

**Ontario Provincial Council
of
The Catholic Women's League of Canada**



**Annual Report
2021**

The Ontario Provincial Executive

2019-2021(2022) Ontario Provincial Officers

Spiritual Advisor	Most Reverend Archbishop Marcel Damphousse
President	Colleen Perry
President-Elect/Organization	Linda Squarzolo
1 st Vice-Pres/Christian Family Life	Colleen Martin
2 nd Vice-Pres/Resolutions	Wilma Vanderzwaag
Recording Secretary	Joanne Hough
Administrative Assistant	Anna Tremblay
Treasurer	Marie-Theresa Lamphier
Past President/Historian	Anne Madden
Spiritual Development	Emma Rose Rayburn
Communications	Ann D'Sousa
Education and Health	Karen McDonald
Community Life	Mary Capobianco
Legislation	Margie Royle/Betsy Currier

2021 Diocesan Presidents

Alexandria/Cornwall	Angela Gaudet
Hamilton	Joyce Cotter
Hearst	Elizabeth McInnis
Kingston	Nancy Richer
London	Theresa Ryan
Ottawa	Lynn Lavictoire
Pembroke	Joan Lemay
Peterborough	Helena Lessard
Sault Ste. Marie	Cathy McKinney
St. Catharines	Lisa Fillingham
Thunder Bay	Maria Bertoldo
Timmins	Annette Kelly
Toronto	Hilarion Mitchell

*** Mission Statement ***

The Catholic Women's League of Canada calls its members to grow in faith, and to witness to the love of God through ministry and service.

Table of Contents

President's Message	3
Spiritual Advisor's Message	4
Reports:	
President	5
Spiritual Development	7
Organization	9
Life Member Liaison	11
Christian Family Life	13
Communications	15
Community Life	17
Education and Health	19
Historian	21
Legislation.....	23
Resolutions	25
Administrative Assistant	27
Recording Secretary	28
Treasurer	29
Diocesan Council Reports:	
Alexandria-Cornwall	31
Hamilton	32
Hearst-Moosonee	33
Kingston	34
London	35
Ottawa	36
Pembroke	37
Peterborough	38
St. Catharines	39
Sault Ste. Marie	40
Thunder Bay.....	41
Timmins	42
Toronto	43
Recognition	44
Purpose of the Ontario Provincial Council.....	45



ONTARIO PROVINCIAL COUNCIL
of
The Catholic Women's League of Canada

July 2022

The light of Christ continues to shine through the darkness that has been this past year. We can meet in person, and it is so wonderful.

Your convention team, co-chaired by Lynn Lavictoire and Moira Matthews, of the Ottawa Diocesan Council, have worked diligently to provide you with many memorable moments in Ottawa. This dedicated team has worked through every curve thrown at them. I am truly humbled by their inspiration and honoured to have worked with them these past two years. Thank you does not seem enough.

Our new national president, Fran Lucas, introduced a new national theme. ***Catholic and Living It!*** will present some unique opportunities for faith development, service activities, and social justice realities. We all look forward to those challenges.

Thank you for supporting the provincial theme of ***Loneliness*** during my three-year term. We still do not know the impacts we have made by our actions to help improve the lives of those who continue to suffer.

Please pray for your parish, diocesan, provincial and national executive. They truly are an inspired group of women. I welcome all newly elected executive and I encourage you to seek out counsel from women who held your position in the past, life members and honorary life members.

We are all in this together. You are not alone.

Blessings and hugs,

Colleen Perry

President, Ontario Provincial Council
The Catholic Women's League of Canada

MESSAGE FROM OPC SPIRITUAL ADVISOR

Dear members of the Ontario Catholic Women's League,

It brings me great joy to bring you greetings from the National Capital, host to this year's Convention. The Archdiocese of Ottawa-Cornwall is proud to welcome you all. May you find great pleasure and a warm welcome during your stay. I lift my hat to all the organizers and volunteers who have worked tirelessly to make your experience in Ottawa a memorable one.

As your Spiritual Advisor, may I remind you belong to an elite group of Catholic leaders whose charitable presence and faith-filled witness within our parish communities play a unique role. I wish to insist on the word "leader". Many have a natural tendency to humbly deny that they are leaders, yet, when you see and understand how the organizational structure of your association provides numerous occasions to lead in many ways and capacities, many will acknowledge that all these years of formation, of invitations to serve in charity and to grow in your faith have a positive impact on its members.

I truly believe our Church and our world need influential leaders who can provide stability and wisdom, creativity and solutions, humility and determination. In a life of on-going challenges and crises, we need people to show the way, be a model for others and provide them the support they need. Catholic women as yourselves have a huge role to play and I pray you may constantly turn to Christ for guidance and strength. He is the Word made flesh whose light shines brightly in our world of darkness, and the Redeemer in whom alone we find salvation and fullness of life.

As always, let us turn to our Patroness, our Lady of Good Counsel for her constant care and vigilance and pray that through her intercession, she may accompany all CWL members and their families.



+Marcel Damphousse
Archbishop of Ottawa-Cornwall
Spiritual Advisor

**Inform the Membership of the League's Position
on Current Issues and Priorities and New Programs**

- Highlights from national meetings, directives, research, media and CWL websites were used to inform members.
- Focused on the Ontario Provincial CWL Council (OPC) theme of Loneliness continued through outreach by phone and visits, where possible.
- Established the OPC Truth and Reconciliation Working Group whose goals are to be aware of our past, be inclusive in the present supporting local efforts and to strive for a better future. Thanks to the efforts of this working group, a resource page was built on the provincial website to assist members with their journey to reconciliation and understanding. "When we know better, we can do better."
- These current national priorities were introduced, discussed or acted upon:
 - Tree planting in memory of the 100th anniversary of The Catholic Women's League of Canada continued and revealed the true support of members for the national theme of Care for our Common Home.
 - Many members participated in working groups and surveys, supporting the implementation of the strategic plan.
 - Many councils celebrated 12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care.
 - Many councils participated in the Gratitude Project 2021-2022.

Foster Open Communication

- Information was shared through the ON-Line Newsletter/website.
- Executive meetings were held virtually.
- Officers provided oral reports at executive meetings.
- Directives were sent from provincial officers to counterparts.
- Constitution & Bylaws, national and provincial policy and procedure manuals, Roberts Rules of Order, national directives, and knowledge gained from attendance at national meetings were all used to facilitate virtual meetings.

Be a Signing Officer for All Official Documents

The following OPC documents were signed:

- Together with the provincial treasurer and recording secretary (when needed) reviewed claim forms and signed cheques.
- Letters, cards, certificates, invitations, emails were sent personally and by the administrative assistant on behalf of OPC.

In Consultation with the Officers, Initiate Policy

- Provincial manuals (policy and procedure, convention guide and provincial guidelines) continued to be updated as "living documents".
- Provincial executive members were encouraged to visit the national and provincial CWL websites for information especially on Website Wednesdays.
- Directives submitted by every executive member were shared via email with all other executive members and posted on the website.

**Be an Ex Officio Member of All Committees
Except the Nominations and Elections Committee**

- Was a member or chair of all committees, except for nominations and elections.

Be the Official Spokesperson for the Council

- Represented the province at the national table.
- Attended meeting with the plenary of the ACBO virtually in October, with President-elect Linda Squarzolo, to update the provincial bishops on current CWL activity and offer support to suggested projects.
- Sent greetings for special anniversaries, award ceremonies, as requested.

Appoint Committees

All appointed committees remained in place for the duration of the term of office:

- Administration Committee (chair)
- Policy, Guidelines, and Convention Guide Review Committee
- Registration and Credential Committee
- Resolutions - Review, Reading, Government Visitation and Archiving Committees
- Minutes Review Committee
- Social Justice Committee
- Nominations and Elections Committee
- Annual Report Book Committee

President's Activities

- Chaired all provincial executive and administration meetings.
- Prepared report for each provincial meeting.
- Attended national executive meetings, as required, and gave written and oral reports.
- Worked with administrative assistant to send letters for a variety of reasons (congratulatory, sympathy, information, etc.)
- Prepared monthly submissions to ON-Line newsletter.
- Participated in the many webinars offered at national and diocesan levels.
- Facilitated partial virtual Annual Meeting of Members for 2020 and 2021 when public health restrictions prevented meeting in person.
- Negotiated with keynote speakers for 2022 convention.

Recommendations:

- New executives hold a mentoring session soon after election, with their previous counterparts, to swap materials and glean ideas.
- Save files to flash drives for ease of access and to decrease the amount of paper transferred and stored.
- Presidents keep a running list of activities for their future counterpart.
- Take advantage of opportunities to meet virtually, for any reason, to feel connected.

Spiritual Development Standing Committee Report 2021

Chairperson: Emma Rose Rayburn

Sub-chairpersons: Lisa Fillingham, Anne Vincelli

Dioceses Reporting: 13 / 13

Spiritual Growth of Members

- The theme "Care for our Common Home", remained the theme for prayer services. Majority of the councils honoured the theme as they organized reflections; planted trees; studied, quoted, and referenced *Laudato Si*; and encouraged reduction of disposables at meetings and at home.
- With the pandemic restrictions, it was a bit harder to incorporate one-third of their meeting for spiritual aspects.
- Although restricted to meet in person, but members certainly met in prayer – thanks to technology. Many councils encouraged their members to take part in virtual prayer, retreats, adorations, Stations of the Cross, Divine Mercy Chaplet, novenas, rosaries, remembrance services for deceased sisters, crowning of Mary and litany prayer services to complement further spiritual growth. Many reported that this year they were able to celebrate Our Lady of Good Counsel Feast Day. And when permitted, they also did so in person.
- World Day of Prayer was well represented by the members of the CWL across the province.
- Many trees have been planted across our province in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of The Catholic Women's League of Canada.

Study of Catholic Teaching

- Many different materials and websites listed as aids. To name a few topics studied and resources used: *Amoris Laetitia*, *Fratelli Tutti*, the roles of Mary and Martha, How God worked in the lives of saints, 33 Days of Morning Glory, Year of St. Joseph, Our Lady of Good Counsel, daily reflections, writings of Matthew Kelly, Saint Teresa of Calcutta and Bishop Robert Barron was reported to be quite popular.
- Many members referred to the CWL websites (national and provincial) for guidance and support.

Role of Women in the Church

- Some served on parish pastoral councils and diocesan and/or parish finance, liturgy, screening, diaconate and synodality committees.
- Most of our members held leadership roles in their parishes.

Evangelization and Mission Assistance

- The Catholic Missions In Canada, was supported by all dioceses. Esk-Omi Missions, Chalice, Indigenous Children's Fund, MaterCare International, and Catholic Christian Outreach were the popular
- missions that the members assisted monetarily or with goods.

- CWL Day of Prayer for Home Missions was very popular. Many indicated they recited special prayers and rosaries. Some even had guest speakers and special activities.
- All councils supported some type of mission or charity (nationally or locally). Even though budget constraints may have been an issue, many members made personal donations.

Lay Ministries

- Members served in the church as lectors, Eucharistic ministers, sacristans, altar servers, children's liturgy leaders, collection counters, hospitality, choir, cleaning, catechesis facilitator, ushers, visiting the sick and shut-ins. League members were very busy being an active part of our Church community.
- Many ministries were chaired or organized by our members.

Ecumenism and Interfaith Endeavours

- All dioceses took part in the World Day of Prayer.
- Most dioceses reported that councils reached out to women of other denominations/faiths in the following ways: joint prayer services, invitations to meetings, shared talks/guest speakers and social events.
- Many also promoted Fellowship of the Least Coin, Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, National Indigenous Peoples Day, WUCWO, National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, and Women's Inter-Church Council of Canada.

Chairperson's Activities

- Prepared prayers and prayer services for administration and executive meetings, and the annual meetings of members.
- Hosted the AMMs for 2020 and 2021.
- Attended virtual provincial executive meetings and AMMs.
- Prepared reports, newsletter articles, and directives.
- Forwarded information received from national counterpart.
- Collected pictures from dioceses and councils of crowning of Mary in our homes for a display at our AMMs.
- Requested pictures of crowning of Mary at diocesan AMMs or previous conventions for display.

Recommendations

- Share great ideas.
- Using a truly unique opportunity this year (2022-23) with the invitation from the pope to take part in the Synodal process, it is highly recommended that League members share their voices and grow the Church in love and kindness. "Synodality is the way of being the Church today according to the will of God, in a dynamic of discerning and listening together to the voice of the Holy Spirit." Pope Francis.

Organization Standing Committee Report

2021

Chairperson: Linda Squarzolo

Sub-chairpersons: Glenda Klein, Shirley Deleurant

Dioceses Reporting: 13 / 13

Recruit Members and Maintain Membership

- Member recruitment was challenging during lockdowns and restricted attendance at Mass. Personal invitations were the means of recruitment used most frequently. Also used were presentations at masses, bulletin board and parish announcements, gift memberships, and social media.
- New members were engaged by: welcoming at meetings, conversations, invitations, new member kit, mentoring, sub-committee participation, orientation session, and phone calls.
- The introduction and implementation of the Welcome Program was impacted by COVID. As a result, the program was not introduced in some dioceses.
- Members were kept informed of prayer requests, news, updates through email, postal, or drop off door service.
- Members were recognized with service pins, including the Maple Leaf, certificates of merit, and cards.
- The majority of councils used online membership and had an increase from the previous year.
- Membership in Ontario has reduced to 34,428 members and because some councils have disbanded there are 523 parish councils.

Leadership Development

- The "Executive Orientation Program" was offered virtually to all diocesan presidents and presidents-elect, some diocesan officers and a few parish presidents. Some councils have downloaded presentations from the national website.
- Many members participated in the League strategic plan as committee members.
- Only a few councils set annual goals which included the input of members.
- Members were encouraged to attend leadership programs offered virtually.

League Resource Material

- Members were encouraged to use manuals, to access the national, provincial and diocesan websites, and to read "*The Canadian League*" and newsletters.

Annual Reports

- The majority of councils did use the guidelines for completing annual reports and indicated that the reduced version reflected the activities of their committees.
- Due to restrictions of COVID most reports were done independently, at home.
- Organization chairs provided assistance to their executive, to complete the reports, as needed.

Life Membership

- A few councils reported requesting assistance from honorary life and/or life members. Those that accessed their help found that they were a great benefit to their council, by providing a wealth of knowledge and acting as mentors by assisting in the completion of reports, ensuring that election protocol was followed and facilitating workshops.
- Many members expressed their dissatisfaction with the moratorium on new life members.

Chairperson's Activities

- Attended and participated in the provincial council's virtual executive meetings, annual meetings of members (AMM), and meetings with other committees.
- Attended and participated in virtual meetings with the national president-elect and other provincial organization chairs.
- Prepared reports, newsletter articles, and directives.
- Made updates to the OPC Policy and Procedure Manual.
- Distributed information regarding annual reports at all levels, collected diocesan annual reports and distributed them to the provincial executive.
- Compiled and edited the Annual Report Book for 2020.
- Since the Social Justice Award for 2021 could not be presented at convention, arranged to have the award presentation made by London Diocesan President Theresa Ryan to the 2021 recipient Penny Craig.
- Reviewed the 2022 applicants for the provincial Social Justice Award.
- Along with the provincial president, made a presentation to the Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario (ACBO) virtual meeting and submitted a report.
- Presented the "Welcome Program" virtually to the provincial executive, diocesan presidents and diocesan organization chairs.
- Presented the "Executive Orientation Workshop" virtually to the provincial executive, diocesan presidents and diocesan organization chairs.

Recommendations

- That all diocesan and parish executive members be introduced to the "Executive Orientation Workshop" and "Welcome Program", as well as many other new documents.
- That councils and members familiarize themselves with the proposed changes to the Constitution and Bylaws and the proposed per capita increase.

Life Member Liaison Report

2021

Life Member Liaison: Jeannie Coleman

Assistant: Mary Ellen Villeneuve

Honorary Life Members: 3

Dioceses Reporting: 13/13

Life Members: 136

Deceased Life Members – 2021

We were saddened by the loss of three life members:

- Marguerite Jones (February 18) Hearst-Moosonee Diocese)
- Carol Richer (April 13, Kingston, Diocese)
- Gretta Maloney (May 11, Alexandria-Cornwall Diocese)

Newly Appointed Life Members – 2021

We were honoured to welcome four new life members:

- Alice Uvanile, Thunder Bay Diocese
- Angela Pellerin, London Diocese
- Emma Rose Rayburn, Alexandria-Cornwall Diocese
- Lynne Rowlandson, Timmins Diocese

Life Members across the Province

- One life member (LM) was the provincial president.
- Two honorary life members (HLM) served as parish presidents.
- Several LMs served at provincial and national levels as officers, sub-chairs, parliamentarians, screening officer, life member liaison (LML), keeper of the Book of Life.
- One LM was serving as Chairperson of the Centenary Committee. The Gratitude Project was introduced with postcards that could be distributed to frontline workers, PSWs, health care workers, long term care facilities, and local businesses to thank and acknowledge their dedication and hard work during the pandemic.
- One LM moved to Ontario from Quebec.
- Many LMs attended virtual retreats, meetings and national webinars to keep informed and active in the League.
- Some LMs provided input to the strategic plan.
- Many LMs served as honour guards at funerals, Eucharistic ministers, cantors, sacristans, lectors, finance advisors, webmasters, money counters, and as officers of their parish council and Society of St. Vincent de Paul.
- A few LMs were involved in fundraising events.
- Some LMs participated in World Day of Prayer and on the committee.
- Some LMs prepared a prayer book with some of their favorite prayers offering a hug of support during the pandemic. Their prayer book was entitled, "Life Lines from Life Members".
- One LM started a lending library for councils.
- One LM maintained history of 100 years and prepared a booklet, also a list of all life members past and present.

- Some presented information sessions on the national vote.
- Some LMs collected, organized and arranged transportation for many boxes of items collected from their diocese, for Dr. Simone's Canadian Food for Children.
- Some LMs attended and organized prayer services in support of Canadian Truth and Reconciliation efforts to respect Indigenous people.
- Some LMs were active in various diocesan activities, such as Synodal, Pastoral Planning, Welcoming, Screening Committees and Service Club.
- Many LMs knit prayer shawls for shut-ins and the sick, provided gifts for the sacraments, Christmas gifts for residents in nursing homes, provided items for the homeless shelters and missions, and prepared food for the homeless and needy as well as food baskets for those in need at Christmas time.
- Life members continued to be mentors offering encouragement and support to members at all levels of leadership in the parish and the diocese.

Life Member Liaison's Activities

- Forwarded the national life member liaison's (NLML) monthly communique to all diocesan life member liaisons (DLML), HLMs and the provincial executive.
- Forwarded numerous requests for prayers, virtual prayer services, emails of interest to DLMLs for distribution to their LMs, HLMs, provincial executive, provincial presidents and NLML.
- Cards, emails of support, congratulations, anniversary, thinking of you, get well and sympathy were sent to life members and/or their families.
- Christmas greetings were sent by email to all DLMLs to forward to the LMs in their diocese. A Christmas card was mailed to LMs without an email address.
- A list of birthday celebrants was emailed out every month to the DLMLs, provincial executive and the NLML with the date of their celebration and a request for prayers for each celebrant.
- A birthday wish was emailed to LMs with an email address and a birthday card was mailed to those without an email address.
- Kept in touch with LMs without emails by telephone and requested that they pray for the intentions of all members in the Catholic Women's League.
- Regularly updated the Ontario Provincial Life Member Directory and kept LMs informed of changes to contact information.
- Updated the LM binders with new LMs and deceased LMs.
- Attended many virtual meetings, prayer services, funerals and masses all over Ontario.
- Attended the virtual 2020 and 2021 provincial and national AMMs.

Recommendation

- That the criteria for life membership be reviewed with an option for removing the moratorium so that worthy candidates may be recognized.

Christian Family Life Standing Committee Report 2021

Chairperson: Colleen Martin

Sub-chairpersons: Shelley Tamas, Patricia Weller

Dioceses Reporting: 13/13

Marriage and Family

- Councils offered encounter weekends for engaged and married, programs for family enrichment, and invited families to animate at mass.
- Arranged events for Mother's/Father's Day events, National Family Week.
- More than half of the dioceses had a parish or parishes that recognized "*Amoris Laetitia*" year of family as designated by Pope Francis.
- Several councils offered support to those suffering domestic abuse through collection of essential items.

Sanctity of Life

- Councils were members of Euthanasia Prevention Coalition, Campaign Life Coalition, Priests for Life, Birthright and Right to Life as well as local organizations that help with family and pregnancy support services.
- Members attended March for Life, 40 Days for Life, pro-life vigils, Life Chain, pro-life walks; hosted masses, pro-life activities, movie 'Unplanned', and other events; wrote letters to and met with legislators; made pro-life brochures available in the parish; and all dioceses had parishes that prayed regularly for protection of life.
- Many parishes educated members on the annual day of prayer (January 22) for legal protection of unborn children, monitored the federal government's response to the resolution and explored the UN Convention "Rights of the Child."

Ministry to Youth

- Members encouraged young people to participate in liturgical ministries; some offered instruction to youth in ministries and gifted youth for sacraments.
- Supported children's liturgy, World Youth Day, Catholic Christian Outreach, NET ministries, summer camps, youth conferences, Catholic Girls' Leagues, and other parish youth groups/programs.
- Councils prayed the rosary with youth, made rosaries as gifts, or were prayer partners.

Ministry to the Disabled

- Members provided communion, visits, cards of encouragement, transportation, prayers and organized social events.

Ministry to Seniors

- Members provided visits, communion, transportation, cards and calls of encouragement, and gifted memberships.
- Councils involved seniors in council events; organized social programs/celebrations; shared/served meals, invited retired women to join the League, and involved them in intercessory prayer.

Ministry to Widowed and Widowers

- Councils sent cards of condolences; arranged memorial services and funeral luncheons; visited and called; extended invitations to attend CWL and parish events; provided prayer and support after the death of a spouse; and, supported bereavement program in the parish.

Ministry to Separated & Divorced

- Some councils offered annulment pamphlets to their parish, but many councils did nothing to support the separated and divorced or educate on annulment.

Vocations

- Councils promoted and prayed for religious vocations through First Friday mass, statue/cross in a box circulated, World Day of Prayer for vocations, invited priests or seminarians to speak, Seven Sisters Apostolate and Sierra Club; adopted/ supported seminarians; hosted luncheons for priests and religious; gifted spiritual bouquets and cards; and, encouraged inviting priests and religious into the home.

Chairperson's Activities

- Attended and gave reports at winter and fall meetings.
- Prepared and sent directives and submitted newsletter articles.
- Completed a toolkit on loneliness from lessons learned in the pandemic.
- Continued to encourage diocesan chairpersons to reach out to members using technology as the pandemic continued.
- Collated diocesan results and prepared annual report for provincial booklet.
- Attended annual meeting of members for 2020 and 2021 virtually.

Recommendations

- Promote engagement by councils in areas that lacked involvement in the past including Ministry to Widowed, Widowers, Separated and Divorced, and an event for Pope Francis "*Amoris Laetitia*" Year of the Family by June 2022.
- Have a plan for the year; what is important to your council and the League?
- Many parishes have no chair for this standing committee, search out a young council member with a passion for sanctity of life and dignity for all people and mentor her in this committee.
- Continue to engage members who are homebound or parishioners who are disabled, widowed, and divorced who are staying close to home using technology (Zoom, GoToMeeting, or other applications) to gather from home.

Communications Standing Committee Report 2021

Chairperson: Ann D'Souza

Sub-chairpersons: Debbie Bates, Joan Schurter

Dioceses Reporting: 13 / 13

The Canadian League Magazine

- *The Canadian League* magazine was once again ranked excellent by the councils (70%). The councils considered it as a useful resource tool for Leagues' activities, updates, and action to disburse to their members at their meetings.
- There were complaints that some members did not receive the Fall League magazine.

Media: for Evangelization

- Half of the councils (269) used various types of media to promote faith-oriented programs, 60% promoted National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and 58% promoted World Communication Day. Some of these councils either subscribed or advertised events that took place in their councils. The largely used ones were Salt+Light TV; Vison TV; Catholic Register and Mass for shut ins.
- Ninety percent of the council shared the information on the League's sponsored Mass on April 26th, 2021, in honour of Our Lady of Good Counsel.
- Councils promoted evangelization through Zoom and GoToMeeting retreats open to all. Some senior members had difficulties as they did not have internet, or their use of technology was limited.

Media: to Promote the League

- Using email was the highest (80%) to send out emails for meetings, agenda, or minutes, followed by telephone call through telephone committee. The type of media used were: 42% visited CWL on Facebook or Twitter, 30% church bulletin and website and 70% used cwl.ca for information and 40% On the Spot.
- Few councils (25%) budgeted for publicity.
- Councils promoted the League through Zoom and GoToMeeting events, meetings and fund-raisers. Often senior members had difficulty participating as they had no access to the internet or did not have the proper skills or equipment.

Media: Newsletter and Bulletins

- Sixty percent of the councils reported that they invite media for coverage when events are held, or submitted material to publish their events.
- Fifty-seven percent of the councils produced a newsletter, either quarterly or bi-annually, done by the communication chair, president or by the secretary. These were uploaded on the church website, emailed, and also mailed out.
- Council (60%) sent out greeting cards to members and old aged homes, during Covid majority of the council reported an increase in this activity.
- Councils (50%) gave updates to the members at their meetings on the Planning Strategically. Most councils (80%) asked members to keep themselves updated on League activities by visiting the websites of parish, diocesan, provincial and national councils.

Media: Evaluation and Promotion of Good Content

- Council (40%) encouraged members to monitor media for content. There were few instances of inappropriate content submitted, though some councils reported cancelling Netflix subscriptions due to inappropriate content.

Pornography

- There was a decline last year on the Pornography focus. Due to Covid, fewer councils (30%) distributed postcards June-Sept.
- Very few councils, promoted "Over 18 Documentary" or "Red Light, Green Light". Some councils (30%) contacted members of parliament about minors being able to access adult pornography.
- Thirty percent of the councils acted on Resolution 2017.02 Mandatory Age Verification Mechanisms for Adult Pornography Websites, by contacting their members of parliament. The councils made members aware of the lack of age verification controls on adult websites.
- Only 10% of the councils acted on Resolution 2004.11 Link Between Violent, Graphic Imagery and Aggressive Behaviour and the Mechanics of Killing and wrote to the government to prohibit the sale and distribution.

Chairperson's Activities

- Attended all meetings mostly virtual.
- Forwarded communiqués from national counterpart.
- Promoted the strategic plan.
- Managed the OPC website and Facebook.
- Collected information and published monthly ON-Line newsletter featuring different chair and diocese each month.
- Forwarded notice of ON-Line Newsletter to all provincial executive for further distribution.
- Collated and prepared annual report for provincial report booklet.
- Virtually attended the annual meeting of members for 2020 and 2021.

Recommendations

- Show consideration for those who do not use social media to keep them updated on the CWL news and activities. Many feel receiving a hard copy of the League magazine is a necessity. Some councils have a high ratio of senior members, some in old age homes.
- Encourage members to fill executive roles. Share the workload when filling in reports.
- Simplify by consolidating the information from other levels into a weekly or monthly phone or email communication to keep members informed and engage young members.
- Encourage projects and events to support charities which promotes communication among the members.

Community Life Standing Committee Report 2021

Chairperson: Mary Capobianco

Sub-chairperson: Sharon St. Jean

Dioceses Reporting: 13/13

Dignity and Rights of Persons

- The majority of councils were familiar with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
- Although many councils were unable to hold regular meetings, they still reported financial and prayerful support for street youth, those suffering from homelessness, as well as victims of domestic violence, human trafficking, racism and poverty.
- Many councils reported gaining knowledge and being more aware of the struggles facing Indigenous women by attending virtual workshops, discussing books and inviting guest speakers.

Social and Economic Justice

- The majority of councils celebrated National Indigenous Day on June 21st by wearing orange shirts, sharing information with their members and participating in virtual masses.
- Most councils recognized the First National Day for Truth and Reconciliation held on September 30th and showed support by wearing orange, holding prayer services, and offering masses and financial support to organizations that assist Indigenous Peoples.
- Several councils supported the restorative justice program through prayers. A few councils also supported the Angel Tree, an organization that brings children and their incarcerated parents together.
- Some councils reported that they were aware of Bill C-262 (*United Nations Declaration on the Rights for Indigenous Peoples*).
- A few councils provided financial support to the Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA) national voluntary fund to help Christians in the Middle East and Holy Land. Prayers were offered on September 21st to celebrate the CWL Day of Prayer for Christian Sisters in the Holy Land and Middle East.
- Chairpersons reported being aware of the laws and what was being done to fight against human trafficking.
- Financial and prayerful support was given to before and after school programs, drop-in centres, emergency shelters for the homeless, food banks, soup kitchens, domestic abuse shelters and violence prevention programs.

Refugees, Immigration and Citizenship

- Councils participated in Remembrance Day celebrations, supported the poppy campaign and honoured the Canadian troops by wearing red on Fridays.
- Most chairpersons reported that they were not informed about Canada's official immigration and refugee policies.
- Council members did have a fair understanding of the needs of immigrants and refugees regarding employment, English language courses and financial assistance that is available.

- Councils continued to monitor Resolution 2016.01 *Equal Access to Permanent Resident Status* and kept their members informed on the amendments to the Immigration and Refugee Protections Act.

Canadian Catholic Organization for Development & Peace (CCODP)

- Many councils set up donations in their yearly budget for the Development and Peace's 1% program.
- Members attended Development and Peace workshops in their communities.

Developing Countries

- Most councils had some awareness of conditions in developing countries with child labour, implications of trade laws and the economic difficulties.
- A few councils indicated interest in *Mary's Meals* following the article in *The Canadian League* magazine.
- Councils financially supported national and international organizations that focused on developing countries such as: *Chalice, Canadian Red Cross, Habitat for Humanity, World Vision, Canadian Food for Children, Operation Christmas Child, Doctors without Borders, Samaritan's Purse and Buy-a-Net Malaria Prevention Group.*

Chairperson's Activities

- Attended winter and fall executive virtual meetings.
- Prepared and distributed directives.
- Submitted articles for *Community Life* for OPC newsletter.
- Forwarded communiqués from the national chairperson.
- Kept in touch with diocesan community life chairpersons via email and virtual meeting.
- Was appointed as chairperson for OPC Truth and Reconciliation working group and submitted communiqués with status updates.
- Prepared Truth and Reconciliation section on OPC website.
- Created Bulletin for Truth and Reconciliation (T&R) capturing T&R events and subsequent articles for OPC newsletter.
- Collated diocesan survey results and prepared annual report for provincial booklet.
- Attended virtually the provincial 2020 and 2021 annual meeting of members.

Recommendations

- Study and become knowledgeable about the subheadings under this committee.
- As chairperson, encourage members to become familiar with *The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action.*
- Encourage councils to review the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights.*
- As councils, continue to study resolutions and legislation relating to this committee and follow through on their action plans.

Education and Health Standing Committee Report 2021

Chairperson: Karen McDonald

Sub-chairpersons: Elizabeth 'Betsy' Currier, Joan Schurter

Dioceses Reporting: 13/13

Catholic Education

(i) Catholic Schools and Catechesis

- *Majority of councils were informed about the quality and availability of Catholic religious instruction in their parishes and schools; and many councils encouraged parental participation in Catholic education activities.*
- Several councils said they were aware of family life programs in schools.
- Majority of councils inquired about the needs in their Catholic schools (assisted with sacramental/faith development, breakfast/lunch programs, Christmas lunch, recess supervision, extracurricular activities, and field trips. They catered PA days, donated bibles and books emphasizing Christian values, gift cards, supplies, uniforms, and knitted mitts and scarfs).
- Councils sewed re-usable masks and collected winter clothing.

(ii) Rites of Christian Initiation

- Members assisted with First Communion/Reconciliation, Confirmation, RCIA programs, and councils gave gifts to the children or adults.
- One council reported that a member was preparing for Christian initiation.

Literacy and Continuing Education

- A few councils encouraged members to assist with literacy learning skills.
- Councils had lists of Catholic universities or colleges in their area and scholarships/bursaries for Catholic women to further their education.
- Some councils reported having no Catholic universities or colleges.

Scholarships and Bursaries

- Several councils donated bursaries/scholarships to graduating Catholic elementary, high school, university or college students including funds for Christian Leadership Awards and for seminarians.
- All councils in one diocese gave a bursary to elementary aged children.
- Majority of councils contributed to the Coady International Institute.
- Councils promoted National Bursary Fund, donated to Bishop F. Pappin Memorial Bursary Fund, and supported Catholic Missions In Canada.
- Councils donated to NET Ministries and supported the students.
- One council supported Catholic Christian Outreach.
- One council donated a bible as a Christian Humanitarian Award to young women in the graduating classes of each elementary feeder school.

Wellness and Sickness/Disease

- Action taken on Resolutions 2002.10 (Biopatenting); 2015.01 (Increased Early Access and Intervention to Children and Youth Mental Health Services); 2015.02 (Ban Microbeads in Personal Care Products); 2015.03 (Banning the Use of Neonicotinoid Pesticides); and 2018.02 (Setting a Standard for Products Marketed as "Flushable");

- Letter-writing campaigns were organized promoting quality palliative care.
- Councils advocated for clean water for Indigenous communities.
- Action taken on "*Catch the Rain, Where it Falls, When it Falls*" initiative.
- Mental health resource list was prepared and shared with members.
- Donations were made to Alzheimer, Arthritis and Cancer societies, Autism Canada, Catholic Health Alliance, Mental Health, Children's Treatment Centers, Children's Wish, CNIB, Cystic Fibrosis, Diabetes Canada, Euthanasia Prevention, Heart and Stroke, Kidney Foundation, Red Cross, MS Society, MaterCare, Pro-Life, Right-to-Life, Chalice, and local hospices.
- Councils supported mental health and palliative care postcard campaigns.
- Majority of councils participated in *12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care*.
- Councils conducted telephone wellness checks on their members.
- Presentations were made on MAID, dementia, mental health life coaching, and *Laudato Si*.
- One council started a monthly book club for their members.

Environment

- Councils supported *Care for our Common Home* initiatives, World Water and Earth days (planted trees, recycled/composted, developed pollinator gardens, eliminated Styrofoam/straws/bottles/paper, held clean up days).
- Members addressed renewable energy and climate change initiatives.

Genetics

- Some councils had good knowledge of Catholic teaching on bio-genetics
- Members had some knowledge of advantages/disadvantages of technology to alter genes in light of the teachings of the Catholic Church.

Chairperson's Activities

- Shared information about: *Bell Let's Talk Day*, Catholic Education Week, Bioethics Institute, Coady Institute, Earth Day, World Water Day, Fridays for Future, Bursary Fund, Palliative Care Week, *Practical Discussion about Palliative Care* webinar (attended), Mental Health Week, *Partners for Life*, *12 Hours of Prayer*, International Day for Elimination of Violence Against Women, World Day of Poor, World Homeless Day, Continuing Education, Environment, *Catholic Social Teaching Resources*, *Horizons of Hope* kit.
- Prepared newsletters, directives, and reports.
- Attended virtual executive meetings, meetings with national chairperson, provincial/national AMM for 2020 and 2021.

Recommendations

- Leadership training for members running for school trustee/political office.
- Continue to advise members about current Catholic school teachings, bioethics, National Bursary Fund, *Partners for Life* blood services program.

Chairperson: Anne Madden

Archive support: Pauline Krupa

Dioceses Reporting: 13 /13

Serve in a Consultative Capacity

Past presidents in Ontario:

- Due to COVID restrictions most meetings were held on-line.
- Approximately half (65%) past presidents participated in meetings.
- Majority (75%) were repeat past presidents.
- Prepared to mentor / provide advice when asked, but only 42% were asked.
- Projects / fund raisers in the parish or community on hold due to COVID.
- Sought advice (52%) from a higher level when necessary.
- Average age 50-85 years old, who have been members for over 25 years.
- Most (85%) felt their position was respected and appreciated.

Be Responsible for Archives and History

To ensure the preservation of League history, historians:

- Maintained, reviewed and kept current the councils' history / archives (44%).
- Due to COVID restrictions, visiting archives was restricted.
- Reported archived materials were kept indefinitely.
- Were aware of where the council charter was kept (85%).
- Kept lists of past executives with highlights from each term; kept list of pins and awards recipients.
- Reported materials such as minute books, important reports, photo albums, scrapbooks.
- Memory sticks and CDs, were kept in cool, secure, water-proof areas in the parish hall; the majority used acid-free covers, filing cabinets, totes.
- Most councils (66%) kept a history book for their councils.

Facilitate the Study and Implementation of the *Constitution & Bylaws 201*

- High percentage of councils had copies of the *Constitutions and Bylaws 2013* (88%), policy and procedure manuals and other resources but rarely referred to them (18%).
- Encouraged regular visits to the national and provincial websites.
- Assisted and encouraged the preparation and updates of parish manual of policy and procedure.

Other Activities

- Supported projects for national and provincial themes, focusing on loneliness.
- Planned and supported on-line and in person fund-raising events for a variety of purposes.

Chairperson's Activities

- Attended on-line meetings and completed reports and directives as required.
- Researched viable ways to keep archived materials but unable to visit archives in Hamilton due to COVID restrictions.
- Surveyed dioceses regarding policy and procedure manuals.
- Collected items required to update archives.
- Prepared, sent out and gathered documents for upcoming elections.
- Verified elections register and prepared materials for 2022 provincial elections.
- Attended provincial and national AMMs for 2020 and 2021.

Recommendations

- Ask past presidents / historians for assistance if needed.
- Check election register early in the term and update as required.
- Continue to support the implementation of the future of the League through the national Planning Strategically initiative.
- Suggest ways you can keep members current with changes to C&B and policy and procedure. The majority of members rarely refer to these important documents.
- Offer support to the president but allow and encourage the president to try her new ideas if they are within the policies of the League.
- As mentors, encourage and support your future leaders.
- Encourage councils to have a parish policy and procedure manual and up-to-date history records.



Monitor and Study Legislation at all Levels of Government

- Many reported legislation chairperson vacancies at the parish council level.
- Few used the "*Faith in Action*" workshop; some were unaware or uninterested, some reported not receiving information from the diocese or province; some plan to use the workshop in 2022.
- Most members were able to identify government representatives at all levels
- many reported that they received mailings from government representatives
- Websites and documents used included: CWL national, provincial, diocesan and parish; Campaign Life Coalition; Canadian Catholic Bioethics Institute; Coalition for Health and Conscience; deVeber Institute; and the dioceses;
- Publications accessed included: Globe and Mail; National Post; the Catholic Register, Interim, and others suggested by the CWL.
- Nationally, members were aware, monitored, acted on, wrote letters, signed petitions, had guest speakers, and prayed on to varying extents about:
 - Bills C2 & C4 – response to COVID
 - Bill C3 – bubble zones outside hospitals and abortion clinics
 - Bill C6 – conversion therapy
 - Bill C7 – medical assistance in dying
 - Bill C10 – amending the broadcasting act
 - Bill C13 – Emergency Response Act
 - Bill C14 – financial assistance for those affected by COVID
 - Bill C15 – respecting UN declaration on Rights of Indigenous Peoples
 - Bill C 210 amend CRA Revenue Act (organ and tissue donation)
 - Bill C233 – sex selective abortion
 - Bill C268 & Bill C418 – intimidation of health care professionals
 - Bill S203 – protecting young persons from exposure to pornography
- Provincially, councils wrote letters re: temporary closing of large worksites to restrict COVID spread, extraction of water for bottling without a license by Nestlé, protection of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin, environmental protection for the Greenbelt, and curriculum of K-12 education.
- Provincially, members acted on:
 - Bill 3 Development of provincial framework on hospice palliative care to exclude MAID
 - Bill 14 - Time to Care Act re: minimum standard of care
 - Bill 31 - Nancy Rose Act re: pediatric hospice palliative care strategy
 - Bill 41 - Viewer Discretion Act re: images of fetuses
 - Bill 42 - Ontario Religious Freedom Day Act
 - Bill 48 – Support Workers Pay Act
 - Bill 63 – timely mental health and addiction care for children and youth
- Public forums were attended on becoming a blue community, conversion therapy, housing and homelessness, universal access to palliative care, bubble zones, clean water.

- Concerns were expressed about cost and efficacy of referendums, Ring of Fire, exploitation of watersheds and Indigenous rights, national standards for long term care, obstruction of justice, residential schools, Truth & Reconciliation Report, religious symbols in Quebec, hazardous consequences on mental health related to abortion, human trafficking, churches as an essential service.
- Councils shared information at meetings, provided links to relevant websites.
- Councils were encouraged to visit the CWL national and provincial websites, *Hansard*, *LEGIS info website*, or the Federal Department of Justice website.

Preparation of Briefs and Position Papers on Proposed Legislation

- Due to COVID, closures and capacity restrictions rendered councils unable to meet and led to decreased activity – most councils reported that no action was taken on briefs and position papers.
- Councils were asked to review old and new resolutions and position papers and inform members/congregation through bulletin or newsletter inserts.

Chairperson's Activities

- Monitored bills at both levels of government.
- Signed petitions, wrote letters to premier, ministers and MPPs on various provincial issues, same to the prime minister, ministers and MPs on various federal issues.
- Reviewed communiqués #1 and #2 from the national legislation chairperson.
- Reviewed letters written in 2021 by our national president to: Prime Minister Justin Trudeau about Bill C7 An Act to Amend the Criminal Code of Canada (medical assistance in dying), and to Prime Minister Trudeau, the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation, and to the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops about the tragedies at residential schools.
- Reviewed three (3) CWL position papers along with the OPC resolutions chairperson as a member of a national position paper review team.
- Sent communiqué #1 which highlighted the "Legislation Workshop" and encouraged diocesan counterparts to use this at meetings, and communiqué #2 which highlighted several current provincial bills and encouraged members to visit the Ontario provincial website, to act on specific bills relevant to social justice.
- Attended virtual Ontario Provincial Council meeting re: GICs
- Attended the virtual Sault Ste. Marie 2020, 2021 AMMs.
- Prepared a submission for the October *ON-Line Newsletter*.

Recommendations

- That diocesan legislation chairpersons and presidents view the Legislation Workshop and encourage its use at the parish council level.
- That national and provincial chairpersons be more specific in their communiques, highlighting and summarizing important pieces of legislation.
- That detailed information (including relevant Bill and/or resolution number) be provided with sample letters or petitions.
- Promote leadership training for legislation.
- Set aside a month for "connecting with government" – letters, petitions, email, etc.

Resolutions Standing Committee Report

2021

Chairperson: Wilma Vanderzwaag

Resolutions Review Committee: Wilma Vanderzwaag, Betsy Currier, Colleen Martin, Linda Squarzolo, Anne Madden, Colleen Perry, Most Rev. Archbishop Marcel Dampousse, Tracy MacInnis (Secretary)

Government Visit Committee: Colleen Perry, Anne Madden, Linda Squarzolo, Wilma Vanderzwaag, Betsy Currier

Dioceses Reporting: 13/13

Research and Preparation of Resolutions and Briefs

In 2021, due to the pandemic, all diocesan and provincial conventions were held virtually which resulted in no resolutions adopted at these levels. Resolutions prepared by parish councils for consideration and discussion have been deferred until 2022.

The resolution titles are:

- Canada Needs a National Strategy to Address Loneliness
- Quality and Compassionate Care with Dignity for Long-Term Care Residents
- Promoting a Holistic Parish-Based Theology of the Body Lifestyle and
- Procreation Teachings
- The Need to Have Stillborn Remains Included in the Definition of Human Remains in the Criminal Code of Canada

Topics of intent for a resolution included:

- Indigenous history in Canada be included in all grades in both public and Catholic schools with program creation in consultation with Indigenous people.
- The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops create, in consultation with Indigenous people, an educational program on Indigenous history for all seminarians, deacons, priests, and bishops.
- Cost of prescription eyeglasses be reduced for seniors.
- Safe potable water be available for First Nations communities.

Study and Implementation of Resolutions Passed by Other Levels

- Topics studied and action taken on:
- Bill C7 Criminal Code Medical Assistance in Dying
- legislate designation of hospice/palliative care services in facilities to
- exclude medical assistance in dying
- amend the Canada Health Act to identify palliative care as an insured service
- mental health issues
- Canada to honour its commitment to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
- Equal Access to Permanent Resident Status as Amendment to the
- Immigration and Refugee Protection Act
- Coercion of Conscience for Health Care Professionals
- Indigenous issues
- Fifty-five percent of councils reported successful letter writing initiatives to both provincial and federal representatives of government on euthanasia, long-term care, Indigenous issues, and rights of the child.
- Every diocesan council reported that resolutions were studied and education on the implementation of action plans was encouraged.

- There are 523 councils in Ontario but only 135 councils (26%) prepared an annual report on resolutions. Of the 26% that prepared annual reports 69% advised that the chair was vacant. Parish councils with a resolutions chair combined this standing committee with legislation.

Provincial and National Levels, Presentation of Resolutions to Government

- Due to pandemic restrictions no government visits were possible in 2021.

Chairperson's Activities

- Sub-committee member of position paper review led by national resolution chair and national legislation chair.
- Prepared directives, notices and reports as required by provincial guidelines.
- Attended all virtual provincial council meetings.
- Virtually attended 2020 and 2021 provincial and national AMMs.
- Submitted feature article on resolutions for January provincial ON-Line Newsletter.
- Submitted monthly reminders and reports for the provincial ON-Line Newsletter.
- Replied to emails received via provincial website and diocesan counterparts.

Recommendations

- List sample letters for resolution action plans on provincial website.
- Encourage committee chairs to educate members on resolutions that fall under their standing committee.
- Invite government representatives to speak at parish council meetings and visit offices of federal and provincial representatives.
- Need to generate interest in resolutions at the parish council level. All reporting parish councils have combined resolution and legislation committees. Twelve of the thirteen reporting diocesan councils have combined the resolution and legislation committees.
- That national officers create an educational, dynamic, and up-to-date power point resource for the national website similar to 829 Legislation Workshop (2021).
- Advertise successful resolutions on the League social media platforms.

Duties

- Attended all Ontario Provincial Council (OPC) meetings.
- Attended 2021 National AMM.
- Prepared reports and summary reports as required.
- Forwarded executive reports prior to OPC meetings.
- Prepared and sent correspondence as required/requested.
- Attended to OPC correspondence including: sympathy and get-well cards, congratulatory certificates and letters, thank you cards, thinking of you cards and "years of service" certificates as requested.
- Prepared and mailed or emailed Christmas and Easter greetings to all arch/bishops in Ontario.
- Maintained and circulated updated committee lists for provincial officers, diocesan presidents, and spiritual advisors.
- Emailed links to *The Canadian League* magazine to all arch/bishops in Ontario.
- Sent invitation letters to 2022 OPC convention to all arch/bishops in Ontario.
- Sent letters of invitation to prospective vendors for 2022 OPC convention.
- Kept "Correspondence Received" and "Correspondence Sent" binders updated.
- Prepared and submitted annual report for *OPC Annual Report 2021*.

Annual Report Survey

- **Note:** *Five diocesan councils do not have a corresponding secretary. Only four of the five diocesan councils that submitted reports completed the on-line survey, from which the following information has been compiled.*
- Four of the five diocesan councils reported having a corresponding secretary/administrative assistant as a separate position.
- All parish councils made an extra effort to keep in touch with their members by updating their websites, holding Zoom meetings, emailing minutes, sending out cards, and newsletters.
- The majority of parish councils have a copy of *Handbook for Secretaries*.
- Approximately 56% of parish councils have a *Motion Book*.

Recommendations

- That corresponding secretaries have copies of *Good Gracious! Good Grammar!* <https://cwl.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Good-Gracious-Good-Grammar.pdf>, *Handbook for Secretaries* <https://cwl.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/612-Handbook-for-Secretaries-2020.pdf>, and *CWL Style Guide for Publications* <https://cwl.ca/resources/600-series-manuals/> (choose option 615), pages 144 – 146.
- That the *Handbook for Secretaries* be updated to reflect greater focus on the use of technology and social media.

Parish and Diocesan Secretaries Reports (Summary)

- Many served as both recording and corresponding secretary.
- Motion books were maintained in close to 50% of the parish councils and available during executive and general meetings.
- Maintained minutes and current lists of executive members.
- Some councils had no meetings at all in 2021.

Recording Secretary's Activities

- Attended OPC administration committee and executive meetings.
- Communicated with diocesan secretaries through the creating and distribution of communiques.
- Prepared and distributed the *Notices of Meetings*.
- Prepared a template based on the agenda of the meeting.
- Distributed minutes of previous meetings and agendas for the administrative and executive meetings.
- Received and formatted summary reports for executive members.
- Prepared minutes of each executive meeting.
- Prepared notes of virtual meetings and administrative meetings.
- Recommended review committee members for each meeting to the president.
- Maintained an archive copy of the OPC minutes and relevant reports.
- Recorded the roll call for each meeting.
- Maintained the motions book for the Ontario Provincial Council.
- Carried out responsibilities as a signing officer.

Recommendations

- Recognize the value of a motion book as a record that is used to develop and amend the policy and procedures of the council. Have the motion book available for council meetings.
- Encourage members to provide mentorship and assistance to recording secretaries who are new to the role.
- Organize a binder or data stick containing the *Handbook for Secretaries*, a role description, national and provincial resources and current directives as a resource for future recording secretaries.
- Update the *Handbook for Secretaries* to include information about software.
- Encourage members to share their e-mail addresses to circulate information prior to the meetings and minimize use of paper.
- Develop protocols for maintaining and changing passwords on computers and meeting software in order to keep sites secure.
- Have the president sign the minutes prior to archiving the documents.

Treasurer's Report

2021

Treasurer: Marie-Theresa Lamphier

Assistant: Patricia M. Rivest

Dioceses Reporting: 11/13

Summary of Treasurers

- Membership fees ranged from \$20 to \$30, with the average being \$25.
- The majority of the councils prepared a budget, and gave a financial report at their meetings, but only 50%-65% had books examined or reviewed.
- Again, this year little fundraising was done due to Covid-19.

Treasurer's Activities

- Prepared and presented the 2022 budget.
- Processed cheques, deposits and correspondence to acknowledge receipt of donations.
- Prepared directives and other reports monthly including membership reports.
- Attended virtually OPC executive and administration meetings and AMMs for diocesan, provincial and national.
- Met with financial institutions to review GICs.
- Prepared financial reports and membership reports for all executive meetings
- Prepared books for the auditing firm.
- Reviewed, along with the administration committee, all applications for the OPC social justice award and development funds and Bishop Pappin Bursary.
- Kept everyone apprised of the current rates of interest affecting the council's investments.
- Answered inquiries as required.

Recommendations

- That all councils complete both the annual survey from national as well as the treasurer's annual donation report.
- That all councils arrange for a review of the council books at the end of the fiscal year.
- That all councils prepare a budget.
- That all diocesan councils offer a workshop for treasurers.
- That past treasurers mentor in-coming treasurers.
- That national council share their financial statements with ALL members.
- That all treasurers' reports data be sent in the same format.
- That a customized computer software program be recommended for use by treasurers.



THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA

ONTARIO

DONATIONS RECEIVED FOR PAST CALENDAR YEAR

National Voluntary Fund	
Coady International Institute	2,608
Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace	6,837
Catholic Missions In Canada	15,661
Euthanasia Prevention Coalition (until August 18, 2023)	4,341
National Bursary Fund	933
Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA)	2,308
National Voluntary Fund Sub-total	32,688
Standing Committees	
Spiritual Development	40,978
Organization	39,959
Christian Family Life	68,076
Community Life	167,697
Education and Health	81,088
Communications	10,821
Standing Committees Sub-total	408,618

All Donations	
National Voluntary Fund Sub-total	32,688
Standing Committees Sub-total	408,618
Parish Donations	165,051
Other Donations	6,095
TOTAL	612,452

We are grateful for the many donations made by members and councils during this difficult year of pandemic Covid-19 and fewer fund-raising events.

Name of Treasurer: Marie-Theresa Lamphier

Alexandria-Cornwall Diocesan Council Report 2021

President: Angela Gaudet

Spiritual Advisor: Father Augustine Obago

Members: 613

Life Members: 10

Councils: 9

- One of the challenges the diocesan council faced in early 2021 was not being able to host its regularly scheduled, in-person meetings due to the on-going COVID-19 pandemic. In early spring, the diocesan council acquired access to Zoom. Through this technology, the diocesan council was able to meet virtually.
- The diocesan convention scheduled for May 30th in Moose Creek was changed to the annual meeting of members with a partial virtual meeting at the Roxborough Bus Lines in Monkland.
- The annual report books were published and distributed.
- Elections were held and all positions were filled by acclamation.
- Congratulations to the councils of St. Columban's in Cornwall and St. Finnan's in Alexandria who celebrated their 100th anniversary in February and in May, respectively.
- The diocesan council, which began praying for Vocations in 2012, witnessed those prayers come into fruition in August 2021, with the ordination of a priest and three transitional deacons.
- All commitments in the form of donations were respected by the diocese.
- In October, the diocesan council held its first in-person meeting of the year in Ingleside. Mass was celebrated by the previous Diocesan Spiritual Advisor, Father Dan VanDelst. The new Spiritual Advisor, Father Augustine Obago, and diocesan officers were installed. A prayer service followed to welcome the newest life member in the diocese – Emma Rose Rayburn.
- Two members from the diocese, Barb Champagne (2020 recipient) and Miriam Wheeler (2021 recipient) were presented with a certificate of recognition for the Social Justice Award.
- Members of the diocese participated in Rosary Rallies held in Cornwall, Alexandria, Ingleside and Finch on October 16, 2021.
- In November, the diocesan council welcomed ladies from St. Regis to the Healing and Reconciliation Mass in Cornwall. The members witnessed a Smudging Ceremony done by the ladies of St. Regis. These ladies also were included in the Mass by participating in the readings and sang the Our Father in their native language, Mohawk.
- In December, the Alexandria-Cornwall Diocesan CWL was featured in the ON-Line Newsletter.
- The Advent Retreat was hosted by St. Andrews Council with fifty-seven members in attendance. The guest speaker, Father Steven Gaudet, spoke about Advent. One of the highlights was the presentation of the Bellelle Guerin Award and pin blessed by Father Steven Gaudet to a well-deserved member and Past Diocesan President, Bernadine Greffe.
- Through the challenges of 2021, the membership of Alexandria-Cornwall addressed the Theme of Loneliness by prayers and reaching out to the membership by phone calls, emails and personal visits.

Hamilton Diocesan Council Report

2021

President: Joyce Cotter
Members: 6,021
Councils: 94

Spiritual Advisor: Father Larry Parent
Life Members: 10
Regions: 4

- President Catherine Feren resigned on January 30, 2021, to be replaced by President-Elect / Organization Chair Joyce Cotter.
- The diocesan spiritual theme "Welcome Home" was incorporated with national theme "Care for our Common Home" for the second year. Diocesan lenten and advent retreats, prayer vigil service for Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel and National Indigenous Peoples Day presentation were offered virtually to the members.
- Parish councils eliminated plastic water bottles, plastic straws; used green bins for organic waste; reduced water usage; composted; and participated in roadside or community clean-up to honour our national theme.
- Throughout the year, members were encouraged to "Sparkle God's Way" as God calls us to be beacons of light for others, especially in challenging times.
- Held spring and fall virtual regional "Chat in the Hat" to share news, connect with council presidents/executive and share faith, fun and fulfillment. Presented prizes to the winners with the best decorated hats.
- Parish councils connected with members to combat loneliness through virtual chats, newsletters, cards, personal notes, phone calls, virtual retreats, Zoom prayer rooms for praying the Rosary, 12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care, and livestreaming of monthly mass for deceased members.
- Diocesan council participated in an honour guard at the funeral mass for past Diocesan Spiritual Advisor Father John Redmond.
- The 100 years of the League was celebrated by planting bulbs and trees, and placing a bench on parish grounds.
- Parish councils recognized special birthdays of 85 or 100 years; honoured members with service pins via mail or front door for 25, 40, 50, 60 and even 70 years of service in the League.
- Healing and conflict resolution workshops with a professional spiritual director and conflict management facilitator were offered to council executive members who were having issues.
- In September, a virtual spiritual evening was held for CWL National Day of Faith with facilitator Simone Robinson, a spiritual director and speaker.
- The Hamilton Diocesan Council was featured in the October issue of the Ontario Provincial Council newsletter.
- Held partial virtual 100th & 101st Annual Meeting of Members on October 23 at Bingeman's where chair reports focused on promoting the League.
- The diocesan council presented a nominations/elections guidelines webinar to parish councils in November and posted guidelines on Hamilton CWL website.
- Diocesan Spiritual Advisor Father Larry Parent was presented with a CWL spiritual advisor's pin and stole at the diocesan executive Christmas dinner.

Hearst Moosonee Diocesan Council Report

2021

President: Liz McInnis

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Praveen Sangabathuni

Members: 249

Life Members: 6

Councils: 6

- Although a new executive was to take office in 2020, this was deferred to 2021 because of COVID and at the request of the national board. The executive has been in office since the AMM.
- The diocesan past president for 2021-23 has resigned from her position in order to support family.
- The diocesan president met with the council presidents and other members frequently, in person and through Zoom.
- Many members have participated in Zoom workshops, webinars and seminars offered through Zoom and other programs.
- Written reports, and newsletters were sent to members through email and hand-delivered to members with no computer access.
- Two of members have made regular trips to a remote areas of the diocese to develop fellowships and to possibly reactivate a council there.
- Throughout the year members, from all councils showed support by wearing orange for the "Every Child Matters" campaign and also wore red shirts in support of Canadian troops for Remembrance Day.
- Councils made ornaments and Christmas cards for shut-ins sisters, both at home and in nursing homes, as well as bringing communion and visiting, when Covid restrictions permitted.
- The theme "Care for our Common Home" was addressed through recycling, prayers, and making others aware of the urgency to look after the planet.
- Prayerful, financial and volunteer support was given to help with families living with domestic violence and/or those living in poverty.
- Donations were made to the "March for Life".
- Information on MAID was distributed to members and the diocesan president attended a virtual seminar.
- Councils supported youth programs through Sunday school, and being prayer partners with students in Catholic schools.

Kingston Diocesan Council

2021

President: Nancy Richer

Spiritual Advisor: Rev. Dale Wright

Members: 2166

Honourary Life Members: 1

Councils: 43

Life Members: 12

- The Kingston Diocesan CWL celebrated its 100th Anniversary. A prayer book was created and made available at the convention as a 100th Anniversary project.
- The diocesan council history book was created and was available at the 100th Anniversary Diocesan Convention.
- The executive kept in touch using Zoom meetings.
- The first in-person president's meeting was held in November but contact was kept with parish councils by phone calls and emails.
- The diocesan website and Facebook page were kept up-to-date.
- The annual report book was approved and sent out to the council presidents by email.
- Zoom meetings were held to pray the Stations of the Cross for seniors, another for everyone during Lent as well as an advent Stations of the Cross.
- The majority of council presidents used the Canadian League magazine, national, provincial and diocesan websites and directives to inform members and initiate council projects and discussions. Presidents appreciated the availability and easy access to information and ideas.
- Members continued to value the friendships and support of other League members. They appreciated working together, supporting each other in faith, fun and fulfilment.
- The different climate that the Covid 19 pandemic forced upon everyone has shown that councils can continue to pull together. Through teamwork and a willingness to help and support each other, members dealt with the many unusual issues that often disrupted plans and learned to take a different route to achieve their goals.

London Diocesan Council Report

2021

President: Theresa Ryan
Members: 8440
Councils: 92

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Paul Kim
Life Members: 10
Regions: 7

- London Diocesan CWL members continued to support the national theme Care for Our Common Home and the provincial theme of Loneliness; how fortuitous it was when these themes were chosen.
- Meetings were held online in every region to try and the proposed amend-ments and per capita raise was explained to all the presidents of councils.
- The parish councils were creative in how they collected dues as this was the second year they had to do things differently because of the pandemic.
- In February the Online Membership System PowerPoint Program was presented in every region by President Rebecca McCarrell and President-Elect Theresa Ryan. .
- Since in-person meetings could not be held, the annual Lenten Retreat was online. Part of the focus was on St. Joseph to reflect the Year of St. Joseph as declared by Pope Francis.
- As restrictions were in place about gathering, preparations were made to hold an online annual meeting of members (AMM). As the pandemic progressed, some of the plans for the online AMM had to go by the wayside. It was decided to hold it anyway, and with a lot of hard work, it was a resounding success. Elections for a new executive were even held, online. Angela Pellerin was honoured by presenting her with Life Membership. She has served on the London diocesan executive for 21 years and will continue to serve in any capacity requested.
- The Compassionate Care program, spearheaded by Alex Schadenberg, was held in several locations online. The introduction of "My Story" happened at the same time. The stories from senior members were interesting and the process used was a good way to get family histories or even that of the League. Alex will be printing a book of the stories submitted.
- The councils had a difficult time realizing that the main purpose of the League was not fundraising and were eager to get going. They were reminded by the diocesan treasurer that the focus should be on members and the community.
- Since meeting to protest against Human Trafficking was not possible, many of members took pictures of themselves holding a sign called "Project Maple Leaf" (an extension of the Project ON-Route protest against human trafficking along the 401 corridor) and posted it to social media to raise awareness.
- There were over 20 councils across the diocese that celebrated their council's 100th anniversary.
- In November in-person meeting were finally allowed, a year since the last one. Everyone was overjoyed to be able to meet again.
- However, the year ended, as it began, with many restrictions still in place as the Omicron virus spread throughout the country.

Ottawa Diocesan Council Report

2021

President: Lynn Lavictoire
Members: 1,193
Councils: 26

Spiritual Advisor: Rev. Fr. Paul J. Gaudet
Honorary Life Members: 1
Life Members: 12

- Members across the Ottawa Diocese continued to be inspired by the national theme of "Care for our Common Home" and embraced the provincial theme of "Loneliness" through projects of "Reaching Out," "Seal the Doorposts," "CWL Wednesday!" which included a reflection on the day's Gospel reading, and national's "Gratitude Project" postcard in appreciation for frontline workers.
- Two League development days were held virtually for the first time. The event included a professional workshop facilitator, Leslie Giddings, who energized members on the possibilities of positive change in the League.
- A virtual "Lenten Morning of Reflection" included mass, coffee chat, a reflection on "Our Biases" by Spiritual Advisor Fr. Paul Gaudet, breakout rooms and Stations of the Cross.
- Members celebrated the Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel with ten people in person. This was also livestreamed due to the increased pandemic restrictions that had been imposed.
- In June, an Iconography workshop was led by Ukrainian Catholic Olenka Gadza.
- The diocesan council was featured in the June edition of the *ON-Line Newsletter*.
- On September 11, three levels of the CWL were recognized at the Kateri Native Ministry Mass which included elements of Indigenous spirituality and presided by Archbishop Marcel Dampousse.
- Instructed vote information sessions were held in the fall.
- On October 2, the Ottawa Diocesan Convention/Meeting of Members was held in-person and hosted by St. Mary's Council at the Civitan Hall in Almonte. Guest speaker Fr. Daryold Winkler spoke on Truth and Reconciliation. The closing mass was held at Holy Name of Mary Church.
- On November 11, *the Lest We Forget* wreath was laid on behalf of The Catholic Women's League of Canada.
- A virtual Advent morning retreat called, "Advent Lessons & Carols" was held in late November. This retreat included mass, the teachings of the Jesse Tree, scriptures expressing the theme of the promised Messiah and carols.
- Easter and Christmas greeting cards were mailed to all councils.
- The diocesan council published the bi-annual diocesan *Faith in Action* newsletter showcasing all the work of councils and their members for the League.
- Members continued to collect eye glasses, stamps and milk bags as part of the Reduce and Reuse Program.
- Parish councils celebrated milestone anniversaries virtually and in person.
- The Ottawa Diocesan Council worked diligently planning to host the 75th Ontario Provincial Annual Meeting of Members in July 2022.
- Fervent prayers have continued in community for the good of the members, people across the country and around the world.

Pembroke Diocesan Council Report

2021

President: Joan Lemay

Spiritual Advisor: Father Michael Coyne

Members: 1479

Life Members: 10

Councils: 30

- Diocesan Spiritual Advisor Fr. Michael Coyne attended the executive meetings, including the spring and fall meetings as well as the day of reflection. The topics addressed included: *St. Joseph* (in year of St. Joseph), *Catholic Church's History with Residential Schools*, *Leading a Balanced Prayer Life*, *The Value of Our Elders*, *Ethical Concerns Related to Current Approved COVID-19 Vaccines*, and *The Eucharist*.
- The executive maintained regular contact with parish presidents by phone. A diocesan delegation visited the most northern council for discussions and exchange of ideas. Parish councils supported their members with phone calls, visits when possible and by sending cards to shut-ins.
- The diocesan president wrote communiques to CWL members, monthly or bi-monthly.
- Virtual meetings were held when it was not safe to meet in person. The spring meeting, held virtually, reviewed and discussed all the motions, the process for the instructed vote, and a CWL member from a parish council spoke about her council's "Companions on the Journey" program where young families were linked with older parishioners.
- In commemoration of Pembroke Diocesan Council's 100th Anniversary, a committee updated the council's history book. Copies were distributed to all parish councils and sent electronically to spiritual advisors.
- The Pembroke Diocesan Annual Meetings of Members for 2020 and 2021, were held via Zoom in May. Most Rev. Guy Desrocher, Bishop of Pembroke, attended and spoke about the diocese's evangelization initiative.
- Several members of the diocesan executive and members from various parish councils virtually attended the CWL provincial and the national annual meetings of members.
- The diocesan communications chair published an article about the CWL in the fall diocesan newspaper, *The Ecclesia*.
- One member of diocesan executive sat on the National CWL Year 3 Working Group, *Networking with Catholic Organizations*.
- The diocesan organization chair resigned for health reasons and a new chair was appointed.
- A diocesan in-person day of reflection was held in September as well as a ceremony for deceased CWL members and spiritual advisors. The reflection was entitled "Give Peace a Chance" and examined living a life of non-violence.
- At the fall diocesan meeting, the diocesan organization chair presented a workshop to introduce the CWL Welcome Program.
- The Advent Retreat was held virtually and led by the diocesan spiritual advisor.
- The diocesan president worked with two parish councils who were in the process of disbanding. The members were encouraged to continue their League membership in neighbouring councils.

Peterborough Diocesan Council Report

2021

President: Helena Lessard

Spiritual Advisor: Reverend Roy Villas

Members: 1,562

Life Members: 10

Councils: 29

- Continued terms of office into a third year.
- Attended the Annual Meeting of Members (AMM) mid-year at St. Mary's, Lindsay which concluded with elections of officers.
- Assigned chair roles to elected officers; recruited and appointed individuals to other roles; held training sessions with officers when required; sought consultation from executive.
- Initiated communication by website, emails, phone calls, cards, newsletters and annual report book.
- Purchased Zoom account, with provincial subsidy, to help diocesan and parish councils communicate and hold meetings within the diocese.
- Fostered open communication with Bishop Miehm and later the newly appointed Diocesan Spiritual Advisor Father Roy Villas.
- Ensured spiritual advisor's smooth transition and understanding of his role.
- Met with bank representative and signing officers to update the diocesan council's bank account.
- Celebrated first official duty with a working lunch meeting on membership and 90th birthday celebration of a two-time past diocesan president.
- Presided over more than forty attendees at the 2021 fall diocesan meeting including installation of officers.
- Attended provincial and national AMMs and provincial 2021 winter and fall meetings.
- Held roundtable discussions with parish presidents and diocesan officers; both groups requested future discussion meetings.
- Began preparations for the 2022 convention.
- Discussed with diocesan officers the Welcome Program presentation to councils and utilization of the Member Information forms by councils.
- Conferred with two parish presidents about their councils, unfortunately, going inactive representing over eighty members.
- Read and processed directives and materials received from other levels of the League; passed material along to appropriate executive members.
- Participated in Peterborough Diocese's pilgrimage for Year of St. Joseph by attending masses and celebrations; attended celebrations such as the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe and the National Day of Prayer in Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples; represented Peterborough Diocese at St. Mary's, Lindsay 100th anniversary celebration.
- Participated in executive orientation sessions.
- Attended members' memorial masses; prayed for League members' needs.

St. Catharines Diocesan Council Report

2021

President: Lisa Fillingham
Members: 2105
Councils: 30

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Richard Kowalchuk
Life Members: 13
Regions: 4

- Virtual convention held at once for 2020 and 2021 in the spring.
- Postcards of thanks were sent to the parish presidents and executive to thank them for their patience, continued work and spirituality during these difficult times.
- Because more spiritual endeavors and activities were requested, a plan was put into place with the new spiritual development chair and the diocesan spiritual advisor. A book club and a monthly newsletter entitled *Catholic Connections* were established. Diocesan Spiritual Advisor Fr Richard Kowalchuk purchased *Formed* for the presidents and executive and is offering monthly guidance as to where attention should be focused.
- The executive is now meeting in person, understanding their role, why, and to enable them to be better equipped to help members with questions.
- The diocesan meetings were held five times per year and were very long. Covid has given the opportunity to try new ways to do things. Consultation with the presidents has led to monthly, shorter meetings. Upon discussion, the meetings will remain this way with two per year in person and include workshops.
- The diocese held an Advent retreat entitled "Come away by yourselves to a desolate place and rest a while." Mark 6:31 It was the first Advent retreat that the diocese held in a very long time. If possible, another one will be planned for 2022.
- An Advent calendar was created and posted on the diocesan website for those who wanted a reflective thought to contemplate daily.
- St. Kevin in Welland were able to have a mass in October to celebrate their 70th anniversary. Even with social distancing and strict rules it was a wonderful night.
- Council anniversaries celebrations included were St. Mary, Welland 100th Anniversary; Our Lady of the Holy Rosary, Thorold, 95th Anniversary; The Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria, St. Catharines, 85th Anniversary; St. Therese of Lisieux, Port Colborne, 70th Anniversary; St. Elizabeth, Wainfleet, 70th Anniversary; St. Kevin, Welland, 70th Anniversary; St. George, Crystal Beach, 65th Anniversary; St. Thomas More, Niagara Falls, 65th Anniversary; St. Martin of Tours, Smithville, 60th Anniversary; and Our Lady of the Holy Scapular, Niagara Falls, 70th Anniversary.
- Five Maple Leaf Service pins were awarded to Mary Fromberger, St. Kevin Parish in Welland; Bonnie Koabel, St. George in Crystal Beach; Naty Canaria, St. Julia, St. Catharines; Olga Rosinski, St. Ann, Fenwick; and Colleen Drake, St. Helen, Beamsville.
- Information from parishes was gathered for the January ON-Line newsletter.
- Planning for 2022 events has begun.

Sault Ste. Marie Diocesan Council Report 2021

President: Cathy McKinney
Members: 2145
Regions: 3

Spiritual Advisor: Father Rex Lumine
Councils: 30
Life Members: 9

- Diocesan executive were contacted using virtual calls and the winter diocesan executive meeting was held virtually. The fall meeting was a hybrid, with some attendees in-person and some virtual.
- Several spiritual retreats were hosted by the three regions in the Sault Ste. Marie Diocese as well as an Advent retreat.
- Members of the executive were introduced to the Welcome Program, which will be given to parishes once COVID restrictions are lifted.
- On March 6, members of the diocesan executive created a You Tube channel, Instagram page, and updated the diocesan website and Facebook pages.
- In March an attempt was made for a virtual annual meeting of members. However, when a virtual practice session was held, too many difficulties arose. With continued health restrictions, the AMMs were postponed until the fall.
- Virtual meetings were held with members from the three regions regarding expanding the role of the compassionate committee from North Bay to the entire diocese. A committee was created in Sudbury.
- On June 21, National Indigenous Peoples Day, members attended a virtual presentation led by Sister Pricilla Solomon.
- A spiritual bouquet from all councils in the diocese was presented to the recently ordained diocesan priest, Father Chad Franklin.
- The 100th and 101st Diocesan Annual Meetings of Members were held with three members attending in person and 58 members virtually. All business from the past two years was ratified and all motions from each of the AMM's were documented.
- The diocesan council submitted a nomination for the 2022 OPC Social Justice Award to the provincial council.
- The diocesan council has formed a Reconciliation partnership with plans to host workshops to be delivered at the 2022 diocesan AMM and in locations throughout the diocese.

Thunder Bay Diocesan Council Report

2021

President: Maria Bertoldo

Spiritual Advisor: Rev. Michael Mahoney

Members: 2110

Life Members: 9

Councils: 24

- Annual reports were submitted by 13 of the 24 councils.
- Diocesan executive virtual meetings were held in March, June and November.
- Reports for provincial fall and winter meetings were prepared and submitted.
- Virtual retreat days in honour of St. Joseph began in January and continued monthly until December.
- Virtual prayer services held for frontline workers, Earth Day, Our Lady of Good Counsel and Prayers for Healing.
- Virtual annual meetings of members for 2020 and 2021 were held May 1st, 2021 with 46 in attendance.
- In September, a tree was planted to honour the 140 years of service by the Sisters of St. Joseph to the diocese. Bishop Fred Colli invited 25 sisters in the region to a reception and a special mass, held at St. Andrew's parish. This followed the instruction of Pope Francis's Encyclical *Laudato Si*, Care for Our Common Home.
- In June, members of the diocesan council and members of various parishes in the diocese, attended a "Healing Circle" at the Kitchitwa Kateri Church.
- At the end of October, a special pin presentation service was held at St. Agnes Parish, for the diocese's newest Life Member Alice Uvanile.
- The Thunder Bay Diocesan CWL was featured in the February issue of the *ON-Line Newsletter*.
- The provincial theme of Loneliness continued to be addressed by many councils by making phone visits, sending thinking-of-you cards and sending Christmas gifts to the residents of local senior homes.
- At the diocesan executive meeting in November, parish council presidents were updated on the process of holding the instructed vote.
- The *Diocesan Dialogue*, online newsletter, continued on a monthly basis on our website.

Timmins Diocesan Council Report

2021

President: Annette Kelly

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. John Lemire

Members: 412

Life Members: 4

Councils: 8

- The 2020 and 2021 annual meetings of members were held virtually in June due to Covid-19 restrictions. Parish presidents based their reports on the themes "Loneliness" or "Care for our Common Home". Diocesan officers reported on one of the national themes from the past 40 years as a tribute to the League's 100th Anniversary.
- Timmins Diocesan Council hosted a virtual Spiritual Retreat Day in September on "Journaling" with CWL member, Carole Roy and a virtual Advent evening led by Diocesan Spiritual Advisor Fr. John Lemire, who also gave a talk on "Called to Holiness" at the January meeting.
- Zoom meetings were held in January, February and October to deal with business. Presented Welcome Program at the October meeting.
- Committee chairs continued to forward directives to parish counterparts in the hope that some work would still be done, and to encourage and keep in touch with the members.
- New Life Member Lynne Rowlandson was presented with her pin and scroll in an outdoor ceremony.
- Parish councils were encouraged to hold 'safe' fundraising events, e.g., 'Bakeless' Bake Sales.
- Members were encouraged to participate in the many virtual webinars, spiritual retreats, etc., being offered by other dioceses and national's Fireside Chat with the honorary life members.
- A few in-person parish meetings were held; while some tried Zoom technology for virtual meetings.
- Officers and councils kept in touch with fellow members via phone, email and newsletters.
- Several members registered for the national virtual AMM since there was no cost and no travelling or accommodations to cover.
- Timmins Diocesan CWL was featured in both the September and the October OPC newsletter with photos of various parish council activities.
- Only three councils submitted their Instructed Vote re Amendments and Per Capita Increase by the end of the year. Encouragement and suggestions were sent to the others to complete theirs.
- The lockdowns and restrictions have had an impact on CWL life and everyone looks forward to a brighter future.

Toronto Diocesan Council Report

2021

President: Hilarion Mitchell
Members: 6357
Councils: 102
Regions: 7

Spiritual Advisor: Msgr. Patrick O'Dea
Honorary Life Members: 1
Life Members: 14

- Diocesan meetings and events were mostly virtual due to the COVID-19 pandemic, government and public health lockdowns and restrictions affecting councils' ability for in-person meetings and fundraising.
- The seven regional general meetings were combined into three virtual meetings in the spring, but each held separate meetings in the fall. The first meeting with Thomas Cardinal Collins since 2019 was held on April 8th. The 99th and 100th annual meetings of members were held on May 15th using partial virtual, with 287 members present. The AMMs started with a live-streamed mass from St. Edward the Confessor Church in Thornhill.
- Special events included New Year's celebrations (Jan. 13th); Development Day: *Care for Our Common Home, The Only Future Worth Building Includes Everyone* (Feb. 20th); Vaccines: Faith & Science Together with Dr. Moira McQueen (March 23rd); Toronto Diocesan Council 7th Indigenous Peoples Day: Conversion, Reconciliation, Transformation Ecological Justice (June 21st); Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action an Introduction and Updates (Sept. 29th); *Celebrating Our Cultural Diversity* starting with livestreamed Mass (Sept. 25th); Moira Ste. Marie 4th Memorial Lecture Series: *Catholic Education Rebuild, Restore, Renew Together* (Oct. 20th); CWL Wednesdays: League Welcome Program (April 7), Mary Garden (May 5), Internet or Interact (June 16), Unique Role of Women (Nov. 24). Used Google forms to evaluate the AMMs and events.
- The Toronto Diocesan CWL Council's 100th Anniversary celebration was held on June 3rd virtually with 370 members and guests in attendance. A Centennial Mass was held on October 7th at St. Michael's Basilica with Bishop Robert Kasun as main celebrant with maximum 100 in-person attendance and 1,700 views for the livestreamed mass.
- St. Philip Neri Council disbanded on Dec. 31st.
- Donations were provided to Serra Foundation for the Ordinandi Dinner, Journey Home Hospice, Catholic Family Services of Durham, Catholic Children's Aid Foundation Scholarship Fund, Mikinakoos Children's Fund and St. Michael's Scholarship Fund.

Recognition

The Ontario Provincial Council 2021 Social Justice Award

was presented to

Pierrette (Penny) Craig

Our Lady of the Atonement Parish, Windsor
Diocese of London.

CONGRATULATIONS!



The Annual Report Editing Committee

Glenda Klein - Shirley Deleurant
Linda Squarzolo

The Purpose of the Ontario Provincial Council

- To implement the Catholic Women's League objectives and policy in the province
- To represent the Catholic Women's League members of Ontario at the national level
- To coordinate the diocesan councils in the province
- To be a link between the diocesan councils in Ontario and the national council for reporting, for resolutions and for those matters requiring an instructed vote at the national convention
- To disseminate information and direction from the national council to the diocesan councils in the province
- To provide direction, inspiration and encouragement to Catholic Women's League members and councils in the province
- To submit resolutions and briefs on provincial matters as required
- To maintain contact with the Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario (ACBO)

