

# League Lingo

LONDON DIOCESAN NEWSLETTER

2017 Spring Issue

Deadline for Next Issue  
September 1st, 2017

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London Diocesan Annual Convention  
Stratford—April, 24, 25, 26, 2017



**Called**  
**Wanted**  
**Loved**



## *President's Report—Angela Pellerin*

Since my last article in the Lingo I have had the honour of representing you at 2 provincial executive meetings. These are a good learning experience. The first time my roommate was Colleen Martin, Provincial Spiritual Development Chairperson and more recently my roomie was Joanna Sisk, Ottawa Diocesan President. It was nice having an opportunity to get to know these ladies and to share ideas with them. On the Friday evening much discussion took place regarding the new format of annual reporting. Anne Madden, Provincial Organization Chairperson immediately sent questions/concerns to national office and received a reply by the next morning! Be assured that national is listening to our suggestions/concerns and have said there will be changes for the next time.

At the February provincial meeting Bishop Colli sent a video

presentation as he could not attend. He did a reflection on the new theme using the gifts of the Holy Spirit - love, joy, patience, kindness, gentleness and peace. As part of the theme for the next 2 years is "Inspired by the Spirit..." we should all be reflecting on these gifts and endeavour to practice them in our lives.

We were told that 6 seminarians are being rewarded with the Bishop Pappin Bursary. However, in order to continue presenting this bursary, it is necessary for councils to contribute towards it. When setting the budget for your council, please consider making a donation to the worthy bursary.

This year is an election year for the provincial council. We will be receiving the names of those letting their names stand for election shortly and will forward to you as soon as possible in order for you to vote. Members of the diocesan

executive, including your regional chairperson will be happy to assist you in making your choice.

I trust you have marked your calendar with the date of our diocesan convention. It will be an opportunity to meet Margaret Ann Jacobs, National President and Anne Madden, Provincial Organization Chairperson (and shortly to be provincial president). Don't forget to wear your dancing shoes for an evening with "Elvis"! I will look forward to seeing you in Stratford.

*God bless.*

*Angela*



### *ENGLISH IS HARD*

*The bandage wound around the wound*

*The farm was used to produce produce*

*The dump was so full that it had to refuse more refuse.*

*We must polish the Polish furniture*



## *Spiritual Advisor, Rev. Father Greg Bonin*

Dear CWL members,

This Year's Theme, "Inspired by the Spirit-Women respond to God's Call", we are invited by the Holy Spirit to be loving, joyful woman who work patiently for people, whose kindness and goodness touch the lives of all we encounter. You are the voice of Catholic woman united in faith, promoting Christian values in the home and in the world. May you continue to offer hospitality, friendship, sisterhood, support and affirmation that empowers woman to reach their full potential. Remember, we are all pilgrims finding our way home, a journey treacherous at times and among those who not always share your values. As women of faith I pray that you remain obedient and persistent in your own faith journey and never give up asking God to help you in your spiritual growth, your

leadership development and the many avenues you provide for service, advocacy and social justice.

On a personal note, I was very much touched on Saturday, March 4<sup>th</sup> to witness such high attendance at our Annual Lenten Retreat held at Corpus Christi Church in Windsor.

In order to support you in my opening remarks above, beware of the Devil who thrives on making our lives difficult, our leagues painful, and our friendship unbearable at times. We all learnt at this retreat that by virtue of our Baptismal Promises, we have the power and authority to cast Satan to the place where he belongs so that we can move forward into a future of hope and glory!

Let us always remember that CWL stands for Catholic Women's League. But also, we have learned that it can stand for Called, Wanted and Loved. That is what you are! Each of you are Called, Wanted and Loved by God to serve and represent our Holy Roman Catholic Church with dignity and generosity.

You are a blessing to our Diocese! Everything you touch you make better!

*Fr. Greg Bonin*





*President-Elect – Rebecca McCarrell*  
*Organization/Membership Standing Committee Chairperson*

Unbeknownst to most of you, you participated within my mantra by completing the Annual reports.

**Educate:** At the Fall Regional meetings and education workshops on the Annual Reports in various areas of the Diocese, the executive team provided councils with the how to complete the new reports. What a session and learning curve this was to everyone!

**Engage:** As the largest diocese in Canada, I am proud to report 82% of our councils completed the reports by the deadline imposed by the National office. Was it difficult? You bet! Were there glitches? Absolutely. Did we learn anything new? Everyday at all levels of The League.

**Empower:** The long form of the Annual Reports allowed councils insight into the workings of the League. Questions and comments within the survey has given  
 Standing Committee

Chairpersons and Council Executives a clearer picture of what their committee can do and how various committees can work together towards common goals. Especially in the resolution and legislation committees, the survey showed how influential The Catholic Women’s League is in our governments. Our voice does count; We do have influence; WE ARE THE VOICE OF THE VOICELESS. What a powerful way to embrace and recruit new members who are looking for a way to work for justice.

**Future of Annual Reports:** The survey this year was a catalyst in moving the “way” of reporting to a higher standard. It allowed each council to report what they really do. Glitches this year will result in changes next year. Timelines will be altered to better serve the local councils. The saving/printing of reports is being discussed. Consistency within reports will be streamlined.

**Learning Tool:** The 2016 Annual Report survey was an excellent learning tool for all levels of the League. What you gleaned from filing these reports can assist you in opening membership to those who want more than bake sales and fundraising. Social Justice issues are at our forefront and the methods of supporting and introducing ideas at the various levels of government can be found within the Resolutions and Legislation committee materials.

London Diocese has come through again as women of heart, working within the mission of the League and making their voices heard throughout the world!

Thank you.

*Rebecca*

*ANGELS EXPLAINED BY CHILDREN*

*Angels work for God and watch over kids  
 when God has to go do something else*

*Angels don’t eat, but they drink milk from Holy Cows*

*All Angels are girls because they gotta wear  
 dresses and boys didn’t go for it*



*Past President—Marie-Theresa Lamphier  
Historian, Nomination & Elections*

I just got back this past Tuesday from spending two beautiful weeks on vacation at the beautiful resort of Cayo Coco, Cuba! This was our first vacation in a very long time. It was good to be away from everything .... social media, cooking, washing and cleaning....and to spend time mostly sleeping, eating, drinking and being merry! Plenty of time to think, read and walk along the beach and the many different trails by the water. This was always a special time to pray for the sick and the many friends, C W L members and acquaintances that asked for prayers for their special intentions. God is Good!

Now reality sets in as we came back Tuesday evening to a very busy week. Wednesday is “Ash Wednesday”, mass and the receiving of the ashes. This was a very special time. While we were in Cuba we learned that no one lives on the resort. The closest town is approx. 2 hours away. My husband and I asked about any church services, chapel or Christian services that they might have and we were told that if we wanted to pray we had to go to our room and pray by ourselves! Funny how when the availability of the Eucharistic celebration is

not available you really miss it! It is important for us to realize that with the shortage of priests, that may soon be a reality for a lot of us, unless we want to travel long distances to attend the church of our choosing. Let us be grateful for the priests that we have, the churches that are standing and remember to pray, pray for vocations!

Thursday, I was committed to appointments, visiting the youngest grandchildren (they are such a blessing) and attending classes. Friday was another delightful day with the World Day of Prayer presented by the Women of the Philippines...Very informative video and meeting with other women of faith! I always enjoy attending these celebrations. Today I found out that I had totally forgotten to write my League Lingo article, so the pressure is on to put something together...so I am writing about what first comes to mind. Tomorrow, Saturday, I look forward to attending the CWL Lenten Retreat at Corpus Christi in Windsor. I know it will be a wonderful day with Fr. Greg Bonin...he always does such a wonderful job! The theme will be “Abide in me - Choose to Live Faithfully in an Era of Chaos”. I

look forward to seeing many of you there. Sunday will be the usual Celebration of the Eucharist, which I am so looking forward to!

With Lent upon us, we are always encouraged to Pray, Fast and Give Alms. I am sure you have seen many articles especially on Face Book of what we can fast from. Pope Francis has 10 things or suggestions that you might do.

May our Lady of Good Counsel guide you in what works best for you!

Wishing every one a Glorious and Happy Easter!

May the Lord bless you and keep you close to his heart!

*Marie-Theresa*



*1st Vice-President—Theresa Ryan  
Resolutions Standing Committee Chairperson*



I hope that everyone has heard of the importance of supporting our medical profession in protecting their conscience rights concerning providing medical aid in dying or having to refer for same. It is critical that you act before the end of March. **Please call, e-mail or write your M.P.P.** As always a personal message carries more weight than a petition. These are **your elected officials**, don't be afraid to advise them of how you feel. Your doctors are counting on you.

The Catholic Women's League has spoken out against a new programme, "Mary Kills People" broadcasted on Global. Not only does it support Euthanasia but it glamorizes just about every immoral thing in society. I could not believe all the wrong things this show portrayed.

Under the CRTC's guidelines, programmes are "not supposed to discriminate against any group, or portray hatred against any particular group. When people with disabilities are portrayed with the idea life with a disability is a fate worse than death, that perpetuates a negative view of people with disabilities and that's our principal concern." (Amy

Hasbrouck, director of *Toujours Vivant*, Not Dead Yet, a project of Council of Canadians with Disabilities.)

In a statement via email from a media spokesperson, Global TV defended the series as balanced. "As a national broadcaster, we want to assure you that it is not our intention to promote or oppose any topic but rather to include varied and relevant content in our line-up that represents and engages our diverse audience," Global TV said. "While this fictional series does feature assisted dying, it does not sensationalize this controversial topic or encourage any one point of view. *Mary Kills People* is mindful to include various perspectives on the issue of assisted death, including those who do not agree with its practice."

I suggest **that we complain to the advertisers of this terrible show** and tell them that we will boycott them unless they drop this show. Our shopping dollars hold a lot of sway!

I would also like to remind you of the **upcoming May 4th, 2017 12 Hours of Prayer for Hospice and Palliative Care**, and to urge you to do your part to ensure the

2017 campaign receives even more attention and support than 2016.

Let's make our MP's/MPP's aware of the **12 Hours of Prayer for Hospice and Palliative Care**, not only by letting them know of our concerns, but by inviting them to join with us on May 4th, offering their own prayer that all Canadians will have access to quality end-of-life care. More info on celebrating this day can be found here [www.cwl.ca/12-hours-of-prayer-for-palliative-care](http://www.cwl.ca/12-hours-of-prayer-for-palliative-care)

*Theresa*

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**Look for my sample letter to your MP/MPP on the next page —**

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*(Continued on page 7)*



*1st Vice-President—Theresa Ryan  
Resolutions Standing Committee Chairperson (cont'd...)*



*(Continued from page 6)*

Sample invitation for your MP/MPP

Date

Name and address of your MP

Dear \_\_\_\_

There is a pressing need for all Canadians to have greater accessibility to palliative care. This end-of-life care is true compassion. It allows individuals who are facing death to not be burdened by pain and suffering but to receive the support that respects their human dignity both physically and spiritually.

The Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association notes that "Support for hospice palliative care is almost unanimous, with the vast majority of Canadians (96%) being supportive, including 66% who are very supportive." However, they also note that, "Only 19% say it is available to those dying of life threatening illnesses" and that "one third of Canadians (34%) are not sure to whom hospice palliative care services are available".

Canadians both want and need compassionate, fully funded and readily available palliative care.

On May 4, 2017, The Catholic Women's League of Canada invites all people of faith to join in a nationwide **12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care**. This will coincide with National Hospice Palliative Care Week.

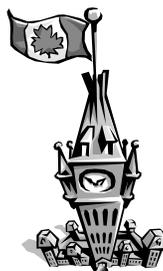
Because this is an issue that is extremely important to me, I will definitely be taking part in this initiative.

I am also adding my voice to the request "that hospice palliative care be specifically identified as a defined medical service covered under the Canada Health Act, so that provincial and territorial governments will be entitled to funds under the Canada Health Transfer system to be used to provide accessible and available hospice palliative care for all residents of Canada in their respective provinces and territories."

I invite you, as my elected government representative, to join me in prayer and solidarity on May 4th, and to use your influence to encourage the government to address this need in a prompt and positive manner.

I sincerely hope that I can count on your support, and look forward to hearing from you in this regard.

Thank you,



*2nd Vice-President—Mary Bannon  
Resolutions Standing Committee Chairperson*



Resolutions is most likely, I think, the committee that is the most rewarding since it brings about many changes in our society since so many CWL resolutions have become law. Examples are bicycle helmets for young people under 18, banning of tanning beds for those under 18, the white lines along the shoulders of our highways, religious postage stamps and so on. Resolutions is also, though, the committee which most parish councils find is the hardest.

First, we have trouble getting someone to chair the committee (I know because my own council has no Resolutions chair). I think we don't completely realize that the resolutions we work on bring about justice and righteousness. Righteousness is about building the kingdom of God. *"In the Chinese language the word for righteousness is a combination of two characters, the figure of a*

*lamb and a person. The lamb is on top, covering the person. Whenever God looks down at you, this is what he sees: the perfect Lamb of God covering you."* (Max Lucado) I know as Catholic women we have a desire to build the kingdom of righteousness, the kingdom of peace.

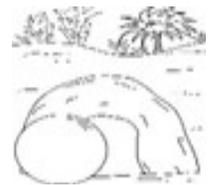
A second problem with this committee is the fear of all the work involved in composing a Resolution. We tend to see this work as a big stone or boulder, impossible for us to move! But *"The stone was moved—not for Jesus—but for the women; not so Jesus could come out, but so the women could see in!"* ((Max Lucado, He Still Moves Stones). I think that as soon as those women saw inside they were inspired by the Spirit who dispelled their fear and compelled them to go and announce the good news of what they had seen

to the other disciples and became agents of change. When we pray and begin the work, one step at a time, we move this boulder with God's help and we can be agents of change bringing the good news. One by one we make a difference.

Another conundrum is the inability to see our unique giftedness as children of God. We say things like, "We have no one with the qualities and abilities needed to write a resolution". We are God's chosen vessels, not always shiny and polished, sometimes tarnished and cracked but we forget that *"God doesn't call the qualified. He qualifies the called."* (Max Lucado)

Happy Easter

*Mary*



*I've learned ...  
That I wish I could have told my Mum  
that I love her one more time before she passed away*

*I've learned ...  
That when your newly born grandchild holds your  
little finger in his little fist, you're hooked for life*

*I've learned ...  
That the less time I have to work with, the more things I get done  
(Oh how true!!)*

*Recording Secretary  
Elisabeth Duggan*



I want to thank all the councils for their annual reports. It was a pleasure to read your responses to the new format of the annual report. Of our 96 councils we had 81 responses. I am sure it was not an easy task but you were successful in answering the call.

It was noted from the reports, that

there are councils that do not have the Handbook for Secretaries. Many council secretaries were not familiar with all their responsibilities. This manual is very useful and can be obtained through the National website.

“One of the cornerstones of good written communication is the clear,

concise expression of ideas or information. The recording secretary, through good written communication, is an important contributor to the history of her council.”

A quote from the Executive Handbook for Secretaries

*Elisabeth*



*SYMBOLS*

*Dove—Holy Spirit—advocate, counsellor, intercessor*

*Cloud & Light—living, saving God of Glory*

*Fire—transforming energy of Pentecost*

*Disciples—CWL members, responding joyfully to God's call in word and action*

*Cross, Anchor & Heart—*

*Faith—lived, professed, witnessed and spread*

*Hope—strength to sustain and preserve us*

*Love—the first and greatest of all virtues*



## Treasurer—Mary Lappan

*“Rend your hearts, not your garments” – (Joel 2:13)*

Another Lenten season is upon us. It seems like yesterday we were celebrating the birth of Jesus and now we are looking forward to His Resurrection. During this most holy of Liturgical seasons we are asked to change our hearts. This Lenten season Development and Peace is focusing on women—“Women at the Heart of Change”. What a perfect opportunity for the Catholic Women's League, especially since almost all of our councils donate to Development and Peace. If your parish does not donate perhaps now is the time to start a 1% campaign or another

type of fundraiser to support this worthy cause. Follow the activities in the solidarity calendar and try to change the world through other women.

Our Lenten Retreat was very uplifting. Father Greg Bonin, our Diocesan Spiritual Advisor, did a wonderful job encouraging us to “choose to live faithfully in an era of chaos”.

Don't forget our Diocesan convention in Stratford from April 24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>. Since it's not an election year, the banquet is on Tuesday night. Stratford members are always gracious hosts so I'm sure everyone will have a great

time.

Thank you to all the treasurers that took the time to redo their reports and send them to me. I'm sure it was annoying but it certainly made my job easier and was greatly appreciated. Once again, please use the remittance forms with my name and make the cheque payable to the “Catholic Women's League of Canada”.

Enjoy this beautiful spring like weather in the middle of winter.

See you at convention.

*Mary*

## Corresponding Secretary—Madeleine Visser



*A new year usually means a fresh plan. It means another try at the life we want to live. It means opening up to possibilities—to forward movement, to adjusting old ways to work better. A new year reminds us that the Holy Spirit is always moving, working among us, and leading us to the next good step.*

As corresponding secretaries, we need to keep in mind the theme for this year: “Inspired By the Spirit, Women Respond to God's Call”

By the time you read this we will have celebrated Easter. The 97<sup>th</sup> Annual Diocesan Convention will be held in Stratford April 24<sup>th</sup> -

26<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Hopefully many of you will be able to attend this event.

It is a very fulfilling role to be the corresponding secretary. In order to be effective it takes everyone to pass on the word when someone is sick or is celebrating a special event, a death in the family etc. Some Councils in our Diocese have a new Executive on board, so I encourage the new Corresponding Secretaries to attend all executive and general meetings of the council, submit all correspondence received to the President for her information and compose and send out all correspondence as directed.

Councils should be encouraged to promote the League by way of

brochures and information pamphlets and members should be encouraged to visit the national, provincial and diocesan websites often.

For all corresponding Secretaries in the Parish Councils I encourage you to obtain a copy of the handbook for secretaries. You can download it from the national website: [www.cwl.ca](http://www.cwl.ca) also check the London CWL website at [www.cwllondon.ca](http://www.cwllondon.ca)

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

Yours in service of God

*Madeleine*

*Spiritual Development Standing Committee*  
*Chairperson—Willi Kole*



As I sit and write this article, I ponder on our new National theme, “Inspired by the Spirit, Women of Faith Respond to God’s Call”. There are many ways to respond to his call.

One of the biggest ways of responding to God’s call is being an example to others in our homes, in our councils and in our parishes. We can use the power of prayer to respond to God’s call. Sometimes we have to fight within ourselves whether or not we will choose to do God’s will. We can be like the two brothers in scripture, one says yes but never fulfills the request and the one who says I’m too tired and refuses to go, later regretted his decision, and got himself up and went to do what he was asked. Jesus’ question right after is “Who do you think did the Fathers will?” We have to remind ourselves that every time we get up and go, even though we are tired, sore or wanting to do something else, but you choose to answer God’s call, we are doing God’s will, and are very likely an answer to someone’s whispered prayer.

Over the next year my focus will be on explaining more fully the different types of prayer and to encourage you to utilize the different types.

Being a Lector or Commentator, being an Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist are but a few ways to respond to God’s call and be an example to others. Standing for office in your parish CWL council is another.

By our actions we are an example to others in our parish. An example of this is when we receive Holy Communion. In this and in no other sacrament, we receive the very body and blood, soul and divinity of Jesus Christ. In 1 Cor. 12 we are told that it deepens unity with the Church, more fully assimilating us into Christ. Approach the Eucharist in prayer, hands folded, then bow before the host and extend your hand with a cupped palm to receive Jesus. Immediately partake and return with your hands folded to your seat. If we all as CWL members do this, by our example, others will follow and this time will become more holy. Stay to the end of the Mass, as this is the time to thank Jesus for coming to you in the Holy Eucharist. This will encourage others to remain as well.

As we approach Lent, think of not only what we can “give up”, but of what good works that we can do to celebrate Lent.

*Without You I can do nothing.  
By Your Spirit help me to know  
what is right and to be eager in  
doing Your will.*

*Teach me to find new life  
through penance.*

*Keep me from sin, and help  
me live by Your  
commandment of love.*

*God of love, bring me  
back to You.*

*Send Your Spirit to make me  
strong in faith and active  
in good works.*

*May my acts of penance bring me  
Your forgiveness,*

*open my heart to Your love,  
and prepare me for the coming  
feast of the Resurrection of Jesus.*

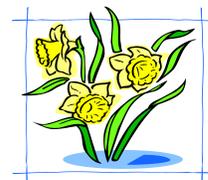
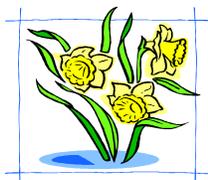
*Fill my heart with Your love  
and keep me faithful to the  
Gospel of Christ.*

*Give me the grace to rise above  
my human weakness.*

*Give me new life by Your  
Sacraments, especially the Mass.*

*(from Lenten Prayer for  
Spiritual Renewal)*

*Willi*



*Christian Family Life Standing Committee*  
*Chairperson—Kathy Levesque*



As I sit here writing my article for League Lingo it is Family Day. The weather outside is 16 degrees Celsius. As I look out my window, I see all the people walking by, kids riding bikes, scooters and flying kites. Some of the families go by eating ice cream cones. Many families are taking advantage of this wonderful weather. It feels like early spring, but winter is not over as yet.

In another week, Lent will be upon us. It is a time for us to reflect, a time for prayer, fasting and almsgiving. As a family unit, think of ways to put this into practice. How about taking time to read the daily scriptures for the day and reflect on it; saying the rosary as a family; grace before meals or giving up something that the family could agree upon and giving the money to charity. This is a way that the meaning of Lent may make an impact on the children.

During Lent, from March 1st to April 9th, our communities will take part in 40 Days for Life. It is a peaceful and educational presence. Those who are called to stand witness during this 24-hour-a-day presence send a powerful message to the community about the tragic reality of abortion. It also serves as a call to repentance

for those who work at the abortion centre and those who patronize the facility. We pray that, with God's help, this will mark the beginning of the end of abortion in our cities and beyond. If you have time to participate in this, please do so.

In looking over the year end reports that you have sent me, it is obvious that you are trying to minister to the youth, and I like the ones where action is taken at the local schools. Reaching them at the schools will leave an impression that they can take with them. Many teens are on the streets and the opening of Teen Centers and Shelters are helping them to have a place to be safe, fed, and given guidance where needed.

Please remember the widowed and include them in our activities, offering them a ride to church or functions. Even though out winter has not been too bad, please remember to help them by shoveling out their driveways

To minister to the disabled, we have to educate ourselves to what their difficulties are and see what we can do for them. We could check in on them to see that they have proper accommodation, enough food to eat. Try offering

them a ride to get out and take them to doctor's appointments, to the movies, shopping or just giving them your time.

In our society, we are living longer and there are more seniors. Do we visit the seniors in nursing homes to give them a little company? How about visiting them at home to see if they need help or just to be there and visit. Your time gives them so much comfort. I am afraid there is a lot of isolation out there, where many seniors have no one to turn to.

**Vocations:** When we think of that word, we think of vocations to the priesthood or religious life. God has a specific plan for all of us. It could be a vocation for marriage or single life. We need to discern on what God's calling for us. If you know of someone that is thinking of a calling, please pray for them.

I want to wish everyone a happy Lent and a Happy Easter.

God Bless everyone and may Our Lady of Good Counsel bless you and your families.

*Kathy*



*Communications Standing Committee*  
*Chairperson—Mary Maxwell*



In September of 2016, The National Catholic Women's League posted the following Council Facebook Guidelines:

Councils are engaging through various social networking sites and Facebook is finding a prominent role in that list. Recommendations for use of and subsequent monitoring of a Facebook page for parish council should include/observe/practice the following;

1. Request written permission if the council intends to use the League logo.
2. Assign one or two administrators to moderate the account and post messages.
3. Be respectful of the League and its members.
4. Know your members and tailor content to their needs.
5. Engage your members. Ask for feedback, ask questions, communicate with them, etc.
6. Reply to questions as quickly as possible.
7. Use a recognizable profile picture.
8. Promote the League through your own contacts. Follow others first, comment, like etc.
9. Keep posts brief, timely and concise.
10. Compose posts carefully and thoughtfully. You do not want to offend or harm the reputation of the League.
11. Proofread and be sure material referenced is accurate before publishing.
12. Vary your posts (text, links, photos, videos, etc.) and vary your content.
13. Post at strategic times during the day based on your audience. Facebook posts should be limited to once or twice per day to encourage engagement.
14. Share posts and information relevant to your members from the national Facebook page.
15. Tag other people and businesses when mentioned in photos, text posts etc. but be considerate of those you are tagging. Be courteous and ask permission first.
16. Be aware that individual members do not speak on behalf of the League.
17. Be sure to indicate when views are personal, and not the League's.
18. Periodically update the "About" page.
19. Don't post private matters on a public wall. Use private messaging.
20. Don't over share/over post.
21. Don't abuse hash tags.
22. Don't oversell/over market.
23. Don't let your page become dormant.
24. Don't use Cap Lock.
25. Don't repeat the same post.

Article printed from The Catholic Women's League of Canada: <https://www.cwl.ca>

URL to article: <https://www.cwl.ca/facebook-guidelines/>

*Mary*

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**Look for the ad for the  
Stratford Convention on April  
24, 25 & 26.  
Found on page 21**

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*Education & Health Standing Committee*  
*Chairperson—Denise Lalonde-Morris*



As spring will be just around the corner I hope all of you have been energized over this very unpredictable winter weather. Our new theme “Inspired by the Spirit-Women respond to God’s Call” will provide you with the inspiration your councils will need to take on the goals you have set for this year.

If you are stuck, we have many resolutions and directives that can point you in the right direction. Our National Council urges you to petition your local members of parliament and request them to ensure the freedom of conscience for healthcare professionals and for all who work in medical institutions.

Please make your councils aware of the resolutions and issues that we are trying to make policy.

Resolution 2016.02 Eating Well with Canada’s Food Guide

Resolution 2016.03 Warning Labels on Food and Drug Products for All Inactive Substances and Additives

Resolution 2016.04 Amend the Canada Health Act to Identify Palliative Care as an Insured Health Service

Resolution 2016.05 Amend the Canada Health Act to Include Home Care as an Insured Health Service and

Resolution 2015.01 Increased Early Access and Intervention to Children and Youth Mental Services

These are just a few areas your local council could work on.

These topics may also inspire your local councils to put forth your own resolution. If you need help you can notify the diocesan executive and they will be more than happy to assist you.

*“Empower us with the gifts of your Spirit so that we may respond to God’s call in joyful service”*

These words are taken from our new prayer please think about them and move forward with the Spirit on your shoulder. May Our Lady of Good Counsel protect and guide you. I hope to see you at Convention 2017 in Stratford.

*Denise*



*League Lingo—Editor, Sandra Cabiddu*

Soon it will be Easter. What a strange winter we have had, considering it was forecast to be a bad winter with extreme cold and heavy snowfalls! Not complaining though because I prefer the warmer weather as I age.

Orders are stronger this year, and thank you for the many articles I have received for this edition.

We have several new subscribers and some councils have sent in

articles after being missing for a long time.

It would be nice for a Life member to send in an article now and then. You are a wealth of information for our younger members.

One thing does not seem to change even though I have pointed this out many a time! Please, please do not make out your cheques to me personally

or to League Lingo. There is no such bank account in the League. Remember whenever you write a cheque to send money within our League, it must always be made out to THE CATHOLIC WOMEN’S LEAGUE OF CANADA.

Looking forward to seeing you all at convention in Stratford.

*Sandra*



*Regional News—Sarnia Lambton  
Representative—Patricia Sloan*

- Sarnia Lambton hosted the Diocesan Convention in April 2016
- The support and dedication from everyone was phenomenal
- The many donations from Convention were well received by St. Vincent de Paul, Woman's Interval Home and Migrant Worker's Ministry.
- All Council's enthusiastically supported Hospice-Palliative Care day on May 4, 2016
- All Council's in Sarnia Lambton combined donated over \$1,200.00 to Hospice and Palliative Care in 2016
- Thank you ladies for your dedication and support all year
- Thank you to Executive Council for welcoming me and supporting me as I learn my new position

*Pat*

*Regional News—Huron Perth  
Representative—Julie de Gouss*



As I write this, my thoughts turn to Lent and what this will mean for me personally. Having just completed a three day women's retreat, I feel that I am ready to "take on Lent" so to speak, and be ready to celebrate, with great joy, Easter!

Lots of activity in the Region of Huron Perth over the Fall and Winter months! Our Regional meetings usually double as a convention planning meeting as we prepare to host the London Diocesan Convention in Stratford April 24-26<sup>th</sup>. An amazing experience awaits you as we eagerly anticipate the coming of Spring and seeing all of our efforts to organize this event, come to fruition! Don't forget your Elvis attire!

Even though the Year of Mercy has officially ended, many councils continue to work diligently to raise awareness of corporal and spiritual works of Mercy in their parishes and communities! Councils supported Refugee families, palliative care, hospice, made prayer shawls, taught the rosary to school children, supported mission work, reached out to single, widowed and divorced women, visited the sick and shut-ins, and the list goes on and on! One of the councils had a "pay it forward" initiative, where you would buy someone a coffee, offer to drive, do an act of kindness, and so on.

Members of the Catholic Women's League in Huron Perth strive to bring current issues to

their councils and parishes. At the forefront, is the issue of Physician Assisted Suicide, and the importance of Palliative Care. It is so important to educate as many people as we can, about alternatives to assisted suicide.

In our modern world, our faith should enable us to trust in God's care and to become instruments of God's care for others. God provides for all, through us. We, God's Church, are called beyond self-concern, to be the hands and heart of God in the world.

Peace and Prayers!

*Julie*

*Regional News—Chatham Kent  
Representative—Lucille Duquette*



What crazy winter weather we're having this year! The Syrian newcomers sponsored in Chatham-Kent must be thinking that the weather in their new home Canada is strange.

Welcome to the new council presidents in Chatham-Kent who have accepted the responsibility of leading and representing their councils. Thank you to those presidents who have taken on more than one term.

It is my second year as regional chairperson. Nervous at first, I have come to realize that I am 'getting the hang of it' and that there are people who are ready and willing to guide me. At the same time, I am still on my parish council's executive as Past President and am also in charge of memberships.

I am sad to say that Chatham-Kent has lost one council. If a

council is struggling, it is important to ask the Diocesan executive for help in finding solutions to the problems before it is too late.

Almost all our councils attempted the new online Annual Reports. Some had an easy time of it, some had a problem or two and some had greater difficulty. The first time is always difficult, but this task will get easier over the years.

Some councils have hosted the World Day of Prayer in their communities. It is a good experience to learn about women's lives in other countries and to mingle with Christians from other churches in your area.

The quilt project has begun. Each diocese will add a piece, with symbols that represent who they are, to one large quilt that will circulate. Each CWL council in our diocese has been asked to

make one or more lap quilts, shawls or afghans and to bring one to convention in April. This display will be very interesting to see!

Looking forward to the March 4<sup>th</sup> CWL Lenten Retreat in Windsor with our diocesan spiritual director, Father Bonin. It will be a relaxing, spiritual day with our sisters from all over the diocese.

Spring and Easter are just around the corner!

*Lucille*



*I've Learned ...  
That having a child fall asleep in your arms is one of the  
most peaceful feelings in the world*

*I've learned ...  
That to ignore the facts does not change the facts*

*I've learned ...  
That under everyone's hard shell is someone who wants  
to be appreciated and loved*



*Regional News—Windsor  
Representative—Mary Ann Horne-White*

As we began 2017, we learned that our new theme for the next two years is “Inspired by the Spirit, Women Respond to God’s Call”. The councils continue their work with the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. This year we will do more with Hospice and Palliative Care. One of the councils took a tour of Hospice Windsor in February, and I was able to accompany them. Understanding Hospice/Palliative Care and educating others is so important.

The Annual CWL Lenten Retreat was held in Windsor at Corpus Christi Church. Fr. Greg Bonin our Diocesan Spiritual Director, facilitated the day, Saturday March 4<sup>th</sup>. The theme was “Abide in Me - Choosing to live in an era

of Chaos”. It was wonderful to share the day with the ladies all over the diocese as we started Lent and prepared for the Easter season. We got such great #’s we were filled to capacity plus!

We look forward to the Diocesan Convention in Stratford, April 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>, where we will see all our sisters in the league and share the time together. Windsor councils enjoy going every year. It is always an uplifting experience.

The May Regional Meeting is a potluck where we share food and camaraderie. We say goodbye to meetings and hello to summer. We will enjoy our vacation and family time. Some of our councils go to the annual Merlin Retreat Day in the summer. Mass and the

rosary are shared with ladies across the diocese each year.

I remain blessed to be the Windsor Regional Chair working with the 12 council presidents who continue their good work within their councils and community. I have been invited to meetings and enjoy seeing all the members and hearing what they are doing.

Working with the Diocesan Executive is a wonderful experience. I would like to thank them for their guidance as I grow in the league.

Peace and Blessings,

*Mary Ann*

*WHAT DO ANGELS LOOK LIKE?*

*Like the little old lady who returned your wallet yesterday.*

*Like the taxi driver who told you that your eyes  
light up the world when you smile.*

*Like the stranger who just happened to come along,  
when you had lost your way.*

*Like the friend who touched your heart  
when you didn’t think you had one to touch.*



*Regional News—Ingersoll  
Representative—Fatima Cabral*

My first year as the Ingersoll Regional representative has truly been a blessing. The presidents that I have had the pleasure of working with are inspirational and committed to the Catholic Women's League of Canada values. As a region we have united in One Heart, One Voice and One Mission to roll out the suicide awareness postcard campaign discussed in The Canadian League Spring 2016 magazine edition. Each council in the Ingersoll region took postcards to their members and parish communities. CWL councils discussed teen suicide and the stigma of mental illness especially with our youth. Over 1,500 postcards were signed and presented to both MPPs Ernie Hardeman and Toby Barrett by our council presidents. What a great sign of unity. Many of our CWL councils celebrated their 95<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2016 so congratulations to Holy Trinity, Woodstock, Our Lady of LaSalette, LaSalette and Sacred Heart, Ingersoll and thank you for their leadership and commitment to God and Canada. Also,

congratulations to Sacred Heart, Princeton, St. Cecilia's, Port Dover and St. Michael's, Walsh for achieving their 65<sup>th</sup> year anniversary.

Three of our councils have new presidents taking over in 2017 so a warm welcome to Linda Vandendriessche from Sacred Heart, Langton; Edith Heleniak from Our Lady of LaSalette, LaSalette and Irene Gubesch from St. Mary's, Tillsonburg. I am confident these ladies will find inspiration from those presidents that have come before them and be supported by their CWL members.

Our new national CWL theme "Inspired By The Spirit - Women Respond to God's Call" has been taken to heart for many of our region's CWL councils. St. Cecilia's CWL council in Port Dover hosted a fundraiser event on March 12, 2017 for a 9-month old baby battling cancer which included a concert by a local trio called "Lifted Up" and a dessert refreshment period during the intermission. A goodwill offering

was accepted for the event with 100% of proceeds going to the Balog family. Holy Trinity CWL, Woodstock, is planning a Ladies Spring Luncheon on May 20, 2017 which will feature Carol Mullins, an inspirational speaker. This spiritual retreat will feature a tree planting ceremony to honour past and present Catholic Women's League members from our amalgamated St Mary's and St. Rita's CWL councils in Woodstock.

The ecumenical World Day of Prayer held on March 3rd, 2017 continues to be an event well attended by our CWL members in Ingersoll region and many councils are planning 12 hour of prayer activities for May 4th, 2017 in support of palliative care.

*Fatime*

*WHAT DO ANGELS LOOK LIKE?*

*Angels come in all sizes and shapes, all ages and skin types  
some with freckles, some with dimples,  
some with wrinkles, some without.*

*Like the poor man who offered to share his lunch with you.*

*Regional News—London  
Representative—Joan Lobsinger*



As a Year of Mercy project, our London Region decided to fund raise for the London Community Chaplaincy. The LCC provides support to children and families living in two of the largest low income housing complexes in the city of London. A beautiful handmade quilt was donated to them and they asked for our help with a quilt raffle. Our role was to print and sell the raffle tickets and so in May at our Fun Night hosted by St. John the Divine Council, our project began. LCC and each council were given tickets to sell. \$2,040.00 was raised. The draw was made at our Advent Tea on November 28<sup>th</sup> and the lucky winner was Deb Cadwell of London. Many thanks to Holy Angels council for graciously hosting our Advent Tea with approximately 60 members in attendance. We were entertained with Christmas music upon our arrival and then we read the Spiritual Reflection, “Elizabeth Remembers”. This was followed by the celebration of the Eucharist. We returned to the hall to enjoy fellowship, refreshments and an amazing array of treats.



September was indeed a special month for our Region. Congratulations to Holy Family and St. Andrew the Apostle councils who celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and to All Saints Council who celebrated their 95<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Congratulations to Mary Verhaeghe, Our Lady of Sorrows Council Co-president who received the Bellelle Guerin Award on September 21<sup>st</sup> for her dedication and service to the League. Truly an example of a woman inspired by the Spirit to respond to God’s call.

As usual, the councils in the London Region had a busy fall with their very successful bazaars, membership drives, funeral luncheons and

volunteering in the many ministries of their parish. This winter, some of our councils had elections. I welcome all the new presidents of the London Region and wish to thank the past presidents for their years of service.

As I am writing this article, spring is right around the corner. I look forward to attending the Diocesan Lenten Retreat at Corpus Christi parish in Windsor. Hopefully the weather will cooperate this year and we’ll be able to make it. With spring also comes Convention. I know the ladies of Huron-Perth are busy with preparations making sure it will be a wonderful experience for all who attend. I look forward to seeing you at the 97<sup>th</sup> Annual London Diocesan Convention in Stratford. It is wonderful to greet old friends and make new friends as we are Inspired by the Spirit, responding to God’s Call.

*Joan*





*Regional News—Essex*  
*Representative—Denise Masse*

Nature is so strongly intertwined in our lives, nurturing us and giving us those, “..ahh, God’s creation is beautiful and life indeed is good” moments. Taking the time to stop, admire and listen to the soothing sounds God has created for us through His creations, brings us ever closer to Him. Just as we are called to be stewards of the Earth, we too are called to be stewards for each other, taking the time to care for something, or someone.

With the latter in mind I would like to thank Peggy Barrette of St. Michael’s Leamington and Rose Beneteau of St. John the Baptist, Amherstburg for their terms as president. These ladies are fine examples of Christian leaders, whose many good works will be remembered. They inspired others and led them to lead. I thank-you for the lessons you have taught me, how Peggy and Rose, you enhanced our region with your works, your friendship and support. You will continue to be tremendous assets for your councils.

Welcome to our new presidents and co-presidents: Sharon Barron of St. John the Baptist, Nancy Sylvestre of Visitation, Comber, Mary Lapos and Sr. Elaine Cole of St. Michael’s. You may be beginning anew as the buds of tree leaves, or as a biennial flower that has been once again been called to bloom. Let those working along side you in your role, or those who have come

before, be your sunshine and water, your source of growth and support, as you and your councils flourish.

Since my last writing many opportunities have allowed me to continue to grow closer to the ladies in our Region and see the affects of their innumerable hours of selfless labour. The new reports provided an opportunity for in-depth sharing and I enjoyed working with my councils on this new adventure. I learned even more about their many accomplishments and rich histories, as we typed and conversed. Year-end reports for our report book indeed showed that the councils in Essex Region were truly acting as the hands and feet of Jesus through their corporal and spiritual works, tending the garden of Mercy, through God’s love and guidance to bring hope to others, working together, side by side. Put together I believe the acts and the ladies who made them would reflect the breath-taking wildflower meadows I have explored with my son. Each flower is an important part of the full picture.

Attending bazaars, meetings, fashion shows, turkey dinners and Christmas parties of many councils allowed me to admire and celebrate the uniqueness of each council, while noticing common outcomes experienced by all: the many smiles at their events, the wonderful welcomes, heartfelt thanks and the love of

sisterhood. Thank you too, to the councils and Angela Pellerin, who were able to accept my husband’s invitation and attend the Memorial Mass to remember those looking down on us. Coming together to remember as a region and with Windsor was wonderful.

I hope to see as many of you at Diocesan Convention in Stratford April 24<sup>th</sup>–26<sup>th</sup>, 2017 as are able to come, even if only for a day, as CWL members and an Easter people. The experience is always enriching and will continue the good conversations that begin with our Lenten Retreat. As Fr. Greg noted: you are called, wanted and loved by the ladies in your League.

At our January President’s meeting, we participated in an activity that involved character traits of what my students thought CWL ladies would possess. The Holy Spirit was at work as each trait picked, noted each lady that received it seemed to describe or fit them so well. At the end, I put the traits all together to create a story of the CWL lady. I drew my inspiration from the lovely group of women I was gazing out upon. God Bless you all for who you are and giving of yourself, faithfully.

*Denise*

# 97th Annual London Diocesan Convention Stratford - April 24, 25 & 26, 2017

*Inspired by the Spirit—Women Respond to God's Call*

*Best Western Plus Arden Park Hotel, Stratford, Ontario  
552 Ontario Street, Stratford, ON. N5A 6W4  
519-275-2956 or 1-877-788-8818*

*Huron Perth Bus Tour with stops at the Perth County Museum & a tour of St. Patrick's Church in Kinkora. \$25—Monday April 24th—Arrive by 9:30 a.m. sharp to pick up your Tour Ticket—Bus leaves at 10 a.m.*

## *Speakers:*

*Monday 3:00 p.m.—Resolutions Dialogue*

*Monday 5 p.m.—Opening Mass—Immaculate Conception Church*

*Monday 7:00 p.m.—Dinner & Fun Night—Theme: Elvis*

*Tuesday 8:30 a.m.—Morning Prayer—Crowning of Mary & Gift Procession*

*Tuesday 10:30 a.m.—Pamela Bryson Weaver—*

*Autism Spectrum Disorders*

*Tuesday 5:00 p.m.—Re-Affirmation Mass*

*Tuesday 7 p.m. Banquet—Best Western Arden Park Hotel*

*Wednesday 8:45 a.m.—Laura Reilly—Women in the Bible*

*Wednesday 10:30 a.m. Workshop—Mentoring—Anne Madden*

*Wednesday 2 p.m.—Invitation to 2018 Diocesan Convention—London*

*Wednesday 2:15 p.m.—Closing Mass—Fr. Greg Bonin*

*Councils don't forget to bring your prayer lapghan/shawl/lapquilt to process & be blessed for the crowning of Mary Procession. Looking forward to seeing you all—meeting with new/old friends & praying & learning together. See you soon.*



*Council News—Essex Region—St. Michael, Leamington—  
Co-Presidents, Mary Lapos & Sr. Elaine Cole*

2016 flew by without stopping.

In November, we closed St. Joseph's church (now sold for a youth centre) and opened our beautiful new St. Michael's Church (on same site as previous the St. Michael's.) The grand opening was a marvellous affair with Bishop Fabbro blessing every part of the sanctuary and chapel, several priests and over 800 people in attendance.

Elections were held in December at our potluck. Presidency is now shared by Mary Lapos and Sr. Elaine Cole. 5 new executive members and 3 returning executive members complete the executive team. \$1,733 was raised in the potluck White Elephant Sale for St. Vincent de Paul to be given to needy local families at Christmas. Christmas gift bags for parish shut-ins were

donated by our council and delivered by CWL members and youth group. 2 members spoke during the potluck - one on autism and one on her volunteer work with the Children's Aid Society, delivering babies to foster homes. Our council helps pay for layettes for these babies.

Our Spiritual advisor and Pastor, Fr. Pat Fuerth retired in January, with a grand farewell mass and reception. We welcome Fr. John Pirt as our new pastor. CWL Sunday was celebrated January 29<sup>th</sup>, with members participating as ushers, readers, Eucharistic ministers.

our first apple pie baking in the new church kitchen was successful. Along with other donated baked goods, \$1,000 was raised.

St. Michael's chapel hosts adoration every Friday 9 a.m.—midnight. Divine Mercy is celebrated at 3 p.m. on Fridays. Many members participate in these prayerful sacraments.

Lent will provide 2 retreats - diocesan and parish. CWL and K of C will work together to host fish fries every Friday. CWL will provide desserts for the fish fries.

*Mary and Sister Elaine*



*SIMPLE TIPS FOR YOU*

*Keep brown sugar soft by storing with a couple of marshmallows*

*Place a layer of waxed paper on top of kitchen cupboards to prevent grease & dust from settling. Switch out every few months to keep them clean*

*Use non-stick cooking spray in votive holders to prevent wax from sticking to the sides*

*WD40 can be used to remove crayon marks from any surface!*

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



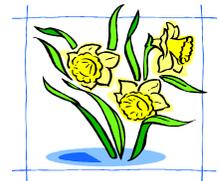
Membership: 168

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Dave Boutette

- We donated monetarily to the Essex Food Bank.
- We hosted a Saturday afternoon fashion show, including lunch, for the St. Vincent de Paul Society Store.
- We gave the newly baptized medals, First Communicants, a book, Confirmation Students, a cross pendant, engaged couples, a crucifix and their wedding rehearsal and hosted a reception for the RCIA candidates.
- I handled the food bank families' portion of the parish Giving Tree.
- We collected hats, scarves, mittens and gloves for the North of 60 Project, and toiletries, towels, etc. for a local refugee family.
- One of our Deacons visited our shut-in members close to Christmas, as well as earlier in the year, bringing them a greeting card from our council.
- We had our council CWL Prayers along with Parish Prayers for our deceased members. We also provided an honour guard at their funerals and helped prepare and serve some luncheons following their funerals.
- Some members participated in the Silent Life Chain.
- We have a monthly Mass for our deceased members.
- We filled out post cards supporting palliative care, not euthanasia.
- We prayed a Living Rosary in May and October.
- We budget for donations to northern missions.
- We served ice cream at our annual parish picnic on a hot summer Sunday.
- Some of us attended CWL Day at the Shrine in Merlin.
- I enjoyed the annual convention, Fall and Lenten Retreats.
- Our annual turkey dinner and bazaar is our major fundraiser that provides funds for our donations and other budgeted items.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel bless you and your families.

*Janice*



*I've learned ...  
That opportunities are never lost; someone will take the ones you missed*

*I've learned ...  
That when you harbour bitterness, happiness will dock elsewhere*

*I've learned ...  
That when you plan to get even with someone,  
You are only letting that person continue to hurt you*

*I've learned ...  
That love, not time, heals all wounds*

*Council News—Essex Region—St. Simon & St. Jude Belle  
River—Co-Presidents, Jeanne Lauzon & Linda Prestyko*



St. Simon & St. Jude CWL,  
Belle River will celebrate our  
councils 95th Anniversary on  
June 13th, 2017.

The summer went by so quickly that it was hard to return to our meetings. We began our September meeting with a pot luck dinner. After dinner three bursaries were given to three very deserving students from our local high schools. We also had a very informative speaker on diabetes to finish off our meeting.

October was our fun Halloween meeting. Ladies were asked to wear their Halloween T shirts. We also began preparing for our Bazaar.

November was a very busy month since this is when we hold our annual bazaar. The hall is filled with the aroma of meat pies since

we do pre-orders for a couple of weeks ahead of the bazaar. On November 12<sup>th</sup>, the hall was filled with meat pies, baked goods, a penny table and a number of vendors. There was something for almost everyone who attended.

Our Christmas party was held on November 28<sup>th</sup> with over 90 people attending.

February's meeting was a Friendship Luncheon. Members were asked to bring a friend and provide them with lunch. After the meeting, members stayed to make Valentines for the residents of LaChaumiere Nursing Home. On February 10<sup>th</sup>, our ladies went to LaChaumiere, said the Rosary and attended mass with the residents and then distributed the Valentines. The residents were very happy with this interaction.

In March members attended and were involved in World Day of Prayer. Four members attended the Diocesan Retreat. At our meeting we had a speaker talk about 40 Days for Life. Members hosted Soup and Stations of the Cross.

April and May will be very busy since we will be celebrating our 95<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on June 13<sup>th</sup>. The evening will begin with mass at 5pm and dinner to follow.

*Jeanne & Linda*



*Three boys are in the school yard bragging about their fathers.  
The first boy says, 'My Dad scribbles a few words  
on a piece of paper, he calls it a poem, they give him \$50.'  
The second boy says, 'That's nothing. My Dad scribbles a few words  
on a piece of paper, he calls it a song, they give him \$100.'  
The third boy says, 'I got you both beat. My Dad scribbles a  
few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a sermon and it takes  
eight people to collect all the money!'*

*Council News—London Region—St. George, London*  
*Past-president—Becky Bulsza*

Greetings, fellow League members.

Life is never dull in the Catholic Women's League! So many activities and causes, so little time.

At our Welcome Back Brunch in September, we invited Sr. Linda Dube who established *Our Lady of Guadalupe Home of Windsor* whose key goal is to provide a home for vulnerable mothers and babies in time of crisis. This is a woman who has walked the talk and taken action to ensure that pregnant women have another option to abortion. We were all moved by her dedication.



40 Days 2016—CWLers  
 Isabelle of Holy Family,

In October, several members took part in 40 Days for Life at Victoria Hospital. Some of us sat, bundled up against the cold, others paced, but we all prayed at the least that those who entered the abortuary that day, would have a change of heart. Next year, we should all consider spending at least one hour outside our local

abortion-providing hospital, praying for an end to abortion.



At one of our general meetings, we set up round table discussions on the future of our council—what did our members value about the League, what changes did they want made at the council level, and what did they want us to promote? Our members celebrated community, friendship, teamwork, sisterhood, belonging, talents, service work, spirituality and fellowship and wanted these to continue. They saw our priorities going forward to be in continuing our charitable works, respecting others, continuing to fundraise for community needs, enhancing our spiritual focus, encouraging younger members to belong and participate, and to HAVE FUN.

Our Candy Cane Bazaar went off without a hitch, once more to the supreme efforts of our two bazaar coordinators Michele Ferri and Paula Abey, and the huge team of volunteers. It was our best year ever in terms of earnings.

In January, we formed our new 2017-18 executive and we give thanks that these new executive members said “Yes” to the call. They were installed at mass in February: Cynthia Hellsten and Natalie Nesterenko, Co-Presidents; Rita MacIntyre, Recording Secretary; Lynne Tomchuk, Treasurer; Joan Hamilton and Lorrie Bouchard, Corresponding Secretaries; Suzanne Cole, Community Life; Joan Ives, Spiritual; Olivia Smeets, Communications; Michelle Evaschuk Membership; Becky Bulsza and Michele Ferri,



Joan Hamilton, Martha & Suzanne Cole of St. George, London

Past Presidents.

God bless you all and thank you for your service to the League and Canada.

*Becky*

*Council News—London Region—St. Justin, London*  
*President—Sandra Furlotte*

Our Council and our parish lost a much-loved member with the passing of Sally Pook at University Hospital on April 30th 2016 at the age of 77. Sally worked at Bell for 34 years and was a pastoral minister at St. Justin's for 15 years. She also served on several committees of the CWL and was our Spiritual Convenor at the time of her death. As per her wishes, the funeral service, written by her, was held in St. Thomas, the city of her birth. Her ashes have been entombed at St. Peter's Cemetery.

Sally had been ill for several months before her passing and had had numerous hospital admissions. Many in the parish did not realize that she had died. As news got around, parishioners felt rather lost that they had not been able to pay final respects to such a special member of our parish family. One of our members, Marilyn Marcotte,

suggested that it would be very appropriate to hold a Celebration of Life within the parish. With Marilyn heading the organization of the event, plans began to take shape. Our pastor, Fr. Mark Poulin celebrated Mass and gave the eulogy. Much of the programme was a repetition of what Sally had written. Readings and hymns she had selected reflected her faith and her parish friends. Members of every choir joined together to present a memorable music programme. Special friends of Sally from the parish were invited to serve as ushers, readers, gift bearers, and Eucharistic Ministers. Tables in the hall were covered with colourful tablecloths and decorated with tulips, ceramic cats and birds, all which were reflections of Sally's interests. A memorial table was prepared by her niece. Offers of baked goods began pouring in from members of the parish and CWL. News of

the planned celebration had been spread primarily by word of mouth and the response from the parish that Friday evening was a beautiful tribute to Sally.

Sally will be missed. May she rest in the peace of God's embrace.

Sent to me (Editor) on behalf of Sandra by:

*Joan Cox*



*I am the real vine, and my Father is the gardener. He breaks off every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and he prunes every branch that does bear fruit, so it will be clean and bear more fruit. You have been made clean already by the teaching I have given you. Remain united to me, and I will remain united to you. A branch cannot bear fruit by itself; it can do so only if it remains in the vine. In the same way you cannot bear fruit unless you remain in me.*

*I am the vine, and you are the branches. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, will bear much fruit; for you can do nothing without me.*

**John 15 1-5**

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

We lost a dedicated member Bridie McKeon, and upon her request—donations were made to OLM CWL - we're working on something special in her memory

In November, along with help from the KC we were able to hold the annual Crafternoon tea with proceeds going to the Canadian Catholic missions. They were overjoyed to receive the donation.

We struggled through the new annual reports

As we had done for years we hosted the reception for Immaculate Conception - we thank everyone who brought goodies

We attended the Christmas cluster party in St Bens in December.

We delivered Valentine flowers and visited older members of CWL in February

Two CWL members went with Fr Savel on the mission trip to the Mayan area near Cancun We are making plans for our Spring Tea on May 4<sup>th</sup> 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m.

Looking forward attending the convention in April

*Phyllis*

*Council News—Sarnia Lambton Region—Sacred Heart, Sarnia—  
Co-president—Yvette McLeod*



It is a pleasure to be reporting as the incoming co-president along with my "co"

**D o m e n i c a** Rastin. We are excited to serve and look forward to another successful year in 2017.

Our installation Sunday of January 8<sup>th</sup> saw our members, wearing their sashes, filling all the Liturgical Ministries (except for the Priest and Altar Servers) - a "wave" of blue at the front of the church.

Monthly, we deliver Meals on Wheels in the community, sponsored by the Red Cross, we take turns having the Vocation Cross in our homes to pray for vocations, we hold our winter meetings at noon to encourage our long serving

members to attend., we prepare and serve Funeral Luncheons as needed.

At our February meeting, we enjoyed having **Cam Davies** from Ironworks Gym speaking on **Maintaining Lifelong Mobility and Flexibility** with simple do-at-home strategies and hand-outs to help. We supported the parish group with "**Souper Bowl Sunday**" luncheon, a fundraiser for much needed supplies for our church.

In March, we will be assisting with World Day of Prayer, hosted by St. Thomas D'Aquinas. We will attend the CWL Lenten Retreat and look forward to attending the Convention.



All provinces were asked by Development and Peace to submit a square for the Solidarity Quilt.

We are proud to inform you that one of our members, Martha Knight made the one for Ontario. It can be viewed on March 16, 2017 at Our Lady of Mercy Hall in Sarnia.

We will meet you here again in September to fill you in on the second half of our fun, faith and fellowship filled year.

*Yvette*

*Council News—Sarnia Lambton Region—St. Benedict,  
Sarnia—President, Brenda Stack*

We had a very busy fall starting with our Turkey Pie Workshop in early September when we had 57 of our members and 3 or 4 gentlemen from our parish come out to work and make 1,402 pies.

Then at the end of October we held our Annual Fall Bazaar. We are supported by our members who donate knitting, sewing, home-made preserves, pickles and baking. Once again, we enjoyed a very successful bazaar. This allows us to support many agencies within our community, our country and the third world.

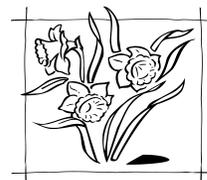
We have a dedicated team of our members that look after funeral luncheons for our parishioners. Also, we have perpetual masses said for our deceased members.

In December, we hosted our annual Christmas Party that we celebrate with our clustered parishes (Our Lady of Mercy & St. Joseph's). This is an evening with lots of good food, fun and fellowship with our sisters of the league.

Because of the dedication of our Membership Convener, Pat Heit,

and our speaker, Jackie Detailleur at the Masses on Membership Weekend, we are blessed to have 234 members which includes 7 new members. Also, we are now blessed to have our member, Willi Kole, as our Diocesan Spiritual Development Chairperson.

*Brenda*



*Council News—Sarnia Lambton Region—St. Joseph, Sarnia  
Submitted by: Laura Hardy, Treasurer & Donna Greenwood, Past Pres.*

St. Joseph CWL, Sarnia, had a very successful and productive year. Here is a list of highlights. Our Fall bazaar was the most successful we have had in a long time. It was well attended with a variety of items for everyone. Our council also made several donations throughout the year. Namely to St. Vincent DePaul, St. Joseph's Hospice, Men's Home, Bluewater Palliative Care, St. Joseph "Raise the Roof" campaign, Syrian Refugees, Coats for Students, Irish Miracle, and Save a Family.

In addition, our league gave

Christmas gifts to our Priests, Deacons, Altar Servers, Choir Director and Office Staff. We helped prepare Christmas hampers for 150 needy families. We also supported our Children's Liturgy by buying Catholic educational material and sacramental gifts. Ladies from our league volunteered, during the year, to clean the church and wash altar linens. Some of our dedicated ladies visited the sick and offered communion to "shut-ins". Our league also provided funeral luncheons for our deceased parish members.

Although our numbers are few

and we do not have a full time League president, we have accomplished many good things and provided for several charities. We have done well. The hard work of the few has provided for the needs of the many!

May God continue to bestow His Blessing upon us.

*Laura & Donna*



*Council News—Sarnia Lambton Region—St. Michael, Bright's Grove  
President & Communications Chairperson—Nelly Kelders*

**New Council Installed**

St. Michael's Catholic Women's League began 2017 with the installation of its 2017-2019 Executive Council at mass on Saturday, January 7, 2017.

President—Nelly Kelders,  
Past-president— Mary McLeay  
Corresponding Secretary—  
Carol Sandrin  
Treasurer—Linda Kensley  
Organization & Membership—  
Mary Van Delft  
Spiritual—Gen Kennedy  
Resolutions & Legislation—  
Susan Kellett  
Education & Health—Josie Parker

The positions of president-elect and Christian Family Life and Community Life remain vacant at this time. At our first executive meeting in January, recent retiree Eloise Tardiff joined us as Recording Secretary and I retained the Communications Convenorship. We are prayerful and hopeful that the remaining positions will be filled in the coming months.

**Anniversary**

We are fortunate at St. Michael Parish to have such a vibrant and talented CWL. This year marks the 30th anniversary of the Council. In those years, the Council has flourished and adapted to the needs of its members as well as the League, allowing us to get the work done and accomplish the goals set out for us. At our September 13th general meeting, we will celebrate and share the accomplishments of

the Council to date. There is much for the ladies to be proud of and to reflect upon.



**Valentine Tea and General Meeting February 2017**

One of the changes we made last year to our meeting schedule, was to move the February general meeting from the evening to the afternoon. Who knows in February what the weather will be like! We also decided to give the meeting a theme, Valentine Tea and invited all the ladies in the parish to join us. The meeting was well attended and the ladies liked the format so we decided to try it again this year. The outcome was an even greater turnout and an enjoyable afternoon. Joan Nienhuis, former president of Sacred Heart CWL Sarnia and a retired teacher, was the guest speaker. She spoke about her experience walking part of the El Camino trail. The audience was engaged from beginning to end as Joan shared both her spiritual and physical journey with the group. Tea and desserts followed so that ladies could continue to discuss what they had heard. Once everyone had tea it was on to the business of the Council. The 2017

budget was passed and the members were brought up-to-date on the activities planned for the next few months. More social time followed where ladies had an opportunity to make some new friends and catch up with those they had not seen for a while.



**Communicating with the Membership**

At St. Michael's, we hold four general meetings a year: February, May, September and December. Executive meetings are held every month except July and August. Members are notified of these meetings and are invited to attend if they wish. Each month the Communications Convenor writes a one-page newsletter that is inserted into the parish bulletin. Announcements are also included in the bulletin as required. The newsletter is posted on the parish website on the CWL page for easy reference. As well, the president is able to email the membership directly to inform them of upcoming events, prayer requests and updates on projects.

*(Continued on page 30)*

*Council News—Sarnia Lambton Region—St. Michael, Bright's Grove  
President & Communications—Nelly Kelders (cont'd ...)*

*(Continued from page 29)*

**Quilt Challenge**

With the help of the Quilting Group, St. Michael CWL has taken up the challenge to produce quilts for palliative and hospice care. We will make two lap quilts, one for the palliative care unit at Bluewater Health and the other for St. Joseph Hospice, both in Sarnia. All ladies in the parish

have been invited to join in the making of the quilts. Once we know how many participants we have, they will be assigned to create a block or more for the quilt. The Quilting Group will take on the task of putting the blocks together and adding the backing. For those who do not sew, the opportunity was presented to donate money towards materials or to attend the

workshop for making the quilts and doing the pressing. Not being a sewer, I and several others have chosen these two options, so that we could be part of the project. We look forward to seeing the final results in May.

*Nelly*

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

Our members in Wingham have been quite busy this year.

We sponsored a bus trip to Our Lady of the Rosary Shrine in Merlin and St. Peter's Basilica in London for The Holy Year of Mercy with the Listowel CWL. A large bus was filled for the lovely day out event.

Some of our members continued going to meetings for the Refugee Sponsorship with other Wingham and area churches.

New Alter Server Gowns were bought and one of our members sewed new CWL sashes.

We sponsored (along with the Knights) 3 Benevolent Breakfasts after Mass in 2016. Donations were collected. One breakfast was in support of the Catholic Community Foundation of South-western Ontario and the other two were for local help to people/families in need.

For the second year in a row, Sacred Heart Wingham hosted the Huron County Christmas Bureau which organizes local donations of toys, clothing and money to help children from newborn to 18 years of age who are in need. Each family gets private help and some of our

members put in a huge amount of time with this work.

An orchestra and choir of local and visiting young people put on a concert of Handel's Messiah in our church in December and our CWL provided and served refreshments for this event.

*Marilyn*



*Council News—Huron Perth Region—Immaculate Conception,  
Stratford. Co-President, Lorraine Hertel*

We celebrated the Feast of The Immaculate Conception on December 8th 2015 which was very well attended.

We had another busy year in 2016. In January we put post cards into the pews for members and parishioners to Lobby the government on our Pornography Hurts Campaign. Members gave a short explanation at all the masses on the importance of signing these cards. There were some replies that came back to us from our MPs.

In February, jointly with St. Joseph's and the Knights of Columbus we had Euthanasia Prevention Coalition Speaker Alex Schadenburg to present information on Dr. assisted suicide. The costs were shared with St. Joseph's CWL and the Knights of Columbus. It was very informative and well attended.

Lenten Lunches were served each Wednesday from February 17<sup>th</sup> to March 16<sup>th</sup>. The speakers were chaplains from different organizations in Stratford. They all had very good messages to ponder over lent. We had between 100 and 130 attend each week.

We held another successful Spring Tea and Fashion Show and a planter demonstration done by Brenda Campbell from Cozyn's Garden Gallery at Immaculate Conception Hall. Beverley Maranger provided us with music. Our models from our

CWL membership did a super job showing off the beautiful clothes from Cozyns Gallery. We had all ages and sizes modeling for us. It was enjoyed immensely by all and we were asked when we are doing the next show. We are in 2017. We raised \$1,000 to donate to our local hospice which is being erected this year.

The World Day of Prayer was held March 4<sup>th</sup> at Parkview United Church. We participated with the ladies from other denominations at this annual event and enjoyed doing it very much.

May 4<sup>th</sup>, Storming The Heavens With Prayer was designated as Palliative Care Day in our country. We began with mass at Immaculate Conception Church and then moved to St. Joseph's for Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament until three o'clock and ended with the Divine Mercy devotion. We always had people praying thru the day.

We hired a bus for both Stratford councils to attend Regional Day which was held in Goderich on May 18<sup>th</sup>. We had a delicious meal and excellent music to dance to. It was the Hawaiian theme. Our bus driver put on a grass skirt too and joined in the meal and dancing. The ladies kept him busy. It was a really fun evening.

The CWL Provincial Convention was hosted by three councils - St. Joseph's, Immaculate Conception

and St. Marys at the Arden Park Best Western from July 9<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> in Stratford. It was a great opportunity to become more acquainted with the ladies from other councils and when time permitted to hear the speakers. It was enjoyed by all.

In June student awards were presented to three elementary schools and one to St. Michael's our secondary school.

At our June meeting we had Jutta Siebel - Executive Director of Mental Health Phoenix Survivors as a speaker. She gave a very informative talk about the value of peers supporting peers with mental health illness and how it can strike anyone.

We opened our fall meeting with a delicious pot luck supper, pin presentations and a carnation to thirty three members. The number of years of service ranged from 10 years to 60 years for pins.

In October we shared our hall and had a wonderful evening with our sister council St. Josephs. St. Joseph's arranged to have Brenda Campbell from Cozyns Garden Centre give us a demonstration on making Christmas decorations, centre pieces, hostess gifts and bow making. When the demonstrations were over we had a break and enjoyed refreshments shared by both councils. We still had time for each council to have their individual general meetings.

*(Continued on page 32)*

*Council News—Huron Perth Region—Immaculate Conception,  
Stratford, Co-President, Lorraine Hertel ... (cont'd)*

*(Continued from page 31)*

St. Michael's Secondary school cosmetology class invited Stratford CWL and the surrounding councils to an appreciation morning to receive some special pampering. They did our nails, we said the rosary together in the chapel followed by some special snacks. This was a nice endeavor from our students at St. Michael's Secondary School. We are so fortunate to have such a wonderful group of students looking up to us.

Bereavement Services were held at Immaculate Conception Church

with members of both CWL leagues and the Knights of Columbus in memory of our members who have gone home to be with the Lord.

We had another very successful bazaar and were able to distribute funds to ten local charities and a sizeable cheque to Immaculate Conception Church.

We had our elections in November and were able to fill our vacant executive seats. The new executive is Lorraine Hertel Co-President, Barbara Mitchell Co-President, Treasurer Sandy McCann, Secretary Paula Bentley, Correspondence

Secretary Susan Simard and Membership Wally Ebner.

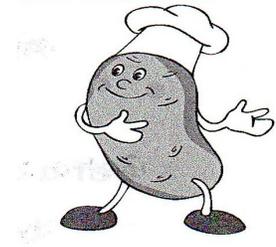
We finished our year with a delicious Pot Luck dinner. The men were invited to this event and the Men's Choir entertained us. There was a good turn out to finish the year 2016.

*Lorraine*

*SWEET POTATO CASSEROLE*

*2 tbsp. corn starch  
2/3 cup white sugar  
4 tsp. orange rind  
6 tbsp. melted butter*

*2/3 cup brown sugar  
1/2 tsp. salt  
2 cups orange juice*



*Slice and cook sweet potatoes in a 9 x 13" dish. Cook the above listed ingredients like a pudding sauce. Cover the sliced and cooked sweet potatoes, add some slivered almonds if you wish. Bake at 325° oven for 3/4 of an hour.*

*The nutritional value of sweet potatoes is unsurpassed. Sweet potatoes can be baked in a microwave, boiled on the stove or baked in the oven. Sweet potatoes should never be washed, just dried off with a paper towel or cloth, then of course peeled after cooling and before slicing.*

*Council News—Huron Perth Region—St. Peter, Goderich*  
*Submitted by: Diane Weber, Recording Secretary*

In 1995, community groups and members banded together to bring a dialysis unit to Alexandra Marine and General Hospital (AMGH) in Goderich. Approximately \$200,000 was raised during the Dialysis '95 campaign. The dialysis unit opened in 1999 and operated three days a week, serving a dozen patients. Despite the success of this initial fundraiser, with the restrictions of the existing equipment, several patients from our area, with specific needs, were required to travel to London (a two hour round-trip in ideal conditions) regularly to receive dialysis treatments.

At a community meeting held in 2015 to investigate what could be done to eliminate the need to travel to London for these patients, the show of support was overwhelming. Those in attendance included patients,

advocates, health care workers and representatives from several local service clubs who played an integral part in the success of the Dialysis '95 campaign.

The largest challenge involved the lack of funding to update the existing equipment. So, in order to combat this challenge, AMGH was asked to provide a list of capital equipment and the cost associated with its purchase. With the financial needs identified, the goal was set and the community sprung into action.

With fundraising underway, St. Peter's Catholic Women's League committed to raise \$5,000.00 for this worthwhile project. Our League hosted a number of breakfasts following Sunday Masses, with funds being dedicated to this project. In addition, homemade pies (or pieces of pie) were sold at the

breakfasts. With the generosity and support of our League sisters and parishioners we were able to meet our \$5,000.00 pledge much earlier than anticipated.

In May 2016 the community, working together, surpassed the overall \$125,000 goal by \$25,000.00, allowing AMGH to purchase all the items on their capital equipment list. This new equipment now provides the Hospital with the flexibility to serve additional patients, as needed.

The upgrades and refurbishment are planned to be completed very soon. At that time, there will be an official unveiling of the donor plaque at the AMGH. What a testament to the power of a dedicated community working together.

*Diane*



*Council News—Huron Perth Region—Immaculate Heart  
of Mary, Grand Bend—Past-president, Joanne Vandenberg*



November 25, 2016 marked 60 years since the Catholic Women's League at Immaculate Heart of Mary in Grand Bend received its Charter! A Mass and Banquet was held on Friday, October 28, 2016 to celebrate this special occasion. Our Pastor Father Tony Laforet was assisted during Mass by Fr. Francis Thekkumkattil, Fr. Thomas Cherusserill-Kuriacko and Fr. Peter Poel, former clergy from our parish - as well as by guests Fr. Greg Blonde and Fr. John Comiskey. The Mass was very uplifting and our voices filled the church with prayer and song!

District *Knights of Columbus* provided an Honour Guard and CWL members filled numerous roles as greeters, organist, soloist, commentator, CWL Banner carriers, cross-bearer, readers, candle bearers, altar servers, prayer readers and gift bearers. Our Charter members Angelina Backx, Riet Willert and Toni Vandenberg, who helped form our Council in 1956 were in attendance, and each received

their 60 year CWL Service Pin during Mass. Yvonne Collez, now from Sarnia, is also a Charter member of our Council and happily attended our celebration with her daughter. During the early years, Yvonne was the translator for the Dutch-speaking ladies at CWL meetings. We know she did a good job as we listen to those ladies today!

After Mass, we headed to our parish Auditorium which was beautifully decorated. Memorabilia was on display, as well as a rolling power point presentation of photos. Wine and conversation flowed freely as we savoured a delicious supper catered by Lucy Hendriks and her team from our sister Council in Parkhill.

Greetings were brought by Angela Pellerin, London Diocese CWL President. She presented certificates of Congratulations to Maureen Garinther and Joan Brewer, our Co-Presidents, from the London Diocesan CWL, the Ontario CWL Council and the National CWL. Tammy Vandersanden brought greetings from the Sacred Heart CWL,

Parkhill and Julie de Gouw, from the CWL Huron-Perth Region. The Grand Commander of the *Order of Alhambra - Algarva Caravan*, based in Grand Bend, the Grand Knight from the *Knights of Columbus Council #8961*, Parkhill, and the District Deputy from the *Knights of Columbus* also brought greetings and congratulations.

Father John Comiskey from St. Peter's Seminary, gave an inspiring talk on "The Role of Women in the Church". His presentation highlighted the historic role of women in the Church. One of the many slides he presented was of a picture taken in front of St. Peter's Cathedral, of CWL members attending the first London Diocesan Convention in 1920!

It was a wonderful evening, filled with lots of memories, faith, fun and friendship!

*Joanne*



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



After a restful summer, our council held a Seniors/Shut-in's Mass in September. Seniors from our local residences and nursing home were invited to attend. Members also picked up seniors who needed a ride to church. During Mass, Father Gerard anointed all of our seniors as well as any other parishioners attending, who wished it. Afterwards, everyone in the church was invited into the annex for a soup and sandwich luncheon.

We began our membership drive in earnest, with a talk before Mass as well as bulletin and newsletter inserts. There is also a special CWL membership envelope included in our boxes of offertory envelopes. We took memberships after all Masses for 2 weeks.

Our Pornography Hurts Campaign began with a short talk before Mass. White ribbons were handed out after Mass and everyone was asked to wear it for the week and to tell anyone who asked, what it stood for. A large wooden white cross was also displayed in the front yard of the church for passers-by to take notice. We wrote about pornography in the bulletin and

in our monthly newsletter, as well as asking our parishioners to write letters to our MP about this ever growing problem.

We hosted our annual Penny Sale at the U.A.W. Hall in October, with the help of many of our members. We canvassed the local merchants and businesses for prizes, as well as selling 3,500 raffle tickets during the summer. The fruits of our labour paid off with a success.

In November, we did quite a bit of work, fundraising for our Holy Family Roof Fund. We managed to make over 4,500 turkey pies, with the help of the Knights of Columbus and parishioners who volunteered to work with us. We also sold lots of our homemade canning after our Masses for two weekends. We presented a cheque to Father Chris in the amount of \$8,800.00 payable to Holy Family Roof Fund. During our four years of fundraising, our council has managed to earn \$32,300.00 for our church.

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes were handed out and we were able to collect 91 for third world countries.

In December, we hosted our annual Advent Tea. Our past president, Aggie Moynihan, presided over this function. We began with the day's scripture readings, then a wonderful Christmas story, followed by a social with Christmas teas and coffee to go with all of our tasty Christmas baking. Gifts were given to members of our clergy and office staff. A Dove of Peace celebration was held to help families who are grieving the loss of a loved one. Each family receives a dove with their loved one's name to be put on their Christmas tree. A time of fellowship followed in the parish centre with fruit trays, veggie trays and Christmas baking supplied by all of our clustered CWL councils.

We have had another busy year. May Our Lady of Good Counsel continue to bless us.

*Judy*



*Council News—Chatham Kent Region—St. Francis Xavier, Tilbury*  
*Submitted by Theresa Gadal, President, Catherine Gadal, Communications*  
*& Penny Rivard, Photographer*

Below are pictures from activities of our league at St. Francis Xavier Church in Tilbury.



Picture 1—St. Francis Xavier Council, Tilbury celebrating birthdays at Tilbury Manor on December 6th, 2016. We enjoyed cake and each resident with a birthday in December received a pair of socks.

Picture 2—During the birthday party celebration at Tilbury Manor, members enjoyed a singsong of Christmas songs with residents. Lucille Duquette is playing the guitar and leading the singsong. Some residents accompanied by playing some rhythm instruments.



Picture 3- In December, members of St. Francis Xavier Council enjoyed a potluck supper followed by an Advent Paralyturgy. We were invited to wear special hats in recognition of our 95 years of service with the CWL. We socialized and enjoyed a variety of teas along with our celebration cake for dessert (see picture 4). All monies donated in lieu of gift exchange was given to the Syrian family in town to help buy birthday gifts for the children.

Picture 4- see above



Picture 5- In November, St. Francis Xavier Council enjoyed an evening of cards with residents of Hudson Manor. Prizes were awarded. Staff of Hudson Manor along with CWL members provided refreshments. A grand time was had by all.

Picture 6- St. Francis Xavier Council attended the Remembrance Day Service at the cenotaph in Tilbury. We purchased and laid a wreath in honour of those Canadians who gave service in the wars. From left: Helen McAuliffe (Community Life) Theresa Gadal (President) Lucille Duquette (Past President)

Also, CWL members have prepared meals in December, January, February for leaders and students participating in the Rite of Confirmation programme at our parish.

On February 22<sup>nd</sup> we are celebrating the February birthdays of residents at Hudson Manor. We are providing the cake for all. A gift will be presented to the birthday persons.

Also, in February we are hosting a Quarter Auction to help raise funds to update the fire suppression system in our parish hall kitchen over the stoves.

Thanks

*Theresa*

*Council News—Chatham Kent Region—Blessed Sacrament,  
Chatham—submitted by: Lorelei Arnold, Communications*

Our new year began with celebrating our Lady's birthday with a wonderful garden party in September. Our members prayed the Rosary and celebrated mass before going to the hall to enjoy a salad potluck dinner. We topped off the evening with a delicious birthday cake for our mother Mary made by our member, Marilyn Gutteridge. Many members wore their favorite sunhats to add to the fun.



Pat Rivest, a CWL life member gave a wonderful talk on the CWL. She explained the importance of having fun at CWL meetings and how we should "grow spiritually, work in our committee and work in parishes". Pat told us that if at each meeting the CWL members have "something to learn, something to see, something to hear and when they leave the meeting, something to do, it will bring life to the council." It was an inspiring talk.

Our October meeting fell on the 99<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Fatima visions of our Mother Mary. One of our members, Sandra VanRaay was honoured by the London Diocese CWL with an award for all her hard work in our community including her work with Canadian Food For Children. Sandra gave an update on all the wonderful work that CFFC does for the poor of the world. We were hard at work at the October meeting making affirmation cards for our parish priest, Fr Jim Higgins. We discussed the importance of praying for Vocations in our community. Each Vocation, Single Life, Married, Religious Life and the Priesthood are all vital to the Church and it is important for everyone to find their true vocation. Each member made an encouragement card for 3 of the Seminarians of our diocese. They were given the seminarians' biographies and were asked to pray for them for the next month. We were entertained with a visit by "Anne" from Anne of Green Gables, when Georgia Craven came and performed one of the hit songs. Georgia, a grade 10 high school student, is a parishioner. She is a

performer in a local theatre production, where her father, Bill is the director. Our own priest, Fr Jim Higgins also performed in the play. We collected gloves, mittens, hats, and scarves for the North of 60 Project for our Corporal Work of Mercy project that month.



The Catholic Women's League and the Knights of Columbus of Blessed Sacrament co-hosted a free recruitment pancake breakfast for our parish families to get to know our groups better. Parishioners were invited to join us and find out more about the work we do for our parish, families and community. We handed out a great pamphlet to encourage new members, had a power point presentation and words of encouragement by our President and the Grand Knight. It was an awesome morning that was enjoyed by everyone. Each

*(Continued on page 38)*

*Council News—Chatham Kent Region—Blessed Sacrament,  
Chatham—submitted by: Lorelei Arnold, Communications Chairperson*

*(Continued from page 37)*

organization had two new members join that day.

An important part of our CWL is always the prayer request emails. It is wonderful to know that all our members are reading these requests and praying and thinking of those that we love and are worried about. They are beautifully written and include a prayer from our own past president, Elizabeth Dorner. Our members, including those homebound, feel so connected to the community around them. Nothing is stronger than the power of prayer.



November had many exciting

events. Some of our members helped throw a birthday party at one of the local Senior Residences. There was cake and ice cream and lots of wonderful singing. The seniors really appreciated it and our own members enjoyed it too! One of our praying members, Carol Sannes, came and gave a powerful witness talk about Cursillo, encouraging members to be a part of the experience.



November also brought a lovely afternoon tea that was well attended. The ladies were treated to lovely snacks and tea and enjoyed an inspiring reading by our own Mary Pavlinak. It was great for all those members who like to visit with their CWL sisters but may not want to come out after dark.

We celebrated Christmas with a party together with the St. Agnes CWL. After a beautiful service in the Church, we had fun with “Choprah” Chatham’s version of Oprah who interviewed our own President, Pennie Vandebroek about how wonderful the CWL is. Members enjoyed a delicious dinner prepared by some of the husbands of CWL members. After plenty of laughs, we continued with a wonderful Christian band called “Unity” and danced the night away. One of our members, Mary Pavlinak donated beautiful handmade runners and a wall hanging that were raffled off for fun. We collected female underwear for Canadian Food For Children. It was an awesome evening with our CWL sisters of the parish cluster. Santa even showed up to wish everyone a Merry Christmas.

*Lorelei*

*English is Hard*

*The soldier decided to dessert in the desert*

*Since there is no time like the present, he thought it  
was time to present the present*

*A bass was painted on the head of the bass drum*

*Council News—Chatham Kent Region—St. Ursula, Chatham.  
submitted by: Cathie Luxton, Communications Chairperson*

September 2016 the General meeting at St. Ursula CWL opened with a pot luck dinner with over 30 attending. Elections are to take place this year for our council, therefore a committee was formed and the nomination forms were being provided at the entrance of the church with the ballot box. This month our Member of Parliament, Dave VanKestern was contacted concerning issues of the assisted suicide and our doctor's dilemma in Ontario. His response back to council was that he is against both issues. The CWL pamphlets were created and put in the pews encouraging all parish women to think about joining the CWL. The new CWL banner for our League was purchased.

October our CWL, through fundraising efforts, purchased for Father Matt Kucharski a new chasuble with matching pall. Our President Sandy Ritchie was presented with a certificate for the highest number of new members in our area. St. Ursula CWL formed a new Funeral Luncheon Committee with 3 rotating teams for the funerals.

November's meeting hosted a guest speaker, Mary Johnston, who spoke about her Uganda Mission trips and the work her group achieves, which is building homes for those who are of most need around the city of Masaka in Africa. The CWL parish cluster of St. Ursula/St. Joseph have endorsed the giving of a hand

made cross (which is beautifully boxed) as a wedding gift to newlyweds. These crosses are made by a parishioner. CWL's are also giving passports to parents of a newly christened child. These passports will be used for the recording of the child's future sacraments. Both these items were on display at our general meeting.

The busy month of December started with our annual Christmas Bake Sale netting \$1,060.90. Our general meeting was organized by Jane Curry. This year our annual Christmas celebration was a Wine and Cheese with over 50 attendees. Father Matt, with Deacons Jerry Lozon and Chris Masterson attending. This year at our Christmas celebration 14 service pins were awarded. 60 Year Pins going to Joanne Bennett, Shirley Grant, Mary Leyte. 50 Year Pins to Audrey Chevalier, Grace Magliaro, Sheila Nugent, Patricia Waddick. A 40 Year Pin to Mafalda DeCola. 25 Year pins to Paula Brady, Carmen Gagnier, Patricia Grey, Janet Horne, Patricia Horton, Jeanette Pake. Maple Leaf Service pins went to Jane Curry and Faye DeJonge. The Belle Guerin Award went to Joanne Bennett.

The new executive was announced and much thanks goes to Jane Curry and Liz Green for their hard work on the elections committee. Not forgetting our shut-ins at this busy time of year, St. Ursula/St. Joseph delivered over 90 poinsettias.

2017

Beginning our new year on January 15 the CWL of St. Ursula hosted Ruth Nagles 100th year birthday celebration. Ruth received many birthday wishes into the afternoon. Ruth has been a CWL member for 67 years.

Dr. Jason Denys was a guest speaker at St. Ursula CWL general meeting. He gave a summary of the history of euthanasia and an overview of current law in Canada and the implications for both patients and the practitioners in Ontario. This was open to all parishioners. February 19<sup>th</sup> we celebrated Father Matt 50<sup>th</sup> birthday. The popular chocolate fountain was running and enjoyed by all!!! On Tuesday February 28<sup>th</sup>, the CWL's of St. Ursula/St. Joseph parish cluster will host mass at St. Joseph site followed by soup and sandwich luncheon at our Spirit and Life Centre.

Please keep in your prayers any members who are ill.

As you read this we will be in the Holy Season of Lent.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel pray for us!

*Cathie*

*Council News—Windsor Region—St. John Vianney, Windsor  
President—AnneMarie Kozak*

**September 2016**

Since late spring, we've been sending 'physician's rights' postcards and made them available parish-wide.

We continue to engage in spiritual & corporal works of mercy—both individually and as a council. (Made available parish wide, "Year of Mercy" pamphlets).

Our September "WonderFall Fashion Event 2" was a huge success with a delicious dinner, vendors, raffles, door prizes and 4 fashion houses represented. The proceeds benefited our St Vincent de Paul food bank.

**October 2016**

A number of our members attended vigils during the 40 Days for Life campaign and 2 members attended the Right to Life dinner.

The fall regional day in Chatham had 5 members attending.

Our parish CWL Policy and Procedures Manual was updated.

Our annual membership drive went well. (As of February 2017 we have 15 new members!)

**November 2016**

Various members attended Memorial Masses—CWL, parish, K of C...

Election Year: 2017/2018  
Executive:

President: AnneMarie Kozak  
Treasurer: Helen Biales

Secretary: Una Miller  
Past-president: Yvette Henkel

**December 2016**

Parish Mass with installation of the new executive.

Our dinner/social was very well attended with lots of food, fellowship and fun.

We held our semi-annual "Prayer Partner Adventure": (members draw names and pray for that CWL sister over the next 6 months).

A Christmas ornament raffle was held, with proceeds benefiting our

parish refugee programme.

Our annual reports were sent online.

Greetings/encouragement cards sent to Ontario CWL councils that have very few members as well as to our past members who are housebound/in nursing homes.

**January 2017**

Introduced our new CWL national logo/theme, for 2017/2018.

**February 2017**

Annual meeting and chose 4 new charities for 2017/2018.

Will use the new CWL theme prayer as our closing prayer throughout 2017/2018.

*AnneMarie*



*Council News—Windsor Region—Our Lady of Atonement, Windsor—  
President—Caroline Ngui*

We had a very successful fall fundraising campaign thanks to the tremendous number of willing volunteers who worked hard at the Bazaar, making Christmas Meat Pies, Chicken pies and more. So we now have the funds to implement programmes and activities for the coming year.

Our Council supports the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition and we have purchased the pamphlet “Caring Not Killing” to be inserted into our Parish bulletins, and the video ‘Euthanasia Deception’ which we will show to the members of the parish during Lent.

The Knights of Columbus and the CWL held a very successful Baby Shower for Birthright in Windsor and Essex Counties in February at the weekend Masses.

The World Day of Prayer Service for our region this year will be held in the local Anglican Church and we hope to have a number of women present.

We are looking forward to hosting the Diocesan Fall Regional Training Day for the Chatham/ Kent, Essex and Windsor CWL Councils on Saturday September 23<sup>rd</sup> 2017. Mark your calendars.

Many thanks are given to Deanna Leveque who has faithfully served a full term as President of our Council and is now our Past President. I know she will always be around to offer advice and support as I begin my term. Thank you Deanna.

*Caroline*



*People know what you are by what they see  
Not by what they hear.*

*Life is a promise; fulfill it.*

*There are many fine things which you mean to do some day,  
under what you think will be more favourable  
circumstances. But the only time that is  
yours is the present.*





*Service Pin Awards for 2016|2017*  
*"Congratulations to our faithful & dedicated"*



**Huron Perth Region:**

**Immaculate Heart of Mary,  
Grand Bend**

**60 year pin**

Angelina Backx  
Riet Willert  
Toni Vandenberg

**50 year pin**

Mary Mommersteeg

**40 year pin**

Roberta Walker  
Thea Stokkermans

**25 year pin**

Maureen Garinther

**10 year pin**

Nardy Lourenssen

**London Region**

**Mary Immaculate, London**

**Maple Leaf Service Pin**

Sandra Mitchell  
Joan Friedrich

**60 year pin**

Ruth Madziak  
Cecilia Mitchell

**50 year pin**

Josie Kersten

**40 year pin**

Barbara Corriveau  
Linda Falconer

Joan Friedrich  
Judy O'Brien

**30 year pin**

Catherine Hagerty-Mwange

**20 year pin**

Barbara Cornish  
Candice Varey  
Roseanne Webb  
Anne McGuigan  
Eleanore Parkin

**10 Year pin**

Teresa Allard  
Bonnie Barnes  
Lenore Drahushchak  
Judy Tigert

**New Members**

Mariah Brown  
Elba Daponte  
Lida DiNucci  
Nora Groshok  
Cindy Livingston  
Lori Smith  
Sue Taber

**Sarnia Lambton Region**

**St. Benedict, Sarnia**

**Maple Leaf Service Pin**

Pat Daamen  
Carol Hall  
Pat Heit  
Mary Mitro

**75 year pin**

Eileen Dunn

**60 year pin**

Dorothy Flory

**50 year pin**

Jacqueline Courchesne  
Mary Frankovic

Juanita Kuiack  
Lena Rattigan  
Helen Richards  
Irene Wigchert

**40 year pin**

Willi Kole  
Marilyn Deery

**25 year pin**

Irene Lacasse  
Cathy Tomkins

**10 year pin**

Cathy Bathurst  
Cathy Culligan  
Erin Deery  
Jean Girard  
Kate Havelock  
Margaret Yaromy

**New Member Pins**

Susan Chamberlin  
Peggy Daws  
Dianne Gilhuly  
Brenda Lefebvre  
Natalie Passingham  
Rosemary Poyser  
Belinda Vargas

**Deceased Members**

Donna Davies  
Mary Hamilton  
Marg Hobin  
Catherine Hemstreet  
Colene Munroe  
Pauline Paquette  
Maria Petko  
Eva Sibley  
Germaine Wilson





*Service Pin Awards for 2016/2017*  
*"Congratulations to our faithful & dedicated"*



**Essex Region:**

**St. Simon & St. Jude,  
Belle River**

**70 year pin**  
Amelia Durocher

**50 year pin**  
Bernadette Drogosz  
Constance Ghanam

**40 year pin**  
Juliette St. Pierre

**25 year pin**  
Gayle Lepine  
Rita Pitre

**10 year pin**  
Jill Boulay  
Rose Ann Marentette  
Theresa Mullins

**Special Recognition Awards—  
50 years and over**

Bev Barrette—58  
Cecile Bouteiller—67  
Catherine Denomey—73  
Dolores Denomey—59  
Arlene Fournier—57  
Irene King—57  
Isabelle Lanoue—61  
Mary Parent—68  
Margaret Betty Sauve—53  
Mae Tremblay—73

**New Members**  
Yvonne Dominato  
Paulette Preston  
Lucille Roy  
Tammy Schnekenburger  
Carolyn Schwarz  
Amanda Shuttleworth

**Chatham Kent Region**

**St. Ursula, Chatham**

**Maple Leaf Service Pin**  
Jan Curry  
Fay DeJonge

**Belle Guerin Award**

Joanne Bennett

**60 year pin**  
Joanne Bennett  
Shirley Grant  
Mary Leyte

**50 year pin**  
Audrey Chevalier  
Grace Magliaro  
Sheila Nugent  
Patricia Waddick

**40 year pin**  
Mafalda DeCola

**25 year pin**  
Paula Brady  
Carmen Gagnier  
Patricia Grey  
Janet Horne  
Patricia Horton  
Jeanette Pake



*Be ye fishers of men. You catch them—He'll clean them.*

*Prayer: Don't give God instructions—just report for duty!*

*We don't change the message, the message changes us.*

*I don't know why some people change churches;  
what difference does it make which one you stay home from?*

*God doesn't call the qualified, He qualifies the called.*

*The best mathematical equation I have ever seen: 1  
cross + 3 nails = 4 given*

# 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)

Spouse's name (If applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Full address \_\_\_\_\_  
(as shown on membership list)

Date deceased \_\_\_\_\_

CWL Parish Council \_\_\_\_\_

Diocese \_\_\_\_\_

Parish councils are asked to forward a copy of this completed form to National office to ensure that the deceased member's League magazine is discontinued. Copies must also be sent to provincial and diocesan chairpersons of Spiritual Development to ensure that their respective Books of Life can be updated.

Provincial chairpersons of Spiritual Development are reminded to submit a complete list of their province's deceased members, for the current year, to National Office by January 15<sup>th</sup> of each year for inclusion in the National Book of Life.

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

February 2016

This form replaces all other forms—please discard all old ones.