



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

## ON-LINE NEWSLETTER



November 2019 Edition

Featuring the Diocese of Toronto and  
OPC Administrative Assistant Anna Tremblay

### "Care for our Common Home"



### *Colleen's Communications*

"Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,  
And let perpetual light shine upon them.  
May they rest in peace. Amen."

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The month of November, in the Catholic Church, is devoted to the deceased. It is as if God has brought all things together, so to speak, so we are not distracted as we move toward the end of the liturgical year and the wonderful celebration of Advent. During that time, when we are preparing for Advent, we also celebrate Remembrance Day and we give thanks for those who fought to protect us and make our great country one that is free and brave.

In my house, we celebrate many birthdays in November. This year on Remembrance Day my mother will be 85 and several days later Dad will be 87. My grandson and 2 nieces also celebrate birthdays in November. I am truly blessed to have a large loving family.

We are not all so blessed. Higher rates of divorce and a stronger dependence on technology have been credited as contributing factors to loneliness.

Recently I read an article on some Ontario women who were long-time friends. They decided to live together to decrease their expenses and so that they would not be alone. You can read the full article [here](#).

Often, when loneliness creeps into our lives, we contemplate alone. We are not alone! No matter our struggle, God is there with us and for us. You are always in my prayers.

Yours in faith and service,

*Colleen*

## The Goose Story

When you see geese heading south for the winter... flying along in a "V" formation ... you might consider what science has discovered as to why they fly that way.

As each bird flaps its wings, it creates an uplift for the bird immediately following.

By flying in "V" formation, the whole flock adds at least 71% greater flying range than if each bird flew on its own.

***People, who share a common direction and sense of community, can get where they are going more quickly and easily because they are travelling on the thrust of one another.***

When a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to go it alone ... and quickly gets back into formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the bird in front.



***If we have as much sense as a goose, we will stay in formation with those who are headed in the same direction as we are.***

When the head goose gets tired, it rotates back in the wing ... and another goose flies point.

***It is sensible to take turns doing demanding jobs ... with people or geese flying south.***

Geese honk from behind to encourage those up front to keep up their speed.

***What do we say when we honk from behind?***

Finally... and this is important ... when a goose gets sick or is wounded by gunshots and falls out of formation, two other geese fall out with that goose and follow it down to lend help and protection. They stay with the fallen goose until it can fly, or until it dies – and only then do they launch out on their own, or with another formation, to catch up with their group.

***If we have the sense of a goose, we will stand by each other like that.***

*(Source Unknown)*

- Submitted by Linda Squarzolo, President-Elect/Organization Chair



## Administrative Assistant

The role and duties of the corresponding secretary, as outlined in the *Handbook for Secretaries*, include:

1. attend all executive and general meetings of the council
2. submit all correspondence received to the president for her information and action
3. compose and send out all correspondence as directed, in some councils this includes all occasion cards to members
4. list all correspondence to be brought to the meeting
5. read highlights of all correspondence at the meeting as directed by the president. All correspondence received or sent in the name of the council should be reported to the members. This may include thank you letters, invitations, replies to inquiries, information received, etc. It may be summarized, giving pertinent details. Reporting of each letter should start with from whom it was received or to whom it was sent, and the date. Reading of correspondence dealing with a matter appearing later on the agenda may be deferred until the matter comes to the floor of the meeting
6. arrange meeting accommodation and notifies members of the time and place of the meeting
7. be responsible for notices of meetings and conventions



This *Handbook* also includes guidelines for business correspondence (pages 14 and 15), as well as *Style Guide for League Publications* (pages 16 to 18) which ensures uniformity throughout all League publications. The *Handbook* can be accessed/downloaded at <https://www.cwl.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/612-Handbook-for-Secretaries-2005.pdf>

Another excellent resource, and one of my favourite “go-tos,” is *Good Gracious! Good Grammar!* which can be found on the Ontario provincial website at <http://cwl.on.ca/sites/default/files/resources/627.pdf>

Provincial President Colleen Perry has chosen *Loneliness* as her focus for the coming two years. This fits perfectly with the position of corresponding secretary, since she is the one responsible for sending out all correspondence.

I encourage all corresponding secretaries to make every effort during this term to reach out to those members who are sick and/or homebound, by sending a card or note, letting them know they are still valued members of the League.

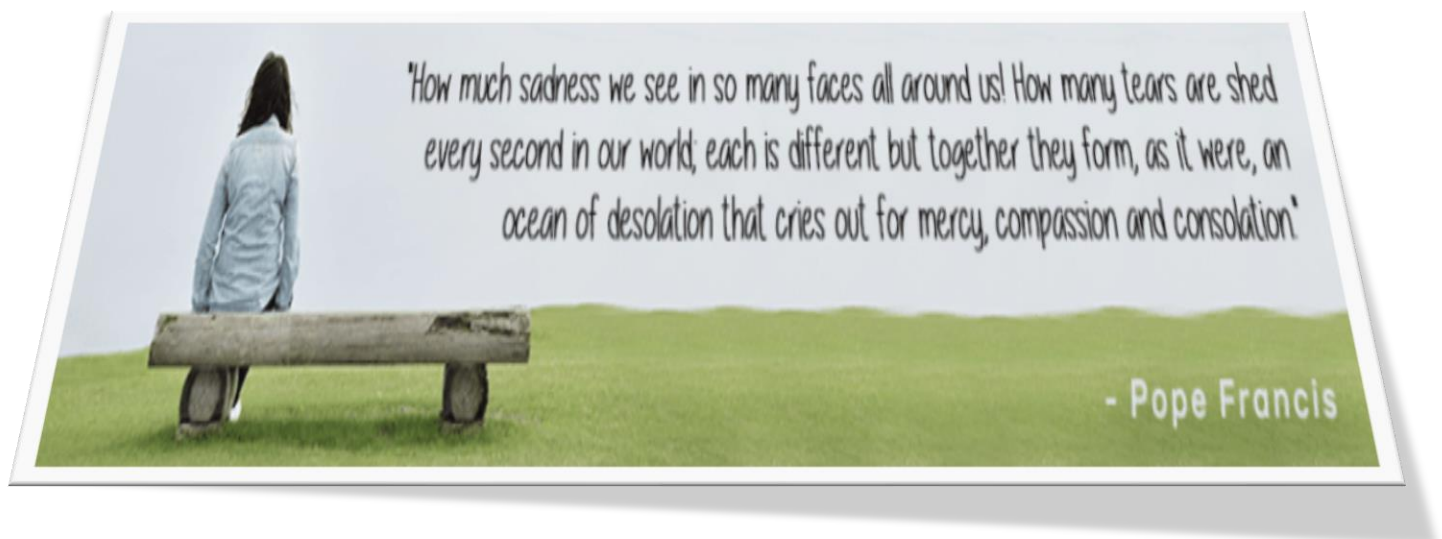


Ask members in your council to let you know if a member is sick/hospitalized, experiencing a bereavement, transitioning to an assisted living facility or nursing home, or homebound, then reach out to them assuring them of the thoughts and prayers of their League sisters. If the person receiving the card/note usually attends meetings, consider having a few extra "*Thinking of You*" or "*Get Well*" cards on hand and invite other members to sign the card at a meeting before sending it off.

The corresponding secretary position, is a vital function of the executive, so enjoy your term of office and thank you for saying "yes."

May Our Lady of Good Counsel bless and guide you always in your work for God and Canada.

- Submitted by Anna Tremblay, Administrative Assistant  
Ontario Provincial Council





## Toronto Diocesan Council



Celebrations for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Toronto Diocesan Council have begun....

This commemorative pin was created for all members to wear proudly. They are available for purchase at a cost of \$10ea.

For more Anniversary news please go to: <https://www.cwltoronto.ca/> and let's celebrate!!



**Toronto Diocese is made up of seven regions and are proud of our four CGL Councils at:**

St. Aidan Parish  
St. Bartholomew Parish  
St. Francis Xavier Parish  
Sts. Peter and Paul Parish

← St. Francis CGL helping at preparation of Mother's Day flowers.

St. Bartholomew CGL at:



Sts. Peter & Paul CGL joined Parish Council members in the Sunday Pro-life Chain at street corner.



On Friday October 13<sup>th</sup>, members from across Toronto Diocese came together to attend the "10th Annual Mass to end Woman Abuse". The Mass was held in partnership with Toronto Catholic Family Services. The event was hosted at St. Roch Parish in Humber Valley Region. This event helps to raise awareness on the ongoing need to stop violence against women and break the silence and stigma of abuse.

### **Guardian Angels Parish Council - Peel Region**



On October 6, 2019 at 3:00 pm the new Guardian Angels Church in Brampton was consecrated by Cardinal Collins with approximately 1400 people in attendance. It was truly a blessed day as the sun broke through the clouds and shone on the cross behind the altar just as the Cardinal completed the consecration of the altar.

CWL members at the Parish were actively involved in fund raising activities for the construction of the Church. They donated 2 pews, and the procession cross.



### **St. John Parish Council - Toronto Region (Kingston Road)**



Members and Clergy of St. John Parish Council

The Council embraced the theme "*Care for our Common Home*". They had many activities this passing year. They explored the importance of water conservation and preservation pledging to care daily for water and thereby protect and cherish creation. They welcomed beekeepers to speak about the importance of bees to all planet life. They acted on the theme of *Loneliness/ Homelessness* with their monthly casseroles feeding the homeless, providing hygiene items to a women's shelter and arranging a community Healing Mass.

### **St. Mary's Parish Council – Northern Region**



The ladies of St. Mary's Parish of Victoria Harbour enjoyed a fun filled evening of painting. The group is small, but mighty and hard working with all projects for their church and community. The painting night was a blend of fun, food and fundraising, a brilliant combination! The evening began with prayers, a potluck dinner and finished up with each lady taking home her art masterpiece. Cathy Wilde lead the painting class and the money raised from this event was given to Emma Lamoureux who took part in the "Me To We Leadership Program" in the Amazon.

### **St. Mary of the People Parish Council – Durham Region**



At the October meeting, Patrice Joly facilitated the KAIROS Blanket Exercise program which explores the history of the relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people in Canada. Blankets arranged on the floor represented land, as participants stepped into the roles of First Nations, Inuit and later Métis people. This interactive program effectively educated and increased members' empathy and understanding of the challenges faced by Indigenous people.

### **St. Edward the Confessor Parish Council – North York Region**



April 23rd, 2019 marked the anniversary of the Yonge St. van attack and many of the CWL members gathered with the community of Willowdale to celebrate "We Love Willowdale" at St. Edward the Confessor Church. Members helped serve food donated by local restaurants following an ecumenical service where candles were placed on the altar in remembrance of those who died.



### St. Bartholomew Parish Council – Scarborough Region



On September 21, 2019, St. Bartholomew Council celebrated its 25th anniversary. Their retired Spiritual Advisor for 22 of those years was invited back to join in the celebration. Five of the founding members were in attendance to receive their **25 year** Service pins. In addition, Sonia DaCosta-Spence received the Maple Leaf Service pin for her outstanding work in support of the council.

Founding Members and President (from left to right): Anna Leodolter, Theresa Greasley, Sonia Yam, and Brenda Bourne (and founding member Ellen Yam, not in photo).

### St. Margaret Mary Parish Council - Humber Valley Region



St. Margaret Mary council adopted a new tradition of celebrating members' birthdays at each general meeting. This tradition has been well received by all members. Whoever is present and celebrating a birthday that month, gets to hear the Happy Birthday song and blows out the birthday candles. This small gesture has enticed more members to attend the meetings - capturing a wider audience, knowing they will be acknowledged.

Celebrating September Birthday's



*Monsignor Patrick O'Dea*

### SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

The Toronto Diocesan Council is very pleased and proud to let you know that Pope Francis has bestowed on Father Patrick O'Dea the title of Monsignor; Cardinal Thomas Collins conveyed the good news to him.

During his term as our Toronto Diocesan Spiritual Advisor, Reverend Monsignor Patrick O'Dea has been a passionate companion with his expression of faith, which has helped us over the years. With this faith in our lives all our tomorrows have limitless potential. We thank him for his loving service to the Church and we look forward to continuing that work with him.

Please join with the rest of the Toronto Diocesan Council members, as we ask God for showers of blessings upon Reverend Monsignor Pat, and may he continue to be sustained by His grace and may his life in God's service always be filled with joy.



## *Reminder—*

Does your council have an idea for a resolution? If so, be sure to submit your idea to your Diocesan Resolution Chair. All Diocesan Resolution Chairs must send in any resolution topics by December 15, 2019 to the Provincial Resolutions Chair.

**Loneliness fact-**The Alliance for Healthier Communities has been running a pilot project from September 2018-December 2019. Doctors refer patients to a “link worker” who connects them with community services and programs that match their needs. The alliance suggests the “prescription” can take many forms---dance lessons, karaoke, museum visits, even bingo. To learn more about this initiative, visit their website <https://www.allianceon.org>.

- Submitted by Wilma Vanderzwaag, Resolutions Chair  
Ontario Provincial Council







All Saint day: 1<sup>st</sup> November



2<sup>nd</sup> November, All Souls day

Eternal rest grant unto them,  
O Lord, and let perpetual light  
shine upon them.  
May the souls of the faithful  
departed, through the mercy  
of God, rest in peace.  
Amen.

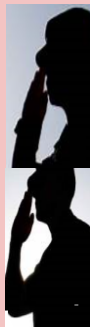


As a reminder of our duty to pray for the suffering faithful in Purgatory, the Church has dedicated the month of **November to the Holy Souls**.

St. Paul warns us that we must not be ignorant concerning the dead, nor sorrowful, "even as others who have no hope ... For the Lord Himself shall come down from heaven ... and the dead who are in Christ shall rise".

**REMBRANCE DAY**  
**Monday, November 11**

On this Veterans Day,  
let us remember the service  
of our veterans, and let us  
renew our national promise  
to fulfill our sacred obligations  
to our veterans and their families  
who have sacrificed so much,  
so that we can live free.



- Dan Lipinski



## Awards



Maple Leaf Pins were awarded to four members of the Holy Family Parish Council in Whitby - Durham Region, Toronto Diocese, for their dedication and long-term service, particularly in their monthly fundraising activities which help support many charities and council expenses.

L to R: Barbara Minaret, Johanna Lenis, Rebecca Roy and Laura Beaupre.

### News from Our Mother of Perpetual Help Parish Council, New Liskeard

2019 Ontario Volunteer Service Award for volunteering with Girl Guides of Canada was given out to:

Angela Briand	: 10-Year
Silvia Aird-Verheijden	: 20-Year
Audrey Shelton	: 20-Year

These awards were presented on September 23 in North Bay.

A Certificate was given from M.P.P. John Vanthof and another certificate from The Honourable Lisa MacLeod Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport which was also signed by Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario.

September 16, 2019, St. Michael's Parish Council, Cobourg, ON acknowledged three wonderful ladies for their service to The Catholic Women's League of Canada.



Alice Skibinski received her 70-year pin from President Lynda Macpherson



Helen Baxter was awarded the Maple Leaf Service pin by Paddy Fitzgerald Nolan, President of the Peterborough Diocese

## News around the Dioceses:



St. Basil Parish Council, Ottawa had a successful recruitment, growing from 28 to 42 members. Madeleine Mallett (seated) turned 101 years young. It's never too late!



Peterborough Mayor Diane Therrien; left, Parish Spiritual Advisor Father Tom Lynch; President Merina Csercsics, St. Peter-in-Chains Catholic Women's League; cathedral parish member and diocesan officer Maria Fitzgerald, and CWL member Mary Joan Jaynes attend a ceremony honouring the League crest on the Welcome to Peterborough sign on Wednesday October 2, 2019 in Peterborough, ON. - Clifford Skarstedt, Examiner.



## Timmins Diocesan Save Water Projects 2019

Two Catholic School classes participated in making posters on ways to save water



Holy Family School, Grades 1 & 2a, Englehart  
Bernice Duncan, president of Holy Trinity CWL on back right.



St Patrick School, Cobalt  
Father Wayne Mills, Diocesan Spiritual Advisor on the left  
Pat Bigelow, President of St Patrick's CWL, Cobalt on the right

## At Provincial Executive Fall Meeting, October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019



Fall season represents a time for transformations both personal and environmental. The temperatures drop, leaves fall, and your wardrobe is dominated by clothing that will keep us warm. The meaning of Fall is different to everyone, some find a spiritual connection with the season while others get nostalgic over the memories.

