

SOCIAL JUSTICE

Hilarion Mitchell

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.”

Matthew 5:9

“Lest we forget!” Remembrance Day will be observed on Tuesday, November 11th. It symbolizes the sacrifices of war, conflicts, the terrible costs, loss of human lives for peace. We pay homage to all veterans regardless of race, gender, ethnicity, ability, or background to receive equal recognition, support, and care for their service.

Remembrance Day



Social Justice and Remembrance Day: A Call for Peace

Remembrance Day and the pursuit of social justice urge us to learn from the past so that war never happens again. We are reminded that those who gave their lives did so with the hope that future generations might live in peace. It offers hope for a better world for the safety, dignity, and opportunity for all through the work of social justice. We are challenged to actively build peace starting in our homes, country and throughout the world. See League resolutions and the letter below.

- 2019.02 [Canadian Support for the United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons](#)
- 2019.01 [Canada to Honour its Commitment to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child](#)
- Aug. 18, 2025 [Letter to The Rt. Hon Mark Carney Regarding Gaza](#)

Canadian Armed Forces Chaplains: The role of chaplains within the Canadian Armed Forces has been steadily diminishing. Their work is not a function that can be accomplished by other mental health professionals. The federal government needs to strengthen support for their services as outlined below.

- Resolution 2025.03 [Strengthen Support for Chaplains to Provide Faith-Based Care to Members and Families of the Canadian Armed Forces](#)



Ontario Provincial Council Social & Economic Justice Team Legislation - Update by Betsy Currier

- **See National Communiqué #13 – Social Justice (May 7, 2025)**
- **Bill to Scrap the Expansion of MAiD for Mental Illness** A private member's bill, Bill C-218 An Act to Amend the Criminal Code of Canada (medical assistance in dying) has been introduced by Conservative MP Tamara Jansen, June 20, 2025. The expansion of MAiD to include mental illness is scheduled for March of 2027. Bill C-218 would prevent the expansion of euthanasia to patients suffering solely from mental illness.

We know that suicidal ideation is often a symptom of many mental illnesses. In fact, in many their minds are convincing them that they are better off dead and they often make that feeling a permanent reality by receiving medical assistance to die.

A bill similar to this one, Bill C-314, was narrowly defeated 167-150 in 2023. It is hopeful that this one will pass. It is expected that Bill C-218 will receive its first hour of debate this fall (likely in November). I would encourage you and your members to write your MP urging him or her to support Bill C-218 regardless of political affiliation. In order for it to pass it will need the support of all of Jansen's Conservative colleagues and about 30 additional MPs.

Alex Schadenberg, Executive Director of Euthanasia Prevention Coalition says, "We must work to reverse euthanasia – and that begins with stopping its expansion. Compassionate societies care for the vulnerable, the sick and the dying – not kill them."



November Peace and Other Observance Days

- Nov. 5–11: The Canadian Armed Forces Veterans Week
- Nov. 6: International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict
- Nov. 8: Indigenous Veterans Day
- Nov 16: International Day for Tolerance
- Nov. 17: World Day of the Poor Message of the Holy Father for the 9th World Day of the Poor
- Nov. 19: Red Wednesday (Aid to the Church in Need “ACN”). You are a voice for persecuted Christians
- Nov. 20: National Child Day (Gov’t of Canada) and National Children’s Day (United Nations)
- Nov.25: International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women
- Nov. 25–Dec. 10: 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence: End digital violence against all women and girls

Social Justice Award 2026 Nominations

The Ontario Provincial Council Social Justice Award is presented to a member in Ontario who has gone above and beyond their vocation in life to advocate and serve to promote social justice through contribution to her community.

They are a current League member in the province and have been in good standing for the past five years. Refer to the Social Justice Award **Policy** and Nomination **Form**

Nominations Deadlines:

- Diocesan President Sign-off: Sat. Nov. 15, 2025
- OPC Social Justice Chair: Sun. Nov. 30, 2025
- Hilarion Mitchell, Social Justice Chair, Ontario Provincial Council
Email: opcsocialjusticechair@gmail.com

