



## April 2021 Edition

Featuring the Peterborough Diocese of and  
OPC Spiritual Development Chair, Emma Rose Rayburn

### "Care for our Common Home"



## *Colleen's Communications*

#### **This Issue**

Colleen's Communications	....	1-2
Peterborough Diocese	.....	3-11
Spiritual Dev Chair	.....	12-15
Provincial Council pin	.....	16
Health & Education	.....	17
Resolution	.....	18
God sent spring	.....	19
Creator God	.....	20
Remember	.....	21

Spring is here! As you are reading this, we are either just entering or ending the Easter Triduum. I hope that you have experienced all the emotions that go along with that journey; from the overwhelming sadness of the crucifixion to the awesome joy of the resurrection, we travel with Jesus on His journey to our salvation!

COVID-19 has been with us for a year now. It disrupted our meetings, our social gatherings, and our conventions in 2020. Out of concern for the safety of our members, the 2021 annual convention is going to be partially virtual. All accredited delegates who pre-registered to join us in Ottawa will be sent a registration form to be returned with contact information so that links to our meeting and the voting software being used can be sent to you. The business session to be held on Monday, July 12<sup>th</sup> will be live streamed and available for all to watch. Your Ontario provincial executives and

diocesan presidents will meet in person in Ottawa. Please pray for successful deliberations and for the health and safety of all attending.

There is a growing concern for the mental health of all members as we enter year two of the isolation and loneliness related to the pandemic.

Please continue to reach out to all your sisters in the league, but especially those in retirement homes and long-term care facilities. Send a card. Phone a friend. We all need that human contact. I miss it! I miss you all!

Yours in faith,

*Colleen Perry*



## Peterborough Diocesan Council

Welcome to our CWL of Peterborough Diocese, where we have 29 councils. I am truly blessed when my officers all agreed to serve a third year due to Covid – 19. Together we stay strong; together we pray and learn to love and serve the Lord. We are blessed to have a very supportive bishop. Bishop Daniel Miehm has been giving us on-line Sunday mass since the first lockdown. My ladies have learned to stay in touch in unique ways. They have some funky fundraising ideas, thinking outside of the box.

Here in Peterborough Diocese, we are supported by our 10 life members who have knowledge and leadership to spare in time of need. No one is walking this journey alone; I am always here for my ladies, their families, and our priests 24/7.

Now sit back and read this wonderful newsletter of all the work my fantastic ladies in the Peterborough Diocese do. They give from the heart non-stop.

President Paddy Fitzgerald Nolan

\*\*\*\*\*

### Peterborough Diocesan Council

Mass and gathering of officers and life members on November 3 at St. Peters-in-Chains Cathedral, Peterborough. The retreat was cancelled because of COVID-19, but members gathered for Mass and to dedicate a burning bush, a symbol of our Christian faith, in honour of the national (1920) and diocesan (1921) CWL 100<sup>th</sup> anniversaries and to present the life membership award to Wendy Tedford.

Spiritual Development Chair Donna Moore presented a spiritual bouquet of our prayers to Spiritual Advisor Fr. Damian Smullen and later delivered one to Bishop Daniel Miehm.



Spiritual Advisor Fr. Damian Smullen blessed a burning bush at the memorial mass.

Officers and life members as well as several invited guests gathered for the memorial mass for life member Margaret Van Meeuwen at St. Peter-in-Chains Cathedral. Parish presidents attending included Mary McKiever, Anna Marie Bolin, and Denise Brennan.

*Eternal rest grant to Margaret, O Lord; and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. Amen.*

Margaret Van Meeuwen  
November 3, 1949 – July 15, 2020







Spiritual Development Chair, Donna Moore presenting the spiritual bouquet to Spiritual Advisor Fr. Damian Smullen.



We celebrated that we have another new life member in the diocese. President Paddy Fitzgerald Nolan presented Wendy with her certificate and pin in a ceremony after mass.



Life members present and holding candles included: (L to R) Glenda Klein (LML), Lois Crider, Elizabeth Condon, Joan Gaensbauer, Erica Perk, Wendy Tedford and Joanne Hough.

**find  
your  
voice!**

**Please join us!** For our "Find Your Voice" training on Saturday May 29 from 9 am to 3 pm at Holy Angels Church, 40 Centre St., Brighton.

Are you nervous about speaking in public? Come out and learn effective public speaking techniques in a safe, fun, and supportive environment. Lunch is \$10 or bring your own. This interactive workshop is sponsored by The Catholic Women's League. All women are welcome.

Please preregister by email at [1pocwl@gmail.com](mailto:1pocwl@gmail.com) or call Pamela at 1-613-438-7273. Presentation is subject to COVID-19 restrictions.

## The Diocesan Ugly Sweater Contest – Although President Paddy challenged all members in

the diocese to take part, only two brave souls responded. The winners are:

1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Denise Brennan of St. Alphonsus, Wooler who accessorized with antlers, a sparkly green belted tie, and a flashing necklace.

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Glenda Klein of St. Mary's, Lindsay who is wearing a Christmas tree laden with COVID decorations such as sanitizer, washing hands, toilet paper, corona virus, church closures, stay home signs, masks, think positive and hope. Congratulations, ladies!



"What have we been doing?", you might ask.

Although we are not holding any meetings, the Peterborough Diocesan Council (Team PDC) has been busy.

- ✚ Paddy Fitzgerald Nolan has spent a lot of time coordinating the efforts for the diocesan council and the diocesan convention which didn't happen.
- ✚ Donna Moore coordinated all the prayers for the convention and with Paddy and Glenda prepared the liturgy and program booklet.
- ✚ Wendy and committee made arrangements for the anniversary banquet.
- ✚ Glenda Klein wrote several skits.
- ✚ Each of the officers collated the reports that parish councils submitted on-line.
- ✚ Ferrol O'Reilly prepared the annual 2020 statement and planned for the audit and has all accounts paid up to date.
- ✚ Helena collated the reports of the diocesan officers, forwarded them to provincial and prepared the diocesan annual report book. She also recorded parish presidents' name and address changes as advised.
- ✚ Katie Probst has been writing copious letters of concern on many issues.
- ✚ Rosemary Guy has completed and distributed the minutes and prepared a book review.
- ✚ Everyone was praying for Margaret Van Meeuwen both before and after her death.
- ✚ Pamela Bryson-Weaver has been working on a prolife resolution with Holy Angels Council in Brighton.
- ✚ Joanne Hough has been creating documents about our diocesan history for posterity.
- ✚ Maria Fitzgerald and committee have been doing an extraordinary amount of work making the rosary program accessible for all students in the diocese.
- ✚ Donna is collecting prayers, and Glenda and Pamela will assist in preparing an anniversary prayer booklet.
- ✚ Donna and Glenda planned the retreat for officers and life members (cancelled) and memorial mass for Margaret.
- ✚ Wendy Tedford and Joanne finalized sales and distribution of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary cookbook.

- ✚ Each of the officers and some of the presidents submitted articles to Glenda for the newsletter.
- ✚ Team PDC blitzed each of the councils they were mentoring, asking about their COVID experiences, updating our records, seeking prayer requests, checking to see that their CWL gmail account is accessible, and reminding them of deadlines for newsletter and prayers.
- ✚ Paddy continues as part of the Ontario Provincial Council, participating in their monthly virtual meetings.



**Bowmanville**



**Bracebridge**



**Douro**



**Powassan**

### **St. Joseph, Powassan**

For Christmas, the council donated 22 pairs of pajamas in requested sizes to the local food bank as well as funds to purchase gift cards for older children. Pictured are Treasurer Barb Eckensviller (L) and Food Bank Manager Diane Cole.







**St. Joseph, Bowmanville** - In celebration of the national CWL's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2020, members planted three burning bushes at the side and front entrances of the church. Members were part of the team to choose the wording for this cross donated by the local Knights of Columbus.

To meet ongoing COVID-19 restrictions, CWL members were part of the Sacrament Preparation Team who adapted the Diocesan Reconciliation and First Eucharist programs / textbooks into an online video-taped, distance-

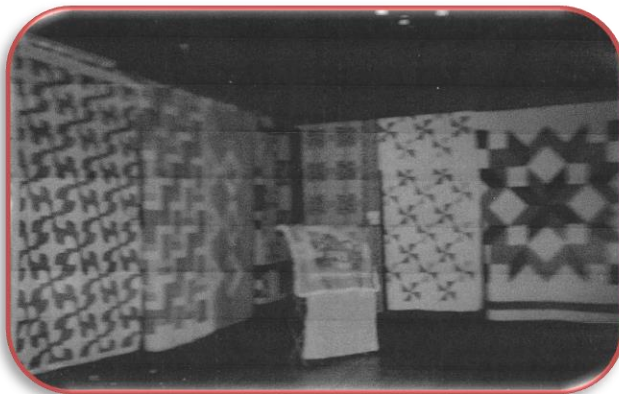
learning program available for use by all families in parishes of the Peterborough Diocese. Sacramental gifts were presented to students celebrating sacraments. Members assisted with the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul food drive and at the local SSVP store.

**St. Joseph's, Bracebridge** - St. Joseph's CWL has been working hard to keep in touch and to lift each other's spirits during this pandemic. In 2020 our council lost five of our long-time members and held a Memorial Mass for them in the beginning of November.

Additionally, 150 face shields were purchased and distributed to our long-term care homes.



**St. Joseph's, Douro** - Each Labour Day



weekend, the Douro Doings includes baseball games, a race for adults, a car show, and games for children. The CWL and K of C prepare dinner for 700-800 people. After dinner there is usually a raffle off 20 quilts that the CWL have quilted over the winter. Although the 2020 event was cancelled, CWL members continue in hope to sew their quilts for the 2021 event.

**St. Francis of Assisi, Newcastle** – On November 20, President Dennie Radcliffe presented service pins to Cheryl-Anne Robinson and Helen Cartier (L) for 25 years' service and to Chris Buhagiar (R) for 40 years' service, as well as a pin and floral tribute to the late Anna Meester for 60 years' service. Dennie was also acknowledged for her 40 years of faithful and faith-filled service.



**Our Lady of the Assumption and St John the Evangelist CWL, Otonabee / Keene**

Unable to socialize, in October the council came up with ideas on how to raise funds. A request was put in the bulletin that "in lieu of money spent on preparing baking and other donations, consider monetary donations to the Assumption CWL". An amount of \$1,700/- was raised donated by the member and the parishioners. This money allowed to continue the good works such as resurfacing the parish hall floor, missions in Northern

Canada and to the Salvation Army Hamper fund.

**St. John & Missions, Kirkfield –**

November 16, 2020: Remembrance Mass for all deceased CWL members.

December 13, 2020: Pins were presented to 25-year members by President Katie Probst (L) to Thang Nguyen, Joan Hooper and Thong Nguyen. Also attending (back row) Deacon Sean Gallagher and Father David West.

December 20, 2020: The Angel Tree dedication for deceased family members and friends.



**St. Mary's, Lindsay** - CWL elves were busy spreading comfort and joy to CWL sisters and to the Lindsay community living in long term care homes, Women's Resources and A Place Called Home. President Anne Marie Werry is pictured with her vehicle loaded with Christmas poinsettias for senior CWL members. Joanne Hough and Anne Marie Werry delivered lap blankets, Christmas cheer gift bags and over 600 Christmas cards were given to five long term care homes in Lindsay. Several members donated items and their time to make this project successful. All items were wrapped in plastic and the homes carried out all the protective steps needed to ensure residents' safety.

Hand-made cards were delivered to senior members for Valentine's Day with a chocolate heart, and on St Patrick's Day with a peppermint, and at Easter with a chocolate egg.



**St. Alphonsus Liguori, Peterborough** - At Thanksgiving, St. Alphonsus CWL did a food drive where members and parishioners dropped off bags of food which went to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul's Food Bank.



With the blessings of Fr. Jerry Tavares, they were able to hold a meeting in the Church in mid-November with the maximum allowance of 30 members in attendance.

For Christmas they did their annual socks, mittens and hats drive to be distributed to the shelters. It was an overwhelming success as members/parishioners were very generous in their donations, these were distributed to the YWCA shelter and Under One Roof daytime shelter. They also did the annual Christmas gifts to the shut-in members. Usually, they would take gifts on their visits, but with Covid restrictions, it was decided to sponsor a Mass and have it said in honour of the members. The response from these members and their family members was very positive on this wonderful idea.

### **Sacred Heart, Trout Creek –**

This council was saddened by the loss of an 80-year member, Catherine Quick, who would have been 100 on January 23, 2021. Pictured are president Linda Pugh (L) and Secretary Barb Grasser (R) presenting the 80-year service pin to Catherine last year.



**St. Mary of the Assumption, Huntsville** – Vice-President Diana Snowden holds a community cookbook produced by their council called "Tasty Foods for all seasons", with all proceeds going to Hospice Huntsville. The cookbook contains recipes from the three living charter members: Rebecca Laflamme Muzzi, Alice Mackay and Verna Simioni.

The council hosted a celebration in February for Rebecca Muzzi for her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. Pictured with Rebecca are her daughters Diana Snowden (L) and Janine Wright (R), both past council presidents. President Paddy Fitzgerald Nolan presented a prayer shawl on behalf of Peterborough Diocesan CWL.



**St. Peter the Apostle, Parry Sound** – Four members from the council took turns chairing the meetings. At the beginning of the virus, the council donated \$2,000/- to their local hospital to help with COVID expenses. They also purchased 150 facial shields for two long-term care homes. One of the members worked with a team to make 900 gowns for the hospital staff and when that was finished made 6,000 masks at the local sewing centre for public sale. Many members made masks for families, rectory staff and long-term care and hospital staff and continue to make them. They delivered Church news and hospital news to some parishioners who do not have internet. Members kept themselves in touch with one another via telephone contact.

**St. Alphonsus, Wooler** - During the month of November all the deceased members of St. Alphonsus CWL were remembered, as well as those intentions of our parishioners. The book of life was placed on a table and all the intentions of parishioners were placed in a basket. The name of each deceased member was



written on a leaf and placed around a wreath with a statue of Mary in the centre. Also included pictures of the two deceased CWL members lost during this

pandemic, Anne McCauley and Margaret Van Meeuwen.

On November 29<sup>th</sup> had a mass for the deceased members. It was also the first Sunday of Advent. Wrote Prayers of The Faithful and read all 49 names of the departed sisters. A candle was lit, and flowers were processed up and placed on the table. Prayers were said as we remembered our sisters and celebrated all the gifts, they shared with us. The poem "I'm Free" was read followed by the hymn "Be Not Afraid" was played.



Members of St. Alphonsus CWL attended the tree planting ceremony, led by President Denise Brennan. Pictured here are some of Margaret's sisters in the League of St. Alphonsus, Wooler. The burning bush was planted in a highly visible place for passers' by and will be a constant reminder of our faith and dedication.

### **What is a Life Member?**

A life member has shown her love of the League through service at several levels of the League. One of the main expectations of a life member is that she will share her knowledge by mentoring others. Often a life member is called to develop or teach a program or consulted to work on a resolution. New life members sign a commitment that they will be of service to the League if they are able.



### **Story of one life member – Glenda Klein**

When the local United Church World Day of Prayer rep contacted Glenda for help with this year's program, she approached her council St. Mary's in Lindsay to see if they would host the event. A decision was made to host the event virtually. Glenda is pictured wearing a shell necklace given to her by the women from Vanuatu at the World Day of Prayer Quintennial in New York in 2012.

Glenda contacted Spiritual Development Chair Michelle Minielli to see if she would prepare the program in electronic format and emcee the gathering. She later also agreed to lead the bible study and later her husband Tino Minielli agreed to give the reflection.

Tino and Michelle Minielli are pictured to the right. Glenda contacted the other churches, sent a bulletin notice for local churches and the WICC website, collected info about who wanted to attend. Other team members from St Mary's included Josette Chase, President Anne Marie Werry and Past President Lillian O'Connell. The event was attended by 27 people from Catholic, United, Presbyterian, Salvation Army and Lutheran denominations and participants from North York to Montreal. A user-friendly PowerPoint (easily modified) is available from Glenda at [CWL.LML@live.ca](mailto:CWL.LML@live.ca) if you still wish to host WDP virtually in your council.



*... the ecumenism of work for the many who are in need, for many men and women who today suffer as a result of injustice, wars, these terrible things. ... All together, we must help." Pope Francis*

**One Hundred Years Strong** - Congratulations to councils celebrating 100<sup>th</sup> anniversaries in 2021: Peterborough Diocesan Council; St. Peter-in-Chains, Peterborough; St Joseph, Bracebridge; St Paul the Apostle, Gravenhurst; St Mary's, Lindsay, St Patrick's, Kinmount; St. Martin's, Ennismore; St. Paul, Lakefield (Young's Point); St Joseph, Powassan; St. Patrick, Kearney; St. Mary of the Assumption, Huntsville; St. Peter-the-Apostle, Parry Sound; and St. John the Evangelist, Keene in 1948 amalgamated and now known as Our Lady of the Assumption, Otonabee/Keene; and Sacred Heart, Trout Creek.



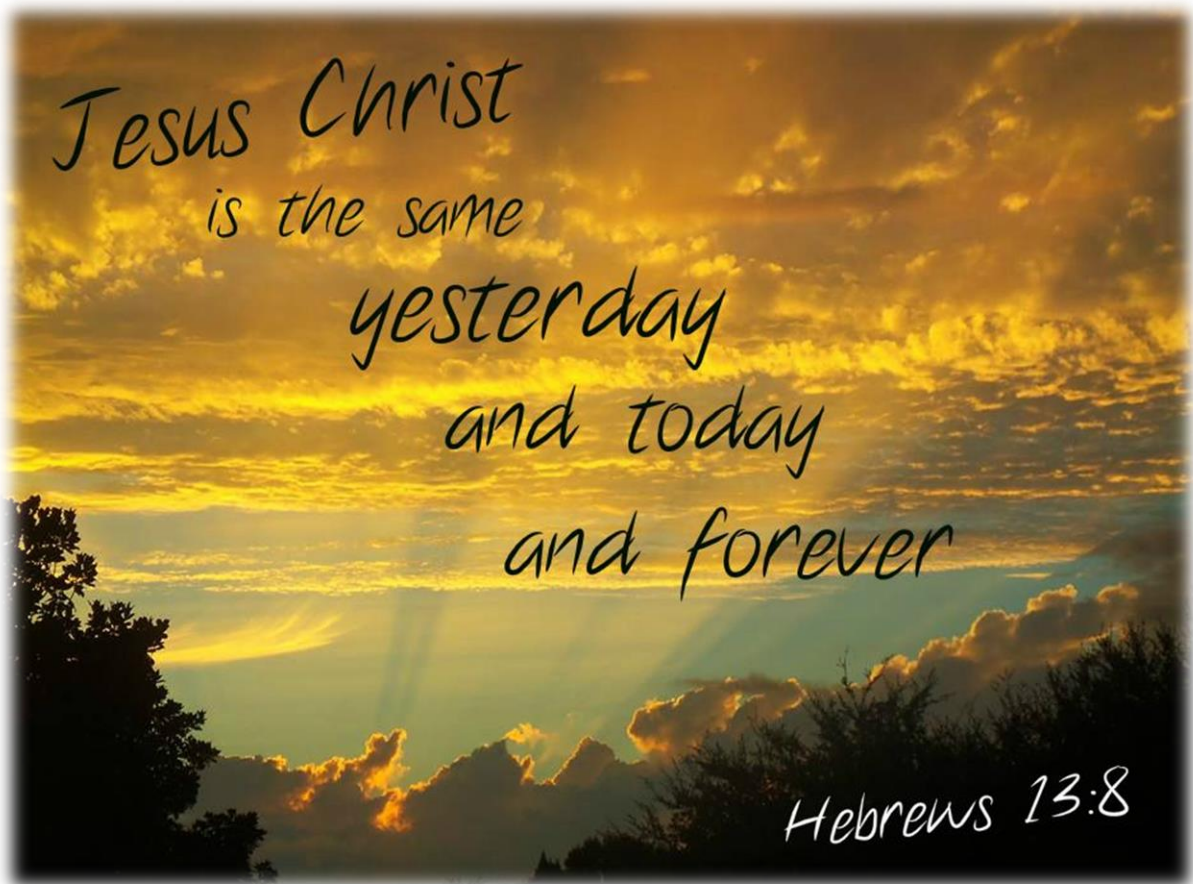
*Peterborough Diocesan Council and parish council submissions by Glenda Klein*





## **SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT CHAIR**

It's hard to believe that Easter is quickly approaching, it just doesn't seem possible that this is the second Easter we are celebrating during a pandemic. Life has been a bit different; we are still adjusting to our new way of Mass celebrations and we know this Easter, things will not be our "normal" way of celebrating. However, no pandemic can change the truth, the way, and the light. The seasons of Lent and Easter focus our attention on the monumental events of Christ's passion, death, resurrection, and ascension. During the Triduum we remember and celebrate these events, probing their meaning for those united with him in baptism. May we claim again God's promises made to us in our baptism and restore our vision for the kingdom of God. May your Eastertide be bright with joy, Alleluia!



## The Divine Mercy Message and Devotion

The Second Sunday of Easter is known as Divine Mercy Sunday. The novena begins on Good Friday, April 2nd and ends on April 11th.

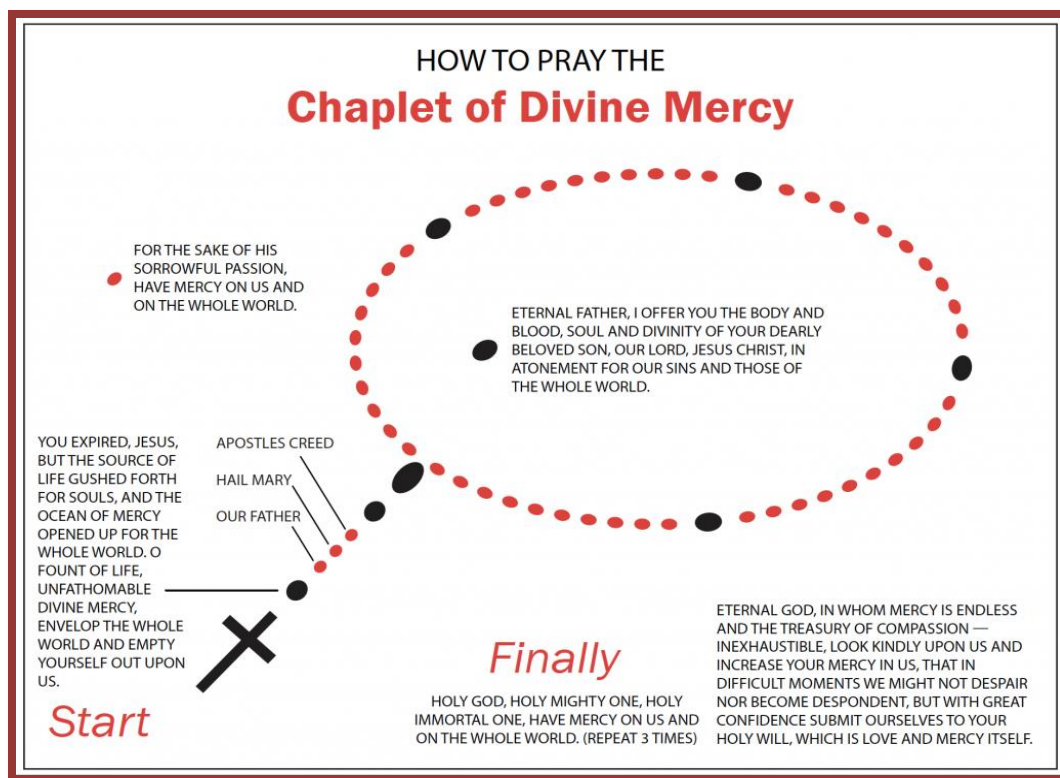
The Divine Mercy message and devotion is one we can call to mind simply by remembering ABC:

**A** – Ask for His Mercy. God wants us to approach Him in prayer constantly, repenting of our sins and asking Him to pour His mercy out upon us and upon the whole world.

**B** – Be merciful. God wants us to receive His mercy and let it flow through us to others. He wants us to extend love and forgiveness to others just as He does to us.

**C** – Completely trust in Jesus. God wants us to know that all the graces of His mercy can only be received by our trust. The more we open the door of our hearts and live with Him with trust, the more we can receive.

Hear a 30-minute crash course by Fr. Michael Gaitley, MIC.

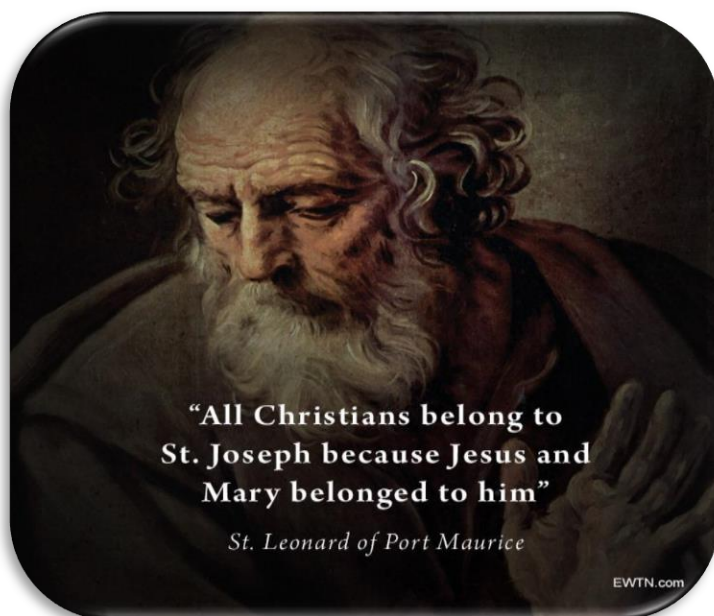


<https://www.thedivinemercy.org/message>

## The Year of St. Joseph

Did you know that in 1955 Pope Pius XII added a second feast day on May 1st, celebrated as the Memorial of St. Joseph the Worker? Our local parish just completed the Consecration to St. Joseph on March 19th and unfortunately, I was unable to take part in the sessions which lead to me to researching what I may have missed - I'm the curious type alright! EWTN never steers me wrong - I found so many interesting articles about St. Joseph that I said I must share these with my sisters in Christ. St. Joseph has always been in the background but once I've read some of these articles (still have a few more to go) I've come to admire St. Joseph as a wonderful role model. Click on the link for the articles on St. Joseph:

[https://www.ewtn.com/catholicism/seasons-and-feast-days/st-joseph-20901?fbclid=IwAR0\\_Ift8j\\_KQ5Ooa8eheqsmNzs70HH5CBMRbIOx\\_G0j8sbK5SYJILMZsEFw](https://www.ewtn.com/catholicism/seasons-and-feast-days/st-joseph-20901?fbclid=IwAR0_Ift8j_KQ5Ooa8eheqsmNzs70HH5CBMRbIOx_G0j8sbK5SYJILMZsEFw)



## Crowning of Mary for the Month of May



The month of May is fast approaching and when we think May, we always think the month of Mary. We also think of Spring, warmer weather, trees budding and flowers sprouting - a rebirth! And in our Diocese, we think of Convention! Covid-19 Pandemic has brought about some changes that many of us have not experienced before, and once again this year our conventions are going to be affected. I love the idea of honouring Mary by crowning her and I know that for me this is one of the highlights of our CWL Conventions. This year I know many of you will be having virtual Diocesan Conventions, you may still be doing a crowning or will have a Marion table, and/or you can crown Mary at your home whichever way you choose to honour Mary I would like to ask a favour of you to please send me a picture to my email [emmasab@aol.com](mailto:emmasab@aol.com). I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who last May sent

me pictures - your pictures will be included in our project for our upcoming Provincial Convention.



Attention Moms, Grandmas, Aunts, Great Aunts, and anyone who loves to spend time with little ones - the future of our Church!! I've found this website/blog that has the cutest ideas for children to celebrate their faith. Check this site out.

<http://www.catholicinspired.com/search/label/Easter>

Here are two links that I think are super cool. I always make these chocolate macaroons at Easter but never thought of this;

- ❖ <http://www.catholicinspired.com/2013/03/resurrection-cookie-display-fun-food.html>

My mother always told me not to play with my food, but she never said anything about the plate! This idea is way cool - A great way to teach children about The Triduum.

- ❖ <https://www.catholicinspired.site/resurrection.html>

I would love to see what you and your little loved ones create.



### **National Catholic Women's Conference - My Peace I Give You**

You know the saying better late than never? Well, I think this is a prime example: I happened upon this ad which I thought oh darn this conference already took place - but they were advertising the fact that you can purchase the package and watch at your leisure. I'm thinking this could be a good idea for a group of friends or a council to share and have a watch party or their own mini retreat. I felt the theme calling me and I thought I would share as it may be calling to you also.

<https://go.virtualcatholicconference.com/NCWC2021>

### **Your Peace is Worth It.**

- Discover women just like you are sharing similar struggles, and learn how they're finding freedom in Faith,
- Learn how prayer enhances your vocation as a mother, spouse, professional, and friend.
- Experience how God Multiplies our time and energy when we make prayer a priority.
- Learn how to stop wasting time and energy on guilt, comparison, resentment and become fully alive as a Catholic Woman.

.....Submitted by Emma Rose Rayburn, OPC Spiritual Development Chair



### **Ontario Provincial Council Pin**



To mark the milestone of the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Ontario Provincial Council in 2016, an OPC pin was introduced. 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 your pin, complete the form below and mail (with payment) to:

**Marie-Theresa Lamphier, 1617 Katella Avenue, Windsor, ON N8P 1P8**

*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: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Revised: February 2021

The form can be found on the OPC website under "Resources and Forms" or click here → <https://cwl.on.ca/sites/default/files/resources/2126.pdf>

.....Submitted by Marie-Theresa Lamphier, Treasurer



## ***An "Eye on Education and Health" ...***



### ***"The environment needs protection and sustainable development."***

(CWL Executive Handbook - May 2014)

The **Education and Health Standing Committee** is tasked with studying and promoting ecologically sound practices; encouraging members to enroll in courses and to apply to the CWL National Bursary Fund; and encouraging members' involvement in organizations providing health care, palliative care, and crisis intervention (three of our responsibilities as outlined in the Executive Handbook).

#### **EARTH DAY**

**Earth Day** is celebrated annually on **April 22<sup>nd</sup>**. Why this particular date? I recently googled this question and read that, "*Every year on April 22<sup>nd</sup>, Earth Day marks the anniversary of the birth of the modern environmental movement in 1970*".

This year's theme is **Restore Our Earth**. I encourage you to go to this link <https://www.earthday.org/earth-day-2021/> ... become involved ... take action!

#### **HOSPICE PALLIATIVE CARE**

The first full week in May marks National Hospice Palliative Care Week in Canada. Members will be asked to participate in the **12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care** (in whatever way they are able due to the pandemic restrictions). More information on this initiative will follow on the national website ([www.cwl.ca](http://www.cwl.ca)) and in my directive.

#### **NATIONAL BURSARY FUND**

National Chairperson Faith Anderson advises that members may use this opportunity to take online courses and workshops. The sum of \$1,000 can be awarded per year to a maximum of \$4,000 in a member's lifetime.

Refer to Item #552 on the League website for the criteria and application information. Applications must be completed on the official form (found at [www.cwl.ca](http://www.cwl.ca) ... scroll down to Resources ... 500 Series: Forms ... Item #552 ... [or by using](https://cwl.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/552-National-Bursary-Application-Form-2019.pdf) this link): <https://cwl.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/552-National-Bursary-Application-Form-2019.pdf>

#### ***Friendly Reminder:***

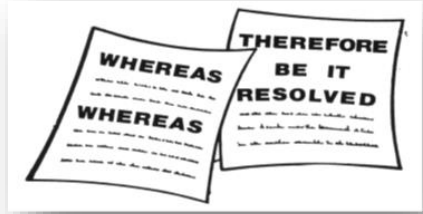
Applications to the National Bursary Fund (with supporting documentation) must be submitted to national office and postmarked **by May 15, 2021**.

..... Submitted by Karen McDonald, Education and Health Chair





## RESOLUTIONS



**Thank you** to all parish councils that contributed to the annual reports from their diocese. Councils reported that 2020 was a challenging year to keep their members educated and informed about resolutions and the action plans. They also stated that the resolution chair was a difficult position to fill which did not help communicating information about resolutions. This past year helped to show parish councils a way to keep informed. Many parish councils became creative and learned to do virtual meetings or events. Members have become very efficient in Zoom and Go to Meeting apps. Why not discuss/inform members about a resolution and the action plan on a separate virtual meeting. Members that are interested would be invited to attend so they can discuss, learn, and implement the action plan. I would appreciate feedback from any councils that try this process with their members.

Also remind members to view the provincial and national websites as resolutions and directives regarding resolutions are there for our members to stay informed and current.

**Thank you** to all the parish and diocesan councils that are inviting all members in Ontario to their virtual programs and workshops. It is deeply appreciated and a wonderful way to be connected during this pandemic.

.....Submitted by Wilma Vanderzwaag, OPC Resolutions Chair



## After the Winter, God Sends the Spring



Springtime is a season  
Of hope and joy and cheer,  
There's beauty all around us.  
To see and touch and hear.  
So, no matter how downhearted  
And discouraged we may be,  
New hope is born when we behold  
Leaves budding on a tree.  
Or when we see a timid flower  
Push through the frozen sod  
And open wide in glad surprise  
Its petaled eyes to God.  
For this is just God saying:  
"Lift up your eyes to Me,  
And bleakness of your spirit.  
Like the budding springtime tree,  
Will lose its wintry darkness.  
And your heavy heart will sing."  
For God never sends the winter  
Without the joy of spring.

....By Helen Steiner Rice

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



It is My Fathers desire that you  
receive My Kingdom in its  
fullness.



God Created All Things  
Beautiful



Creator God,  
Source of all that is,  
Help us each day to "Easter".  
Teach us to practice resurrection  
To seek love and forgiveness and new life  
In our relationships,  
In our work,  
In our play,  
In our busy and distracted world.

Creator God,  
Source of all that is,  
Remind us as the earth re-blooms,  
That new life is available to us every day.  
Our portion is abundant  
If we but empty our hands  
Of the things that would distract us from you  
And open wide our hearts  
To receive your gracious blessings  
So that we may be a blessing to each other  
And to those whose lives we can make better  
By our work with The Catholic Women's League.

.....Author unknown.

Submitted by Mary Capobianco, OPC Community Life Chair







### Remember:

A reminder that National Fall "The Canadian League" will be published online only.



### Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel April 26, 2021

**Our Lady of Good Counsel Mass** has been booked by National and will take place on April 26<sup>th</sup> at Loretto Abbey, Toronto. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, in-person attendance is not permitted; however, members will be able to view it on Salt + Light TV. (Extract from National Communique)



Looks at ways to saved mother earth, get involved.

