League Lingo

LONDON DIOCESAN NEWSLETTER



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- Ad for 2017 London Diocesan Convention, Stratford, Page 29
- Marie-Theresa's Question & Answers from April Convention—Page 46



- One heart filled with mercy, compassion and holiness
- ♦ One voice united in harmony to speak the truth with courage and zeal
- One mission witnessing to the Good News of the gospel through personal encounter and joyful service

President's Report—Angela Pellerin



Wow! Thanks to Sarnia Region for hosting a wonderful convention. I know how much hard work goes into putting a convention together, having assisted in organizing a few in London. It was marvellous to meet so many of you in Sarnia. Hopefully you learnt a lot from the speakers, Fr. Paul Baillergeron's interesting information on the new Family of Parishes and his encouragement for councils to take an active role in ensuring the success of this initiative. Michelle O'Rourke was very informative on the subject of palliative/hospice care and how important it is to treat the whole person, not the disease. Auxiliary Bishop Dabrowski shared his thoughts on the Year of Mercy. I know many of you enjoyed sharing, laughing, dancing and singing along at the fun night - thanks Sarnia for arranging a great evening. I know National President-Elect, Margaret Ann and Provincial Jacobs President. Pauline Krupa were impressed with all the presented at the Crowning of Mary Ceremony – all councils are so very in supporting generous designated charities. It was hard having to say good-bye to Fr. Matt Kucharski who was our Spiritual Advisor for the last 5 years. We welcome Fr. Greg Bonin as the new Spiritual Advisor and look forward to working with him.

I thank you for your support and encouragement on my taking on the role of Diocesan President. Your support over the last 16 years as I journeyed towards this time has been most appreciated and I hope I can live up to the trust you have

placed in me. I will do my best to represent you at the provincial level.

I have been blessed to bring greetings to many of your councils celebrating significant anniversaries - so many celebrating 95 years of serving God and Canada. Imagine how much fun we will have in helping you in another 5 years, celebrating 100 years! It has also been a pleasure to just visit with you at your year-end pot-lucks, barbecues, etc. You are truly amazing women and clearly demonstrate your welcoming, caring nature and a real blessing to your parishes.

In July, London Diocese hosted the 96th Annual Ontario Provincial Convention. Thank you to all those who helped with this venture. A special thank you to co-chairs Mary Bannon and Dara Hartman and especially Dianne Kehoe who devoted many hours to ensuring the registration process was as perfect as possible. This was an opportunity to share faith, fun and fellowship with other ladies across our vast province. When Pauline Krupa, Provincial President first told us her dream for this convention we were sceptical of its success. However, as each day evolved we were amazed at what a beautiful experience it was. At the post-convention meeting attended, even the Spiritual Advisors in attendance at the meeting expressed how they had been touched by the reconciliation time on Tuesday afternoon. Essex Regional Chairperson, Denise Masse had some of the students at her school help with filling the goodie bags and they also made placemats for the banquet. The high school students made prayer cards. Denise put together a video of the kids and we in turn sent a video thanks from those at the convention.

Reports of the provincial convention can be found elsewhere in this edition of the League.

July 20th saw 350 people attend our CWL Day at the Shrine in Merlin. It was lovely to see so many of you joining together in prayer and fellowship. Thank you to everyone who helped make this day a success.

Rebecca McCarrell, Mary Lappan, Mary Bannon and I attended the national convention in Halifax. Some of us had an eventful time just getting there due to the bad weather. Mary B and I were supposed to arrive at around 3 pm on the Saturday, however, I arrived at 11 pm and Mary at 3:30 am Sunday morning. Some ladies from Winnipeg took 2 full days as they got held up in Toronto too. So convention did not start well for us but it certainly got better in a hurry. Had a lovely tour of Grand Pre, including a winery, where we learnt some of the local history including the expulsion of the Acadia and also the connection Halifax had with the Titanic sinking. Monday evening we had a lobster dinner (chicken for people like me who don't care for lobster).

(Continued on page 3)

President's Report—Angela Pellerin (cont'd)

(Continued from page 2)

It was an opportunity to chat with new friends and for me; I met a couple of my husband's cousins. Tuesday evening we attended our Ontario Provincial Dinner at a restaurant called Durty Nelly's - We filled almost the whole restaurant. The other poor people didn't know what hit them with the boisterous ladies singing - they were especially amazed at our singing of the CWL blessing over Bishop McGrattan! Wednesday evening was the Gala Banquet where we were entertained by The Men of the Deeps. They are fantastic! Thursday morning we toured Peggy's Cove, Mahone Bay and Lunenburg, a chance to relax a little before heading home Friday morning.

We were happy to have our Life

Members Pat Rivest, Bev Weiler and Shirley George with us at the national convention, along with 2 ladies from Sarnia.

A report of the national convention can be found elsewhere in this Lingo.

As you can see, it has been a busy summer. We have also planned an exciting fall regional meeting for you and I will look forward to seeing many of you there.

God bless you in all you do for God and Canada.

Angela





I've learned

That no matter how serious your life requires you to be, everyone needs a friend to act goofy with

I've learned

That sometimes all a person needs is a hand to hold and a heart to understand

I've learned

That simple walks with my father around the block on summer nights when I was a child, did wonders for me as an adult



Spiritual Advisor—Rev. Father Greg Bonin

Dear Members of the League,

The CWL Ontario Provincial Convention in Stratford, was my first experience with the Catholic Women's League.

The CWL Convention was so inspirational to me. I met so many new people, got re-acquainted with my brother priests', met a new and fabulous Bishop (Bishop Colli) and many new friends.

I had the wonderful opportunity to attend wonderful liturgies, business sessions, and entertaining events. There were many comforting moments to say the least!

I realized that I was not alone, and the entire convention empowered me to return to my parish and share the wonderful news.

One of the most inspiring moments at the CWL Provincial Convention for me were witnessing the women in our Church in their professional leadership role and their presentations. Wow! These women helped me see what the true, real and holy definition of the Catholic Women's League of Canada are really about. I wish every Spiritual Director could go and experience the power of empathy, love, care and concern that flows throughout.

I want to thank Angela Pellerin and the entire Executive for the

warm invitation, the loving support and special friendships.

I want to thank Father Matthew for taking the lead role with the liturgies and I now see more of my role as Spiritual Advisor.

I am so grateful to have a positive, enriching first time experience. I look forward to the many others to come over the next 5 years!

In the friendship and love of Jesus,

I remain

Father Greg Spiritual Advisor.



Communications Standing Committee Chairperson—Mary Maxwell

Attending the Provincial Convention in July gave me the opportunity to meet my provincial counterpart, Anna Tremblay, the chairperson for the Communication Standing Committee. She included many activities in her report in the report book and in her oral report. She reminded us that the communications chairperson uses directives, letter writing campaigns, Pornography Hurts postcards,

websites and Face Book pages to fulfill her mission. These media tools help us promote the league in our parishes and communities. We can also use media for evangelization as we are encouraged to visit the national, provincial and diocesan websites to be aware of events and issues.

I am just beginning the learning process needed to maintain our

website. I thank Rebecca McCarrell for updating the website this summer with our current news.

Mary





President-Elect—Rebecca McCarrell Membership & Organization Standing Committee

Recruiting Leadership

I Corinthians 12 teaches us about how God designed our church so that we depend on each other to do multiple ministries. We are all familiar with this reading as it pertains to the gifts each one of us is given. Also, though this passage instructs us on how to work together as one body so that all the small jobs are done and large tasks are accomplished.

What has this to do with the CWL? Everything. In order for an organization to be successful, it must engage all parts to work together for the whole. No one person is to take on all tasks. Many times it may seem simpler to do so, but in doing so, you are failing to develop and use the talents and gifts of another. Additionally, you become in danger of burning out by taking on tasks outside of your own talents. As a leader, we must recognize that we can take on and shape tasks that require our attention, but give away tasks to others that will boost their

confidence, emphasize or awaken their talents and gifts. Your job as leader is to develop leadership skills in others and encourage them to serve with the gifts and talents that God has given them.

The Executive Handbook offered by the National Council of the CWL is broken down into committees and their responsibilities. Handing someone this volume will only intimidate a potential new member or unnerve them from joining. Instead, break the tasks down and ask someone to do one small thing towards becoming a gifted member of the League. A job description of the task, what is expected, and the length of commitment offers.

If you want to recruit great leaders, it is important to give away not only the responsibility for the work but the authority to carry it out. Supervise and oversee but do NOT micromanage your members. Job descriptions reveal the limits of their authority and delineates responsibilities. Use this tool to

encourage and develop your council.

Recruiting leadership is freeing. God has gifted each of us uniquely and called you to service in the capacity you are able to do. Giving away tasks with the responsibility and authority allow others the joy of serving God and his people. It allows a member a time to realize their significance.

By encouraging your current members to grow in this way, other members of your community are watching and thinking "I want to be part of that great group of women". Prioritize recruiting leaders and your council will grow!

Rebecca

Look for my explanation on what Life Membership means. It can be found on page 33







Recording Secretary— Elisabeth Duggan



Accuracy is very important as recording secretary. Correspondence with other League councils requires accurate contact information. Please complete the contact information sheet provided and return to me.

You will find my Contact Information Sheet at the back of the newsletter along with the other forms at the back of this.

Corresponding Secretary— Madeleine Visser



"START BY DOING WHAT'S
NECESSARY, THEN DO WHAT'S
POSSIBLE; AND SUDDENLY YOU
ARE DOING THE IMPOSSIBLE."
St. Francis of Assissi

The League continues to be a blessing in my life as I share sisterhood with other women of faith at parish, diocese, province and national levels enriched in the spirit of our Mission Statement.

It is an honour to have been elected to the Diocesan Council as the new Correspondence Secretary for the next 2 years. This is a new challenge for me, it will be a learning curve, but with the prayerful support of my league sisters, I know I can do a good job. I do have experience as the Recording Secretary at the parish council level, among other duties.

For those who don't know me. I have been a CWL member since 1974, and I joined because I needed to get out of the house. At that time we had 7 children ranging in ages 3 to 13, one more was born in 1976. I was the bookkeeper of our company and the secretary as well. The president at that time put me with a group of ladies my age. I started attending the meetings and as I learned more about the CWL by taking various Committee Chairs and by attending conventions, I was elected President and held numerous committee chairs over the years. Have been the Regional Chair for 4 years and on the Diocesan Council for the last 10 years.

The past Correspondence Secretary has given me a wonderful example to follow, complete with instructions etc. For all the correspondence Secretaries in the Parish Councils I encourage you to obtain a copy of the Handbook for Secretaries, which can be downloaded from the national website. Other resource materials that you might find helpful include the Constitution and By-Laws, the National Manual of Policy and Procedure.

I pray that Our Lady of Good Counsel will guide us.

Yours in service of God

Madeleine





Past-president—Marie-Therese Lamphier Historian, Nominations & Elections



Instead of writing a regular article, I would like to share with you what I did not have time to report on at convention due to the time constraints. The following is on the status of my goals that was shared with you at the beginning of my term as Diocesan President. Perhaps as a group we were not able to accomplish what we had hoped for...but one never knows the impact it can have on someone's life. The first two paragraphs may be a repeat but it does bear repeating for those who may have missed it.

"One of the things that I accomplished during my term, was to visit with the Presidents at their Presidents' meeting - all seven regions. This was an opportunity for me to meet with them, and for them to ask us, depending on who came with me, questions that they have been dying to ask but were afraid too. I can only stress to everyone and to assure you that we are just regular women just like you, and you have no reason to be afraid of us. At these meetings I encouraged the councils to contact us if they have any issues or questions, but to do it before any major problems arise. You never know, we may be able to help. We may have a little bit more exposure to issues by virtue of our positions.

Another important issue is that we all should be following procedures as outlined in the National Manual of Policy and Procedures. Some councils have decided to disband... in some cases we did not even

know about it, although Presidents are suppose to have representation from Diocesan when casting any final votes. I can assure you that if your council is no longer able to function, we are there to help...that is what we are here for. We have a wealth of information behind us and we also have our Life Members who are also able and willing to help. We can bring them with us as mentors.

I wish I could say that our membership has grown, unfortunately I cannot say that ... that was one of my goals.... I wish I could say that it has been maintained, but unfortunately I cannot say that as well, as many are dying off and the new recruits just aren't there. We are roughly down 700 members over the past two Some councils have the vears. magic formula because they may have up to 15 new members in one year and hopefully they will pass on their secrets to their fellow presidents...but many of our older members are dying and we are not able to get the number of new members to replenish our ranks.

We encourage councils to hold a Catch the Fire Workshops, Smores and/or "one on one" training if possible. When you think about it...every two years bring new members to your executive...so every two years you should have training for them. These are all opportunities to sell the League, on the merits of being a member, on the benefits of being part of an organization that has over 11,000

members in the Diocese of London alone, and the largest Diocese in Canada! It is important to personally invite prospective members to come. I have often heard stories that people did not join this or that because they were never personally asked. An announcement in the bulletin just doesn't cut it any more.

One of my other goals was to bring back the Sundays. Keep Sunday sacred for going to church and spending time with family and friends and not ...doing the wash, cleaning house, going shopping etc. My Spiritual Advisor told me once that we never ask anyone to do something that we are not willing to do ourselves. ...Well I followed his advice. I can't tell you how many members have done that but if it is passed on to one more family we could change the world...one person at a time.

Evangelization or bringing Jesus to others has been another one of my goals and I believe I can say that we have tried to accomplish that through our Fall regional workshops, through our spiritual programmes, through our guest speakers and through our support and charitable works throughout the diocese. Through participation "Why Catholic Programme", learning more about our faith and gaining the confidence to talk about it; through the care of our climate and our environment ... Have you implemented any of the

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Past-president—Marie-Therese Lamphier

Historian Nominations & Elections (cont'd...)



(Continued from page 7)

suggestions made by our Community Life Chair? Have you even read them? Earth Day, was Friday, April 22nd, were you willing to make any changes to save our environment for the future of our children?

We are called to spread the good news and to bring Jesus to others. Again this begins with our personal living example in life. People will take note of how you act or react. Let all your actions be what Jesus would do.

One of the greatest challenges in the diocese and individual councils is finding women to come forth to take on leadership roles...and more so this year as councils are seriously considering disbanding because the regulars just can't do it anymore. We hope that you will contact us before that happens and perhaps we can give you ideas of holding on...and if not, we are there to support you and help you through the process."

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the Fall Regionals!

Blessings!

Marie-Theresa

Treasurer—Mary Lappan



Welcome back! I hope everyone had a restful, fun-filled summer.

Let me start by thanking all of our London Diocesan members that helped and to all the parish councils that donated gifts to our Provincial Convention in Stratford. All of your hard work and hospitality made it a memorable occasion. A special thank you to Mary Bannon and Dara Hartman who as coconvenors spent many hours making everything run smoothly. If you attended the convention you know what a success it was. If you were unable to attend, you missed a great opportunity to see the Catholic Women's League in action. Our resolution regarding migrant workers was passed and will be brought to the next level

Our "Day at the Shrine" in Merlin was another faith-filled event in

spite of the heat. We are very lucky to have Father Greg Bonin as our Spiritual Advisor. He did a wonderful job.

I'm looking forward to going to the National Convention in Halifax this August. This is another opportunity to meet with like-minded women from across Canada as well as have a lot of fun.

Our Fall Regional Days will begin September 24th at St. Joseph's, Corunna, followed by October 15th at St. Joseph's Spirit and Life Centre, Chatham and October 22nd in Langton. It will be great to see everyone again. I hope you will make an effort to attend the day nearest to you.

Once again, please use the remittance forms with my name and make the cheque payable to

the "Catholic Women's League of Canada".

Watch for your year end report which will be coming to you in September. I know it is early but Provincial and National deadlines make it necessary for us to have them done by November.

Let's have a banner year full of faith, fun and fellowship.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel continue to bless your homes and families.

Mary

Look for Marie-Theresa's answers to questions at our Diocesan Convention this past April , found on page 46

Community Life Standing Committee Chairperson—Helga Stuermar



Oh God, come to my assistance, oh Lord make haste to help me! You are my rescuer, my help; Oh Lord do not delay....

(From living with Christ prayer journal)

This is my first letter to all of my sisters of the league as the Community Life Chairperson.

Then I am thinking about all that I have learned and heard in the past Provincial Convention.

There is so much information to sort out and to be done. Human Trafficking: What is Human Trafficking? We have read and heard so much about it of late, and yet there are so many people who cannot comprehend how our young are being lured into an intolerable position by false promises, then reality sets in, and threats of harming family members and also the use of drugs keep them in this situation. It really is a modern form of slavery. We must be paying special attention and try to find ways to help and pray for the girls who are trafficked and also for the handlers that they see the light, and also of all the men who are using those services. God enlighten these men, the harm they are doing, and show them that without their participation there would be NO HUMAN TRAFFICKING.

Be aware of elder abuse: Unfortunately, this happens often in the home by family members. What can we do to help if we come aware of abuse? Befriend them, invite them to share their feelings and fears. Often it is neglect by

family member or caregivers. Find out more by accessing:_____"The Ontario Network for the prevention of Elder Abuse. http://onpea.org.

<u>PALLIATIVE CARE</u> versus EUTHANASIA:

Much is being written and talked about this very serious subject: So much misinformation is presented to all. Selective Interpretation; is often not what our Catholic teaching is telling us. At the Provincial Convention in Stratford hosted by the London Diocese, much attention was given to this. We must protect our most vulnerable people. The elderly, the infirm, the mentally challenged. They must not be made to feel like a burden. All life matters. It is not for us to decide. Palliative care is available. All councils need to have an action plan to inform those who need info on what is available. Many times the elderly sign for Dr. Assisted Suicide because they have been made to feel like they are a burden to the family and or society. Sometimes the hopelessness they experience as they are nearing their end of life-quality of life, terrible pain... There is help. We need to help them find this help.

We also need to get informed and work towards. "Development of Peace." We need to find out about our native peoples. Why there is so much hopelessness and suicides amongst the young. The troubled areas in our global arena, experience so much violence and need our special support. We need to help, and we need to welcome

refugees, so that they can have a new start – away from all the persecution they experience in their homeland.

All in all, it was a very interesting convention. Most of our London Diocesan Committee members were on duty detail. Even though we managed to have fun with it. I was detailed to look after the vendors display room. One duty entailed Bathroom malfunction. The smell invaded the display room. I needed to find a service man pronto, but to no avail. The Front-desk located one and all was back to normal.



Act of corporal Mercy: It was my job as the London Diocesan Representative to help pack all the wonderful food collected for the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

There was so much food. Each province had a representative to help sort, and two of us labeled and packed. We managed to have fun doing it as you can see. Many people will not be as hungry.

What a wonderful group the CWL ladies are.

May our Lady of good counsel guide us in everything we do.

Helga



Resolutions Standing Committee Chairperson—Mary Bannon

Have you looked around at situations and events in our cities, in our country, in our world which need to be transformed? Now, transformation originates with prayer leading us to action. Such action is what Resolutions are about! Our resolutions are transformative. They touch people's hearts, minds and wills. Many of those situations are like Goliaths to us. And what happened to Goliath when he met David? How did David defeat Goliath? My favourite author, Max Lucado, tells us this: "Use your five fingers to remind you of the five stones you need to face down your Goliath. Let your thumb remind you of ...

- 1. THE STONE OF THE PAST: "Remember the marvellous works which God has done" (1 Chron. 16:12). Catalogue God's successes. Keep a list of his world records. He has made road kill out of your enemies. Write today's worries in sand. Chisel yesterday's victories in stone. Pick up the stone of the past. Then select ...
- 2. THE STONE OF PRAYER:
 Note the valley between your
 thumb and finger. To pass from
 one to the next you must go
 through it. Let it remind you of
 David's descent. David
 descended to prepare. Don't
 face your giant without first
 doing the same. Dedicate time
 to prayer. And don't neglect
- 3. THE STONE OF PRIORITY:

- Let your tallest finger remind you of your highest priority: God's reputation. David saw Goliath as a chance for God to show off! Did David know he would exit the battle alive? No. But he was willing to give his life for the reputation of God. Then reach for...
- 4. THE STONE OF PASSION: David ran, not away from, but toward his giant. Let your ring finger remind you to take up the stone of passion. One more stone, and finger, remains:
- THE STONE 5. PERSISTENCE: David didn't think one rock would do. Imitate him. Never give up. One prayer might not be enough. One day or month of resolve might not suffice. You may get knocked down a time or two ... but don't quit. Keep loading the rocks. Keep swinging the sling. David took five stones. He made five decisions. Do likewise. Past. Prayer. Priority. Passion. and Persistence."

I hope these thoughts spur you on to be aware of the need for and the how of Resolutions. I think Resolutions are the meat and potatoes of the CWL. Please consider writing to your MP or MPP about one of these four resolutions passed at the Ontario Provincial Convention.

- ON.16.01-- Enhance the Canada Health Act to Include Home Care (E&H)
- ON.16.02 Equal Access for Permanent Residence, an Amendment to the Immigration Act (CL) ON.16.03 - Expand the Nutrition North Canada Program to Include All Communities Accessible Only by Air. (E&H)
- ON.16.04 Training for the Safe Operation of All-Terrain Vehicles by Youth Under the Age of 16 (Legislation)

Writing letters to the government requires remembering the past, praying, setting priorities, having passion and being persistent. These tools will help us slay the Goliaths in our world that we recognize in the form of resolutions.

Mary

Look for the reports on the Ontario Provincial Convention submitted by 3 of the diocesan executive—1 for each of the 3 business days Found on pages 14/19

Education & Health Standing Committee Chairperson—Denise Lalonde-Morris



This summer is sure flying by. Many of us have been able to take in our Diocesan Convention in Sarnia as well as our Provincial Convention this past July in Stratford. What opportunities to experience Faith, Fun and Fulfillment. I have been overwhelmed by all the great acts of Mercy the sisters in the League do in our province.

As summer winds down, we are surrounded by abundant harvests in our diocese. There are apples to zucchini but as well we could harvest new members to refurbish those of us who need to revive our vim and vigor for the League. Although most councils do not

start with a membership drive in September, what better way to have new persons—old or young to find out what we are all about by encouraging them to attend the Fall Regional Days.

I know that many councils have sponsored a refugee family. Please don't forget their new world comes with many challenges. One of the biggest is acquiring a new language and new customs which causes stress with coping in their new surroundings. What is more beautiful than the Fall colours! Help them experience them. Many new persons have never experienced snow and our winters which many Canadians flee from

in the later months of the year. Are you able to prepare them for it? Take a few moments and think of how you can help these new Canadians adapt to our great country.

We have a leader in Pope Francis that is taking us in directions that make many people a bit jittery. He is asking us to go forth and show mercy and give understanding. With the help of Our Lady of Good Counsel I'm confident that we will be able to succeed at this.

Denise



Sandra Cabiddu— League Lingo Editor

Well here we are about to start another new year of CWL. By the time you receive this edition, I will be in England visiting my sister and brother after being away for 10 years. I will also get to see 2 cousins and their wives who live in Australia and New Zealand whom we have not seen for almost 50 years!!

I was very privileged to be able to attend the Ontario Provincial Convention this July 9th/13th as one of the team who hosted the councils from all across the Province of Ontario, in the beautiful city of Stratford. For those of you not able to attend, it was a missed opportunity to attend

a provincial convention held so close to home!! It really brings home what a wonderful organization of women we are and what we can accomplish by working together as one.

I will miss the first fall regional to be held in my home region of Sarnia Lambton. I will be back in time for the remaining 2 to be held in October. If you have any orders for me in September for the 2017 editions, please fill in an order form and leave it with the Sarnia Lambton Regional Chair, Patricia Sloan. I will get it from her when I return. Don't forget now is the time to reorder for next year. Our numbers are back up

and again I have had a good response for articles, considering how early I had to ask you to get them to me.

To close I want to say a huge thank you to you my sisters for all the prayers & cards and flowers for my recovery from the unexpected surgery I had to have at the end of July. It really meant a lot to me and helped me to a speedy recovery, so I could go ahead with my plans to go to England.

Sandra



Christian Family Life Standing Committee Chairperson—Kathy Levesque

I wish to welcome everyone back after our summer vacation. We are now starting to get into the mode of regular routines – the children back in school and the busyness of our lives. Hopefully, we take time from our hectic lives and spend quality time with the family. Family prayer is very important.

Over the summer, I was privileged to attend a few days at our local nursing home doing sing-song for monthly birthday parties and having cake and ice-cream with the residents. Their faces lit up so much just to see us. It is so sad to say, many of the residents have no one to visit them. This was a thrill for them. We need to remember our members in nursing homes and in the hospital. A visit will make their day.

In July, many youths of the Diocese of London attended the World Youth Day in Poland. They all had an experience to remember. Pope Francis said to them "Do you want to be the hope for the future? Well, there's no need to pay an entry fee — you just have to meet some conditions.

The first is to preserve your memory: of your people, your family and where you come from, the memory of your journey and what you received from those closest to you. A young person without a memory isn't a hope for the future." We need to pray for the young people so that the Holy Spirit may enlighten them to the works of God.

Rosanne Slogan, provincial Chairperson for Christian Family Life, said in her provincial annual report: "since last year we have all been focused and dedicated to the fight against euthanasia and assisted suicide as well as the rights of conscience. Our fight must continue to protect the doctors and nurses whose own spiritual and personal belief does not allow them to be involved in this crime against God and humanity." We must continue to pray for our government to make proper choices and right decisions in this We must continue to write to our MP's and Prime Minister on this subject.

I was able to attend the Provincial

Convention in Stratford this July. We had an extraordinary speaker -Michelle O'Rourke. She replaced the original quest speaker due to a family illness. She spoke on Hospice/Palliative care. She also spoke at the London Diocesan Convention in Sarnia in April. The talk was very memorable because she spoke of her father's journey at hospice just before he died. The day he passed away, a beautiful rainbow appeared in the sky almost like saying he had arrived and everything was okay. I saw this sign and it was breathtaking. Hospice/palliative care is an end of life journey. Hospice is like home, a place where you are known and loved by family and friends who come to be with you as your journey to God comes closer.

May our Lady of Good Counsel continue to guide you.

Kathy

A woman wrapped up in herself, makes a very small package

Don't let a difficult time box you in. Let it drive you to Jesus

Our days are identical suitcases but some people can pack more into them than others



Spiritual Development Standing Committee Chairperson—Wilhelmina Kole

"No one can place limits on the love of God who is ever ready to forgive" – Pope Francis

As I write this, my first League Lingo report, I ask for your prayers to assist me in fulfilling my position as Spiritual Development Chair, to the best of my ability and I will keep you in my prayers as well.

On July 20th, approximately 350 people (CWL and some spouses) attended the London Diocesan CWL Day at the Our Lady of the Rosary Shrine in Merlin, Ontario. What a blessed day – we were able to walk through the Holy Door at St. Patrick's Church there. Many of those attending were able to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, as Father Greg and the three Rosarian priests made

themselves available for confessions at the Shrine. In the afternoon, Father Greg went around the congregation of CWL ladies and their guests, allowing intentions to be stated and prayed for. It reminded me of how important it is to pray for one another.

The Jubilee Year of Mercy is passing quickly, but we can make every year a Year of Mercy by continuing to perform the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy wherever and whenever we can.

The Spiritual Development Chair/Committee guides and directs the spiritual growth of each member of all the parish councils. For those in the position of Spiritual Development Chairs in

your parish councils, I will be requesting your support and courage to stand up for your beliefs. It will be wonderful working together "for God and Canada".

The Fall Regional Days are scheduled and are for ALL members. I hope to see you there.

The 2017 Lenten Retreat is booked for March 4, 2017. Try to attend, as this will be a wonderful day of learning and prayer.

God bless you all and may Our Lady of Good Counsel guide you in all your activities.

Yours in Christ,

Wilhelmina

Walking with Nana

I like walking with Nana. Her steps are short like mine. She doesn't say "now hurry up". She always takes her time

I like to walk with Nana. Her eyes see things like mine do, wee pebbles bright, a funny cloud., half hidden drops of dew

Most people have to hurry. They do not stop to see. I'm glad that God made Nana unrushed & young like me!

Ontario Provincial Convention—July 11/13th, 2016— Stratford, Ontario, Submitted by: Rebecca McCarrell, Diocesan Pres. Elect

69th Annual Ontario Provincial Convention Day 1, Monday July 11, 2016

Over 300 delegates assembled for morning Mass on Monday, July 11, 2016 at The Arden Park Best Western Plus Hotel and Convention Center on a beautiful, hot summer day. A beautiful Mass was celebrated by Bishop Colli, Provincial Spiritual Advisor, concelebrated with the 13 priests (11 Diocesan Spiritual Advisors) in attendance including our own Fr. Greg Bonin, London Diocesan Spiritual Advisor, Fr. Matt Kucharski, London Diocesan Past Spiritual Advisor and Fr. Matt George, London Diocesan Past Spiritual Advisor. The theme was The Unity of One Voice. Bishop Colli drew our attention to our National Theme: One Voice, One Heart, One Mission during his homily.

Our focus table with our own Statue of Mary as centre point, drew us to the Jubilee Year of Mercy with a beautiful large rosary in blood red and black to symbolize the shedding of His blood for us. We used the Joyful Mysteries in our rosary prayers using the Magnificat and moving hymn "All That I Am" to begin our day.

Pauline Krupa's opening address focused on her intentions to inspire & motivate the delegates to a deep spiritual awareness within this Jubilee Year of Mercy. Bishop Colli reiterated Pauline's intentions and

asked us to grow with slow joyful prayers to feel a full spiritual and faith filled growth.

8 new life members were introduced including London's own Mary Jean Horne. May the blessings of the Lord be upon you was a moving blessings offered over these honoured delegates.

Credential report was submitted, standing rules of order were read, housekeeping issues explained and the convention was on!

The delegates listened to the greetings from the Anglican Church Women whose motto is "The Love of Jesus Call Us". Brenda Klingersmith and Catherine Henry presented Pauline Krupa with a beautiful prayer shawl...purple & yellow to signify we are Easter people. Barb Shoct brought greetings from the United Church Women and commented on how we are all women leader's, women of faith, service and community. Donna Shaddick, Life Member spoke on behalf of the Women's Interchurch Council of Canada. WICC represents 10 Christian women's organizations across Canada united by ecumenism and joined together in the Least Coin movement. She reminds us the World Day of Prayer is the first Friday of March and this year will be written by the women of the Phillipines.

Mary Bannon spoke about the

prayer room which was dedicated to Our Lady Untier of Knots. We were asked to write our intention down and add it to the rope over the convention. The rope filled with the knotted intentions will be presented at the closing mass.

Wendy Tedford, Peterborough Diocesan President introduced the Key Note speaker, Bishop William McGratten, National Spiritual Advisor, Bishop of the Diocese of Peterborough. Bishop McGratten's keynote address centered around the Jubilee Year of Mercy and how Pope Francis is calling us to works of mercy through charity and reconciliation. Pope Francis is acting as a "Pastor" bringing life changing moments to the people. Pope Francis is living a gospel and not worldly life. We are witnessing significant gestures of charity, powerful dialogue mixed with arresting yet simple phrases of theology. The Bishop warns us that we have fallen into a globalization of indifference. Gestures of compliancy are everywhere, the poor are not recognized and are being misjudged. Bishop conveys Pope Francis' message of wanting a messy and stirred up church who wants to take to the streets, the field hospitals after the battle, and minister to the bruised and hurting, the dirty and bereaved, to be out in the streets leading people to Jesus Christ, to be vessels of reconciliation, to bring God closer to all...to be the face of Mercy.

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Ontario Provincial Convention—July 11/13th, 2016— Stratford, Ontario, Submitted by: Rebecca McCarrell, Diocesan Pres. Elect

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Mercy is the name of God. Mercy is the greatest of all virtues. Bishop McGratten urges us to promote a culture of encounter, to be a witness to the gospel, to have a spontaneous heart. We are being asked to become more involved in our community, to bring attention to others, to strongly exhibit the role of shepherd. The church needs to be the evangelizer. Our focus needs to be to lead people to Jesus Christ so their lives can be filled with joy; to progress the traditional message focusing on the gospels; the church doors need to be wide open...to the poor, the needy, the broken and the fallen and not just the rich. importantly, it is necessary that we obtain inner peace so that we can bring the gift of forgiveness, bring encounters to people so that their lives are changed. Restore faith. Our messages must be simple to allow gifts of faith to be offered, recovered and sustained. Bishop McGratten asked us to be authentic as Christians, undertake service to others, to bring healing to wounds and divisions, evangelize. WAKE UP THE WORLD!

Spiritual Advisors and Life Members left to meet and dine for lunch. Delegates enjoyed a wonderful buffet in the main sessions room.

In the afternoon, Pat Rivest, Ontario Provincial Treasurer went over the financial statements, and noted the decline in membership affects all levels of the League. Cutbacks will be happening to ensure monies are available for future needs. The Provincial Development Fund has money available for workshops.

Linda Sqarazola presented resolutions that were approved by the Resolution Committee. Although there were some submitted that were returned, she wanted everyone to know that each diocese was made aware of why their resolution was not accepted. The following resolutions were passed:

- ON.16.01 –Enhance the Canada Health Act to Include Home Care (E&H)
- ON.16.02 -Equal Access for Permanent Residence, an

Amendment to the Immigration Act (CL)

- ON.16.03 -Expand the Nutrition North Canada Program to Include All Communities Accessible Only by Air. (E&H)
- ON.16.04 –Training for the Safe Operation of All-Terrain Vehicles by Youth Under the Age of 16 (Legislation)

Past President and Historian, Betty Colaneri led the 70th Anniversary Committee in a fun rendition of "Those Were The Days" as the invitation to the 70th Annual Ontario Provincial Convention in Thunder Bay July 2017.

The day ended with the annual Diocesan dinners where each diocese gathered to share fun, food and fellowship at different venues.

Rebecca





Ontario Provincial Convention—July 11/13th, 2016— Stratford, Ontario, Submitted by: Theresa Ryan, Diocesan 1st Vice-President

69th Annual Ontario Provincial Convention Day 2, Tuesday, July 12, 2016

London Diocese, the host committee while planning had chosen Pope Francis' devotion to "Mary Undoer of Knots" as a theme for the prayer room and also for a prayer card gifted to everyone at the banquet. In the prayer room there were two long ribbons full of knots intertwined around a picture of Mary. There were also slips of paper, with ribbons attached where members could write their petitions to Mary and then attach them to the ribbon knots. This devotion was so well used that we ran out of paper and knots but just kept adding on with more paper and twist ties, stick'em notes etc. The ribbons of petition were processed up with the offertory gifts at the closing Mass and placed in the sanctuary.

Tuesday morning immediately preceeding Mass a video was shown about Holy Family Retreat House, in Oxley, Ontario, the recipient of the collection at Mass. Our Eucharistic celebration was in honour of Mary, Queen and Mother of Mercy. Mass was celebrated by Bishop Fred Colli and concelebrated by all diocesan spiritual advisors present. intention of the Mass was for continued compassion to sinners and mercy to the poor. collection netted \$1,427 for our wonderful London Diocesan retreat house. As the recessional song was sung everyone followed in procession out the hotel and around and through our symbolic "Holy Doors". There were 13 wooden crosses at a focus table on the left side of the hall and they were interspersed in procession by the executive. As the procession entered our convention hall they chanted "Misericordes sicut Pater! Misericordes sicut Pater! (Merciful like the Father [motto of the jubilee]) until all were back at their seats. This was followed by prayer, scripture and a hymn.



To coincide with the invitation by the Holy Father for the Jubilee of Mercy, our provincial president invited diocesan councils to choose a Blessed beatified by Pope Francis and to plan spiritual and corporal works of mercy in parishes to emulate the virtues exhibited by the individual or individuals chosen. And so, over the past several months, members across Ontario joined together in parishes and dioceses to put faith in action through participation in spiritual and corporal works of mercy. We were to study their life, pray for their cause and to emulate their acts of mercy. At our respective diocesan conventions we were to report how every council celebrated their "blessed" and did their works of mercy... Each diocesan president then made a report from all the activities held in their diocese to share at our convention.

The wooden crosses were approximately 3' x 2' and were a gift from Jeannie Coleman. Her husband had made them out of barn board. He also made a larger cross that fit in the middle of all the crosses. Each diocesan president & executive member had an 8' x 10' picture of their blessed or saint and after their report hung it on one of the crosses. There were hooks so that 2 pictures fit on each cross.

Following are the list of Diocese' their blessed, dates of birth & death and their memorial day.

1) Alexandria-Cornwall – Venerable Jeanne Mance 1606-1673—Memorial June 18

- 2) Hamilton—Blessed Francisca di Paula de Jesus Isabela 1808-1895 Memorial—June 14
- 3) Hearst-Blessed Joseph Martina Perez 1897-1936 Memorial-October 15
- 4) Kingston—Blessed Ludwika Szszesna (Klara) 1863-1916 Memorial—February 7
- 5) London—Blessed Oscar Romero 1917-1980 Memorial—March 24
- 6) Ottawa—Blessed Elizabeth Turgeon 1874-1891 Memorial—August 17

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Ontario Provincial Convention—July 11/13th, 2016— Stratford, Ontario, Submitted by: Theresa Ryan, Diocesan 1st Vice-President

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- 7) Pembroke-Blessed Irene Stefani1891-1930 Memorial-October 31
- 8) Peterborough—Blessed Rosalie Rendu 1786-1856 Memorial—February 7
- 9) St. Catherines—Blessed Maria Bolognesi 1924-1980 Memorial—January 30
- 10) Sault Ste Marie—Blessed Giovannia Franch 1807-1872 Memorial—February 23
- 11) Timmins—Blessed Anne of St Bartholomew 1550-1626 Memorial—June 7
- 12) Toronto-Blessed Mother Teresa 1910-1997 Memorial-September 5

Provincial executive officers were to each pick a saint (different) and a Beatitude to speak of.

Recording Secretary, Annette Kelly chose St. Angela of Foligna 1248-1309 Feast day January 4

<u>Treasurer</u>, Pat Rivest chose St Jeanne Emille de Villenueve 1811-1854 Feast day October 3

Administrative Assistant, Jeannie Coleman chose St. Zelie (Guerin) 1831-1877 & Louis Martin 1823-1894 Feast day July 12 <u>Community Life Chair</u>, Wilma Vanderzwaag chose St. Joseph Vaz 1651-1711 Feast day January 16

Education & Health Chair, 1st Vice President, Colleen Randall chose St. Frances de Laval 1623-1708 Feast day May 6

<u>Historian/Past President</u> Betty Colaneri chose St. Junipero Serra 1713-1784 Feast day July 1

<u>Legislation</u>, Carol Richer chose St. Laura di Santa Caterina de Siena 1874-1949 Feast day October 21

President-Elect/Organization, Anne Madden chose St. Ludovico da Casoria 1814-1885 Feast day March 30

Resolutions, 2nd vice—Linda Squarzola chose St. Pope John XXIII 1881-1963 Feast day October 11

<u>Spiritual Development</u>, Carol Martin chose St. Peter Fabre 1506-1546 Feast day August 1

The Angelus was prayed at noon. As we broke for lunch those who had brought a grocery item for the food bank deposited them in the corner near our Spiritual table. For those who opted to stay there was a poverty lunch in keeping with our theme for the day.

To start the afternoon we joined in the Hymn for the Holy Year of Mercy, singing the refrain after every line. This was followed by a litany of the Blesseds & Saints. The afternoon consisted of action

(some women boxed and sorted all the donations) As part of our programmes approximately 20 women had been pre-chosen to represent all the members of the Catholic Women's League of Canada in the province of Ontario to go visit and help at the Local Community Food Centre. Bishop Colli gave them a special blessing of commissioning. The rest of us continued in prayer focusing on the parables of mercy. We then prepared for a Spirit-filled Reconciliation service which saw nine stations of confessors. Many lives were changed that afternoon.

We had a representative from the Stratford St. Vincent de Paul come speak to us and receive our gift of food and donations of \$677.

After such a wonderful day we had Anne Shore, a motivational speaker talk to us, and buoyed us up with her enthusiasm. started out by telling us growing up as an Irish Catholic she used to want to wear underwear all the time as the idea of being naked before God scared her. commented that there was a glow in the room after the sacrament of Reconciliation, something I am sure we were all feeling. This special year that has been declared should remind us that Jesus touches us with His mercy all the time, and that forgiveness & reconciliation should be provided for everyone. Make sure that you know that you need forgiveness, being vulnerable opens the soul to abundant grace. We have need of

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Ontario Provincial Convention—July 11/13th, 2016— Stratford, Ontario, Submitted by: Theresa Ryan, Diocesan 1st Vice-President

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the Lord. What is mercy? It's a bridge where we experience God's LOVE. When we become more merciful, we become more like God. The Blessed Trinity; Father, Son & Holy Spirit's constant outpouring of LOVE, overflows on The name of God is Mercy. God loves us unconditionally. We are made in the image & likeness of God and therefore we are called to do the same. God likes to forgive and never tires of it. We should pray for mercy for those who may be blocked with what they think is an unforgivable sin. The family is the school of mercy. The Catholic Women's League in your parish should be the centre of Sandwiches are like hospitality.

arms of love. God works in us & through us. We are women who treasure life! Homemakers! We love in little & big ways. Palliative & hospice care are going to become ever more important as society ages and there aren't enough people to care for them. Women individually & collectively are living mercy. We need to go beyond and leap into the uncomfortable stuff. What issues scare me? Grow a forgiving and reconciling heart. Learn to "let it go" and forgive. Remember we are all "children of God." "Feeding the hungry" could be as simple as making supper at night. Giving drink to the thirsty could be someone "thirsting to belong" Anne went through all the corporal works of mercy, giving

practical examples. Clothe the naked by helping people who have addictions. Shelter the homeless, a home is more than walls and a Visiting the imprisoned, could mean those imprisoned with mental illness, addictions etc. Burying the dead could be recognizing those who have suffered a loss of some sort. "Mercying" is a way of being full of mercy & compassion. She closed her talk with Psalm 25:6 - "Be mindful of your steadfast love & mercy, O Lord".

We adjourned for the afternoon and prepared ourselves for a wonderful banquet at 7 p.m. celebrating the Catholic Women's League of Ontario and all its members.

Ontario Provincial Convention—July 11/13th, 2016— Stratford, Ontario, Submitted by: Kathy Levesque, Diocesan Christian Family Life Chair

69th Annual Ontario Provincial Convention

Day 3, Wednesday, July 13, 2016

Pauline Krupa welcomed us back to the third day of the convention. The young women who attended the convention gave their report on how we could improve our meetings. We should use the current forms of communication to get more information out to our members. They enjoyed participating in the Crowning of Mary. They mentioned that we

should get to know the new members, their strengths and talents which could be used in our councils. We could learn from the new and seasoned members. They talked about why membership is down and new ideas to get the numbers back up.

We were introduced to the nine new life members and gave them a blessing: Elizabeth Bortolussi and Sandra Wieckowski (Thunder Bay Diocese), Mary Jean Horne (London Diocese), Kathy Huffman

(Kingston Diocese), Donna Provost (Pembroke Diocese), Colleen Randall (Ottawa Diocese), Linda Squarzolo and Wilma Vanderzwaag (St. Catherines Diocese), and Margaret Van Meeuwen (Peterborough Diocese).

The recipient of the second annual Social Justice Award was given to Alice Gazeley from the Diocese of Kingston. Alice spent many years of service working toward improving the lives of

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Ontario Provincial Convention—July 11/13th, 2016— Stratford, Ontario, Submitted by: Kathy Levesque, Diocesan Christian Family Life Chair

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those dealing with poverty.

Barbara Dowding, gave the National President's report. She complimented Pauline Krupa on her ideas and vision of this convention. She spoke on our mission - love of God. She said the League is alive and serving well. She spoke on how we supported the Fort McMurray people by way of raising funds and forwarding donations to them. She mentioned the League will be celebrating its 100th anniversary in Montreal in 2020. She said to be aware of Futhanasia and Assisted Death. She said that the Jubilee Year of Mercy has opened many doors for us. We have done so much. We should have compassion - do not judge; get closer to people – go into streets, in our own homes we bring mercy. Going through the Holy Doors is to bring mercy. Break down doors by helping others. Stop rushing, keep doors open. The parish can be a sanctuary for a community of refuge.

During the convention, the focal point was one large cross and many small crosses with the various blessed and saints each diocese and provincial officer were focusing on during the year. Bishop Fred Colli, National Spiritual Advisor, is taking the larger cross. He suggested that each of the diocese in the province of Ontario take one cross and make a donation to a Hospice center in their area.

Our guest speaker today was to be Eugene Dufour, however he could not attend due to a family crisis. Michelle O'Rourke was able to come to speak in his place, on Palliative/Hospice Care. touched on several key points involving hospice palliative work and the reality of the end-of-life care. It was so touching because her father, George, passed away the previous week. She showed us pictures of his journey at hospice. She told us that the day he passed away, you could see a beautiful rainbow across the sky. I saw this rainbow as I was coming home from Petrolia that day. Her talk is very inspiring.

Collection amounts were given for donations to: Local Community food Centre \$604.00 plus donation = \$773.40; St. Vincent de Paul - \$787.20 and Holy Family Retreat House \$1,432.70. Patricia Rivest thanked us for our generosity.

There was a presentation by Pauline Krupa and her OPC team for the 70th Provincial Convention in Thunder Bay 2017.

Pauline Krupa spoke on how she was led by the Holy Spirit to be here. She has travelled to many places and met with many people. She gave her President's report.



After the closing of the 69th Provincial Convention, we attended the closing mass at St. Joseph's Church, Stratford. The mass was very beautiful. Bishop Colli concelebrated the mass with Bishop Joseph Dabrowski, Auxiliary Bishop of London and also with nine Spiritual Advisors. Bishop Colli, spoke on the Wedding Feast at Cana. When Mary told Jesus that there was no wine, He asked her what do you want me to do. Mary told the stewards to follow Jesus and do as He asks. That is the mission of the Catholic Women's League-to follow Jesus! That is what we must Past Provincial President Marlene Payletic facilitated the Reaffirmation of the Provincial Officers.

I have never been to a Provincial Convention before but hope to attend again in the future. It was very inspiring, spiritual and faithfilled and lots of fun! I was sorry to see it end.

Kathy

National Convention—August 14/17th, 2016— Halifax, N.S., Submitted by: Angela Pellerin, Diocesan President

The 2016 National Convention tool place at the World Trade and Convention Centre in Halifax. It was held in conjunction with the WUCWO North American regional conference—Past National President Velma Harasen is the Regional Vice-President for North America. Members had the opportunity to attend the opening of the WUCWO conference on Sunday prior to the opening mass for the convention. We also began our day on Monday with the WUCWO prayer service.

Opening mass was held at St. Mary's Basilica with Bishop Mancini as the celebrant. The mayor of Halifax along with the Premier of Nova Scotia were among the dignitaries bringing greetings.

The keynote speaker Monday morning was Sr. John Mary, Mother Superior of the Sisters of Life congregation. Her theme was Women of Mercy United in One Heart, One Voice, One Mission. Sister spoke on vocations and how the CWL was so integral in her vocation. The Sisters of Life support pregnant women - they do not have a residential facility but support them in other ways. Sister stressed that prayer and sacrifice are important in changing the world. Receiving God's Mercy leads us on the path to be merciful to others. None of us deserves God's mercy. She said that maternal love is the main thing missing today in our culture. There are 3 postures of receiving: 1. Receive, 2. Delight and 3. Perseverance.

At the WUCWO luncheon, Rita Jaynes spoke on the need to change our hearts. She spoke on the environment and climate change.

Monday afternoon began a memorial service for deceased members and was followed by the beginning of the business sessions. The provincial presidents gave their reports.

Tuesday morning began with a pilgrimage to St. Mary's Basilica where members went through the Holy Door and had an opportunity to experience reconciliation before Mass. The keynote speaker for the day was Fr. James Mallon, author of "Divine Renovation". His theme was "I am a Mission on this Earth". Fr. Mallon said we don't have a mission, we are a mission. He talked about the 4 stances: 1. Accommodation - bad, 2. Opposition - bad, 2. Withdrawal bad, 4. Engagement - Good. One of Fr. Mallon's main points was that we must be disciples who go out and gain more disciples. By raising up disciples we will draw others back to the church. posed the question: As CWL members what do you celebrate the most? What is the reason for your celebration? As CWL how can you reinforce your engagement/stance in the world? As you seek to fulfill your mission, are you more committed to your mission or your methodology? Parish CWL councils need to be open and flexible.

Tuesday afternoon the provincial

presidents finished giving their reports and the national executive began theirs. One interesting point was that national council is reviewing the on-line membership system. Changes may be made at some point in the future to improve this tool. The resolutions began to be brought forward. Five resolutions were brought to the floor, 2 of them from Ontario and I am pleased that London's was presented and carried. The Catholic Leadership Foundation was explained to us. They are currently working with several universities to put a programme together by means of distance learning. They need to raise \$1.2 million to provide operating funds to start the programme by next fall. Melodie Gabriel spoke to us on CNEWA - Velma's Dream.

On Wednesday morning Dr. Nuala Kenny spoke to us on palliative care. She asked, what is a good death? Dr. Kenny said we need to understand the Supreme Court decision, recognize the importance a n d misunderstandings of hospice/ palliative care, assess the reasons for requesting MAD, accept the challenges for the Christian community to respond to suffering and to the works of mercy. We need to walk the talk. We must promote and improve palliative care.

An invitation was issued to next year's national convention which will be held in Charlottetown, PEI

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National Convention—August 14/17th, 2016— Halifax, N.S., Submitted by: Angela Pellerin, Diocesan President

(Continued from page 20)

August 6 – 9, 2017. The total number of registrations for this year's convention was 754. Before leaving for the closing Mass, the election of national officers took place.

You will find the list of the new national executive, speeches, reports and resolutions on the national website.

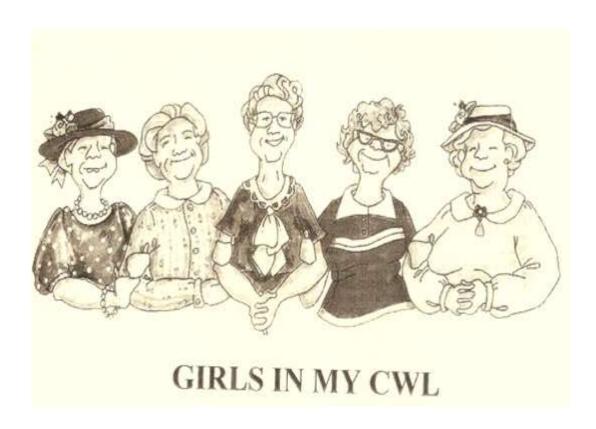
One of the highlights for me was

meeting the national president of the Ukrainian CWL. She is a very interesting lady. Also met some old friends and made some new ones from various parts of Canada. If you have the opportunity to attend a national convention, I recommend you do so – it is a wonderful experience.

I am most grateful for the opportunity to attend the national convention and to represent you.

Angela







Regional News— Chatham Kent Chairperson— Lucille Duquette

I hope you have enjoyed your summer. Sure was a hot, humid one! I enjoyed my flower garden, bicycling and long evening walks.

First, let me introduce myself. I am the new Regional Chairperson for Chatham-Kent. I am a retired teacher, mother of four and grandmother of one (and one on the way). As a member of St. Francis Xavier Council, Tilbury, I was President for two terms and am now Past President. I speak French and English.

This spring, I attended the Diocesan Convention in Sarnia and the CWL BBQ dinner at Roesch's farm near Chatham. In July, I went to the Provincial Convention in Stratford. It was a touching, informative and well-organized four days where I got to know other Regional Chairpersons and learned a few things about my duties as chairperson at conventions.

Did you know that the 100th anniversary of the London Diocesan CWL is in 2020? The diocesan executive has already begun planning this momentous occasion.

And CONGRATULATIONS to Mary Jean Horne on becoming a Life Member!

In the fall, I will be chairing the FALL REGIONAL MEETING in Chatham at the Spirit and Life Centre. Hoping to see many members attend. Go to the website for more information and for directions on how to get there.

I'd love to see every single President (or their representative) at the Chatham-Kent meeting on Tuesday, September 27th at 7 p.m. at St. Ursula's in Chatham. Remember, Styrofoam cups and plates will no longer be used at our meetings. See you there!

Lucille

Regional News—Essex Chairperson—Denise Masse



In the midst of what seems like a never-ending, record-breaking heat wave and drought conditions, I find myself writing this and longing for the arrival of fall. Summer is usually our time to relax, enjoy working in the yard and being outside. This year has limited the ability of many to be able to do the latter. I have often been worried about the homeless living in the heat with not many options. How do they do it day after day? It must be their faith that gets them through and hopefully our prayers, or the acts of mercy we perform for them. Give drink to the thirsty took on a heightened importance in this heat, as did providing shelter. Bring a cool drink to our friends in need. Hand out a

list of addresses with cooling stations. We can also start by doing our part to prevent further effects of climate change by making changes in our own lives.

The latter leads me to think about the importance of our work and our resolutions. We are fortunate to have passed two resolutions from our region since my last writing. St. Michael's in Leamington's resolution was passed at the Diocesan Convention in April. "Unborn Victims of Crime" was a work of love and Peggy Barrette and her council will continue to fight for their case. The debate is on September 26th, 2016. Thank-you for all you have done.

Our second resolution was one done jointly with Windsor. "Equal Access for Permanent Residence, Amendment to the Immigration Act" was the work of Susan McBride-Friesen, Essex Region, Good Shepherd and Kenlyn Bryant, Windsor Region, Corpus Christi. Their resolution passed as well at the Diocesan Convention in April. Then it was time to prepare for the resolution to go to Provincial. At Provincial convention I assisted in presenting the resolutions for discussion. where I met some lovely ladies from Toronto whose wisdom and insight on all resolutions presented that day were invaluable. I was blessed

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Regional News—Essex Chairperson—Denise Masse



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to be with and learn from them. Here the aforementioned resolution passed and just today I received word that it has passed as well at the National convention in Halifax, Nova Scotia and is on it's way to be presented in Parliament in November of 2016. Let's pray those in Parliament will be moved to action.

Is there a topic your council is passionate about? If so, why not write a resolution. As you can see, you never know how far your good works will get! If interested please contact our new Resolutions person, Mary Bannon. Thank-you to Rebecca McCarrell for all of her hard work and inspiration when she was Resolutions chair.

Celebrations continued in Essex with two anniversaries this past spring. St. John the Evangelist in Woodslee celebrated their 95th anniversary of their council with a lovely mass, presided by Fr. Moe Charbonneau who spoke of how the League has touched his own life, that of his parishioners and the communities he has served. There was not a dry eye in the church. Thank-you to Janice Hebert and her council for the delectable dinner, which paid attention to every detail. We look forward to celebrating your 100th anniversary, the same year as the League celebrates theirs. Your council is truly an inspiration. Thank -you to Rebecca McCarrell, President-Elect for Diocesan for attending, along with Mary Lappan Treasurer, Pat Rivest, Provincial Treasurer and Marie-Theresa Lamphier, Past President Diocesan.

The second anniversary was Visitation council's 10th. They also celebrated with a wonderful dinner after mass. Thank-you to Laurie Lassaline and her council for hosting a fun-filled event. To her surprise, she received a Maple Leaf Service pin for her years of dedication to the League. Thank-you to Rebecca McCarrell, Diocesan President for attending, along with Pat Rivest and Marie-Theresa Lamphier. A good time was had by all. It was a pleasure to be able to be part of these anniversary celebrations.

Attending conventions continues to be an important and inspiring experience. Thank you to Willi Kole and her committee for their hard work at the convention in Sarnia: a job well done. Thank you too, to the councils in the region of Essex who were able to attend. Your presence there was comforting and watching everyone celebrate and interact in the social times was heart-warming. Your donations were bountiful once again, thank you. We were able to vote in our Diocesan Council for the next term and celebrate another new beginning for our League. Together we are all part of the next chapter that unfolds in our story.

I also had the delight of attending my first Provincial Convention this July in Stratford. Another level brought new experiences and a deeper understanding of our beloved League. I was fortunate to be able to be part of the committee, as London Diocese hosted for Pauline Krupa and her Provincial team. Mary Bannon and Dara Hartman were the chairs of this convention and their tireless work paid off. The amount of

work that goes into a convention is truly amazing. Everyone has their part and only when working as a team do the many tasks that need to be completed get done. Many hands lightened or supported the loads. Pauline Krupa often mentioned team work at this convention and the fruits of our Diocesan Team were plentiful and sweet. Once again the Life Members brought their wisdom and support to all. Many people took the time to stop and acknowledge how much they had enjoyed convention and how well done things were.

Pauline is full of surprises and I was blessed to be one of them. My students and I were given the opportunity of a lifetime by Pauline, Dara, Mary and Angela, being able to give back to the ladies of the CWL and "praying it forward". We were fortunate to be able to obtain and prepare the bags for convention, create placemats with a prayer and inspire two high school students to make our Acts of Mercy cards, then make a short presentation about it to share our knowledge about the League and our story. For this we will be forever grateful. Thank you too to Joe Bachetti, and Amy Lafoso, principals of St. William elementary and St. Anne HS for their donations of cost, time and their support of the Catholic Women's League and Catholic Education. Thank you councils for your donations of door prizes and the items for the goodie bags.

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Regional News—Essex Chairperson—Denise Masse (cont'd ...)



(Continued from page 23)

Fall Regional Days are fast approaching. Materials have been sent out and we hope to see many of you in Chatham, on Saturday, October 15th, 2016 at St. Joseph's.

As you prepare to return to your good works hopefully you have had time to rest and be renewed. So many are counting on you and the events that have become traditions in their lives, such as bazaars where baked goods and handcrafted items sold are bought each year, to breakfasts, speakers, hosting sacraments and the list goes on. Remember the countless

hours spent are appreciated by more than you know, you are the bounty of the county of Essex. Invite a friend to come along and perhaps they will begin to share in your journey with the League.

I took my husband to the Eastern Townships in Quebec for his fiftieth birthday and we stayed in a place amongst the trees that surrounded a beautiful lake. My son had commented on how he misses the Fall of Ontario as he still resides in Jasper, AB, in the beauty of the mountains. And I could not help but think how fortunate we are to have the beauty of the Lord around

us. Not just in our churches and cathedrals but in each other. As I gaze at the changing leaves of fall I note that the colours always bring to me colourful memories and when there is a breeze there are hugs from the past and our memories, through the trees. I'd like to thank all the ladies in the League that have been a "colourful breeze" in the trees of my life. I look forward to another great year and making more memories.

Denise



Regional News—London Chairperson—Joan Lobsinger



What a busy spring we had in the London Region. It began with many of our councils attending the Diocesan Convention in Sarnia where with One Heart, One Voice and One Mission we shared faith, fun and fulfilment.



On May 1st, Mary Immaculate Council celebrated their 50th Anniversary. The morning began with a beautiful Eucharistic Celebration that was followed by a delicious luncheon and presentation of service pins. Our president, Angela Pellerin presented their Council President Margaret Choja with certificates of congratulations from Provincial and National.



Our Fun Night was held May 10th at St. John the Divine where great food, entertainment and camaraderie were enjoyed by all. A special thanks to St. John the Divine council and their Knights

of Columbus for all they did to make it a success. Not only did we have FUN that evening, we also had FULFILLMENT. A donation for the victims of the Fort McMurray fires was collected at the door; we held a 50/50 draw with the proceeds raised donated to the Catholic Women's League Leadership Foundation: and we kicked off our Region's Corporal Works of Mercy Project, a fund raiser for the London Community Chaplaincy. The London councils have been busy selling raffle tickets for a beautiful handmade quilt that will be drawn at our Advent Tea in November. We are proud to support the London Community Chaplaincy, a vital group which provides resources and programmes to two resident communities in London who face the challenges of living in poverty.

On June 27th we held our closing dinner at the Best Western Lamplighter Inn where again good food and camaraderie were enjoyed by all who attended. A special thanks to Sandra Mitchell for organizing this dinner.

The summer continued to be a busy time with the Provincial Convention held in Stratford July 9th to 13th. The London Region was responsible for Registration. A big thank you to Holy Family, St. John the Divine and St. Patrick councils for helping out at the registration desk. Many hands made light work. What a wonderful opportunity it was to meet and renew friendships with our CWL sisters throughout the province. During the sessions, the

focus on the Extraordinary Year of Mercy was a truly touching experience.



The Diocesan Day at the Shrine in Merlin on July 20th was also a great day. The weather was good and the friendships and prayers shared were beautiful. Walking through the Holy Doors was an uplifting experience.

Looking forward to the Fall! In September two councils celebrate their anniversaries. Congratulations to Holy Family Council who celebrates their 50th Anniversary and to All Saints Parish Council who celebrates their 95th Anniversary.

On September 24th St. Joseph's Corunna is hosting the Fall Regional Day for the London and Sarnia Lambton Regions. Be sure to mark it on your calendar and "Come & Experience Mercy Like You Never Have Before".

Our Regional meetings resume on September 26th at St. Michael's parish. It is my pleasure to continue to work with the wonderful presidents of the London Region.

Joan

Regional News—Huron Perth Chairperson—Julie de Gouw



Fresh off my first Provincial Convention experience, I am both excited and proud to say that I attended the Catholic Women's League of Ontario Convention! Wow! What an amazing Catholic Women's organization we belong to! Congratulations to the London Diocesan Executive for a fabulous job of organizing this event, and to the small army of volunteers, many who were from Huron/Perth Region, for hosting such an amazing event!

As this is my first article for the League Lingo, I thought that I might begin with an introduction! My name is Julie de Gouw (yes, that's a small d). I am happily married to love of my life, Peter, for 38 years. Together, we have 10 great kids ranging in age from 37 to 18! We have 6 girls and four boys. Five of our children are married, wedding number 6 will take place October 22nd this year. We also have 12 grandchildren! Included in this number is a set of twins! Grand baby #13 will join us in December, God willing!

For all but 2 of our 38 year marriage, I have been a stay-at-home-dairy-farming-wife and mother! I say "stay at home" with tongue in cheek as all of our kids played competitive soccer at a high level and I spent many, many hours on the road with them! I would joke that I was a "van-wife" not a "house wife"!

The year we were married, 1978, my mother-in-law, God rest her soul, signed me up as a CWL member. Wasn't long before I was well into the thick of things! I signed up for a CWL Leadership course in 1985 and for me, this was the turning point of my involvement at the executive level of the CWL in our parish. As the result of that leadership course, I volunteered to be a Lector at church, and became president of our council! The course was most successful!

The role of Regional Chair is brand new to me! My predecessor, Denise Morris, left me some "BIG" shoes to fill! I hope to be able to continue the good works that Denise has started! The Region of Huron/Perth, wishes Denise well in her new role as Education & Health Chairperson with the Diocesan Executive!

As Regional Chair, I look forward to meeting lots of new people and learning new skills! I also look forward to deepening my faith and enlightening my mind as I work with the dedicated women of the Catholic Women's League! There is much work to do in the Lords' Vineyard! So, let us go out into our communities as women of faith, be all that we can be, and fulfill our Baptismal call to spread the Gospel! Let us Love God, Love Others, Make Disciples!

Peace & prayers!

Julie



Look for a p o s t e r advertising the next London D i o c e s a n Convention in Stratford, 2017 on Page 29



Regional News— Ingersoll Chairperson— Fatima Cabral



Love cannot remain by itself — it has no meaning.

Love has to be put into action, and that action is service" – Mother Teresa

I am always amazed by the faith of our Catholic Women's League members. Every funeral luncheon is done with love. Every prayer dedicated to Our Lady is filled with devotion. Every embrace is heartfelt and genuine. We are truly an amazing organization that loves and cares for all.

It is my pleasure to be the new Ingersoll Regional representative. My home council is Holy Trinity, Woodstock but having attended our region's Presidents meetings over the last 2 years I have come to truly

admire the ladies from our region many who have been president for way too many terms because no one else has come forward to take over Recently in order to encourage more members attending events, our Presidents arranged for a school bus to drive members to St. Patrick's Church and the annual CWL Day at the Shrine on July 20, 2016. We had 33 members and parishioners attend from the Ingersoll region. Our driver was a CWL member and past parish president, Doris Anne Smith. The event was awesome and we could not have asked for better weather.

Father Greg Bonin did a great job igniting a fire in the hearts of those in attendance. Many of us arrived home with a renewed sense of belonging and desire to continue our works of Mercy.

Our region is honoured to be hosting one of the fall regional days on October 22nd, 2016 so we hope to see many of you there. The fall will be a busy time for our CWL councils as bazaar season gets into full swing and our parishes transition into the beautiful season of Advent. May God bless you all and your families.

Fatima











Regional News— Windsor Chairperson— Mary Ann Horne-White

Since the London Diocesan Convention in April, time has flown.

The Windsor Regional Presidents Meeting in May was a potluck. It was very special as I decided to honour the past Windsor Regional Chairpersons with roses.

Those recognized were:

- * 1990-2000: Clarice Friesen, Beatrice Taylor, and Anna Koehl (absent).
- 2000-2016: Rebecca McCarrell, Caroline Ngui, Kraith Bolton, myself; Angie Papineau (absent) and Marilyn Morrison (absent).

Margaret Eastlake was recognized for the Belle Guerin Award given to her earlier this year at Most Precious Blood CWL.

The Regional Chairpersons who

went on to London Diocesan Executive were: Beatrice Taylor, Caroline Ngui: and Rebecca McCarrell.

I also recognized my regional recording secretary Lila Recchia and Regional Treasurer Jo-Anne Lortie with roses to thank them for their work with me; and continuing forward another 2 years. It was wonderful to recognize all the work of these ladies for the Catholic Women's League of Canada.

The Provincial Convention was July 9th to 13th. London Diocese hosted it in Stratford, so we were very involved in making sure the convention ran smoothly. Our committee worked with the Provincial President Pauline Krupa and their executive to make it a wonderful experience for all who attended.

Merlin Diocesan day was well attended July 20th. There were 350 CWL women sharing the day at St. Patrick's Church. We went through the Holy Door and shared in mass, and the Rosary on the grounds together. Our Diocesan Spiritual Advisor Fr. Greg Bonin was there to share the day with us. It was a very spiritual experience shared by all of us.

September will bring us back to our CWL meetings. Great to connect and plan our meetings and prepare for the year ahead. Advent plans will go ahead in all the regions as will preparations for the coming of Christ.

Blessings in the coming fall season to all.

Mary Ann



Regional News—Sarnia Lambton Chairperson—Patricia Sloan

I hope that everyone is enjoying the summer. As your new Regional Chairperson, let me introduce myself. My name is Pat Sloan and I am a CWL member of Our Lady of Mercy Church in Sarnia. I have been a member since 1980 where I joined St. Philip's Council in Petrolia. I am looking forward to working with all of you in Sarnia Lambton.

I attended a very informative retreat at Oxley House and was welcomed by the London Diocese Executive.

Sarnia was well represented at the Merlin Shrine in July.





97th London Diocesan Convention

Hosted by Huron Perth Region

April 24th/26th, 2017

Best Western Plus Arden Park Hotel

552 Ontario St. Stratford

A time of faith, fun and fulfillment! Come join us!





Join us for this amazing day!

Lunch: \$8

Saturday, September 24: St. Joseph's Corunna

Saturday, October 15: St. Joseph's Spirit & Life Center, Chatham

Saturday, October 22: Sacred Heart Langton hosted in Delhi

Meet & Greet 9 am
Closing Prayer 3:30 pm
Corporal Works of Mercy
Project—please bring
Gloves, Mitts, Scarves, Hats

The Catholic **WOMEN'S LEAGUE**

of Canada, London Diocesan Council calls you to

Come and Experience Mercy Like You Never Have Before!



All members of every council in London Diocese are invited to join us at one of our Fall Regional meetings for a day of Mercy. Our replica of the Holy Door will allow you to contemplate the spiritual and corporal acts of mercy that have happened in this Jubilee Year of Mercy. A time of prayer will spiritually lift you and bring mercy to your heart. Litanies of our Blessed and Saint will be a spiritual point. Conflict resolution workshop will inspire new team building within your groups; and, the Faith Sharing, Fun and Fellowship we all crave will flow throughout the day.





CORPORAL WORK OF MERCY
NORTH OF 60 PROJECT
Help shield the cold
HATS, MITTS, GLOVES, SCARVES
These will be collected at the foot of the cross

Lunch \$8 Contact your Regional Chairperson with the numbers attending from your council 1 week before the event

Saturday, September 24: St. Joseph's Corunna Saturday, October 15: St. Joseph's City, Chatham Saturday, October 22: Sacred Heart Langton, in Delhi

See directions from your Regional Chairperson



Some Dates to Remember in the Coming Year

September 1, 2016 World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation
--

September 8, 2016 The birth of Our Blessed Virgin Mary

September 21, 2016 International Day of Peace

September 25, 2016 Canadian Martyr's Feast Day

October 2, 2016 Respect for Life Sunday

October 2, 2016 Vocation Awareness Sunday

October 3-7, 2016 National Family Week

October 10, 2016 Thanksgiving Day

October 16, 2016 World Day of Food

October 17, 2016 International Day for the Eradication of Poverty

November 06, 2016 Summertime Ends

November 11, 2016 Remembrance Day

December 8, 2016 Feast of the Immaculate Conception

December 10, 2016 Human Rights Day

December 12, 2016 Feast of our Lady of Guadalupe

I've learned

That the best classroom in the world is at the feet of an elderly person

I've learned

That just one person saying to me, "You've made my day!" - makes my day

I've learned

That having a child fall asleep in your arms is one of the most peaceful feelings in the world

Council News—London Region—Mary Immaculate, London Submitted by: Communications Chairperson Ann Andreica



On Sunday May 1, 2016 Mary Immaculate Council 2633 held their 50th Anniversary celebration. It began with Mass where members served as Readers, Eucharistic ministers and ministers of hospitality.

A delicious catered lunch followed. Shown in the picture opposite are the 65 members who were able to attend. Past presidents who were present were recognized and service pins were awarded including a 60 yr. pin to Past President, Eileen Pietraszko.

Also this year we welcome the following new members of Mary Immaculate Council: Alexa Alexander, Kaitlyn Andreica, Jocelyn Chauvin, Jocelyn Furtado, and Mildred Fernando.

We would also like to mention members who received service

pins this year. 10 Year Pin: Marcella Bigelow, Isabella Duff, Hugette Gillis. 20 Year Pin: Mary Breen, Josie O'Rourke. 25 Year Pin: Denise Kostaluk, Faye Patterson. 30 Year Pin: Catherine Hagerty-Mwange, Rose McCabe. 50 Year Pin: Josie Kersten, Helen Brulotte, Laura Meyer. 60 Year Pin: Noreen Hurley, Eileen Pietraszko.

Thank you for your faith, dedication and acts of Mercy that you have demonstrated throughout these years.

Ann



Life Membership—Anne Madden, Ontario Provincial Organization

In The Catholic Women's League of Canada, receiving life membership is an honour and it gives to the recipient, a permanent place on the national council, providing the same voting privileges accredited delegates at an annual meeting or convention, a voice in its affairs, and eligibility for a national appointment. Life membership is not intended to be a reward for years of service or a retirement gift. There are other appropriate ways of honouring members for their dedication to the League; such as the Maple Leaf Service Pin, the Bellelle Guerin Award and Pin, and a Certificate of Merit, to name a few. Privilege entails responsibility. National council requires support and active service

from its life members. It is certainly a privilege to be a Life Member!

(From Rebecca McCarrell, London Diocesan Organization)

It is with great pleasure that I announce London Diocese's newest Life Member, Mary Jean Horne! Mary Jean has served the League in many capacities over the years. She has held nearly every position at the Diocesan level, and at the local council level. She continued to serve on the Provincial Convention Committee 2016 as Chairperson of Protocols. At the Diocesan level, Mary Jean continues working with the Convention Manual committee and as a mentor for many. Mary

Jean joins Muriel Murphy, Shirley George, Trucy Cornelis, Maria Odumodu, Bev Weiler, Patricia Rivest and Lucy Hendrikx in this elite group. Congratulations, Mary Jean!



Council News—London Region—St. George, London Submitted by: Co-presidents, Becky Bulsza & Michele Ferri

Greetings fellow league members.

It has been a busy and fun few months since our last report. We are doing well with increasing our membership and currently have 230 members, thanks to the efforts of our membership convenor Judy Williams and our entire executive.

Besides attending this year's diocesan convention ourselves, we funded a new member to attend the full 3 days and another new member the last day. All four of us wrote up our experiences for a two page bulletin insert. As well, the member who attended all 3 days (Martha Cole), prepared a lovely summary of the convention through pictures and music on DVD which was shown to our members at our June potluck.

Our second annual Spring Tea was held in May and was a wonderful success. Besides our members and shut-ins, we also extended the invitation to the geared-to-income housing complex in our neighbourhood. Many of those women attended as well. In accordance with the theme, many sported hats, gloves and pearls!

At our May executive meeting, there was a wish expressed to donate to the Fort McMurray disaster fund in some way. After some discussion, it was suggested that maybe we could call someone in a CWL council in that community. One member said, "Why not now?" and proceeded to internet search for a CWL in Ft. McMurray. She found a name and number and

called it. To our surprise, we had contacted the past President who proceeded to describe the events of that catastrophe on her town and community over speakerphone for half an hour. It was a very moving experience for the executive to hear her firsthand account. We decided at that meeting to donate funds directly to her CWL council as they were unable to use their church due to smoke and ash damage.

At our final meeting in June, we awarded a Maple Leaf pin to Annette Robertson who has tirelessly supported League and church needs. Two others will be awarded in September. We also awarded many service pins, including a 70 year pin to Joan Meilleur. We are truly blessed to have so many long term members.

God bless you all; thank you for your service.

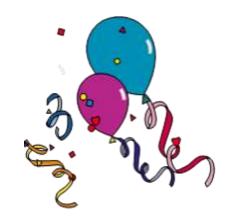
Becky & Michele



Above—Maple Leaf pin award winner Annette Roberston with Michele Ferri Co-President and pastor Fr. John Jasica



Above—Joan Meilleur awarded 70 year service pin, with daughter Kathy Forrestal, 15 year member



Council News—Sarnia Lambton Region—St. Michael, Brights Grove Submitted by Nelly Kelders—Communications/Education/Health Chairperson

Spring 2016 was filled with many opportunities for our members to engage in learning, friendship, and celebrations. There were many opportunities to be involved in a variety of League activities. The willingness of members to join in and lend a hand is testimony to the strength of the Catholic Women's League in our parish of St. Michael.

Diocesan Convention

As a member of the Sarnia-Lambton Deanery, hosting the 2016 annual Diocesan Convention in April, our responsibility was that of hospitality. An excellent response for volunteers was received and we always had ladies on hand to assist delegates to the convention in whatever capacity required. We endeavoured to assist anyone with a problem,



question or concern. Very quickly, we learned to assess situations and to find the appropriate solutions. A few members of our hospitality committee have had extensive experience organizing conferences in former careers and it did not take long for us to be able to anticipate the needs of the delegates and executive council.

The hospitality table was staffed from the time the convention opened each morning, till the end of the days' agendas. It was a pleasure to greet our sisters and to get to recognize ladies as the conference progressed. It also became apparent to us that the councils in our diocese are made up of very generous women. As the Mary procession drew near, we received many requests to store some of the gifts brought by the councils, as they had more than they were able to carry. We needed a van and a pickup truck to load up all the gifts afterwards. Wow! We were certainly impressed. Our committee worked hard during the three days we were at the convention but we also had the opportunity to get to know one another just a little better and to have fun together. Indeed we were blessed.



First Communion

The Catholic Women's League would like to congratulate all the young people who received the Eucharist for the first time during the month of April. We were pleased to present mass booklets to each of the recipients at the April 3, 9 and 17 masses. Please keep them and their families in your prayers.

May General Meeting

The meeting began with mass, followed by our guest speaker Father Stephen Marsh, associate pastor at Our Lady of Mercy/St. Benedict/St. Joseph parishes. He spoke to us about Mary, as the mother of Jesus and the important role she plays in the Church. On the cross Jesus gave us the gift of Mary as our mother. To be in the heart of Christ, Father Marsh said, we need to be in the heart of Mary. We can do this by offering ourselves through the intercession of Mary. If we consecrate ourselves to Mary, she will be our champion before the Lord. Father Stephen recommended "True Devotion to Mary" by Saint Louis de Montfort as a good book to read to learn more about consecrating ourselves to the mother of Jesus.

A delicious dinner followed at Huron Oaks Golf Club. Once dessert was served it was time for our business meeting, all of which was good news. The executive council was pleased to recognize 16 members with service pins.

Maple Leaf Pin

This pin is presented to members who have served the League in an exceptional or meritorious manner. St. Michael CWL Council was pleased to present the Maple Leaf Pin to Betty Mackey for her many outstanding contributions to the League. Her dedication and volunteer work is truly appreciated by all.

(Continued on page 36)

Council News—Sarnia Lambton Region—St. Michael, Brights Grove Submitted by Nelly Kelders—Communications|Education|Health Chairperson..(cont'd)

(Continued from page 35)





Welcome Father David
In June, Father David Johnston
arrived in St. Michael and Sacred
Heart parishes as our Parochial
Vicar. This is his first assignment
as Father David was ordained in
May of this year. To make him feel

welcome, the CWL hosted a social after his first mass with us. Again, there was no shortage of help as we served cake, coffee/tea and juice to the members of the congregation. We look forward to getting to know our new Parochial Vicar better and to working with him in the parish.



Post-secondary Education Bursary 2016

On Sunday, June 12, we were pleased to present this bursary to three members of our parish who will be attending post-secondary institutions in September. Vaughan DeGurse, Kendra Hoek and Jordon Hyde are all students at St. Patrick's Catholic High School. Their involvement in school, parish and

community life make worthy recipients of this award. We congratulate and wish them much success in their future endeavours in education.

Annual Golf Tournament Every year, St. Michael and Sacred Heart CWL's come together for a fun golf tournament at Huron Oaks Golf Course in Bright's Grove. We take turns organizing the event and this year was Sacred Heart's turn to act as hosts. It was a wonderful day with 23 golfers coming out to conquer the course. Each foursome was made up of members from each of the two councils; a great opportunity to get to know one another a little better. The best part was that it was no stress golf, the emphasis being on simply having a fun day. Afterwards we were joined by ladies who do not golf but wanted to join us and be part of the fun.

Nelly

When confronted with a Goliath sized problem, which way do you respond?:

"He's too big to hit" or, like David, "he's too big to miss"

Brighten your corner with gratitude; it is the candle of contentment

The secret of contentment is the realization that life is a gift, not a right"



Council News—Sarnia Lambton Region—Our Lady of Mercy, Sarnia—President—Phyllis Vanoverbeke

OLM-CWL has been busy

We served refreshments at an Evangelization event in early April

We collected some nice 'stuff' for the goodie bags for the CWL convention

Our president Pat Sloan and alternate delegate Bridie McKeon attended the convention in Sarnia. Some other members went for the day. Quite a few attended the banquet

Pat Sloan became the Regional Chairperson. It's an honour to have someone from OLM-CWL as Regional Chair for Sarnia Lambton.

Phyllis Vanoverbeke replaced Pat Sloan as OLM-CWL president

In May we held our annual event of offering flowers to Mothers on Mother's Day weekend before masses

We had our annual Spring Tea which was a success. We changed the menu, thus we had a few unhappy people. Thus we will do an evaluation before next year.

OLM church was chosen for the Doors Open June 11th & 12th CWL offered refreshments to visitors

OLM-CWL hosted the cluster wind up pot luck dinner in June. It was a great success

We had service pin presentations—25 years to Sharon Lacroix, 60 years to Joan Naug and Bernice MacDonald, 60 years to Elsie Corrigan, Yvonne Desjarlais, Marion Fullerton, Aurette McGarrity and Toni Therrien 70 years to Jean Miller, plus one year to very excited Sherry Collins

July 10th we served refreshments to welcome the Refugee family

Some people attended the Shrine in Merlin

We also did our usual funeral luncheon

Phyllis



Sherry Collins being presented her 1st membership pin by Elsie Seward



Elsie Seward with our O.L.M. Banner 95 years old



Council News— Chatham Kent Region— St. Ursula, Chatham Past-president— Jane Curry

Much has been happening. Many of our members attended a presentation at the Villa Angela in January by Ayesha Mian Akram telling us about the Muslim Faith and their customs and reasons for them, helping us to better understand. World Day of Sick Mass was held in February at St. Joseph's Parish followed by a soup and sandwich luncheon made by volunteers from the three CWL's of our cluster, it was very well attended and many enjoyed the lunch and fellowship.

Our President Sandy Richie invited Lina De Mattia to speak at our Lenten Retreat in February. spoke on the Women of the Bible, a very interesting and inspiring topic. The ladies in attendance enjoyed a Chilli luncheon and a memorable day. Michelle O'Rourke joined us in February to speak at our General Meeting about our new Hospice Facility. The members were very impressed with the beautiful facility our community will be able to access, and that we as a membership were able to contribute to through some fund raising efforts during the initial stages of this project.

The World Day of Prayer was hosted by St. Ursula's in March. The Theme being "Receive Children, Receive Me". Our President Sandy Richie was instrumental in organizing the service and the social that followed. They are still talking about the great time had by all who attended—good job Sandy.

Sister Eleanor Gleason of Villa Angela spoke to our members at our March General Meeting about the refugee family from Syria. It was a very informative evening and everyone was impressed with the courage of the family and the dedication of all those who are helping them.

We had 7 women travel to Sarnia for convention in April. It is with pride that we acknowledge that our own Mary Jean Horne received a much deserved Life Membership at the convention. She works tirelessly for the League and for our parish. Congratulations Mary Jean.

Our League hosted a Pasta and Meatball Dinner in April with proceeds going towards the purchase of a new Funeral Pall and Chasuble for St. Ursula's Parish. Thank you to all who helped with the meal in any way and thanks to the many people who attended and helped us raise these funds. It was a sold out event and the meal was delicious. Another of our successful events

was our Garage Sale, many thanks to all who donated their treasures and to the many who purchased them. Thanks as well to all our volunteers without whom this event could never take place.

Our Clustered Parish Coordinator of Children's Ministry Lynne Tibor spoke in May at our meeting. She told us of the many activities she has planned for our youth from Kindergarten to Grade Fours. She is very enthusiastic and energetic and has such inspiring Faith and Belief. Everyone was excited about her programme and plans she has in store for the young people of the parish. We also hosted a Crowning of Mary and prayer service in May at St Ursula's, followed by a social.

Our final meeting before our summer break was a Pot Luck and BBQ in June. Thanks to Lionel Richie and Wilburt Horne who BBQ'd and the assortment of delicious salads and decadent desserts provided by our members. It is always an enjoyable fun filled evening. Best wishes for a safe and healthy summer.

Jane













To help our members think and pray about the Year of Mercy, we chose to pray about the Corporal Works of Mercy and how we can honour these in our daily lives.

2016 started out with a Roots Potluck dinner evening. Members were encouraged to bring a dish that represented their ethnic background and many wonderful dishes were enjoyed by all. The roots theme continued with a call for all ladies to deepen the roots of their faith by Nancy Crowe, Lay Director of the Chatham-Kent Cursillo. Nancy encouraged all members to make a Cursillo weekend and join the movement to bring Christ back into our daily lives. This supported our Corporal Work of Mercy for the month, "Counsel the Doubtful". president, Pennie Vandenbroek, welcomed the new executive members and explained the duties involved in each position. Pennie thanked those members who were leaving the executive for the past years of service. Elizabeth Dorner, in her new position as past president thanked all those who supported her during her two years as president.

February had the Council membership working on "Clothe the Naked" as the ladies brought in underwear for the girls in Africa. These were donated to Canadian Food For Children for distribution. We had a wonderful presentation by two ladies, Ali Chinnick and Pat Forester, who go around to the schools and teach the truth of the Gospel in a

unique and engaging way. The ladies brought several young people to demonstrate with and the members enjoyed watching the children learn the Word of God. It was truly inspiring to watch.



Joyce Martin Bruce and some ladies from the Chatham-Kent Quilter's Guild, came in March to give a wonderful talk on the Barn Quilt Trail Project. All the members were encouraged to bring their favorite quilt to display and everyone enjoyed seeing them. The members prayed about "Shelter the Homeless" during this month.

CWL Catch-up and Cookies!

April's meeting was all about catching up on all the CWL issues that we'd been so busy that we had gotten behind on. We called it Catch-up and Cookies. We watched a short clip called "Great Need, Great Hope" about the Canadian Missions which the CWL supports. Pennie, our President, discussed what a

comfort it is to families to have a CWL Honour Guard for our members when the time comes for us to return to our Lord. She reminded all of us on the importance of letting our families know our intentions about honouring the importance the CWL is in our lives. And with that we prayed about "Burying the Dead". While catching up, we sampled some cookies that our members had brought in. Everyone brought in their favorite cookie. All extra cookies were donated to the Church for the Confirmation reception and we prayed about "Feed the Hungry".



The May Crowning was a beautiful way to celebrate our patroness, Mary, Mother of Good Counsel. The parish was invited for a beautiful Celebration. Members were invited to bring their favorite picture or statues of the Blessed Virgin. It was wonderful to see such beautiful works of art that had special memories attached to them.

The jump into summer, Beach Party Potluck brought everyone together to celebrate mass and

(Continued on page 41)

Council News— Chatham Kent Region— Holy Family, Wallaceburg, President— Judy Roy

Shortly into the new year, our council hosted a coffee Sunday after Mass to say farewell to our choir who decided to retire after many years. Their beautiful music will be sorely missed. We also hosted a President's meeting with Fr. Chris Gillespie in Holy Family annex, to review all of the upcoming events for the year with all of our clustered councils. Our members handed out Pornography Hurts Campaign postcards to parishioners after Masses. January ended on a good note. Our council presented a cheque to Fr. Chris in the amount of \$8,000. for our Holy Family Roof Fund. To date, we have donated over \$31,000.00.

In February, a delicious spaghetti dinner was cooked and served by our members at the Knights of Columbus Hall. On one of the Fridays during Lent, our council prayed the Stations of the Cross after Mass

In March, Holy Family C.W.L. hosted the Community World Day of Prayer honouring the women of Cuba. As well, we sold tickets after all of our Masses for two weeks on a complete Easter Dinner Basket. At Easter Vigil Mass, our R.I.C.A. candidates were welcomed into the church. A reception, hosted by our clustered C.W.L. councils, was held after Mass to congratulate them. Holy Family C.W.L. also hosted a farewell coffee Sunday for our parish caretaker, who always looked after the needs of our council. We also presented him with a monetary gift.

The Right to Life Banquet, held in Tilbury, was attended by ten of our members. While there, we presented a donation from our council. Two of our members attended the Diocesan Convention in Sarnia. On April 24th, Our Lady of Good Counsel was honoured at one of our Sunday Masses. Approximately fifty ladies took part in the procession and liturgical roles. Each year, during this Mass, we also present pins to our members. It is always good for our parishioners to see that we honour different members of our council. Later that day, newly ordained priest, Fr. David Johnston celebrated his first Mass in his home parish of Sacred Heart, followed by a reception where we presented a gift on this wonderful occasion.

During the month of May, we hosted a Right to Life baby shower in our church. Many beautiful and needed items were donated by our parishioners. Every spring and fall, we host a seniors/shut-ins Mass at Holy Family Church. We bring them to Church, where Mass begins with the crowning of Mary by one of our seniors. We assist in the ministries, and serve a luncheon for them afterwards in our hall. A successful bake sale and religious goods sale also took place in May to help offset expenses.

We continue to look after our students, honouring them with gifts when they receive their sacraments. A reception was hosted by our 3 clustered councils

for those receiving their confirmation. In May, we spoke on the podium at our Masses about the upcoming Doctor Assisted Death legislation. After Masses, our members handed out hundreds of letters to our parishioners to send to our MP's, Minister of Health & the Prime Minister, to let them know how we feel on the subject.

Our June meeting took place in one of our local restaurants which was a nice change from our regular venue. Our associate pastor, Fr. Raju Allumpurath, will be leaving us for a new appointment as pastor of the clustered parishes of St. James, Seaforth and St. Patrick's, Dublin. We co-hosted a farewell for him on Sunday, June 26th. We will be welcoming Fr. Gerard Bedard as our new associate pastor as well as Mr. Steven Echert, a third year seminarian, who will be spending a year with us.

During the summer, we canvass our local merchants for prizes and sell raffle tickets for our annual penny sale in October. We continue to save stamps, soup labels, eye glasses, soap, candles yarn and milk bags for third world countries. We support a young man in Ghana as well as a family in India.

So far, we have had a busy year. We thank God for the continued support of our pastor and parish in all that we do. May our Lady of Good Counsel continue to bless us.

Judy

Council News—Chatham Kent Region—St. Francis Xavier, Tilbury President—Theresa Gadal

On Sunday May 8th, before the 10 am Mass, St. Francis Xavier Council, Tilbury, Ontario celebrated Mother's Day with the Crowning of Mary. Her joyous mysteries were celebrated as carnations were brought forward by League members.

Shown are Lucy Tremblay and President Theresa Gadal. Past President Lucille Duquette,



currently Chatham-Kent Regional Chairperson, had the honour of crowning Mary as the congregation sang Immaculate Mary.



Theresa

Council News— Chatham Kent Region—Blessed Sacrament, Chatham Submitted by: Communications Chair—Lorelei Arnold (contid...)

(Continued from page 39)

then to head downstairs for a yummy dinner in June. We welcomed our new members with their pin ceremonies and honoured those celebrating Anniversaries with the

CWL. We took a moment to honour Sandra VanRaay, a long time member who was presented with an award from the CWL for all her work with the Canadian Food For Children. Sandra is a very active member of our parish cluster, volunteering as a Reader, Extraordinary Minister of the Holy Eucharist and so many other groups in the

parish. Sandra has a special love of our Mother and the Rosary that she shares with others. She has a beautiful faith that shines through in everything she does. Following the meeting, some of the executive visited those who could not attend due to illness and other reasons. It was a perfect way to fulfill the "Visit the sick" and "Visit the Imprisoned".

Before heading off on a well deserved summer break, the CWL ladies joined forces with the St. Agnes CWL and the Knights of Columbus from both parishes to have a splendid summer picnic.

There were games for the children, lots of great food and fellowship enough for all. It was a wonder way to bring the cluster together. On a warm day, it was definitely a time to pray about "Give drink to the thirsty".

It was a wonderful second part to the year with lots of Faith, Fun and Family of CWL sisters.

Lorelei

Council News—Huron Perth Region—Immaculate Heart of Mary, Grand Bend—Past-President—Joanne Vandenberk

The 94 members from our Council in Grand Bend are taking a summer break from monthly meetings, but if there's a funeral lunch to prepare, or a "Ladies' Day Out" at the Huron Country Playhouse, an ill parishioner to visit, CWL raffle tickets to sell, letters opposing physician—assisted suicide to be written, a Coffee Social after Mass or a CWL Executive Meeting, we're there! As Sisters in the League, our commitment to our Council, our parish and community carry on throughout the year.

In keeping with the "Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy", proceeds from our annual Parish Breakfast in April were sent to local palliative care facilities. We held our annual Mass for Deceased CWL Members and prayed

the Rosary in May; we celebrated Masses for Our Lady of Good Counsel, for Pastor Fr. Tony Laforet's 5th Anniversary of Ordination and for the Feast Day of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Another sold-out Ham & Strawberry Social in June was enjoyed by seniors from our local community. Many of our CWL members attended all or part of the London Diocesan Convention Sarnia; 18 of us helped put the "fun" in the Huron-Perth Fun Night (sponsored by the enthusiastic ladies from Goderich); some members walked through the "Holy Doors" at the Basilica in London and at the Merlin Shrine, and 4 of us experienced, faith, fun, fulfillment and friendship at the Ontario CWL Convention Provincial Stratford!

A Mass and Banquet on Friday, October 28th will mark the 60th Anniversary of the formation of our CWL Council. We are fortunate that three of our current members - Angie Backx, Riek Willert and Toni Vandenberk - were present in 1956 when we received our Charter. For 60 years, they've each maintained their CWL membership! We thank them for their contributions and dedication to the League!

As summer stretches into fall, we look forward to meeting our CWL sisters from across our Region and Diocese at the upcoming Fall Regional Days and at the London Diocesan Convention in Stratford in April 2017! May "Our Lady of Good Counsel" continue to bless us as we work together, for God and Canada!

Council News—Huron Perth Region—Precious Blood, Exeter—President—Barbara Truchon

Well I just came back from the Provincial Convention, and as conventions go this one had to be the most spiritual and enlightening one yet. The speakers and all the reports were excellent and the masses and prayer services, uplifting. Hats off to the organizers.

Our council is busy preparing for our main fundraiser on October 1st, 2016—'Autumn Showcase, Tea and Silent Auction'. Hope all goes well again this year. As well in October

we work with the Knights of Columbus and our sisters in Mount Carmel Council to put on a Ham & Sausage Supper. Proceeds from last years supper went to placing defibrillators in both parishes. Haven't had to use ours yet, praise God.

At our October meeting we are again having a speaker on Palliative Care and hope at this time to give a donation to the future hospice, Jessica's House.

In November we are hosting the monthly free community meal for all in this area. So we will be busy.

This year is election year for our council, so we are asking for prayers for ours and all councils having elections that we will have willing hearts step forward and take a place on council.

Barbara

Council News— Huron Perth Region— Sacred Heart, Wingham— President— Marilyn Vanheesch

One of our projects this year is to technically update our presence in the community. To this end we have set up a Face book page on which we can post events etc. We hope this will reach more of the parishioners, make them aware of the charities we support and the work we do in the community. We hope to recruit younger members to our league.

In May we held our annual tea party. This is open to all members but especially the senior members of the league are welcome.

In June Fr. Morrison presented years of service pins to our members during Sunday Mass.

Our final meeting of the spring was a dessert social. It was an excellent time to just relax and enjoy each other's company.

We have a partnership with Sacred Heart elementary school, helping out and supporting education in various ways. Pins were presented at the Confirmation and First Communion Masses. Members of the league attended the Grade 8 graduation in June and presented a crucifix to the recipient of the Christian Values award. This award is presented annually by our CWL to the female student best exhibiting Christian values during the school year. We also provide financial support and several of our members volunteer for the Rosary Ministry at the school.

We continue to play a role in serving in our community. Many of our members volunteer for the cancer clinic at our local hospital. Every second Wednesday we play cards at the retirement/nursing home. Many of our members sit on the local committee hosting a family of Syrian refugees. We have provided financial and spiritual support to this group.

In this Year of Divine Mercy we continue to circulate the Vocation Crucifix and support local charities such as the food drive.

Our monthly Masses for all living and deceased members are attended by many members.

We continue to support our church financially by contributing to our building fund. As well, many of our members are readers, Ministers of the Eucharist and greeters at our Sunday Masses. This fall we are providing new gowns for the altar servers.

As the fall season begins we continue to encourage both new and old members to become more involved in the league in our parish.

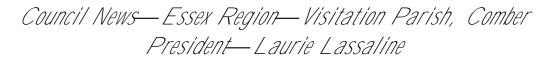
With our annual fall bazaar fast approaching there will be plenty of opportunity for all to be busy.

God Bless the Catholic Women's League

Submitted by: Barbara Vondergonna







Highlights of January-June 2016:

January

- Revised Council's Policy & Procedures handbook
- 2016 Budget discussed and approved
- 2016 Meeting & events calendar created
- hosted Essex Region President's meeting

February

- at the General meeting we had the re-affirmation of the Executive Council
- Easter Spiritual Bouquets cards were designed and printed for those in our Council who are Shut-Ins and pastoral staff
- participated in Lenten Card Party in our parish
- CWL Vocation Cross now has been made available to all parishioners

March

- hosted World Day of Prayer and served a light lunch
- participated in 40 days for life in Windsor
- Prepared lunch for a regional RTL meeting
- collected items for Crowning of Mary for Diocesan convention
- began March general meeting with Stations of the Cross
- hosted an RCIA reception after Easter vigil for 2 candidates
- teamed up with the K of C to provide CPR for the newly purchased Defibrillator

<u>April</u>

- Confirmation reception held for 37 candidates for local French schools
- 7 ladies attended the Diocesan Convention
- at the general meeting we had guest speaker, Lucille Langlois from National Alliance of Mental Health
- the Correspondence Secretary sent cards to CWL councils less than 15 members & Congratulations to a 100 yrs member & re-instated council
- Bereavement prayer angels called and prayers/honour quard were done for 1 member
- Maple Leaf Service pin awards Council criteria established based on CWL national criteria
- asked the ladies to make desserts for an upcoming Church Fundraiser

<u>May</u>

- hosted Holy Communion receptions for French & English students
- hosted Wedding anniversary mass reception for approx. 500 guests
- we held a Baby bottle campaign for Our Lady of Guadalupe Home for Mother's—\$3,000 raised
- worked with pastoral minister, the CWL did an honour guard, prepared & served food to local elementary schools for Marian Mass for local elementary schools
- At the general meeting we promoted Spring/rebirth with a "Sharing Garden" and

- encouraged CWL members to bring plants from their garden to "swap" with other members
- Visits planned to shut ins at Chez Nous Lodge for summer months with cake, ice cream and Sing-a-long

<u>June</u>

- June 4th we celebrated the Council's 10th anniversary with a mass and dinner
- at the general meeting we awarded 3 bursaries to secondary students
- awarded 6 Christian Spirit awards to local elementary students
- at the general meeting we had an ice cream/cake social & held a "brown bag" auction
- Bazaar planning has begun mark your calendars for Saturday, September 24th, 2016—hope to see you there!

Laurie



Council News—Essex Region—Holy Name of Jesus, Essex, President—Janice Rounding

We started off the new year with a new president, Joanne White and president-elect Pat Kozak.

We gathered toiletries and personal items during the month of March, for the Women's Welcome Centre.

We hosted a meet and greet with refreshments, for the 6 RCIA candidates at the Easter Vigil.

We will be hosting a fashion show for our new St Vincent de Paul Society store. They will provide the models wearing the clothing they are selling in the store.

Our President-Elect helped serve at the Optimist Club Annual Youth Appreciation Dinner.

We held a Living Rosary in the sanctuary at the beginning of our May meeting, in honour of Mary.

We raffled 3 beautiful pots of flowers for Mothers' Day, and large cooler bag on wheels (and Beer Store gift card to fill it) for Fathers' Day.

I attended another wonderful convention in Sarnia in April.

We passed out postcards at all Masses to be signed and mailed to our government leaders for Palliative Care/Assisted Suicide/ Euthanasia.

Quite a few of our members helped out and attended the sold out Women's Conference in May. We held a reception for our Confirmation students.

One of our members and her husband (along with a few wonderful helpers) served around 75 members at our annual spring banquet, where members received their pins. Julie McEwen received a Maple Leaf pin for her many years of selfless help in the league, church and office.

I, along with 2 first-time attendees had a wonderful, uplifting day at CWL Day at the Shrine in Merlin. Fr. Greg Bonin, our new Diocesan Spiritual Advisor, was assistant pastor at our parish upon his ordination 26 years ago. We walked with him through the Holy Door in this year of Mercy. We filled the church, making this the most attended shrine day.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel bless you and your families in the remainder of 2016.

Janice

One day, when my children are grown, I hope they still come through that front door without knocking. I hope they head to the kitchen for a snack and rifle through the mail looking for a magazine they always read. I hope they come in and feel the weight of adulthood leave them, for they are home. For my children, my door will forever be open. Above all else, I hope they know this without me telling them. Love speaks clearly enough.

Questions from the London Diocesan Convention April 2016

1) Can membership chairs give the up-to-date membership lists to different chairs for contact information ie Spiritual and Communication for funerals or call lists?

Yes, they can with the understanding that these names and numbers are not to be given out to outside sources and only used for the intentions as indicated i.e. CWL parish business. If not sure, it is always good to ask the members first.

2) Is National CWL doing anything to address the problems of Parish Councils whose numbers are dwindling, and who would like to join with other councils in their cluster parish, while keeping their original charters? Will we have to change our name? Pat Sloan, President, Our Lady of Mercy, Sarnia

I am not aware of anything that is being done by National. We have experienced Councils coming together in a couple of clusters and working together on certain projects for the good of the parish and the league. We have also heard from Fr. Baillargeon at the convention, how this will probably be the mode of operation for the future. At this time, you do not have to change your name, however, at a later date when people do not want to take on leadership roles the councils may want to make the decision to amalgamate with their sister council, in which case you should refer to the procedures in the National Manual of Policy and Procedures for direction. Section 4: Pages 42 thru 44. Be sure to contact your Regional Chairperson and Diocesan President for assistance.

3) For Interfaith Women – Over the last few years only Anglican and United Women have presented greetings. How many other Christian Churches of Women have been invited? (i.e. Lutheran, Presbyterian Mission, etc)

It is up to the hosting council to invite the women of the local Faith to bring greetings. Sometimes they are unavailable and sometimes they differ to their higher level, such as the Diocesan level to bring greetings. This is not always feasible because of the distance they have to travel.

4) Please I would like some information about the lovely picture of our Mother and our Lord in support of Divine Anchor (Right-to-life) as displayed in the display room. Please answer in convention as a whole or give contact to Janet Albert, Stratford, Huron-Perth Deanery.

An explanation was provided in the last League Lingo in the Spring Issue page 5. It was also mentioned by Rebecca McCarrell at the Resolution Dialogue when the picture was on stage

Mary Ann Horne White says that Sr. Miriam Cosgrove, order of St. Benedict lives in Holy Name Monastery in Florida. Sr. Miriam said "Right- to- Life" touched her heart and mind and led her to draw the picture "A child is Born – Divine Anchor of Life"

Council News—Ingersoll Region—Holy Trinity, Woodstock, President, Geraldine Beauchamp

Activities completed, planned and upcoming for 2016

January: Launched "Pornography Hurts" campaign at all 3 masses with additional interest and involvement of our Polish Church, Holy Cross parishioners. We presented over 500 card responses to Oxford County Member of Parliament, Dave MacKenzie.

February: Guest speakers from Woodstock's Operation Sharing

March: Presented video clips from the DVD, "Romero" and discussed his fight for Social Justice

 Launched Mother's Day fundraising project involving the members of our Parish's Wednesday afternoon Social Club

April: Guest speaker from Smith-Leroy Funeral Home speaking about grief counselling

- April 26th— Feast Day of Our Lady of Good Counsel and our "Day of Action" – completion of our Mother's Day fundraiser, (chocolate flower bouquets) to be sold at all masses the weekend of April 30/May 1. Proceeds going to palliative care facility, Sakura House
- April 8th, attendance at, and support for the annual "Right to Life" dinner. Guest speaker to be Michelle Korvemaker on "Palliative Care"

May: Parish-wide "Baby Shower" involving the CWL and Beginnings Pregnancy Center, "Baby Bottle" campaign. All gifts and money

shared between Beginnings and Oxford Children's Aid Society

June: Pre-summer "Pot Luck" supper with an International theme and tributes to our 95th CWL Anniversary. We promoted the pledge card campaign in support of palliative care.

 June 18th—CWL Closet/ Vendor/Barbeque/Car Wash involving our Knights of Columbus and Senior Youth Group

July: Pilgrimage to our Lady of the Rosary Shrine in Merlin ON

August: Launch of our "Back packs for Kids" collection through Operation Sharing

September: Launch of the, "Teen Mental Health/Suicide Awareness" postcard campaign.

As we award crucifixes, as well as name plagues to Grade 8 graduates from our Catholic elementary schools for a winning essay on topics such as "What Catholic Education Means to Me", we have the winners of the essay contest come present their essay to our council at the first General Meeting in September. We are also asking our High school graduates who are applying for our \$200 bursaries to submit a short resume on how they evidence their Catholicity in our Parish life.

October: Our sponsored student for the Christian Catholic Leadership Camp, (CCLC) will speak of her experiences, as will our sponsored student in the NET programme.

Hosting of the Diocesan
 "Catch the Fire" workshop

November 12th—is our CWL Starlight Bazaar

December: Christmas Potluck complete with entertainment and the presentation of our Special Awards and Years of Membership pins

Additional Holy Trinity CWL Activities and Community Commitment:

We have 3 fundraising teams captained by, and composed primarily of CWL members who support the Right to Life campaign, the Canadian Cancer Society and Palliative Care facility, (Sakura House). These teams are, Right to Life Walkathon, The Holy Trinity Flames – Relay or Life and The Holy Trinity Trailblazers – Hike for Hospice in support of Sakura House, a palliative care facility in Woodstock.

Members of our CWL council take communion to "shut ins" and those in hospital on a weekly basis. We honour those members 80+ on milestone birthdays with a visit and cards and a flower bouquet.

We also support a family in India through the 'Save a Family' programme.

(Continued on page 48)



Council News—Ingersoll Region—Holy Trinity, Woodstock, President, Geraldine Beauchamp (contd.)

(Continued from page 47)

We provide funds for leadership training through the CCLC (Christian Catholic Leadership Camp) to young members from our Parish.

Three members of our CWL Executive Council are currently sitting on our Parish Refugee committee. Our CWL has pledged \$500 towards the fund money needed to bring our Refugee family to Woodstock

Geraldine



Council News—Windsor Region—St. John Vianney, Windsor, Submitted by, Jan Conlon

March 2016

Every lent our parish has different organizations "host" the Friday Stations of the Cross. Our council led the stations with "Mary's Way of the Cross". It is very moving being presented from the perspective of Christ's mother.

April 2016

Four members of our council attended the Annual Convention.



We learned a great deal and had a lot of fun.

May 2016

Our May meeting, we held our annual Baby Shower for Birth Right. Victoria Eid, Treasurer and Volunteer Counselor spoke to us about the history of Birthright and how their funds are allocated through out the organization.

We purchased Year of Mercy pamphlets and distributed them to our parish members.

In keeping with the Year of Mercy, members of our council arranged and participated a tour of the Windsor Hospice.

Our Council celebrated our tenth anniversary May 15! We celebrated by members participating in the 11 AM mass followed by an afternoon tea.

June 2016

We held our semi annual bake sale and raffle. We were very gratified

to have our World Youth Day pilgrims help us out with baked goods and manning the tables.

Our June meeting was our pizza dinner social. We enjoyed good food and played some games. We had numerous presentations; our Bursary went to a young man going into a catholic high school in September; ten 10 yr pins, two 20 yr pins, one 45 yr pin, two 65 yr pins; and two Certificates of Merit.

We also officially kicked off the ticket sales of our Fall Fashion Event taking place this September.

July 2016

Our council, with the Knights of Columbus, hosted a tailgate party after two masses to raise awareness of our organizations. We had hot dogs, pop, and rice crispy squares.

Jan



Council News—Windsor Region—St. John Vianney, Windsor President—Anne Marie Kozak

OVERVIEW OF OUR 10 YEAR CWL HISTORY

In 1975, the original St John Vianney Catholic Women's League Council was formed. In 1979, it dissolved.

In 2006, (nearly 28 years later), then parish priest Fr. Thom Blondin, invited CWL diocesan executives and the Windsor regional chairperson, to present information about the Catholic Women's League to some interested parishioners.

Afterwards, St John Vianney Parish CWL was reactivated in January 2007 with Barb Dobson as president. 23 members attended the 1st official meeting.

Through a generous donation, 3 of the new executive attended a diocesan convention, where the newly reactivated group was warmly welcomed, gained knowledge, and recognized the wider role of the Catholic Women's League.

One of the members became a benefactress, and the council was

able to purchase manuals, handbooks, attend additional conventions, etcetera. All of this contributed to the growth, understanding and spiritual development of the new council. This same member donated our lovely statue of our Blessed Mother Mary.

The foundation of our present council began to take shape with fundraising activities, dinner/socials, honour guards, the formation of the book of life, and so on.

2008 was a busy year with many firsts: hosting world day of prayer, establishing our CWL newsletter, hosting the closing ceremonies Mass for the diocesan convention and organizing an Advent wreath workshop.

We continued to develop with Masses offered for the intentions of all CWL members, current and deceased, inviting various speakers to share with us, our annual baby shower, grade 8 bursary, fashion show fundraiser, etcetera.

Our 5th Anniversary was celebrated with an afternoon tea and participation in the 5 pm Mass

We continue to grow and develop in service and faith through donations to many charities, assisting our youth, supporting our parish through participation in the stations of the cross, attending retreats, and so on. It would take a long while for me to mention all that we have accomplished over these past 10 years.

None of this would be possible however, without our dedicated members, both past and current, our connection with all levels of the Catholic Women's League, the support of our parish, and, in particular, the recognition that God's grace and Mary's intercession permeate all that we are.

Our Lady of Good Counselpray for us.

Marie







Service Pin Awards for 2016 Congratulations to our faithful & dedicated members



Visitation, Comber Essex Region

Maple Leaf Service Pin Laurie Lassaline Louise Teves

40 Year Pin Monique Marentette

10 Year Pin Monique Lemire Annette Kensit Juliette Rivest

St. Simon & St. Jude, Belle River Essex Region

60 Year Pin Isabelle Lanoue

40 Year Pin Micheline Li Wan Po Pam Young

25 Year Pin Marcella Barrette Germaine Drouillard Monica Gilhuly Rita Girard Lois Janisse Addie Laliberte Shirley Randall Edna St. Pierre

10 Year Pin Christine Luhowy-Fodor

New Members Joan Desmarais Susie Diamante Laurie Eberhardt Dolores Gagnier Patricia Lanoue Nicole LaPorte Michelle Reaume Virginia Scoggins Yvonne Vickerd

Re-instated Beth Villeneuve

St. Michael, Bright's Grove, Sarnia Lambton Region

35 Year Pin Theresa Foubister Gisele De Sena

25 Year Pin Sandra Molyneaux Theresa Sanders Mary Van Delft

20 Year Pin Rosanna Doidge Debbie Hoek Sarah Meza Mary Pizans

10 Year Pin Deanna Mele Anne Donkers Emilia Jose Linda Kensley Collette Korosec Joanne Minnis Marie Schell

Our Lady of Mercy, Sarnia Sarnia Lambton Region

70 Year Pin Jean Miller

60 Year Pin Toni Therrien Elsie Corrigan Yvonne Desjarlais Marion Fullerton Aurette McGarrity 50 Year Pin Joan Naug Bernice MacDonald

25 Year Pin Sharon Lacroix

St. Michael, London London Region

50 Year Pin Alice Storey

35 Year Pin Margaret Prosser

10 Year Pin Mary Anne Flanagan Irene Grasley Caralyn Javornik-Clarke Barbara Masse Marlene Muckle Judy Sandford Janice Vella Cathie Gauthier

Mary Immaculate, London London Region

60 Year Pin Noreen Hurley Eileen Pietraszko

50 Year Pin Josie Kersten Helen Brulotte Laura Meyer



Mary Immaculate,

(Continued on page 51)



Service Pin Awards for 2016 Congratulations to our faithful & dedicated members



(Continued from page 50)

London

London Region (cont'd...)

30 Year Pin Catherine Hagerty-Mwange Rose McCabe

25 Year Pin Denise Kostaluk Feye Patterson

20 Year Pin Mary Breen Josie O'Rourke

10 Year Pin Marcella Bigelow Isabella Duff Hugette Gillis

Holy Family, Wallaceburg Chatham Kent Region

72 Years Mary McGrail—100 yrs old on January 26 2016 60 Year Pin Mary Ellen Crow

40 Year Pin Charline VandeVelde

25 Year Pin Magda Apers Lorraine Dreveny Theresa Mathany

10 Year Pin Valerie Delrue Bracken Brenda Konecny Jen Sterling Mary Lee Rabideau Christi Zruna

New Members
Darlene Lauzon
Dawn Ann Moynihan
Lori Ouellette
Ann Pharazyn
Esther Amelia Karen Denijs

St. John Vianney, Windsor Windsor Region

65 year pin Mary Bouchat Vicky Dawson

45 year pin Una Miller

20 year pin Nellie Leene Rachelle Leslie

10 year pin
Suzanne Drouillard
Shirley Flood-Marenick
Pauline Gagnier
Elaine Garant
Aggie Halford
Yvette Henkel
Pauline Langlois
Pauline Morand
Josette Reaume
Lynne Tibor.



I've learned

That being kind is more important than being right

I've learned

That you should never say no to a gift from a child

I've learned

That I can always pray for someone when I don't have the strength to help him in any other way

LONDON DIOCESAN COUNCIL

THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA

LIFE MEMBERS AND PAST PRESIDENTS SOCIAL JUSTICE AWARD

In the past few years, some of our Life Members have passed away. Following the untimely death of Life Member, Helene Regier, the Diocesan Executive felt we should have some way to recognize the work done by our Life Members and Diocesan Past Presidents. As many of these ladies were involved in or had great concern for social justice issues, it was felt that the most appropriate way we could recognize them would be through the establishment of a Social Justice Award.

The London Diocesan Council of the Catholic Women's League of Canada has established a Social Justice Award to be awarded annually. The award is intended to recognize men or women engaged in social justice work. A person will be eligible to receive the award upon a nomination form being submitted.

Award Criteria:

- 1. Demonstrated involvement in social justice activities
- 2. Nomination by a CWL Council, a pastor or campus minister or equivalent
- 3. The award must be used to finance participation in a reputable social justice activity, either at home or abroad, e.g. Development and Peace, work in inner city or northern experiences
- 4. Priority will be given to someone who identifies with Catholic ideals
- 5. The committee may decide to give the yearly amount to one candidate or divide it among several nominees
- 6. Successful nominees will be asked to share their experience with League members
- 7. Decision of the committee is final

With this award –

- We hope to raise awareness of social justice
- To build solidarity and community to those in need
- To hold as our highest priority, the teachings of the gospels through our concern for the common good and dignity of all human persons
- To bring to light issues around the world and call the world to action on behalf of those who lack this basic human right.

The application form is at the back with the other forms

THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA

Life Members and Past Presidents Social Justice Award

Nomination Form

Completed nomination forms are due any time before January 15, 2017

Name of Nominati	ing Person o	or Counci	il:				
Address:							
Phone:							
Email:							
CWL member:	Yes	No	Parish CWL (Council:			
Please attach the f 1. Name, addres 2. Reason for no 3. Demonstrated 4. Recommenda 5. Description o your involven	ss, phone nu ominating the l involveme tion of a pa f the social	imber of individual in the individual in soci stor, caming its store according to the individual in the individual individual in the individual in	person being nor lual. al justice progra pus minister, or	mmes. Please equivalent with	th regard to t	the activity.	se and
Recipients of the a activity.	ward will b	e invited	to the Diocesan	Convention to	speak about	their social j	ustice
Mail completed fo London, Ontario		esan Presi	ident, Angela Pel	llerin, 67-555 l	Lawson Road	l ,	
For further inform	nation conta	act Angel	a Pellerin at 519	-471-3837 or e	mail angelap	ellerin@gmai	il.com
Revised Septembe	r 2016						

FORM FOR REPORTING DECEASED MEMBERS

PLEASE PRINT INFORMATION CLEARLY AND CORRECTLY AS RECORDED ON THE PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP LIST

Name of deceased	(as shown on membership list)
	(as shown on membership list)
Spouse's name (If applicable))
Full address	(as shown on membership list)
	(as shown on membership list)
Date deceased	
CWL Parish Council	
Diocese	
Parish councils are asked to member's League magazine	o forward a copy of this completed form to National office to ensure that the deceased e is discontinued.
Provincial chairpersons of S deceased members, for the o National Book of Life.	Spiritual Development are reminded to submit a complete list of their province's current year, to National Office by January 15 th of each year for inclusion in the
Date	Signature of council president and/or chairperson of
	spiritual development
MAIL OR FAX TO:	The Catholic Women's League of Canada
	C – 702 Scotland Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3M 1X5
	Toll free fax: 1-888-831-9507

Revised 2012

Dear Parish Council Recording Secretary

Please complete the following information and forward to the Diocesan Recording Secretary by **December 31, 2016 This information is for the 2016 executive.**

Please Print						
Parish Council Na	ame					
Parish Address_		City				
Is this an electior	n year for your council?	YES	NO			
President						
Address		City				
Postal Code	Telephone #					
E-Mail Address_						
Spiritual Advisor						
Postal Code	Telephone#					
E-Mail Address _						
Treasurer						
Address		City				
Postal Code	Telephone#					
E-Mail Address_						
Recording Secre	tary					
	City					
Postal Code	Telephone#					
E-Mail Address_						
Please mail To:	Elisabeth Duggan, Red Catholic Women's Lea 6 Fennell Cresc. London, ON. N6E 2E3	_				

Please mail this form to me. If you have a rural address please include the 911 Emergency number located outside your home and your Road or Line Number. Thank you in advance for your attention to this.