



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



ON-LINE NEWSLETTER

June 2024 Edition

Featuring the Peterborough Diocese and OPC Christian Family Life

Here I Am Lord, Send Me
Isaiah 6:8



Linda's League Letters

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Dear League Friends,

This is my last letter to you as the Ontario Provincial President. When my term ends in July, although I will be retiring from active leadership in the League, I will always be willing to share my knowledge and mentor whenever I am asked.

When I joined the League 49 years ago, little did I know what a gift this organization would be. When Mother Teresa, now St. Teresa of Calcutta, was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979 she said, "... when we work hard all day long, it feels like we are only a drop in the ocean. But if our individual drops were not in the ocean ... the ocean would be dry." The League is like that. Each member brings her special gifts and talents to the League and without them "our ocean" would be dry. I thank God for all the wonderful members I have met and truly consider them my sisters.

Recently the program "60 Minutes" aired an interview with Pope Francis. One statement that he made resonated with me. He said that the world today has too many Pontius Pilates, who wash their hands of the problems surrounding them. The Catholic Women's League encourages its members to address the issues in today's society, to offer service to those in need and to pray. Our role in the world is to "Go Make a Difference!"

Thanks to all of you for your friendship and support.

Love,



Linda Squarzolo, President
Ontario Provincial CWL

LET'S GO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!



PETERBOROUGH DIOCESE

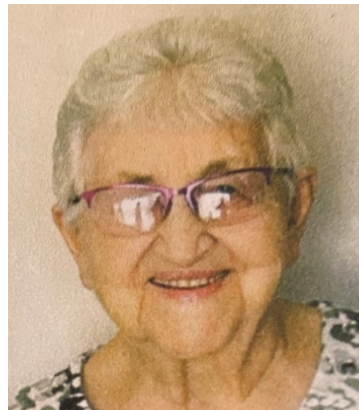
Peterborough Diocese The Peterborough Diocesan CWL, (Jan. 1921) is almost as old as the National organization (1920) and is as proud as any CWLer of their roots. One of those councils, St. Joseph Parish Council, Powassan, organized in August 1921, disbanded for a time, but in the fall of 2023, celebrated 80 years of rebirth - a proven example of how we can begin, fall away for a time, and rebound with the dedication of earlier days. President Maria Fitzgerald, Past President Helena Lessard, and 1st Vice President Wendy Tedford, attended the 80th Anniversary Mass with greetings from National, Provincial, and the Peterborough Diocese. With a new parish priest, unfamiliar with the CWL, they soon had a priest who was looking forward both to a whole new world with the CWL, and as a new member of the council. Powassan was pleased to present the following pins to their CWL family.

45 Year Ursula Wand
25 Year Christine Rick
20 Year Dolores Larocelle
15 Year Nancy Charette
5 Year Fr. Eric Mason
New Member Dianne Cole



Bellelle Guerin Award

We are pleased to announce that Powassan's Elaine Beaton, a 58-year member, will be presented the Bellelle Guerin Award on the 19th of June 2024 by President Maria Fitzgerald. Elaine has spent countless hours working for her parish community, 17 years as Parish President, along with sitting on the Diocesan Executive for 14 years. Elaine is a faith family person, involving her family in many CWL functions. Even though she recently moved to a Retirement Villa, due to health issues, Elaine remains involved within the Service Pillar for her parish. Warmest kind wishes to Elaine on her recent achievement.





The Peterborough Diocesan Council held its 103rd Annual Convention on May 4th and 5th in Huntsville with the theme: "Here I am, Lord, I come to do Your Will". Psalm 40:7-10. It was an energetic group of 97 registered CWL sisters celebrating together.



The convention was blessed with our Bishop Daniel Miehm, Monsignor Tramontini, with 8 priests and deacons from the Northern Dicastery celebrating the opening Mass on Saturday. Spiritual Bouquets were presented to the Bishop, Fr. Roy, our Spiritual Advisor, and Fr. Dominick, our host council's parish priest.



Violinist Tom Hutchinson played 'Ave Maria' and Marguerite Goodfellow, Diocesan Faith Chair, read the names, as our council presidents processed forward to the statue of Our Lady with roses in remembrance of our deceased members.



Our Diocesan Spiritual Advisor, Fr. Roy Villas is pictured alongside Adessa MacDonald, who led in the singing of O Canada at the onset of Mass, as Diocesan President Maria Fitzgerald crowns Our Lady.



Maria Fitzgerald is surrounded by so many of the wonderful banners of the councils who came to Huntsville for the convention. Maria is seen here inviting her sisters to open their hearts "to the will of God."



Monsignor Tramontini, the keynote speaker Saturday, is welcomed by Vice President Wendy Tedford. Many, who were touched by his words and meditative session, will continue to reflect on his presentation.



The executive officers reaffirmed their commitment to the Peterborough Diocesan Council. (left to right)

Maria Fitzgerald, Wendy Tedford, Anne Marie Werry, Rosemary Guy, Fr. Roy Villas, Lynda Macpherson, Lois Crider, Anne McKinnon, and Madeleine Pearson.



After a busy business session on Saturday, everyone was keen to celebrate our sisterhood on Saturday night.

Host councils were most gracious in serving everyone as seen below.



Diocesan President Maria Fitzgerald was our guest speaker presenting a biography of her life and the times that Our Lord placed her in a number of situations throughout her life whereby she was compelled to say: "Your Will! Not Mine!"



(L) Wilma Vanderzwaag, First Vice-President of the CWL Ontario Provincial Council, is happily presenting the Life Member award to Paddy Fitzgerald-Nolan who is currently on the Provincial Communications Sub-Committee.

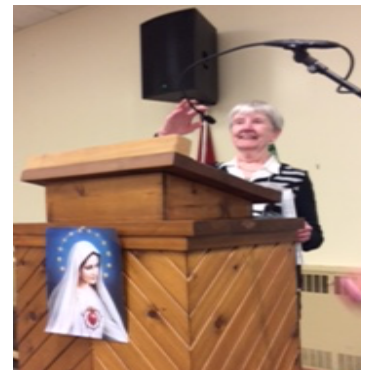
Wilma Vanderzwaag, as guest speaker on Sunday, talked about "The Power of One...Are you the One?"

which furthered our Diocesan theme. Appreciation was given by Mary Ann Goheen.



Fr. Paul Massel, Diocesan "Rosary Program in the Schools" Spiritual Advisor, introduced the concept of the Rosary Program in which community volunteers present the rosary prayer to all the elementary students. He invited those present to participate as monthly volunteers. Heidi Minuti gave a wonderful talk from the volunteer's point of view. Heidi is the volunteer co-ordinator of the program for St. Joseph's school in Bowmanville.

As a relatively new CWL member, Heidi is a fine example of one who has answered the Lord's call to do His will.



On February 24th the Peterborough Diocesan Council held a Winter Meeting in Ennismore. The focus of the meeting was on the 3 Pillars and how they work together as one.

A workshop with knitted prayer squares as an example was used as a way of incorporating co-operation between the 3 Pillars. **Faith** provided the prayers, **Service** provided the knitters and deliveries, **Social Justice** promoted Palliative Care and Homelessness.



EVENTS AROUND THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESE

Douro

After Mass, on May the 19th, St. Joseph Parish, Douro, celebrated the impressive years of service of 30 members. Service Pins were awarded to those who had contributed 25 to 65 years. They are excited to celebrate their 90th Anniversary the 9th of June at Sunday mass. Refreshments will follow in the Parish Hall.



Kinmount

We will again try to celebrate our 103rd Anniversary in September as an afternoon tea. More news to follow.

St. Alphonsus, Peterborough



Several of our councils held very successful Annual Fall/Christmas Bazaar fundraisers. They thank members and their communities for all their work, and participation in bringing together people to have fun, to socialize and to network. Shown here are some of the wonderful craft items made by the CWL members of St. Alphonsus, Peterborough

St. Martin of Tours, Ennismore



Our CWL council implemented the "Pocket Prayer Shawl" project involving the Three Pillar structure. They are intended to be held in a pocket, hand or just nearby. This little shawl can be used during personal prayer. It also holds the thoughts and prayers of friends who care. Many have been distributed to members in our faith community.

An Ennismore parishioner made 100 little crosses for the St Martin CWL Council to spread the power of prayer and faith. The cross is designed not "to look" but "to feel right" when one is praying. It fits comfortably into the palm of the hand during prayer or sometimes just held silently – this itself is prayer. Through the sense of touch, we can express our love and need for Christ. Holding this cross might, for some, be the best way to pray for oneself or for those who are suffering with their own crosses.

St. John and the Missions, Kirkfield



Our facilitator, Paddy Fitzgerald Nolan, presented alarming statistics about the numbers of homeless in our area, in Ontario and in Canada. She listed the supports available in our area, the most essential needs, and the many ways we can assist. Paddy's main request is that we acknowledge homeless people and give them the respect and dignity deserved by all humans.

The 21 women attending were divided into small groups, each group listing our regular activities during 5 time periods of a day. These were discussed and the challenges to a homeless person in the same periods of the day were listed.



Paddy showed the video "Eating Twinkies with God" in which a young boy shares one packet of Twinkie cupcakes with a homeless lady and gives her another packet. Later, she tells her homeless friend: "I ate Twinkies with God today and He was much younger than I thought."

Several ladies shared their experiences with the homeless, as well as women's transition houses, shelters, soup kitchens and Food Banks. Many of us are actively involved helping with our time and our financial assistance. The retreat closed with three prayers. Paddy provided and a commitment by all to assist and respect the homeless we meet.

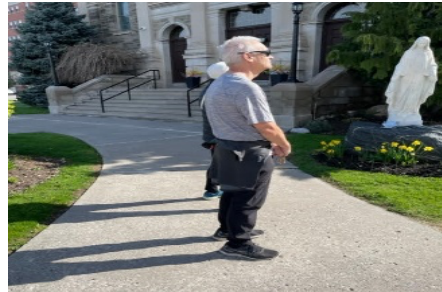


Go Make a Difference!

Our Lady of the Assumption/St. John's, Otonabee/Keene



On May 1, 2024, 11 people went on a 5 km Pilgrim walk while praying the Rosary. It was organized by Ruth Ciraulo, Faith Chairperson of the Otonabee/Keene CWL.



St. Alphonsus, Wooler



St. Alphonsus CWL members gathered on December 12th, 2023, for their annual Christmas Potluck. Ten members were in attendance where we enjoyed a potluck meal. We had some fun with a left-right gift game and had a prayer service for our long-term pin recipients. Four of the six ladies receiving pins were present to receive their pins (see pictures below) Two ladies were unable to attend, Viola Donaldson 50 years service and Janie Harrison 25 years service, received their pins at a later date.

GO MAKE A DIFFERENCE PROJECT



St. Alphonsus Liguori CWL Wooler collected personal hygiene/toiletry products along with socks, blankets, and pajamas to support Grace Inn Shelter, Belleville. The 21-bed shelter, for adults over 18, provides a meal on intake, a bed and access to showers and a breakfast before they leave in the morning.

Parishioners were invited to bring in items over a 4-week period. On April 22nd, items were delivered to the shelter where they were gratefully accepted. Wooler may be a small parish, but we have always had a big heart.

Pictured with the donations from L-R Donna Flanagan, Cindy Burns, Lori Pike, and Wendy Miron.



Congratulations to Paddy Fitzgerald-Nolan who received her life member pin at the Peterborough Diocesan CWL Convention held May 4th-5th in Huntsville. With her are St. Alphonsus CWL Wooler sisters Pat McCauley and Wendy Miron.

Sacred Heart of Jesus Trout Creek

Treasurer Linda attended the Diocesan Fall meeting in Peterborough and delivered many dresses made for Canadian Food for Children and milk bags they had collected for making sleeping mats.



St. Michael's, Cobourg



Long standing Cobourg member, Teresa Bowen, turned 100 years. Standing with Teresa is Carol Lawless and President Cyndy Harper. The gentleman was a family friend at the party on December 9, 2023. Many wishes were shared during the party.





Every Lent we host a luncheon of soup and bread for members and parishioners following Mass. This year was no exception. Our "Soup for the Soul" was held on March 19th, so we also celebrated St. Patrick's Day. There was a wonderful choice of 10 different soups!



A few days later, we held our Easter Bake Sale! There were amazing desserts which were well received by our parishioners enabling us to take in over \$1300. These funds will be distributed to various charities.

Our Lady of Good Counsel's Feast was beautifully celebrated on April 26th beginning with Mass and then High Tea co-ordinated by Gladys DeLong Maggs with help from hubby. This was a sit-down event with platters of fancy sandwiches and tiers of delectable desserts placed at each table.



Fr. Mac Anthony, Associate Pastor, leads the service for the installation of 2 new executive members: Catherine White, Secretary and Carol Ann Heffernan, Social Justice. The ladies look great with their Fascinators!

Then it was off to the Diocesan convention in Huntsville.
(L-R) Therese May, Yvonne Trudell, Lynda Macpherson, Susan Visneski, and Cyndy Harper.



National Hospice Palliative Care Week May 5-11, 2024



Faith Chair Nancy White leads 15 CWL members from both St. Michael's and Our Lady of Mercy councils in "The Physician's Way of the Cross" on May 8th.

Prayer requests from the participants were added to those prayers from the convention and placed on the altar during the service. Petition cards were handed out to those who wished to send them to our local MP. Other readers were Sandy Terranova, Carol Ann Heffernan, and Lynda Macpherson. Our Parish Priest, Fr. Emmanuel also joined us in prayer.



St Peter-in-Chains, Peterborough



Like many other parishes, St. Peter's Cathedral CWL members form an honor guard as they and Fr. Begin escort their sister, Jackie Burke, to her final resting place.

St. Mary's Lindsay

Life Member Glenda Klein was honoured by the Kawartha Lakes Food Source in Lindsay with the Barbara Truax Volunteer of the Year Award for her volunteer hours of service to the KLFS and the Lindsay Community Food Market. Award was presented by Volunteer Coordinator Brittni Wells (R).



Women of Faith Retreat April 20, 2024



Welcome to all by new Co-President Lillian O'Connell

Past President Glenda Klein formally introduces guest speaker Sr. Ursula Witkowska, IBVM



Sr. Ursula and photo of convent (Loretto Academy) and St. Mary's Church, Lindsay (circa 1890).

25 CWL members from various councils joined in for the retreat including executives from the Diocesan council.



St. Paul's, Gravenhurst

St. Paul's CWL in Gravenhurst held an Afternoon Tea fundraising event May 9. Mass was at noon followed by the Tea. The event was limited to 60 and all tickets sold at \$20 each. There were three tables of 'nostalgia' items ranging from gloves, handbags, pearls, glittery brooches, and photographs of ancestors. Our Spiritual Advisor drew the ticket for the door prize. It was very successful and many who came stated that they would hope to attend next year.



While change presents its many challenges, each Peterborough Parish Council accepted the challenge to implement the new Three Pillars structure. They actively participated in two development workshops and a third culminating session when, using the language of the Three Pillars, they identified their goals for next year. Well done ladies! As the last few days of Easter embraced us at convention, may the gifts of the Spirit at Pentecost propel us forward to venture wherever God wants us to be and to do whatever He wants us to do as we continue to *Make a Difference!*

Maria Fitzgerald
Peterborough Diocesan President



Christian Family Life

Chairperson: Betsy Currier
Sub-Chairpersons: Angela Pellerin and Audrey Shelton

The Three Pillars:

After the diocesan annual meetings/conventions and elections in April/May, 2024 all diocesan councils will have adopted the change to the structure of the executive council. The only council left to adopt the structure change is our own Ontario provincial council. This will happen at our provincial convention in July 2024. With the standing committees changing to the three pillars, Christian Family Life responsibilities will be under Faith and Service as illustrated below:

Sanctity of Life	Faith
Vocations	Faith
Marriage and Family	Service
Ministry to Youth	Service
Ministry to Seniors and Disabled	Service
Ministry to Widows	Service
Ministry to Separated and Divorced	Service

the FAITH PILLAR

SANCTITY OF LIFE

Annual Canadian March for Life

On Thursday, May 9th thousands of Canadians gathered on Parliament Hill and marched for life in downtown Ottawa to defend the dignity and sanctity of life.

The annual National March for Life gives people the opportunity to come together as a united pro-life movement, calling upon our legislators to restore legal protection for children in the womb and for people threatened by euthanasia and assisted suicide. It's sad that all of our political leaders in Canada support both abortion and MAiD. We need to continue to lobby our government for change and to pray.

International Interfaith Symposium of Palliative Care

The public needs to understand the practice of palliative care and how it is a viable, life-respecting option for MAiD, which the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCCB) describes as the intentional taking of human life and, as such, is "a grave and morally unjustifiable act."

From May 21 to May 23, 2024 an International Interfaith Symposium of Palliative Care took place in Toronto. Pope Francis encouraged participants to persevere in their commitment to promote palliative care, which is an expression of compassion and respect for the dignity of every person. A task force is now looking at the recommendations focusing on five areas: advocacy for palliative care, community engagement and support, education, integrating the cultural dimension in palliative care, and palliative care policy and legislation.

CCCB (Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops) President William T. McGrattan affirmed this follow-up work saying, "Each of us, as a member of society, has a duty to assist and love the sick and dying and to support their loved ones with compassion so that no one is isolated, alone, or forgotten in their time of need. This symposium signifies a strong commitment to life and holistic care, which will bear much fruit.

As members of the League one of our Objects of the League is to protect the sanctity of life. MAiD is in direct conflict with our personal moral values and our church's beliefs. We need to bombard the government with our concerns. Please encourage your members to communicate their opposition to all levels of government regarding the ever-expanding inclusion of MAiD to those most vulnerable in society. Adequate educational opportunities and improvements to access palliative care services are essential.

the FAITH PILLAR

VOCATIONS

Faith in Action Project – Go Make a Difference! Focus on Vocations

Over the past two years, the Christian Family Life project focus was directed towards **"Vocations"**.

In the October 2022 newsletter, some actionable ideas were listed and each council was asked to do one or two. I hope that many councils remembered and honoured priests and religious in a special way.

CFL sub-committee Chairperson Audrey Shelton offered the following.

June is a wonderful month to let our priests know how much they are appreciated. Last year, our parish council sent out homemade thank you cards to each of the priests in our diocese. We have a small diocese with about 20 priests. If your parish is in a large diocese you may want to send out cards to priests in your region or in your city if you have more than one Catholic Church within city limits. Don't forget to include the retired priests, your diocesan Spiritual Advisor and your bishop.

We sent our thank you cards out the week before Father's Day. It was a great way to recognize the men we call Father who, though not biologically our fathers, still have a great influence on our lives. They mentor us, advise us, educate us, guide us and sometimes discipline us as our biological and heavenly Fathers do. What would we do without our priests who celebrate Mass for us, administer the sacraments and keep our parishes running smoothly? Let us Make a Difference by proclaiming our gratitude to our Spiritual Fathers!

Submitted by Audrey Shelton
Christian Family Life Sub-committee member

Prayer to Our Lady for Priests (author unknown)

Dear Lord,

We pray that the Blessed Mother wrap her mantle around your priests, and through her intercession strengthen them for their ministry.

We pray that Mary will guide your priests to follow her own words, "Do whatever He tells you."(John 2:5)

May your priests have the heart of St. Joseph, Mary's most chaste spouse.

May the Blessed Mother's own pierced heart inspire them to embrace all who suffer at the foot of the cross.

May your priests be holy, filled with the fire of your love seeking nothing but your greater glory and the salvation of souls. Amen.

Saint John Vianney, pray for us.

CFL sub-committee Chairperson Angela Pellerin added, "We should show our support to the newly ordained priests. We had 3 men ordained in London the weekend of April 27, 28th. We need to continue to pray for more priests and deacons." Congratulations to these three men.

Submitted by Angela Pellerin
Christian Family Life Sub-committee member

A special way that members across Ontario support those journeying in priestly ministry is by supporting our Bishop Bernard F. Pappin Memorial Fund. Collectively up to ten seminarians can receive a bursary each year. Many of our parish council contribute generously to this fund. This is our opportunity to help support our future priests. So, I ask you personally and collectively as a council, to support the Bishop Bernard F. Pappin Memorial Bursary Fund.

A second way to help is by advertising in your parishes to let people know this bursary exists. The deadline for applications is January 31 of each year. The

bursary is available to seminarians each year while studying. Seminarians who have received the bursary in previous years can re- apply.

Prayer for Seminarians

Lord Jesus Christ, I pray that you protect and watch over all seminarians. Grant them the grace to choose to follow you absolutely, love their brothers, and faithfully serve your people. Kindle in their hearts a fire for evangelization, and a total openness to your Holy Spirit. May they yearn to be in your Eucharistic presence, have a sincere devotion to your mother Mary, and steadfast loyalty to your Church. Give them the desire to pick up their cross daily for the greater glory of God. Amen.

The SERVICE PILLAR

Many councils have also focused on other responsibilities of Christian Family Life though the service pillar.

Ministry to

Marriage and Family

The CCCB (Conference of Canadian Catholic Bishops) says, "Families are an essential community where hope is lived. By example of parents and grandparents children learn what it means to hope. Family members, living in hope, nourish and support one another, and, in turn, nourish and support hope in our world. One of the poverties of our time is the poverty of love. Many people within our communities experience an increased level of isolation and loneliness. Within our families, we are called to reach out to individual members whose hope may be waning as they live through the challenges of life."

Although National Family and Life Week has passed (May 13-19, 2024), your council could still take advantage of the pastoral toolkit developed by the CCCB Standing Committee for Family and Life which includes, catechesis, prayer intentions, and daily activities for families and parishes.

In support of marriage and family your council could promote enrichment programs like marriage encounter weekends for engaged couples, marriage preparation and family planning courses. You could send cards or offer liturgical celebrations for newlywed couples or couples celebrating special anniversaries.

Family Prayer

Heavenly Father, You have given us the model of life in the holy family of Nazareth. Help us to make our family another Nazareth where love, peace, and joy reign. Teach us to see Jesus in the

members of our families. May we love one another as God loves each of us, more and more each day, and forgive each other's faults as you forgive our sins. Help us take whatever You give and give whatever You take with a big smile. Amen.

St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta

Youth

Does your parish sponsor programs for youth like the World Youth Day? Many councils sponsored youth to attend last August 2023 in Lisbon Portugal. Are they encouraged to share their gifts in ministry- choir, lectors, ushers, cleaning, catechists, yard maintenance, hospitality etc.? Only a few of our councils in Ontario have a Catholic Girls' League (CGL). We have not placed a lot of emphasis on the Catholic Girls League in the last few years. Please encourage your parish CWL to start a CGL if possible. The recently updated (2022) CGL Administrative Manual is available from National through an email request. We have to start recruiting and training our young girls so that they can be our leaders of tomorrow. Perhaps you could encourage a young leader to begin one with the assistance of the parish CWL council. Our young are the future. We need to model good Catholic values to inspire them to become more vibrant participants in our parishes.

Seniors

We celebrate our seniors in a special way on National Seniors Day October 1. Make a personal phone call, send a thinking of you card, bring communion and pray with her/him. Take this opportunity to spend time with a senior. Craft a prayer shawl and gift it to a senior. Provide transportation to appointments and other events – perhaps a CWL meeting. Help with home or yard work. Seniors are a wealth of knowledge. Take time to visit, to listen to their stories, share a cup of tea. I encourage you to acknowledge seniors and their contributions to society and let them know how much they are appreciated.

Disabled

Is your parish wheelchair accessible? Does it have designated spaces for wheelchairs? Do you welcome the disabled and make them feel part of your church community? Most parishes have persons who bring communion to the homes of disabled persons and pray with them, visit shut-ins, send cards or provide transportation. We profess to be a welcoming group – please welcome our disabled in some special way.

Widowed

Our members are excellent in providing prayer and support to those grieving after the death of a loved one. We call, send cards, visit and sometimes gift the person with a prayer shawl. Some parish councils have bereavement programs that the widowed are encouraged to attend. Invite a speaker to talk about funeral pre-planning, last wishes and family involvement.

Most parish councils assist at funerals, providing funeral lunches. Extend an invitation to a widow to attend meetings and events.

Separated and Divorced

This important subject is being well-received by councils across the nation. The League's brochure, *Annulments Today—Merciful and Just* can be ordered from national. It can be found on the website (cwl.ca under 300 series: promotional material #311) for distribution to members to educate them about this misunderstood subject.

There are many things your parish council could do to help those affected by separation or divorce. Being a non-judgmental confidant to listen and offer support is easy and helpful. Inviting them to join in an outing or providing babysitting is a great idea. Your parish might consider to start a group for separated and divorced women to provide a good support network.

IN CONCLUSION

Christian family life is all about living out our faith and Christian values. The Christian Family Life Standing Committee touches the lives of everyone: pre-born, youth, disabled, single, married, divorced, seniors, widowed, the elderly, the dying and also religious vocations. In the new structure, though these groups fall under different pillars, the League will most certainly continue to support and pray for each.

Don't forget these upcoming events.....



OPC Convention *BEE there!*

Sunday, July 7– Wednesday July 10, 2024

in Sudbury, ON

www.cwl.on.ca

shutterstock.com - 1833916483



World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly **Sunday, 28 July 2024**

<http://www.gcatholic.org/events/celebration/2024.htm>

Pope Francis inaugurated this World Day in 2021 to be celebrated by the universal Church each July, either on or near the liturgical Memorial of Saints Joachim and Anne, grandparents of Jesus, to help "treasure the spiritual and human wealth that has been handed down from generation to generation."

National Convention **Sunday, August 11-14, 2024**

in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

www.cwl.ca

<https://www.cwl.ca/saskatoon-2024/>



National Seniors Day

Sunday, October 1, 2024

<https://www.canada.ca> type National Seniors Day in search box, top right



This coincides with the United Nations International Day of Older Persons and is an occasion where members can celebrate the profound contributions of seniors in our homes, community, and workplaces. Encourage members and your council to acknowledge seniors and their vast contributions to society and show how much they are appreciated every day of the year.

Life Chain

Sunday, October 6, 2024

<https://www.campaignlifecoalition.com/life-chain>



Life Chain consists of pro-lifers standing at intersections across the country for an hour, silently praying for an end to abortion while holding signs with messages like: "Abortion kills children," "Abortion hurts women," "Adoption, the loving option," and "Life, the first inalienable right."

Feast day of St. Charles Borromeo

Monday, November 4, 2024

Charles Borromeo, the patron saint of bishops, catechists, cardinals, seminarians and spiritual leaders.

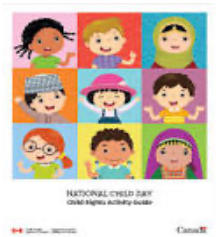
Known as the loving reformer, Charles Borromeo cared about people and wanted them to know that the Church of God cared about them, too. His changes and reforms in the way the Church was organized, changed the way that the Church listened to the people—all of them, not just the rich and powerful.

World Day of Children

November 20, 2024

This day is about celebrating children as active participants in their own lives and in their communities and active citizens who can and should meaningfully contribute to decisions that affect their lives.

<https://www.canada.ca> type National Child Day in search box, top right



.....Submitted by Betsy Currier, OPC Christian Family Life Chairperson

77th ONTARIO PROVINCIAL CONVENTION
(July 7 to 10, 2024 in the City of Greater Sudbury)



*** Answers to questions asked by delegates ***

*There are still tickets available for **all** events (*Chicago* on July 6th, Dynamic Earth and boat cruise on July 7th and St. Mary's Ukrainian dinner on July 8th)

*Buses will be provided for **all** off-site events (event ticket gets you on the bus)

*First-time attendees to a provincial convention are eligible to receive a \$100 grant from the Ontario Provincial Council (must be registered for entire convention - 3 days – Mon/Tues/Wed - to be eligible for the incentive). Submit the total amount on your order form. Information about the \$100 rebate will be provided at the convention.

*A list of hotels in close proximity to Holiday Inn is posted on the provincial website ... here is the link: <https://cwl.on.ca/conventions>

(you must contact these hotels for pricing and make your own arrangements).

*Email Karen McDonald (opccommunitylife@gmail.com) if arriving by airplane, train or bus and give particulars on arrival/departure times and flight, train, bus #. Our transportation committee will arrange to pick you up!

*There will be vendors on site during the convention (many of whom attend our Ontario provincial convention each year). Please support our vendors!

Hugs await every attendee!

For the complete registration and information package follow this link!
It's never too late to join the fun!

<https://cwl.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Information-and-Registration-Package-77th-Ontario-Provincial-Convention.pdf>

*** THE BIG NICKEL ***

We thought you would enjoy this article: ***The Secret History of the Big Nickel: 10 Fascinating Facts About the World's Biggest Coin*** ...(Ctrl & click this link):

<https://northernontario.travel/sudbury/top-10-facts-about-sudburys-big-nickel>

For those going to **Dynamic Earth** on Sunday you will have an opportunity to see the Big Nickel up close (30 feet tall & 3 stories high) ... it's a great photo op!

FUN FACTS about GREATER SUDBURY:

1. Sudbury is home to a major geological structure in Ontario, Canada called the **Sudbury Basin** which is the third-largest crater on Earth, as well as one of the oldest.
2. With the trio of outstanding post-secondary institutions including Laurentian University, Cambrian College and Collège Boréal, Greater Sudbury has matured as the educational capital of Northern Ontario.

<https://discoversudbury.ca/about/sudbury-fun-facts/>



<https://discoversudbury.ca/things-to-do/activity-type/attractions/>

Submitted by Karen McDonald – Chairperson of 77th Ontario Provincial Convention



FAITH

Aspire not to have more but to be more.

St. Oscar Romero

All the diocesan conventions have been completed. How marvelous to review what has been done over the past year and to share our faith at these conventions. It is amazing to see the creativity and faith filled liturgies that are put together for the members. It is evident that the Holy Spirit is assisting these faith chairs and their teams. Members who attended diocesan conventions please share the liturgy programs with your council so that prayers or reflections can inspire the members of your parish council. These programs are a wonderful resource for the faith teams. It was also wonderful to see so many Spiritual Advisors attend all or portions of the conventions. Did you remember to thank them for coming and showing their support? Your words of gratitude are so appreciated.

On May 22nd, the Spiritual Advisor for the Ontario Provincial Council, Bishop Thomas Dowd lead us in a Rosary Workshop. We are truly blessed to have such a supportive and engaged Spiritual Advisor. Bishop Dowd gave us wonderful suggestions to make the Rosary more meaningful for each of us. Thank you to the 130 members who took part in the workshop. Share what you have learned with your sisters in the League so they too can enhance their recitation of the Rosary.

I hope members will be inspired, rejuvenated and share in the joy of our sisterhood at the annual convention of the Ontario Provincial Council in Sudbury from July 7-10th. It has been a privilege to be the Spiritual Development Chair, I have learned so much and been uplifted by so many members. Thank you and God bless,

Wilma Vanderzwaag



A Prayer to Begin Summer

For more light in the day, we thank you,
For gentle mornings, we thank you,
For nighttime conversations, we thank you,
For friends and family, we thank you,
For gardens and all manner of creatures, we thank you.

Help us, Creator and lover of our souls.

Help us love this earth.

Help us dwell wholeheartedly in our lives this day.

Help us pray as we walk, work, play, rest, and create.

Amen.

"Community Life News" ...

BEE COMPASSION INTO ACTION CHALLENGE

Further to my report about our **Go Make a Difference** project in the April newsletter, it recently came to my attention that a 20th survey was completed by:

Ste. Anne CWL (Île-du-Grand-Calumet, QC) - Pembroke Diocese

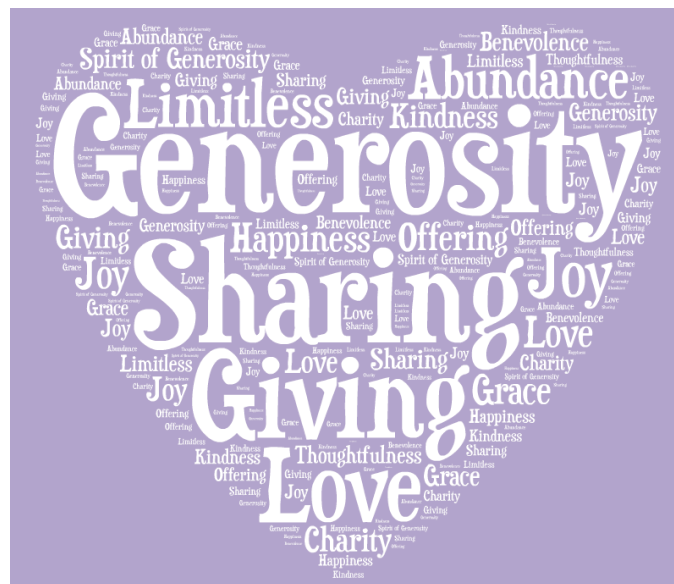
Here is a summary of their report:

"We had many activities. One that was major was our participation in the 'Bee Compassion Into Action' Survey. We chose 'Homelessness' and collected from Members and Parishioners toiletries, socks, mitts, that we presented to L'EntourElle (shelter for Women & children) and AutonHomme (shelter for Men). Each Shelter also received an additional box filled with shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, shaving accessories – all delivered on December 15th. We learned that there are many people who live in fear for their lives, some do not want to leave their partners in fear of what might happen to them, some do not know what to do & stay in this loveless home environment. They are very insecure and are afraid to reach out for help. Our members participated by donating very generously that helped with this charitable activity."

We are pleased that Ste. Anne CWL took part in our *Bee Compassion into Action* challenge.

We sincerely thank this council and its members for participating ... well done!

Provincial 2nd V.P./Community Life Chairperson Karen McDonald
Sub-committee, Pat Weller & Kathleen Niro



ONTARIO PROVINCIAL COUNCIL GOVERNMENT VISIT – APRIL 9th, 2024

Linda Squarzolo, Colleen Martin, Wilma Vanderzwaag and Mary Capobianco

A letter of invitation was sent to Premier Ford on February 21st, 2024 requesting a meeting. After a number of emails and phone messages, a response was received requesting us to forward the letter again. We also asked to meet virtually on a future date. However, we were advised, that although the Premier appreciated hearing our views and concerns, due to the Premier's extremely demanding schedule, they were unable to accommodate our request.

In advance of the visit, each Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP) was emailed a personal invitation to the breakfast reception. A request was sent to the OPC executive and diocesan presidents to contact their local MPP personally to encourage them to attend the breakfast reception. Prior to the event, confirmations of attendance were received from 19 MPPs and 4 Executive Assistants. There were others who indicated attendance would depend on committee responsibilities that day.

Two personal meetings were scheduled with opposition critics. Briefing packages were prepared for each visit including copies of all applicable resolutions. The brief for each is attached to this report. After each of the meetings, a commitment was made to keep in touch.

Breakfast reception:

The breakfast reception was booked in February 2024 with MPP Nolan Quinn, MPP Stormont-Dundas-South Glengarry, as the sponsor. Working with the Parliamentary Catering Services a buffet breakfast was served in the Legislative Dining Room between 7:00 and 9:30 am.

A total of 22 people attended with representatives from all parties. This included 14 Members of Provincial Parliament, 8 Legislative Assistants and Minister Representatives.



Attendees were met by OPC provincial president, Linda Squarzolo, at the reception where a table was set up with a guest book, CWL scarves, historical photos of the CWL and a handout explaining the work of the League and a list of adopted resolutions. (A copy of the handout has been provided with this report).

The other executive members circulated through the dining room spending time at occupied tables to discuss topics important to CWL members. The team did its best to ensure that the League's advocacy work was carried out. Issues relating to quality health care and prioritizing funding to improve long term care were among the topics covered. Other topics discussed were the government's commitment to the widening of Highway 69, mandatory ATV training for youth, regulating and upgrading funding for personal support workers (PSWs), and coverage for diabetic supplies and catheters.

The breakfast reception was an excellent format as it offered an opportunity for an informal gathering between the Ontario Provincial CWL committee and the MPPs without a formal program or speeches. This worked very well as many of the MPPs were unable to accommodate individual appointments due to their very busy schedules. We found that engaging in conversations with the MPPs was very easy in this informal setting. For the most part, the MPPs were just as anxious to speak with us and have their picture taken, as we were with them. We also found the handout was an excellent icebreaker and resulted in a number of brief discussions with many of the MPPs. When the list of resolutions on the handout was reviewed, many of the guests were surprised and impressed that our resolutions were on a variety of social issues.



Hon. Todd McCarthy (PC) Durham: Minister of Public & Business Service Delivery congratulated the CWL on the work the League has accomplished.

Lucille Collard (LIB) Ottawa-Vanier wanted to learn more about our stance on LGBTQ. Linda explained that we follow the position of the church but regarded each person as God's children to be loved and respected. Lucille was very satisfied with this information.



John Jordan (PC) LanarkFrontenac- Kingston (Parliamentary Assistant to Minister of Agriculture, Food & Rural Affairs) MPP Jordan had just recently been shuffled from the role of Assistant Minister of Long-term Care. This resulted in some good discussion about long term care.

Tom Rakocevic (NDP) Humber River-Black Creek (Critic: Auto Insurance; Consumer Protection; Chair St. Com. On Public Accounts). He was interested to learn more about the League and our resolutions. He spoke about issues in his riding including the closure of a popular shrine and was keen to establish an open relationship with the CWL.



Ernie Hardeman (PC) Oxford (Chair of St. Com. Finance & Economic Affairs) also dropped by and we had the opportunity for a brief discussion on the works of the CWL.



One table discussion included:

France Gelin (NDP) Nickel Belt (Critic: Health)

Jamie West (NDP) Sudbury (Critic: Labour, Training & Skills Development)

Wayne Gates (NDP) Niagara Falls (Critic: Long Term Care, Retirement Homes & Home Care).



Linda and Mary discussed health issues of loneliness as well as catheters and diabetic supplies not being funded by government. France, the Health Critic, was very aware of how much coverage was given and the need to increase it. We also referred to previous resolutions relating to Northern Ontario including the widening of Highway 69 to four lanes as there is still 68 km left to be completed. The latest budget earmarked \$2 billion for highways but did not specify where it would be spent.

We also discussed the training for safe operation of ATVs especially since a number of child fatalities occurred last year. France's aide provided his card and offered his assistance to help us draft petitions.

Kevin Holland (PC) Thunder Bay-Atikokan (Parliamentary Assistant to Minister of Mines) MPP Holland requested a meeting with the new OPC President in the Fall 2024. He also made arrangements for our group to attend Question Period that started at 10:30 am and lasted until 12:15 pm. During this period, we were all formally introduced. Our president Linda Squarzolo was welcomed and recognized several times throughout the period by MPP Kevin Holland, MPP France Gelin, MPP Jamie West, MPP Tom Rakocevic and MPP Jennie Stevens. We were all very proud to represent the Catholic Women's League.



Meeting with MPP Wayne Gates – Critic: Long Term Care, Retirement Homes and Home Care



Wilma and Mary led the discussion on the current challenges of long term care. We made MPP Gates aware of the current CWL resolutions ON.22.01 Improve Care in Long Term Care Homes and ON 19.03 Long Term Care Beds in Ontario. Concern was also expressed regarding the issues with the current Bill 7, a law enacted in 2022. The bill requires hospitals to levy fines of \$400 a day on patients who can be discharged from hospital and are refusing to go to a nursing home not of their choosing. All three opposition parties agree that the law should be repealed but for now the current government argues that this law is necessary in order to free up hospital beds.

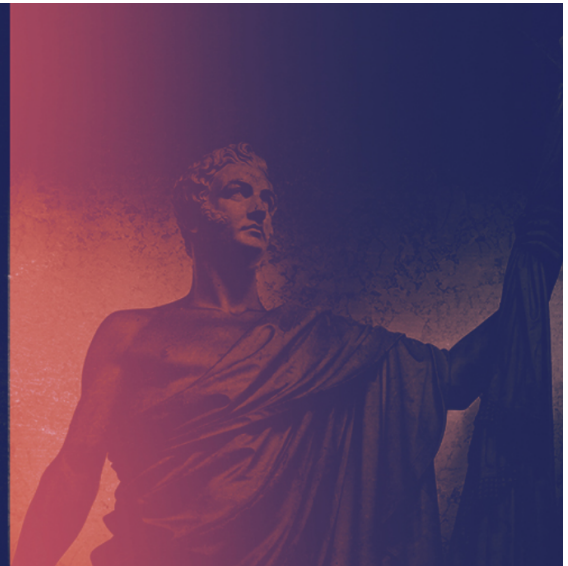
MPP Gates also shared that he would be putting forward a Private Members Bill on May 9th that would establish an Ontario Caregiver Support Benefits (OCSB) to provide direct financial supports from the province to unpaid caregivers in Ontario. The committee felt that the government reception was a great success. Resolutions were presented to many MPPs and contacts were established between policy makers and the Ontario Provincial CWL.

Submitted by:

Mary Capobianco Ontario Provincial Council Resolutions/Social Justice Standing Committee Chairperson.

1 TIMOTHY 2:1-2

“I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.”



AROUND THE PROVINCE

**Submitted by: St. Maurice Parish Council,
Ottawa, ON [Ottawa-Cornwall Diocese]
Celebrating Community and Service at the
Ladies' Tea & Fashion Show**



On April 20th, 2024, St. Maurice Parish was filled with laughter, camaraderie, and a sense of celebration as we gathered for the annual CWL Ladies' Tea & Fashion Show. This year's event was particularly special as it marked not only a celebration of spring but also the 60th anniversary of our beloved parish. For 45 of those remarkable years,

the CWL has been an integral part of our parish ministry, embodying the spirit of service, social justice, and faith.

The Ladies' Tea & Fashion Show has become a cherished tradition, eagerly anticipated by parishioners of all ages. It's not just about the tea, treats, and fabulous fashion; it's about coming together as a community, nurturing bonds of friendship, and supporting one another. As one attendee eloquently put it, "it was a perfect opportunity to grow, to serve, and to support one another. We always have fun getting to know each other better and making new friends." This year's event was made possible by the dedication and hard work of over 40 women who volunteered in various capacities. From beautifully decorating the atrium, to preparing delicious refreshments, each volunteer played a vital role in creating a memorable experience for everyone. We are also grateful to the many spouses who lent their support behind the scenes and to the Knights of Columbus who assisted throughout the day. One highlight of the afternoon was the fashion show. Models, adorned in elegant



attire, glided down the runway to the delight and applause of the audience. It was a wonderful blend of fashion, glamor, and community spirit. Amidst the festivities, we took a moment to reflect on the rich history of our parish and the invaluable contributions of the CWL. For 45 years, the CWL has been a beacon of faith, service, and compassion, touching the lives of



countless individuals within our parish and beyond.

Spiritual and Cultural tour for the Jubilee Holy Year April 21, 2025 accompanied by Msgr. Joseph Muldoon, Holy Spirit Parish Stittsville to Rome, St. Peter's, Dublin and Irish countryside and London. Double occupancy \$4700 per person, airfare \$1000 approx. taxes and surcharges may apply. Dennis Kam Jbctravel, Ottawa is coordinator. Dennis@jbctravel.ca 613 569-3888.

ST. SIMON & ST. JUDE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE



In recognition of Mary, Most Holy, thirty-nine St. Simon & St. Jude CWL members gathered outside at the Parish Grotto to pray the Rosary. Following reflection on the Luminous Mysteries, Mary was crowned.

St. Simon & St. Jude Grotto

At the subsequent meeting, service pins were blessed by Fr. Mark Poulin, who himself was installed as our Spiritual Advisor. A total of thirty pins were awarded to our members including milestones marking ten to seventy-five years of prayerful service.

Outstanding members, Mary Parent celebrated seventy-five years and Bev Barrette served sixty-five years. Theresa D. Barrette and Betty Ghanam received fifty-five-year recognition, while Pam Young, Shirley Fillion, and Connie Luhowy served fifty years. We are so blessed to have within our council so many long-term, committed and supportive members. We also welcomed six new members, with the message to wear their pins with pride, honour & loyalty.



The evening ended with a celebratory cake & social.



SSM Diocesan Council presents 50 year CWL member Gerri Chateau with a Bellelle Guerin award at the opening Mass for their 104th annual Diocesan Convention held in Sault Ste. Marie April 26, 2024



Gerri Chateau has exhibited exemplary service to the Catholic Women's League as a member of Precious Blood Council where she joined the League in 1974.

At the parish level, Gerri served as chairperson of Christian Family Life, Secretary, Treasurer, Communications, President and Past President/Historian of her council. She served two years on the Diocesan Executive Council as Resolutions & Legislation Chairperson and was an outstanding asset to our council.

Gerri has distinguished herself with a heart of service, inspiring foresight and dedication when volunteering her time. She is a passionate advocate and has served six years as a regional chair with Community Care Access, nine years as a volunteer with the Cancer Clinic, and ten years on the Board for Algoma Services.

Gerri truly embodies the spirit of this award which is presented to a member who demonstrates "love of the League and an availability and willingness to serve".

She has been a mentor to the president and other members of the executive and I don't think the word "no" is in her vocabulary. She is one of those dedicated women who works tirelessly behind the scenes quietly assisting wherever needed. Whether it is helping with church events like helping to create a schedule for the church's day of confessions before Christmas and Easter, cleaning up after an event, picking up supplies, delivering food donations, the gift of organizing events, recruiting other volunteers to assist with events and many other ways too numerous to list, she is a constant force for the CWL and is truly deserving of this award.

Past Bellelle Guerin award recipients, Lorraine Atchison and Denise Moreau were invited forward to place their hand on Gerri's shoulder as she received the award presented by Provincial Representative, Karen McDonald.



Ottawa-Cornwall Diocese making history!

Canada's newest diocesan council celebrated their very first convention on May 4, 2024. The 1st Ottawa-Cornwall Diocesan Convention is still receiving rave reviews. The convention theme was "Standing with my Sister" as the newly amalgamated diocesan councils got to know each other. The 31 attending council presidents were buddied up as prayer partners for the year and were given the task of introducing each other as their report at convention. Their councils will likewise be praying for each other. We also had the members of each former diocesan council take turns stretching out their hands to each other and singing our CWL blessing upon each other. In our goodie bags, we were each given the name of a sister to find during the day and then charged with praying for her too for the year after finding her. So many prayers! What better way to stand with each other? We've included some photos of our day for you to enjoy. God is good!

Respectfully submitted, Ottawa Cornwall Diocesan President Melina Nobert



CROWNING OF MARY





Inez Franklin, President of St. Finnan’s Council spoke to us about Shalom House Retreat Centre located in Alexandria. It is the only retreat house in our Diocese, which we hopefully will make great use of!!



**The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Toronto Diocesan Council**

CWL Wednesday, June 19, 2024

**Virtual
7:00 – 8:30 p.m.**



**National
Indigenous
Peoples Day**



#NIPD2024

Learn about the spiritual connections, meaning and importance of the land to Indigenous Peoples. Using this information, can you improve your Land Acknowledgement and how you use it in your meetings?

Presenters: Rosella Kinoshameg, Wikwemikong First Nation,
Manitoulin Island
Christina Boyle, TDC Social Justice Chair
TDC Executive Members

Breakout rooms will be included in presentation. Please have a copy of your Land Acknowledgement available during the breakout session.

Register with Andrea Tjioe: a_tjioe@yahoo.com

By Monday, June 17th, 2024

Gardening God's Way



Plant three rows of peas:
Peas of mind; Peas of heart; Peas of soul.



Plant four rows of squash:
Squash gossip; Squash indifference; Squash grumbling;
Squash selfishness.



Plant four rows of lettuce:
Lettuce be faithful; Lettuce be kind; Lettuce be obedient;
Lettuce really love one another.



No garden without turnips:
Turnip for meetings; Turnip for service;
Turnip to help one another.



Water freely with patience and cultivate with love:
There is much fruit in your garden;
Because you reap what you sow.




To conclude our garden we must have thyme:
Thyme for God; Thyme for study; Thyme for prayer.

Thank Your Priest This Father's Day

<https://catholicexchange.com/thank-your-priest-this-fathers-day/>

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY
ST. JOSEPH & ALL FATHERS



Heavenly Father, You entrusted Your Son Jesus, the child of Mary, to the care of St. Joseph, His foster father.

BLESS ALL FATHERS as they care for their families. Give them strength and wisdom, tenderness and patience; support them in the work they have to do, protecting those who look to them, as we look to You for love and salvation, through Jesus Christ our rock and defender. Amen.

40TH ANNUAL
ROSARY SUNDAY
A LIVING PILGRIMAGE



SUNDAY, SEPT 8TH 2024
MARTYRS' SHRINE, MIDLAND, ON

12 NOON – Outdoor Mass with Celebrant & Homilist
BISHOP JOHN BOISSONNEAU

2:30 PM – Procession of a Living Cross with Blessed Mary to
the Papal Altar for a Living Rosary & Benediction





Paddy's Passion

Well, this is it, my final "Passion", for the past two years I truly have enjoyed being your community sub chair and writing a monthly blur. After nineteen issues completed, I hope you were able to take away some safety tips, pointers and suggestions.

My passion is and always has been to help others, by listening to others and walk them through their grief, or bringing items to shelters when answering the call. Sharing compassion to the sick and lonely with my service dog Citori when we do our rounds at KGH. Or speaking on Human Trafficking and Homeliness bringing awareness to all.

Looking forward to what the future holds for me and to see where I can make a difference.

I would like to take this time and thank you for all the lovely notes and comments after you read Paddy's Passion.

God Bless you all in the work you do for God and Canada.

Love

Paddy Fitzgerald Nolan
Communications Sub-Committee





WELCOME TO LISA'S LIBRARY

If you would like to share one of your favourite books or a review to one of our picks, we would love your feedback please send an email to emmacwl4life@aol.com or lisafillinghamcwl@outlook.com.

Lots of great reads to keep you company this summer!

Children:

Our Lady Of Fatima: The Graphic Novel Coloring Book by [Deo Gratias](#) (Author)

In this 100th-Year Anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima, we are honored to release the Graphic Novel & Coloring book based on the Apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima. Our Lady of Fatima Graphic Novel Coloring Book is packed with attractive pages of the miraculous events. The reader will take a trip back in time with Jacinta, Francisco and Lucia to re-discover the events that took place when Our Lady appeared to them in Fatima, Portugal in 1917. This commemorative soft bound coloring book helps the reader to not only visualize the heavenly apparitions but challenges them to apply the messages of Our Lady in this day in age. Let us take to heart the call of Our Lady to repentance and reparation, for we know that the message of Fatima is "relevant now more than ever" (Pope St. John Paul II, May 13, 1982). Our Lady of Fatima Coloring Book offers hours of Holy enjoyment for the little ones (and the older ones too).

Our Lady's Wardrobe by [Anthony DeStefano](#) (Author), [Juliana Kolesova](#) (Illustrator)

This delightful rhyming book introduces Catholic children to the Blessed Virgin Mary in a fun and simple way—through her clothes!

When Our Lady lived in Nazareth two thousand years ago, she was very poor and probably didn't have many nice things to wear. But now that she's in Heaven, she has an enormous mansion. And in that mansion she has an incredibly beautiful wardrobe filled with a great variety of dresses, veils, slippers, sashes, robes, rings and crowns. Over the centuries, Our Lady has visited the people of Earth many times. On each of these occasions she has dressed very differently. Our Lady's Wardrobe tells the story of some of her most famous apparitions, highlighting the clothes she wore and the things she did.

By reading this book, children will not only learn about the Mother of God, but will also learn the main purpose of her life—to love and serve her son, Jesus Christ, and to lead others to do the same.

My First Interactive Mass Book

by Jennifer Sharpe

Engage children in the Mass and inspire them to love the Holy Eucharist! Beautiful artwork and hands-on activities like wheels, flaps, and tracing invite children into the beauty of the Mass. Simple explanations and prayers of the Mass provide a deeper understanding for little ones. Written by a Catholic mother, **this sturdy, interactive board book will help Catholics teach their children about the mysteries of God's love in the Mass.** Children ages 3 and up will be delighted to have their own book at church, which will help them learn the order of the Mass, follow along with the prayers, and discover the wonders that happen at every Mass. Ages 3 and up

<https://ascensionpress.com/>

My Bedtime Prayer

Tony McCaffrey, SJ

Putting kids to bed is easy with *My Bedtime Prayer* by Tony McCaffrey, SJ. In this charming book, a young bear says his nightly prayers and thanks God for all blessings, large and small. Children can read along and pray goodnight to the world and all of God's creatures. Beautifully illustrated by Ginna Magee, *My Bedtime Prayer* will captivate young readers while teaching them to appreciate God's presence in all things.

Ages 4 to 8.

<https://store.loyolapress.com/my-bedtime-prayer>

AND ALL THY CHILDREN
SHALL BE TAUGHT OF
THE *Lord,* AND
GREAT SHALL BE THE
Peace
OF THY CHILDREN.
~ Isaiah 54:13 ~

Adults:

[The Long Loneliness](#) by Dorothy Day.

The Long Loneliness is the autobiography of renowned Catholic activist Dorothy Day. This fascinating exploration of Day's political and spiritual journey takes the reader from her origins as a Greenwich Village socialite in the 1920s, through her conversion to Catholicism, and her lifelong struggle to bring about "the kind of society where it is easier to be good." It is an engaging book that weaves political thought, spirituality, and women's issues in together in a single compelling narrative.

<https://homeschoolconnections.com/twelve-books-thinking-catholic-woman/>

Lift Up Your Heart: A 10-Day Personal Retreat with St. Francis de Sales Paperback – April 28 2017

by [Fr John Burns](#) (Author)

Winner of a 2018 Catholic Press Association Award: First-Time Author, Spirituality Softcover (First Place) and a 2018 Association of Catholic Publishers Award: Inspirational (Second Place).

For more than four-hundred years, *Introduction to the Devout Life* by Doctor of the Church St. Francis de Sales has been regarded as the essential guide to holiness and loving God. This spiritual classic takes on new life in *Lift Up Your Heart*, where Rev. John Burns has interpreted ten meditations for the modern reader and distilled them into a ten-day mini-retreat that can easily be completed in the midst of a busy life. This practical book goes right to the heart of helping you kick the habit of floating along on your spiritual journey to start actively pursuing holiness and devotion to God. During the course of the retreat, you'll learn the basics of forming a daily prayer routine, including how to offer yourself to God, meditate on his love, and maintain peace in the face of suffering and clarity in the midst of temptation. The meditations will help you:

- Adopt gratitude as a daily prayer practice.
- Examine and reorder your priorities and relationships to better reflect your love for God.
- Discern between good and evil in your life.
- Desire to love and serve as Jesus did.

In a very real sense, Burns helps you take St. Francis de Sales as your spiritual director for ten days. As you do so, you'll feel God's fatherly love and restart your faith life, equipped with the tools to connect with God and live for heaven now.

Amazon.ca

Road Map To Heaven A Catholic Plan of Life by Fr. Ed Broom

Do you want to go to heaven? Of course, you do! But do you know the way? Wouldn't it be nice if there were a map that shows the way to heaven? There is!

In this remarkable book, Father Ed Broom shows that the key to getting to heaven is to have a plan of life.

Father Broom's plan is striking in its simplicity. Everyone can do it! With his help, you will develop a plan of life designed just for you that will set you on and keep you on (if you are faithful to it) the path to heaven!

This no academic exercise, Fr. Broom will help you form a plan, right down to the minute, breaking down your roadmap into the various legs of your journey to Heaven:

- Annual: Great advice to ramp up your spiritual life in the next twelve months
- Monthly: Practical steps to take each month to become a saint
- Weekly: What practices do you need to be faithful to every seven days?
- Daily: In next 24 hours God gives you, what can you give back to him?
- Hourly: Can you really do something every 60 minutes that will help you get to heaven? (Hint: the answer is YES!)
- Minutes: Really? Yes, really. Father Broom will show that you can do something every sixty seconds that will keep your eyes on the prize and your feet on the path.

Many books claim that they will "change your life!" Well, this one really will. If you heed its advice and follow the map, you will be well on your way to heaven.

<https://www.catholicfreeshipping.com/Road-Map-To-Heaven-A-Catholic-Plan-of-Life-by-Fr-p/9781505115307.htm>

A World Undone Finding God When Life Doesn't Make Sense by Fr. Mike Schmitz

In his latest book, beloved speaker Fr. Mike Schmitz unfolds the mystery of brokenness. While we might try to numb the pain of the daily grind with mindless scrolling, Fr. Mike reminds us that each of us has been fought for by a God who wants us as we are, not as we should be or hope to be. While we are imperfect, the Lord's will for us is to find our identity in him and to enjoy the life he has given us.

<https://www.catholicfreeshipping.com/a-world-undone-finding-god-when-life-doesnt-make-sense-by-fr-mike-schmitz/>

Want to learn more about Fr. Mike Schmitz here is a link.

<https://bulldogcatholic.org/about-contact-us/about-fr-mike-schmitz/>

Wow! It is true, time does fly by when you are having fun! I can't believe 2 years have passed by so fast. It is wonderful and heart-warming to see how you all support each other. I was truly blessed to be able to share your stories and accomplishments. Keep up the good works and sharing as it inspires us all.



For those of you who are on facebook we do have a dedicated page for the Ontario Provincial Council, please come and give us a like! I realize a lot of dioceses and councils have their own facebook pages which is a great form of communications. However, we don't always get to see everything you all posted and as your sisters in the league we would love to share in your joys and be there for you in your tribulations.

<https://www.facebook.com/cwl.on.ca>

If you would like me to share your news on the facebook page please email me at Emmacwl4life@aol.com. Make sure pictures are JPEG format ☺

Don't forget to check out our website regularly at www.cwl.on.ca the OPC executive will be sharing all the pertaining information to their chair there.

If you would like to post something in the newsletter please send an email to Madame President Linda Squarzolo presidentontario@gmail.com and cc myself at emmacwl4life@aol.com. We look forward to hearing from you.

...submitted by Emma Rose Rayburn OPC Communications Chair

