



The Catholic Women's League of Canada

SPECTRUM

Fall 2018

Newsletter of the Hamilton Diocesan Council
www.cwl.hamilton.on.ca





Hamilton Diocesan Council
The Catholic Women's League of Canada



INSPIRED BY THE SPIRIT
WOMEN RESPOND TO GOD'S CALL

Editor's Note

Welcome to the fall edition of the SPECTRUM.

Another new year is ready to start and councils will be very busy with possibly new executives, new programs and speakers to look forward to.

Through the SPECTRUM the diocesan executive is able to keep in touch with you. It also provides a way for the parish councils in our Diocese, to share with their league sisters- which might be good works, milestones & council awards, meeting ideas or anything else they would like to share. I would like to thank the councils who submitted articles for this issue.

The deadline for the spring issue is **January 31, 2019**.

Please use *Calibri 12 font*, and make sure you include the information of your parish council, municipality, and a contact person.

Send your submissions to me at: dpac@golden.net

Patti Pagett
Diocesan Communications Chair
188 Moore Avenue, Kitchener ON N2H 3S8
dpac@golden.net



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Diocesan Officers and Chairs (2017-2019)

Spiritual Advisor . . .	Rev. John Redmond
President . . .	Joan Schurter
Past President & Historian . . .	Ana Sousa
First Vice-President . . .	Catherine Feren
Second Vice-President . . .	Joyce Cotter
Recording Secretary . . .	Mary Clark
Corresponding Secretary . . .	Nancy Morley
Treasurer . . .	Julia Calverley

Committee Chairs

Christian Family Life . . .	Joyce Cotter
Communications . . .	Patti Pagett
Community Life . . .	Laura Grint
Education and Health . . .	Joanne Palmer
Legislation . . .	Teresa DiFalco
Resolutions . . .	Vicki Lee
Spiritual Development . . .	Catherine Feren

Regional Chairs and Secretaries

Brant . . .	Corrinne Carrita (Chair) Angela Rowley (Secretary)
Hamilton . . .	Debra Noronha (Chair) Meagan Noronha (Secretary)
Kitchener . . .	Barbara Diemert (Chair) Christine McKenzie (Secretary)
North . . .	Jane Godin (Chair) Michelle Phillippi (Secretary)



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PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT #1

Good and Gracious God, we give thanks for the many blessings that we receive from You through Your Divine Spirit.

Open our hearts and minds as we ask for your guidance in developing practical ways that will best reflect the Catholic Women's League today and tomorrow.

Breathe into us right judgement and courage to know and understand Your will in our endeavours.

Move in us so that our work may be holy.

Be with us always so that in all things, we may act under the influence of Your holy inspiration.

We ask this in Your holy name.

Amen.

[Thanks to Joan Schurter, Diocesan President for submitting this prayer]



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DIOCESAN PRESIDENT

Dear Sisters in the League

As I sit here on this sunny, humid afternoon and read through my Catholic Women's League journal in which I record each day the many phone calls, emails, visits to councils etc. one can see how quickly time passes when involved in such a wonderfully vibrant organization as ours.

The Mission Statement of the Catholic Women's League should serve as a starting point for each member to better understand and appreciate what the League stands for.

A national organization rooted in Gospel values calling its members to holiness through service to the people of God.

Is this a clear description of your council? Does this statement draw the women of your parish closer together in a genuine desire to become stronger, faith-filled women? Is it helping you grow in faith? Do you find that your meetings are social with little done to foster growth in your faith? What do you and your council do to foster growth and harmony amongst the members of your parish?

I hope each council thinks carefully about what they hope to achieve in the coming year and how to best serve their members. It is so easy to just continue doing what we have always done, without thinking of new ideas that may better assist our membership

"Sometimes to our surprise what we say or do may be hurtful to others. It is important that we become sensitive to the reactions of others as to what we do and what we say. Are we seeing the face of Jesus in our sister members? Are we seeing our sisters with the eyes of Jesus? Is there a need for reconciliation- forgiving your sister and asking for forgiveness for yourself?" More can be found in the short workshop "On Being Kinder to each Other" on the National website. www.cwl.ca under Programs and Workshops- Organization.

Our focus on the Homeless continues for another year. I am overwhelmed and amazed by all the innovative ways you have addressed Homelessness here in Hamilton Diocese. The collection of pounds of food and clothing, the offering of coffee cards and hosting guest speakers are only a few of the many ways you have made a difference in someone's life. You are so willing to give of yourself to those who have so little.

Thank you for your patience as the National office staff work to get the membership system fully operational- hopefully for 2019.

The Catholic Women's League of Canada will be turning 100 years old in 2020! Stay tuned for updates on exciting events and initiatives for you and your council.



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(Diocesan President –Continued)

I have recently returned from the Ontario Provincial Convention held in Toronto and it was amazing! The liturgical services, speakers, reports and the friendships renewed and newly made were wonderful. In a few short days I will be flying off to Winnipeg to the national convention, the last of three conventions this year. Thank you for allowing me to be your representative at these conventions! My wish is that more of you could attend and see all that is being done by our sisters across the country. God's many blessings are present at the gathering of all these women.

Future conventions that you may wish to mark on your calendars:

Diocesan Convention:

May 24th - 26th, 2019 Delta, Guelph,
May 29th - 31st, 2020 Crowne Plaza, Kitchener (our 100th anniversary)

Ontario Provincial Convention:

July 6th – 10th, 2019 Kingston
July 4th – 8th, 2020 Crowne Plaza, Kitchener (Yes we, Hamilton Diocese are hosting)

National Convention:

August 18th – 21st, 2019 Calgary, Alberta
August 9th – 12th, 2020 Montreal, Quebec
August 8th – 11th, 2021 Toronto Ontario

On September 16th I hope you will be able to join us at Immaculate Conception, Formosa for our 17th Annual Vocations Mass. This is an opportunity to come together and celebrate all vocations and to learn more about the priesthood, several Religious Orders, the Serra Club, the Knights of Columbus and of course the Catholic Women's League.

I look forward to meeting many of you either for the first time or to renewing our friendships over the next year. Your councils have been so welcoming on my many visits.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel continue to bless us and guide us as we, Hamilton Diocese go forward and spread love, peace and hope to everyone as members responding to God's Call.

Joan Schurter
Hamilton Diocesan President



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ORGANIZATION

Hoping that your summer has been a time of refreshment for all of you; and that coming back to your role in the League gives you a sense of opportunity. At the diocesan convention, you were challenged to consider the first duty of the Organization portfolio as your primary goal this year. That duty, you may remember, is recruiting members and maintaining memberships. Membership numbers in Hamilton Diocese are down from last year, but not by much. Each council is challenged to increase its members by just three. There are councils for whom that will not be feasible, but there are others who could manage four or more. If each Organization chair does what she can to bring in those three, we will increase our membership throughout the diocese and be above the 2016 numbers! There are many resources for you to use that will help you succeed in that goal.

You've heard about "Web Wednesday" – a simple word trick to help you remember to check out the various websites on Wednesdays. Try to get in the habit of checking each week; you never know what you may find!

For Hamilton Diocese, the site is www.hamilton.cwl.on.ca Lots of information here, including details about our 100th anniversary events.

Provincial is www.cwl.on.ca When you check Provincial's site, you will see "ON LINE NEWSLETTER" along the right sidebar. Hamilton Diocese has quite a feature in the June issue. Don't miss it!

Finally, the website for National is www.cwl.ca When you get there, look for the link for "RESOURCES"; follow it to "MANUALS". Look for the "Handbook for Organization Chairpersons." This is a remarkable resource that downloads in minutes. It is filled with information and resources that you can use to do your best to meet that recruiting goal and add to your own council's membership.



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PAST PRESIDENT AND HISTORIAN

Dear Sisters;

The role of past-president is to mentor by staying involved, keeping in communication with our council and being supportive. We must also remember how important our minutes and archives are in our councils. They should be stored in a safe air tight and waterproof cabinet. Storing all minutes and pertinent information is essential to the preservation of our council history. Never throw out minutes. They should be used when celebrating a milestone such as we, the Hamilton Diocesan Council, will be celebrating 100 years in 2020.

Some councils may be holding elections this year. I hope they go well and as past presidents you play a major role in the elections process by being the organizer of elections and I encourage all past presidents to consider letting their name stand for next year's election. Some councils allow people to continue in their current roles. Please remember being a president is not a life sentence.

Our next section of the Constitution & Bylaws is Part VII: Membership.

Section 1: Categories of Membership

Membership is established and maintained by payment of the annual prescribed membership fee through a local parish council in accordance with Part XVII, Section 4.

- a) General Membership: A Catholic woman 16 years of age or over may become a member with voting privileges and with eligibility for office by election or appointment.
- b) Life Membership: A member, nominated by a diocesan or provincial council, fulfilling the criteria established by the national executive, may be awarded a life membership in national council.
- c) Honorary Life Membership: A member who has served as national president has this distinctive honour bestowed on her.
- d) Associate Membership: A non-Catholic woman 16 years of age or over may become a member with voting privileges, but without eligibility for office by election or appointment. Membership rights and/or conditions may only be amended by a special resolution of the members affected by the amendment in accordance with the *Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act* (hereinafter referred to as the "Act").

Section 2: Transfer of Membership

A member may transfer to another council and shall not be required to pay a further membership fee for the current year. A member shall hold membership in only one council at any one time. Membership is not transferable to any other person.

Section 3: Termination of Membership

Membership is terminated only when the member's term of membership expires through non-payment of membership fees.



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(Past-President / Historian –Continued)

It is my hope that you are understanding and following the guidelines of the Constitution & Bylaws and do not hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns.
May Our Lady of Good Counsel continue to guide each and every one of you to do your very best for God and Canada!

Ana Sousa, Past-President/Historian
amsousa@rogers.com



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CHRISTIAN FAMILY LIFE

Healing of the Heart for Separated and Divorced

"And the two will become one flesh. They are no longer two, therefore but one flesh. So then, what God has united, human beings must not divide." Mark 10:8-9



Marriage, a sharing of two lives involving a bonding of souls and spirits in a physical, emotional, mental and spiritual union. A blending of two, a man and a woman where they complete and complement one another to such an extent that they are both better together than as a single being.

The Catholic Church views on marriage & divorce:

Sacramental marriage – Marriage is a covenant by which a man and a woman establish between themselves a partnership of the whole of life. The Catholic Church understands the three essential elements of marriage to be: **permanence** (i.e., indissolubility, meaning that the marriage bond ceases only with the death of one of the spouses), **faithfulness** (i.e., marriage is an exclusive union between one man and one woman) and **openness to the possibility of new life** (i.e., the couple must be open to possibility of having and raising children) (CCC 1643).

Once a valid marriage bond is created, its continued existence no longer depends on the will of the parties (CCC 1640). The marriage bond continues to exist even if the parties no longer wish to be married, and even if they have been separated for many years or have obtained a civil divorce. The Catholic Church does not permit divorce and remarriage without a Church declaration that the first marriage was invalid (CCC 2384).

While the marriage between any two people is an indissoluble covenant, it is also a sacrament when it is celebrated between two baptized Christians (Catholic, Orthodox, Anglican or Protestant). In a sacramental marriage, the couple receives additional graces to perfect their love for one another and to strengthen their commitment (CCC 1641).

Annulment or Declaration of Nullity is an official determination by a Church Tribunal that what appeared to be a valid marriage was actually not one (i.e., that the marriage was in fact invalid).

While a civil divorce says that it dissolves an existing marriage, an annulment declares that a marriage bond never existed in the first place. A person must receive an annulment before they consider remarriage.

Sadly not all marriages make it until death do us part. There are many reasons for a failed marriage: adultery, addiction, or abuse but indifference is often the real reason. One partner cannot save a marriage single-handedly.

Separation/divorce is more than simply the loss of your spouse; there is concern for the children, the split on holidays, vacations, & family events, financial insecurity, loss of friends and family etc. It is a difficult time in their lives, where people can experience feelings of bitterness, anger or selfishness. A time of loneliness, discouragement, and an overwhelming sense of loss. A divorced person feels the desperation and sorrow of a failed marriage.



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(Christian Family Life –Continued)

“Our faith teaches that we are not alone in our struggles. We have a God who promises over and over in the scriptures that He will never abandon us. In fact, He promises that we can expect Him to step in and help just when we need it most. Our God is a faithful God who will never leave us hanging. Let this Truth encourage you in your daily struggle and give you courage, strength and hope.” **Stand Strong! Your daily inspiration July 20, 2015**

Keep Turning Towards God

Attend Mass with your family every Sunday

-through listening to the homily and the gospel, the teachings of Jesus will reinforce your willingness to forgive, learn understanding and patience, and generosity of spirit

Surround yourselves with people doing good works

-this will reinforce virtues of forgiveness, unselfishness, and thinking of others

-your spirit will become more lighthearted, and positive

-you will be inspired by others and this will help you through difficult situations

Don't be too hard on yourself

-every family and situation is different

-not every day is going to be a good day, so put Jesus at the centre of your life and your strength will come from within

-prayer, sacrifice and hard work will help you work through this new beginning

Questions Frequently Asked

- ❖ Divorce is not a sin unless you are divorcing without serious reason or on a whim. The church does not keep divorced Catholics from receiving the sacraments.
- ❖ Divorce or separated persons are not excommunicated and is still a Catholic in good standing.
- ❖ The only reason for excommunication after divorce is remarriage without going through the annulment process.
- ❖ You receive an annulment through a Catholic Diocesan Tribunal. It does not mean that the marriage never took place but it is a determination that a sacramental marriage did not take place.
- ❖ Children born from the marriage are not illegitimate or that the couple was “living in sin”.
- ❖ The Catholic Church is not here to condemn but to console and to help them find peace, power and a renewed passion for life.

Hamilton Diocese offers:

Support Groups for Separated and Divorced

-meets 1st & 3rd Friday of the month, 7 – 9 pm; Sept to June at Chancery Office



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(Christian Family Life –Continued)

Programs of Support

-a 10 to 12 week course offered in fall or spring

Level 1 – Learning to Cope

2 – Accepting the Situation

3 – Enhancing Self-Esteem

4 - Reconnecting

“Keys to Loving Relationships”

-DVD/ video program by Dr. Gary Smalley

-also a 10 week program in fall or spring at Chancery Office

Please visit <https://hamiltondiocese.com> for further details.

Books:

“Healing after Divorce: Hope for Catholics” by Susan Rowland

“The Gift of Self: A Spiritual Companion for Separated & Divorced Faithful to The Sacrament of Marriage” by Maria Pia Campanella

“Prayers for Divorced Catholics” by Mrs. Monica Ann Frese

“Daily Inspirations for Divorced Catholics” by Vince Frese

“Divorced. Catholic. Now What?” by Lisa Duffy & Vince Frese

Websites:

“Living in Love” - mini retreat for married couples www.livinginlove.org

“Worldwide marriage encounter” www.wwme.org

“Retrouvaille” – retreat for troubled marriages www.retrouvaille.org

DVD 12 part series:

“Surviving Divorce – Hope & Healing for the Catholic Family” by Rose Sweet

How can members of the Catholic Women's League help those going through a separation or divorce?

- Pray for them
- Respect their privacy
- Wait for them to share their story
- Don't judge them or make assumptions
- Avoid gossip or spreading negative comments
- Don't overreact, act normally
- Have empathy for their feelings
- Don't compare a breakup to a divorce



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(Christian Family Life –Continued)

- Avoid blaming them for the divorce
- Spend time together (inexpensive) - Invite for a coffee, nature walks
- Offer to help with children/household errands
- Make the support ongoing

“Father, I belong to you. I place myself anew in your hands and acknowledge you as Master and Lord of my life. Grant me the gift of a forgiving heart and cleanse me of any anger, hostility or revenge. Heal my hurts and teach me to rely on your love. Grant me wisdom of heart and strengthen me by your grace to move on in faith, in trust, and in love. Thank you, Lord, for your love in my life.”

Anonymous

www.beliefnet.com

Joyce Cotter
Christian Family Life



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TREASURER

Dear Sisters in the League

As we now enter the Fall and Winter of our year, I would like to remind you of possible areas that you can be donating in conjunction with your sister members.

We as an organization at the Hamilton Diocesan level support the "Pornography Hurts" campaign with the placement of signs on roadside billboards, in bus shelters and on the sides of buses throughout the dioceses.

There is also "Our Lady of Good Counsel" bursary money to help in some small way, the costs to our diocese seminarians. This year four young men will receive a gift of \$500 each at the Vocation Mass this September at Immaculate Conception Church, Formosa. We collect for Development and Peace year round and give the Bishop a cheque for the total collected the previous twelve months, at our annual convention each May.

The Life Members Incentive Fund, which is the monies used to offset some of the costs for 2 new attendees to the annual convention is another area that donations can be made. As the 100th Anniversary of the Hamilton Diocesan Catholic Women's League is fast approaching, we are selling items with a specially designed crest in an attempt to cut down on costs for the festivities that year and also towards the annual convention.

These items include: rosaries and cases, luggage tags and straps and cloth satchels (bags). We continue to sell our league scarfs and card packs too. These will be available at the regional meetings. The sale of these items and other specially marked donations help to defray the costs of our annual convention and the future Provincial Convention that will be hosted by the Hamilton Diocese in 2021.

We thank you in advance for your generosity in all the ways that you donate, or leave for us to donate in your name.

We remain, Trusting in the Lord

Julia Calverley, Hamilton Diocesan Treasurer



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COMMUNICATIONS

Are you aware of Salt & Light?... <http://saltandlighttv.org/> They are celebrating their 15th anniversary and I thought you may want to check them out.

What They Are:

Born on the wings of the 2002 World Youth Day in Canada, Salt + Light is a unique instrument of the New Evangelization. It is dedicated to being – and helping others become – the salt of the earth and the light of the world. Our mission is to proclaim Jesus Christ and the joy of the Gospel to the world by telling stories of hope that bring people closer to Christ and the Catholic faith.

We share the joys and hopes of the Gospel through television, radio, print, and online media. Our work unites people together through prayer, celebration, reflection, education, authentic dialogue and enquiry, thought-provoking reporting and stories of faith and action. We also challenge believers to grow in the knowledge of the faith and the Catholic tradition in its many expressions. We strive to offer an invitation to all peoples, especially those on the peripheries of faith and the Church, to draw closer to the Lord and experience the community of the Church.

Their Mission:

To proclaim Jesus Christ and the joy of the Gospel in Canada and globally by telling stories of hope that bring people closer to Christ and the Catholic faith.

What They Do:

Television

Salt + Light is an award-winning digital network that offers a variety of programs, event coverage, series, documentaries and other hope-filled content. The network is available at a low monthly cost on various cable and satellite carriers in Canada and throughout the world via online streaming and on-demand videos.

Documentaries

Salt + Light is regarded as a unique story teller of issues that are important to society. Since our first documentary, *Love is a Choice*, launched in 2004; we have built up an impressive library of award-winning documentary productions.

Production Services

Since 2007, we have offered our services as a production house to various groups in need of promotional videos and regularly provide this sought-after service. Salt + Light specializes in: video production; script writing; shooting; editing and packaging.

Radio

Beginning in 2009, Salt + Light made a move to radio. Thanks to the invitation of the Catholic Channel on satellite radio, Salt + Light began producing the S+L Radio Hour, a weekly one-hour long radio show, featuring interviews, music, news updates, and event listings.



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(Communications –Continued)

Salt + Light Magazine

A high-quality seasonal publication that is widely distributed across Canada. Written in both English and French, the publication features guest columns, in-depth features and highlights from Salt + Light programs and initiatives. It is offered to donors without charge. Salt and Light Magazine is also made available to parishes and Church groups for a small donation.

Patti Pagett; Hamilton Diocesan Communications Chair



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COMMUNITY LIFE

Greetings Sisters

I hope you have had time to rest and relax with family and friends. As we return from what has been a very hot summer we welcome the coolness of autumn days with the smell of the earth, mornings with a little fog burning off to bright afternoons and cool nights with the blanket pulled up just to ward off a slight chill.

In June we celebrated with our Indigenous brothers and sisters National Indigenous Peoples Day on June 21. This year the Federal Government is proposing a Federal Statutory Holiday. We truly hope this comes to fruition in light of the Truth and Reconciliation report.

Development and Peace has had a very busy year. The work of the poor is never done. In the fall we are hoping to roll out a new slate of movies to be presented in parishes throughout the diocese.

As we continue to focus on homelessness I encourage you to collect toiletries for small offerings to those you encounter along the way. Have your councils prepare small gift packs. Many of you are already doing this.

Also please consider collecting Air Miles for Missions:

Send for your Catholic Missions In Canada Air Miles Card. Help with the expensive cost of travel, to reach remote northern communities especially in northern Ontario. For every 95 Air Miles earned, they will receive \$10.00 for their missionaries to use toward their travel expenses.

Mail your request to collect Air Miles for Missionaries to:

Catholic Missions In Canada, Air Miles Program

201-1155 Young Street Toronto ON M4T 1W2

Email: Christine@cmic.info

Telephone toll free: 1-8666-937-2642

In the footsteps of Mary

Laura Grint; Community Life Chair



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LEGISLATION

Warmest greetings and blessings to All,

I hope everyone was able to enjoy time with family and friends over the summer months. With fall upon us and as the leaves change colour, there is always ONE constant. "When everything seems to be changing, we can reply on God's constancy." - Hebrews 13:8. Through His constancy we grow in faith to achieve greater holiness as sisters in Christ.

For your ease of reading and referencing, I have broken down this directive into categories. As well, I have included an "Eye on Legislation" attachment.

SCAVENGER HUNT:

A reminder to all councils/members of the Provincial Scavenger Hunt Challenge. You will recall that our Provincial Legislation Chairwomen challenged each council/member to participate as a means of educating members about events that can lead to homelessness, and ways we can help end homelessness. Councils and/or members are to form a team and select one of three scenarios provided and work through the specific activities provided for the scenario they select. Councils/members will learn together the many ways we can help the homeless, through discovering what legislation is in place and the various programs available in our communities. **The deadline** for this activity and to submit your survey is **October 16th** (*World Day of Hunger*). Information for this activity can be found on the CWL Provincial website at the following link: <http://cwl.on.ca/sites/default/files/directives/1679.pdf>

LEGISLATION WORKSHOPS:

Over the past year my goal was to help our members gain a better understanding of the Legislation portfolio and to encourage and increase interest and participation of our members. Some initiatives that I undertook to fulfill this goal were to form a Diocesan Legislation sub-committee, and to develop a Legislation 101 Presentation. In doing so, I was able to create templates and hand-outs to share with our members in an effort to assist and encourage engagement and participation. My sub-committee members and I have accepted invitations to be guest speakers at council meetings, and I collaborated with the Diocesan Resolutions Chairperson to deliver a Resolution/Legislation Mini Workshop at our Hamilton Diocesan Convention this past May 2018. We are also scheduled to deliver a workshop at the fall Hamilton regional meeting. With the help of my two sub-committee members, we have made some encouraging progress, and we will continue to work on ways to better serve and assist you.

FYI & ACTION ITEMS:

The following is a summary of resolution outcomes from our three recent CWL Conventions (Diocesan, Provincial and National). Please monitor these resolutions and take action as you can, so to help these resolutions pass into law.



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(Legislation –Continued)

Hamilton Diocesan CWL Convention May 2018

There were no resolutions brought forward.

Ontario CWL Provincial Convention July 2018

At the recent Ontario CWL provincial convention, members approved resolution ON.18.02 Immediate Implementation of Income Security: A Roadmap for Change for Ontarians with a Disability. The resolution resolves that “the Ontario provincial council of The Catholic Women's League of Canada in 71st annual convention assembled urge the Ontario provincial government to immediately implement the recommendations of Income Security: A Roadmap for Change pertinent to Ontarians with a disability.” You can read or download Income Security: A Road Map for Change from this link: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/income-security-roadmap-change>

National CWL Convention August 2018

Our Diocesan President advises that three resolutions passed at the CWL National Convention in August 2018, however Ontario's two resolutions did not come to the floor. Please monitor the National CWL website for these updates at www.cwl.ca (please note the website is currently down as it is under construction and being updated).

My sub-committee and I remain committed to serving and assisting you in any way we can. We look forward seeing you at our upcoming regional meetings. Please feel free to contact me at any time. My phone number is 905-643-6819, and my email is cta-associates@cogeco.ca

May the Holy Spirit and our Christian values guide and help us fulfill our work as Legislation Standing Committee Chairpersons and Members of the Catholic Women's League.

Blessings and Hugs,

Teresa DiFalco, Diocesan Legislation Standing Committee Chairperson





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(Legislation –Continued)

LEGISLATION ATTACHMENT: EYE ON LEGISLATION:

DEFEATED BILLS:

Bill S-230 *Drug-Impaired Driving Detection Act* was defeated in second reading in the House of Commons. This bill would have supported both resolutions 2005.07 Illegal Manufacture and Trafficking of Crystal Methamphetamine and 2004.12 Marijuana Possession/Use – A Criminal Offence. Continue to encourage members to contact the prime minister, attorney general and federal ministers of health and justice on these issues.

BILL UPDATES IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS:

Bill C-211 *Federal Framework on Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Act* has been referred to the Senate Committee on National Security and Defence following second reading in the Senate.

Bill C-243 *National Maternity Assistance Program Strategy Act* is in second reading in the Senate.

Bill C-277 *Framework on Palliative Care in Canada Act* has passed and received royal assent. Continue to monitor the development of palliative care in Canada and offer assistance where applicable.

Bill C-404 *An Act to amend the Assisted Human Reproduction Act*. It has gone through first reading in the House of Commons and needs the immediate attention of members. Please encourage members to urge members of parliament (MPs) to vote against this bill that would commodify human life. This bill not only speaks against the many pro-life resolutions and Resolution 2011.01 Prohibition of Practices re Human Reproductive Material, but even more so it is against Resolution 2000.02 The Prohibition of the Sale of Human Embryonic or Foetal Tissue, or Reproductive Services.

BILL UPDATES IN THE SENATE:

Bill S-5 *An Act to amend the Tobacco Act* and the Non-smokers' Health Act and to make consequential amendments to other Acts received royal assent. Contact MPs and the federal minister of health to ensure the manufacture, sale, labelling and promotion of vaping products are being regulated.



Hamilton Diocesan Council
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INSPIRED BY THE SPIRIT
WOMEN RESPOND TO GOD'S CALL

(Legislation –Continued)

Bill S-228 *Child Health Protection Act* is in second reading in the House of Commons. It has been reviewed by the Standing Committee on Health and was returned to the House of Commons with amendments.

Bill S-240 *An Act to amend the Criminal Code and the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act* (trafficking in human organs) has been reviewed by the Senate Committee on Human Rights and was returned to Senate with amendments.

Please continue to contact your government representatives with respect to the Bills listed above. Let us all encourage our members and councils to write letters to the Prime Minister, MPs, MPP's and appropriate ministers who make decisions on these issues.



Hamilton Diocesan Council
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INSPIRED BY THE SPIRIT
WOMEN RESPOND TO GOD'S CALL

RESOLUTIONS

I hope everyone had a safe, healthy and happy summer! I am wondering where the time has gone. The summer flew by. As I move into the second year of my convenorship, it is my intention to continue to working with you through the resolutions process, perhaps helping to lessen the anxiety that is sometimes associated with them.

At the Diocesan convention in Guelph, Teresa diFalco and I conducted a workshop on Resolutions and Legislation. It was a back-to-basics style workshop that began with the purpose of a resolution and how they are written, and ended with what happens to resolutions when they are passed. This workshop was well received by those in attendance, with great questions being asked. While this workshop was only an hour long, Teresa and I have been developing a longer workshop over the summer that can be presented to councils if there is interest. This enhanced workshop will be more hands-on and could be tailored to fit any time frame. Please feel free to contact me or Teresa if you and your council would be interested.

I was greatly appreciative of the opportunity to be able to attend the Provincial convention in Toronto in July. I participated in the Resolutions dialogue, where we discussed the three resolutions presented. It was an opportunity to understand the resolutions more fully. I sent out a directive with information on these resolutions:

- ON.18.01 Develop national standards for levels of pharmaceuticals in Canada's drinking water
- ON.18.02 Full implementation of Income Security: A Roadmap for Change
- ON.18.03 To fully implement alternative sentencing to incarceration of Indigenous offenders

All three resolutions were passed and moved on to the National level. The resolutions were very well written and brought attention to issues that all of us need to know about. I urge all of you to please take the time to read them, share them with your councils and to implement the action plans contained in the resolutions.

I want to continue encouraging all of you to think of ideas, of things that you think should be changed in the world to make it better. Please feel free to talk to me about your topics and ideas; I will help you as much as I can. Remember, you do not have to write resolutions on your own, form a committee, talk to other councils, even other dioceses. But take the first step and be God's voice in your world.

Vicki Lee, Resolutions Chair



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



**INSPIRED BY THE SPIRIT
WOMEN RESPOND TO GOD'S CALL**

LIFE MEMBER LIAISON

Dear Sisters in the League;

When you read this directive, it will be autumn and our busy League schedules will have begun.

Life members across the country receive a monthly newsletter from national life member liaison Bev Weiler. Our provincial life member liaison Donna Provost also sends out a monthly newsletter and birthday list. Donna also forwards prayer requests as well as good news reports. I forward all these emails to our diocesan life members.

Hamilton life members gathered for dinner at our diocesan convention. There was a life member luncheon at the provincial convention in Toronto. Life member Betty Abbott of Oakville, Father Ted Hughes and Monsignor Edward House, past Hamilton diocesan Spiritual Advisors were remembered at this time. There was also a life member luncheon at the national convention in Winnipeg. Our life members gathered during the summer for a very enjoyable backyard BBQ.

Five Ontario League members were named Life Members at national council's winter meeting: Lynn Olenik and Genevieve Sexton of Hearst diocese, Stephanie Spinelli of Kingston diocese, Sharon St. Jean of Ottawa and Joanne Hough of Peterborough. They were recognized at both Ontario Provincial and National conventions.

Plans are already underway for the diocesan 2019 convention and of course our diocesan 2020 100th anniversary convention and the 2020 provincial convention. Please support all the fundraising efforts and activities. If you have any ideas I'm sure the 100th anniversary committee will welcome them.

Presidents, remember you should be attending the regional meetings as well as the annual general meeting—the diocesan convention. You learn so much at these gatherings. (see Constitution & Bylaws, pg. 19, Part X11 Section 1)

Also you should be encouraging all your members to attend. (Constitution & Bylaws, pg. 32, Part X1V Section 6 b and Part XV pg. 36 Section 4). All members will learn so much at these meetings and will realize the larger scope of the League.

Presidents, please encourage your members to participate in these meetings. It would be great to see members from every council present at the regional meetings as well as diocesan convention.



Hamilton Diocesan Council
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(Life Member Liaison –Continued)

So saying that, I hope to meet all of you at the 2018 fall regional and spring 2019 regional meetings and of course at the 99th diocesan convention in May 2019. The committees work very hard to make these meetings informative and enjoyable.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel continue to watch over you and guide you in all your work for God, Canada and the League.

Prayers and Blessings

Anna Brady, Hamilton Diocesan Life Member Liaison

“Lord, help me to remember that nothing is going to happen to me today that You and I together can't handle”



Hamilton Diocesan Council
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EIGHT THINGS TO REMEMBER

8 things to remember when going through tough times:

1. Everything can - and will – change.
2. You've overcome challenges before.
3. It's a learning experience.
4. Not getting what you want can be a blessing.
5. Allow yourself to have some fun.
6. Being kind to yourself is the best medicine.
7. Other people's negativity isn't worth worrying about.
8. And there is always, always, always, something to be thankful for!!

(Science & Metaphysics-Facebook)



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WOMEN RESPOND TO GOD'S CALL

PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT #2

This is a prayer we need to pray every day:

"Holy Spirit, may my heart be open to the Word of God,

may my heart be open to good,

may my heart be open to the beauty of God – every day.

Pope Francis

[Thanks to Georgina Bourke, Hamilton Diocesan Life Member for submitting this prayer; found in the "Spiritans"- a newsletter of the Spiritans of the TransCanada Province.]



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WOMEN RESPOND TO GOD'S CALL

PARISH COUNCIL REPORTS

BRANT REGION:

**Sacred Heart Parish
Paris ON**

At the Regional Meeting in March it was suggested that parishes try to have a Family gathering. In June, instead of our Annual Mother Daughter Potluck our CWL hosted a Family Potluck. We had 40 people sign up and 27 attended. Each family paid \$ 4.00 (for a family up to 6 people) to help cover the cost of beverages and door prizes. There were three door prizes to pick from, each basket was family themed, from Taco Night to Game Night. At our next meeting we will be discussing if we would like to try this again.

In June we held our Annual Garden Party. Mother Nature was not kind to us this year. On the Friday of the event it rained, a lot, but the Rain Man didn't keep our Parishioners away. Many still came with their rain coats and umbrellas. In June we said good bye to Father Jeff Bergsma and hello to Father Joseph Okoko.

Our next meeting will be in September, a Breakfast Meeting at the Windmill Country Market in Mount Pleasant.

Donna Campbell, President



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WOMEN RESPOND TO GOD'S CALL

PARISH COUNCIL REPORTS

HAMILTON REGION:

**Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish
Freelton ON**

Dear Sisters in the League,

In June of this year we held a wine and cheese evening and invited all women of the parish. One of our parishioners, who owns and operates a local cheese shop, came with samples of delicious cheeses and crackers for us to sample. He spoke to us about his history in the business and we learned much about the different types of cheeses and the many different places around the world where they are made. We served wine and also had some food and refreshments following the presentation. The evening was very well attended and a huge success enjoyed by all. Everyone said that it was one of the best events we've held and all agreed we should have this type of event often throughout the year. It gave the women of the parish the chance to get to know each other better in a fun environment. All agreed that this was what the parish needed.

We definitely will be planning more events similar to this one. The cost, planning, and work for the evening was minimal, yet the result was the "best".

Judy Van Schyndel, President

.....
**Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King Parish
Hamilton ON**

Thanks to the hard work of our executive, our members and our spiritual advisor, we have improved our membership base by nearly 50%. With improved visibility of our executive, and meetings that were engaging, we had 11 new members and 20 lapsed members return.

The highlights were:

- Seven members (5 Executive + 2 members) attended the Hamilton Diocesan Convention in May 2018.
- "Hygiene Kit" collection for the Good Shepherd- Martha House and Mary's Place with parishioners and members donating two large bins of products.



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PARISH COUNCIL REPORTS

HAMILTON REGION continued:

(Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King, Hamilton–Continued)

- General meetings included “Jeo-Parody: CWL trivia”; Service Awards to members with 10, 25, 50 and 60 years of service and business meeting in April to vote on the motion to increase per capita fee portion to the Diocesan CWL council.
- “Sunday Sundaes” FUN-raiser event in July- 120+ parishioners enjoyed cool ice-cream treats and fellowship on a hot Sunday morning.

We continue to pray for our members and their families and especially deceased members in 2018, notably Anna Sorbara (2005) and Maureen Walsh (1950).

Mary Helwig-Hall, President



**Corpus Christi Parish
Hamilton ON**

At our Annual Spring Banquet in June, we presented our first 65-year pin to Marg LeBlanc. We also presented anniversary pins to:

- 10 year pin Gloria Daily and Rosa Scornaienchi
- 20 year pin Marilyn Wolsley
- 25 year pin Vincenza Tullo
- 30 year pin Lynda Stanchieri
- 35 year pin Sandy Pomeroy
- 60 year pin Helena Streun
- 65 year pin Marg Leblanc



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WOMEN RESPOND TO GOD'S CALL

PARISH COUNCIL REPORTS

HAMILTON REGION continued:

(Corpus Christis, Hamilton—Continued)



At their Annual Spring Banquet in June, Corpus Christi CWL in Hamilton presented their first 65-year pin to Marg LeBlanc.

Barbara Fanson, President





Hamilton Diocesan Council
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INSPIRED BY THE SPIRIT
WOMEN RESPOND TO GOD'S CALL

PARISH COUNCIL REPORTS

HAMILTON REGION continued:

**St. Luke Parish
Hamilton ON**

Various times during the Spring & Summer months The CWL members of St. Luke's, Hamilton have been working in partnership with the Knights of Columbus of St. Luke's.

On Mother's Day we were invited to participate in a wreath-laying ceremony at the Memorial to the Unborn at the back of our Parish. Two members of our Council carried the wreath out to the Memorial escorted by the Knights of Columbus Honour Guard. The wreath was then placed in front of the Memorial followed by a blessing by our Pastor, Father Jerry Punnassery. We were deeply honoured to be part of this special tribute.

On Father's Day we were invited by the Knights to sell ice cream sundaes at their barbeque. In appreciation the Knights presented our Council with a cheque fund of which were donated to the Good Sheppard for their program which feeds Homeless Youth in Hamilton.

Midway through the summer on Saturday, July 28th St. Luke's had a community barbeque followed by an Outdoor Mass. CWL & Knight members hosted the barbeque. Many CWL ladies volunteered their time helping wherever it was needed with preparation, selling of ice cream sundaes & clean-up.

It has been a wonderful experience working with the Knights of our parish and we hope this will continue in the future.

Lori Graf, President





Hamilton Diocesan Council
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INSPIRED BY THE SPIRIT
WOMEN RESPOND TO GOD'S CALL

PARISH COUNCIL REPORTS

HAMILTON REGION continued:

**Holy Rosary Parish
Milton ON**

Spring was a busy time for Holy Rosary Milton Council as we celebrated Mothers during the month of May.

Our council honored our Blessed Mother with a beautiful liturgy and Crowning of Mary. We were delighted to see so many of our members and parishioners in attendance.

Our annual Mother's Day Flower Sale, a Birthright Baby Shower and a donation of fourteen (14) boxes of women and children's clothing to support the YWCA Women's Shelter in Iqaluit, Nunvut completed our "Celebration of Mothers". Thank you to Canadian North Airlines and Milton Home Depot for supporting the transportation cost to our northern sisters.

Nancy Fellows, President



**St. Andrew Parish
Oakville ON**

In the fall of 2017 we elected a new President- Yvette Vukanovich. This completed the long search for a new President and with her a new executive council. We are all very excited with this new committee, as we move forward in the CWL. There are many positions still vacant in our council, but there are many wonderful ladies taking on projects to address the priorities at hand.

We had 8 attend the Diocesan Convention, and this was well received as a new executive committee, to gain further understanding of the CWL.

On the subject of Homelessness, our council had decided to form a Homelessness committee. The goal of this committee is to look at viable projects that we could participate in to address in some small way Homelessness in our community. The project chosen was "Sock and Undie Sunday". With blessing from our pastor, Fr. Con. the committee worked quickly to identify a worthy recipient called Safetynet, in Oakville. There were 16 committee members, and on the weekend in June we collected socks, underwear, and hats, after all masses from the parishioners. We had 33 CWL ladies assisting. It was a huge success, in part due to involvement with our feeder school St. Vincent school who alone collected 216 pairs of socks. All in all we delivered 15 boxes. In addition we collected \$1058.70 in cash which was used to buy more underwear.



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PARISH COUNCIL REPORTS

HAMILTON REGION continued:

(St. Andrew, Oakville—Continued)

The committee will be looking at other projects when we convene in Sept and onward. We held our annual Clergy appreciation potluck in June. This was very well attended, and gave the opportunity to many who do not attend regular general meetings, to meet our new president and the committee. In addition it gives us all an opportunity to thank our Priests and Deacons and their wives for their wonderful work in our parish.

Over the summer we will be planning our 2019 year, of activities, and ways to meet and address the various directives, with our spirituality, and our action in our community.

Debra Noronha, Past President



**Our Lady of the Assumption Parish
Stoney Creek (Elfrida / Binbrook) ON**

Our new executive was installed in March.

A few fellow sisters and I had the wonderful opportunity to attend the Convention in Guelph and what a wonderful weekend it was. There were many highlights, and for me in particular, Mary's Way of the Cross was outstanding.

We hosted a lovely and informative 12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care on a very windy day. A prayerful day full with good fellowship and a deeper understanding of this critical issue.

We have started a Homelessness Initiative in our parish with speakers representing some of the issues faced by the Homeless person in Hamilton and how they have started helping. Our initial meeting sent speakers with a truck full of much necessary items. We look forward to the committees plans for a full drive in the fall.

Father Dave Wilhelm has moved to the Sisters of the Precious Blood as their Chaplain. We had a lovely day of receptions after mass for Father Dave and sent with him hundreds of rosaries in a Spiritual Bouquet. God bless him in his new post.

We welcome Father David Reitzel as our new Pastor. We wish him many blessings and look forward to his installation on Sept. 2 - 11:30AM Mass and welcome Bishop Crosbie as celebrant. We also look forward to our first fall General meeting on Sept. 15th at 1PM, where our guest speaker Joanne Goodwin will be hosting a lively discussion about living with Mental Health. All are welcome.

I marvel at the women of this council- a need arises -they are always there with grace and a smile. God Bless. Ann Mason, President.





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INSPIRED BY THE SPIRIT
WOMEN RESPOND TO GOD'S CALL

PARISH COUNCIL REPORTS

HAMILTON REGION continued:

**St. Francis Xavier Parish
Stoney Creek ON**

The St. Francis Xavier CWL would like to congratulate the Service Award Pin Recipients in 2018:
25 Year Service Awards:

- Laurie Castellani; Louise De Baseggio; Jessie McKeary; Angela Pagano; Tina Scandivano and Carmela Spadafora

40 Year Service Awards:

- Colleen Mac Cormack

50 Year Service Awards:

- Danita MacEachem

60 Year Service Awards

- Joan O'Brien

70 Year Service Awards

- Luisa Belletti

Thank you, ladies for your outstanding commitment to the CWL.

Francesca Simone, President

.....
**Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish
Winona ON**

We held our elections March, 2018. We are very happy to have a President-elect and 1st Vice President. This will enable our parish council to have new blood and fresh ideas for 4 years – each serving 2 years after the current President ends her term in 2019. We have much to be thankful for. Some of our ladies participated in the Palm Sunday procession. Our newly elected 1st Vice President, Laura Mackisoc did an excellent job coordinating our members in the gathering space. Our Education and Health Chair, Daniela Caltagirone, prepared us for the 12 hours of prayer for Palliative Care. Leaving envelopes outside the Adoration Chapel, marked with each hour, with prayers and meditations inside. We had a wine and cheese at our April General Meeting, to welcome everyone back. A small meeting was held and then plenty of time for socializing. Everyone enjoyed themselves. We had 4 new ladies join that evening.



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INSPIRED BY THE SPIRIT
WOMEN RESPOND TO GOD'S CALL

PARISH COUNCIL REPORTS

HAMILTON REGION continued:

(Immaculate Heart of Mary, Winona–Continued)

Our 10th Annual Ecumenical Pot Luck was held in June. It was a huge success. We had 55 ladies in attendance. We provided each lady with a “tea” memento that they could take home. Stoney Creek Baptist attended for the first time. We had been working on getting them to attend for the last 10 years. Never say never. Our calendar for the remainder of the year includes a games night with the Knights, Christmas bazaar and mini Advent retreat.

Charlene Brûlé-Lemmen, President





Hamilton Diocesan Council
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PARISH COUNCIL REPORTS

KITCHENER REGION:

St. Teresa of Avila
Elmira ON

At our June Mass and Potluck we recognized our dedicated members who hit milestones in years of service.

65 years: Betty Furlong; Marcella Furlong; Gerty Scherrer; Marie Snelling

60 years: Carol Stortz

50 years: Frances Schlosser

40 years: Lucy Bertin; Marianne Kieswetter; Linda Spilek

25 years: Mary Jane Yaeger

20 years: Vera Csizmar

10 years: Kathleen (Kay) Bouzane; Maryanne Strauss



Pictured from left to right: Kathleen (Kay) Bouzane, Mary Jane Yaeger, Marie Snelling, Lucy Bertin, Marcella Furlong, Marianne Kieswetter



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INSPIRED BY THE SPIRIT
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PARISH COUNCIL REPORTS

KITCHENER REGION continued:

(St. Teresa of Avila, Elmira—Continued)

Near the end of June we organized our very first Food Truck Friday Fundraiser in the church parking lot.

It was an overwhelming success and a great community event!

Barb Vodicka, President



**Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate Parish
Guelph ON**

This has been a particularly busy, but amazing year for me as parish president and for our executive and members. For me especially being asked to serve as parish president again after 30 years! So I entered the CWL arena again amazed to see the strength and vitality of so many dedicated women working together for God and Canada. Nothing changed there.

In the first six months of this year we focused on “homelessness” and had speakers who educated us about our local challenges and encouraged us to just “drop in” and speak with the folks who are served at our local centres. Deacon Robert Kinghorn expanded our knowledge regarding his ministry to the homeless in Toronto and then Jessie Thistle placed homelessness into the challenges of the Indigenous community. Presenters at Regional, Diocesan and Provincial meetings also helped our understanding. I honestly do not believe we will ever be the same again having been shown the wide and ranging issues which arise while addressing homelessness.

We have made a concerted effort to begin changing the image our parish has of who we are and what we do by opening our speakers and brunches to everyone, in and outside the parish, wanting to come including some wonderful guests from our local Drop In Centre. I applaud the lone man who accompanied his wife to a presentation on Powers of Attorney and Estate Planning before one of our general meetings. Everyone sees the ministry we have to those who require funeral lunches, our bazaar and bake sales are well attended but there seems to be an overall conviction that this is the extent of our ministry aside from our meetings – which of course only our members attend.

We will be surveying the women of our parish in September to find out what their perception is of us and what topics they would like to see us address. I have heard that one woman in our parish said she would never be part of us and I for one really wish to know why! We must be at the service of our parish but especially the women and so it is important to hear from them directly.



**Hamilton Diocesan Council
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**INSPIRED BY THE SPIRIT
WOMEN RESPOND TO GOD'S CALL**

PARISH COUNCIL REPORTS

KITCHENER REGION continued:

(Basilica of Our Lady, Guelph–Continued)

We have booked a showing of Fatal Flaws on Saturday October 20th 2018 and will be hosting a brunch with Alex Schadenberg on that day – all our welcome. At our regular November 13th meeting night we will be led in a retreat on the “7 Words of Mary” by Father Chris Kulig from Mount Carmel in Niagara. Father Chris has agreed to come to our Basilica and our Pastor Monsignor Dennis Noon will celebrate Mass at 6.00pm prior to the retreat and social. The retreat will take the place of our monthly meeting but we will provide written reports for our members.

Like all other councils we are planning our bazaar and other events but with a focus of expanding people’s ideas of who we are – maybe our new website will assist with this target. We may even produce a resolution this year – who knows?

Blessings and respectfully submitted

Jakki Jeffs, President



**St. Anthony Daniel Parish
Kitchener ON**

For our June meeting, we travelled to St. Agatha and celebrated mass with the Carmelite Sisters. After mass we enjoyed a short film there featuring “A Day in the Life of a Carmelite Sister”. As we always do when we visit there, our members gave contributions of fresh produce, canned items and paper products to the Sisters as a Thank You. We were also able to purchase jams and Religious items before mass from the many different things available.

In June we gave a Bursary to a graduating student from Grade twelve and a Bursary to one graduating student from grade eight at each of the three elementary schools in our Parish.

Theresa Miller and Barb Gehl, Co-Presidents





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INSPIRED BY THE SPIRIT
WOMEN RESPOND TO GOD'S CALL

PARISH COUNCIL REPORTS

KITCHENER REGION continued:

**Holy Family Parish
New Hamburg, ON**

Last year our parish invited Trinity Evangelical Lutheran congregation to our white rose planting ceremony to honour the 500th Anniversary of the Lutheran Church as proposed by Our Lady of Lourdes CWL. The area selected was a former rose garden that had recently been overrun with annuals and perennials. This planting turned into our CWL planning and funding a Mary Garden. A stand was made by a parishioner. A beautiful statue of Mary was purchased and this spring we had the area landscaped with shrubs and added more white rose bushes. A bench was placed to enable anyone to sit and pray. On Mother's Day, May 13, 2018 our CWL members carrying white roses and the statue of Mary processed from the church to the garden outside where Fr. Stephen blessed our Mary Garden.

At our June dinner meeting we were pleased to honour several members with service pins. We had two new members and two who received 10 yr. pins. Five members received their 25 yr. pin including two past presidents. Linda Brander, Maureen Kelly, Rosalie Jennings, Kathy Doherty and Michelle Egli Shantz. Two received their 40 yr. pin, Shirley Ste. Marie and Maria Vogel. Donelda Millen received her 50 yr. pin. One special member Mary Jauch was to receive her 70th service pin but unfortunately passed away just prior to this. Mary was invaluable to our parish CWL over the years volunteering herself and others for anything that the league required. She will be missed. We also were proud to give our past president Shirley Jenkins the Maple Leaf Service Pin. Holy Family CWL has been blessed with members who have been inspired by the Spirit and responded to God's call to serve the league.

Mary Lou Murray, President





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INSPIRED BY THE SPIRIT
WOMEN RESPOND TO GOD'S CALL

PARISH COUNCIL REPORTS

NORTHERN REGION:

**Mary Immaculate Parish
Chepstow ON**

Editor note: The committee that compiled the 2017 annual report book regrets that the following year end report was missed being included- but here it is now:

Council: Mary Immaculate, Chepstow
President: Janice Billington
Spiritual Advisor: Father Luc Payette
Number of members: 76

During the past year, the CWL members of Mary Immaculate have been hard at work. We have grown as a community through our various methods of serving others.

Our latest accomplishment for the year 2017 was five lap quilts. A few of the ladies from the Mary Immaculate CWL met on several occasions and quilted five lap quilts to give out at Christmas to homebound CWL members. Four members received the quilts with one spare for a future date. The quilts were made with the CWL blue and yellow colors and contained a decade of the rosary. Two fruit baskets were also given to two husbands of CWL members who were ill at the time. All were appreciative of the gesture and the quilts were beautiful.

Our fall supper was attended by many and was a great success again this year. The ladies worked hard in the kitchen preparing the meal and others helped with donations and cleanup. This event was a great way to bring the members of our church community together to build relationships and fellowship together. We enjoyed providing our church family with an opportunity to come together in God's house. In the month of August, a few of the ladies organized a bible camp for the young people of our community. The camp ran from Monday through Friday and was put on through the help of many volunteers. We used "The Good Shepherd" catechesis program to share the message of Jesus with these young ones. Throughout the week, the children learned about the items on the altar, the vestments that priests wear, and learned songs about various aspects of the faith. At the end of the week, they were able to bring home a box of their creations. It was amazing what the children learned and there was so much fun to be had! As they left on the last day, they even had the chance to visit with a sheep on their way out the door, compliments of a parishioner. This event was very well received in our parish, as we saw its impact on our young children. We hope to be able to continue offering events like this one in the future.



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INSPIRED BY THE SPIRIT
WOMEN RESPOND TO GOD'S CALL

PARISH COUNCIL REPORTS

NORTHERN REGION continued:

(Mary Immaculate, Chepstow–Continued)

Mary Immaculate Parish would also like to congratulate Margaret Mullin who turned 100 years old on June 1, 2018. The picture is Margaret with a lap quilt the CWL ladies made her for Christmas. Margaret has been a member of the Mary Immaculate CWL in Chepstow Ontario for 29 years.



Janice Billington, President





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INSPIRED BY THE SPIRIT
WOMEN RESPOND TO GOD'S CALL

PARISH COUNCIL REPORTS

NORTHERN REGION CONTINUED:

**St. John Parish
Glenelg ON**

Editor note: The committee that compiled the 2017 annual report book regret that the following year end report was missed being included- but here it is now:

Council:	St. John, Glenelg
President:	Joan O'Neill
Spiritual Advisors:	Father Romelito Guillen and Father Francis Hubilla
Number of members:	21

During the past year our council worked closely with our spiritual advisor, Father Romalito to more actively involve our parish with different aspects of the faith. In March 2017 we worked closely with 5 other local denominations to celebrate World Day of Prayer, planned by the women of the Philippines. The theme for 2017 was "Am I being unfair to you?"

In the month of May we joined with the St. Peter's, CWL of Durham to celebrate the "12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care with the residents of Rockwood Terrace in Durham.

In August our parish celebrated our 41st Memorial Mass with Bishop Ustryki honouring our deceased family members buried in St. John's, Glenelg cemetery. It was very well attended and inspirational. We followed with a parish lunch for all.

We welcomed guest speakers on the subjects of local palliative care (Chapman House in Owen Sound) and the meanings of religious icons at our summer meetings. In addition to these activities — May to October 2018 we held an hour of prayer and adoration on the 13th monthly to honour the 100th anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima apparition.

During the fall season we continued to support our on-going parish hall renovations with our annual Ham and Scalloped Potato Supper and our Soup and Sandwich Lunch.

December brought us together for our Christmas gathering. We used this event to thank both Father Romalito and Father Francis for their guidance throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,
Colleen Boer, Past President





Hamilton Diocesan Council
The Catholic Women's League of Canada



INSPIRED BY THE SPIRIT
WOMEN RESPOND TO GOD'S CALL

PARISH COUNCIL REPORTS

NORTHERN REGION CONTINUED:

**St. Thomas Parish
Warton ON**

Can't believe we are at the halfway mark of this year already. Our council has been very busy over the past 6 months with visiting the homebound, fundraising activities, and so much more.... to start things off. We were privileged to have a presentation by Mary Miller of the Salvation Army on 'Homelessness in our Community'. Her presentation was very informative and brought more awareness with those in attendance. After Mary finished up and answered several questions our council gave her a donation toward helping out with their homelessness project.

On Saturday April 21 we had our first ever 'Retreat' with our Spiritual Advisor, Deacon Phil Dwyer. This was a very special day with prayer and reflection with those in attendance. It was recommended that we would have these retreats on a yearly basis!

On the weekend of Saturday June 2, our Council had our first ever 'Plant and Garage Sale'. With the donations of items and participation with council members and of course a day of 'sunshine', the entire day was a HUGE success!! Then on Sunday June 3 we had a 'farewell' to one of our long time council members, Mary Busey. She was with our council for 45 years, but now has moved to Walkerton where she will continue her membership. We presented her with a photo album of memories from the past years and gave her a well-deserved, Maple Leaf Pin.

Brenda Polillo, President





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



**INSPIRED BY THE SPIRIT
WOMEN RESPOND TO GOD'S CALL**

2018 PROVINCIAL CONVENTION

Report #1 – view from 2 Diocesan Officers:

Joyful voices raised in song and laughter, hugs and tears greeting old friends and making new, a room filled with love, compassion and prayer. This report outlines what you are missed at the Ontario Provincial CWL Annual Convention in Toronto from July 7 to July 12, 2018.

The weekend began with a Medieval Times Dinner and Show on Saturday night where members in attendance enjoyed the lively prancing of the horses and the costumes of some of the CWL members. An optional tour of Ripley's Aquarium was attended by some members early Sunday morning, including Hamilton Diocese's own Resolution Chairperson Vicki Lee, who spoke to the fishes. In the afternoon, an enthusiastic discussion of the three resolutions took place. A wonderful opening Mass with His Eminence Thomas Cardinal Collins, Archbishop of Toronto and a reception followed.

Early morning business sessions on Monday July 9 began with keynote speaker Dr. Naheed Dosani and Glenna Fraumeni from PEACH: Palliative Education and Care for the Homeless. PEACH operates as a "trailblazing" mobile unit, providing attentive care on the streets, in shelters, and with community-based service in collaboration with Toronto Central CCAC (Community Care Access Centre). They spoke on their philosophy of care and model of engagement to the homeless.

In the afternoon, each Diocesan President gave a report on the highlights of the activities involving homelessness in their diocese. Joan Schurter gave a wonderful presentation for Hamilton Diocese.

Each Diocesan President and Provincial Executive member was given a different title of "Mary" to research and learn from. They were asked to describe how "Mary" had influenced their role as president/chair. For example, Health and Education chair, Wilma Vanderzwaag choose "Mary of the Inflicted". Wilma encouraged members to "Look to Mary when you are weary and in need of strength."

The afternoon concluded with a beautiful "Crowning of Mary" in its simplest form. Provincial President Ann Madden processed the "crown" and members sang along with a video and audio version of the hymn Hail Mary, Gentle Women.

The Hamilton Diocesan group of nineteen, had great fellowship and excellent food at "Jack Astor's", followed by a night of hilarity as members from the group participated in the fun night of "CWL Diocesan Family Feud".

Tuesday began with Eucharistic Celebration where Most Reverend Archbishop Brendan O'Brien gave a moving homily on God's will and our service to the homeless. Presentation of three Resolutions followed, and all passed. Theresa Winchester, our former Kitchener regional chair presented the 2nd resolution on behalf of the Military Ordinariate.



Hamilton Diocesan Council
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INSPIRED BY THE SPIRIT
WOMEN RESPOND TO GOD'S CALL

2018 PROVINCIAL CONVENTION

(Report #1 – view from 2 Diocesan Officers- continued)

Resolutions:

ON.18.01 **Develop national standards for levels of pharmaceuticals in Canada's drinking water**

ON.18.02 **Full implementation of *Income Security: A Roadmap for Change* for disabled adult Ontarians**

ON.18.03 **To fully implement alternative sentencing to incarceration of Indigenous offenders**

In the afternoon, all were invited to attend breakout sessions and hear how six organizations in the Toronto area are addressing homeless issues. Joyce attended sessions with "Covenant House" and "Sistering" and Catherine heard presentations from "Ontario 211" and HomeShare".

"**Covenant House**" is a youth shelter that helps 300 youth daily through housing placement, food, health care, counselling/support, job training, and mentoring. They also deal with many individuals who have been involved in human trafficking.

"**Sistering**" is a drop in centre and shelter for women with medical, mental conditions and addictions. They serve three hot meals a day (400 – 450 meals/daily) and have shower facilities, overnight beds, counselling 24 hours/day.

"**Ontario 211**" is a province wide telephone helpline (2-1-1) and website which provides a gateway to community, social, non-clinical health and related government services.

The underlying premise of "**HomeShare**" is that two people have needs and something to offer. The organization facilitates home owners and those looking for housing meeting those needs in a mutually beneficial manner. A home provider offers accommodation to a housemate in exchange for an agreed level of help.

A night of socializing and dancing rounded out the night. At the banquet, National President Margaret Ann Jacobs was presented the Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice (Latin: For Church and Pope) decoration by His Eminence Thomas Cardinal Collins, Archbishop of Toronto. What a wonderful surprise for her and for us in attendance!

On the final day, Most Reverend Archbishop Brendan O'Brien spoke on Catholic Education Symposium, World Meeting of Families, and the Senate on Youth & Vocations. A spiritual bouquet was given to Archbishop O'Brien in honour of his 50th Year of Ordination.

Margaret Ann Jacobs, our National President inflamed our spirits with her message focused on Envisioning Our Future as "servant leaders". To offer ourselves to God and let Him lead us; to be good listeners; to value everyone's contribution; seek input and opinion to facilitate a truly collaborative effort; give encouragement, recognize and affirm; and to celebrate with joy the success of each accomplishment are only a few of the highlights of her talk.





Hamilton Diocesan Council
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2018 PROVINCIAL CONVENTION

(Report #1 – view from 2 Diocesan Officers- continued)

A wide variety of prayer services, masses and other opportunities to pray together were offered throughout the convention. Hymns at mass and prayers at other times were carefully chosen to highlight the Homeless theme and an unstated but clearly evident theme of introspection, reflection and healing of those in attendance and those in the community. Members prayed by listening, by speaking, by singing and by being silent with our God. Many “Blessing Bags” of hygienic products were given to the homeless shelters in Toronto, along with \$12,000 + Tim Horton gift cards. A total of 356 members were in attendance to the Ontario Provincial CWL Annual Convention.

We look forward to attending the 72nd Ontario Provincial Convention in Kingston in 2019 with our sisters in the League from Hamilton Diocese.

Respectfully submitted by:

Catherine Ferens, Spiritual Development, 1st Vice President

And

Joyce Cotter, Christian Family Life, 2nd Vice President



Hamilton Diocesan Council
The Catholic Women's League of Canada



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2018 PROVINCIAL CONVENTION

Report #2 – view from Catholic League Member [winner of the Life Member Incentive Award]:

What a wonderful few days, well-spent in the company of women inspired by the Holy Spirit. We started our convention with the opening Eucharistic celebration with His Eminence Cardinal Collins. We were encouraged to remember our divination by trusting in the Lord and committing to the vision of God. His words encouraged us to look upon our world with fresh eyes and share in the Spirit together.

In keeping with our National theme, our opening speakers were from PEACH: A supportive Palliative Care Service for the Homeless. We learned of the 300,000 homeless in Canada each year and the various resources and needs of the PEACH organization. PEACH stands for Palliative Education And Care for the Homeless. We know the roots need to dig deeper to truly change the system and address the core issues at stake. Advocacy needs to happen to allow access to primary care to palliative care. Many ideas and principles were shared that we as a community can be involved and cognizant of.

Each Diocesan council presented their report with a theme of Mary. It was a wonderful, informative message for all of us.

The breakout sessions were incredible, with a variety of topics. Homeshare organization showed the benefits to single living people to share their home for housing stability, companionship, and connection. The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul shared an overview of their 22 programs and the impact in Toronto. These sessions were informative and wonderful ways of sharing the services available in our communities.

We also heard from our National President, Margaret Ann Jacobs, on her vision for our future. She shared wisdom, empathy, encouragement and a beautiful vision for tomorrow.

The spirituality and camaraderie shared with women in attendance was supremely uplifting. The fun and the laughter, the sense of connection, were all wonderful gifts we experienced at this year's convention.

Before attending convention, as a first time attendee, Rachel really struggled to understand the purpose of convention. Now, with the fulfillment experienced in this event, she happily encourages all members to set their sights on attending next years provincial in Kingston.

"I can't quite put into words all that I experienced but have been blessed with a sense of belonging and hope that I wish for all members to experience." ~ Rachel Jones

Diane Jones, Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate, Guelph ON



Hamilton Diocesan Council
The Catholic Women's League of Canada



INSPIRED BY THE SPIRIT
WOMEN RESPOND TO GOD'S CALL

2018 NATIONAL CONVENTION

Report – view from a Diocesan Officer:

National Convention took place in Winnipeg - August 12-15, 2018

We had the opportunity to visit the Canadian Museum of Human Rights on the Saturday evening. Since we had three busloads we were divided into groups of about 18 so we would not all be in the same section at the same time. Our group used the freight elevator to our first level. Our guide was very informative and explained many things so unfortunately we were not able to view many of the exhibits while he talked. At the end of the tour coffee and cake were served.

Sunday morning many went on the city tour of Winnipeg where the guide explained different sites of the city including the historic business section and we ended up in the Leo Mol Gardens where many of Leo Mol statues are on display.

At the Resolutions Dialogue in the afternoon four resolutions were discussed.

The Opening Mass was held at St. Boniface Cathedral. A smudging ceremony took place before Mass and following Mass we had Opening Ceremonies and Welcome Reception followed.

Monday morning began with Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral directly across the street from the hotel. Following Mass sessions began. We were reminded that we were on Treaty I territory. Credentials were given and Provincial Presidents gave their oral reports. Margaret Ann Jacobs, National President, gave her report including some of the places where she travelled. Janet McLean, Secretary/Treasurer gave her report and announced that the registration fee in 2019 will be raised from \$50 to \$100.

After lunch we heard from Kim Scammell, Executive Director who described national staff as a CPU and online membership has been reinstated.

Joan Bona, Resolutions Chair reported 10 resolutions were submitted to National for approval, 6 from British Columbia/Yukon, 1 from Manitoba and 3 from Ontario. Six resolutions were not recommended for presentation including Ontario's.

Most of the remaining Standing Committee Chairs gave their reports and resolutions were discussed. We closed the afternoon with Commissioning of the New Life Members.

Tuesday morning we began with Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral and following Mass we broke into pre-chosen Break-Out Sessions at the RBC Convention Centre – Sessions were Environment, Homelessness, Mental Health, Indigenous Issues, Human Trafficking and Pornography.



**Hamilton Diocesan Council
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**INSPIRED BY THE SPIRIT
WOMEN RESPOND TO GOD'S CALL**

2018 NATIONAL CONVENTION

(Report - view from a Diocesan Officer- continued)

After lunch Keynote speaker was Most Rev. Murray Chatlain, Archbishop of Keewatin-the Pas who spoke on reconciliation – what might it look like for us? 3 principles for reconciliation 1) we are all part of a common humanity; 2) we all have the capacity to evolve and change; 3) we yearn for unity and peace. Steps to moving forward – 1) we let go of our need to be right; 2) genuine, heartfelt hope that the other will find healing; 3) we desire to understand the other; 4) we are open to recognize our own darkness; 5) patience. We should listen slowly – work smarter and listen slowly. Let go of that relationship if it dishonours God. Let go of your attachment to money. Let go of your power – be a servant. Let go of your addiction – admit it and get help.

We closed the day with Memorial Service for Deceased Members. Provincial presidents placed a red rose for deceased members in a vase and Margaret Ann Jacobs placed a white rose in memory of our dearly departed spiritual advisors.

Wednesday morning we were presented with Building on Foundation, the League of the future. The Catholic Women's League of Canada Plans Strategically. Core purpose – uniting Catholic women to grow in faith, and to promote social justice through service to the church, Canada and the world. Core values – faith, service and social justice. Mission statement – The Catholic Women's League of Canada calls its members to grow in faith, and to witness to the love of God through ministry and service. Envisioned future – The Catholic women's League of Canada is an inclusive and engaged community of Catholic women inspired by faith. It is a vital participant in the church, a valued partner for social justice, a respected advocate at all government levels and connected to the world. The objectives and strategies were then presented to us.

The two remaining standing committee chairs gave their reports – resolutions and legislation.

After lunch we were invited to the 99th National Convention in Calgary, Alberta August 18-21, 2019 and be branded in Christ.

Betty Colaneri gave the Centenary Report and showed the video God Bless You Canada by Lee Greenwood.

Bishop McGratten during his 5-year term served in 3 dioceses – Toronto, Peterborough and Calgary. He stated the role of the national spiritual advisor is being in the background and commended by bishops that we need to change from within and introduced in the new incoming spiritual advisor Bishop Jansen.



**Hamilton Diocesan Council
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WOMEN RESPOND TO GOD'S CALL**

2018 NATIONAL CONVENTION

(Report - view from a Diocesan Officer- continued)

Ann Marie Gorman, incoming national president announced the new theme for 2019 Care for our Common Home – hand of God holding the earth with a leaf representing life. Final credentials revealed we had 161 voting and accredited delegates, 383 members, 29 spiritual advisors, and 110 guests for a total of 683.

Following sessions Rite of Elections were held.

New executive: President – Ann Marie Gorman; President-Elect – Fran Lucas; First Vice-President – Shari Guinta; Second Vice-President – Doreen Gowans; Secretary/Treasurer – Janet McLean and Standing Committee Chairs – Faith Anderson, Cathy Bouchard, Betty Colaneri, Pat Deppiesse and Marie Rackley.

Closing Eucharistic Celebration and Installation of Officers at St. Mary's Cathedral and evening ended with Gala Banquet.

Respectively submitted by Ana Sousa, Past-President



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ST. JOHN'S BIBLE

The Diocese of Hamilton is home to a Heritage Edition of The Saint John's Bible. We are happy to share this fine art reproduction of an original hand-written and hand-illuminated bible with members of the Diocese of Hamilton community. Staff from the Diocese of Hamilton can bring one or more volumes of The Saint John's Bible to your Parish. We offer a number of programs your group can experience:

- Open viewing: Begins with a short introduction to The Saint John's Bible, followed by time for participants to get up close to view a volume and even touch the pages
- Seeing the Word: A guided prayer and mediation session using the technique of visio divina to explore how an illumination and passage of scripture speaks to one's heart and soul
- The Art of The Saint John's Bible: a 40 minute workshop where participants explore the tools and materials the artists used to create illuminations in the Bible; time to use watercolour crayons to build part of an illumination or text treatment
- Learning from our Mistakes: 30 to 40-minute session where participants learn that even professional artists and calligraphers make mistakes, viewing the corrections in the finished Bible
- Bugs in the Bible: 30 to 40 minute session where participants learn about the significance and symbolism on the insects and creatures found in the pages of the Bible
- Tools of the Trade: workshop focusing on the calligraphy of the Bible, participants make a decorated versal. Facilitated by a member of the Hamilton Calligraphy Guild.
- Customized programming
-

Please contact Bridget Ker, Coordinator of The Saint John's Bible for any questions or to book.

Bishop Farrell Library & Archives
698 King Street West, Hamilton, Ontario L8P 1C7
Tel: 905.528.7988 ext. 2272
Email: bker@hamiltondiocese.com



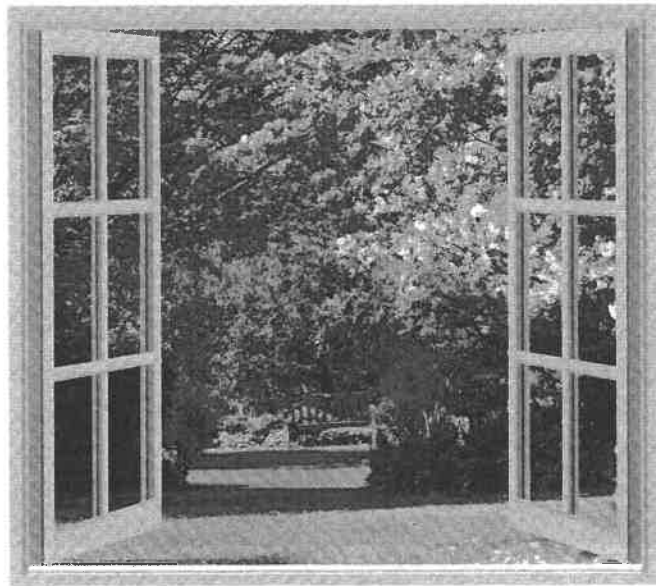
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FACE TO FACE WITH JESUS [Thanks to Georgina Bourke, Hamilton Diocesan Life Member for submitting this article found in the "Spiritan"- a newsletter of the Spiritans of the TransCanada Province.]

From the Editor

Face to Face with Jesus

Pat Fitzpatrick CSSp



Jesus had phoned to say he was passing through town and wondered if I'd be at home. I said "Sure" ... and then wondered what I'd let myself in for. "In for" – Is that correct grammar – ending with a preposition? Would he call me out on the venial stuff? I hope he won't get into the mortal.

Part of this house is a real mess ... maybe we'll just stay in the front room.

He rang the bell. I hurried to the front door. Should I genuflect? ... Or kiss his hand? ... Or ...? We shook hands. I must have kept him there at the door, because he asked, "Can we sit down together somewhere?"

Well ... we got talking. "I like the scenery through your window," he said. Now that he had drawn my attention to it I had to agree. The leaves were bursting out nearly all along the branches. We sat in silence and took in the view.

Then I began to think I was missing a wonderful opportunity. It's not every day he and I get together.

"Lord," I broke the silence, "are you happy with the way the church is going right now? ... What do you think we need to do to promote Catholic Education in Ontario? ... Lord, maybe you'd like a glass of juice or something? A beer? ... it would only take a minute to get one from the fridge."

"Relax," he said "I just want to sit here, the two of us, and enjoy the view. Do you like the way my Father in Heaven continues to shape and reshape those clouds and how the sun plays hide and seek behind them?"

Time was passing by and he'd be leaving before we got into any serious

"Relax," he said "I just want to sit here, the two of us, and enjoy the view."

stuff about the Church and Catholic Education and Social Justice.

"Well, it's good to see you again," he said. Again? "How are things?" How are things? Doesn't he know that already?

He went on. "You know, a lot of people invite me because they want to get my opinion on this, that, and the other. All I'd like is someone who'd just sit down with me, spend time with me;

someone who doesn't feel he has to entertain me – someone who's just there. You know – really present."

More silence. Then he nudged my shoulder. "Who do you say that I am?"

I started by telling him what some of the deep theologians were writing: "You are the eschatologically manifestation of the ground of our being. You are the complete revelation of the Trinitarian, Christological and Ecclesial mysteries of our lives."

I could see his eyes glaze over and his mouth open. He said, "What!"

Then he burst out laughing and shook his head. "You humans! I try to make it simple and you insist on complicating everything. Just be still now and again and know that I am God."

And with that he got up and gave me a big bear hug.

"Til we meet again," he shot back over his shoulder as he made his way out the front door.

"Til we meet again" – I wonder when that might be ... or where. You never know. ■



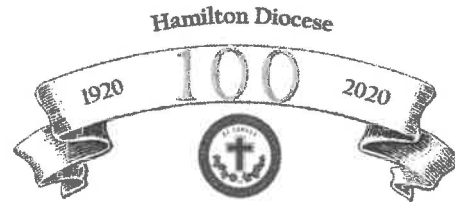
Hamilton Diocesan Council
The Catholic Women's League of Canada



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100th ANNIVERSARY – SCHOOL INVOLVEMENT PROJECT

School Involvement



In 2020, we will be celebrating 100 years of The Catholic Women's League in Canada in the Hamilton Diocese. What a wonderful legacy and awesome achievement that has been accomplished across the diocese.

We would like to share this legacy with our local Catholic schools surrounding our parishes. What better way to explain our mission and raise awareness on what makes the Catholic Women's League so special and unique to our elementary and high school students.

School Involvement Ideas:

- Poster contest
- Essay contest
- Picture of students in 100 configuration on school lawn
- Collection of 100 items for donation to charity
- Participation in CWL councils "Community Service Project"

Whether there are prizes or not for contests is up to each individual council.

Each council should contact the principal/teachers of their local schools for permission to involve students/school in any activity.

This idea is entirely optional to the CWL councils in the Hamilton Diocese. Our mission is to invite the community into the workings of The Catholic Women's League, inspire the youth in joyful service and create excitement for the upcoming celebration of 100 years in The Catholic Women's League of Canada in the Hamilton Diocese!

Joyce Cotter, on behalf of 100th Anniversary Committee



Hamilton Diocesan Council
The Catholic Women's League of Canada

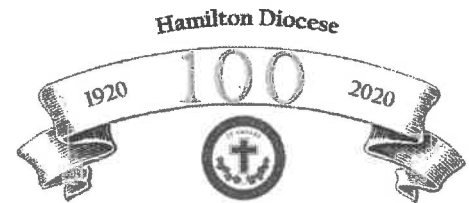


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100th ANNIVERSARY – COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT

Community Service Project

As members of The Catholic Women's League, we are inspired by the Spirit to celebrate God's unconditional love through service to the people of God. We seek to share those blessings that God has given us with our community. Recognizing that unity is formed best by fostering community where we live, where we work, where we worship.



As Jesus washed the feet of the disciples, we too can wash the feet of others as we offer Hope to the world. This Hope comes from our Catholic faith in Christ's love and mercy for all people.

To celebrate the 100th Anniversary of The Catholic Women's League of Canada in the Hamilton Diocese, we are asking each council to be active participants in this service to others through a "Community Service Project".

This project can involve any activity for their community. It can be a project that you have done in the past or launch a brand new idea. This community service project is to be completed in 2019, reported at the spring regional meeting in 2020, and photos brought to convention 2020 for placement in the "time capsule" box

Joyce Cotter, on behalf of 100th Anniversary Committee



Hamilton Diocesan Council
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SPECTRUM
FALL 2018