



## October 2021 Edition

Featuring the Hamilton Diocese and OPC Legislation

### "Care for our Common Home"



## Colleen's Communications

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Greetings to all,

I was inspired this past weekend by the homily of my parish's resident priest. He talked about humility, patience, and courage as it related to the daily readings. I was struck with how, as members, we are asked to use these fruits of the Holy Spirit, especially during these unprecedented times.

Humility to be as children; open and loving, always giving love unconditionally. Patience to wait for God to reveal His plan for us and the courage to accept that plan when it is revealed.

*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. As I spoke to the congregation in my parish, inviting all women to join our council, those words moved me and*

reminded me that we must all be "like Jesus". We must all strive to walk the same path; to try to do our very best to imitate Jesus' compassion and love.

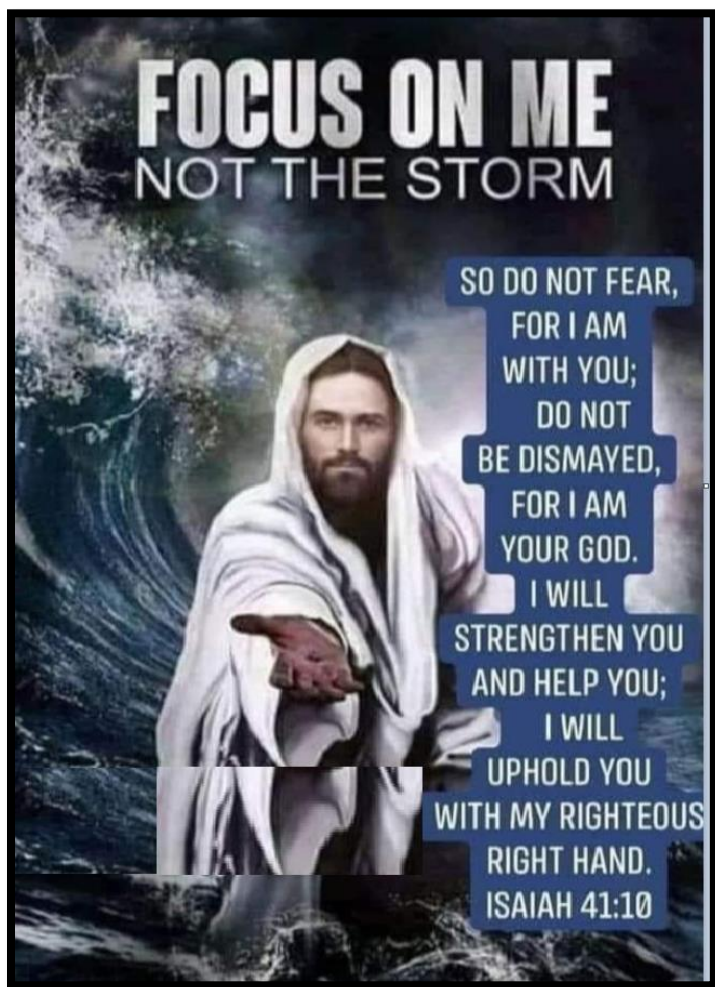
Let us grow in faith as we move back into life. It will never be the same, but it will be as God has planned it, if we wait humbly, patiently, and courageously for all to be revealed.

I wish you all a wonderful month. May you enjoy the peace and tranquility of the fall season.

From my family to yours, Happy Thanksgiving!

Yours in faith,

*Colleen Perry*



*Fall every colourful leaf speaks bliss*



# Hamilton Diocesan Council

## Dear Sisters in the League

It has been an exciting summer for Hamilton Diocese with our own Life Member Shari Guinta being elected as the new National President-Elect. Congratulations Shari, you make us proud! We have a wonderful addition to the Diocesan team with Kathy Imperatore as our new Brant/Hamilton Regional Chair. Yet sadly our Resolutions Chair, Camille Naranjit resigned due to work and family commitments.



We are continuing with our virtual regional "Chat in the Hat" in the fall, this time a country & western theme. We are hoping to rope in a few Council Presidents for a real hoedown good time.

Also, we are gearing up for the 100<sup>th</sup> & 101<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting of Members in late October. This will be another one for the history books.

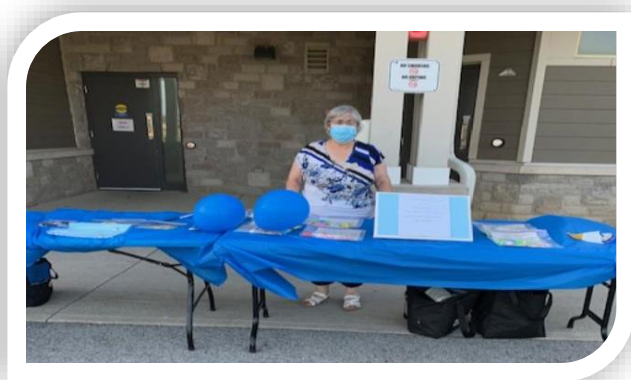
Our diocese will be holding a series of webinars to explore, learn and discuss how to work with Indigenous Peoples in the spirit of reconciliation. More details to come in the near future.

Our Catholic Women's League members continue to be women of action as they are called to be instruments of the Saviour, by "Sparkling" as beacons of light for others, imitating our most holy Mother of God.

***"Those who look to Him are radiant with joy" Psalm 34:5***

## In Spirit and Love

Joyce Cotter  
Hamilton Diocesan President



Hamilton Diocesan CWL sponsored a craft table for the children at the Knights of Columbus family day at Camp Marydale.

Community Life Chairperson, Joanne Palmer made craft kits for the 25 children that participated on August 28, 2021.

## Holy Rosary Council, Guelph

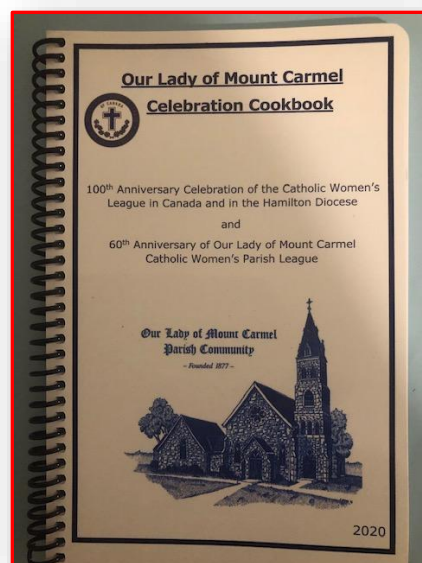
This past year has been quiet as the Pandemic continues to keep us largely at home.



This summer, however, The Catholic Women's League spearheaded a garage sale which contributed to the parish renovation fund. Small groups of members at a time spent two weeks sorting donations from parishioners and items they had stored for the bazaar in preparation for a lovely day which encouraged the community to come out into the fresh air. The event lasted from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and raised over \$1,000.

## Our Lady of Mount Carmel Council, Freelon

In celebration of the Catholic Women's League's 100th Anniversary and our Parish Council's 60th Anniversary, the council presented a 100th Anniversary rosary and a 100th Anniversary pin to the two longest standing members of our Council. Also held a membership drive raffle in February with the prize of a 100th Anniversary carry bag. With the involvement of many Councils and Parish members, printed Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Women's League 60th Anniversary Cookbook and sold copies throughout 2020. The cookbooks can still be ordered through [judyvs@cogeco.ca](mailto:judyvs@cogeco.ca) for \$10. Zoom rosary evenings were held on Wednesday's which have continued throughout this year.



## St Mark's Council, Kitchener

Community service called "200 for 2020" were started in January/February for St John's Kitchen. The aim was to collect 200 forks, 200 spoons, 200 coffee cups, 200 towels (bath, kitchen). The parishioners of St Mark's came through and were able to meet the targets and also superseded them.

In March 2020 hosted a Lenten Retreat.

Part of the fundraiser for 2020 was to sell the famous Cheese Balls. Had taken orders prior to Covid-19 shutdown, not wanting to disappoint the supporters, they were able to sell approximately 20 and also had them delivered.

## St. Patrick Council, Hamilton

Prayer shawls were created between April 2020 and Sept 2021. 30 shawls were blessed on September 12<sup>th</sup> at the 11:30 am Mass.



The sleeping mats project started during the summer of 2020 with CWL hosting two workshops open to the members of the parish.

They collected milk bags monthly from parishioners and to date they have completed 5 sleeping mats and passed them on to Hamilton's Social Navigator team for distribution to those most in need.

## Immaculate Heart of Mary Council, Winona

Photograph of the quilt that was made by the three CWL members. It was made for the League's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.



### **St. Anthony Daniel Council, Kitchener**



St. Anthony Daniel Council planted a Jefferson Maple tree on "Earth Day" in April 2021. In June, Father Tim Theriault dedicated the tree to celebrate 100 years of the Catholic Women's League in Canada. Attending the ceremony were Father Tim, CWL President, Theresa Miller, Joan Schurter, Ann McElhone, Barb Gehl, Annie Ariss, Susan Smith, and Maria Friere.

### **St. Louis Council, Waterloo**

In May 2020 council planted a beautiful Magnolia tree on Church property as the Centenary Tree. In the works is a plaque and rock that will explain its significance. In 2021, this tree grew and blossomed. Also, in May of last year, they presented eight First Communicants with a gift. In May of 2020 they organized a virtual Rosary by way of zoom, inviting all parishioners to join and to lead a decade.

In September, they had a Mass celebrated to remember and honour the members or family members who died within the past year. Each family received a rose.

In December they mailed letter to each member (160) explaining what the council did and what they hope to do. The letter was well received. Also in December, they had a Mass celebrated at noon, anniversary pins were presented to the appropriate recipients along with a rose.

Chocolates were given to everyone. They also presented to the parish priest and spiritual advisor, Fr. Reilly and the rectory staff with Christmas gifts.



## Holy Cross Council, Georgetown

The CWL council at Holy Cross in Georgetown has always been a busy, vibrant group. 2020 and 2021 have greatly impacted their ability to gather, and to support the parish and community. They kept in touch via Zoom, and chatty emails, but were only able to meet in person to honour the cherished members who passed away.

At the Pastor's request, they pulled together several "cupcake capers". Members baked cupcakes for a "grab and go" celebration to honour an associate Priest who was ordained, and once again when he left to serve at another parish.

It has been a very trying time for all, but the executive's philosophy is "focus on what we CAN do to support each other, our parish, Priest and community, not on what we are unable to do".

## Our Lady of the Assumption Council, Stony Creek

The last 18 months have been nothing short of challenging and difficult. The lives were deeply affected by this global pandemic in so many ways one could never have imagined. Here below a reflection on what was accomplished. Very proud and deeply honoured to be part of this wonderful sisterhood at Our Lady of the Assumption Parish.

Highlights of 2020-21:

- ✚ Launched first Newsletter Fall 2020
- ✚ Launched CWL Facebook page
- ✚ Bingo via Zoom
- ✚ February - Valentine's Bingo
- ✚ March - Lucky St Pat's Bingo
- ✚ World Day of Prayer via Zoom
- ✚ Tea Amo Fundraising
- ✚ Mother's Day Online Auction via Zoom
- ✚ 12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care
- ✚ Milestone and New Members Recognition Ceremony in person
- ✚ Fall Food Drive to DeMazenod Door

Members at the Celebration



Feast of the Assumption Celebration August 2021



### **St. Joseph/St. Patrick Council, Saugeen Shores**

The Council has kept its spirit alive with many parish activities during this Covid era. In March of 2020, they began meeting on zoom every Tuesday evening to pray the Rosary for an end to the pandemic. The invitation was extended to the parish. They have not missed one Tuesday since.

St. Joseph Parish celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in December 2020. The council ordered a banner and flowers for the altar. One of their members wrote a rendition of the parish's history and shared it at all Masses. It was written in pamphlet form and sent to many parishioners.

During the season of Lent 2021, the idea of producing slide shows of The Stations of the Cross became a reality when two members created and presented different version of this beautiful Lenten Devotion every Friday evening. It was well attended.



### **Blessed Sacrament Council, Kitchener**

During the pandemic, it was difficult to get involved in a lot of events in 2020. CWL helped with the opening of the Church wearing masks & social distancing letting the parishioners know that CWL are still there. They had an advent retreat in December & a Lenten retreat. They keep in contact with the members to see how they were doing and that they are looking forward to the day when they can do more.

### **St. Andrew Council, Oakville**

Communicated with all members through newsletters and e-blasts on important happenings in Parish & Community, as well as invitations to pray for those suffering from sickness & loss among family & friends. In-Person CWL Mass last fall (streamed also online) presenting members with their service pins and one member, **Jean Parent**, with her **Maple Leaf Service Award Pin**.

Both this summer & last, the Council hosted First Friday Coffee mornings on the deck and continued it this summer after the Tuesday's noon Mass.

Throughout the pandemic, the Executives has continued to hold meetings at least once a month to coordinate communications with members and to plan the wonderful celebration that they are looking forward to **2022**, when **St. Andrew's CWL** will commemorate **100 years of Faith and Service in Oakville**.

## Holy Family Council, Hanover

In the year 2020 the council donated to the new built Bruce Grey Hospice. Donation was made in front of the Holy Family Church. The monies collected were from the Charity jar that is put out at Church once a month. This money was collected in 2019 and motioned by council in 2020 that the monies would be donated to the hospice to be built in the community.



On Aug. 6 ladies from the executive of the Hanover Holy Family Catholic Women's League presented a \$1,000 cheque to the Residential Hospice of Grey Bruce Fundraising Committee. The money was a donation from the Community Fundraising for the Catholic Women's League, to go toward the new south satellite hospice build. Pictured from left are Nancy Boerkamp, Loretta Montag and Diane McNichol-Byers from the church, Steph Burt, secretary of the hospice fundraising committee, and Bill Pearson, chair of the fundraising committee and board member of Residential Hospice of Grey Bruce.

18 THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 2020

## St. Augustine, Dundas



The St. Augustine Catholic Women's League in Dundas, Ontario has continued to connect with the members and community despite the pandemic. In 2020, an executive summer newsletter and Christmas card were sent to all members.

In May 2021, two stained glass windows were gifted by the council to Margaret's Place Hospice. Since the beginning of the pandemic, members have been encouraged to pray the Memorare daily at 11:00 am and the rosary on a regular basis. Finally, a white oak was planted to commemorate the centennial (2020) of both the CWL in Canada and Hamilton Diocese, it will be dedicated on October 3rd, 2021.

## Awards and Recognition

### Holy Rosary Council, Guelph

Members from Holy Rosary, Guelph were honoured with their membership pin and a floral token at the 9:00 a.m. mass on October 3.

The women receiving service pins this year are:

**10 Years:**

Dolores Bergin  
Marilena Cado  
Agnes Craig

**25 Years:**

Maria Fabbian  
Ann Lindsay  
Gabriella Porcellato  
Patricia Stuart  
Donna Tonizzo

**40 Years**

Jean Gazzola

**50 Years:**

Gloria Ferringo  
Barbara Holody  
Louisa Ryks  
Barbara Smith

**60 Years:**

Vera Ferraro

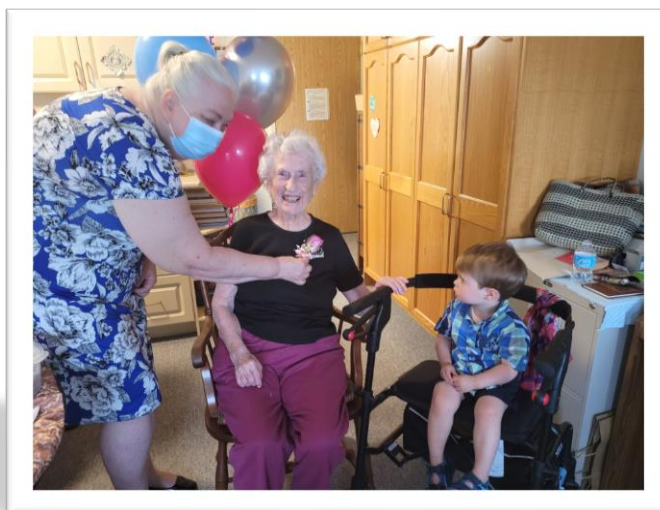
**65 Years:**

Margaret Synnott

**70 Years:**

Elizabeth Kaufman

Council continued to reach out by cards and phone calls in an effort to stay connected with the members. Participated in the 100th birthday celebrations of Thelma Hornberger in July. The council provided her with a corsage, a cake to share with her friends at her retirement home and balloons to decorate her room. Many sisters in the League sent cards of well wishes, which were read to her by two members of the executive who are her close friends and they felt that it was worth taking a Covid test to go in to visit her on her special day.



*Thelma receiving a corsage from President Cathy Whyte with great nephew Mason.*

## St. Anthony Daniel Council, Kitchener

The council were still able to award bursaries to three students who graduated from grade eight and one student who graduated from grade twelve. Because of health restrictions, the awards were presented by the principals of each of the elementary schools instead of CWL members. For the grade twelve recipient CWL members presented the award at a Sunday mass.

Due to the pandemic restriction's members were unable to gather socially at Christmas, so they mailed service pins to members in a Christmas card this year.

Awarded:

five 5-year pins  
one 20-year pin

two 10-year pins  
one 25-year pin

one 15-year pin

45-year pin to Margaret Fox  
55-year pin to Sandi Farwell.

The Council is blessed to have so many wonderful women.

## Holy Cross Council, Georgetown

In the spring of 2021, the executives decided to reach out to their long serving CWL members to give increment service pins and CWL Scrolls. As they were unable to meet in person, they sent it by mail, the pins, scrolls and CWL Certificates of Appreciation to members celebrating:

Pins for 5 to 20 years of service pins.  
CWL Scrolls to those celebrating 25 or more years.

One member, who celebrated her 70th year of service and is a founding member of our council, was honoured by presenting her with a **Maple Leaf pin** at Mass when the Church reopened in June.



## Update from National Legislation Chairperson Glenda Carson

The work for this new term (2021-2023) started early with the distribution of the excellent workshop developed by Betty Colaneri, past national chairperson of legislation (2018-2021). Currently, parliament is dissolved. Chairpersons will be able to monitor the federal government's work once parliament reopens and the members of the House of Commons take their oath or solemn affirmation of allegiance. As a review, the following three websites are often helpful in providing information on parliamentary sessions and bills that are moving towards royal assent:

1. House of Commons Parliamentary Business: [ourcommons.ca/en/parliamentary-business](https://ourcommons.ca/en/parliamentary-business)

This website contains the parliamentary calendar and descriptions of the work of members of parliament.

2. LEGISinfo: [parl.ca/LegisInfo/Home.aspx?ParliamentSession=43-2](https://parl.ca/LegisInfo/Home.aspx?ParliamentSession=43-2)

This website provides information on bills being considered in both the House of Commons and Senate.

3. Department of Justice:

[justice.gc.ca/eng/](https://justice.gc.ca/eng/)

This website offers information on federal law pertaining to a range of issues such as family law, Indigenous rights and privileges and contains the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*. While legislation itself does not usually arise from the department of justice, information on this website often provides background information on laws that need to be considered when deliberating on a bill.

In Ontario, the following links are helpful:



Legislative  
Assembly  
of Ontario

The Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

1. <https://www.ola.org/en/node/3771>  
[MPPs, legislation, legislative calendar, anything you want to know](#)

2. Hansard Documents:

<https://www.ola.org/en/legislative-business/house-documents>

Transcripts of the day-to-day operation of the legislative assembly

Prepared by Colleen Perry, Ontario Provincial President



## News Around

### Peterborough Diocese Covers Two Years in One

On Tuesday the 6<sup>th</sup> of July 2021 the officers and a small group of parish presidents of the Peterborough Diocese came together at St. Mary's Lindsay. As with recent years, the CWL began their meeting acknowledging the lands they were meeting on. That day they began by acknowledging the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe Mississauga, adjacent to the Haudenosaunee Territory, in the territory covered by the Williams Treaty. They also recognized, and deeply appreciated, their historic connection to the place they were meeting.

The AMM, Annual Meeting of Members, was replacing the two conventions that had been cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The meeting was limited to normal business practices and all reports were deferred to reading within the Annual Report. For the parish presidents not in attendance mailings were sent out. Acknowledgements were presented to the outgoing officers. Brighton Parish Council gifted the Diocese with a resolution, which was voted on and will be passed on to Provincial. Elections took place and their installation will take place at a later date.

### Surprise!



Helena's first official duty, as President of the Peterborough Diocese CWL, was to present 68-year member, Madeline Pearson, with an appreciation/birthday card certificate for her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. Madeline has served twice as Diocesan President.

With Helena was President-Elect Maria Fitzgerald, Life Member Liaison Anne McKinnon, & Communications Chair Wendy Tedford surprising Madeline with the party, along with materials for a working lunch, in hand. A great way to get back into the swing of things.



100th

Holy Name of Jesus Council, Kirkland Lake  
- Timmins Diocese

Three kinds of lilac trees were planted in honour of the CWL's 100th anniversary in Canada. Blessings of the trees done by Fr. Mitch Silwa, accompanied by Christopher Barker and Patricia Roy, CWL member Patricia Roy.



## Further Reflections on the Healing Power of Touch

(original reflection in May 2021 on-line newsletter) By Pat Weller Life Member Pembroke Diocese

It's interesting how further reflection can reveal new insights and perspectives. They can come from many sources. Cardinal Thomas Collins (Archdiocese Toronto) frequently reminds us of dedicating daily time to read the Gospels because these are the words that bring us in touch with Jesus and give a model for our living faith. My "light bulb" moment happened on hearing the Gospel of Mark (5:21-43) during a Sunday mass this past summer. The passage speaks of Jesus' healing power of touch to the hemorrhaging woman and to Jairus' daughter.

In my previous reflection on *The Healing Power of Touch*, it seemed something was missing. Although the words were comforting, they were earthly and temporal. What was missing was the spiritual aspect. The Gospel from Mark reminded me of this. As Catholics, our actions come from our desire to be the hands and feet of Jesus in this world. When we offer tender and compassionate care, our touch gives comfort, but its strength comes from the Lord. We are the earthly instruments for God's healing power. Another lesson learned.

### Bestowing a blessing

In the opening book of the bible, God bestows a blessing upon Abraham and all future generations. "And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all families of the earth shall be blessed." Genesis 12:2-3 ESV

Throughout the Old Testament, fathers and sons give and receive blessings that mirror God's blessing of Abraham, and all have 5 elements:

1. Meaningful and Appropriate Touch
2. A Spoken Message
3. Attaching High Value
4. Picturing a Special Future
5. An Active Commitment

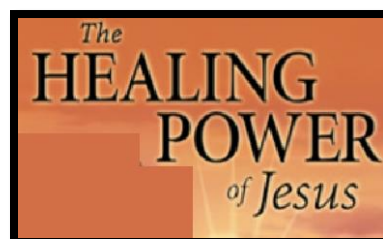
When I think of meaningful touch, it reminds me of a sister in the League who blesses everyone in her room at convention before sleep. I only experienced this on one occasion, but it was so special, I often ask for a blessing when leaving convention events at the end of a day.

The gentle touch of her thumb, as she barely brushes my forehead with the sign of the cross while looking right at me, brings warmth, acceptance, affirmation, and the feeling of God's embrace. This touch is meaningful and appropriate. Her spoken word is simple, calling on God to watch over me during my sleep to bring me, a faithful servant, a deep, restive sleep. The high value in this is my sister focused only on me calling me a faithful servant and calling on God to personally touch me. The special future envisioned is

awakening in the morning feeling well rested and ready to engage another day. Finally, my sister is always then looking for you in the morning to confirm that restful feeling.

How long has it been since you bestowed a blessing on someone special to you? A child, other family member, even a stranger. The next time an occasion arises suitable to bestowing a blessing, think about what you have read here, and the many blessings bestowed by God throughout the Old Testament, and confidently call on the power of God to bestow a meaningful blessing.

.....Submitted by Colleen Martin, OPC Christian Family Life Chair



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

***"Make it a practice to judge persons and things  
in the most favorable light at all times and under all circumstances."***

(St. Vincent de Paul)



### **Feast of St. Vincent de Paul**

We recognize this feast day on **September 27**. Patron saint of charitable societies, St. Vincent de Paul was known for his compassion and dedication to serving the poor. As we persevere through this pandemic, let us remember those who are struggling to make ends meet, who do not know where their next meal will come from, or where they will lay their head at night. As members, let us pray for guidance as to how we can serve the poor and follow in the footsteps of this remarkable saint.

One way is to observe the 5<sup>th</sup> **World Day of the Poor** on **November 14, 2021**. The theme is, "**Open the Doors of My Heart**". More information can be found using this link: <https://www.ssvp.ca/world-day-poor-tools-members>

### **World Homeless Day**

On **October 10, 2021**, the world will celebrate the 11<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this international initiative drawing attention to the needs of those who are without a home, and to provide opportunities for local communities to get involved. To read more about this initiative, use this link: <http://www.worldhomelessday.org/>

### **Catholic Social Teaching Resources**

The League's **new** *Catholic Social Teaching Resources* document was launched on September 10, 2021, to provide members with resources to assist us in continuing to advocate for social justice and Catholic social teaching.

The document can be accessed using this link:

<https://cwl.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/624-Catholic-Social-Teaching-Resources.pdf>

**GOAL:** The Catholic Women's League of Canada addresses and supports Catholic social teaching through advocacy.

**STRATEGY:** Empower members by providing educational opportunities to learn more about Catholic social teaching.

The document includes links to *power point presentations; papal documents; films; books; religious congregations; prayers and prayer services; websites; videos; magazines and articles; speakers; organizations*, and much more. Check it out!

(CWL national website)

.....Submitted by Karen McDonald, OPC Education and Health Chairperson



## Things to Remember:



October is the Month of the Rosary

October 1 National Day of Prayer for Canadian Home Missions

### Pope's October prayer intention: 'May all Christians be missionary disciples'

Pope Francis releases his prayer intention for the month of October, calling on everyone to pray that all Christians might be missionary disciples and open to the demands of the Church's evangelizing mission.



Here is the link to Pope's message: [Pope's October prayer intention: 'May all Christians be missionary disciples' - Vatican News](#)

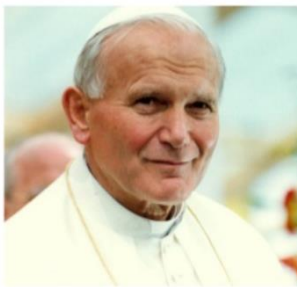


Life Chain will be held on **Sunday, October 3, 2021**

Join people across your neighborhood on Sunday, October 3rd in Life Chain. Life is precious - protect it.



= **October 7** is the Feast Day of **Our Lady of the Rosary**;  
October is a month dedicated to the Rosary



⇒As each decade of the Rosary is said, we reflect on a *Mystery* which recalls events in the life of Jesus. A *decade* is a set of ten Hail Marys.

⇒Prayers said in the Rosary: The *Apostle's Creed*, the *Lord's Prayer*, the *Hail Mary*, the *Doxology (Glory Be)*, the *Hail, Holy Queen*

⇒In 1917, after a vision of the Blessed Mother in Fatima, Portugal, the *Fatima Prayer* was added to the Rosary

⇒In 2002, *Pope John Paul II* introduced the Luminous Mysteries

**10 October, 2021**





for

Thought

The biggest difference between  
money and time:

You always know how much money  
you have, but you never know how  
much time you have.



"Time waits for no man"

"In life sometimes things  
will not go as you expect  
to, it is okay don't lose  
hope just enjoy the  
moment and have faith in  
yourself"

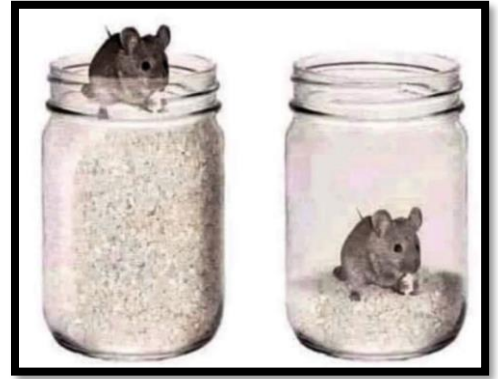
Life goes on,  
whether you choose to move on  
and take a chance in the unknown,  
or stay behind, locked in the past,  
thinking of what you could've been.

© quotesmydella.com  
Unknown

Life is like a road,  
there are bumps,  
there are cracks,  
there are road blocks,  
But the only important  
thing is that it keeps  
going

*A short lesson by Dr. Subramanian Narayanan*

A mouse was placed at the top of a jar filled with grains. It was so happy to find so much food around him that no longer he felt the need to run around searching for food. Now he could happily live his life. After a few days of enjoying the grains, he reached the bottom of the jar.



Suddenly, he realizes that he was trapped, and he couldn't get out. He now must fully depend on someone to put grains in the jar for him to survive.

He now has no choice but to eat what he's given.  
A few lessons to learn from this:

1. Short term pleasures can lead to long-term traps.
2. If things come easy and you get comfortable, you are getting trapped into dependency.
3. When you are not using your skills, you will lose more than your skills. You lose your CHOICES and FREEDOM.
4. Freedom does not come easy but can be lost quickly.
5. NOTHING comes easily in life and if it comes easily, maybe it is not worth it.

*Don't curse your struggles. They are your blessings in disguise.*

\*\*\*\*\*



**Happy Thanksgiving**