



May 2022 Edition

Featuring the Ottawa Diocese and OPC Past President/Historian

CATHOLIC
and **LIVING IT!**



Colleen's Communications

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As I write this communication, we are celebrating the continuation of the Easter season. I pray that you were able to spend time with family and friends in a safe way.

This weekend starts the diocesan convention season. I am looking so forward to seeing a lot of you in person. It has been a long time! Be safe and enjoy yourselves. The sisterhood that the League offers is a gift we share with each other.

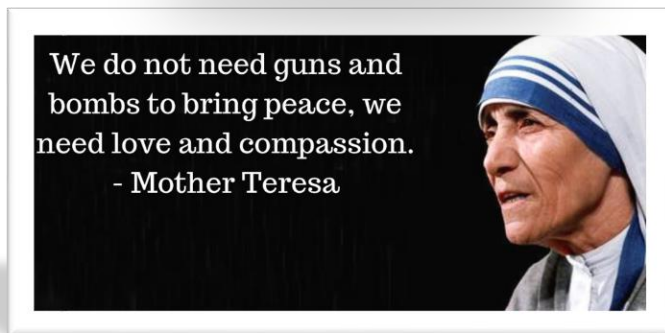
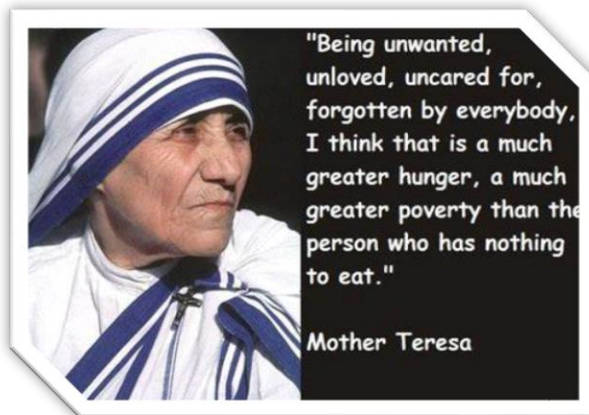
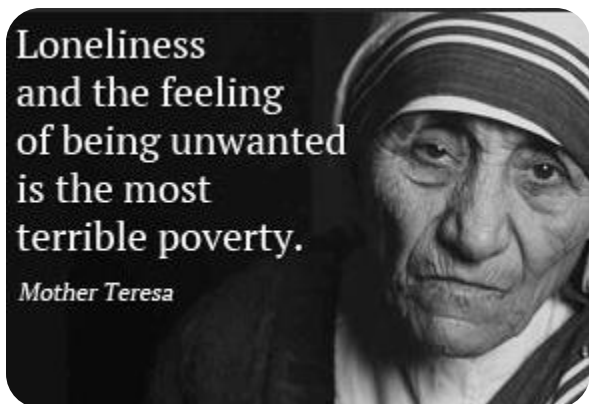
I am also looking forward to welcoming you to Ottawa in July to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the Ontario Provincial Council. We are ready! Registration and information for the provincial convention can be found on the OPC website cwl.on.ca

I leave you with this quote from Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta:

"We can cure physical diseases with medicine but the only cure for loneliness, despair and hopelessness is love."

Yours in faith and love,

Colleen Perry



Ottawa Diocesan Council

As the pandemic restrictions have begun to loosen up, the Ottawa Diocesan Council has started hosting some of our events in person. Zoom and GoToMeeting have been great venues which we have fully taken advantage of, but physically meeting is a breath of fresh air. Being able to see the smiles and joy in people's body language really does make a difference.



Our members have continued to embrace the provincial theme of *Loneliness* and have opened themselves up with excitement to the new national theme of **CATHOLIC** and **LIVING IT!** as a call to action. The dedication of our members and their love for the League has not gone unnoticed. These are women who inspire others in faith, service, and social justice. They have shared their gifts with people in our parishes, communities, and beyond so that they are leading everyone to deepen their relationship with God.

My wish for all members is for them to continue all the good work they've been doing over the years. With the national theme as a call to action, it is an opportunity to go further, to learn more about the League, and know that we have a voice. We have the ability to make changes in the Catholic Women's League of Canada. Most of all, to be bold and take on leadership roles!

Change is inevitable. Be ready. It's coming. The League's structure is changing, we all know that it must happen. This is not enough, though, the culture of the League must change as well. It's not enough to want change; change needs to be transformative. It involves an interior conversion otherwise its implementation will not have the desired effect.

For me it's been three and a half years in the role of Ottawa Diocesan President. What I enjoyed the most was having open discussions at both our provincial and diocesan executive meetings. I loved the ideas, creativity, diversity, and opinions – for/against, good/bad, etc. By our sharing, we were open to the breath of the Holy Spirit to allow God's plan to unfold. I pray that all members continue to be supportive of one another as Our Lady of Good Counsel continues to guide us on our faith journey.

I thank each one of you for your support, love, peace and joy. It has been a positive learning experience and one I will cherish forever!

Love, Peace, and Joy,
Lynn Lavictoire
Ottawa Diocesan CWL President 2019-2022

LEAGUE DEVELOPMENT DAY

Hosted by the Ottawa Diocesan Council

The League Development Day was held on Saturday, February 19. There were 42 registered for this event. This year, national and provincial councils asked that all diocesan councils across the country present the ten *Executive Orientation* workshops to their executives. The officers and I thought it would be a good idea to plan to do at least half and the other half could be organized by the next newly elected diocesan council. The officers themselves volunteered to do the presentation.



We had already presented the one on Budgets at the January Executive Meeting. So, for the League Development Day we planned to do four:

- ❖ History of the League
- ❖ Structure of the League and The Promise of the League
- ❖ Public Presence and Member Development
- ❖ Member Recognition.

Each presentation was well executed with a Q & A after each. It was all well received. Even the more experienced members learned a few things!

We accomplished our goal of presenting half of the Executive Orientation, but we took it a step further by presenting the Duties of Officers at the recent Executive Pre-Convention Meeting. Again, it was well received. All in all, the League Development Day was well attended and very informative!

LENTEN MORNING OF REFLECTION

Hosted by the Ottawa Diocesan Council

The Ottawa Diocesan Lenten Morning of Reflection was held in person on Saturday, March 12, 2022, from 8:30-11:30am at Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The members welcomed guests and took up a \$415.40 collection for St. Joe's Women's Centre.

The morning of prayer and quiet reflection included the Rosary, Mass, Adoration, the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the Stations of the Cross. In his homily, Fr. Dominic Lim spoke of the depths of marriage as it relates to Christ and His Church; the need to love those who are difficult because loving them makes them whole; the value of our CWL service emanating from a relationship with God; and the importance of always seeking Mary's good counsel. To conclude this time together we walked *Mary's Way of the Cross*. The morning was reflective and well attended.

Ottawa Diocesan Spiritual Development Chair Janet Warren

OTTAWA DIOCESAN CWL COUNCIL 2020/2021 ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS

Hosted by St. Mary's, Almonte Council

The 2020 and 2021 annual meeting of members was held on Saturday, October 2, 2021, in person, at the Civitan Hall and the day concluded with the closing mass at Holy Name of Mary Church in Almonte. With 23 members in attendance the quorum had been met. The hosting council, St. Mary's (Almonte), ensured all COVID-19 health and safety regulations were implemented, including proof of double vaccination. Each member had their own six-foot table with the physical distance in between tables. The food was great, and the day was well received as it had been a long time since members were able to chat in person with each other. All business done and we even had a guest speaker, Father Daryold Winkler, who spoke on Truth and Reconciliation. His talk and personal experience were posted on the diocesan website: <https://ottawa.cwl.on.ca>. The closing mass was beautiful with all the Marian hymns and songs. Just a lovely day! Compliments to St. Mary's Council President Zorgel and her team!

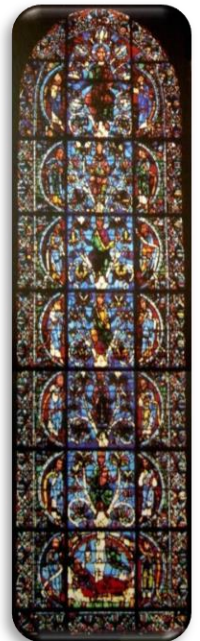


ADVENT – A TIME OF LONGING FOR THE LORD

Hosted by the Ottawa Diocesan Council

The Ottawa Diocesan Council Advent Retreat is always held on the Saturday of the 1st weekend of Advent. On November 27, 2021, the retreat was held on Zoom beginning at 10:00am and finishing at noon. The theme was *Advent – A Time of Longing for the Lord*. The morning began with a presentation of the "Jesse Tree" including its history and timeline. Then there was a presentation on "Lessons & Carols Service" which has its origins in the 19th century Anglican Church. The format was seven prophecies foreshadowing the Messiah alternating with appropriate music selections to help members enter spiritually into Advent. Included in the mix of information, scripture and music was a reflection by Bishop Robert Barron on Zephaniah 3.14-20.

Ottawa Diocesan Spiritual Development Chair Janet Warren



Ontario Provincial Convention July 11–14 2021, or, the Convention that Never Was!

Cast your minds back to 2019, or BC (Before COVID-19) as I like to call it. Members of the Ottawa Diocesan Council were very busy as the convention machine for the 75th Ontario Provincial Convention was shifting into high gear. As all of you remember too well, on the 17th March 2020 a state of emergency was declared and life as we knew it came to a screeching halt! Ultimately, the Ontario Convention was deferred to July 10-13, 2022 as an Annual Meeting of Members.

A new expression became a mantra for the Ottawa CWL members – “Keep Calm and Pivot On!” The committee threw themselves into the task, working within hotel, municipal and provincial health guidelines. They were creative and always ready to “tweak” or make changes as necessary. A case in point: the original 2021 video invitation was re-cycled for 2022 with a “tongue in cheek” nod to the interesting times we live in! The team is blazing a trail by organizing a large event via the vagaries of Zoom meetings – “unmute yourself” is a favourite phrase! Despite the technical, health and various other obstacles, the team approaches everything with prayer, respect for one another and, of course, humour!

So, whatever the COVID-19 situation will be this coming July, be assured that the welcome waiting for you in Ottawa will be a warm Sisterly one!



LM Moira Matthews,
Co-chair 75th Ontario Provincial Convention Planning Committee

THREE GENERATIONS OF PRESIDENTS

Our Lady of The Visitation Parish Council President Sandra Blais

Once upon a time, (December 1954), Mrs. John (Mary) Blais became the first president of the Catholic Women's League at Our Lady of the Visitation Parish. Well-known as "May," she guided 18 charter members. During those years, their Spiritual Advisor Father John Tompkins remarked that "May was an angel." Her family had a "jingle" teasing her that she was President and/or Past President so often that they never knew for sure which position she was filling at any given time. In 1997 May passed away at the age of 92 with a police escort and a reception held in the sacristy.

In January 2012, Mrs. James (Sandra) Blais (daughter-in-law to May) became president to re-activate the council and guided 30 members for the next five years. Father William Penney, their Spiritual Advisor, remarked at the presentation of her Maple Leaf Service Pin Ceremony that the next step for Sandra was "sainthood."

In January 2017, Mrs. Thomas (Amanda) Blais (daughter-in-law to Sandra) with the Spiritual Advisor, guided the 30 members

continuing the tradition of the three Presidents in one family by turn at our parish. Amanda successively represented the League in our community and created new memories.

Currently, our president is Sandra, our secretary is Amanda and Gwen Blais also continues as a long-time member. Looks like the "jingle" is still alive and well in the Blais family.



A Personal Journey to Recognizing our Indigenous Brothers and Sisters

St. Mary's, Almonte Council President Cindy Zorgel

It all began when I heard Fr. Daryold Winkler speak at the 2020/2021 Ottawa Diocesan CWL Annual Meeting of Members (AMM) last fall in Almonte. He spoke about how differently and sometimes hurtfully society treated his family because they were half Indigenous. He spoke about truth and reconciliation which must begin by understanding and knowing Indigenous peoples, about their beliefs and injustices they have experienced. He quoted Pope Francis who said that to know someone, we must have "an encounter" with them. That statement stayed with me.

I wrote to my own council, St. Mary's in Almonte, about what transpired during the AMM and a little on Fr. Winkler's presentation. One of our members, Jacqueline Fehlner, suggested that members might be interested in taking an Indigenous studies course through the University of Alberta – free if no credit was required. Jacqui offered to facilitate a talking circle once a week to discuss the course content, how it affected us, surprised us, stretched us. Six of our members, many from St. John the Apostle's Council and participants from Saskatchewan and Nova Scotia discussed what we had learned. Even though the course was just an overview of history, Indigenous beliefs, culture and art, my goodness, were my eyes and heart opened. It's easy to be indifferent to the situation of Indigenous peoples when one isn't directly affected by it – I wasn't near Oka, nor a residential school, not even close to a reserve, so really knew next to nothing about how colonization affected our First Nations, how treaties were set up, what the Indian Act was all about, how a few men in government decided that residential schools were the solution to assimilate Indigenous people into society. It is not hard to imagine that these children suffered mentally and emotionally and were unable to cope with life after they finished school. How could they when they lacked the security of a home and the love of parents, grandparents and community?

I left the course wanting to know more and Jacqui has offered those who had already taken the U of Alberta course to participate in the "Listening to Indigenous Voices" course in the fall. I'm in. I also recently saw two Canadian Film Board movies produced by Indigenous producers. The film "Beans" was a story about a young Indigenous teenage girl and what she and her family experienced through the weeks of the Oka Crisis. The second film, "Night Raider," takes place in the future, after a war, and where the military takes all children to school, never to be seen again. A young girl who has a special gift is rescued by her mother and a few Indigenous band members. The young girl then (spoiler alert) saves the band members from annihilation by the military. Lots of references are in this film to assimilation, residential schools and the spiritual beliefs of First Nations people. Very good films.

Jacqueline offered a talking circle to coincide with the University of Alberta Indigenous studies course in the fall. I highly recommend this introductory course. Quoting Colleen Martin's land acknowledgement, "I commit myself to reconciliation; first to know better and then, when I know better, to do better." I will try too.

SHAMROCK COOKIE FUNDRAISER

Annunciation of the Lord Council President Michele Hundertmark



Our CWL sisters wanted to break the negative trend of COVID-19 and what better way than to have a fundraiser! This was the first one in 2 years for us. Orders were taken over a ten-day period for these large, homemade colourful cookies and payment was made by e-transfers or by cheque. Cookie orders were picked up at the Church after the weekend Masses before St. Patrick's Day. Yummy, good!!

KATERI NATIVE MINISTRY MASS

St. Basil Council President Elizabeth Larmond Elliot

On September 11, 2021, St. Basil Council President Elizabeth Larmond Elliot invited the Ottawa Diocesan President Lynn Lavictoire and the Ontario Provincial President Colleen Perry to attend the Ottawa Kateri Native Ministry mass in support of Truth and Reconciliation. All three presidents at the three levels of the League were recognized by Archbishop Marcel Dampousse who was the presider. The Eucharistic Celebration was well attended by our members. There were Indigenous elements in the mass, e.g., drums, smudging, readers, dress, etc. St. Basil Council Spiritual Advisor took the time to explain some of the elements that were new to the congregation. It was an inspirational experience!



ST. BASIL – COPING WITH LONELINESS

Council President Elizabeth Larmond Elliot



St Basil's CWL Council sponsored an on-line event, "Coping with Loneliness," with Sister Rosemary O'Toole CSJ. Sister Rosemary guided us through an inspirational reflection on loneliness, transitioning from loneliness to solitude. The event was well attended. Several participants sought further information from Sister Rosemary at The Upper Room website:

<https://theupperroomhomeofprayer.org/index.php/home>.

HOLY SPIRIT CWL COUNCIL 10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Council President Marilyn Foote Pollock

December 16th, 2021 saw members from Holy Spirit (HS) Council, Stittsville, assemble at ALE Lounge and Eatery, Amberwood, Stittsville. Participation in our celebration saw 33 members from our Council, together with Lynn Lavictoire, President of the Ottawa Diocesan Council and Msgr, Joseph Muldoon, our Spiritual Advisor, were able to meet face to face, observing all protocols and regulations and it was a joyful meet and greet.

During the celebration, members were able to trace back through the history and events of our council from its inaugural 2010 year through to 2019 terms of office of the five Presidents of our Council. Each president provided an overview of their term, and these memories were incorporated into the program which each member received.

Highlights from the day included the presentation of service awards to members for 5, 10, 20 and 40 years of membership in the League. Lynn Lavictoire presented our Council with congratulatory certificate from Colleen Perry, President of the Ontario Provincial Council as well as a 10th Anniversary Certificate on behalf of the Ottawa Diocesan Council. To see the smiles and hear the voices of all the members interfacing with each other most certainly was a highlight to the end of our calendar year.



Cutting 10th Anniversary Cake
Past Presidents: Gaye Lalonde 2010-2012
(right) and Pauline Foley 2017-2019 (left).

ST. LEONARD – INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

Council President Jane Brownrigg

Over the past year, our CWL Council focused on ways to better support the Canadian Indigenous communities.

Some suggestions included:

- submit a Resolution regarding clean water access for Indigenous communities.
- 'adopt' an Indigenous family.
- initiate letter writing campaigns.
- purchase water filtration systems.
- host speakers who are knowledgeable about Indigenous issues.
- educate our local community that the name of our village, Manotick, is an Ojibwe word.



We are:

- ❖ submitting a Resolution for submission this year
- ❖ hosting two speakers, from the Safe Drinking Water Foundation and the Faculty of Indigenous Engineering, University of Alberta

We feel committed as a council to work together with Indigenous Canadians to address inequities that are a reality in many communities.

AWARDS



St. Faustina – Maple Leaf Service Pin Recipient

Council President Betty Fehr (right) presents Claire McNeely (left) with the Maple Leaf Service Pin. Congratulations!

Holy Spirit – 40-Year Service Pin Presentation

Council President Marilyn Foote Pollock (right) and Diocesan Council President Lynn Lavictoire (left) presented Life Member Shirley Bernier (center) with her 40-Year Service Pin. Congratulations!



Past President / Historian

It is election time in many parishes, dioceses and for provincial. Elections are a privilege and a cornerstone of democracy. They ensure that we are led by the people we have chosen. Our country has a unique history of the elections.

Did you know that in:

1867 when Canada was formed, only men who were 21 years of age or older and who owned property were able to vote in federal elections. People who were excluded from voting provincially cannot vote federally.

1876 First Nations peoples' lives were governed by the *Indian Act*. It granted First Nations peoples the right to vote, but only if they gave up their Indian status. They could vote because the law no longer considered them "Indians."

1917 During the First World War, all male and female members of the armed forces serving overseas, and female relatives of soldiers were offered the right to vote. This was the first time that some women, some men under the age of 21, some Asian Canadians, and some First Nations people could vote in a Canadian federal election.

1918 Canadian women were given the right to vote in federal elections if they met the same eligibility criteria as men.

1920 A new elections law brought in major changes, such as the appointment of a Chief Electoral Officer. One of their first tasks was to add women to the federal voting lists. However, voting rights across Canada were still inconsistent for some racial groups.

1934 Legislation specifically excluded Inuit from voting in federal elections.

1948 The federal vote is opened to Canadians regardless of provincial exclusions. Japanese, Chinese and other Asian Canadians could vote federally, no matter which province they lived in.

1950 Inuit obtained the right to vote in Canadian federal elections.

1960 First Nations women and men were able to vote no matter where they lived and without giving up their Indian status.

1982 The *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* affirmed the right of every Canadian citizen to vote and to stand as a candidate.

I urge you to read the resumes of the women running for positions at the various levels this year and prayerfully decide who will be the best candidates.

.....Submitted by Anne Madden, Past President / Historian



CHRISTIAN FAMILY LIFE

12 HOURS OF PRAYER FOR PALLIATIVE (AND HOSPICE) CARE

April 22, 2022 (excerpt from the national website www.cwl.ca)

"Whatever you ask for in prayer with faith, you will receive" (Mt 21:22).

With the legalization of medical assistance in dying (MAiD) in 2016 and the ever-changing restrictions to MAiD, which allow for more accessibility, it is important that members storm the heavens with prayer in support of palliative care.



"12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care" was chosen to run simultaneously with the Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association's National Hospice Palliative Care Week, May 1-7, 2022.

During these still uncertain pandemic times, councils are asked to take part in whatever way they feel fits the safety of their members best. Some may prefer to do at-home prayer; others may feel they can assemble and invite their fellow parishioners to join in.

May 4, 2022 Please join us in Ontario by Zoom throughout the day

Ontario Provincial Council will host a virtual 12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Hospice Care from 8 am to 8 pm EDST. Contact information below. The day will end with a mass live streamed from St Finnan's Basilica, Alexandria, Ontario.

Connection information:

Mobile phone with data:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81553149084?pwd=Qm9TMHZvWXMwK3d6MlVNVFNGZUEwQT09>

Meeting ID: 815 5314 9084

Passcode: 7DFXHU

Phone (no data) Dial by your location (Canada)

+1 780 666 0144 +1 204 272 7920 +1 438 809 7799

+1 587 328 1099 +1 647 374 4685 +1 647 558 0588

+1 778 907 2071

Meeting ID: 815 5314 9084

Passcode: 601350

Find your local number: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81553149084>

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



An "Eye on Education and Health"

*Palliative Care is the right of every Canadian.
Uniform standards and delivery of palliative care is essential to ALL
Canadians."*

(CWL Palliative Care Postcard - #180)



HOSPICE PALLIATIVE CARE

*** National Hospice Palliative Care Week is May 1st to 7th ***

Members are asked to participate in the **12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care** CWL initiative during this week by praying for accessible palliative care in Canada.

National Chairperson of Education and Health Margaret Schwab advises:

"In March 2023, the federal government will review medical assistance in dying (MAiD) legislation again. This time, the discussion will be about eligibility for individuals with mental illness as their sole underlying medical condition. It is a frightening step, and members need to advocate through letter writing and prayer for more funding for better mental health care. It is unthinkable that people would choose death because they do not have access to the help they need to choose life."

(Communiqué #05 - April 7, 2022)

"The League has taken a position that urges the federal government to identify palliative care as an insured health service covered under the *Canada Health Act* and develop a national strategy for uniform standards and delivery of palliative care as defined by the World Health Organization. It is crucial to remind government officials that this has not been accomplished."

(Memo - April 11, 2022)

The CWL **palliative care postcard** is available at www.cwl.ca or by using this link:
<https://cwl.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/180-Palliative-Care-Postcard.pdf>

Print, sign, and mail postcards to: **The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau - Prime Minister of Canada; The Honourable Jean-Yves Duclos - Minister of Health; and The Honourable Carolyn Bennett – Minister of Mental Health and Addictions and Associate Minister of Health.** Arrange to meet with your local member of parliament. Provide postcards to family, friends, neighbours, co-workers.

Consider a mass intention to pray for continued availability of hospice palliative care.

Members are asked to keep praying since there is continued pressure being placed upon our local hospices to offer medical assistance in dying (MAiD) onsite.

Horizons of Hope: A Toolkit for Catholic Parishes on Palliative Care

Reminder: This toolkit is available on the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops website or by using this link: <https://www.cccb.ca/faith-moral-issues/suffering-and-end-of-life/horizons-of-hope-a-toolkit-for-catholic-parishes-on-palliative-care/>.

The CCCB's Palliative Care Kit has been approved as a **National Voluntary Fund** (until August 31, 2023), providing all councils and members with the opportunity to assist with the cost of producing this valuable and informative resource!

NATIONAL BURSARY FUND

Reminder: Applications to the National Bursary Fund (with supporting documentation – refer to the criteria) must be submitted to national office and postmarked by May 15th.

Applications must be completed on the official form ([use this link](https://cwl.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/552-National-Bursary-Application-Form-2021.pdf)): <https://cwl.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/552-National-Bursary-Application-Form-2021.pdf>

CATHOLIC EDUCATION

*** Catholic Education Week in Ontario is May 1st to 6th ***
(this is a time to celebrate with our Catholic schools)

Theme: *Rebuild, Restore, Renew Together*

*** World Catholic Education Day is May 26th ***
(this is a time to acknowledge Catholic educators and to recognize and celebrate Catholic education)

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



Resolutions



Be sure to read the latest communique dated April 11, 2022, from Rolande Chernichan, National Resolutions Chair. This was sent out with the latest parish mailings and has great information about resolutions and the process. Rolande concludes her memo with the following:

"I hope all those who serve on resolutions committees will not become discouraged by setbacks and disappointments, whether their council's resolution is returned for more information or voted down during its League journey. Instead, may the experience make members stronger and more determined to try again to develop resolutions. The League needs its members and their gifts for this specialized ministry of advocacy. Developing a resolution is answering the call for a synodal church that involves "communion, participation and mission." It is part of being *Catholic and Living It!*

Words that I echo for our resolutions that are being presented at diocesan council conventions for adoption.

.....Submitted by Wilma Vander, Resolution Chairperson



COMMUNITY LIFE



*Our Journey of Healing and
Reconciliation ...
Learning, Listening and Actioning*

Welcome to the Truth and Reconciliation corner of the OPC Newsletter.
Much has happened since our last newsletter.

Most newsworthy, Pope Francis received three Indigenous delegations from Inuit, First Nations and Métis Canadians in Rome March 28th to April 1st. During that week, Pope Francis held private meetings with the Indigenous leaders and survivors from each group. The groups asked for a papal apology as well as an invitation urging Pope Francis to travel to their country.

As you're aware, last year, the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops apologized for its role in the residential school system and expressed "profound remorse" but the Indigenous leaders have long asked for an apology from the Pope.

On April 1st, Pope Francis issued a historic apology to the Canadian Indigenous leaders for the Catholic Church's role in residential schools. This apology was seen as a steppingstone in the journey to Reconciliation and Healing.

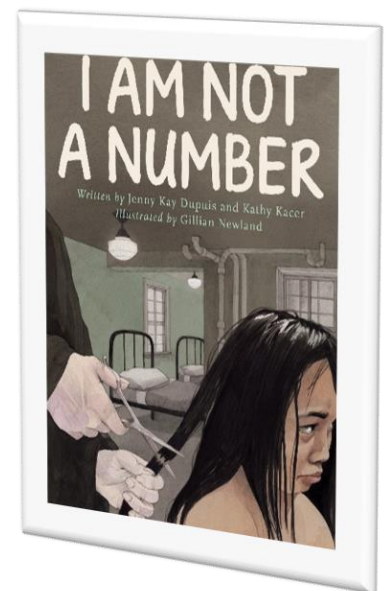
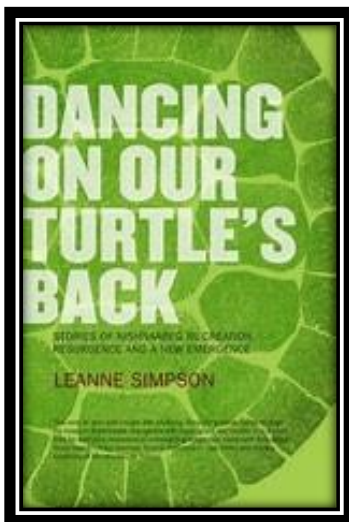
On April 21st, members of the Manitoba Métis Federation also met with Pope Francis. After the meeting, the Red River Métis delegation spoke about "the importance of hope and revitalization". It was also reported that Pope Francis gave rosaries to everyone, as well as a physical olive branch to the delegation as a whole.

Later in April, it was also announced that Pope Francis plans on visiting Canada in the summer month of July marking the feast of St. Anne. Although no official itinerary has been put forward, it's been reported that some details of the papal pilgrimage have started taking shape. Neil MacCarthy, CCCB Communications lead told *The Catholic Register*, "Given the Holy Father's advanced age (85) and desire for simple, modest visits, we can expect the Canadian visit to reflect this reality in both the length of the pilgrimage as well as the geography of such a visit, given the size of Canada."

Over the past month, it's also been very encouraging to hear about some of the ways that members are working through their own journeys. For example, some members have formed a book club that meets virtually once a week. They are currently working through the book, *The Inconvenient Indian*. Other members are signing up for courses, attending presentations, workshops, and days of reflection. All taking one important step in the journey towards reconciliation and healing.

A member of the Ontario Provincial Council recently attended **APEX Speaker Series: Reconciliation – Symbolic Gesture or Systemic Change?** hosted by the Thunder Bay Chamber of Commerce. The guest speaker was Bob Watt, Nuclear Waste Management Organization. Bob Watts is a much sought-after expert in Indigenous policy, negotiations, training, and conflict resolution. He is the former Interim Executive Director of the Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commission, which examined and made recommendations regarding the Indian Residential School era and its legacy. Bob led the process, supported by an excellent team and many organizations from across Canada and internationally, to create the policies and processes in order to firmly establish the Commission. With permission, we are sharing Bob's PowerPoint presentation which has an excellent summary of Indigenous history in Canada. Please be sure to check out the presentation which is posted on our website at www.cwl.on.ca. The link can be found both in the NEWS section as well as Truth and Reconciliation section under the LINKS tab.

Book Recommendations



Please let us know if you have any book recommendations you would like to share.

Prayer for Families

O Great Creator, we give praise and thanks to you
for our lives and for our families.

Your gift to us of human community is one of your greatest blessings.
We thank you for our Elders – our grandfathers and grandmothers –
whose patience and wisdom guide our lives.

We thank you for our fathers and mothers,
who by giving their love to each other,
bring us into the world, nurturing and leading us.
We thank you for our brothers and sisters,
with whom we come to know what sharing and caring really means.

We thank you for young people,
whose hope for a better world, energizes and inspires us.
We thank you for the little ones – the children –
whose innocence and promise bring gladness and joy.

O Creator may our families always be that blessed
and first community that we honour and cherish.
As you continue to make all things new,
may we hear your invitation – in all creation –
to receive and share all that is good and true with each other.

O God, we also face many challenges and crises in our lives and world.
May our families continue to be the first and constant community
that shows us how to live intimately and respectfully
with all people and all creation.
May all Glory, Praise, Honour and Thanksgiving be shown to you,
Father of all mercies and compassion,
Jesus Saviour and Guardian of our souls,
and Spirit of peace and communion.

Amen.

*2016 National Day of Prayer in Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples,
Canadian Catholic Aboriginal Council and Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops*

Please feel free to share any other sites, prayers, or upcoming events with us so that we can all continue our journey together.

.....Mary Capobianco, Truth, and Reconciliation Working Group

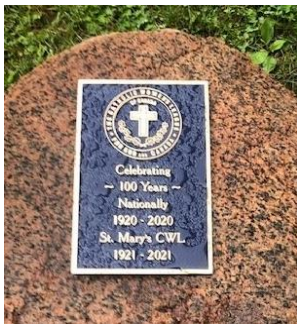


St. Mary's, Lindsay [in Peterborough Diocese]

100th Anniversary - St. Mary's CWL celebrated 100 years of service by their faithful members. Former Spiritual Advisor Fr. Tom Lynch was the homilist at the anniversary mass celebrated by Bishop Daniel Miehm.



Pictured are the cake, guest speaker HLM Margaret Ann Jacobs being blessed by the bishop, LM Joanne Hough and Diocesan President Helena Lessard while President Anne Marie Werry is shown receiving congratulations from the federal government from MP Jamie Schmale. Seventy-five attended this October 2, 2021, celebration.



Plaque - In front of the three centennial cedar trees planted last year, a memorial plaque was placed in September, commemorating the national and parish 100th anniversaries.



World Day of Prayer - Twelve of our members attended the World Day of Prayer service on March 4 at Cambridge St. United Church. Pictured are Noreen Brasier, Lillian O'Connell, Shirley King, Joanne Hough, Glenda Klein (Queen Mum), Audrey Johnston, Gloria Broad and Sr. Sandra Boyer.



This display was set up for St. Mary's, Lindsay 100th anniversary about past resolutions and legislation to celebrate our CWL heritage.

Together and individually the voices of CWL members do make a difference.



Baby Shower and Speaker –

In St. Mary’s Church, members attended a baby shower and presentation by Mary Ann Dobsi, CEO of Kawartha Lakes Pregnancy Centre on March 1, 2022.

Pictured in the aisle are Spiritual Development Chair Michelle Minielli with daughter Tessa, Mary Ann Dobsi and President Anne Marie Werry.

Safe Operation of All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs)

Our resolution requested safety training, supervision, and that children be 16 before operating an adult-size ATV. Currently, drivers under 12 must be supervised or driving on land occupied by the owner of the ATV



Road Safety re: Highway Markings
In addition to existing center lines, our resolution requested that the edges of the highway also be lined. Currently a solid or broken yellow line indicates opposing traffic while a solid white line indicates the edge of the driving lane.

Infant Safety in Baby Cribs

Our resolution requested that the distance between vertical slats be standardized to infants would not get stuck. Current legislation states that crib slats should be no more than 2.4” apart.



Food *for* Thought

Feedback Hero: Know how to give and receive great feedback.



It takes humility to seek feedback. It takes wisdom to understand it, analyze it and appropriately act on it.

— Stephen Covey —

“You don’t hire for skills. You hire for attitude. You can always teach skills.”

Simon Sinek

Here's wishing that you can pamper yourself with lots of love this weekend!
Cheers to all mothers, our silent heroes!



MOM
turned upside
down spells
WOW

