



# HAMILTON DIOCESAN C.W.L. ANNUAL REPORT BOOK MAY 2023 – APRIL 2024

*Printed May 2024*



***Hamilton Diocesan Catholic Women's  
League of Canada  
104<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Annual Meeting of Members/Convention  
May 25 - 26, 2024***

***Here I am Lord, send me.***

Heavenly Father,  
Through the ages, you have called  
many to serve you. Abraham,  
Sarah and Samuel; Martha, Mary  
and Elizabeth, As well as countless  
men and women throughout  
the ages. All were different, and  
each brought unique gifts to  
your service. Now today, we too  
hear your call to come and follow,  
to bring our gifts to your service.  
Help us, O Lord to make our reply,  
"Here I am Lord, Send me" with full  
and generous hearts, in order that  
we may be your instruments in the  
building of your Kingdom.  
We ask that you hear and answer  
our prayers through  
Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

Bishop Wayne Lobsinger

***May Our Lady of Good Counsel  
Pray For Us***

Prepared by:  
Teresa DiFalco, President Elect & Organization Chair  
Hamilton Diocesan Council  
The Catholic Women's League of Canada  
And Committee Members Colleen Ionson, Amanda  
DiFalco, Mary D'Orazio, Maricris Limson, and Angela  
Rzazewski  
(\*Reports appear as submitted)

# FORWARD

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the Annual Report Book for the Hamilton Diocesan 104<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of Members/Convention. It was a pleasure putting together our Annual Report Book, which covers activities that took place in Parish Councils and the Hamilton Diocesan Council from our last Annual Meeting of Members/Convention last May 2023 to present.

The Hamilton Diocesan Council has four regions and in 2023 we represented 88 Parish Councils, 5,718 members, which includes 10 Life Members, 12 Diocesan Executive Members, 1 Diocesan Spiritual Advisor, 3 Regional Chairs and 2 Regional Secretaries. As of May 2024, we have 77 paid parish councils and 5,138 members. There are 10 parish councils who have yet paid their membership dues, representing over 500 members.

As I was putting this report book together, I decided to introduce one the many initiatives that I will introduce as your new Diocesan President. The initiative is entitled “Getting to Know You”. I believe that connectiveness is important in building strong and loving relationships and communities. As a sisterhood in Christ, it is important that we look at ways of getting to know each other better. The Hamilton Diocesan Council is a very large diocese, and it can be a challenge to meet and know each member. One method is through imagery. It is a fact that images are more memorable than words. Putting a picture with a name helps us to recall easier. This is called Picture Superiority Effect. It uses both visual and verbal channels in brain encoding which increases our ease to recall and know others. With the permission and participation of parish council presidents I have started to include their picture with their reports. This is voluntary and is a work in progress. It is my hope that we can all get to know each other a little better with this initiative.

I would like to thank the incredible women who assisted with the assembly and production of this Annual Report Book. They are: Colleen Ionsen, Amanda DiFalco, Mary D’Orazio, Angela Rzaewski, and Maricris Limson. There is a lot of work that goes into the preparation of this book, which includes, many emails, gathering and verifying information, formatting reports and information, layouts, copywrite and permissions, the printing process, distribution, and much more.

Enjoy the read and may Our Lady of Good Council watch over you,

Teresa

Teresa DiFalco, President Elect and Organization Chair  
Hamilton Diocesan Council – The Catholic Women’s League of Canada



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## **WELCOME PRAYER**

Loving Lord of openness and hospitality, You call us to be people of welcome; embracing each encounter with another as an encounter with you.

Teach us to be attentive; to welcome your people and your Word, no matter how it comes to us.

Help us to keep you at the centre of our lives, by welcoming everyone who we meet, just as You did, our perfect teacher, who met everyone in the Gospels with love, compassion and non-judgement.

We ask this in your Holy name Jesus, who welcomes all. Amen

## **PRAYER FOR THE LEAGUE**

Lord Jesus, we pray for The Catholic Women's League of Canada. Thank you for the many gifts you have given women of the Church.

We are grateful for this beautiful province/diocese/parish of . . . . . where Catholic women gather together in prayer and service.

Help our members to share their gifts in service to the League.

Teach us to be kind to one another.

Help us to listen to Your Word.

Lead us to act on Social Justice issues.

Give us brave voices to speak out and support the teachings of the Church.

Help us to sustain our membership by encouraging and welcoming all women to join the League.

We make this prayer to You and through the intercession of Our Lady of Good Counsel.

**Amen**

## NATIONAL THEME

Here I am Lord, send me.



## PROVINCIAL THEME

Go Make a Difference!



## DIOCESAN THEME

Sharing His Promise, Love and Hope!



# GREETINGS





## BISHOP OF HAMILTON

April 2024

Dear Sisters in the League,

The *Annual Report Book* prepared by the Hamilton Diocesan Council of the Catholic Women's League of Canada is a treasure trove of activities of League members across the Diocese! It is not unlike the Bible's "Acts of the Apostles", which is read throughout the Easter season. The Book of Acts recounts the growth of the early Church – the preaching and teaching of the first Apostles. The *Diocesan Report Book* recounts the vibrant life of the League and the active participation of members in the life of the Church in the Diocese of Hamilton.

The focus of the League over the past year was a Community Service Project for Youth, and specifically engaging students from the local Catholic schools throughout the Diocese. Because you are grandmothers, mothers, aunts and sisters, it is entirely appropriate that you strive to encourage young people as they continue their own journey with Christ.

As Shari Guinta continues her service to the League as National President, the Diocesan Council must take every opportunity to support and encourage her in this important role. Let our pride express itself in our constant prayer for her – and regular good wishes – encouragement from the "grassroots"! Her exemplary service benefits the League daily!

My personal thanks to Joyce Cotter, who has been a joy-filled Diocesan President. Her enthusiasm and ready smile is a sign of her deep spiritual richness – a blessing for us all! I was pleased to have presented her with the League's "Maple Leaf Pin" at the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the St. Joseph Parish Catholic Women's League, in Fergus, earlier this year. Well merited indeed!

Enjoy the read!

Sincerely in the Risen Christ,

*+/Douglas Crosby*, OMI  
(Most Rev.) Douglas Crosby, OMI  
Bishop of Hamilton.

/cd





## Annual Report

*Go Make a Difference!*

*Sharing His Promise, Love and Hope!*



April 18, 2024

"Rise up, rise up, Deborah; rise up" (Judges 5:12). Judges chapter five is the song of Deborah, which beautifully explains the call and the mission of Deborah. She is the only female Judge, among the twelve who ruled Israel from B.C. 1380 to 1060. Judges 5:31 mentions that during her rule "the land had rest forty years". God used a charismatic woman to bring faith and peace in Israel. Like Moses and Samuel, she was both a prophet and a ruler. The Bible indicates that whatever she did, she did it through her motherly love (Judges 5:7).

Our Land is privileged to have several of these Deborah's who work in many of our parishes all over our Diocese and the Nation. They are the instrument of stability in our rapidly changing society. We invite our many 'Deborah's to rise up'; The Catholic Christian community needs you. This world, which is affected by so many evils, needs motherly care.

The Catholic Women's League is a great organization which provides a lot of support to the Catholic communities around, in different parishes, to live their Christian life with dignity. I am grateful that I have this opportunity to serve this organization, with my limited capacity, as the Diocesan spiritual adviser.

Let this year's convention become a great tool to enkindle in all the women a 'Deborah' type of call, to serve the church and the faithful and the humanity. Rise up, Deborah; Rise up!

Fr. Ranjan D'Sa OCD  
Diocesan Spiritual Adviser of CWL



## The Catholic Women's League of Canada

April 8, 2024

My Dear Sisters in the League,

Thank you for all your hard work and dedication to serving your community. As Catholics, we are called to serve others and spread God's love wherever we go. Your willingness to give your time and energy to help those in need is a shining example of this spirit of service. Your actions have touched the lives of countless people, bringing hope and comfort to those who need it most.

In the words of Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta, "I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples." Your participation has created many ripples of positive change, and your work will inspire others to follow in your footsteps.

Congratulations on a job well done. Your commitment to your faith and selfless service to those in need are true reflections of God's love and compassion. The League is blessed to have you.

As you continue on your journey of service, know that you are not alone. Your League sisters across the nation are here to support and encourage you. On behalf of national council, we are grateful for the incredible work you do.

May God continue to bless and guide you in all your endeavours and keep you in his loving care.

Sincerely,

Shari Guinta  
National President

AM/sg





**ONTARIO PROVINCIAL COUNCIL**  
of  
**The Catholic Women's League of Canada**

May 2024

My Dear Sisters in the League,

As we read the reports in this annual report book, it is amazing to learn about the work being done in your diocese. It is encouraging to see the dedication, good deeds and accomplishments of members, parish councils and the diocesan executive.

The work in your diocese reflects the League mission statement: "...calling its members to grow in faith and to witness to the love of God through ministry and service". The benefits of your efforts are far reaching and can be felt by the whole community, especially those most in need.

It is evident that the members of the Catholic Women's League responded to the 2023 national theme, "Catholic and Living It!" and the provincial theme of "Go Make a Difference!" The League continues to be a positive influence by promoting Christian values in an increasingly secular society.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel continue to guide you, as you live out your faith and find joy in serving the people of God.

Sincerely,  
*Linda Squarzolo*  
Linda Squarzolo, President  
Ontario Provincial CWL



Hamilton Diocesan Council  
The Catholic Women's League of Canada

Dear Sisters of the League:

It is inspiring to read all the wonderful reports that members from across the Hamilton Diocese have accomplished this past year. It is an affirmation of a commitment to keep Christ and Our Lady of Good Counsel ever present.

Thank you for this remarkable legacy of work and service in keeping our diocesan theme "Sharing His Promise, Love and Hope!" and the National theme "Catholic & Living It!" in the hearts of our League Councils, parishes, and community.

This annual report book will enrich your spirit of faith and sisterhood – and affirm your sense of belonging and connectedness to our incredible organization of Catholic women. It also illustrates the uniqueness of each council, and the creativity in finding ways to bring hope to others.

I encourage you to read this book cover to cover, and reflect on the dedication made by Catholic women throughout the diocese. We have a legacy of 104 years in the League in Hamilton diocese, be proud of it, and celebrate the gifts and talents of our Sisters in the League.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel guide us to her Son, and may we discover everlasting joy in finding Him.

Sincerely,

*Joyce Cotter*  
Diocesan President



## **HAMILTON DIOCESAN EXECUTIVE TEAM 2022-2024**

### **OFFICERS**

Joyce Cotter, President  
Teresa DiFalco, President Elect and Organization Chair  
Laura Grint, First Vice President and Spiritual Development Chair  
Joanne Palmer, Second Vice President and Christian Family Life  
Kim Ansty, Secretary  
Mary Clark, Treasurer  
Rosanne Sogan, Historian

### **SPIRITUAL ADVISOR**

Father Ranjan D'Sa

### **COMMITTEE CHAIRWOMEN**

Mary Mutiibwa, Community Life  
Francesca Simone, Education and Health Chair  
Esther Shaye (Acting) Communications Chair  
Mary Helwig-Hall, Resolutions Chair  
Kathryn Imperatore, Legislation Chair

### **REGIONAL CHAIRS**

Colleen Ionson, Hamilton Regional Chair  
Colleen Ionson, Brant Regional Chair  
Joanne Gregson, Kitchener Regional Chair  
Nancy Skiba, North Regional Chair

### **REGIONAL SECRETARY**

Mary D'Orazio, Hamilton Regional Secretary  
Mary D'Orazio, Brant Regional Secretary  
Sherie Bowen, Kitchener Regional Secretary

## **LIFE MEMBERS**



**Jacquie Papke  
Jakki Jeffs  
Shari Guinta  
Mary Lou Watson (Ottawa Diocese)  
Pat Crawford  
Jeanne Wilson (Whitehorse Diocese)  
Rosanne Sogan  
Anna Brady  
Ana Sousa  
Joan Schurter**

# PARISH COUNCILS BY REGION

## BRANT

Blessed Sacrament, Burford  
St. Mary, Brantford  
Sacred Heart, Paris  
St. Basil, Brantford  
St. Pius X, Brantford  
St. Joseph, Brantford

## HAMILTON

Canadian Martyrs, Hamilton  
Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King, Hamilton  
Holy Cross, Georgetown  
Holy Rosary, Burlington  
Holy Rosary, Milton  
Immaculate Heart of Mary, Winona  
Mary Mother of God, Oakville  
Most Blessed Sacrament, Hamilton  
Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Freelon  
Our Lady of the Assumption, Stoney Creek  
Regina Mundi, Hamilton  
Sacred Heart, Hamilton  
St. Andrew, Oakville  
St. Anthony of Padua, Hamilton  
St. Augustine, Dundas  
St. Benedict, Milton  
St. Catherine of Siena, Hamilton  
St. Dominic, Oakville  
St. Eugene, Hamilton  
St. Francis Xavier, Stoney Creek  
St. Gabriel, Burlington  
St. Gregory the Great, Hamilton  
St. John the Baptist, Burlington (inactive as of January 2024)  
St. John the Baptist, Hamilton  
St. Lawrence the Martyr, Hamilton  
St. Luke, Hamilton  
St. Margaret Mary, Hamilton  
St. Mary's Pro Cathedra, Hamilton  
St. Matthew, Oakville  
St. Michael, Oakville  
St. Patrick, Burlington  
St. Patrick, Hamilton

St. Paul the Apostle, Burlington  
St. Raphael, Burlington  
St. Stanislaus Kostka, Hamilton  
St. Thomas the Apostle, Waterdown

## **KITCHENER**

Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate, Guelph  
Blessed Sacrament, Kitchener  
Holy Family, New Hamburg  
Holy Rosary, Guelph  
Our Lady of Lourdes, Waterloo  
Sacred Heart, Guelph  
Sacred Heart, Kenilworth  
Sacred Heart & St. Peter Mission, Rockwood & Oustic  
St. Agatha, St. Agatha  
St. Agnes, Waterloo  
St. Aloysius, Kitchener  
St. Anthony Daniel, Kitchener  
St. Boniface, Maryhill  
St. Clement, Cambridge  
St. Francis of Assisi, Kitchener  
St. Gregory the Great, Cambridge  
St. John, Kitchener  
St. John the Baptist, Guelph  
St. John the Evangelist, Arthur  
St. Joseph, Fergus  
St. Joseph, Guelph  
St. Joseph, Kitchener  
St. Joseph, Patron of Canada, Acton  
St. Louis, Waterloo  
St. Mark, Kitchener  
St. Martin of Tours, Drayton  
St. Mary, Kitchener  
St. Mary Immaculate, Elora  
St. Mary of the Visitation, Cambridge  
St. Michael, Waterloo  
St. Patrick, Cambridge  
St. Teresa of Avila, Elmira  
St. Teresa of Avila, Kitchener

## **NORTH**

Holy Family, Hanover  
Immaculate Conception, Formosa  
Mary Immaculate, Chepstow  
Our Lady of the Rosary, Dundalk  
Sacred Heart, Mildmay  
Sacred Heart, Teeswater  
Sacred Heart, Walkerton  
St. Ann, Chesley  
St. Anthony of Padua, Kincardine  
St. John, Glenelg  
St. Joseph, Cargill

St. Mary of the Purification, Mount Forest  
St. Mary of the Assumption, Owen Sound  
St. Peter & St. Paul, Durham  
St. Thomas Aquinas, Wiarton

# **BOOK OF LIFE (DECEASED MEMBERS – 2023)**

“Goodbyes are not forever; it simply means ‘I’ll miss you,’ until we meet again.”

John 11:25-26. "Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.'







## HAMILTON DIOCESAN COUNCIL BOOK OF LIFE 2023

(We said goodbye to 162 Faithful Departed League Sisters in 2023.  
Eternal rest grant upon them and let perpetual light shine upon them)

### BRANT (19)

Parish	Name	Date of Death
Blessed Sacrament, Burford	Jean Baka	2023
	Henrica Hoogstraten	2023
	Anne DeRosse	11-30-2023
	Elizabeth (Betty) Baron	01-20-2021
	Joan Luciani	06-23-2020
	Josephine Mackinnon	07-19-2020
	Lorraine Blower	05-16-2022
	Margaret Keefe	12-14-2019
	Mary Luella Lefebvre	08-15-2023
	Patricia Telfer	2023
St. Basil, Brantford	Paulette McGraw	05-15-2023
	Teresa Soluk	11-18-2021
	Theresa Neary	06-11-2000
	Edith Hamilton	2023
	Olga Dostal	2022
	Kathie Reansbury	07-28-2023
St. Pius X, Brantford	Alice Amirault	11-17-2023
	Mary Polgar	20-2023
	Jean Pavlov	01-22-2023
St. Mary, Brantford		



## HAMILTON (50)

Parish	Name	Date of Death
Corpus Christi, Hamilton	Margaret Kulchycky	2023
Holy Rosary, Burlington	Margaret Clanfield	06-22-2022
	Margaret Daoust	01-22-2023
	Jane O'Brien	01-05-2023
	Julie McIssac	2023
Holy Rosary, Milton	Ellen McBride	2022
	Christina Opsteen	2020
Immaculate Heart of Mary	Rosemary Mastroianni	10-29-2023
	Laura Mackisoc	10-13-2023
Mary Mother of God, Oakville	Noella Rutley	01-23-2023
	Jean Chrzanowski	2023
	Marge Belzak	08-31-2023
Our Lady of the Assumption, Elfrida	Maria Dupuis	11-10-2023
Regina Mundi, Hamilton	Suzanne Borsellino	06-19-2023
	Mary Stephan	05-08-2022
St. Andrew, Oakville	Ruth Gruner	12-03-2023
	Kay Jamieson	10-10-2023
	Zita Babiak	09-27-2023
St. Augustine, Dundas	Frances Rossignoli	10-17-2023
	Helen McNamara	09-21-2023
	Katherine Kane	09-16-2023
	Lee Burgess	13-30-2022
	Carol Hearuf	12-25-2022
	Viva McFarlane	05-04-2023
	Lucille Porteous	04-05-2023
	Denise Lessard	12-09-2022
	Ann Redish	12-04-2022
	Gloria Habinski	09-03-2022
	Loretta Beacock	09-09-2022
St. Francis Xavier, Stoney Creek	Guisseppina Ciuro	2023
	Bernice Lezon	2023
	Betty Sokolich	12-01-2023
St. Gregory The Great, Hamilton	Milka Ferko	2023
	Julia Sagadin	2023
	Cecilia Sobocan	01-11-2023
St. John The Baptist, Burlington	Patricia McFarlane	2023
	Roberta Scime	08-15-2023
	Marian Kervin	11-08-2023
	Ann Walton	09-25-2023
	Norma Enright	11-28-2023
St. Lawrence The Martyr, Hamilton	Dervilla Patrice Dunn	05-21-2023
St. Luke, Hamilton	Carol Graf	2023
St. Matthew	Vincenza Letterio	09-03-2023
	Jo Heffernan	09-19-2023

St. Michael, Oakville	Kathleen Noakes	2023
	Maria Bencich	08-12-2023
St. Paul The Apostle, Burlington	Shirley Cloutier	2023
	Helen McHugh	2023
	Vilma Galina	10-28-2023
St. Thomas The Apostle, Waterdown	Augusta Corrin	2023

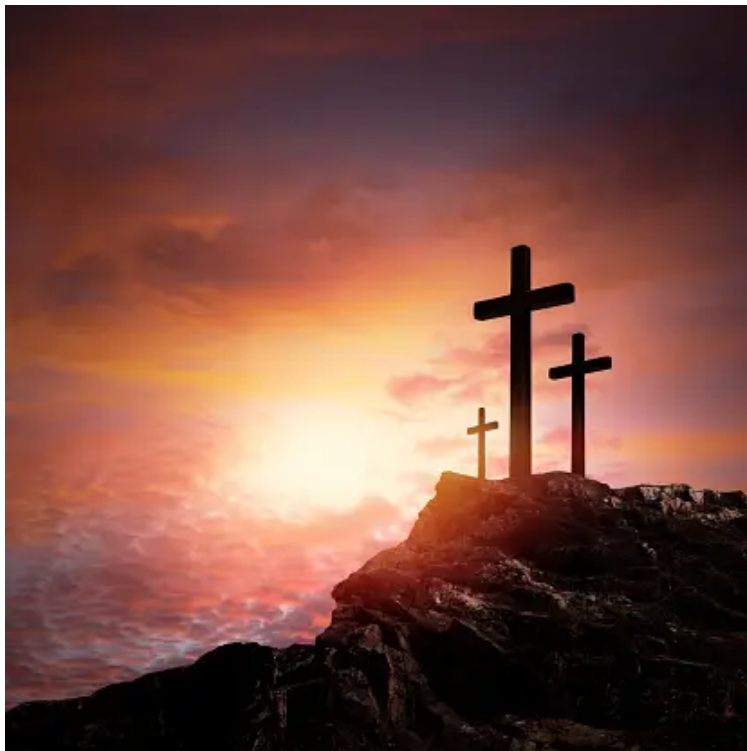


## **KITCHENER (69)**

<b>Parish</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Date of Death</b>
Holy Family, New Hamburg	Marie Cavaliere	09-12-2023
Holy Rosary, Guelph	Alice Booth	2023
	Nella Callegari	2023
	Pearl Reinhart	2023
	Ankie Verhart	2023
	Ann M Young	2023
	Catherine Artuso	12-21-2023
	Eleanor Nespal	11-13-2023
Our Lady of Lourdes, Waterloo	Isabell Butchart	2022
	Fried Cole	2022
Sacred Heart, Kenilworth	Maria Aramini	2023
	Cathy Caravaggio	2023
	Kay Sorbara	2023
	Palmira Vincentine	2023
St. Agatha, St. Agatha	Joyce Bruder	11-29-2023
	Viola Spielmacher	11-19-2023
St. Agnes, Waterloo	Marcy Kuntz	10-06-2023
	Carol Kawalec	2023

St. Aloysius, Kitchener	Alyce Booth	2023
	Eleanor Freeman	2023
	Gloria Hellard	2023
	Dorothy Meyer	2023
	Dianne Cousineau	08-21-2023
	Anne Steffler	07-02-2023
St. Anthony Daniel, Kitchener	Joan Schnarr	03-05-2023
	Bernice Snatynski	08-24-2023
St. Boniface, Maryhill	Doreen Grodndin	2023
	Marjorie Krukowski	09-30-2023
St. Clement, Cambridge	Paula Skinner	11-22-2023
	Gail Campbell	08-31-2023
	Pearl Fler	2023
St. Francis of Assisi, Kitchener	Rita Spilowey	2023
	Eileen Cox	2023
St. Joseph, Acton	Margaret Carney	2023
	Joanne Vranic	2023
St. Joseph, Fergus	Betty Furlong	09-20-2023
	Eunice Drumm	11-18-2022
	Reona Rogers	09-06-2021
	Joan Schumacher	12-08-2022
St. Joseph, Guelph	Della Cremasco	2023
	Linda Baldasso	06-26-2023
	Irene Symons	2023
	Edith Madott	11-09-2023
St. Joseph, Kitchener	Diana Vanderpryt	2023
	Kathleen Herties	2023
St. Louis, Waterloo	Margaret Heuther	2023
	Louise Lefebvre	02-04-2023
	Mary Reick	2023
	Loreen Frieberger	07-30-2023
	Norma Kirby	07-24-2023
	Marlene Nowak	10-15-2023
	Joan Sichewski	10-15-2023
	Helen McMichael	12-07-2023
St. Mark, Kitchener	Marie Voisin	06-12-2023
	Irene Baptista	08-22-2023
St. Mary, Kitchener	Mary Pappert	07-26-2023
St. Mary Of The Visitation, Cambridge	Beverley MacLean	03-16-2023
	Evelyn McNanny	12-01-2022
St. Michael, Waterloo	Sandra Dorscght	06-18-2023
	Cornelia Grzegorzcyk	09-21-2023
	Vivian Remington	10-27-2022
	Madeline Hergott	03-27-2022
	Rina Collussi	06-03-2023
St Patrick, Cambridge	Marjorie Campbell	2023
St. Teresa Of Avila, Elmira	Marian Haid	06-25-02023

St. Teresa Of Avila, Kitchener	Florence Cybulski	2023
	Helen Mueller	2023
	Zophia Paszek	2023
	Helen Deckert	09-26-2023



## **NORTH (24)**

<b>Parish</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Date of Death</b>
Holy Family, Hanover	Dorothy Aombar	2023
	Lily Ahrens	2023
	Beatrice Beckberger	2023
	Gertrude Meyers	2023
Immaculate Conception, Formosa	Evelyn Kuntz	2023
Immaculate Conception, Mildmay	Geraldine Benninger	2023
Immaculate Conception, Teeswater	Mary Schiestel	2023
Mary Immaculate, Chepstow	Doris Powers	2023
Mary Immaculate, Walkerton	Agnes Kuntz	2023
Sacred Heart, Mildmay	Madeline Durrer	2023
	Florence Reinhart	2023
	Audrey Waechter	2023
	Theresa Voisin	2023
St. Anne, Chepstow	Betty Denomy	2023
	Kathy Walsh	2023
St. Anthony of Padua, Kincardine	Lydia Kus	2023
	Marie McNaulty	2023
St. Joseph, Port Elgin	Yvonne Keenan	2023

St. Mary of the Assumption, OS	Marjorie Forcier	2023
	Marilyn Schinbein	2023
St. Peter & St. Paul, Durham	Jean Maher	2023
	Marie Browne	2023
	Marjorie Plein	2023
	Donna Backelock	2023

## **SPIRITUAL ADVISORS**

None to report.





# REPORTS



## DIOCESAN EXECUTIVE REPORTS



Your diocesan executive team are happy to share highlights of their activities under their portfolios over the past year (May 2023 – April 2024).



## Joyce Cotter - President



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The year of 2023 was one of discovery and exploration of the needs and challenges that parish councils faced. The National Council initiative to visit every parish council and have an open dialogue to address the reasons for declining membership and the increase in councils disbanding was accomplished through the “Unity Outreach Project”.

Throughout the year, 63/88 councils were visited by teams of diocesan executive, regional executive, and Life Members. The feedback from the members was informative and beneficial. Areas to address for the future were: League promotion, awareness of League’s Core Principles by the members, goal setting, leadership training, encouragement of members to take on leadership roles, better communication among the different levels of the League, and in engagement of members.

At the Spring and Fall Regional meetings, presentations were given on “Joy of Leadership” and “Outreach Project Actions – League Promotion” to assist councils in their outreach. The Diocesan newsletter, “The Spectrum” was published every other month to inform the members on the workings of the League. Councils could view the newsletter online on the Hamilton CWL website **cwlhamilton.ca** or have copies printed off for their members.

Anniversary celebrations were a joy for the League with St. Michael, Waterloo – 60 years, St. Augustine, Dundas – 70 years, Holy Family, Hanover – 100 years hosting wonderful events to commemorate the legacy of years. On a sad note, Our Lady of Fatima Council, Rockwood with St. Peter’s Mission, Oustic, and St. John the Baptist Council, Burlington, became inactive; St. Anthony Daniel Council, Scotland, St. Joseph/St. Patrick Council, Port Elgin/Southampton, and Our Lady of the Rosary Council, Dundalk (Proton & Melancon) disbanded. Yet with darkness there comes light, and St. Mary Pro-Cathedral Council, Hamilton was reactivated.

The 103<sup>rd</sup> Annual Diocesan Convention was held at the Sheraton Hamilton Hotel on May 6 & 7, 2023, with a new format to fit the 1 ½ day convention. It was a record breaking event, with 51 parish councils present and 27 first time attendees. Guest speaker, Provincial President-Elect, Colleen Martin, spoke on “Sharing His Promise, Love and Hope” that involved members making a special cross. The Mass collection of \$793.20 was donated to “Legionaries of Christ”, a religious congregation of Catholic priests in Oakville who run Mission Youth Hamilton, as well as organizing camps and retreats for elementary and high schools. At the closing banquet, Fran

Clair Fairfull, from St. Joseph Council, Guelph, won the “Frances Lovering Woman of the Year” award, and Past President, Joan Schurter received her Life Membership.

The 76<sup>th</sup> Provincial Convention held in Cornwall, Ontario from July 9-12, 2023, brought themes of “Go Make a Difference” and “Be the Difference” with keynote speaker, Father Eugene O’Reilly. The mini workshops provided members with new ideas, and the oral reports gave insight on how members can make a difference. The 2023 Social Justice award was presented to Joanne Belanger from Kingston diocese. Resolutions adopted were ON.23.01 To Establish a Sustained Universal Intermittent Catheter Coverage; ON.23.02 To Add Compassionate Community Care to the National Voluntary Fund. For diocesan night, Life Members, along with the Diocesan President, put on a skit “Vote for Shari for President”, with Shari Guinta helping them out with her response “Ya don’t say”.

A delegation from Hamilton Diocese participated in the first ever National Annual Meeting of Members in St. John, New Brunswick, on August 12-15, 2023. Only voting and accredited delegates were invited to attend but, members could register to view the meetings virtually. Reports were delivered by provincial presidents and national officers. The instructed vote on P&P for allowing virtual meetings was adopted. The highlight of the week came when Life Member, Shari Guinta, was elected and installed as the new National President and Chairperson of International Relations, along with the appointment of Most Reverend Wayne Lobsinger, Auxiliary Bishop of Hamilton, as the National Spiritual Advisor for the next two years. It was a proud moment for Hamilton Diocese. The new national theme “Here I Am Lord, send me” was revealed.

The focus in 2023 for Parish Councils was the “Community Service Project for the Youth”, to make a difference in the lives of the youth. The community service projects ranged from the collection of clothing for shelters and foodbanks; gift cards to St. Vincent de Paul clients; donations to World Youth Day in Lisbon, Portugal; personal hygiene items for mission centres, women’s abuse shelters; baby items for unwed mothers and pregnancy centres. Special educational bursaries were awarded to students; donations to counselling centres, addiction centres. Many Councils worked with students from the local schools in projects such as assembling bagged lunches for the homeless, starting a cursive handwriting club, visiting the local food pantry, donating to needy families for Christmas, writing letters to the elderly.

The incredible work and dedication of the members from Hamilton Diocesan Council was a testament to making a difference in the lives of others through “Sharing His Promise, Love and Hope”. May Our Lady of Good Counsel continue to guide and keep you strong in your ministry for God and Canada.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Cotter

## **Teresa DiFalco – Diocesan President Elect and Organization Chair**



**Diocesan Officer/Chair Name:** Teresa DiFalco  
**Diocesan Position:** President Elect and Organization Chair

Dear League Sisters,

Some people ask where does time go, but it doesn't go anywhere since time is not a fundamental physical reality like matter. Time only exists when we measure it. So, in this my last report as your Diocesan President Elect, I have focused my report on how I have measured my time spent serving you in this capacity, covering our reporting period from our last Annual Meeting of Members May 6 – 7, 2023 to present.

I attended diocesan executive meetings, Fall 2023 Regional Meetings, Spring 2023 Regional Meetings, Ontario Provincial Annual Meeting of Members in Cornwall in July 2023 as an accredited delegate, National Annual Meeting of Members in Saint John, New Brunswick in August 2023 and prepared a report on attending the national convention and presented it to members at the Fall 2023 Regional Meetings. I prepared and presented at both the Spring 2023 Regional meeting on the subject of the Celebration of Women and Women leaders, and at the Fall Regional Meeting on Servant Leadership. I presented on Transformational Servant Leadership at the Fall 2023 meeting. At the recent Spring Regional Meetings, I prepared and presented 34 certificates for membership increase to parish councils. I included the list of membership increased in this annual report book for the first time. You can find it on page 142. This is also a new initiative under my upcoming presidency, which focuses on recognitions, transparency, and information sharing. In the "forward" I prepared for the annual report book, found on page 2, I shared another new initiative that I will be introducing more fully under my presidency entitled "Getting To Know You".

My goal during my term was to provide opportunities for League development, leadership training, and in particular servant leadership through the development and delivery of many presentations on various topics: Governance, Leadership, League Operations, Parish Nominations and Elections, to name a few. I prepared and provided resource materials, and offered mentorship to many of our members. I also focused on promoting Women in the Church through presentations. Membership drives to recruit new members; retainment of existing members and membership maintenance was also addressed.

For my own personal growth, I attended and participated in The Four Constitutions of Vatican II Webinar Series, which covered: 1) “Sacrosanctum Concillium”, 2) “Dei Verbum”, 3) “Gaudium et Spes”, and 4) “Lumen Gentium”. I participated in a 40-day Lenten Spiritual Development Retreat with a Spiritual Director. I also participated in a Lenten webinar entitled “Encounter of Prayer and Reflection, which was hosted by National Catholic Women’s League and featured Bishop Wayne Lobsinger.

I received and accepted numerous requests to present on various subjects. I was also asked to deliver a Lenten Retreat for women, which I focused on the women in the Gospels and their significant role in the church and Jesus’ ministry while on earth. I accepted and attended many parish councils invitations to events and activities, which included council anniversaries, pin ceremonies, Christmas and other special dinners, Christmas marketplaces and other wonderful celebrations.

Other activities included chairing the Frances Lovering Award Committee, participating on the Diocesan Budget Committee, I created, reviewed and summarized evaluation forms for 2023 Annual Meeting of Members, and 6 Regional meetings since our last general meeting of members, organizing the entertainment for the May 2024 Diocesan Convention with little to no budget. I will be hosting a Dazzling Dames Variety Show with performances from our membership.

It has been an honour and joy to serve as your Diocesan President Elect and Organization Chair and I look forward to transitioning into the role of Diocesan President. The blessing of being a Catholic woman servant leader is putting people first and serving with grit and grace with resilience and hope, as hope is the greatest gift a leader can give to another.

I am excited to take on my new role as Diocesan President and as the first president of our diocesan council under the new structure of the League. I ask for your prayers and I look forward to working for you and with you.

Our mission as Catholic women is to foster a sense of belonging amongst other Catholic women by illustrating the many faces and vocations of women in the Church so that each woman is inspired and empowered to intentionally live out their faith as servant leaders, by seeking truth rationally, critically and with appreciation and respect. Remembering that true beauty of a woman is a sharing in the glory of God and allowing that glory to shine through her soul as light shines through a prism. I thus find it most fitting to introduce my diocesan theme for my term as Diocesan President, which is : **SPARKLE GOD’S WAY, be a beacon of hope and light to everyone you meet.**

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa DiFalco  
President Elect and Organization Chair

## **Laura Grint – Diocesan First Vice President and Spiritual Development Chair**



**Diocesan Officer/Chair Name:** Laura Grint  
**Diocesan Position:** First Vice President-Spiritual Development Chair

Greetings Sisters,

I can't believe it's been two years since my term began with joyful anticipation of what could and would be learned. We have come together in celebration and song at conventions and regional meetings and many somber occasions in between.

It has been a term of start-up and keep working at gaining and retaining membership as some have declined and some made fabulous increases considering there were 162 deceased members in our councils. We thank these women for the service they have performed and supported in all their years with councils.

Many of the councils used time to have special days and themes of Marion celebrations and to honour our patroness Our Lady of Good Counsel. It's always so amazing to me how councils come together in partnership to celebrate with such joy and reverence to Our Lady. Each meeting is a deepening of our faith and an opening of hearts bringing such light to each and every participant.

This being the month of Mary and my last communication to you as Spiritual Development Chair I have taken time to draw deeper into the prayers and novenas to Our Lady. Our Lady Untier of Knots, devotion to Two Thousand Hail Mary's, Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal, Help of All In Need, Our Lady Mother of Mercy, Prayer to Our Lady in Times of Troubles. Many of these you know by heart and others you may find in Catholic resources. As Pope Francis always says "The Virgin Mary is a great teacher of discernment: she speaks little, listens a lot, and cherishes in heart (Luke 2:19). Mary always points us in the direction of Jesus. "Do whatever he tells you ". All we have to do is listen. Know also whatever you ask in name will be heard by Jesus. Jesus loves his mother.



And so, in closing my friends please choose kindness, listen and look for truth, and love God the Father, Jesus his Son and Mary with your whole heart.

Respectfully submitted,

*Laura Grint*

First Vice-President-Spiritual Development Chair





**Joanne Palmer – Diocesan Second Vice President  
and Family Christian Life Chair**



**Diocesan Officer/Chair Name:** Joanne Palmer  
**Diocesan Position:** Second Vice President-Christian Family Life Chair

Dear Sisters,

During this past year serving as your Diocesan Second Vice President and Christian Family Life Chair, I have attended Diocesan executive meetings, pre-convention meetings, and Fall and Spring Regional Meetings.

In May 2023, I attended the Hamilton Diocesan Convention in Hamilton.

In July 2023, I attended Ontario Provincial CWL Convention in Cornwall, Ontario.

In January 2024, I attended a Young People's group Ministry, which was put on by the Hamilton Diocese along with Father Morley. I participated in the Mass with the readings.

In February 2024, I attended the World Day of Prayer that is every year. The theme and country this year was Palestine.

On March 19, 2024, I attended a Zoom Lenten webinar Encounter or Prayer and Reflection hosted by National Catholic Women's League. The main speaker was Bishop Wayne Lobsinger. National CWL President Shari Guinta and National Chairperson of Faith Rolande Cherinchan also participated.

Over the past year I have participated in diocesan meetings, regional meetings, attended the Provincial meeting, attended many CWL events and celebrations, and participated in leadership training and development sessions facilitated by Teresa DiFalco, Diocesan President Elect. I also sat as a member of the Frances Lovering Award Selection Committee for 2024, which was chaired by Teresa DiFalco.

I thoroughly enjoy serving you and growing in the League with you. I was first elected to the Diocesan Executive in 2017, and I have joyfully served in various positions since. It is my hope and prayer to continue serving you as a team member of the diocesan council.

Respectfully submitted,

*Joanne Palmer*

Second Vice President, Christian Family Life



## Kim Ansty, Diocesan Secretary



**Diocesan Officer/Chair Name:** Kimberley Anne Ansty  
**Diocesan Position:** Secretary (2022 – 2024)

For the term of 2023 to 2024 I have completed the following tasks:  
Attended a number of Out Reach Meetings with parish CWL groups  
Took Minutes from Executive Meetings  
Attended the Annual General Meeting in May of 2023 and took the Minutes for all sessions  
Sent out Sympathy cards to members  
Sent out request for Masses for members and/or their close family relations  
Received correspondence from groups looking for donations  
Received correspondence from the Bishop  
Attended and Participated in the Budget Zoom chat and took notes  
Attended Pre-Convention Meetings in 2023 and 2024 and took notes  
Attended Brant-Hamilton, Kitchener and North Fall Regional meetings  
Attended Brant-Hamilton, Kitchener and North Spring Regional meetings  
Took Minutes at North Spring Regional Meeting  
Email communications with Executive  
Sent out Anniversary cards to priests celebrating milestone years of service

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Ansty



## Mary Clark, Diocesan Treasurer



**Diocesan Officer/Chair Name:** Mary Clark  
**Diocesan Position:** Treasurer (2022 – 2044)

Dear Sisters in the League

It has been a pleasure serving as your Diocesan Treasurer for the past two years. I have enjoyed sharing my knowledge with you to understand what is involved in your position as parish treasurer through my semi-monthly Spectrum Newsletter submissions and/or by answering questions by email or phone call. It was a privilege to present up to date financial reports, answer inquiries and meet many of you as I sold National Supplies at Regional Meetings.

Thank you to the 37 councils that submitted their report online. Your reports show that we are moving forward with parishes donating to the National Voluntary Fund in the amount of \$8,625.00 and to all other charities in the amount of \$76,922.00.

The 2023 financial statements included in this report will be presented at the 104th annual convention to be held on May 25 & 26 in Kitchener, Ontario.

Included with this report is the Parish Treasurer's Annual Summary, which reflects the input from 47 parish councils. Your continued financial support for Faith, Service and Social Justice to your parish and community is indicated in the total donations of \$196,411.00. AWESOME!!

Thanks to your generous donations at the Hamilton Diocesan Convention held May 2023 during the Saturday Eucharistic celebration, we were able to give \$793.20 to Legionaries of Christ.

I will be presenting a cheque to Bishop Wayne Lobsinger at the convention's Sunday night banquet in the amount of \$2,033.25 representing Bishop's Charities \$1,806.90 and Our Lady of Good Counsel Seminary Bursary \$226.35.

Thank you for all your great work you do for God and Canada.

Our Lady of Good Counsel Pray for us.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Clark

## Father Ranjan D'Sa – Spiritual Advisor



**Diocesan Officer/Chair Name:** Farther Ranjan D'Sa  
**Diocesan Position:** Spiritual Advisor

It has been two years since I took the role of Diocesan Spiritual Director of Catholic Women's League. It has been a different experience for me - a good, spiritual, and learning experience. It has stretched my horizon to see things differently and has taught me a lot of humility.

Our life is guided by God's Spirit. I have seen the Spirit of God working through so many simple things, simple ideas, and very simple events. God helps those who earnestly ask for his help. It was a delight to see a lot of our local communities trying their best to improve their situation and expand their membership. Where there is genuine love for God, which is expressed through the love of our neighbour, our communities will thrive.

I have tried my best to attend as many regional meetings as possible. I love to celebrate the masses at regional meetings. That half a daytime spent with the Regional Catholic Women League's leadership is very uplifting. It shows us that God works mysteriously for our spiritual wellbeing.

I have attended most of the executive meetings. Though my role in decision making is bare minimum, it gives me an opportunity to help each other and to allow the Spirit of God to lead us wherever God wants to take us. I admire the dedication of these women and the sacrifices they make for the league. I enjoyed my work with the present executive team under the leadership of Joyce Carter.

I have not yet participated in any provincial or national conventions. But hopefully I will be able to attend one soon. Looking forward for the next year of fruitful work in the Catholic Women's League of the Hamilton Diocese.

## Mary Mutiibwa, Community Life Chair



**Diocesan Officer/Chair Name:**

**Mary Mutiibwa**

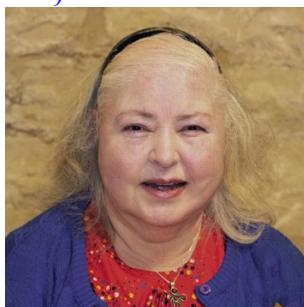
**Diocesan Position:**

**Community Life Chair (2022 - 2024)**





## Francesca Simone, Education and Health Chair



**Diocesan Chair:**  
**Diocesan Position:**

**Francesca Simone**  
**Education and Health (2022 – 2024)**

In my capacity of Education and Health Diocesan Chair, I have been trying to educate myself in the many aspects of this convenorship and so, educate others. With this in mind, I have attended many webinars of such subjects as: ageism, mental health, recycling, environmental solutions, and homelessness. A summary of these webinars has been included in my articles in the Spectrum Newsletter and in my reports.

In June, I attended a workshop entitled: “Put on Your Oxygen Mask! Addressing Caregiving Burnout”. In Canada, in 2018, there were 7.8 million caregivers who provided 5.7 billion caregiver hours. Many of these caregivers support someone of an older age taking over duties which would normally be done by PSW’s or nurses. These caregivers are now suffering from burnout. They may be easily frustrated, anxious, forgetful. They need to start taking care of themselves. Some self-care activities include the following: taking a bubble bath, joining a social group such as a walking group, eating a well-balanced diet, keeping yourself well-hydrated, journaling, exercising for at least thirty minutes per day, and many other activities. Wellness Together Canada ([Wellness Together Canada | Self-care](#)) can provide everyone with many other suggestions on mental health activities.

The main speaker, at another workshop which I attended, was Dr. Samir Sinka MD, DPhil, FRCPC, AGSF who spoke on “Enabling Aging in the Right Place in Canada and Around the World”. He emphasized that 91% of Canadians over the age of 65 (or older) would rather remain in place. We need to strengthen home and community-based care for this wish to be realized. By improving social connections to reduce loneliness and social isolation for our seniors, we may be able to develop home care that will let our seniors stay in the home they love.

Bob McDonald, author of The Future in Now, gave a webinar in September entitled “Solving the Climate Crisis with Current Technology”. He stated that climate change is accelerating (the Arctic is getting warmer, storms are getting stronger, droughts are happening around the world, and smoke is burning more). He advocated using energy with no carbon emissions more often. In fact, with the rise of COVID, everything shut down and the air became cleaner. We need to heed this warning since 7 – 8 million people die from effects of burning fossil fuels.

Last month, I attended a webinar on climate change with Nikki Sanchez who had worked with David Suzuki. The webinar “Everyday Climate Solutions” gave many ideas of how to protect our environment. Something needs to be done since only 9% of our recyclables actually get recycled. Unfortunately, most of the recyclables wind up in landfills or oceans. We should think before we purchase anything such as not consuming unnecessary products (reusing is very important). We should eat locally sourced foods so as not to have them travel such a great distance. Canada regrettably has become the #1 deforestation country in the world. We require the trees to take in the carbon dioxide and give us oxygen in order to live. One idea to reverse this atrocity happens to be to get in touch with our MP’s and MPP’s and tell them that something needs to be changed.

One more webinar which I attended was entitled “Identifying opportunities to understand health outcomes in older adults with experience of homelessness” with Peter Hoang and Dr. Paula Rachon. They stated that the fastest growing users of homeless shelters were older adults. Many of these adults had high rates of mental health conditions and / or experiences of addiction. A good many were there because of lack of accessible health and social support services, long waitlists for housing, or criminal events. Society, as a whole, needed to identify those at risk and provide housing, support homeless agencies, and better understand racial and cultural differences among the homeless.

Another webinar, which I attended, was entitled “Dementia Starts in the Body” with Dr. Romi Fung. She explained that dementia was a cognitive mental decline which resulted from a variety of diseases and injuries that affect the brain cells. Oxygen is very important to brain health. An increase in blood flow to the brain may help to stave off dementia by bringing fuel (glucose) to the cells in order for them to function. Risk factors for dementia include: smoking, physical inactivity, trauma to the brain, diabetes and blood sugar dysregulation, lack of cognitive stimulus, family history, ApoE status, and sleep apnea. Exercise, both aerobic and anaerobic, help keep the blood flowing through the body. Learning about a new subject or a new language can certainly allow the brain cells to work. Also, interactions with our neighbours are another way to ward off this disease.

My attending these various workshops / webinars have helped me to share this valuable information to our members. Hopefully, we have learned together.

Respectfully submitted by:

Francesca Simone, Diocesan Education and Health Chair

## Mary Helwig-Hall, Resolutions Chair



**Diocesan Chair:** Mary Helwig-Hall  
**Diocesan Position:** Resolutions Chair (2022 – 2024)

As I reflect on my role as Resolutions Chair since May 2022, and **the Goal I set to “to remind our members and inform them on the importance and relevance of the Resolutions process”**, I know that my goal has been achieved. In other words: **Mission accomplished.**

After the May 2023 Diocesan Convention, I received several verbal and written comments from members attending that my oral report was very informative. I had members asking for more information, emails sending me news reports relevant to the working resolution titles, and generally **more interest in the role of Resolutions within the CWL Hamilton Diocesan Council.** **Mission accomplished.**

My next move was to follow up with the councils who had presented resolutions in December 2022, but were unable to get the briefs and research completed in time for the 2023 deadlines. In the case of the Resolution presented by St. Patrick, Hamilton that *“City of Hamilton provide washroom facilities for the homeless”*, the CWL council as part of the wider community reported that **City of Hamilton did pass a by-law to provide such facilities.** To that end, they decided that the resolution did not need to be brought to the 2024 convention. **Mission Accomplished.**

In the case of the Resolution presented by St. Mark, Kitchener for *“OLG and CRTC to provide clear warning disclaimers or limits to the recent On-line gambling advertising on TV and social media”* this issue also had advocates outside of the CWL council. In a report from the Online New York Times- Canada Letter by Ian Austen (March 9, 2024): *“The deluge of commercials is a creation of Ontario. Canada’s most populous province decided to go with a competitive marketplace just under two years ago, after the federal government opened up sports betting. As of Friday, [79 online gambling sites](#), not all of them based on sports, are legally permitted to relieve Ontarians of their money. In other provinces, sports betting is part of the provincial lottery system. Just over a week ago, Ontario put in effect **new rules that bar online gambling ads that feature athletes and celebrities**, including the hockey legend Wayne Gretzky as well as Connor McDavid and Auston Matthews, the current N.H.L. stars.”* As a result of this new development and ongoing work by other anti-gambling advertising groups, St. Mark’s CWL also

decided that their resolution did not need to come to the 2024 Convention. **Mission Accomplished.**

**So** where does that leave us **this year?** Well, that is difficult to say because at the writing of this report I am **aware of three resolutions developed by members of St. Michael's, Waterloo CWL council. These working resolutions made it through the rigorous scrutiny of the Ontario Provincial Resolutions Committee. As of today, they need to be presented and accepted by the CWL Diocesan Council before being formally considered for discussion and consideration at the AMM/Convention-2024.**

It has been a long time since any resolutions developed by members of the Hamilton Diocese CWL have been so passionately presented, researched and shared with members. I am really excited at this turn of events, and I am eagerly looking forward to sharing the work done by St. Michael's, Waterloo CWL Council.

Although I cannot give the details, I can tell you that all three resolutions are being developed to help inform women on issues regarding their health, so that they can make better, more informed decisions about their own medical and/ or surgical options for health care. As one member suggested and asked me to share with you: *Even if NONE of the resolutions are passed, assuming that they make it to the 2024 Convention floor, **we would at least have educated our members on the issues at hand. MISSION ACCOMPLISHED!***

Once again, thank you dear Sister-Friends & Members for your great interest, encouragement, attention, attendance, questions, suggestions and participation in the Resolutions Webinars (2022), during Convention 2023, and at all the Regional Meetings in Fall 2023 and Spring 2024.

I look forward to a fruitful Resolutions Dialogue Workshop and for active participation in the consideration of the Resolutions which do make it to the convention floor. See you at the Hamilton Diocesan Catholic Women's League Annual Meeting of Members/ Convention 2024, where I hope **OUR Mission will be Accomplished.**

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Helwig-Hall, Hamilton Diocesan Resolutions Chair

## **Kathy Imperatore, Legislation Chair**



**Diocesan Officer/Chair Name:** Kathryn Imperatore  
**Diocesan Position:** Legislation Chair (2022 – 2023)

Dear League sisters,

**Your voice is a gift from God, use it as an instrument of influence!**

Legislation is the preparation and enactment of laws by a legislative body through its lawmaking process.

Although this will be my last report under the Legislation Chair portfolio, and the Legislation Chair position on the Diocesan Council and throughout the League will be no more, it is important that League members continue the good works of advocacy under the League's three pillars of Faith – Social Justice – and Service.

Advocating for change for the betterment of others and our world is a crucial endeavor that seeks to address society injustices, promote human rights, and create a more just world for all. It is critical that we continue to advocate and petition for change, as the impact of these actions can and do have an impact on individuals and communities, and the ways in which collective action can drive positive change.

Advocacy provides an opportunity to use our voices for the marginalized and underrepresented, so that their needs are heard and addressed. Advocacy plays an important role in protecting and advancing awareness of human rights principals such as dignity, equality, and freedom. Advocacy empowers us to participate in invoking change and creating legislation/laws to improve the quality of life for others and/or protect Mother Earth. Advocacy can influence policy decisions that benefit individuals and society as a whole.

**The impacts of advocacy include:**

- Legislative reforms to protect and promote human rights resulting in meaningful change.
- Policy and program implementation that address pressing society issues such as poverty, homelessness, mental health, etc..., leading to improvements in people's lives.

- Community empowerment to utilize resources, build partnerships and develop solutions to local challenges, which leads to ownership pride and stronger and healthier communities.
- Culture shifts to support raising awareness efforts and reducing stigmas on stereotyping, and instead promote empathy, inclusiveness, and patience.

**Be creative and courageous to advocate for change. Some proven examples include:**

- Raise awareness by educating others and drawing attentions to issues.
- Build coalitions and work with other like-minded people.
- Engage decision-makers by writing to members of parliament, meeting with them, and holding them accountable to represent the voters best interests.
- Support grassroot initiatives that are rooted in gospel values, by support organizations that are working to address local challenges and promote social justice.

Advocating for change for the betterment of others and our world is a moral responsibility that we all have as Catholic women. Advocacy requires a collective approach for action. It requires integrity, courage, and commitment. By advocating for human rights, social justice, and equity, we can create a more just, compassionate, and sustainable world where all individuals can live with dignity, equality, and opportunity.

It is also important to advocate for ourselves and those around us when issues arise and/or if we or others are being bullied or mistreated. As Catholic women, we must approach conflict with a Christian attitude, which means we must have the same mind as Christ, of being just, kind, compassionate, loyal, trustworthy, and loving.

One of the areas that I focused on following during my term was the homelessness and the housing crisis in Canada. I have reported several times on the good work Canadian Alliance To End Homelessness does in addressing this issue both locally and across Canada. I encourage councils to support organization such as these, as they are the specialists who are making a difference in helping those suffering with homelessness and mental health issues.

Despite several challenges during this term, it has been an honour to serve as your diocesan Legislation Chair. Over this past year, I have attended diocesan executive meetings, regional meetings, leadership workshops facilitated by Diocesan President Elect and Organization Chair Teresa DiFalco, a 40-day virtual Lenten Retreat, and I have accepted several parish council invites to events and celebrations across the diocese.

Please continue to sign petitions and write letters to your members of parliament, especially on matters on Life, Health, Poverty/Homelessness, and protecting our planet. **We have a voice – let's use it in service for others, for God and Canada.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathryn Imperatore



## Rosanne Sogan, Historian



**Diocesan Officer/Chair Name:** Rosanne Sogan  
**Diocesan Position:** Historian (May 2023 – 2024)

Last May, President Joyce Cotter, asked if I would step into the position of Historian. As I was not the immediate past president, I could not embrace the role of Past President and Historian, but, just the latter.

As I read over the position, I knew that it required me to venture down to the Bishop Farrell Library, which is located in a separate building outside of the Chancery Office, and next to the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King. The library houses the Hamilton Diocesan Catholic Women's League archives. So off I went!

Systematically I went through the filing cabinets, which are filled with the minutes, financial statements, elected officers and parish presidents' listings, Annual Report books, programs from AGM/Conventions, Regional Meetings, and memorabilia such as binders of pictures and articles about the league since our inception 104 years ago, and much more. I realized that **information was missing. This is not a good thing!**

I began to focus and commit the rest of my term on updating as much of our missing documentation as possible.

Searching my own computer for old data, which thankfully I was able to retrieve some valuable material, and asking sister elected officers for information that they may have saved on their thumb drives became my mandate.

As I found the missing material, it was copied, ensuring that the each missing year was updated to the best of my ability. In some of the cases, two copies were required as the Past President/Historian position requires copies of i.e. the Presidents Listings to be able to run the elections of officers.

***When even a small portion of information is missing, it can cause a void in the sequential results!***

I was able to update a specific binder; this particular one was started in 1993, and contains the dates, names, addresses, and parish of all elected officers, under their explicit role (i.e. President, Secretary, Treasurer, etc.). It goes on further in the binder to list **ALL** parish presidents, addresses and the years in which they held office.

This amazing piece of history brought back very fond memories of sister league members who have left us and of those who are still here and rejoicing in the league at 104 years.

Another duty bestowed upon me was that of running the **Nominations and Elections of Officers** for the diocese. It is an enormous undertaking to say the least.

Creating a master roster of all eligible members over the past 6 years (or 3 elections) was the first problem, as this refers back to my previous statement of, ***“When even a small portion of information is missing, it can cause a void in the sequential results.”*** Not only were names missing, but updating it to a current and accurate list took a great deal of time. Women changed home addresses, emails, and their last names. Thankfully, the Regional Chair women could help with some of this as they are familiar with the members in their community. When that did not work, further delving into this occurred, and in some cases the answer could not be found.

A letter inviting all eligible presidents who have completed their presidency, or are about to complete it, was sent a letter, asking them to run for a position on diocesan council. Sadly, just 7 names were put forward for elections but gratefully, all positions will be occupied.

Resumes and pictures of the candidates were gathered and all information was sent out to the presidents of the councils. I unfortunately erred, and made my apology to all of you as well as two candidates. ***I am not perfect, only God is.***

Again, I say, ***“When even a small portion of information is missing, it can cause a void in the sequential results.”*** After the information was sent out, I did have the Regional Chairs send out a note to their councils to ensure that **ALL councils** received this information and I also spoke to this at the Regional meetings. And yet, many weeks later, a council was in contact with us stating they did not receive the information. That was immediately rectified!

Now I await the outcomes from councils and will tally up the results, and on Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup>, the elections will be held followed by the installation of officers at St. Aloysius Parish, Kitchener.

My work will never be done for the League as the League is a very important part of my life for the past 41 years. As my husband said to me back in 1999, ***“this is your passion!”***

May Our Lady of Good Council continue to guide you in all you do for God, Canada and the Catholic Women’s League of Canada.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosanne Sogan, Historian

***Let’s continue to make History together.***

## Colleen Ionson, Hamilton & Brant Regional Chair



**Diocesan Officer/Chair Name:** Colleen Ionson  
**Diocesan Position:** Hamilton and Brant Regional Chair

Serving as the Hamilton Diocesan Regional Chair for both the Hamilton and Brant regions, since August 2022, has been an absolute pleasure. This included, liaising with you to represent your voice at the diocesan table, working on your behalf, sharing information in a timely manner, referring you to the correct people and resources, and helping you all find your way through our policies and procedures to the best of my ability.

As with all new roles, there are many challenges and many rewards. My greatest learning curve was-learning process while attending meetings and observing how the next level from a Parish Council works and how information is disseminated and passed along to all the Parish Presidents and Secretaries from National, Provincial, Diocesan Executive and Standing Committee Chairs. At times there would be a flurry of communication sent out but monitoring my CWL email account daily and monitoring the various CWL websites, to ensure I could pass on timely and resourceful information.

My greatest reward was meeting and getting to know and work with each of you!



I planned and chaired four Regional Meetings during my term. One in September 2022, March 2023, September 2023, and March 2024. For the 2023 Fall Regional Meeting and the Spring 2024 Regional Meeting, I took a different approach and offered the opportunity to councils to co-host these meeting, as I believe that many hands make less work. This opportunity allowed for councils to collaborate and get to know each other better and cost share in the expenses. I am thrilled to report that although each Regional Meeting had successful turnouts, the Spring 2024 Regional Meeting had record breaking attendance numbers at approximately 130 in attendance. I credit this turnout to listening to the comments and input received from our members through the evaluations submitted after each meeting, They wanted these meetings to be more interesting and interactive with fresh and new information that is not already accessible to them online. Taking into consideration the comments and desires of our

members, I arranged for a keynote speaker – Amanda DiFalco (Global Homelessness and Mental Health Expert and Keynote Speaker) for the Spring 2024 Regional Meeting. This initiative was very well received.

I have also had the opportunity again to sit as a member of the Frances Lovering Award Selection Committee, the Annual Convention Report Book Committee as a proofreader and on the Convention Entertainment Committee for 2023 and 2024. These Committees are chaired by Teresa DiFalco, Diocesan President Elect and Organization Chair. I also sit on the Spiritual Development Committee chaired by Laura Grint, Diocesan First Vice President and Spiritual Development Chair.

I have attended diocesan executive meetings, convention meetings, a self-directed Lenten Retreat during the month of March, and a women's in person Lenten Retreat delivered Teresa DiFalco, Diocesan President Elect, sponsored by Our Lady of Assumption Council in Stoney Creek.

Thank for your support and love.

I  believe that during my term serving I tried to encourage all to spread love by leaving gentle reminders about ing kind my reports and in our Diocesan newsletter the Spectrum.

***Remember to walk in Kindness. The greatest power we as humans have is how we treat each other. When we show kindness to our community and friends, or offer simple acts of kindness, that good will spreads. Project your love, let others experience your goodness, be gentle with your words. Kindness is a powerful tool!***

A closing prayer,

As the year continues, let us give thanks for all we hold dear: our health, our family and our friends.

Let us release our grudges, our anger and our pains, for these are nothing but binding chains.

Let us live each day in the most loving ways, the God-conscious way.

Let us serve all who are in need, regardless of race, colour or creed.

Let us lead the world from darkness to light, from falsehood to truth and from wrong to right.

Let us remember that we are all one, embracing all, discriminating against none.

May God's and Our Lady of Good Counsel's blessings be showered upon us and bestow upon each of us a bright, healthy and peaceful year.

Respectfully submitted,  
Colleen Ionson  
Hamilton and Brant Regional Chair



**Mary D'Orazio, Hamilton & Brant Regional Secretary**



## Joanne Gregson, Kitchener Regional Chair



**Diocesan Officer/Chair Name:** Joanne Gregson  
**Diocesan Position:** Kitchener Regional Chair

Catholic Women's League Councils provide an opportunity for others to contribute monetary aid through fundraising activities that create awareness and community building. Being a volunteer as the Kitchener Regional Chair has been my charitable contribution for the Catholic Women's League and a great learning experience. The communicating with the 30 that are in the Kitchener Region has been rewarding. We are fortunate to have St. John's, Guelph become active again. A number of councils have new presidents working under the new election structure.

Fall Regional Meeting was held on September 16<sup>th</sup> hosted by Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate, Guelph with 42 in attendance. Round Table discussions were held, first one was on "Events to attract younger members" and the second one was on "Events for seniors and shut-ins".

Spring Regional Meeting was hosted by St. Agatha CWL, St. Agatha with 54 in attendance on March 9<sup>th</sup>. Reports were requested to be sent in ahead of time so they could be sent out with the minutes and more time could be utilized for our workshop. President Joyce Cotter facilitated the workshop titled "Connecting The Dots".

Councils celebrating special anniversaries have been St. Aloysius, Kitchener (70<sup>th</sup>), St. Patrick, Cambridge (70), St. Joseph's, Fergus (100<sup>th</sup>), St. Louis, Waterloo (100<sup>th</sup>) in 2024. Many of the councils have returned to doing a number of their previous events. Our thoughts and prayers remain with the families and fellow sisters of those Councils that have lost members this past year.

Councils have been very generously donating funds to their local communities this past year from fundraising events they have held. When it comes to fundraising, many hands make light work, as Councils continue to prove in the many hours of volunteer work they put into every event. Over the past several months, I have participated in the Outreach Presentations. This has been very interesting to see what councils are doing or not doing to encourage more participation in being a member and what our National Office has to offer through programs as well as the support there is Provincially and within our own Hamilton Diocesan.



Later in the fall, I was asked to participate in the setting of the budget for 2024 along with other members from the executive and also one member from the Kitchener Region.

It has been a pleasure being the Kitchener Regional Chair as my two year term is coming to an end. The Fall Regional Meeting will be hosted by St. Joseph, Guelph on September 28<sup>th</sup> and the Spring Regional Meeting in March of 2025 yet to be determined.

Respectfully Submitted  
Joanne Gregson  
Kitchener Regional Chair

### **Sherie Bowen, Kitchener Regional Secretary**



## Nancy Skiba, North Regional Chair



**Diocesan Officer/Chair Name:** Nancy Skiba  
**Diocesan Position:** North Regional Chair

It is wonderful to be attending the 104<sup>th</sup> Hamilton Diocesan CWL convention as North Regional Chair. We have had a busy year in the north.

The fall regional was held at Immaculate Conception Parish in Formosa. There were 10 councils present with a total of 26 members from the northern councils and diocesan executive. The spring regional was held at Sacred Heart Parish in Walkerton. At this meeting there were 10 councils present with a total of 42. Both meetings began with Celebration of the Mass. Father D'Sa celebrated Mass in Formosa with Father Emmanuel and Father Tom Moisan celebrated Mass in Walkerton.

There was so much information and sharing passed on by the presidents (or their representatives) of the north region and the diocesan executive. It is always worthwhile to listen to the presidents' reports and to find out what the councils are doing. And to listen first hand from the diocesan executive the upcoming events and the work that the councils should be focused on in the future. The days involved both business and socializing. After each meeting I sent out the presidents' reports and the diocesan executive reports in two zip files along with the minutes.

There are just too many events that the CWLs in the north are involved in that come under faith, service and social justice. Just to mention two -Many of our CWLs in the north took part in the World Day of Prayer held on Friday March 1<sup>st</sup> and many led the Stations of the Cross on Fridays during Lent.

As regional chair I am the liaison between the presidents in the northern region and the diocesan executive. I have been busy sending material that I received from the diocesan executive to the presidents. Also, after each regional meeting I sent out a checklist of all the due dates, what is due and the attachments to the presidents in one email. The presidents really appreciated this checklist.

I believe that we do make a difference in our parishes, in our communities, in Canada and beyond. The National Theme this year is “Here I am Lord, Send me.” In this prayer, we are asked to follow God’s call and to bring “our unique gifts to your service.....in order that we may be your instruments in the building of your Kingdom”.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Skiba - North Regional Chair



## LIFE MEMBER LIAISON'S ANNUAL REPORT

(MAY 2023 – APRIL 2024)

The Life Members of Hamilton Diocese have been busy over the past year by helping members with advice when asked. Several life members met with our Diocesan President, Joyce Cotter to show our support on two occasions, once by Zoom and another with dinner. Several life members got together through our annual Christmas lunch. Unfortunately, not all could make it but those that did had a very enjoyable afternoon. Several life members along with some members also try to gather for a monthly luncheon when possible.

Life Member Joan Schurter is a committee member of the Recruit Parish Leaders working group for National Strategic Planning.

Life Member Jakki Jeffs has been working on 3 resolutions with St. Michael's in Waterloo which we hope will be presented at the 2014 Diocesan Convention and will be making a presentation to a council regarding "Being With" an outreach to the elderly and those who are shut in to help alleviate the loneliness some of them are experiencing. A portion of this program includes asking some questions and then compiling stories on behalf of those who wish to provide information. The London Diocese CWL worked within this program and produced a beautiful book of memories "Her Story" from many elderly members and it was a beautiful book which they produced to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> CWL Anniversary. She is hoping that she might start a similar project in our diocese, starting with her parish, the Basilica, and St. Josephs.

We are very blessed in our Diocese to have National President, Shari Guinta, as a Life Member. She reports after becoming national president in August 2023 much time is spent "elsewhere". However, she does try to stay involved and informed as to what goes on in Hamilton Diocese. She is involved in her parish at St. Michael Waterloo and helps where she can. She makes herself available to answer questions when she can to councils and thrilled to be invited to various anniversary celebrations in the diocese. Her duties as national president are quite "robust" and the national executive are planning now for the national convention in Saskatoon as well as travelling to several provincial and diocesan conventions in the spring of 2024.

Life Member Rosanne Sogan is serving as Historian for the Hamilton Diocesan Executive and is president of her council.

I'm a Minister of the Word and Eucharistic Minister of Communion in my parish and help with collecting and counting money as an usher and is usually seen as a greeter.  
Joan Schurter and myself are convention co-chairs for this diocesan convention in May.  
Life members Jeanne Wilson, Anna Brady, Joan Schurter and myself attended the national convention in St John as Life Members and witnessed the installation of Shari Guinta as National President.

Respectfully submitted  
Ana Sousa, Life Member Liaison





# PARISH PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORTS

(MAY 2023 – APRIL 2024)





# BRANT

BRANTFORD  
BURFORD  
PARIS





## Annual Parish President Reports

*Go Make a Difference!*  
*Sharing His Promise, Love and Hope!*



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<b>Parish Council:</b>	<b>St. Basil - Brantford</b>
<b>Prepared by:</b>	<b>Julie Gibson, President (2023 – 2025)</b>
<b>Spiritual Advisor:</b>	<b>Fr. Kevin D'Sousa</b>
<b>Number of Members:</b>	<b>55</b>

Since the last convention in May 2023, our ladies have been involved in many aspects of our church and associated services. For example, we have members participating in the music ministry, serving as Extraordinary Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, and volunteers with the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

In September 2023, we co-hosted the Hamilton and Brant Fall Regional Meeting with St. Pius X Council-Brantford, and St. Mary's Council-Brantford. It was a successful and wonderful collaborative experience with over 70 attendees.

In December 2023, we collected 113 "Christmas" shoeboxes from our parishioners, filled with food for children.

We host a "Coffee and Chatter" social following Mass on the last Sunday of each month.

We changed the time of our general members meetings to 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m., Masses, to increase our meeting attendance, given that women were already at church, thus making it more convenient for them to attend our meetings.

In March 2024, I attended the Hamilton and Brant Spring Regional Meeting, in Stoney Creek, which was co-hosted by Our Lady of the Assumption Council-Stoney Creek, and St. Eugene Council-Hamilton. It was an fabulous and well attended meeting with over 125 members, and Keynote Speaker Amanda DiFalco who spoke on Mental Health, Homelessness and how we as a membership can help.

I participated in an online Spiritual Directed 40-Day Lenten Experience of Reflection and Exercise.

On Holy Monday, March 25, 2024, I attended a Women's Lenten Retreat with Presenter Teresa DiFalco, who delivered a wonderful and inspiring presentation on the women in the Gospels entitled "The Women Who Stayed".

In April 2024, our Council is hosting a Communion luncheon and Pin Presentation Ceremony on Saturday, April 13, 2024, in honour of our members for their service in the League to God and Canada. We have invited Teresa DiFalco, Diocesan President Elect and Organization Chair, Laura Grint, Diocesan First Vice-President and Spiritual Development Chair, and Colleen Ionson, Hamilton and Brant Regional Chair, to participate in the celebration.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Gibson, President



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



## Annual Parish President Reports

*Go Make a Difference!*

*Sharing His Promise, Love and Hope!*



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<b>Parish Council:</b>	<b>St. Joseph's - Brantford</b>
<b>Prepared by:</b>	<b>Carol Krempa, Parish Council (Acting) President (2016-2024)</b>
<b>Spiritual Advisor:</b>	<b>Father Piotr Golinski</b>
<b>Number of Members:</b>	<b>25</b>

My name is Carol Krempa, and I am president of St. Joseph's Catholic Women's League in Brantford, Ontario.

We have 25 paid members at present of which perhaps 12 come to our meetings.

Our parish council executive was not able to have proper executive elections due to a lack of members willing to accept a position in January, and we as a council were basically carrying on until May when I received notice that I could carry on as acting president and was permitted to appoint a treasurer and secretary.

On Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023, we catered our parish priest, Father Piotr Golinski's celebration of 25 years in the priesthood after the 11:30 a.m. Mass which was open to all parishioners and special guests.

We delivered a complete meat loaf dinner for 25 to the Why Not Centre for homeless youth.

On June 28<sup>th</sup> I presented two awards (our CWL award and the Father Gira award) to graduating students at Assumption College.

In September, I attended the Hamilton Diocesan Regional meeting held at St. Pius and thoroughly enjoyed it.

At our October meeting, Mary Helwig-Hall, with Sherie Bowen as secretary, came to show us the Diocesan presentation on how the three levels of CWL can assist and support our council, which was much appreciated.

Under the banner of Faith, Service and Justice, we have decided to support an elementary school in Brantford, King George Elementary, which is in need of not only school supplies, but clothing, shoes, lunch bags, etc.

I attended 3 of St. Mary's presentations on 'A Journey of Sorrows' in November.

We catered a dinner for a December funeral.

In November, we collected winter clothing for the Salvation army and \$50.00 plus 75 pounds of food for the local food bank which was gratefully accepted.

For Easter Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, the CWL took part in our church's outdoor early sunrise procession along with the other parish groups.

Respectfully Submitted  
Carol Krempa, Parish Council Acting-President





## Annual Parish President Reports

*Go Make a Difference!*

*Sharing His Promise, Love and Hope!*



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**Name of Parish:** St. Pius X Parish Council - Brantford  
**Prepared by:** Patricia McDougall, Council President (2020 - 2024)  
**Name of Spiritual Advisor:** Fr. Steve Murrin  
**No. of members:** 115

Several members attended the Hamilton/Brant May Convention, 2023. It was a lovely experience; with informative discussions, workshops, and the joy of sharing time with our League sisters.

We had 70 people at our June potluck dinner. This is a fun way to celebrate our year's achievements.

To welcome our members in September, the executive group prepared a 'Taste of Italy', with delicious charcuterie board treats and authentic Italian desserts. We followed with a rousing game of bingo. Thirty ladies enjoyed this exciting event.

In September, our council was pleased to host the Annual Hamilton/Brant Fall Regional meeting, co-hosting with St. Basil's Council. We had 33 councils represented with 72 sisters attending.

The St. Pius X council has been involved in many worthwhile projects. We held several receptions for both funeral services; for the Catholic school board, and local charitable organizations. One of our receptions had 200 people in attendance.

In November, we held our Christmas Bazaar. The parish community donated many items for a variety of tables. Along with the Grand Draw and our homemade deli pasta, the bazaar was very successful, with about 700 people passing through. The proceeds went to the St. Pius X Parish, St. Vincent de Paul organization, Nova Vita House, and the Christmas Food Baskets.

We held our annual donation drive, collecting 297 warm winter items, which were delivered to four charities in support of homeless people. Along with the students from St. John's College, we distributed Christmas gifts and cards to 179 seniors in nursing homes.

Three deserving ladies (Eva Evans, Florence Carrozzella, and Vicki Coyle) received the Maple Leaf pin for meritorious service at our December potluck dinner. Our membership drive was

successful with 115 members. Our council will be awarding a year's free membership to ladies in the RCIA program; as an introduction to the Catholic Women's League. We had 18 new members join.

In March, our CWL hosted 'Mary's Way of the Cross' for Stations of the Cross.

We hold our annual Twilight Retreat in April. This year we have a guest speaker, with a prayer and faith workshop, followed by a time of fellowship and refreshments. The evening is enjoyed by all.

Respectfully submitted,  
Patricia McDougall, Council President



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



## Annual Report

*Go Make a Difference!*

*Sharing His Promise, Love and Hope!*



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<b>Parish Council:</b>	<b>St. Mary's Brantford H-023</b>
<b>Prepared by:</b>	<b>Angela Rowley, President (2022 - Present)</b>
<b>Spiritual Advisor:</b>	<b>Fr. Laszlo Amaszka</b>
<b>Number of Members:</b>	<b>59</b>

Our year consisted of focusing on four areas of interest, Spiritual, Community, Members and Fundraisers.

May Crowning and Living Rosary: We included our church community in these most beautiful spiritual events as they were celebrated either during or before Mass. The response was so overwhelming that these will definitely become annual events.

Our members are asked to bring donations to our meetings in order to help those in need in our community. We asked for school supplies and distributed them to 5 area schools and donations were recently made to Nova Vita Women's Shelter. In the fall, we held monthly information sessions: Grand River Counsel on Aging, How NOT To Be Scammed, and a three-part series that included The Funeral Liturgy, Catholic Cemeteries and Grief.

Our membership drive brought us ten new members. Birthday cards created by one of our members, signed by our executive members and mailed on a monthly basis as we celebrate members' birthdays along with a monthly Mass intention. Welcome Kits were given to all members consisted of: welcome letters from myself, Joyce Cotter, Diocesan President and Shari Guinta, National President, a "Why am I A Member?" brochure, a decade rosary, a notebook in which one may write the names of those for whom one wishes to offer prayers, a pen, a religious bookmark, and a card with a photograph of St. Mary's Church and The Memorare prayer.

Line dancing has been ongoing with two classes weekly. The bake sale in the fall was such a hit that we have decided to have three a year.

We changed to the new Structure and Standing Committees. At our last meeting, our committee leaders stood with a sign, Faith, Service and Social Justice. I then asked our members to stand beside the sign that has lead them to join the CWL. As you may have guessed, Faith was the most popular followed by Service and the Social Justice. I gave an example of what we do as CWL members and shared with members that all three committees overlap and that we can all work together as one. Picture included.

Respectfully submitted,  
Angela Rowley, Parish Council President







## Annual Report

*Go Make a Difference!*

*Sharing His Promise, Love and Hope!*



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<b>Parish Council:</b>	<b>Sacred Heart, Paris</b>
<b>Prepared by:</b>	<b>Donna Campbell, President (2017 – Present)</b>
<b>Spiritual Advisor:</b>	<b>Father Joesph Okoko</b>
<b>Number of Members:</b>	<b>89</b>

At Sacred Heart our year of activities starts in March. Along with four other churches in Paris we participated in World Day of Prayer Celebration. For Easter we held a raffle for an Easter Dinner Hamper, which included a Ham. For Mother's Day in May we gave Carnations to Mothers that attended each Mass that weekend. Baptisms in May fell on Mother's Day and each New Mum received a Carnation, they were so appreciative.

In September we held our first meeting in our Parish Center. The Annual Parish Picnic was hosted by Catholic Women's League, there were approximately 100 in attendance. Our Grand Opening Celebration was the start of much activity for the Parish and the Catholic Women's League.

Sacred Heart hosted a retreat in October. We have catered to a number of events, from Funeral Luncheons to Christmas Dinners.

Along with our usual charity donations we have been able to give our two elementary schools money toward buses to bring them to Church for Mass. We donated to our Youth Group. They have been a great support to us, setting up and helping at functions like the Bazaar. At our ladies Christmas Dinner the Ladies were generous with donations for Hope Pregnancy Family Support Center. With support from the Parishioners our Christmas Angles Program was able to help several of our school families have a nicer Christmas Celebration.

Respectively Submitted,  
Donna Campbell





## Annual Report

*Go Make a Difference!*

*Sharing His Promise, Love and Hope!*



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<b>Parish Council:</b>	<b>Blessed Sacrament - Burford</b>
<b>Prepared by:</b>	<b>Marguerite Attlebery, Parish Council President (2023 – 2024)</b>
<b>Spiritual Advisor:</b>	<b>Father Andrew Czarny</b>
<b>Number of Members:</b>	<b>64</b>

In May, 2023, we gathered for a regular meeting. We took a bit of a break in June and July, and then our Executive convened in August.

In September 2023, at our regular meeting, we were fortunate enough to have our Diocesan President, Joyce Cotter come and speak on the National Unity Outreach Program.

In Oct, 2023, our council provided meals for visiting priests at our parish.

Nov 2023 was a busy month for us. We held our Fall Bazaar at the church hall. It was well attended with many local community vendors participating. We participated in the Remembrance Day Memorial and laid a wreath on behalf of our parish CWL. We continued our show of community support this month, by providing set up and clean up service for the Diwali celebrations held in our church hall. Our Executive completed and submitted Annual Reports. We provided a donation of gifts and refreshments for Confirmadi following Confirmation ceremony for our local elementary school (Blessed Sacrament).

In Dec 2023, we put on a pot-luck Christmas Social for our council members, which included our service pin presentations. Our council provided supper for the visiting priests during our Advent Reconciliation.

At our Jan 2024 council meeting we held our election of officers and a new executive was formed. Our parish hosted a special mass which Bishop Crosby attended, and our council provided and served complimentary lunch for parishioners in the church hall, following mass.

In Feb our council provided all meals for our visiting priest who was hosting our Lent Retreat, 'Healing Through Reconciliation'.

In March the Executive gathered for a meeting, and we also had a regular full member meeting. Two of our council members attended the Hamilton-Brant Regional Meeting in Stoney Creek.

And finally, our council will be getting together in April to celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel, for a brunch at our local community golf club.

Respectfully submitted,

Marguerite Attlebery, Parish Council President



# HAMILTON

BURLINGTON

DUNDAS

FREELTON

GEORGETOWN

HAMILTON

MILTON

OAKVILLE

STONE CREEK (ELFRIDA & BINBROOK)

WINONA





## Annual Report

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### **PARISH COUNCIL**

### **PREPARED BY**

### **SPIRITUAL ADVISOR**

### **NUMBER of MEMBERS**

**Holy Rosary, Burlington**

**Barb MacIsaac, Parish Council President (2022-2024)**

**Monsignor Martin Vallely**

**135**

Our Holy Rosary council remains actively involved in our parish life. We've had three new members join our league but unfortunately have lost three of our older ladies who gone to their eternal reward. We honoured fifteen ladies with long service pins plus one Maple Leaf pin was awarded. In May as well, we had our 12 hours of prayer where we raised over \$1000.00 for the Carpenter Hospice and of course we had our Crowning of Mary during one of the Sunday masses.

June found us busy with our annual Strawberry Social where we open it to our parish and approximately 100 people were in attendance. We had the authors of Escarpment Trails and Trecks talk to us about the importance of exercise especially walking. Our Craft ladies always arrange a Garage Sale with all proceeds going to SVDP and our parish. This year they raised over \$2500.00.

After a break during June and July, we started September by arranging a bus trip to Martyrs Shrine. For a very reasonable price we took 58 parishioners and provided lunch with snacks for a wonderful day. We also started a Chair Yoga program for anyone interested. Our speaker for our general meeting was a member of Second Harvest who spoke of "Food Recovery" and the importance of the difference Best Before dates and Expiry dates. Another very interesting and well received topic.

October found us preparing for our annual Christmas Bazaar held in November.

This year we raised over \$18000.00 to help us with donations to our Parish and out many charities. November is also the month of our Christmas dinner for our members.

A freewill donation is accepted and given to SVDP usually \$1500.00

Our entertainment is usually a sing-a-long with a most interesting rendition of the Twelve Days of Christmas. In December, our bakers get busy and we prepare plates of cookies and candy for up to 300 families and Wellington Square Church distributes them.

Traditionally, January is a difficult month to have a great attendance for budget night but we enticed them with a chocolatier and we maintained our numbers at 35-40. In February we held our Lenten Soup and Bun night. Our speaker was Deacon Stephane Zara and he spoke of his ministry with the inmates at the Hamilton Correctional Facility.

We had 13 homemade soups and asked again for freewill donations. We collected \$1450.00 which was given to "The Bridge" Hamilton. It's an organization which helps discharged inmates to get back into society.

Our March meeting was during Holy Week so we invited a lady in and she acted out a part of the Scripture "Who's My Neighbour". We participated in the Stations of the Cross with Monsignor. We also hosted The World Day of Prayer at Holy Rosary.

In April, our CWL was able to help restart the "Out 4 Lunch" program. It's a charitable lunch for seniors held at St Mathews Church in Aldershot where the four churches come together and offer lunch and social time to seniors. A great program that was derailed by COVID but we are trying to revive it. We also held our Fashion Show with clothes from Laura's. This is a much anticipated and well attended event both by our CWL members and our Holy Rosary Parish.

Our work in our CWL is busy but so rewarding for our members and our parishioners.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barb MacIssac

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St. Gabriel – Burlington  
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

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St. Patrick – Burlington  
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

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St. Paul the Apostle – Burlington  
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

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## Annual Report

*Go Make a Difference!*

*Sharing His Promise, Love and Hope!*



**Parish Council:** St. Raphael's , Burlington  
**Prepared by:** Leony Hettinger – President (2019)  
**Spiritual Advisor:** Fr. Wilson Andrade  
**Number of Members:** 53

Our council has been active in varied activities involving faith and social justice and education about the league. We have put forth effort to invite women to join the league and have had some new members attend.

We promote prolife with our involvement with Halton Alive. A presentation was given to parish sponsored by our league on Medical Aide in Dying. We funded members of the parish to attend the Life Talk seminars on topics of abortion and end of life/ palliative care. Members are joining in a Walk for life to remember unborn lives ended by abortion.

We have held varied faith filling events including the following: Advent Christmas party for children of our local schools, Lent morning retreat, Stations of the Cross and involvement in World Day of prayer. Each meeting we invite members to participate in faith sharing.

Donations were provided to St. Vincent de Paul in our parish to assist with social needs.

The topic of Fast Fashion was of interest to members on Earth day and discussing ways we can modify our habits and learn more about this topic including watching Reel Justice film .

Our sisterhood has included fun of Christmas party and end of year Strawberry social.

Our council will continue to work on involvement of members and leadership for positions in the council for elections

Respectfully submitted,  
Leony Hettinger





## Annual Report

*Go Make a Difference!*

*Sharing His Promise, Love and Hope!*



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<b>Parish Council:</b>	<b>St. Augustine-Dundas</b>
<b>Prepared by:</b>	<b>Phyllis Missett – President (2019)</b>
<b>Spiritual Advisor:</b>	<b>Fr. Whitfield</b>
<b>Number of Members:</b>	<b>79</b>

One of the highlights during the past year was the St. Augustine CWL Christmas Market held in November. It consisted of CWL booths, craft vendors and a lunch room. The volunteers, donors and shoppers from the Parish community made it an enjoyable and successful event.

Sadly, in 2023 our council added six members to the CWL Book of Life. Sandra, Lucille, Viva, Katie, Helen and Sr. Francis were women of faith and service. May they rest in peace.

Respectfully submitted,

Phyllis Missett, President



## Annual Report

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<b>Parish Council:</b>	<b>Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Freelon</b>
<b>Prepared by:</b>	<b>Pauline von Zuben, President (2023-2024)</b>
<b>Spiritual Advisor:</b>	<b>Father Arpee Urquico</b>
<b>Number of Members:</b>	<b>33</b>

May's Crowning of Mary included mass, followed by a Living Rosary with participants praying in several languages, hymns and prayers devoted to Mary, with refreshments to follow.

A meeting was held with the principal of our elementary school to discuss ways to involve the youth in our community. We have gifted laminated prayer cards to our Confirmandi, bibles as graduation awards to students at our elementary school and monetary awards to our high school students.

We have updated our Council's Policy & Procedure Manual. Our Council is looking forward to a successful 2024 by increasing our membership, hosting fun events and hospitalities after masses.

Our Wednesday evening Zoom meetings to pray the Rosary together at 7:00 p.m. are continuing. This is an opportunity for members to request special prayers for the intentions of their families and friends.

Once again, last November, our Council sold Christmas Planters as a fundraiser, which was a huge success. We collected winter clothing, hygiene items and coats in conjunction with our elementary school for the needy in Hamilton. Monetary donations were made to the Men's St. Ministry in Hamilton and to Chalice. Also, five Emergency Waterproof Sleeping Bags were purchased and donated to Helping Hands in Hamilton for distribution to the homeless.

A successful Advent Luncheon was organized for our parish families in December and it proved to be very beneficial for parishioners to get further acquainted with our new Pastor, Father Arpee Urquico. It was also a celebration of Father Arpee's Installation in our parish, which began with a mass celebrated by Bishop Crosby.

Our parish hosted the Women's Inter-Church Council of Canada World Day of Prayer on March 1st. The Worship Service was written by Christian women in Palestine with the theme "I Beg You...Bear with One Another in Love". We were joined by members from three local United Churches and prayed in solidarity for the women of Palestine and peace in our world. We concluded the afternoon with a time of refreshments and fellowship.

Our Council, moving forward, is in the process of planning events to encourage more ladies to join our membership. One of these is a "High Tea" luncheon for the ladies in our parish. A membership campaign is planned, at the Sunday masses one upcoming weekend, encouraging ladies 16 and over to join and become active in our parish. We continue to pray for peace in our world

Respectfully submitted,  
Pauline von Zuben, President





## Annual Report

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*Sharing His Promise, Love and Hope!*

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<b>Parish Council:</b>	<b>Holy Cross - Georgetown</b>
<b>Prepared by:</b>	<b>Marleen Cushing, President (2023 - 2025)</b>
<b>Spiritual Advisor:</b>	<b>Fr. Dave Walter</b>
<b>Number of Members:</b>	<b>143</b>

After the very long hiatus due to Covid restrictions, our Council activities began again in March of 2022.

We held a memorial service for the many council members who had passed away during Covid, and finished up the year with a beach party in June. We were able to begin offering funeral luncheons for parishioners in May. In conjunction with the Knights of Columbus, we held a food drive for our local food bank.

A committee was struck to plan out 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, and the committee met several times over the Summer. We had a wonderful celebration in October to commemorate 70 years of faith and service. On the weekend of October 15-16, we on display our council memorabilia in the Church Narthex, celebrated Mass together, and culminated our celebrations with a special evening, giving out service pins to our members, and honouring past presidents.

In November we held a service of remembrance for our deceased members, and once again, held another food drive with the Knights of Columbus.

A new council Executive was formed in January. A CWL Ministry table was set up in Cote Hall to attract new members. In February, our new council Executive settled into their new roles and responsibilities and met exclusively as of the four new Executive Council members only one had ever been involved at this level. Once a comfort level and comradery had formed the Executive council met one more time before meeting with our General Council in March to begin planning the upcoming year. In March we also reinstated a bursary for high school graduates which we do in collaboration with the Knights of Columbus.

In April we have planned to have a lovely ceremony for Our Lady of Good Council and a pot luck gathering.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marleen Cushing, Holy Cross CWL Parish President

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**Most Blessed Sacrament – Hamilton**

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

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**Canadian Martyrs – Hamilton**

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

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**Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King – Hamilton**

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

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**Regina Mundi – Hamilton**

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

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**Sacred Heart – Hamilton**

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

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**St. Anthony of Padua – Hamilton**

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

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**St. Catherine of Siena – Hamilton**

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

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## Annual Report

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<b>Parish Council:</b>	<b>St. Eugene - Hamilton</b>
<b>Prepared by:</b>	<b>Angela Rzazewski (2022 – 2024)</b>
<b>Spiritual Advisor:</b>	<b>Father Kevin Upendran</b>
<b>Number of Members:</b>	<b>52</b>

Ladies in the League:

We continue to fulfill our commitment to the three pillars of the CWL by the following actions:

- We support various charitable organizations in our parish and in our community both financially and through personal service.
- We provide various opportunities for our members to come together spiritually and socially. Our Communion Brunch and Christmas social are well attended. Teresa DiFalco, Diocesan President Elect was invited to attend to present Maple Leaf pins to several of our members.
- On March 23, 2024, we hosted a ½ day Lenten Retreat for our parish and invited neighbouring parishes, on the theme of Homelessness. Amanda DiFalco was the keynote speaker. We continue to support the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness (CAEH) by providing the QR codes for donations, at all entrances/exits of the church.
- We continue our involvement with the students of St. Eugene School through various volunteer activities such as crafts and reading improvement. We are now working on a project to connect some of our young crafters with some of the children in Ukraine. They will be crocheting dance bags for dancers who are using a bomb shelter as a studio. We also provide gifts for students receiving the sacraments of First Communion and Confirmation. We also present a graduation award to a female and male graduate who best exemplify the expectations of a Catholic School Graduate. Many of us attend school liturgies to show our support of their faith journey. Some children have actually commented on seeing us at their liturgies. So heartwarming!
- We take the lead in organizing many parish activities such as Harvest Bazaar, Garage and Plant sale, Parish picnic, Sunday socials, etc. These are all wonderful opportunities to be visible as leaders in our parish community. As a result, our membership has definitely increased.

- We stay in touch with our members through regular newsletters, cards, phone calls or personal visits for those who are homebound.
- We co-hosted the Hamilton/Brant 2024 Spring Regional Meeting. It was a great success and an opportunity to bond with our sisters at Our Lady of the Assumption Parish in Stoney Creek and to get to know the and work with the Diocesan Team. One of our members handcrafted 120 mug rugs/trivets which were gifted to the attending members at the regional meeting.
- I sit as a member of the Diocesan Organization Committee and the Diocesan Spiritual Committee along with another one of my executive members. We volunteered at the 2023 Hamilton Diocesan Convention in this regard, and I will be assisting these committees at the 2024 Hamilton Diocesan Convention.
- Myself and two other members sit on the Parish Council. One of our members is a strong advocate for those who are physically challenged. As a result of her strong voice on this issue, changes are being made to make the entrances of our parish more easily accessible. Automatic door openers will be installed in the very near future.

Respectfully submitted,  
Angela Rzazewski, President





## Annual Report

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<b>Parish Council:</b>	<b>St. Gregory the Great Slovenian Parish - Hamilton</b>
<b>Prepared by:</b>	<b>Rosemary Sustersic, President (2018 - current)</b>
<b>Spiritual Advisor:</b>	<b>Father Drago Gačnik</b>
<b>Number of Members:</b>	<b>60</b>

Our Catholic Women's League enables us to grow in faith and serve our parish and community. Here are some highlights of our activities from the beginning of May 2023 to the end of April 2024.

We held monthly meetings after 7PM Mass the first Wednesday of every month except for July and August. CWL intentions were included in Masses. At our meetings time was spent on spiritual reflections and we also discussed how to engage youth and fulfill our role as goodwill ambassadors.

Some members attended regional meetings as well as the 103rd Anniversary of our Diocesan Council at Sheraton Hamilton. We also benefited from attending virtual information sessions that were offered to us (e.g. Sharing is Caring). We welcomed Rosanne Sogan and Mary Helwig-Hall who presented the Unity and Outreach initiative. With their guidance we reflected on our past history and refined our short and long term goals.

In May we presented our first Communion recipients with corsages/boutonnieres intertwined with Our Lady of Good Counsel medallions.

In August we honoured one of our members with an honour guard at her funeral Mass and in November we honoured all of our deceased sisters at a Memorial Mass.

We called and visited some of our members and sent them cards at Christmas and certain special occasions.

We maintained votive candles as well as a Chalice sponsorship and made contributions to the Good Shepherd Centre and our parish community.

In March of 2024 we held a parish bazaar which included Mass, a Slovenian style luncheon, opportunities to buy homemade noodles/baked goods as well as activities to keep children and adults entertained. Many young volunteers assisted us.



On March 22nd a live Passion Play was performed under the direction of one of our CWL members, MaryAnn Demsar, for our congregation. Actors ranged in age from 8 to 87.

On April 26th we will hold Our Lady of Good Counsel Mass and recognize one new member with an insignia pin. Three members will be recognized for 10 years of service, one for 25 years of service and two for 40 years of service. May Our Lady of Good Counsel continue to bless us!

Respectfully submitted,  
Rosemary Sustersic, President



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**St. John the Baptist – Hamilton**  
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

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#### Hamilton Diocesan Council - The Catholic Women's League of Canada



### Annual Report

*Go Make a Difference!*

*Sharing His Promise, Love and Hope!*



**Parish Council:**

**Prepared by:**

**Spiritual Advisor:**

**Number of Members:**

**St. Lawrence the Martyr Parish - Hamilton**

**Maureen Walton (Council Contact)**

**Father Peter Jurzyk**

**39**

May 2023, we held our May Crowning and presented long service award pins to our members; hosted family reception in our Church Hall for Grade 7 Confirmants.

June 2023, we participated in the Grade 8 Graduation Mass and presented 2 Christian Awards to graduating students.

August 2023, participated in St. Lawrence's Feast Day Celebration and Community Lunch with church members as well as Deacons and their families of the Hamilton Diocese

September 2023, we held our welcome back meeting after our summer break and started our Good Shepherd Fall Food Drive

October 2023, had us meeting to prepare for our Fall fundraising events and had representatives attend our meeting to present about the National Unity Project Outreach

November 2023, we ran our Winter Clothing Drive whereby children's items were donated to our St. Lawrence School and adult items were donated to the Good Shepherd Centre. We also ran our CWL Penny Sale and helped with our major fundraiser – Nibbles and Bids Loonie/Toonie Auction

December 2023 assisted with kitchen duties for our Parish's Christmas Turkey Roll; ran our Christmas Bake Sale and celebrated with our church members and community in our Advent Celebration Mass and Social.

January 2024, monthly meeting was held and membership drive.

February 2024, monthly meeting was held and social event to Chocolate Tales Tour in Hamilton; CWL Lenten Challenge – 40 days 40 items – collecting food/personal items during the Lenten season and donated to the Good Shepherd Centre; participated in Way of Cross Stations of the Cross

March 2024, monthly meeting; CWL Easter Bake Sale; social gathering to the City of Hamilton Gage Park Spring Tide Bulb Show

April 2024, monthly meeting in preparation for our CWL May Crowning and community social to be held in May 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Walton

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## Annual Report

*Go Make a Difference!*

*Sharing His Promise, Love and Hope!*



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<b>Parish Council:</b>	<b>St. Luke, Hamilton</b>
<b>Prepared by:</b>	<b>Rosanne Sogan, (A) President/Nancy Morley (Council Contact)</b>
<b>Spiritual Advisor:</b>	<b>Fr. Mike Francis</b>
<b>Number of Members:</b>	<b>76</b>

The St. Luke Catholic Women's League had a full year of activity involving the members and at times the parish community. We are blessed to have Mass prior to our meetings and when available, Fr. Mike attends.

May, we honoured Mary with a crowning ceremony, and the rosary being prayed each Sunday prior to Mass. A *Birthright Baby Shower* was held and valued information from Annette Hornsby, co-executive director brought needed items back to *Birthright* for moms in need.

We were blessed to have Bishop Lobsinger as our guest at our Communion Lunch in June. He was delightful to listen to and spoke on the **Synod**, in laymen's terms. During the summer months there are no meetings but we manage to see one another at Mass and keep informed of our members.

September, at our Welcome Back meeting, things are kept light. We held a very successful *Fall Food Drive* for the *Good Shepherd* through the parish from late September to Thanksgiving. Weekly inserts were placed in the bulletin, with each week stating 5 of the *52 Reasons to join the League*; this ran through to December, a great way for non- members to learn about the League. Additionally in October, we had an information night from our newly formed *St. Vincent de Paul Society*.

A meeting with great reverence is our *Memorial Service* in November, gracing our deceased sisters and Spiritual Advisors. We also had a contingent of women making cabbage rolls and a bake sale was held.

Christmas time is always busy with another potluck and *Nibbles and Dibs*, (oh what a quarter can buy and with it many surprises), but charity is ever so abundant in the form of our *Angel Tree* - \$2,630 in gift cards/cash and *Christmas Stockings* - \$1406.75. These were given to the school, community and local organizations.

January brings an *Early Bird Draw* for membership win back, and an afternoon of games. February brought us *Valentines Bingo*; members prepared pancakes for Shrove Tuesday for the school children; *40 Days of Lent* started another successful food drive for the *Good Shepherd*. March introduced us to Judy Rickey of *Clutter Relief Services* informing us on downsizing our home. Finally April, we hosted Mr. Chad Collins, MP. He has always lived in our community and was extremely engaging and edifying.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy Morley, Interim Parish Council President

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## Hamilton Diocesan Council - The Catholic Women's League of Canada



### Annual Report

*Go Make a Difference!*  
*Sharing His Promise, Love and Hope!*



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<b>Parish Council:</b>	<b>St. Margaret Mary - Hamilton</b>
<b>Prepared by:</b>	<b>Kim Drotar, Parish Council President (2022 – 2024)</b>
<b>Spiritual Advisor:</b>	<b>Father Adam Wroblewicz, CR</b>
<b>Number of Members:</b>	<b>80</b>

### May 2023

- ◆ Annual Mass & Dinner St Naum of Ohrid. 80 people attended to enjoy a delicious meal prepared by Mary (Croatian cook) and listen to keynote guest speaker Amanda DiFalco, who presented on Homelessness.
- ◆ Service years and past president pin recognition

### July 2023

- ◆ Canada day Mass and Strawberry social. Strawberries and whipped cream provided by CWL.

### October 2023

- ◆ Bake sale
- ◆ Plant sale

### November 2023

- ◆ Twinkle toes project
- ◆ Over 300 socks filled with toiletry items by our Confirmandi and delivered to the Good Shepherd and Out of the Cold.

### December 2023

- ◆ Christmas Potluck. Members brought their favourite dish and a non-perishable food item for the foodbank. Entertainment by Angelo Vendetti (one of our members husbands).

### February 2024

- ◆ Talk given by one our members Patricia Zettle “THEN & NOW”
- ◆ Line Dancing
- ◆ CWL members participated in Stations of the Cross Feb 23, 2024.

### March 2024

- ◆ CWL members organized Easter vigil reception for candidates.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kim Drotar



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## Hamilton Diocesan Council - The Catholic Women's League of Canada



### Annual Report

*Go Make a Difference!*  
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<b>Parish Council:</b>	<b>St. Mary Pro-Cathedral - Hamilton</b>
<b>Prepared by:</b>	<b>Anna Kocmarek, Council Contact</b>
<b>Spiritual Advisor:</b>	<b>Father Patras Samuel Masih</b>
<b>Number of Members:</b>	<b>12</b>

Our council celebrated its first year anniversary since reactivating our council in January 2023.

Our currently small membership is large in terms of the faith, commitment, experience, and the energy our members bring to our table and parish. We aim to have regular monthly or by-monthly meetings, as it depends on hall availability.

Our focus remains on building the CWL community within our parish, and building connections with our parishioners. We do this through bulletin advertising, membership campaigns, pulpit announcements, participating in and supporting parish events. A group of us helped manage the parish office until a new secretary was hired.

As a bilingual (English/Portuguese) parish, our parish outreach has included speaking about the CWL at English and Portuguese Masses. We provide our handouts in both language so to be inclusive and engaging. Most recently, our council participated in the Annual Mass and Procession for Our Lady of Fatima Feast Day. One of our members, Teresa DiFalco was asked to help coordinate the event and make it a more community inclusive event. We are happy to report that it was a huge success and was the largest attendance we have ever had. Several of our members participated in the Liturgy including Colleen Ionson and Kathryn Imperatore as Lectors. Laura Grint, Diocesan First Vice President also attended.

With many changes and challenges in our parish since re-activating in January 2023, including a new pastor, we have not been able to hold any fundraising events. We have thus been creative in finding ways to help raise a bit of money to help with the operating costs of running a council, which include selling religious items. We sold these items at the Hamilton/Brant Regional Meeting and obtained permission to sell them at our Diocesan May Convention. We were most humbled and fortunate to receive a gracious donation from one of our sister councils – St. Eugene's.

We look forward to three upcoming events we have planned and are working very hard to make successful. They include: a pasta dinner on June 5, 2024, a Father's Day Breakfast on June 16, 2024, and a dinner/dance on October 5, 2024 to raise funds for breast cancer. We also hope to hold a retreat day of spirituality in the near future.

Four of our members attended the Hamilton-Brant Regional meeting in March co-hosted by Our Lady of the Assumption (Stoney Creek) and St. Eugene (Hamilton) on March 16, 2024. Four members will be attending the Diocesan 104<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of Members/Convention in May 2024. Three of these members will be attending as Diocesan Executives, and we are very proud that our very own Teresa DiFalco will be our new Hamilton Diocesan President. Her servant leadership is an inspirational gift for all of us. We presented her with an overdue and much deserved Maple Leaf pin early this year, which was then blessed by Fr. Patras. The intimate celebration was an evident humbling experience that made us all a little teary and joyful.

Father Patras, St. Mary's pastor and our Spiritual Advisor is a wonderful support to our council and we to him and our parish. He participates in our meetings and activities and we thank him for his guidance and support.

Our parish community are encouraged and happy with the return of our council in our parish and we are happy to serve our parish community and abroad.

Respectfully submitted,  
Anna Kocmarek

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## Hamilton Diocesan Council - The Catholic Women's League of Canada



### Annual Report

*Go Make a Difference!*  
*Sharing His Promise, Love and Hope!*



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<b>Parish Council:</b>	<b>St. Patrick, Hamilton</b>
<b>Prepared by:</b>	<b>Evelyn Shoemaker, Past President</b>
<b>Spiritual Advisor:</b>	<b>Diana Quildon</b>
<b>Number of Members:</b>	<b>32</b>

- June 2023 – our final meeting of the year was our annual Birthright Shower with snacks, punch, shower games and of course a guest speaker from Birthright who left with a carload of gifts for moms and babies.
- Oct 15 2023 – we FINALLY had our officers installed (better late than never right?)
- Oct 15 2023 – meet and greet to allow parishioners to learn more about the CWL. The turnout was greater than expected and 10 new women came to learn more about us and join us for coffee and treats. Executive baked muffins and cookies for the occasion. Each newcomer received a draw ticket for a 2024 membership. The draw was won by one of the youngest in the room! Yippee some new young ideas may be coming out ☺
- Nov 18 2023 members baked cookies at home then brought them to the parish to be bagged to be distributed at the winter coat giveaway. We bagged 400 baggies of cookies but they were all distributed in the FIRST of 2 nights. So now what do we do about the 2<sup>nd</sup> night? Demazenod Door chef Mike generously suggested we use the over ripe bananas on hand to bake muffins and banana bread in the commercial kitchen the day before the 2<sup>nd</sup> giveaway. The SOS went out to all members who can help with the baking or loan us baking pans! 8 women showed up for the baking and oh man was that FUN! Some members, some friends and even a couple of students joined in the production of another 400 muffins/ banana bread



portions so people would still leave with a treat as well as their winter coat/boots/scarf/mitts . The plan for 2024 is to publish a bulletin announcement asking all bakers in the parish to donate cookies from 1 of their favourite recipies with a target of 2000 cookies collected. It takes a whole army of bakers to pull that off but it can be done with God's help.

- Dec 12 2023 – Christmas Pot Luck meeting had 12 women participate in the dinner and gift exchange. 2 women are expected to join as a result of this social evening.
- Looking back we have had quite a busy and successful 2023 and look forward to 2024!

Respectfully submitted,  
Evelyn Shoemaker, Past-President

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**St. Stanislaus – Hamilton**  
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

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### Hamilton Diocesan Council - The Catholic Women's League of Canada



#### Annual Report

*Go Make a Difference!*

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<b>Parish Council:</b>	<b>Holy Rosary - Milton</b>
<b>Prepared by:</b>	<b>Maria Reis 2023/2025 (Colleen Motrich)</b>
<b>Spiritual Advisor:</b>	<b>Fr. John Van Hees</b>
<b>Number of Members:</b>	<b>53</b>

Greeting Ladies of the League,

Here at Holy Rosary, Milton we have tried to keep busy!

May 2023, we discussed several ideas for speakers and topics in the coming month. We also had a celebration to honour Mary.

May 6<sup>th</sup> our Past-President, Mary Lou Nerbonne and our President, Maria Reis attended the Hamilton Diocesan Convention.

On May 13 we had our first Rummage Sale since COVID 2019. Cynthia Harris brought forward to us the Purse Project, to fill purses with essential needs marginalized women in our community.

June 2023 was our annual Potluck Supper as we headed into the summer break.

September 2023 we were welcomed back by Maria Reis. We were entertained by the Milton Seniors Line Dancer. With wine and cheese after.

October 2023, we thanked Lois Stubbs and her knitting group for donating Prayer Shawls that the CWL give to people going through illnesses. We also include a rosary in one of the pockets.

We had a special blessing by Fr. John Van Hees of a bench that we purchased and placed at the front of Holy Rosary Church.

October 14. We held our second Rummage Sale.

November 2023 was a Mass dedication of our Deceased CWL Members. After Mass we gathered in the hall to present service pins.

November 2023 Maria Reis asked to appoint Colleen Motrich as President-Elect. It was approved. We took the time to thank all the people who helped at the October Rummage Sale.

November 11, we had our Christmas Bazaar. We had vendors, our bake table, and tearoom. Due to the rain and the date, it was a good day.

December was busy. We were invited to the Knights of Columbus Christmas dinner.

Next year we hope to volunteer for the Children's party prior to the dinner.

December 14, we had the CWL Christmas Dinner at The Grand Chalet. Clare Cutrara did a great job at organizing and decorating for the evening. We collected 500 lbs of food for Food for Life.

January 2024 – a new year! At our meeting we welcomed Lori Brading of Food for Life as she gave a talk on their program helping the less fortunate of our community. We also collect food and monetary donation.

February 2024, we started with Fr. John giving us a message and blessing on Lent. At the meeting our member Sally Crawford presented two books by Sarah Young. We had D/C Derek Gray, and Kathleen Cox (Volunteer) from Halton Police. We asked them to speak on Frauds and Scams, and the support given to those affected by these crimes.

March 2024, we had two speakers. Margaret Doma who is on the Board of Townsend Smith Foundation gave us an update on the building fund. Judith O'Donoghue spoke on Saint Joseph and his life journey.

March 16<sup>th</sup> Maria Reis, Clare Cutrara and Colleen Motrich went to the Spring Regional Meeting.

April 2024, we had Sister Kathleen O'Neal speaking on what "Friendship" does in our lives.

Respectfully submitted,  
Maria Reis, Parish Council President



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**St. Benedict – Milton**  
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

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#### Hamilton Diocesan Council - The Catholic Women's League of Canada



### Annual Report

*Go Make a Difference!*  
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**Parish Council:** Mary Mother of God, Oakville  
**Prepared by:** Audrey Almeida, Council President (2023-2025)  
**Spiritual Advisor:** Father Jerry Punnessery, CMI  
**Number of Members:** 106

**May 2023** – CWL Crowning of Mary Ceremony with Mass, invited local Councils.  
Attended Hamilton Diocesan Convention.

**June 2023** - General Meeting – Event Summer Party with refreshments and Guest Musician

**September 2023** - General Meeting- Candle making for our CWL Christmas Bazaar.  
Attended Fall Hamilton Diocesan Regional Meeting.

**October 2023** - General Meeting - Membership Survey Forms distributed for 2024 planning

**November 2023** - CWL Christmas Bazaar event held one weekend.  
CWL Remembrance Day Ceremony held outdoors. Supported by our Parish K of C.  
CWL members sold Advent Candles, Poinsettia's, Church missals & Youth prayer books on all weekends.  
General Meeting - Event: Service Pins 8 Awarded, Christmas Social evening including entertainment. CWL Membership Drive held after all weekend Masses.

**December 2023** - CWL Advent Candlelight Mass Service & Reception, invited local Councils.  
CWL Hospitality reception organized for Parish Christmas Choirs "Carolling".  
CWL Calendar 2024 Meetings & Events sent to membership.

**January 2024** - CWL & K of C along with our Pastor organized and hosted on New Years' day, Feast of Solemnity of Mary reception after Mass.  
General Meeting - Event: Games Afternoon - Euchre, Bingo, prizes and refreshments.  
CWL Council Policies & Procedures Manual updated and shared with membership.  
CWL Christmas Bazaar Council voted to disburse \$12,000 to charities as proposed by Executives.

**February 2024** - General Meeting. Guest Speaker - Theresa Hartnett "A Meaningful Lent"  
CWL Council led Friday Stations of the Cross following Mass.

**March 2024** - Attended Spring Hamilton Diocesan Regional Meeting. Certificate Membership increase received.

**April 2024** - CWL General Meeting - Guest Speaker: Lawyer presented on WILLS, Power of Attorney.

CWL Community Service Youth Project chosen of our "\$7,000 monetary donations raised through our CWL Christmas Bazaar" given to MMOG Youth Ministry, Young Vincentians, Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Dr. Simone Canadian Food for Children, C.Y.O. Camp Brebeuf, Shifra Homes, Kerr Street Mission, Oakville Fare Share, Halton Women's Place, Halton Alive, SafetyNet Children & Youth. These funds directed to youth and those in most need in our Community and other charities.

CWL initiative - milk bag matting meeting to learn to make for the homeless locally / collect milk bags.

CWL Projects - collect used eyeglasses for (Lions Recycle for Sight provides free of charge to developing countries. To collect soaps to help those in need through (Dr. Simone Canadian Food for Children).

Respectfully submitted,

Audrey Almeida, Parish Council President



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



## **Annual Report**

*Go Make a Difference!*

*Sharing His Promise, Love and Hope!*



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<b>Parish Council:</b>	<b>St. Andrew's Oakville – H-039</b>
<b>Prepared by:</b>	<b>Yvette Vukanovich</b>
<b>Spiritual Advisor:</b>	<b>Monsignor Cornelius O'Mahony</b>
<b>Number of Members:</b>	<b>98</b>

- Speaker, Reverend Dr. Matthew Durham spoke on the topic of Health Care, Hospice Care and the decisions we need to make about our health and aging
- Hosted coffee following First Friday Mass for Vocations
- Attended the 103rd Annual CWL Diocesan Convention
- In conjunction with Life Teams - we were involved in the Rosary, Stations of the Cross and Private Prayer for the Dignity of Life
- Sponsored Outdoor Rosary and May Crowning with the children's choir accompanying
- 12 hours of Prayer for Palliative Care beginning with a Sunrise Rosary by the Lake, all day Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and concluding with mass
- Retreat to the Carmelite Monastery & Retreat Centre in Niagara Falls
- Donated to the Monastery Mission, Mount Carmel

- Hosted our spring and Christmas/Clergy Appreciation potluck dinners
- Presented a bursary at St. Thomas Aquinas High School
- Presented Father Watters award to our two primary schools
- Donated to St. Vincent de Paul Outreach Program
- Donated gift cards from Indigo to St. Luke School for their BBQ games
- Plantables fundraiser raised \$114.98
- Participated in Halton Alive Walk for Life
- Hosted a luncheon for the Feast of the Assumption
- Presented a video on Mother Teresa's Horizon of Hope
- Sponsored a speaker Susana Yrigoyen from Life Team
- Attended the Annual convention and the Brant Regional Meeting
- Supported the Bishops' Dinner
- Mass for Deceased CWL members
- Supported Snowflakes for Seniors for Halton Alive by having children make paper flowers
- Wrote letters to support Bill C-314
- Supported Forty Days for Life
- Presentation on the CWL structure Faith, Service, Social Justice
- Made up Boxes of Hope for Christmas for Halton Alive initiative
- Volunteers for the St. Andrew House Tour - organizing, baking, hosting at homes,

Respectfully submitted,

Yvette Vukanoivch, President





## Annual Report

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**Parish Council:** St. Dominic - Oakville  
**Prepared by:** Wendy Rutherford  
**Spiritual Advisor:** Deacon Terry Murphy  
**Number of Members:** 70

May – Once again we sold roses after masses on Mother's Day weekend Sold 23 doz  
Donations were made to Halton Alive, an Indigenous student from McMaster University and a female student at our local high school. Friday Adoration has been booked through until Sept so there is always a CWL member present in the church. We had the director of the Pantry Program speak to us about their initiatives and we have committed to making desserts for distribution to home bound seniors with their meals. Coffee Café will be continued once a month.

June – Baby Shower for Shrifra Homes, tremendous success. End of year potluck.

September – Land Acknowledgement before each meeting, unanimous approval. Josie Luetke from Campaign Life gave an impassioned talk on Abortion & Euthanasia.

October - Our choir-from-the-pews held a concert in the church with Gregorian chant. The CWL supported this event by selling tickets and preparing food for the reception afterwards. Over 200 tickets were sold and \$5000 raised that was given to CWL to donate to several of our charities.

November - Christmas Bazaar - excellent turnout and great success with tearoom, silent auction, kid's corner, bake tables and vendors. Membership drive – most members renewed as well as 13 new members. Prayer service for deceased members in November as well Faith Committee prepared and distributed History of the Rosary. Several members attended Indigenous mass in Toronto at St. Ann's.

Several members attended Oakville Prayer Breakfast.

Catered Christmas Lunch – in church hall, Carols performed by our 11 o'clock music ministry.

January – 4 members continue to volunteer at Good Shepperd every Thursday. Election info package distributed.



February - Election results announced. Speaker from Frontline Outreach on their activities and how we can support. Members signed petition on Bill S-210. Money donated to Coldest Night of the Year.

March - World Day of Prayer held at St Dominic this year and supported by CWL. 7 members attended Hamilton-Brant Spring meeting. Food provided for Good Friday Pilgrim walk. Lenten Food Drive – with a meal theme each week.

April – sponsoring summer bbq for Frontline Outreach. Volunteer Expo to bring info of all Parish Ministries , Councils to parishioners. Sending of pre-written emails to media about homelessness.

Coffee & Cake after morning mass to celebrate anniversary of our Patron.

Preparation has started for retreat June 1<sup>st</sup> to bring statue of Our Lady of the Cape to St Dominic.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Rutherford, Parish Council President





## Annual Report

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<b>Parish Council:</b>	<b>St. Matthew - Oakville</b>
<b>Prepared by:</b>	<b>Jeanne Wilson, President (2020 – 2024)</b>
<b>Spiritual Advisor:</b>	<b>Fr. Alan Varlaki</b>
<b>Number of Members:</b>	<b>41</b>

### May

- sold carnations on Mothers' Day for Shifra House
- Nancy Romic from Shifra House spoke at meeting
- I attended the diocesan convention in Hamilton

### June

- awarded 6 grade 8 awards to 7 female grade 8 graduates who demonstrated- faith, service and an interest in social justice
- potluck with beautiful music from member's grandsons

### July

- I attended the provincial convention in Cornwall

### August

- I attended the national AMM in St. John, NB

### September

- our first fall meeting began with a pot luck lunch
- I attended regional meeting at St. Dominics with 2 other members

### October

- discussed CWL volunteer funds and held a bake sale and silent auction to raise money for the funds. \$800.00 was raised.

### November

- held memorial service for deceased members
- membership drive - I spoke after each mass. A table was set- up for membership renewal and new members.

**December**

- pot luck lunch and a speaker from Halton Women's Place

**January**

- printed 100 postcards against MAiD for mental illness and petitions for Protecting Young Persons from Exposure to Pornography Act. A table was set up in the Narthex for distribution and signing. Postcards were sent to our 2 MPs and petitions were taken to our two MP's offices.
- new members were received into the League
- volunteers coordinator listed activities that members could volunteer for in the parish

**February**

- Dr. Moira McQueen spoke on Horizons of Hope

**March**

- attended regional meeting in Stoney Creek
- member spoke on how she helps at the Ukrainian church
- participated in World Day of Prayer

**April**

- mass for Our Lady of Good Counsel - Ceremony for the Presentation of Service Awards followed by a reception
- presentation by President of St. Vincent DePaul on the aims and actions of this organization

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Wilson, Parish Council President

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**St. Michael - Oakville**  
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

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## Annual Report

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**Parish Council:** Our Lady of Assumption – Stoney Creek  
**Prepared by:** Felicia Sciamanna, Parish Council President (2022-2024)  
**Spiritual Advisor:** Father Andrew Quarshie  
**Number of Members:** 126 (Includes 10 New Members for 2024)

**My Dear Sisters in Christ,**

**Our membership at Our Lady of Assumption Parish have been very busy over the last year.**

May 2023	12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care
June 2023	Annual Garage, Plant and Bake Sale, successful fundraising event ~ \$3200 raised
	Last Mass & Farewell to Father David Reitzel, our former Spiritual Advisor
	Presentation of 2023 CWL Christian Service Awards to a female grade 8 graduate from our local schools
September 2023	Milestone and New Members Ceremony
October 2023	CWL Annual Fall Food Drive for DeMazenod Door Outreach and Stoney Creek Food Bank; 70 bags of food donations collected and delivered to both
	Sisterhood Tea - Annual fall event for members
	Holy Rosary Month
November 2023	2nd Annual Memorial Mass for Deceased Members
	Annual Christmas Marketplace, very successful fundraising event ~ \$9000 raised
December 2023	General Meeting and Christmas Potluck
February 2024	Empty Bowls Fundraiser, first Empty Bowls event in the parish. We received very positive feedback from the initiative and raised ~\$1000 donations towards local food bank - Glanbrook Community Food Bank was the chosen recipient
	Coldest Night of the Year Walk led by CWL

<p>March 2024</p>    <p>April 2024</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Hosted the Brant Spring Regional Meeting, a collaboration with St. Eugene's Parish - Hamilton. The attendance was overwhelming, a full house!</p> <p>Mini Lenten Retreat, "The Women Who Stayed", wonderful presentation by our Diocesan President-Elect, Teresa DiFalco</p> <p>Election of our New Council Executive</p> <p>Social media presence on Facebook and Seasonal Newsletters</p> <p>Monthly Sandwich Donation to DeMazenod Door. Since the summer of 2023, CWL members have been making 300-350 sandwiches once a month for DeMazenod Door/St. Patrick's Church to be distributed among the community.</p>
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**Respectfully submitted, Felicia Sciamanna, President**




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



**Annual Report**

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<p><b>Parish Council:</b></p> <p><b>Prepared by:</b></p> <p><b>Spiritual Advisor:</b></p> <p><b>Number of Members:</b></p>	<p><b>St. Francis Xavier – Stoney Creek</b></p> <p><b>Anna Busse, Parish Council President (Feb 2024 – 2026)</b></p> <p><b>Fr. Ross Campbell</b></p> <p><b>107</b></p>
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April 2023

General and Executive meeting

Member visited members of the CWL at 2 local nursing homes

Preparing for World Day of Prayer and potluck dinner with a number of local parishes

Members participated in Stations of the Cross  
CWL Luncheon with 120 in attendance  
Feast of Good Counsel with a reception in the Great Hall  
Members packing for Guatemala are ongoing

#### May 2023

General and Executive meeting  
Members participated in the Guard of Honour at a member's funeral  
Flowers were arranged and carried by members during Mother's Day Masses  
Completed backpacks for Guatemala  
Acting President attended the CWL AMM  
Garage sale with the KofC

#### June 2023

General and Executive meeting  
Reception of new members  
Social with KofC  
Members prepared 1,232 ribbons for the White Ribbon against Pornography Campaign

#### September 2023

General and Executive meeting  
Unity Outreach Project held at the General meeting  
Fashion Show Costumes packed and given to St. Luke's to use  
Members attended the Fall Regional Meeting for Hamilton Region  
14 members participated in a 3 day retreat to Mt. Carmel in Niagara Falls

#### October 2023

General and Executive meeting  
Members participated in White Ribbon against Pornography Campaign Oct 14/15  
Ecumenical potluck with 6 other churches of other denominations

#### November 2023

General and Executive meeting  
Backpacks for Martha House packed

#### December 2023

General meeting – Elections postponed  
Members attended St. Clare School craft night and opening Liturgy  
Bake sale after masses Dec 2/3  
Participation in Stations of the Nativity  
Packing for Martha House finished and delivered  
Christmas Social with the Knights of Columbus

#### January 2024

General and Executive meeting  
Travelling Crucifix is on its way for the year  
Recruitment weekend Jan 20/21

#### February 2024

General and Executive meeting  
Elections  
Guard of Honour for CWL member  
Valentines Cards made by local school, picked up and delivered to local nursing home

#### March 2024

General and Executive meeting  
Packed and delivered backpacks to Martha House for Easter  
Easter Cards made by another local school, picked up and delivered to local nursing home  
Shower for Birthright with guest speaker  
Ham Reg Meeting  
Stations of the Cross

#### April 2024

General and Executive meeting  
Decorating planning meeting for Luncheon  
In 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Luncheon

Respectfully submitted,  
Anna Busse, Parish Council President







## Annual Report

*Go Make a Difference!*

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**Parish Council:**

**St. Thomas the Apostle – Waterdown**

**Prepared by:**

**Dianne Corrin-Kiziak, Parish Council Acting President**

**Spiritual Advisor:**

**Fr. Francis Noronha, CSC**

**Number of Members:**

**65**

Our council at St. Thomas has grown and strengthened considerably since I sent Teresa DiFalco an SOS in November 2022 when our council was planning to fold. Since then, we have prioritized the restructuring of our Parish Council while continuing with our usual Parish and CWL activities.

At our April 2023rd General Meeting, we were fortunate to have Teresa as our guest speaker to explain the new CWL structure and the N&A procedures. With determination, we held a Membership Weekend. Teresa spoke at all three masses at our church. We prepared for an election in June as we hadn't had one since Covid began. Unfortunately, it was cancelled due to a small nomination slate. Meanwhile, we initiated a weekly food drive, ushered 1st Communion, Confirmation, and awarded year-end Elementary Awards for our two Elementary Schools. We also hosted a Final Dinner and Pin Ceremony and continued our weekly food collection and monthly coffee and cookie service after masses. At our June planning meeting, we chose a very ambitious schedule for September to June which included a plan to proceed slowly in the fall, educating and encouraging each other and our members by taking time at each meeting to learn more about our obligations and new procedures. This plan included close collaboration with many parish activities alongside the Knights, Legion of Mary, and St. Vincent de Paul.

We continued in our past roles: ushering Confirmations (moved from the spring), holding a very successful Membership Weekend, running a Poinsettia Fundraiser, hosting Christmas Dinner, and continued our weekly food collection and monthly coffee and cookie service after masses. We never stopped working towards an election in February, 2024.

Our Election was a success! It was well attended and active. Our new executive is enjoying the support and enthusiasm of our members and all of us are continuing with our spring CWL plans.

Also, since February of 2023 we have welcomed a total of eleven members to our council. Included in this total are three transfers, two members who rejoined and three brand new members in 2023 and five new members so far in 2024.

During this last year, we have found a new life for our CWL with the help of our Diocesan Executive.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dianne Corrin-Kiziak, Parish Council Acting President



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Immaculate Heart of Mary - Winona  
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

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# KITCHENER

ACTON  
ARTHUR  
CAMBRIDGE  
DRAYTON  
ELMIRA  
ELORA  
FERGUS  
GUELPH  
KENILWORTH  
KITCHENER  
MARYHILL  
NEW HAMBURG  
ST. AGATHA  
WATERLOO





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

## **Annual Report**

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**Parish Council:** St. Joseph, Acton  
**Prepared by:** Christie deSouza, President 2020 – present)  
**Spiritual Advisor:** Fr. Mark Sullivan  
**Number of Members:** 53

### May 2023

- Rosary before all weekend Masses (usually Rosary stream continues at 10:30 am)

### June 2023

- Potluck and Pin ceremony (9 recipients, including with 50-year and two with 60-year pins!)
- Student Awards given to grade 8 and high school graduates
- Coffee cake bake sale on Father's Day

### July 2023

- Our Spiritual Development/Parish Activities chair (Eddie) moved to Anishinabe Spiritual Centre. Bittersweet farewell party.

### September 2023

- CWL volunteers for ticket-taking and other duties at Fall Fair

### October 2023

- Rosary before all weekend Masses (usual Rosary stream continues at 10:30am)
- Charitable donations expanded

### November 2023

- Christmas Bazaar – baked goods, religious articles, penny raffle, caricatures

### December 2023

- Poinsettias and Mass cards for shut-ins
- Christmas dinner (hosted by KofC)

January 2024

- Membership Drive Day

February 2024

- Provided soup and sandwiches for Ash Wednesday Ecumenical Lenten Lunch

March 2024

- Hosted Erwin VanLar of Michael House to talk with us. Hosted social afterwards.

April 2024

- Organize/prepare for May rosaries and May-June baby bottle drive for Michael House

Respectfully submitted,

Christie deSouza

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St. John the Evangelist Council – Arthur  
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

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## Hamilton Diocesan Council - The Catholic Women's League of Canada



### Annual Report

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**Parish Council:**

**St. Clement, Cambridge**

**Prepared by:**

**Melissa Kuchma**

**Spiritual Advisor:**

**Fr. Bradley Markus**

**Number of Members:**

**100**

The St. Clement's Cambridge CWL has had a successful 2023/24 session.

In October 2023, the CWL hosted a parish wide sock drive in celebration of Socktober. Through the generosity of our parish community, we collected 970 pairs of new, adult sized socks that were then donated to our local shelter.

On March 28, 2024, the CWL marked 100 years since we received our Charter. A celebratory luncheon was hosted on April 21st, with 66 attendees including Joanne Gregson, Kitchener Regional Chair.

Finally, leading up to Mother's Day, the St. Clement's CWL hosted "Mary's Baby Shower". Members of our parish were invited to donate baby items including diapers, formula, and clothing in support of Monica Place. The response from our parishioners was overwhelming and nearly \$10,000 in goods were delivered to our recipient charity.

Respectfully submitted,  
Melissa Kuchma



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## Hamilton Diocesan Council - The Catholic Women's League of Canada



### Annual Report

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**Parish Council:**

**St. Mary of the Visitation, Cambridge (Hespeler) #h-085**

**Prepared by:**

**Carol O'Brien**

**Spiritual Advisor:**

**Fr. Ed Henhoeffter**

**Number of Members:**

**68**

**May 2023:**

- We held a large "one" raffle Summer Bazaar which was very successful.

- Assisted with First Holy Communion and Confirmation masses, providing each child with a prayer card.

#### **June 2023:**

- Celebrated our year end Liturgy followed by a potluck supper with 50 in attendance.

#### **September 2023:**

- Celebrated a welcome back Liturgy followed by a delicious hot chicken supper, 45 attending

#### **October 2023:**

- CWL Regional Exec. presentation on CWL and the challenges we face today - 30 attendees

#### **November 2023:**

- Guest speaker Rosetta Delmonte, a Spiritual Director from Guelph, spoke on the importance of Silence and Solitude in our lives.
- Promotion of 2024 membership drive. Recruited 7 new members, 76 renewals, totaling 83 members.
- We held a successful Christmas Bazaar with 21 different raffle items, all donated by CWL members.

#### **December 2023:**

- We held our League Christmas celebration – 50 members gathered for the Rosary, Mass, a hot catered turkey supper and wonderful fellowship!

#### **January 2024:**

- Guest speaker Susan Fleming, a Palliative Care Clinical Nurse from Lisaard House, gave a powerful, informative presentation, also stressing the importance of praying for and supporting our Hospice Centres.

#### **February 2024:**

- Guest speaker Donna McKay, from St. Louise CWL, spoke on the root causes of Human Trafficking and how to recognize the signs in our homes, schools, and communities.
- Members completed CWL postcard **Euthanasia for Mental Illness** and signed **Petition for Bill S-210**.
- Participated in the Lenten series “The Chosen” hosted by Father Ed and provided hospitality services.
- Ladies began weekly participation in Rosary making for the Philippines.

#### **March 2024:**

- Celebrated The World Day of Prayer at St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Church in Hespeler. Our President & Spiritual Chairperson participated in the service with 17 of our ladies also attending.



**April 2024:**

- Guest speaker Wayne Paddick, Executive Director of Bridges Shelter, gave an excellent overview of all services provided by the Cambridge Shelter and also spoke on ways we could help as well.
- CWL Retreat Morning - The day began with mass and presentation of “anniversary pins”, followed by a hot catered breakfast. Our Guest Speaker Teresa Harnet’s topic was “Bloom Where You are Planted”.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol O’Brien, President



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



**Annual Report**

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**Parish Council:**

**Prepared by:**

**Spiritual Advisor:**

**Number of Members:**

**St. Patrick - Cambridge**

**Mary Ann Costa, Parish Council President 2022-24.**

**Fr. Joe S. Selvanayagam**

**64**

St. Patrick Cambridge Council has hosted many events over the past year. We have opted to work towards having an event following each business meeting, as well as other special events through the months. We also began a Council Newsletter to keep all our members informed of our endeavours. Under the Editorial Leadership of Claire Wehrle, our present Treasurer, a

Spring 2023, Late Summer 2023, December 2023 and Spring 2024 Newsletter has been created and shared with our members. The homebound members, who for many years had been in leadership roles are especially appreciative.

May14: Mother's Day Crowning of Mary with a child carrying the crown in procession, at all Weekend Masses; May 21: Communion Breakfast for members and other ladies of the parish

June13: Member Potluck Dinner with guest speaker Fr. Mike Isabelle giving a talk on Angels

September 9: Saturday Ladies Mini Retreat Joining the Divine Conversation presented by Dr. Anne Jamieson (Executive Director of the Institute for Catholic Education); September 12: Seniors Activity Program Event led by Janice Ocampo (Therapeutic Recreation Program Graduate)

October 7 - 29: Christmas Shoebox Collection for Canadian Food for Children; October 21-22: Silent Auction - met our budget needs and gave donations to five local charities

November 4: Memorial Mass and Reception for our members and the Knights of Columbus members who passed away between 2018 and November 2023; November 14: Letters for Life - shared guidelines on how to write an effective letter to elected representatives, then participants wrote letters on the topic of their choice to the representative(s) who vote on those issues; November 26: hosted our Parish Coffee Social following the 9:00am and 11:00am Masses

December 12: Annual Christmas Potluck Social - members also brought donations of chocolates to take to our homebound members. The evening wrapped up with a rousing game of 'Bunko'; December 18: Executive Members addressed and sent Christmas Cards to our members

January 6&7: Held a 'Bottle Drive' after each Mass to raise funds for our council's needs; January 9: Future Focus Event where members submitted ideas for where our council should spend our Time, Talent and Treasure in the coming year, as well as Brainstormed ideas for our 70th Anniversary as a CWL Council, which is this year; Through January: Membership Drive announcements and brochures presented, resulting in some further growth to our membership

February 13: A short evening ladies retreat F.L.Y. (First Love Yourself) presented by Theresa Hartnett (Director of Family Life for the Hamilton Diocese)

March 12: Planned our 70th Anniversary Family Tea (members and parishioners invited), and an Appreciation Tea for 50+ year members, upcoming through April and May; sent Easter cards to members

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ann Costa, Parish Council President

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St. Martin of Tours – Drayton  
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

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



## Annual Report

*Go Make a Difference!*

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<b>Parish Council:</b>	<b>St. Teresa of Avila - Elmira</b>
<b>Prepared by:</b>	<b>Deirdre A Ward – President of St Teresa of Avila, CWL</b>
<b>Spiritual Advisor:</b>	<b>Father Peter Meyer</b>
<b>Number of Members:</b>	<b>64</b>

We start our membership drive in September of each year. This is due to the CWL membership envelope being enclosed in our box of envelopes at this time. We send out an email reminder to all current members and we included information and invited new members through the church bulletin, website page and Facebook page.

After Mass on Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024 we had a Meet and Greet for our Council. We provided information and encouraged membership.

Our Standing Committee is currently looking into how best we can fulfill our League objectives. This will be discussed further as we progress through the year. In the meantime, however, we sent a letter to our local MP regarding MAID seeking clarification and to facilitate us in determining what further action would best suit our cause. Recently we sent out information to our members about the National Hospice Palliative Care Week and are planning a prayer event.

One of the first events the new Executive organized was a “Soup’s On” evening after the 5 pm Mass on February 24, 2024 – “The Coldest Night of the Year”. This was a free will donation event. We did this for two reasons. The first was to offer the parishioners who attend the 5 pm Mass a social event to help build a stronger community. They miss out on our Coffee Morning Sundays. Secondly, it would give us an opportunity to support a local charity event. It was very successful in raising money and an enjoyable evening was had by all. Some individuals who were in need were able to take food home with them.

Currently we are actively preparing for our Elegant Afternoon Tea event. This will take place the day before Mother’s Day. We did the same thing last year and it was a huge success. The money raised was donated to numerous charities. We are planning on organizing similar events to those mentioned above.

We had our Installation Service for the new Executive on Tuesday, March 12, 2024 and plan to have a Service PIN ceremony on Tuesday, May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024. We have two members who will receive their 70 year PIN, one for 60 years and one for 40 years.

We joined together with the St Boniface CWL on Friday, April 26, 2024 at St Boniface Church to celebrate the Feast Day of Our Lady of Good Counsel. This was followed by a social gathering and a good time was had by all.

On May 21, 2024 we will be completing a Rosary Walk at our church.

On June 11, 2024 we will going to the Carmelite Convent in St. Agatha for Mass. This will be followed by a social gathering at a restaurant. We have invited CWL members from other Parishes to join us.

We have created a Bursary of \$500 for a high school parishioner who meets certain criteria and will be pursuing further education.

Respectfully submitted,

Deirdre A Ward – St Teresa of Avila Council President (Elmira)





## Annual Report

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<b>Parish Council:</b>	<b>St. Mary Immaculate - Elora</b>
<b>Prepared by:</b>	<b>Catarina Burguete, Secondary Parish Contact</b>
<b>Spiritual Advisor:</b>	<b>Father Hayden Starczala</b>
<b>Number of Members:</b>	<b>80</b>

2023 was a year for reflection for our council as we were unsuccessful in forming an executive after holding elections in 2022. Through small group discussions, consultation with our previous and current pastors and a membership survey, St. Mary's Catholic Women's League has restructured using Leadership Teams. Our Team Leaders consist of Spiritual Advisor, Administration – Clerical and Finance, CWL Liaison, Organization and Communication, Outreach Ministry and Prayer Ministry.

The membership survey results were clear that our members appreciate the importance of the Catholic Women's League at the parish and community level. There is a distinct value and importance regarding efforts to provide outreach and to have opportunities to socialize and to attend to spiritual and supportive endeavours. In the fall of 2023, two gatherings were held and it was determined that four gatherings will be conducted throughout the year, January, April, September and October. A newsletter will be developed and circulated in between the gatherings. Our first newsletter was distributed in November 2023 and will be followed by publications in March, June and November 2024.

The Bake Sale committee held another successful annual event, the first weekend in May. All parishioners are involved through bulletin announcements, phone calls and/or emails asking them to donate baking or to come out and support the works of the Catholic Women's League the day of the sale. Proceeds from this bake sale provided funds for donations to the charities and school scholarships that are supported yearly.

The Outreach Ministry organized our Christmas Charity with the focus directed to the Guelph Wellington Women in Crisis. A flyer was handed out to all parishioners requesting participation. The result was amazing! Guelph Wellington Women in Crisis were given \$220 in cash, 14 local merchant gift cards in various denominations, bedding, towels, women's and children's pyjamas, slippers, mittens and many, many hygiene and personal care items.

The Prayer Ministry Team works closely with our Spiritual Advisor Father Hayden Starczala who is a great supporter of our endeavours. In November a Memorial Service was held to honour deceased Catholic Women's League members. January 2024 a Prayer Intention initiative will begin. Plans for an afternoon of reflection in late 2024 are underway.

Respectfully submitted,

Catarina Burguete, Secondary Parish Contact

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## Annual Report

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<b>Parish Council:</b>	<b>St. Joseph's Parish Council, Fergus, Ontario</b>
<b>Prepared by:</b>	<b>Sue Beatty - President (2022 – 2024)</b>
<b>Spiritual Advisor:</b>	<b>Father Robert Hetu</b>
<b>Number of Members:</b>	<b>65</b>

Our council had a successful year promoting activities in the areas of service, social justice and faith development. In May 2023, our members prayed the rosary before Masses, promoted National Hospice Palliative Care Week, invited parishioners to our "Mother, Daughter, Friends Tea" which included a presentation from the Diocesan President Joyce Cotter on the history of the membership pin.

Other activities in 2023 included participation in the Unity Outreach Project, a food drive for the Centre Wellington Food Bank, promoting the CWL at school functions. We also ran our first PD day camp in November with 9 students participating in activities to learn about Advent including a tour of the Church with Father Ken.

We held Coffee Sundays to welcome new members in the Church and we held our annual Fall Bazaar in November. Some of the funds raised at the Bazaar purchased a blood oxygen monitor for the Critical Care Unit at Groves Hospital in Fergus. Funds were also donated to Portage, a rehabilitation centre for youth with addictions. In November we also made cards for seniors who were in LTC homes or homebound. In December we had a Mass for all deceased members of the CWL and Spiritual Advisors and we helped to organize a Christmas Dinner for CWL members from our parish and St. Mary's parish in Elora. We organized "The Tree of Hope" at Christmas which helped us donate needed items/money to families at St. Joseph's School and to organizations in our community. We organized meals for families in need at the school for Christmas. We also organized a potluck lunch for men and women 55+ which included students from our school singing Christmas Carols.

At the Mass on the World Day of the Sick, the CWL provided a light lunch to 70 participants. During Lent, CWL members lead the Stations of The Cross - Mary's Way on Fridays. To increase awareness about Human Trafficking in our area, we had a guest speaker from Elora House attend a general meeting. Our members participated in planning and readings at the World Day of Prayer in Fergus.

On March 14, 2024 we celebrated the 100th Anniversary of the CWL at St. Joseph's Parish with a Mass with Bishop Crosby, Shari Guinta, Linda Squarzolo and Joyce Cotter as special guests. A dinner reception followed the Mass. It was well attended and a very special evening for everyone.

Our Community Service Project for Youth involved one of our members visiting a Gr. 6 classroom at St. Joseph's School to teach the students about the CWL. Students then created posters and cards for the 100th Anniversary celebration. These were displayed at the event. A letter was sent home with students informing families of the CWL lesson that students participated in and it included an invitation to new members. In April we had a retreat with Deacon Trevor focusing on Our Lady of Good Counsel and a guest speaker from the Grove Youth Wellness Hub which focuses on the mental health of youth.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sue Beatty, President



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#### Hamilton Diocesan Council - The Catholic Women's League of Canada



### Annual Report

*Go Make a Difference!*

*Sharing His Promise, Love and Hope!*



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<b>Parish Council:</b>	<b>Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate (Guelph)</b>
<b>Prepared by:</b>	<b>Bernadette Best - President (2023 -2025)</b>
<b>Spiritual Advisor:</b>	<b>Fr. Ian Duffy</b>
<b>Number of Members:</b>	<b>81</b>

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On June 24, 2023, we had our annual Trunk Sale. We made the decision to move the event indoors due to the weather forecast. This event was well attended despite periods of rain. We had a variety of local vendors, 50/50 raffle, draws and a BBQ lunch sponsored by M&Ms. Proceeds went to various local charities. On June 27, 2023, we had our pin ceremony which was followed by a potluck dinner. Over 30 members attended the event. It was a great opportunity to gather together to honour and celebrate our pin recipients. We were pleased to award one of our members a 60 year pin.



Besides having provided supper twice a month for dozens of needy families at Stepping Stone during the past year, on August 6, 2023, we served a meal for 60 pilgrims on the second evening of the pilgrims' annual eight day walk from Guelph to the Martyrs Shrine in Midland.

On October 7, 2023, our last Marian Day observance culminated with the Regina Caeli Tea. The sandwiches and sweets were enjoyed by almost 200 pilgrims. A special thanks to our members and the rest of our Parish team who worked tirelessly for this wonderful event in honour of our Blessed Mother.

On November 14, 2023, we invited a special guest speaker, Fr. Bill Foote to our general meeting. We extended the invitation to all parishioners and Fr. Bill drew a considerable audience. He spoke on his journey from being an Anglican Minister to becoming a Roman Catholic priest. Fr. Bill's candid, wise and very interesting story was much appreciated. We learned a lot about what it means to be Catholic and how important it is to defend our faith.

All the hard work from many volunteers paid off with an outstanding Christmas Bazaar held on November 25, 2023. There were 20 vendor tables with unique crafts, jewelry, Christmas items and Catherine Collins' wonderful paintings. The bake table alone had record sales of just over \$1600, thanks to all the members and parishioners who donated delicious baked goods. A lot of beautiful items were sold at the silent auction table and a new hit was the chili con carne enjoyed by many. On December 12, 2023, we made Our Lady of Good Counsel prayer chaplets with Kristin McCarthy and prayed together. We also celebrated our member Joan's 97<sup>th</sup> birthday! On January 9, 2024, we enjoyed a special presentation by our Faith Chairperson Julia Grace Hegedusic and member and Consecrated Virgin Jenny Benjamin on the many graces available to those who include Sacramentals in their everyday life. On February 13, 2024 we presented, discussed and passed our budget. On March 17, 2024 we had our St. Patrick's Day Tea and Celebration of Catholic Hill Heritage. From our archives-minutes book, the first Shamrock Tea on the "Hill" was on March 19, 1939, at the Loretto Convent in aid of the Loretto Community and our ladies provided sandwiches and beverages, and the Sisters arranged a "suitable musicale" for the occasion.

Respectfully submitted, Bernadette Best, Parish Council President

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## Hamilton Diocesan Council - The Catholic Women's League of Canada



### Annual Report

*Go Make a Difference!*

*Sharing His Promise, Love and Hope!*



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<b>Parish Council:</b>	<b>Holy Rosary CWL (Guelph)</b>
<b>Prepared by:</b>	<b>Ms. Irena L. Juchnik - President of Holy Rosary CWL</b>
<b>Spiritual Advisor:</b>	<b>Fr. Vernon Boyd</b>
<b>Number of Members:</b>	<b>110</b>

In November, we had our fall Christmas bazaar and tea that was well attended. Our bazaar raffle money was distributed to the following local charities: Royal City Mission, St. Vincent de Paul, The Seed, and The Guelph Community Foundation. In December, we had our Christmas roast beef dinner which was attended by Elvis Presley and many CWL members who generously donated enough household items to fill up two Women in Crisis hamper baskets.

In January, we had our annual budget discussion. In February, our bazaar money was distributed among the following organizations: Young in Spirit Rosary Makers, Saturday Night Supper Committee, Guelph and Area Right to Life, Wool for the Lamb Prayer, Décor Ministry for Holy Rosary Parish, Guelph Wellington Coalition for Social Justice, ESK-OMI Missions Inc, Parish Sacramental Program and Liturgy Committee. On March 6, we had an evening of prayer organized by Olga Protz and Kristin McCarthy with our guest facilitator being William Mbiliny S. J. Later, in March, we had Alana Forrester speak on the Bent-over Woman found in scriptures and followed by a sacred listening. On Friday, March 15, Kristin McCarthy organized the Stations of the Cross.

In April, we had Mark Berardine speak to our members regarding the Guelph-Wellington Coalition for Social Justice and its work with the homeless. In April, we had a successful 60th Parish Anniversary Partea which was open to all. Moreover, a joint collaboration between the Basilica, St. Joseph and Holy Rosary resulted in an ad being placed in a fundraising booklet. On June 2, we will have a mass celebration for our pin recipients followed by a luncheon at Loyola. Recipients will include those who will receive: ten year pins, a 25 year pin, 50 year pins and a 60 year pin. We will give out Certificate of Merits to three individuals who have organized and served meals for the homeless. We will even celebrate a Maple Leaf recipient. We will be rewarding a high school student and two elementary students.

Respectfully submitted,

Ms. Irena L. Juchnik, Holy Rosary Council President (Guelph)



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**Sacred Heart - Guelph**  
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

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



## Annual Report

*Go Make a Difference!*

*Sharing His Promise, Love and Hope!*

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<b>Parish Council:</b>	<b>St. John the Baptist - Guelph</b>
<b>Prepared by:</b>	<b>Doreen Mammolite, Parish Council President (2024-2026)</b>
<b>Spiritual Advisor:</b>	<b>Father Valentine Onwunjiogu</b>
<b>Number of Members:</b>	<b>49</b>

On behalf of St. John the Baptist CWL,

I am excited to report the formal reinstallation of the Catholic Women's League of Canada in our parish on Sunday, March 17, 2024 by His Excellency, Bishop Wayne Lobsinger, and Spiritual Advisor, Father Valentine Onwunjiogu.

### How We Got Here:

October 2023 - Father Valentine approaches a group of diverse, talented and committed women to reactivate CWL at St. John's Parish. First meeting (October 25, 2023) with St. Joseph President, Wendy Synnott, and Hamilton Diocesan President, Joyce Cotter, to discuss necessary steps and National Office requirements to reactivate CWL;

November 2023 – Formal written and public announcement to the parish community inviting all Catholic women 16 yrs or older to join CWL. Reminder to past and future members that membership fees due by November 26, 2023;

December 2023 – First general meeting held. A total of 35 registered, paid members. First formal event held on Thursday, December 17, 2023. CWL Christmas Concert hosted by current members to continue promotion and recruitment of new members as well as to fundraise in support of CWL. Monetary donations collected: \$328.50;

January 2024 – Email to CWL National requesting permission to reactivate. Response from Celestine Ufeli.N., Office Assistant CWL. Once per capita fees and membership list submitted, reactivation letter will be sent. Nomination and Election Packages distributed to all members;

February 2024 – As of February 27, 2024, there were 48 registered, paid members. Council election took place on February 27, 2024;

March 2024 – Membership List and Per Capita Fees submitted to CWL National Office (49 members). Reinstallation mass on March 17, 2024. Change of Parish Council Executive Form submitted to National and Executive Listing sent to Hamilton Diocesan Council of the CWL;

April 2024 – General and Executive meetings are scheduled to discuss upcoming events.

Respectfully submitted,  
Doreen Mammolite, Parish Council President



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



**Annual Report**

*Go Make a Difference!*

*Sharing His Promise, Love and Hope!*



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<b>Parish Council:</b>	<b>St. Joseph - Guelph</b>
<b>Prepared by:</b>	<b>Juliette Royer, Council President (2024-2026)</b>
<b>Spiritual Advisor:</b>	<b>Fr. Jeff Bergsma</b>
<b>Number of Members:</b>	<b>150</b>

It is my honour to represent members as new president since February 2024. The nomination came a complete surprise and after much contemplating and meditating with God, family and friends I decided to take on this role. Wendy Synnott assisted in preparing this report as she was president from May 2023 to February 2024 and had been a great help in this transition.

We have had a busy year since our last report. Here are some of the events that have taken place.

Our Annual Dinner took place in April with a guest speaker. We gave out our Service Pins, Maple Leaf Pin and Merit Award. In May 2023 the Crowning of Mary took place at all masses. Before our summer break in June, we celebrated our Spiritual Evening with our assistant pastor Fr Don Sanvido as our guest speaker.

Our regular meetings commenced in September with a review of our yearly contributions and our schedule for the rest of the year. In mid-November our Christmas Bazaar takes place. In 2023 we made over \$10,000. Our Christmas potluck in December is a highlight for the ladies. Our members enjoyed a live band with plenty of food.

From January to March 2024, we changed our General Meetings for the winter months to Sundays after the noon mass. We had a guest speaker in March who spoke about Compassionate Community Care, an organization to support seniors and vulnerable persons. We had our Annual Spring Market in April 2023. More than 20 vendors came to sell their products.

We join forces with the Knight of Columbus twice a year to cook and serve dinner to the poor and less fortunate at the Royal City Mission in downtown Guelph. This is just one of over 30 organizations we send a yearly contribution.

I look forward to the next year and half representing the ladies of this parish.

Respectfully submitted,

Juliette (Jules) Royer, Parish Council President



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**Sacred Heart - Kenilworth**  
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

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## Hamilton Diocesan Council - The Catholic Women's League of Canada



### Annual Report

*Go Make a Difference!*

*Sharing His Promise, Love and Hope!*



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<b>Parish Council:</b>	<b>Blessed Sacrament – CWL – Kitchener, ON</b>
<b>Prepared by:</b>	<b>Wendy Ignor - President (2023 – 2025)</b>
<b>Spiritual Advisor:</b>	<b>Father Lukasz Kopaniak</b>
<b>Number of Members:</b>	<b>80</b>

The following is our Annual Report from May, 2023 –June 2024.

#### **May 2023**

Community Service Project – With assistance from the youth at our schools, the CWL collected in-kind donations for YW Blockline Supportive Housing. This new development provides single women and mothers & children who have experienced chronic homelessness in our region with a comfortable, safe and supportive “place to call home.” It was a huge success! The CWL Convention took place and 4 of our members attended. It was a first experience for some.

#### **June 2023**

CWL hosted our Summer closing Potluck Dinner. Service pins were handed out for the CWL members of 10yrs, 25yrs, & 40yrs. Over \$500 was raised on our silent auction. A great time was had by the 40 members who attended.

#### **September 2023**

We held our opening Mass, followed by a Thanksgiving Centerpiece demonstration along with refreshments. 30 members attended this event.

#### **October 2023**

In honour of our Blessed Mother Mary & the Rosary, we decided to try something new. We sold a small bouquet of carnations for \$10 after all Masses. We raised over \$300 for a charity. At our CWL meeting this month, we had an author who is a member of our parish, speak about her books on Faith and her journey of life. 25 members attended.

#### **November 2023**

We held our CWL Membership Drive for 2 weekends after all Masses, which was positive as we gained new members. Our CWL meeting this month was open to the Parish. Detective Murray came to speak on “Scamming” and how to prevent it. Over 50 attended! Very informative.

**December 2023**

We held our first Bake Sale & Mini Bazaar since before Covid. We raised over \$2000 to donate to charities. Our Christmas Potluck started with an Advent Prayer, followed by the Children's Choir for entertainment. It was enjoyed by the 40 that attended.

**January 2024**

Our CWL hosted a Games/Cards afternoon for our seniors. Coffee/Tea/Soft Drinks and Snacks were served to them. The seniors would like to see this happen more often.

**February 2024**

Our CWL did the Stations of the Cross for Lent. We also had a Lenten Reflection & Mass hosted by Fr. Lukasz. A short CWL meeting followed to update members on upcoming events. 28 members attended.

**March 2024**

CWL chose to have no events in March due to March Break, Holy Week & Easter. The Spring Regional meeting was held. 2 of our members attended.

**April 2024**

Our CWL is hosting a "Spring Tea" with raffles & door prizes. 80 tickets were sold. Money raised will be donated to Marillac Place that supports new mothers & mothers-to-be age 16 and up. Our CWL Outreach Project will focus on an in-kind donation drive benefitting the Anti-Human Trafficking Program in Waterloo Region. Our CWL will be in partnership with our new school, St. Josephine Bakhita. She is the Patron Saint of Human Trafficking. The CWL and Anti-Human Trafficking Program will provide classes with age-appropriate resources and information teachers can use to discuss the donation drive with their students. Youth will be involved with collecting and sorting the items collected.

Respectfully submitted,  
Wendy Ignor – Blessed Sacrament Parish CWL President







## Annual Report

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<b>Parish Council:</b>	<b>St. Aloysius Parish, Kitchener</b>
<b>Prepared by:</b>	<b>Catherine Bennett</b>
<b>Spiritual Advisor:</b>	<b>Fr. Melvin Pinto</b>
<b>Number of Members:</b>	<b>67</b>

May 13th & 14th, 2023 - sold carnations after the Masses on Mother's Day weekend as a Fundraiser.

May 28, 2023 - Service Pin Ceremony for 54 recipients ranging from Insignia Pin to 70 Year Pin. We also awarded the Frances Lovering Certificate to our Nominee.

June 2023 - Sold coffee pods on Father's Day weekend after all masses as a fundraiser. Members gathered for a potluck supper to end the year before the Summer Break.

September 2023 - Fall Newsletter sent to Members and new Laptop purchased by CWL for Parish Activities.

October 2023 - Discussion and organization at our General Meeting for our upcoming annual Christmas Bazaar and Seniors Christmas Dinner.

November 2023 - we held a very successful Christmas Bazaar with the help of many of our members and students from our local high school.

December 2023 - we held our Seniors Christmas Dinner and catered for 75 guests. We once again enlisted the assistance of our high school students. Our Executive met for a potluck dinner and completed the Annual Report Survey.

January 2024 - Election of our New Executive. Submitted our membership dues. Planned our upcoming 70th Anniversary.

February 2024 - Budget presented and reviewed and annual Charitable Donations made to 9 National and International Charities.

On February 18, 2024 we celebrated our 70th Anniversary as a Council. Bishop Wayne Lobsinger celebrated Mass followed by a reception attended by our National President, Shari Guinta and members of our Diocesan Council.

March 2024 - Lenten Retreat led by Sister Aracely of Sisters of Our Lady Immaculate. Preparing ourselves for Holy Week and the Resurrection of Our Lord.

April 2024 - Our Lady of Good Counsel prayer service and presentation about the environment at CWL general meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Bennett, Parish Council President



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## Hamilton Diocesan Council - The Catholic Women's League of Canada



### Annual Report

*Go Make a Difference!*

*Sharing His Promise, Love and Hope!*



**Parish Council:**

**St. Anthony Daniel Kitchener**

**Prepared by:**

**Roma Talboom, President (2022 – 2024) (2024 – 2026)**

**Spiritual Advisor:**

**Monsignor Earl Talbot -Advisor**

**Number of Members:**

**109**

May 2023: Crowning of Mary service; Joyce Cotter spoke on Unity Outreach project; hosted a Card Party as a fund raiser; purchased sacramental gifts for First Communion and Confirmation children.

June 2023: outing to the Carmelite Convent in St. Agatha; Mass celebrated in their chapel by Father Vivek; donated food items for the Sisters, followed by dinner at Kennedy's with invited guest Shari Guinta and presentation to Joan Schurter of a Spiritual Bouquet on becoming a Life member; bursaries were given out to 3 Grade 8 students and 1 High School student in our Parish schools.

July and August: Executive members met to help to plan for the coming year.

September 2023: guest Anne Cameron, taught us a variety of dances; we contributed funds for this workshop sponsoring “Canadian Women for Women in Afghanistan”; 3 members gave short reports on the previous CWL Convention in May; Community Life Chair presented a short talk on “Beyond the Blue Box Recycling”.

October 2023: promoted joining our league by speaking after Masses and handing out CWL information; a local Pharmacist spoke to us on the importance of vaccines.

November 2023: we hosted a reception after Mass on All Souls Day for the parish; we revised and proposed update to our Policy and Procedures manual and voted on them; held a Christmas Bazaar after all Masses for our Parish Community as a major fund raiser.

December 2023: held an Alphabet Pot Luck dinner; brought donations of new bath towels for homeless living in A Better Tent City; Auxiliary Bishop Wayne Lobsinger spoke on the CWL theme of “Here I Am Lord, Send Me”; ended our dinner with recitation and lights – “8 Candles, Lighting Prayers for Peace”.

January 2024: held a complimentary soup luncheon to give back to our ladies who volunteered and donated this past year; Shari Guinta, guest, told our lunch group how and why she chose the theme “Here I Am Lord, Send me”.

February 2024: held a muffin and cupcake sale after all Masses; names of the new Executive were read and approved; we gave ideas for the disbursement of funds, voted on them and approved.

March 2023; initiated and hosted a Parish Lenten Retreat; 5 members attended the Regional meeting in St. Agatha; Executive met to plan both the upcoming Card Party and the Easter Vigil reception.

April 2024; our speaker from Canadian Food For Children will describe this charity organization and their Wishlists will be given to members for donations; Executive members will gather to paint rocks for the upcoming Convention; we will host our Annual Card Party fund raiser.

Respectfully submitted,  
Roma Talboom, Parish Council President





## Annual Report

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**Parish Council:** St. John's - Kitchener  
**Prepared by:** Leah Friedrich, Parish council president (2024 - 2026)  
**Spiritual Advisor:** Father Francisco Cruz  
**Number of Members:** 38

I am happy to report that the May 2023 to April 2024 period has been blessed for us.

In May, we held our annual flower procession at Sunday Mass on Mother's Day, in honour of Mary, the Blessed Virgin. We presented blessed rosaries and pocket crosses to the First Communicants that year.

In June, we held our first ever Spring into Summer Dance. It was a great success, and the proceeds went to support oneROOF Youth services that supports youth mental health.

For September, we had a Nearly New Sale and Silent Auction, and proceeds went to various local charities.

For Thanksgiving we held a food drive to support our parish's St. Vincent de Paul group. In November, at our Annual Day of Spirituality, our seminarian, Moices Cabarello, presented a fantastic talk on eternal life.

In November we held our Christmas meeting and potluck and we also collected donations for Marillac Place such as blankets, diapers, crib sheets, etc.

To start the 2024 year off we held a Soup Social event in February with donations going to support Development and Peace.

Respectfully submitted,

Leah Friedrich, Parish Council President



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**St. Joseph - Kitchener**  
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

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



## Annual Report

*Go Make a Difference!*

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<b>Parish Council:</b>	<b>St. Mark, Kitchener</b>
<b>Prepared by:</b>	<b>Dianne Seymour, President (2024 – 2026)</b>
<b>Spiritual Advisor:</b>	<b>Father Roque Concepcion</b>
<b>Number of Members:</b>	<b>45</b>

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I became president of our CWL counsel of Jan 2024, simply by stepping up.  
It was certainly a decision of love and faith from the people that had taught me for many years.  
People who taught me love through the "power of example"

It has been 6 months now, and we have followed, the monthly criteria for the CWL activities.

We had a Lenten Retreat this year that was amazing with all our CWL members  
We told the story of our Lord's death through imagery story, planting a planter.

Mass for Mother of Good Counsel including our deceased CWL members.

We did the crowning of Mary. processing her and her crown on a pillow out to the courtyard  
where we placed her crown on a life-size statue

Fundraiser for Marillac Place A Sheltered Place for mothers and babies

We want to find out what our CWL members need from their counselors in the league.  
Our potluck in June will consist of a ball game when the ball gets to you you have to say what  
you need and want from your executive committee

We have the ability and power to make a difference in our church, and community for people in  
need.

As one with God, we are so powerful, and as a group, together we are more.

We need to help women find their voices

Dianne Seymour Weber, President



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**St. Teresa of Avila - Kitchener**  
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

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



## **Annual Report**

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<b>Parish Council:</b>	<b>St. Boniface Maryhill</b>
<b>Prepared by:</b>	<b>Frances Vegh (2013 – Present)</b>
<b>Spiritual Advisor:</b>	<b>Rev. Peter Meyer</b>
<b>Number of Members:</b>	<b>90</b>

In 2023 our council has:

Had a speaker from the Hillside Residence for Ukrainian refugees and provided a donation and spearheaded an initiative to provide a garden space and supplies to grow their own food. We also made a donation to an organization that assists children in Ukraine that have been orphaned in the war.

Provided the workbooks and scapulars to the children who received their first reconciliation and first Communion.

Members participated in and donated to the Right to Life, Walk for Life.

Honoured our members who achieved 25 and 50 years of service.

Assisted the parish council at the picnic for the Feast of St. Boniface. We participated in the parish Corpus Christie procession to outside alters and care for the alter houses.

We provided Baptism preparation books and white bibs to the babies baptized at St. Boniface.

During the year we made donations to a number of charities to the amount of \$2,105.00

We support the Prayer Shawl ministry with monetary donations for supplies and some members are also members of that ministry.

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Vegh, St. Boniface Parish Council President



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**Holy Family – New Hamburg**  
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

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



**Annual Report**

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**Parish Council:**

**Prepared by:**

**Spiritual Advisor:**

**Number of Members:**

**St. Agatha – St. Agatha**

**Theresa Bisch, Parish Council President (July 2021 – 2024)**

**Father Mariusz Durbajlo**

**68**

In May 2023 we held the Crowning of Mary, followed by the Unity Outreach presentation. We hosted a movie night, complete with popcorn and soft drinks after a Saturday evening mass and watched a Bridge of Roses. It is a must watch. Our June meeting was a catered dinner and entertainment. Our fundraiser was a Garden Tour with a portion of the proceeds donated to

the Regional Cancer Centre supporting Pediatric Oncology. The gardens were phenomenal, and attendees were able to visit the beautiful gardens of our neighbours while fundraising for a worthwhile cause.

In September we welcomed the ladies back by starting our evening with the Rosary at The Shrine of the Sorrowful Mother followed by tea and cheesecake in our hall. Service pins were presented at this meeting. One special lady asked to be presented with her mother's 60<sup>th</sup> pin instead of a new one. What a legacy! Our "visiting the sick" team started in-person visits again this fall. It's so nice to visit in person again. In October, we arranged for a speaker from the Waterloo Region Working Centre to talk about the tiny homes project located near our church. The entire parish was invited, and questions and concerns were answered. Explanations were provided regarding how folks end up needing this kind of help. We also held a luncheon later in October followed by an afternoon of cards. In November, we held our service night where donated items were assembled into small bags and donated to our local resource centre for their Christmas hampers. As usual, our parish was very generous. We then went one step further and sponsored a family for Christmas. Again, we were amazed at the generous response. December was a catered dinner followed by entertainment and games.

In February we had a female firefighter recount her journey to becoming a successful first responder while raising a family. We held a friendly games night in March. We also hosted the Spring Kitchener Regional meeting. Many thanks to our ladies who provided refreshments to the attendees. In April we arranged for a representative and their spokes-dog from National Service Dogs as well as a trainer and her puppy from our own parish to come and speak to us.

I am very proud of the work our current executive has done to bring our members together and provide interesting and informative meetings. Well done ladies!

Respectfully submitted,  
Theresa Bisch, Parish Council President



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**St. Agnes - Waterloo**  
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

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## Annual Report

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<b>Parish Council:</b>	<b>St. Louis, Waterloo</b>
<b>Prepared by:</b>	<b>Donna Herbstreit, President (2020 – Present)</b>
<b>Spiritual Advisor:</b>	<b>Fr. Philip Reilly</b>
<b>Number of Members:</b>	<b>105</b>

Our first meeting of 2023 was in February. At our meeting in March, we welcomed Mr. Andrew Zettel as our guest speaker. He is the social worker, outreach worker from a downtown parish. His topic was “The Better Tent City” a project started locally to help the homeless. In March, our council participated in the Lenten observances. We took our turn to lead the parishioners in the Stations of the Cross and on another Friday, we made and served a “Simple Supper” consisting of vegetable and bean soups. All parishioners are invited, no charge. Our last meeting of March was well attended as two lady chefs taught and prepared some delicious treats. We even had a few men sneak in to learn!

Our May meeting started, as always, with attending Mass together. We held a “Crowning of Mary” ceremony followed by the blessing and distributing of 29 years of service pins. I was surprised and honoured to receive the Maple Leaf Service Pin! Following Mass, we had a surprise birthday party for Father Phil. About four of our members were able to attend the Diocesan Convention in Hamilton. On May 7<sup>th</sup>, we presented our First Communicants with a gift. May was a busy month. After almost a year of planning, we were finally able to welcome Fr. Reilander, president of the Catholic Missions in Canada to our parish. He spoke at all Masses and attended a social hour where he could meet with us. He was happy with his gift of a prayer shawl!

Starting in September, we worked with the Knights of Columbus holding two major events to raise funds to buy two AED's for our parish. This was successful! In October we held our own fund raiser, a “Chili Cook off” which was fun and profitable. Also in the Fall, we held our annual Mission Bake Sale with all proceeds given to missions at home and abroad. Many hands, many hours, always fun, always a success. We worked with the Ministry to the Elderly by serving refreshments after a special “Healing Mass”.

When one of our members dies, we honour her by forming an honour guard during Mass. We quite often serve the funeral lunch for members or any parishioner who requests our help.

Also happening at the same time as everything else, a committee of about 10 ladies was meeting weekly and monthly to plan our centennial celebration. They collected memorabilia from the last 100 years and the result was phenomenal!

St. Louis Council is a busy, involved group of dedicated women who have the support of their spiritual advisor. We try to live our motto of Faith, Service and Social Justice.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Herbstreit, President



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



## **Annual Report**

*Go Make a Difference!*

*Sharing His Promise, Love and Hope!*



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<b>Parish Council:</b>	<b>St. Michael, Waterloo</b>
<b>Prepared by:</b>	<b>Shani Pregelj (2018 – Present)</b>
<b>Spiritual Advisor:</b>	<b>Father Jamroz</b>
<b>Number of Members:</b>	<b>95</b>

Our parish council managed to keep busy for the past twelve months, engaging members with opportunities for league development, spiritual growth as well as fellowship and actions for social justice.

In May, our meeting started with the Crowning of Mary. Members of the Diocesan Executive were there for the "Unity Outreach" presentation. A good and fruitful discussion followed. Our June "Pot Luck and Service Pin celebration" was well attended as usual. Here we handed out pins ranging from 5 to 80 years. We also presented Shari Guinta with a Spiritual bouquet and a

prayer-filled send off as she was to be installed in August as our CWL National President. Many CWL members took part in our parish pilgrimage to the Carmel of St. Joseph in St. Agatha. This is always a nice day out and a chance to appreciate both our spirituality and sisterhood with other women of faith.

We gathered again in September where members were fully engaged in a fun and energetic activity – “A Trip Around the World through Dance, Chant, Drum and Culture”. November, we focused on Social Justice and the 2022 Resolution: “Enact Federal Legislation to Reduce Food Loss and Waste”. Members of the parish joined us to hear about food loss and waste, discussing both the issues and possible solutions to this problem. This included a letter writing campaign and many letters were sent off to our government officials urging action in this area. Our annual bake sales took place in late November and was a fun and successful event. In the new year, to help us get through the damp February weather, we hosted a soup lunch and movie (“Heaven is for Real”) that as well attended.

Nominations for our executive were held in the December / January time frame. Sadly no one put their name forward for President, so my term continues for another two years. However, I’m very happy to report we have two new faces on our executive and we are encouraged by all the positive feedback and offers of support by many of members on our council.

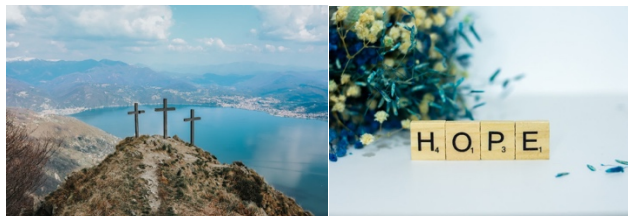
Our council is looking forward to a successful year ahead and planning some engaging and spiritual events. The goal is to appeal to all women of our parish (both CWL members and non-members) with the hope of attracting new members to the league.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Shani Pregelj, St. Michael CWL, Parish Council President*



# NORTH

CARGILL  
CHEPSTOW  
CHESLEY  
DURHAM  
FORMOSA  
GLENELG  
HANOVER  
KINCARDINE  
MILDMAY  
MOUNT FOREST  
OWEN SOUND  
TEESWATER  
WALKERTON  
WIARTON





## Annual Report

*Go Make a Difference!*

*Sharing His Promise, Love and Hope!*



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<b>Parish Council:</b>	<b>St. Joseph - Cargill</b>
<b>Prepared by:</b>	<b>Michelle Pletch, Parish Council President (2024-2026)</b>
<b>Spiritual Advisor:</b>	<b>Father Livinus</b>
<b>Number of Members:</b>	<b>67</b>

We have had a busy year with St. Joseph's CWL Council in Cargill. The members worked together to plan and execute a Parish Bazaar in July 2023. Just over \$6000 was raised in profits to support many worthwhile community causes. These included The Walkerton and District Food Bank, The Women's House of Bruce County, Hanover Pregnancy Center, Three Breakfast Programs at Immaculate Conception in Formosa, Mary Immaculate in Chepstow, Sacred Heart High School in Walkerton, Cargill and District Community Foundation's 2024 Homecoming (Children's and Senior's Programs), Walkerton and District Hospital Foundation, and The Walkerton and District Right to Life.

We also hosted several other successful dinners for our community. At The Enchanted Fairytale Feast, members made and served mini foods for an audience of children and parents to enjoy together. We were compensated well for our efforts. Our Annual Fowl Supper was another amazing hit in October with tons of community involvement. Over 400 people were served a turkey dinner with homemade desserts. A couple other events we hosted were the Lawn Bowlers Dinner and a Family Christmas Dinner.

At the beginning of December, we held our annual Christmas gathering. Each member brought an appetizer and council members gathered for a night of prayer, games, and singing. What a relaxing and joyful night!

In 2024, we have plans for another Parish Bazaar on Saturday, July 13th at the Cargill Community Center. Committee chairs have been selected and items are beginning to trickle into the church basement. Our other main event we wish to highlight for 2024 is the 100th Anniversary of St. Joseph's Parish. We will have a float in our Cargill Homecoming Parade on the August long weekend. Then signage will be erected outside St. Joseph's church to recognize this milestone. Plans are also being made to host a special mass followed by either a community

brunch or dinner for past and present parish members. A committee will be spearheading this celebration.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michelle Pletch, Parish Council President

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**Mary Immaculate - Chepstow**  
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

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**St. Ann - Chesley**  
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

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**St. Peter & St. Paul's - Durham**  
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

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



**Annual Report**

*Go Make a Difference!*  
*Sharing His Promise, Love and Hope!*



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<b>Parish Council:</b>	<b>Immaculate Conception - Formosa</b>
<b>Prepared by:</b>	<b>Marlene Voisin (President 2024 -2026)</b>
<b>Spiritual Advisor:</b>	<b>Father Emmanuel Azike</b>
<b>Number of Members:</b>	<b>99</b>

This is our 72<sup>nd</sup> year of the CWL in Formosa. Our numbers have declined somewhat since covid, but we continue to be united in prayer, love, good deeds and kindness.

The first Tuesday of the month, we have recital of the rosary before Mass. The Mass is offered for the living and deceased members of our league, and is followed by our meeting.

Our first meeting for this year was in March. We enjoyed a pot luck supper, with a short meeting and then cards and games after. This was a night we invited our spouses or friend to join us for some social time.

In May we presented the First Communicants with a bookmark. First communion was printed on the top of it, in the middle there is a cross surrounded with grains of wheat, followed by their name and at the bottom is printed Immaculate Conception Formosa. On the back it says presented by the Formosa CWL.

At Confirmation we give a hand – held wooden cross with a prayer card.

In June, 2 scholarships were given to 2 students from our community who would be attending university, college or an apprenticeship programme.

At our communion breakfast we had Deacon Wayne Waechter and his wife Kathy speak to us about his journey on becoming a deacon.

In December, we gave out boxed cookies to our seniors 80 and over and also to shut ins in our community. For those not able to enjoy the snacks we had a Mass offered for each one at St. Agatha Carmelite monastery.

Our fund raisers were the cold plate supper, which is always the first Sunday in June, and our Hot Turkey supper which is always the Sunday after thanksgiving.

We also have our quilt and Afghan that we sell tickets on, and we make the draw at our Christmas dinner.

It is because of these fund raisers we are able to make donations to our community and many other organizations that need our help to aid others.

Marlene Voisin  
CWL President Immaculate Conception Formosa





## Annual Report

*Go Make a Difference!*

*Sharing His Promise, Love and Hope!*



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<b>Parish Council:</b>	<b>St. John's - Glenelg</b>
<b>Prepared by:</b>	<b>Colleen Boer, Parish Council President {2024 - 2026}</b>
<b>Spiritual Advisor:</b>	<b>Father Grayson Hope</b>
<b>Number of Members:</b>	<b>13</b>

During the past year (2023) our council worked closely with our spiritual advisor, Father Grayson Hope to actively involve our parish with different aspects of the faith. Members participated in a series of **reflection studies** and dialogue for Lent called **"No Greater Love"** where the events of the Passion are connected with the Scriptures.

In March 2023 we worked closely with 5 other local denominations to celebrate **World Day of Prayer** planned by the women of Taiwan. The theme for 2023 was "I have heard about your faith!"

In April we held our first annual **Pancake Breakfast** after Covid.

Our **Spring project** "Mom and Baby too" collected items from all the parish to donate to Grey Bruce Pregnancy Centre in Owen Sound and Ramoth House in Mount Forest to support young women and their babies.

In June we celebrated the **71<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of our Council** with presentation of Pins to members for **"Years of Service"**. 62 yrs. - Joan O'Neill, 46 yrs. - Theresa Manion, 43 yrs. - Elly Pennings, 40 yrs. - Colleen Boer, 39 yrs. - Mary Manion, 32 yrs. - Esther Kurt, 26 yrs. - Vicki Manion, 26 yrs. - Helen Shibish, 18 yrs. - Stacey Manion, 15 yrs. - Nereda Manion, new member - Kim Black.

In August we prepared a hearty **breakfast to start our parish pilgrims** on their walking pilgrimage of 100 kms to Martyr's Shrine at St. Ignace/Midland.

In September we met with diocesan executive members for the National Unity outreach visit.

November was busy with nominations and elections for our council for 2024-2025. As well our Community outreach included our catering for the **Peace Lunch** in Flesherton with their theme of Equity, Inclusion and Diversity.

Christmas was celebrated with a potluck lunch with our pastor, members & their families.

Respectfully submitted,  
Colleen Boer- President - St. John's, Glenelg CWL

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## Annual Report

*Go Make a Difference!*

*Sharing His Promise, Love and Hope!*



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**Parish Council:** Holy Family - Hanover  
**Prepared by:** Nancy Boerkamp, Parish Council President {2024-2026}  
**Spiritual Advisor:** Father Romelito Guillen  
**Number of Members:** 97

2023 had some memorable moments for Holy Family CWL.

On May 28th, we had our 100th Anniversary celebration after Sunday mass. A luncheon was enjoyed by 65 people made up of our members as well as our Spiritual advisor Father Romelito Guillen, Life member Joan Schurter, and Diocesan Treasurer Mary Clark. We were honoured to receive a 100th anniversary certificate from the Diocese. There were 12 past Presidents in attendance for a nice photo. One of our members, Laura Hergott shared her trip to Jamaica to assist the poor

In June, the ladies were happy to gather for a relaxing potluck supper with a plant and book exchange to share from our homes what others may enjoy.

We gathered for a delicious Christmas Dinner with a silent auction that raised \$301 for Saugeen Hospice. Some of our members received their service pins in 2023.

Congratulations to:

65 yrs: Annie Aarts, Anna Koehl, Jean Schnurr

50 yrs: Mary Del Guidice

40 yrs: Patricia Weaver

25 yrs: Donna Kroetch

It's always lovely to celebrate these milestones!

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Boerkamp, Parish Council President





## Annual Report

*Go Make a Difference!*

*Sharing His Promise, Love and Hope!*

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**Parish Council:** St. Anthony of Padua - Kincardine  
**Prepared by:** Emily Lutz, Parish Council President (2022-2024)  
**Spiritual Advisor:** Father Thomas Manninezhath  
**Number of Members:** 75

We were able to have some fundraising events and social activities in 2022, a big change for us from the previous year due to the social gathering restrictions. Together we decided what we could hold, how and when. Members were both cautious and supportive. We held a Bake Sale in June and a Rummage Sale in October. Both were successful and have helped us greatly financially. In November we held a Wine and Cheese Social where Service pins were handed out to long-standing members. In total, 52 pins! It was nice to hold some social gatherings allowing members the opportunity again to connect including a potluck and Advent discussion. It was also nice to be included in the gift giving at First Holy Communion, Confirmation and Grade 8 Graduation in 2022.

Early in 2023 it was time to make some goals with the Executive – what did we want to accomplish in 2023? We came up with another social gathering event idea for the spring.

We have a regular rhythm now of monthly general meetings. At the end of April, we will have our Spring brunch and the opportunity to hand out a Maple Leaf Service pin! We have two more fundraising events and another social gathering event before summer break.

Our membership is down from 110 members in 2021 to 75 at present. Some feedback and observations for this is due to payment increase, feeling disconnected, lack of value in membership and possible strain from the pandemic.

Regarding the project for youth, very exciting is our members are supporting the creation of a new cursive handwriting club at St. Anthony's elementary school, next door to our Parish. Volunteers are obtaining police checks so we can start end of April or early May. Handwriting is such a wonderful and important skill to learn. The school has suggested we invite grades 3-6. Our first goal is to teach the children to handwrite their name. Beyond this we will continue with the rest of the alphabet, encourage writing Bible passages and how to read. We hope the CWL "Thinking of You" postcard will be an end goal for children to send to a loved one.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Lutz, Parish Council President

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## Annual Report

*Go Make a Difference!*

*Sharing His Promise, Love and Hope!*



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<b>Parish Council:</b>	<b>Sacred Heart - Mildmay</b>
<b>Prepared by:</b>	<b>Pauline Diemert (President 2023-2024)</b>
<b>Spiritual Advisor:</b>	<b>Father Leszek Szczygiel</b>
<b>Number of Members:</b>	<b>99</b>

Following Mass and May Crowning we had a social event Mother's/Daughter/Friend Tea. Our Cold Plate Supper continued with take out again this year. First Communion Students held a retreat and the CWL organized a pizza lunch. Each of the students received a cross to mark the occasion. Confirmation Students received a Photo Frame in honour of their contribution. In June we had our members pot luck supper which was well attended and enjoyed by all. Donations were given to Ramoth House, Wes for Youth, Catholic Missions of Canada and Samaritans Purse for a total of \$850.00 CWL award was given to each a grade 8 student and a Grade 12 student.

During the month of August, it was our Community Home Coming. In celebration we helped organized a Community Church Service which was held at Sacred Heart Church Mildmay. Many Churches participated with readings and reflection. Our theme was Better Together and music was provided by the Bushell Family. CWL Ladies provided refreshment and cake after.

During September our CWL Members were busy helping organizing and supporting our Fall Bazar. All proceeds to our Church. In October we had two of our CWL Members Karen Huber and Debbie Doerr who spoke about their trip to the holy land in the spring. Everyone enjoyed their presentation and pictures. In November we had the President of South Bruce Hospice Kelly Fotheringham do a presentation on the Saugeen Hospice. A donation was given to the Hospice. During our community Hanging of the green we held a bake sale, and special draws to raise money. Coffee Sundays were held October and November.

We were able to upgrade our Kitchen with the instillation of 3 stainless steel sinks. A great asset for dinners and funeral luncheons.

Our Christmas Celebration Dinner was well attended with the profits raised to support Kidscan raising \$915.00. Service pins were given to Jean Beitz for 50 Years of service, Edna Beitz for 40 years of service, and Mary Dickert, Dolores Diemert, Kathy Liesemier, Janet Rienhardt and Shelly Weber all received pins fir 25 service. Before Christmas Holidays the CWL Ladies cooked a Christmas Dinner with turkey and all the trimmings for the students and Teachers. Food Bank Items as well as socks were collected for the needy.

Respectfully submitted,

Pauline Diemert, Parish Council President



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**St. Mary of the Purification**  
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

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



## **Annual Report**

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**Parish Council:**

**St Mary of the Assumption – Owen Sound**

**Prepared by:**

**Vicki Lee, Parish Council President (2022-2026)**

**Spiritual Advisor:**

**Father David Reitzel**

**Number of Members:**

**71**

Ladies in the League:

Our CWL has been doing well. We had our major fundraiser in November 2023, which did exceptionally well, and we were able to have our first Christmas banquet since 2019. We had a successful election for the 24/25 year and were fortunate to get some members who have not been on the executive before. We have moved to the new executive format and are trying to figure things out. For our March meeting, we had a guest speaker from OSHaRE to update us on their wonderful latest programs. And for our next meeting we are having a games night (after a brief meeting, of course).

Also, in April we have been asked to pray for a little girl, two years old, with Cancer. While we are certainly glad to do this, I think that the way it is happening is notable. A group of ladies from the little girl's parish asked if we could say a prayer for the little one, every day for April.

We decided as a council to each pray the Rosary and say a prayer to St. Peregrine everyday. When we are finished the little girl receives a small white teddy bear, with all our prayers. It is like a prayer quilt but for a child. She can hug the bear and have all our prayers with her as she goes through treatment. It is a wonderful idea and one which we are blessed to take part in. The ladies have been asking different organizations to do this every month. The little girl will have all the bears to show how much she is loved and cared for.

Respectfully submitted,

Vicki Lee, Parish Council President

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



**Annual Report - 2023**

*Go Make a Difference!*

*Sharing His Promise, Love and Hope!*



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<b>Parish Council:</b>	<b>Teeswater Sacred Heart CWL</b>
<b>Prepared by:</b>	<b>Doreen McGlynn</b>
<b>Spiritual Advisor:</b>	<b>Father Emmanuel Azike</b>
<b>Number of Members:</b>	<b>51</b>

Our CWL had a quiet year in 2023. Due to struggling to fill our executive our President (2 yrs.) Jean Culliton stayed on for a 3<sup>rd</sup> year.

We held our regular meetings with our skeleton executive and 8-10 members attending our meetings.

Below is a list of events and activities we did accomplish throughout the year.

February: We made Valentine's cards and sent to shut in members.

March: We attended the World Day of Prayer hosted by the Presbyterian Church.

May and October: We honoured Mary with leading the rosary for the Parish on the Sundays before Mass. We also assisted the Parish with May Crowning at the start of Sunday Mass. We organized the 12-hour Prayer Day for Palliative Care Week on the Thursday concluding with Mass and our meeting.

June: We invited all members to join for a tour of our local lavender farm and enjoyed snacks there.

August is our Teeswater Fair we entered a display in the fair.

September: We had a pot luck supper to encourage members to come out and enjoy.

November: We made Christmas cards for the shut ins and potted poinsettia plants were delivered also.

Several members supported and attended the Pro-Life Dinner in Wingham.

Grade 8 and Grade 12 Graduation Awards were presented also. (Bibles)

Holy Communion and Confirmation gifts were presented as well.

We look forward to 2024 for positive change and more member involvement for our meetings and activities.

We had our new executive installed at Mass on Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Installation of Executive – March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Left to Right:

Sharon Martin – “Faith”

JoAnn Carter – Secretary

Jean Culliton – Social Justice/Past President

Father Emmanuel Azike

Doreen McGlynn – President

Cherie Hauck – “Service”

Barb Zettler – Treasurer

Respectfully submitted,

Doreen McGlynn, CWL President



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



## Annual Report

*Go Make a Difference!*

*Sharing His Promise, Love and Hope!*

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<b>Parish Council:</b>	<b>Sacred Heart - Walkerton</b>
<b>Prepared by:</b>	<b>Deborah Hicks, Parish Council President (2021-2024)</b>
<b>Spiritual Advisor:</b>	<b>Rev. Leszek Szczygiel</b>
<b>Number of Members:</b>	<b>133</b>

In celebration of our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2024, we committed ourselves to pursuing new activities that would increase the awareness of the Catholic Women's League in our community. This included a push for new memberships by sharing a video at Mass. There were 3 new members!

The ladies have always worked in conjunction with St. Teresa of Calcutta elementary school. The Breakfast Program has always been supported with a monetary donation. Rosaries are presented to the Grade 2 classes, Bibles to the Grade 4 classes and Christian Living awards to two Grade 8 students at graduation. This year the presentation of medals to the Grade 7 confirmands was reintroduced. A prayer partnership was organized for the class. It was not possible to designate a prayer partner to a particular child. The ladies prayed for the entire class and then prepared a card to be presented to an individual child with their blessed medal at an assembly.

The recipients of the two graduation awards at Sacred Heart High School have always received a catechism along with a monetary gift. This year the ladies of the executive along with our education convenor decided to organize a book study to choose a new one. The ladies each took turns reading the chosen books. Just this past month, the books were discussed and a book was chosen.

In the past the ladies have worked with the religion classes at Sacred Heart to assemble lunches to be taken to the homeless on the streets of Toronto. This past December the ladies decided to work with the Grade 9 Foods class to prepare and serve a Christmas Luncheon. The class worked with the ladies in the kitchen to prepare the ham meal. There was a lot learned on both sides. The plan is to organize another luncheon in June with the Grade 12 Hospitality Class.

We hosted 2 roast beef dinners, a craft and bake sale and many funeral lunches.

We celebrated our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass and Luncheon on April 21<sup>st</sup>. Bishop Crosby celebrated Mass and Andrew Zettel was our guest speaker.

Respectfully submitted,  
Deborah Hicks, Parish Council President



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



## Annual Report

*Go Make a Difference!*

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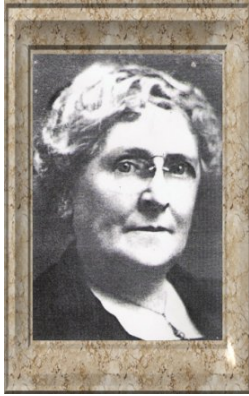
**Parish Council:**  
**Prepared by:**  
**Spiritual Advisor:**  
**Number of Members:** 17

**St. Thomas Aquinas Warton h-102**  
**Debbie Heard, President 2023-2025**  
**Fr. Francis Hubilla**

Our Council held our 3rd annual Ice Cream Sunday for the parish on the church lawn for Canada Day 2023. About 40 servings were dished out with sprinkles and sauce by donation.

We held our first gift card sale for a parish fundraiser in mid-October. After several weeks' promotion, our little Warton mission church of about 50 parishioners, with friends and family joining in, purchased \$10,000 worth of gift cards for Christmas shopping and gifts, giving the CWL \$400 profit with little work. We are planning this fundraiser quarterly. November saw us have a social outing at a member's family-owned furniture/decor store, followed by dinner out. In mid-December we had a homemade bake and hostess gift sale, where we profited \$400 and had leftover baking for the next couple coffee Sundays. This provided parishioner social time as well as donations to CWL.





In January 2024 we led a parish letter writing campaign, asking our MP to support Bill S-210 - Protecting Young persons from exposure to Pornography Act. During the same month, the Past President/Secretary designed a Member Profile, with space for a photo and a record of CWL and parish involvement. Our Past President/Secretary is organizing our archives.

Our Chair of Faith led two rosary making workshops in January and February, with lots of fun and laughs. We started working on and taking photos for our Member Profiles binder. Our tiny church entrance needed an overhaul and a couple of members along with the Pastor, decluttered and refreshed it in February - April, including a rosary display case for our rosary and chalet sales.

The Wiarton Interfaith Group organizes 'Lenten Lunches' every year at the local United Church hall. Our parish and CWL was responsible for the first lunch, making and serving 5 soups and sandwiches to 75-80 attendees, and cleaning up. Members participated in the Lenten programs, led by various ministers and lay people.

Since last spring, we have had two people move to the area and join our CWL, one re-join, and one leave due to schedule conflict.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Heard, Parish Council President

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## FRANCES LOVERING AWARD

**The Frances Lovering Woman of the Year Award was instituted by the diocesan executive in the year 2000 as a Millennium Project. The Award was named after the first diocesan president, Frances Lovering, who later served as the third national president and was an original member of The Catholic Women's League of Canada formation committee in 1920.**

**Congratulations to the following recipients of the Frances Lovering Woman of the Year Award, including our recent winner Fran Fairfill, who have graciously demonstrated the objectives of the League in her service to the League, her parish, and the community.**

## RECIPIENTS

2024	Barbara “Jean” Culliton	Sacred Heart, Teeswater
2023	Fran Fairfull	St. Joseph, Guelph
2022	Olivia Gibson	Mary Mother of God, Oakville
2021	Marlene Lehman	St. Boniface, Maryhill
2020	Terry Murphy	St. Andrew Parish, Oakville
2019	Bonita Jones	St. Mary of the Assumption, Owen Sound
2018	Maria Theresia Burgund	St. Aloysius, Kitchener
2017	Anna Rettinger	St. Andrew, Oakville
2016	Lillian Orzel	St. Luke, Hamilton
2015	Barbara Diemert	St. Francis of Assisi, Kitchener
2014	Anne Rehkopf	Holy Family, Hanover
2013	Elsie Hankinson	St. Pius, Brantford
2012	Helen Kurtz Christie	St. Joseph, Guelph
2011	Noreen Miehm	Holy Cross, Georgetown
2010	Barbara Bishop	Holy Rosary, Guelph
2009	Anne Marie Sehl	St. Agnes, Waterloo
2008	Marian Flanigan	St. Mary of the Purification, Mount Forest
2007	Nancy Morley	St. Luke, Hamilton
2006	Margaret Synnott	St. Joseph, Guelph
2005	Rita Bradbury	St. Gabriel, Burlington
2004	Dorothy Farwell	Sacred Heart, Kitchener
2003	Mary Elizabeth Codnich	Regina Mundi, Hamilton
2002	Betty Dietrich	St. John, Kitchener
2001	Siena Van Hoekelin	Holy Cross, Georgetown
2000	Ann Brown	St. John, Arthur

## 2023 MEMBERSHIP INCREASE CERTIFICATES

Teresa DiFalco, Diocesan President Elect and Organization Chair presented 2023 membership increase certificates to the following Parish Councils at the 2024 Spring Regional Meetings. Congratulations to the recipient councils and to all councils for their hard work and efforts towards membership drives.

COUNCIL NAME	NUMBER OF NEW MEMBERS IN 2023
<b>BRANT</b>	
Sacred Heart, Paris	9
St. Mary, Brantford	4
St. Basil, Brantford	6
St. Pius X, Brantford	8
<b>HAMILTON</b>	
Canadian Martyrs, Hamilton	4
Holy Rosary, Burlington	7
Holy Rosary, Milton	6
Immaculate Heart of Mary, Winona	5
Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Freelon	5
St. Andrew, Oakville	8
St. Dominic, Oakville	7
St. Eugene, Hamilton	7
St. Lawrence, Hamilton	4
St. Margaret Mary, Hamilton	3
St. Patrick, Burlington	8
St. Stanislaus Kostka, Hamilton	3
St. Michael, Oakville	2
Mother Mary of God, Oakville	1
St. Matthew, Oakville	5
St. Mary Pro Cathedra, Hamilton	1
St. Benedict, Milton	13
<b>KITCHENER</b>	
Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate, Guelph	17
Holy Rosary, Guelph	7
St. Mark, Kitchener	8
St. John the Evangelist, Arthur	1
St. Joseph, Fergus	10
St. Louis, Waterloo	2
St. Mary of the Visitation, Cambridge	9
St. Patrick, Cambridge	5
<b>NORTH</b>	
St. John, Glenelg	3
St. Joseph, Cargill	1
St. Mary of the Assumption, Owen Sound	5
St. Peter & St. Paul, Durham	4



## CLOSING PRAYERS

Blessed Mother, Our Lady of Good Counsel. Help us to be humble and generous in all we do. Teach us your ways to give and not count the cost. To serve others and not to ask for reward, but to serve with loving hands and compassionate hearts.

Help us to hear the voice of God and to have the faith and gusto to do God's will as you have done. We welcome the joy of Your grace to overflow in our hearts, and make us peacemakers here on earth, drawing us towards holiness and to your Son, Our Lord and Savior. Amen



Lord as we depart this place,  
You have stayed with us,  
Your Blessed Mother  
has been our Companion and Guide,  
May we continue in her footsteps,  
And be disciples to the Easter message.

Let us remain in this mind as we  
Return to our families and communities,  
Your Spirit has lightened our hearts and  
Strengthened our commitment to do Your work.  
May we open ourselves to this work of the Spirit  
In Servicing the young and old, those with no voice and those who need to listen.

Gracious and Loving Father we ask your Blessing on this the Catholic Women's League of the  
Diocese of Hamilton and the work we continue to do. Amen

*Prayers prepared by Laura Grint, Diocesan First Vice President and Spiritual Development Chair*

# APPENDICES

**“A”**

## **2023 PARISH ANNUAL TREASURERS’ SUMMARY REPORT**

**“B”**

## **2023 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS BALANCE SHEETS FOR CONVENTION**

*Note: The 2023 Financial Statements Balance Sheets for Convention are not included on the electronic version of the Report Book as per the Diocesan President Joyce Cotter’s request. Any members wishing a copy may contact the Diocesan Treasurer.*

**“A”**  
**2023 PARISH ANNUAL TREASURERS’**  
**SUMMARY REPORT**



PARISH ANNUAL TREASURERS SUMMARY REPORT 2023

DIOCESE OF HAMILTON		2023	NATIONAL VOLUNTARY FUND							STANDING COMMITTEES AND PARISH DONATIONS						
Region, Parish, City	Parish Code	Number of Members	Cen Catholic Organization & Development & Peace	Catholic Missions in Canada	Catholic Near East Welfare Association	Cosy International Institute	National Bursary Fund	Spiritual Development	Organization	Christian Family Life	Community Life	Education & Health	Continu- itations	Parish Donations	Council Total	
DIAMANT																
Blessed Sacrament, Burford	H-002	66										250.00			250.00	
St. Mary, Iroquois	H-013	48										100.00			100.00	
Sacred Heart, Paris	H-032	84		200.00				200	400		200.00	1200.00			2200.00	
St. Basil, Brantford	H-046	51						120.00				525.00		200.00	845.00	
St. Phil X, Brantford	H-091	104														
St. Joseph, Brantford	H-099	22									358	200.00		250.00	808.00	
HAMILTON																
Most Blessed Sacrament, Hamilton	H-003	47														
Canadian Martyrs, Hamilton	H-004	34														
CHRIST THE KING, Hamilton	H-005	74														
Holy Cross, Georgetown	H-008	110						150.00	100.00	500.00	125.00	1000.00	408.00	320.00	1601.00	
Holy Rosary, Burlington	H-012	152		1000						1250.00	6000.00	1000.00		1750	10000.00	
Holy Rosary, Milton	H-014	54												6310.00	7210.00	
Immaculate Heart of Mary, Winona	H-016	84						194.00	1800.00		700.00	600.00		3000.00	6294.00	
Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Freeport	H-021	37														
St. Anthony of Padua, Hamilton	H-044	8														
St. Augustine, Dundas	H-047	87		100.00				1404	180	1000	1350	1066	207	4173	10880.00	
St. Dominic, Oakville	H-053	74						782.00	576.00	300.00	640.00	550.00	20.00	500.00	8518.00	
St. Eugene, Hamilton	H-054	46								7500.00					8500.00	
St. Francis Xavier, Stony Creek	H-057	123														
St. Gabriel, Burlington	H-058	42		200.00						200.00	150.00			3400.00	3950.00	
St. James, Oakville	H-060	26														
St. John the Baptist, Burlington	H-065	52														
St. John the Baptist, Hamilton	H-066	0														
St. Lawrence, Hamilton	H-075	39														
St. Margaret Mary, Hamilton	H-076	77														
St. Patrick, Hamilton	H-088	34														
St. Patrick, Burlington	H-089	66														
St. Raphael, Burlington	H-092	62						400			20				420.00	
St. Stanislaus Korka, Hamilton	H-093	43									800			1408	2205.00	
St. Michael, Oakville	H-096	31														
St. Thomas the Apostle, Watford	H-097	69														
St. Gregory the Great, Hamilton	H-100	56								604.00	200			7665.00	8499.00	
St. Luke, Hamilton	H-104	80		225.00				250.00	167.00	262.00	5037.00	920.00		2800.00	9161.00	
Mary Mother of God, Oakville	H-108	104									1500.00			3500	5000.00	
St. Matthew, Oakville	H-109	40	60.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	100.00		300.00	100.00	600.00			1400.00	
St. Mary Pro Cathedral, Hamilton	H-110	12														
St. Benedict, Milton	H-111	32														
St. Catherine of Siena	H-113	54								200.00					200.00	



PARISH ANNUAL TREASURERS SUMMARY REPORT 2023

DIOCESE OF HAMILTON		2023	NATIONAL VOLUNTARY FUND					STANDING COMMITTEES AND PARISH DONATIONS							
Region, Parish, City	Parish Code	Number of Members	Cdn Catholic Organization Development & Peace	Catholic Missions in Canada	Catholic Near East Welfare Association	County International Institute	National Bursary Fund	Spiritual Development	Organization	Christian Family Life	Community Life	Education & Health	Communications	Parish Donations	Council Total
UTICHERIA															
Parishes of Our Lady Immaculate, Guelph	H-006	102								1130.00	7633.00	1600.00		1372	11735.00
Holy Family, New Hamburg	H-011	52													
Holy Rosary, Guelph	H-013	118													
Sacred Heart & St. Peter Mission, Godswood & Quistle	H-018	0													
Our Lady of Lourdes, Waterloo	H-020	46													
St. Joseph, Patron of Canada, Acton	H-022	55													
Sacred Heart, Guelph	H-027	35													
Sacred Heart, Kitchener	H-029	29		50											
St. Agatha, St. Agatha	H-035	78								534	600	200	50		1434.00
St. Agnes, Waterloo	H-036	117													
St. Anthony, Kitchener	H-037	70	150	150	100			293		264	420	436	87	820	2780.00
St. Mary, Kitchener	H-042	45													
St. Boniface, Marshall	H-046	95		285.00				165.00	1358.00	215.00	1853.00	520.00	23.00	150.00	4811.00
St. Clement, Cambridge	H-051	106													
St. Francis of Assisi, Kitchener	H-053	30													
St. John, Kitchener	H-063	39								264	1802			787	2853.00
Blessed Sacrament, Kitchener	H-064	67												150	150.00
St. John the Evangelist, Arthur	H-067	47													
St. Joseph, Ferris	H-069	68						40			1222.00	3350.00		1911.00	6523.00
St. Joseph, Guelph	H-070	123	100.00	100.00		200.00		1848.00	2198.00	2511.00	1946.00	1800.00	302.00	3847.00	15462.00
St. Joseph, Kitchener	H-072	24													
St. Louis, Waterloo	H-077	112	2881.00	2881.00				183.00	244.00	325.00	675.00	500.00		200.00	7789.00
St. Martin of Tours, Dryden	H-078	10													
St. Mary, Kitchener	H-080	36													
St. Mary Immaculate, Elora	H-083	80		300.00				120.00		200.00	464.00	300.00		500.00	1884.00
St. Mary of the Visitation, Cambridge	H-085	62		400.00				475.00			460.00	250.00			1725.00
St. Michael, Waterloo	H-086	96						150.00			200.00	250.00		200.00	800.00
St. Patrick, Cambridge	H-087	58								140.00	565.00	350.00		75	1180.00
St. Teresa of Avila, Elmira	H-094	71		300.00				40.00	137.00		1264.00			751.00	2592.00
St. Teresa of Avila, Kitchener	H-095	96													
St. Anthony Daniel, Kitchener	H-105	111						675.00		500	3850	325.00		1400.00	6750.00
NORTH															
Holy Family, Hanover	H-010	97		100				222		60	65	125		1300	1872.00
Immaculate Conception, Formosa	H-015	87		600				410		500	1190	4688		60	18058.00
Mary Immaculate, Chapleau	H-017	54						120.00		40.00	216.00	160.00	300.00	2845.00	3681.00
Sacred Heart, Midway	H-031	105		250.00											
Sacred Heart, Timewater	H-033	54								110.00		778.00		600.00	1678.00
Sacred Heart, Waterloo	H-034	132		100	100	50		285.00		246	633	996		30	665.00
St. Anthony of Padua, Kincardine	H-046	77													
St. John, Guelph	H-051	13								300.00	300.00	100.00		100.00	1000.00
St. Joseph, Carleton Place	H-058	67		100.00		100				504.00				3180.00	3884.00
Our Lady of the Rosary, Dundas	H-073														
St. Mary of the Purification, Mount Forest	H-082	64													
St. Mary of the Assumption, Owen Sound	H-084	76		250.00							3225.00			6000.00	9475.00

# PARISH ANNUAL TREASURERS SUMMARY REPORT 2023

DIOCESE OF HAMILTON		2023	NATIONAL VOLUNTARY FUND					STANDING COMMITTEES AND PARISH DONATIONS							
Region, Parish, City	Parish Code	Number of Members	Cdn Catholic Organization for Development & Peace	Catholic Missions in Canada	Catholic Near East Welfare Association	Coast International Institute	National Bursary Fund	Spiritual Development	Organization	Christian Family Life	Community Life	Education & Health	Commun-Parish Relations	Parish Devotions	Council Total
St. Peter & St. Paul, Durham	H-101	24		88				35.00		80.00			50	823	1134.00
St. Thomas Aquinas, Warton	H-102	17			100.00						520.00	200.00			820.00
St. Ann, Cheshire	H-103	5													
St. Joseph, Port Ellen	H-112	43													
TOTAL MEMBERS		5707													
TOTAL DONATIONS			3691.00	\$449.00	360.00	410.00	60.00	8751.00	7400.00	19849.00	58115.00	24257.00	2045.00	61954.00	116411.00

**“B”**

**2023 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**BALANCE SHEETS FOR CONVENTION**

*Note: The 2023 Financial Statements Balance Sheets for Convention are not included on the electronic version of the Report Book as per the Diocesan President Joyce Cotter’s request. Any members wishing a copy may contact the Diocesan Treasurer.*

**The Catholic Women's League of Canada**  
**Hamilton Diocesan Council**  
**Financial Statements**  
December 31, 2023

## NOTICE TO READER

We have compiled the Balance Sheet of The Catholic Women's League of Canada - Hamilton Diocesan Council, as at December 31, 2023, Statement of Retained Earnings, and Statement of Income ("financial information") for the period then ended from information provided by management. The Catholic Women's League's financial statements comply with the applicable financial reporting framework. These statements are prepared solely for the internal use of the Diocesan Executive and the members of the Catholic Women's League in the Hamilton Diocese.

We performed this engagement in accordance with Canadian Standard on Related Services (CSRS) 4200, Compilation Engagements, which requires us to comply with relevant ethical requirements. Our responsibility is to assist management in the preparation of the financial information.

Based on my review, nothing has come to my attention that causes me to believe that the financial statements do not present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Catholic Women's League of Canada – Hamilton Diocesan Council as at December 31, 2023, and the results of its operations year then ended in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework. An audit or review engagement has not been completed in respect of these financial statements. Readers are cautioned that these statements may not be appropriate for their purposes.

*Adam Vervoort*

Adam Vervoort, CPA, CGA

Norwood, Ontario

April 27, 2024

The Catholic Women's League of Canada - Hamilton Diocesan Council  
Balance Sheet  
as at December 31, 2023  
(see Notice to Reader)

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
<b>Assets</b>		
Current assets		
Cash	\$ 15,031	\$ 19,821
On deposit with Chancery	115,980	112,750
Prepaid convention fee	4,000	6,000
	<u>135,011</u>	<u>138,571</u>
Total Assets	\$ 135,011	\$ 138,571
<b>Liabilities and Equity</b>		
Liabilities		
Current liabilities		
Trust accounts	\$ 11,533	\$ 11,074
Long-term liabilities		
Trust accounts	14,092	12,794
Total Liabilities	<u>25,625</u>	<u>23,868</u>
Equity		
Retained earnings	109,386	114,703
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$ 135,011	\$ 138,571

## Schedule 2

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The Catholic Women's League of Canada - Hamilton Diocesan Council  
Statement of Retained Earnings  
as at December 31, 2023  
(see Notice to Reader)

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	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Retained earnings - beginning of the year	\$ 114,703	\$ 147,536
Net loss for the year	(5,317)	(32,833)
Retained earnings - end of the year	\$ 109,386	\$ 114,703