shower (one person) and dishwasher cutbacks. We have over 100 members, so if they all get onboard, we can add to that savings...(we are sure our members are listening and are adding to the savings...especially after watching the Sisters of St. Joseph - A Blue Community video (at our April 2019 CWL Parish Council meeting via Cathy Majtenyi, our Communications Chair)) and hearing reports about water conservation, distributing copies of the Save Water info (Ontario Project Kick Off) and banning water bottles at CWL functions...we are all onboard and hope to help our environment along with our sisters across Canada!

REMINDER OF PROCESS

EACH PARTICIPATING INDIVIDUAL IS ASKED TO SELECT ONE WAY OF REDUCING WATER CONSUMPTION FOR THEMSELVES AND OTHERS WHO SHARE LIVING SPACE.

EACH INDIVIDUAL/HOUSEHOLD RECORDS THEIR CHANGE WITH THE ESTIMATED ANNUAL WATER SAVINGS IN GALLONS AND REPORTS THE TOTAL IMPACT TO THE OPC RESOLUTIONS CHAIR, COLLEEN MARTIN BY EMAIL cwlresolutions@tbaytel.net ASAP.

A FURTHER STEP WILL BE LAUNCHED AT THE ANNUAL PROVINCIAL CONVENTION IN JULY 2019.

- Submitted by Colleen Martin, OPC Resolutions Chairperson