



HAMILTON DIOCESAN C.W.L.
ANNUAL REPORT BOOK
MAY 2024 – APRIL 2025



*Hamilton Diocesan Catholic Women's
League of Canada
105th Anniversary
Annual Meeting of Members/Convention
May 30 – June 1, 2025*

Blessed Mary, Mother of Hope

Guide us as sisters in the Catholic
Women's League.

In times of uncertainty, help us trust
in your Son.

In moments of sorrow, wrap us in
your mantle of peace.

Teach us to serve with joyful hearts,
to speak with courage,
and to lead with compassion.

May we, like you, be beacons of
hope and light
in our homes, parishes,
communities, and beyond.

Amen.

*May Our Lady of Good Counsel
Pray For Us*

FORWARD

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the Annual Report Book for the Hamilton Diocesan 105th Annual Meeting of Members/Convention. The Annual Report Book covers activities that took place in Parish Councils and the Hamilton Diocesan Executive Council from our last Annual Meeting of Members/Convention last May 2024 to April 2025.

It is with gratitude and joy that we present this Annual Report Book, a testament to the faith, dedication, and vibrant spirit of the Hamilton Diocesan Council of The Catholic Women's League of Canada. Our cover picture is a beautiful image of Our Blessed Mother, painted by Bernadette Homeski and graciously gifted to me for the duration of the term as Diocesan President by Parish President Dianne Corrin-Kiziak and her CWL Council of St. Thomas the Apostle – Waterdown. I have named the picture – Blessed Mary, Mother of Hope.

From May 2024 to April 2025, our Council proudly represented 85 parish councils and 5,747 members across our four regions: Hamilton, Brant, Kitchener, and North. This includes 9 Life Members, 8 Diocesan Executive Members, 1 Diocesan Spiritual Advisor, 4 Regional Chairs, and 4 Regional Secretaries—each of whom played an essential role in building up the League and serving as beacons of hope and light in our communities.

We were especially blessed to have 60 dedicated members share their time, talents, and hearts as part of the 2025 Diocesan Convention Team. Their efforts exemplify the spirit of service that defines our League.

On behalf of the Diocesan Executive Team, I extend heartfelt thanks to all who contributed to this incredible year. May you enjoy reading the pages that follow and be inspired by the impactful work, faith-filled leadership, and unwavering sisterhood that shines and “Sparkles” through every report.

Yours in faith and service,

Teresa

Teresa DiFalco, Diocesan President
Hamilton Diocesan Council - The Catholic Women's League of Canada

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WELCOME PRAYER

Loving God,
We come before You with grateful hearts for the many blessings You have poured upon the Hamilton Diocesan Council of the Catholic Women's League.

As we open these pages and reflect on a year of service, sisterhood, and faith, we give thanks for every member, every parish council, and every act of love offered in Your name.

May this Annual Report be more than words—it is a witness to Your light *shining* through our League. Inspire us, Lord, to continue sparkling Your way, as *beacons of hope and light* to everyone we meet.

Bless our leaders, our members, and all those we serve. Through the intercession of Our Lady of Good Counsel, guide us always in faith, service, and social justice.

We pray this in the name of Jesus, our Hope and our Light.
Amen.

PRAYER FOR THE LEAGUE

Heavenly Father,
With hearts full of gratitude, we thank You for guiding the Hamilton Diocesan Council of the Catholic Women's League through another year of faith-filled service.

Bless each member who has answered Your call to serve with love, courage, and compassion. May their efforts continue to build up Your Church and bring light to the world.

As we reflect on the work of our councils, we ask You to renew our spirits and strengthen our commitment to be beacons of hope in our parishes, communities, and beyond.

Through the intercession of Our Lady of Good Counsel, may we always walk together in sisterhood, united in purpose, and joyfully *Sparkle* Your Way.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

NATIONAL THEME

Here I am Lord, Send me.



PROVINCIAL THEME

Joy



DIOCESAN THEME

Sparkle God's Way, Be a Beacon of Hope and Light to Everyone You Meet.



GREETINGS





BISHOP OF HAMILTON

May 2025

Catholic Women's League of Canada
Diocesan Council Convention 2025

Dear Sisters in the League,

Thank you for your service ***For God and Canada*** – right here in the “great and glorious” Diocese of Hamilton. I am grateful for all you do in your Parish Councils and throughout the Diocese! As I have often said, I think every Catholic woman should be a member of the League!

I have learned that recently two Parish Councils have opened in the Diocese, at Incarnation of our Blessed Lord in Hamilton, and at St. John the Evangelist in Dundalk. It is a sign that women continue to support one another, and work together for the good of their parishes and the Church.

The League's three pillars of ***Faith, Service, and Social Justice*** are a recipe for a vibrant spirituality of life – an important focus for us all. You lead the way!

I am grateful for the participation of League members in the Diocesan “***Forward Together With Christ***” synodal process. The final report is a roadmap for the future of our Diocese. I encourage you to consider participating in the “*synodal process*” being promoted by the *Concerned Lay Catholics* at St. Jerome's University, Waterloo, July 15-18, 2025. Your voices will provide valuable insights!

Ever grateful that Shari Guinta has served so generously as National President of the League for these past two years, I plan to attend the National Convention of the League in Toronto in August to thank her in person for her exemplary leadership, and to celebrate the successful completion of her mandate!

Sisters in the League, enjoy these days together. May the good God guide your conversations and bless your decisions.

Sincerely in Christ and Our Lady of Good Counsel,

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

/cd



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



Sparkle God's Way!

Be A Beacon of HOPE and LIGHT to Everyone You Meet



May 20, 2025

Empowering Women: A Call to Rekindle the Fire of Faith

In many developing countries, social work units and NGOs often focus on empowering women to bring about community transformation. Women become the catalysts for change, working from within their own cultures and traditions to reshape their societies.

Interestingly, we see a similar trend in the Bible and throughout the history of the Church. In Acts Chapter 16, we read about the Apostle Paul's missionary journey, where his team encounters a group of women gathered by the riverbank in Philippi. Among them is Lydia, a woman of deep faith and leadership. These women had come together for prayer and study, and when they heard Paul's message, Lydia opened her heart to Christ—and her home to His disciples. That very day, the church in Philippi was born.

Though Lydia and her companions are not always mentioned alongside the more prominent figures of the early Church, their contributions were foundational. Quietly, without much publicity, they helped the early Church survive persecution and bear witness to the Gospel. These women of the early Church stand as powerful examples for our Catholic Women's Communities today. They fought the good fight of faith. In simplicity and humility, they fulfilled their mission—and through love, they preserved their faith.

Today, we need many more Lydia's in our communities. Women who will rise with courage, wisdom, and faith to build up the Church from within. Let us encourage and support them, so that together we may rekindle the fire of faith in a world that desperately needs it.

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



The Catholic Women's League of Canada

My dear sisters in the League,

Convention is a time of celebration, education and faith support. As you gather in convention this year, I welcome and congratulate you on behalf of the national executive/board and all members across Canada.

2024 was a year of transition and planning for the League, and now, as we journey into 2025, we celebrate a Jubilee Year, a year of *hope*.

Pope Francis said, "In the heart of each person, hope dwells as the desire and expectation of good things to come, despite our not knowing what the future may bring." Is this not true of the League? We work for our parish, the church and our communities with faith and hope.

And this is what you have done as members of The Catholic Women's League of Canada in Hamilton Diocese. That work that you do strengthens all of us. We are women of the church. We proudly go forward speaking for those who cannot speak for themselves or are unheard, and we do outreach through faith, service and social justice. It is a calling of hope.

So, my dear sisters, thank you. You are appreciated and congratulated for the work that you do, for the voice that you share and your support within your community.

My hope is that the League continues its work "For God and Canada," that the invitation to join us is heard by all women and that the League's voice continues to grow.

You have answered the call... *Here I am Lord, send me.*

May God bless you,

Shari Guinta
National President



**ONTARIO PROVINCIAL COUNCIL OF
THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA
COLLEEN MARTIN, PROVINCIAL PRESIDENT**
c/o 442 Wiley Street, Thunder Bay, ON P7C 3N2
Phone 807-628-3875 Email opcpresident@tbaytel.net

April 2025

Dear Sisters and Spiritual Advisors:

RE: 105th HAMILTON DIOCESAN COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT

It is with great joy that I write this letter of greetings to you for your 105th Annual Diocesan Report. The annual report is an important opportunity to celebrate the many accomplishments of members within your diocese each calendar year.

A mix of repeating and special initiatives involving the sharing of the gift of presence, developing awareness on health and social justice issues, developing tools to assist members in leadership roles, and many other initiatives demonstrate engagement of members, and meaningful impacts across the Hamilton Diocese.

On behalf of all your sisters in Ontario, congratulations on another year of service to God and Canada. We pray in gratitude for your commitment to the League and its mission to call *members to grow in faith, and to witness to the love of God through ministry and service!!*

In joy-filled faith,

Administration Committee

Colleen Martin, President
Karen McDonald, Vice-President
Linda Squarzolo, Past President
Lisa Fillingham, Treasurer
Lisa Henry, Secretary
Claudette Langdon, Faith Chair
Sue Lubowitz, Service Chair
Hilarion Mitchell, Social Justice Chair
Wilma Vanderzwaag, Administrative Assistant

Diocesan Presidents

Teresa Di Falco, Hamilton
Nancy Bouvier, Hearst/Moosonee
Maureen Vincentine, Kingston
Mary Bannon, London
Melina Nobert, Ottawa-Cornwall
Maria Fitzgerald, Peterborough
Annette Chaplin, Pembroke
Deedee Alexandre, St. Catharines
Patricia Clizia, Sault Ste. Marie
Cathy Carlino, Thunder Bay
Audrey Shelton, Timmins
Kate O'Quinn, Toronto



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



Sparkle God's Way!

Be A Beacon of HOPE and LIGHT to Everyone You Meet



May 2025

Dear Sisters in the League,

It is with deep gratitude and joy that I extend heartfelt greetings as we reflect on another faith-filled and fruitful year for the Hamilton Diocesan Council of The Catholic Women's League of Canada.

Our journey from May 2024 to April 2025 has been a remarkable testament to the power of servant leadership, sisterhood, and unwavering faith. I am truly thankful to our dedicated Diocesan Executive and to each of our parish councils across the Hamilton, Brant, Kitchener, and North Regions. Your commitment, creativity, and hard work are the driving force of our Council's continued vitality and growth.

You are the *Sparkle* in the Hamilton Diocesan Council—the light that leads the way for new members and future leaders. Your efforts continue to inspire, uplift, and illuminate the path forward as we serve God, Canada, and one another with joyful hearts.

Let us continue to *Sparkle God's Way as beacons of hope and light* in our Church and our world. Keep up the great work—you are making a difference.

With gratitude and blessings,

Teresa

Teresa DiFalco
President, Hamilton Diocesan Council
The Catholic Women's League of Canada



HAMILTON DIOCESAN EXECUTIVE TEAM 2024-2026

SPIRITUAL ADVISOR

Father Ranjan D'Sa

CORE OFFICERS

Teresa DiFalco, President

Laura Grint, Vice-President and Organization Chair

Joanne Palmer, Secretary and Communications Chair

Mary Clark, Treasurer

Joyce Cotter, Past-President/Historian

COMMITTEE CHAIRWOMEN

Kathryn Imperatore, Faith Chair

Maricris Limson, Service Chair

Julia Calverley, Social Justice Chair

REGIONAL CHAIRS

Colleen Ionson, Hamilton Regional Chair

Debra Norohna, Brant Regional Chair

Bernadette Best, Kitchener Regional Chair

Nancy Skiba, North Regional Chair

REGIONAL SECRETARY

Mary D'Orazio, Hamilton Regional Secretary

Meagan Kadirgamar, Brant Regional Secretary

Susan Narducci, Kitchener Regional Secretary

Sherie Bowen, North Regional Secretary



LIFE MEMBERS



Joan Schurter (Diocesan Life Member Liaison)

Jakki Jeffs

Shari Guinta

Mary Lou Watson (Ottawa Diocese)

Pat Crawford

Jeanne Wilson (Whitehorse Diocese)

Rosanne Sogan

Anna Brady

Ana Sousa

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	St. Paul the Apostle, Burlington
Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King, Hamilton	St. Raphael, Burlington
Holy Cross, Georgetown	St. Stanislaus Kostka, Hamilton
Holy Rosary, Burlington	St. Thomas the Apostle, Waterdown
Holy Rosary, Milton	
Immaculate Heart of Mary, Winona	
Incarnation of Our Blessed Lord (Reactivated Jan 2025)	
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	

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 (**Disbanded December 2024**)
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 (**Disbanded December 2024**)
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. John the Evangelist, (Dundalk-Shelburne-Proton) (**Reactivated 2025**)

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 – 2024)

“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 2024

(We said goodbye to 137 Faithful Departed League Sisters in 2024.
Eternal rest grant upon them and let perpetual light shine upon them)

BRANT (19)

FIRST	LAST	PARISH
Elizabeth	Barron	St. Basil - Brantford
Lorraine	Blower	St. Basil - Brantford
Shirley	Lawrence	St. Basil - Brantford
Mary	Lefebvre	St. Basil - Brantford
Joan	Luciani	St. Basil - Brantford
Josephine	MacKinnon	St. Basil - Brantford
Theresa	Neary	St. Basil - Brantford
Teresa	Soluk	St. Basil - Brantford
Lucia	Stefanelli	St. Mary - Brantford
Alice	Amirault	St. Pius X - Brantford
Nina	Fullerton	St. Pius X - Brantford
Susannee	Jopko	St. Pius X - Brantford
Elsie	Hankinson	St. Pius X - Brantford
Hattie	Misiuda	St. Pius X - Brantford
Mary	Polgar	St. Pius X - Brantford

Kelly	Kennedy	Sacred Heart - Paris
Ambrosia	MacNeil	Sacred Heart - Paris
Stella	Munroe	Sacred Heart – Paris
Berta	Pflerger	Sacred Heart - Paris



HAMILTON (47)

FIRST	LAST	PARISH
Judith	Bailliee	Holy Rosary - Burlington
Patricia	Hayes	Holy Rosary - Burlington
Mary	Coyson	Holy Rosary - Burlington
Helen	Tonkovich	Holy Rosary - Burlingto
Cecillia	Advincula	St. Gabriel – Burlington
Stella	McAdam	St. Patrick – Burlington 6

Yvonne	Paul	St. Patrick - Burlington
Dolores	Barbison	St. Paul The Apostle
Linda	O'Connor	St. Paul The Apostle
Mary	Strecher	St. Paul The Apostle
Lucie	Jennings	St. Raphael - Burlington
Margaret	Scime	St. Augustine – Dundas
Katherine	Kane	St. Augustine – Dundas
Marie	Russell	St. Augustine – Dundas
Marie	MacDonald	Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Catherine	Bartlett	Holy Cross - Georgetown
Rita	Christensen	Holy Cross - Georgetown
Noreen	Miehm	Holy Cross - Georgetown
Georgette	Milliere	Holy Cross - Georgetown
Marilyn	Koehler	Most Blessed Sacrament
Ann	Settimi	Most Blessed Sacrament
Alice	Sullivan	Most Blessed Sacrament
Karen	Szala-Meneok	Canadian Martyrs
Sylvia	Kajiura	Cathedral Basilica Christ the King - Hamilton
Anna Mae	Zavidoni	Regina Mundi - Hamilton
Maria	Ciccanti	Regina Mundi - Hamilton
Dorothy	Pelletier	Regina Mundi - Hamilton
Frances	Cestnik	St. Gregory The Great - Hamilton
Maria	Graf	St. Luke – Hamilton

Velia	Del Conte	St. Luke – Hamilton
Eileen	Girolami	St. Luke – Hamilton
Marie	Villeneuve	St. Patrick - Hamilton
Teresa	Verticchio	Immaculate Heart of Mary - Winona
Eileen	Giangregorio	Immaculate Heart of Mary – Winona
Sterafina	Canci	Our Lady of The Assumption – Stoney Creek
Margaret	Hartley	Our Lady of the Assumption – Stoney Creek
Marie	MacDonald	Our Lady of The Assumption – Stoney Creek
Bertilla	ZanESCO	Our Lady of The Assumption – Stoney Creek
Josephine	Cannizzaro	St. Francis Xavier
Betty	MacLellan	St. Francis Xavier
Yvonne	Seward	St. Francis Xavier
Lena	Winniski	St. Thomas The Apostle - Waterdown
Barb	Pember	St. Thomas The Apostle - Waterdown
Gwen	Anscott	St. Thomas The Apostle - Waterdown
Barbara	Paulter	St. Thomas The Apostle - Waterdown
Marge	Pelzak	St. Andrew - Oakville
Ruth	Gruner	St. Domenic - Oakville

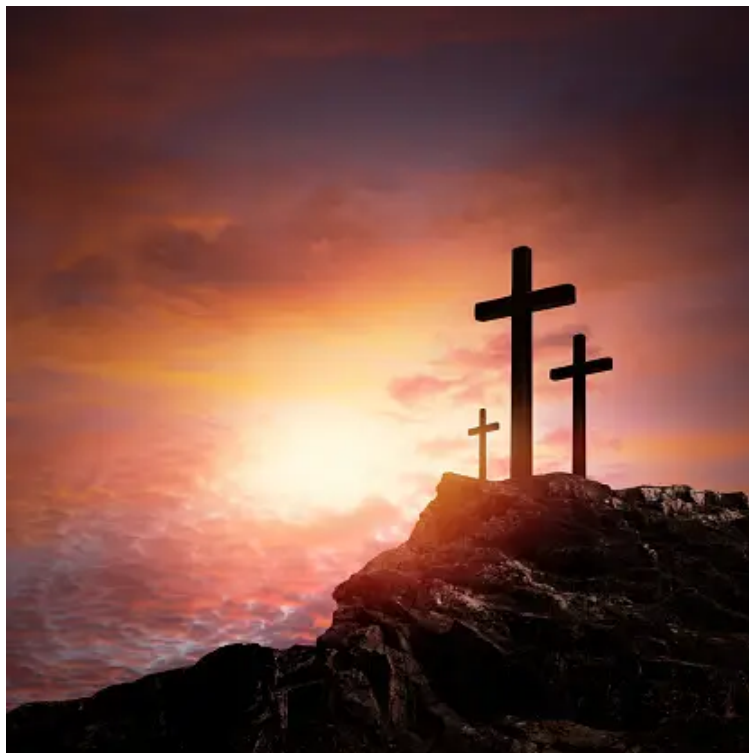


KITCHENER (47)

FIRST	LAST	PARISH
Annie	Tone	St. John The Evagelist
Kathy	Coppes	St. Clement - Cambridge
Rosemary	Astley	St. Patrick - Cambridge
Rosemarie	Huber	St. Patrick - Cambridge
Mary	Doyle	St. Joseph – Fergus
Mary	Kleingebbinck	St. Joseph – Fergus
Marie	MacDonald	St. Joseph – Fergus
Teresa	Smydo	St. Joseph – Fergus
Barbara	Webster	Holy Rosary – Guelph
Beverley	Calanchie	Holy Rosary - Guelph
Vera	Ferraro	Holy Rosary - Guelph
Thelma	Homberrger	Holy Rosary - Guelph
Irene	Milne	Holy Rosary - Guelph

Henrika	Reijnen	Holy Rosary - Guelph
Marlene	Schlumkoski	St. John the Baptist
Necitoa	Estorco	St. Joseph - Guelph
Mary	Finoro	St. Joseph - Guelph
Jacqueline	Dupuis	St. Joseph - Guelph
Nora	Deckert	Blessed Sacrament – Kitchener
Mary	Cormier	St. Anthony Daniel – Kitchener
Ursula	Pastway	St. Anthony Daniel – Kitchener
Erika	Kompter	St. Joseph – Kitchener
Josephine	Pucher	St. Joseph – Kitchener
Brigide	DeSousa	St. Mark - Kitchener
Helen	Bastlen	St. Teresa of Avila - Kitchener
Carole	Reitzel	St. Teresa of Avila - Kitchener
Mary	Krukowski	St. Teresa of Avila - Kitchener
Doris	Runstedler	St. Teresa of Avila - Kitchener
Theresa	Cassell	St. Teresa of Avila - Kitchener
Helen	Kurtz	St. Boniface - Maryhill
Mary Lou	Shortt	St. Boniface - Maryhill
Julia	Tillich	St. Boniface - Maryhill
Viktoria	Jeric	Holy Family – New Hamburg
Marian	Dietrich	Holy Family – New Hamburg
Marie	Rosario	Holy Family – New Hamburg
Judy	Patenall	Holy Family – New Hamburg

Margaret	Stockie	Holy Family – New Hamburg
Clara	Lehman	St. Agatha – St. Agatha
Linda	Kennedy	St. Agatha – St. Agatha
Vale	Buttinger	St. Agnes - Waterloo
Arlene	Orvis	St. Agnes - Waterloo
Ann	Sehl	St. Agnes - Waterloo
Joanne	Specncer	St. Agnes - Waterloo
Dorothy	Lowry	St. Louis - Waterloo
Audrey	Seifried	St. Louis - Waterloo
Dorothy	Prus	St. Louis - Waterloo
Dorothy	Battae	St. Louis - Waterloo



NORTH (24)

FIRST	LAST	PARISH
Dolores	Murray	Mary Immaculate - Chepstow
Loretta	Montag	Holy Family - Hanover
Lil	Ahrens	Holy Family - Hanover
Pat	Mercey	Holy Family - Hanover
Catherine	Grubb	Sacred Heart - Mildmay
Irene	Kieffer	Sacred Heart - Mildmay
Marjorie	Schmalz	Sacred Heart - Mildmay
Theresa	Voisin	Sacred Heart - Mildmay
Stella	Dantas	St. Mary of the Assumption – Owen Sound
Doris	Kazarian	St. Mary of the Assumption – Owen Sound
Eileen	McTeague	St. Mary of the Assumption – Owen Sound
Brenda	Lee	St. Mary of the Assumption – Owen Sound
Phyllis	Cooper	St. Mary of the Assumption – Owen Sound
Audrey	Kuntz	Sacred Heart - Walkerton



LIFE MEMBERS (1)

NAME	Term Served as Diocesan President
Jacqueline Anne Papke	1977 - 1979

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 2024 – April 2025).



Father Ranjan D'Sa OCD – Spiritual Advisor



Dear Members of the Catholic Women's League,

Grace and peace in Christ.

It is with gratitude and a sense of responsibility that I share this report as the Diocesan Spiritual Adviser to the Catholic Women's League for the Diocese of Hamilton. While my role may seem limited in scope, I am continually reminded of its spiritual importance—not only in representing the Diocese and our Bishop, but in supporting the League's mission to be a living extension of the Church's outreach and holiness.

The Spiritual Role of the CWL

The primary duty of a spiritual adviser—whether at the diocesan or parish level—is to help members grow in faith and to ensure that all activities of the League are aligned with the mind and mission of the Church. The Catholic Women's League is not a separate entity, but rather an active branch of the Church's mission, particularly in the areas of service, advocacy, and spiritual development.

Holiness is the goal of every Christian life, and the Church continues to call each member to “be holy as your heavenly Father is holy” (cf. Leviticus 19:2, Matthew 5:48). Every initiative within our parishes, including those led by the CWL, should be rooted in the pursuit of both personal and communal holiness.

Works of Mercy and Faith in Action

The League's activities are most powerful when they reflect the Church's call to the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. As reminded in the Gospel of Matthew (25:31–46), Christ will judge us by how we treated the least among us. Our works of charity are not merely acts of service, but true expressions of faith in action, making visible the love and mercy of God in the world.

Holiness Through Community

Holiness is a lifelong journey, and for many women, the CWL provides a communal and supportive environment to pursue this path. Through prayer, formation, and acts of service, members are empowered to grow in their relationship with Christ and live out their baptismal vocation in a concrete, tangible way.

Collaboration Within the Parish

As pastors and spiritual advisers, we recognize that the CWL is one of many active groups within a parish. For the League to remain effective and relevant in today's changing world, collaboration is essential. Over the past year, I have consistently encouraged greater networking and cooperation with other parish organizations and committees. A spirit of unity and shared mission strengthens not only the CWL but the entire faith community.

Conclusion

Our goal as members and supporters of the Catholic Women's League is not to seek recognition for ourselves, but to bring the saving love of Christ to others through service, compassion, and faithfulness to the Gospel. When we are rooted in prayer and in the life of the Church, the Catholic Women's League becomes a beacon of light and hope in our parishes and beyond.

I extend my heartfelt thanks to all members of the League for their continued dedication and witness. May the Holy Spirit continue to guide our efforts as we work together for the glory of God and the good of His people.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Ranjan D'Sa OCD
Diocesan Spiritual Adviser
Diocese of Hamilton



Teresa DiFalco – Diocesan President



Dear League Sisters,

I Sparkle God's Way by embracing every opportunity to serve with love and integrity, lead with faith, and uplift others with hope.

It is with deep gratitude and joy that I serve as your Diocesan President during this sacred Jubilee Year of Hope—a time that calls us not only to carry hope in our hearts but to live it out boldly and joyfully. Sparkling God's Way means serving with faith, leading with purpose, and walking in communion with others to reflect the light of Christ.

From the outset of my presidency, I shared a clear and courageous vision: to nurture a council grounded in faith, inclusion, integrity, and transparency—one that champions spiritual growth, servant leadership development, and succession planning. I thank my executive and each of you for embracing this vision and walking beside me.

At the start of this term, I facilitated a **strategic visioning session** and **onboarding session** for our diocesan executive. Together, we discerned a vision statement for the Hamilton Diocesan Council and committed to a **collaborative team model**—one that values every voice and operates in a spirit of mutual respect rather than hierarchy.

This year, I have remained committed to **accessible leadership**, offering one-on-one onboarding for every member stepping into a leadership role and remaining available as a mentor and support. I developed and shared **practical tools**, such as the *Parish Council Nominations & Elections Package* to support councils in governance, renewal, and continuity.

Throughout the year, I was honoured to be invited by parish councils to **present on various topics and lead retreats** across the diocese. These gatherings allowed us to reflect together on our call to servant leadership, our faith journeys, and our shared responsibility to live as joyful disciples. I also created and continue to offer **key presentations** on *League governance, executive responsibilities, and faith-rooted leadership*—equipping members to lead with confidence, clarity, and compassion.

With a passion to elevate women in faith-based leadership, I am also privileged to serve on the **Board of Directors for the Catholic Women's Leadership Foundation of Canada**. This national initiative aligns closely with my mission: to champion Catholic women as leaders in

their parishes, communities, and beyond, which led me to inviting my colleague and dear friend Dr. Linda Dudar as our keynote speaker for our 105th AGM/Convention.

Our diocesan work this year has been Spirit-led and action-driven. While we supported two council closures with grace, we celebrated the **reactivation of Incarnation of Our Blessed Lord CWL in Hamilton (after 25 years)** and **St. John the Evangelist in the North Region**—milestones that affirm the power of personal invitation, perseverance, and faith.

Formation was a central pillar of our programming. Our **Leadership Development Days, Mentoring Mondays**, and spiritual retreats provided ongoing, accessible training on League structures, officer roles, faith development, and more. These initiatives, infused with prayer and community, have been embraced across all regions.

Our efforts to deepen spiritual engagement included introducing **rotating monthly Provincial Masses** hosted in different councils—strengthening diocesan unity through shared Eucharist.

We also renewed connections with our clergy. Alongside our Diocesan Spiritual Advisor, Fr. Ranjan D’Sa, we extended personal jointly signed invitations to all parish spiritual advisors, resulting in significantly increased clergy presence at meetings and events.

Innovation and environmental stewardship guided our operational practices. We transitioned to **digital documents and evaluations**, reducing printing costs and our ecological footprint, while enhancing accessibility. We also expanded our fundraising efforts beyond convention, introducing the *Sparkle God’s Way* bracelets—symbols of both our mission and our unity.

I was proud to represent our diocese at national and provincial conventions and gatherings where the voice of Hamilton was heard and respected. Today, we are blessed to have a **full diocesan executive**, including all regional chairs and secretaries—positioning us to serve our 86 parish councils with strength, grace, and collaboration.

One of the most powerful outcomes of this year has been the gift of personal invitation. Sixty-five women are attending this convention for the first time, and 60 women from every region volunteered to serve on the convention team—a testament to the strength of our sisterhood and the joy of shared mission.

Dear sisters, Sparkle God’s Way is more than a theme—it is a call to live intentionally, lead boldly, and uplift others with joy. Thank you for the ways you shine God’s light through every act of faith and service.

Together, we are not only observing the Jubilee Year of Hope—we are living it.

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa DiFalco

diocesanpresident@cwlhamilton.ca

Hamilton Diocesan Council Vision Statement

The Hamilton Diocesan Council of The Catholic Women's League of Canada is a vibrant and welcoming community of Catholic women, rooted in faith and embracing all with compassion and openness. We are beacons of Christ's love, hope, and light, fostering mentorship, understanding, and growth among our members.

Through prayerful stewardship and collaboration, we cultivate a sisterhood of kindness, resilience, and service. United in faith, we uplift one another and inspire our communities through creativity, justice, and joy. With integrity, grace, and transformational leadership, we strive to **"Sparkle God's Way,"** celebrating our God-given gifts and living the Gospel through acts of love and service.



Laura Grint – Diocesan Vice-President and Organization Chair



Greetings Sisters,

I Sparkle God's Way by... joyfully serving and walking alongside you in faith, hope, and love.

It's hard to believe that we are already completing our first year as the new Diocesan Executive! Time has flown by, and it has been a year full of growth, connection, and purpose.

Since our last gathering, I have had the privilege of attending Diocesan Executive Meetings, strategic visioning sessions, and servant leadership workshops facilitated by our Diocesan President, Teresa DiFalco. I represented our Diocese as an Accredited Delegate at both the Provincial Convention in Sudbury and the National Convention in Saskatchewan—each experience enriching and inspiring.

This past fall, I attended the North, Kitchener, and Hamilton/Brant Regional Meetings, participated in Diocesan Executive planning sessions throughout the winter, and helped prepare for our Spring Regional Meetings. At each of these gatherings, I had the honour of joining President Teresa in presenting certificates to councils that achieved membership growth—what a joy to celebrate their dedication!

Over the past year, I assisted Diocesan President Teresa DiFalco with membership drives and councils facing challenges. Despite our faithful efforts, two councils sadly needed to disband. However, we were successful in preserving memberships by transferring members to sister councils. Our commitment to revitalizing and supporting our councils remains steadfast.

I have been privileged to Chair the Frances Lovering Award Committee and serve on the Diocesan Finance Committee. I also participated in numerous Mentoring Monday sessions and leadership development offerings led by President Teresa, including onboarding for presidents, executives, and regional teams, as well as workshops on governance and parish nominations & elections and more.

At the Diocesan President Teresa's request, I attended a virtual provincial ad hoc meeting, so that she could reactivate a parish council in the Hamilton Region—a testament to our shared mission to build and sustain councils in the Hamilton Diocese.

It is a blessing to serve as your Diocesan Vice-President and Organization Chair. As we continue our journey together, may we Sparkle God's Way—shining as beacons of hope and light wherever we are called. Let us continue our good works for God and for Canada, always grounded in faith and sisterhood.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Grint, *Diocesan Vice-President and Organization Chair*

vicepresident@cwlhamilton.ca



Joanne Palmer – Diocesan Secretary and Communications Chair



Dear League Sisters,

"I Sparkle God's Way by serving with faith and compassion, ensuring our words and records shine with clarity, unity, and hope."

Serving as Diocesan Secretary and Communications Chair has been an inspiring and rewarding experience. Under the servant-hearted leadership of Diocesan President Teresa DiFalco, I've had the privilege of working alongside a dynamic, inclusive, and supportive team devoted to empowering Catholic women in faith and service. Teresa's mentorship has made this year both enriching and transformative.

This term, I participated in several leadership development opportunities led by our Diocesan President, including a visionary planning session and a team personality assessment that helped us better understand one another's strengths and build stronger relationships.

Over the past year, I attended numerous Executive and Regional Meetings, Diocesan Convention planning sessions, and gatherings with Provincial Secretaries. These engagements encouraged meaningful discussion, sharing of best practices, and stronger inter-council collaboration.

My learning continued through virtual webinars and training from all League levels. Highlights include:

1. **Leadership and Visioning Sessions** led by Teresa DiFalco, which offered tools to guide our mission, better support our members, and introduce succession tools and opportunities.
2. **National CWL "Be in the Know" Webinar** on effective, coordinated communications across all League levels.
3. **National Day for Truth and Reconciliation Rosary Webinar** – a powerful opportunity to pray for healing and reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples.
4. **Provincial Secretary Zoom Gatherings** – fostering collaboration, shared wisdom, and mutual support among Ontario dioceses.

As Secretary, I've focused on responsible record-keeping, including preparing meeting agendas, taking minutes, maintaining a motions binder, and safeguarding council documentation.

As Communications Chair, I welcomed a new team member to help launch our upcoming Diocesan Newsletter. Under the direction of the Diocesan President, we prioritized digital communications to reduce environmental impact and improve accessibility. Communication efforts have been more coordinated this year, with consistent messaging across National, Provincial, and Diocesan levels—ensuring timely, clear updates for Parish Councils.

Goals for the year ahead include:

- Organizing and updating Diocesan Secretary records
- Developing the 2026 Elections Register
- Participating in a **Mentoring Monday** session on Secretary and Communications roles
- Maintaining ongoing communication with Parish and Diocesan Secretaries
- Strengthening collaboration and knowledge-sharing across Ontario

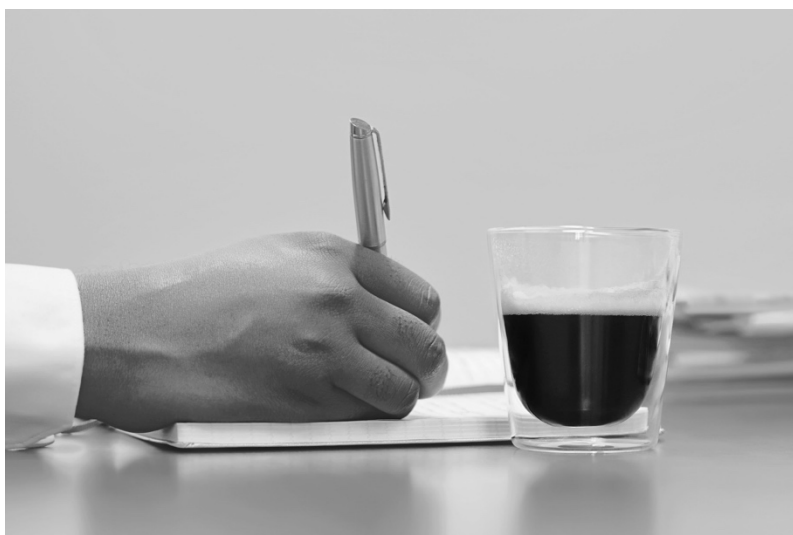
It is a true honour to serve in this capacity. I am grateful to journey alongside such remarkable women who continue to Sparkle God's Way with joy, grace, and purpose.

"When we lift each other up, we rise together—and in that rising, we shine ever brighter as beacons of God's light."

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Palmer

secretary1cwlhamilton@gmail.com



Mary Clark, Diocesan Treasurer



Dear Sisters in the League

"I Sparkle God's Way by being able to serve you as your treasurer for another two-year term. Thank you for your vote of confidence last May. I will continue to "Sparkle God's Way" for the upcoming year by being available to answer any of your council's financial questions or concerns either by email or phone.

Thank you to the 50 councils that submitted their 2024 Parish Council Annual Report Survey online. This represents 59% of councils reporting, an increase over 2023 of 15%. The summarized report received from National indicated National Voluntary Funds donated to all charities in 2024 totalled \$34,433.00. Breakdown of donations to all charities was National - \$14,801.00 and International - \$19,632.00. Significant and/or unusual donations reported by Parish Councils was \$162,775.00 given locally.

The 2024 financial statements will be presented at the 105th annual convention to be held on May 30, 31 & June 1, 2025 at the Holiday Inn, Burlington, Ontario.

Included with this report is the 2024 Parish Treasurers Annual Summary, which reflects the input from 51 parish councils. Your continued financial support towards Faith, Service and Social Justice to your parish and community and the National Voluntary Fund is indicated in the total donations reported of \$237,191.00.

During my remaining term of 2025 to May, 2026, I plan to compose a guideline of charitable donations under the three standing committees of Faith, Service and Social Justice. Once complete this will then be shared with all parish council treasurers as a guide in completing the annual treasurer report at both National and Diocesan level.

Thanks to your generous donations at the Hamilton Diocesan Convention 2024 Saturday morning Mass during the Eucharistic celebration, we were able to donate \$517.55 to St. Joseph's Villa Foundation.

Thank you to all councils and members who generously donated \$1,295.00 towards Bishop Douglas Crosby's 75th birthday gift. Bishop Crosby in turn donated this to the Diocese of Hamilton Ex Corde Foundation.

I will be presenting a cheque to Father Ranjan D'Sa at the convention's Sunday night banquet in the amount of \$3,249.35 representing Bishop's Charities \$2,953.50 and Our Lady of Good Counsel Seminary Bursary \$295.85.

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR GREAT WORK YOU DO FOR GOD AND CANADA!

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Clark

cwltreasurerhamilton@gmail.com



PARISH ANNUAL TREASURERS SUMMARY REPORT 2024

DIOCESE OF HAMILTON		2024	NATIONAL VOLUNTARY FUND				STANDING COMMITTEES, PARISH DONATIONS AND OTHER DONATIONS					
Region, Parish, City	Parish Code	Number of Members	Coady International Institute	Development & Peace Caritas Canada	Catholic Missions in Canada	Catholic Near East Welfare Association	Faith	Service	Social Justice	Parish Donations	Other Donations	Council Total
BRANT												
Blessed Sacrament, Burford	H-002	64					\$487.00	\$1,100.00		\$1,742.00	\$250.00	\$3,579.00
St. Mary, Brantford	H-023	60						\$100.00				\$100.00
Sacred Heart, Paris	H-032	89			\$300.00		\$300.00	\$600.00	\$300.00			\$1,500.00
St. Basil, Brantford	H-048	48										
St. Pius X, Brantford	H-091	113										
St. Joseph, Brantford	H-099	26						\$525.00		\$140.00		\$665.00
HAMILTON												
Most Blessed Sacrament, Hamilton	H-003	53										
Canadian Martyrs, Hamilton	H-004	33						\$600.00	\$500.00	\$1,400.00	\$75.00	\$2,575.00
Hamilton	H-005	63										
Holy Cross, Georgetown	H-008	102										
Holy Rosary, Burlington	H-012	134					\$200.00	\$5,153.00	\$650.00	\$10,514.00		\$16,517.00
Holy Rosary, Milton	H-014	54			\$100.00		\$200.00	\$125.00	\$275.00		\$2,100.00	\$2,800.00
Immaculate Heart of Mary, Winona	H-016	74		\$100.00	\$100.00	\$400.00	\$373.00		\$1,500.00	\$2,000.00		\$4,473.00
Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Freelon	H-021	33										
Our Lady of the Assumption, Stoney Creek	H-024	131		\$500.00	\$500.00		\$2,100.00	\$1,550.00	\$2,650.00	\$6,500.00	\$1,000.00	\$14,800.00
Regina Mundi, Hamilton	H-025	96					\$40.00	\$820.00	\$270.00	\$270.00		\$1,400.00
St. Paul the Apostle, Burlington	H-026	101			\$1,000.00		\$600.00	\$8,970.00				\$10,570.00
Sacred Heart, Hamilton	H-028											
St. Andrew, Oakville	H-039	111			\$1,000.00		\$700.00	\$1,000.00	\$3,400.00	\$1,050.00	\$1,000.00	\$8,150.00
St. Anthony of Padua, Hamilton	H-044	5										
St. Augustine, Dundas	H-047	82			\$100.00					\$500.00	\$1,100.00	\$1,700.00
St. Dominic, Oakville	H-053	83		\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00		\$550.00	\$2,182.00	\$2,780.00	\$50.00	\$300.00	\$7,862.00
St. Eugene, Hamilton	H-054	54										
St. Francis Xavier, Stoney Creek	H-057	116						\$1,312.00		\$300.00		\$1,612.00
St. Gabriel, Burlington	H-058	52										
St. James, Oakville	H-060	16										
St. John the Baptist, Burlington	H-065	27										
St. John the Baptist, Hamilton	H-066											
St. Lawrence, Hamilton	H-075	39									\$290.00	\$290.00
St. Margaret Mary, Hamilton	H-076	95										
St. Patrick, Hamilton	H-088	35					\$239.00	\$100.00	\$99.00			\$438.00
St. Patrick, Burlington	H-089	75										
St. Raphael, Burlington	H-092	61					\$300.00	\$300.00	\$400.00			\$1,000.00
St. Stanislaus Kostka, Hamilton	H-093	37										

PARISH ANNUAL TREASURERS SUMMARY REPORT 2024

St. Michael, Oakville	H-096	28										
St. Thomas the Apostle, Waterdown	H-097	66										
St. Gregory the Great, Hamilton	H-100	61					\$147.00	\$754.00		\$600.00		\$1,501.00
St. Luke, Hamilton	H-104	77			\$221.00		\$484.00	\$533.00	\$465.00	\$2,750.00	\$5,046.00	\$9,499.00
Mary Mother of God, Oakville	H-108	106						\$3,000.00		\$7,000.00		\$10,000.00
St. Matthew, Oakville	H-109	46										
St. Mary Pro Cathedral, Hamilton	H-110	14										
St. Benedict, Milton	H-111	41										
St. Catherine of Sienna	H-113	152					\$50.00	\$400.00	\$100.00			\$550.00
KITCHENER												
Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate, Guelph	H-006	96					\$1,600.00	\$2,036.00	\$3,253.00	\$9,500.00		\$16,389.00
Holy Family, New Hamburg	H-011	108										
Holy Rosary, Guelph	H-013	120										
Sacred Heart & St. Peter Mission, Rockwood & Oustic	H-018											
Our Lady of Lourdes, Waterloo	H-020	31										
St. Joseph, Patron of Canada, Acton	H-022	47		\$200.00				\$2,640.00		\$1,000.00		\$3,840.00
Sacred Heart, Guelph	H-027	27										
Sacred Heart, Kenilworth	H-029	32					\$100.00	\$2,415.00		\$121.00		\$2,636.00
St. Agatha, St. Agatha	H-035	69			\$200.00		\$300.00	\$2,069.00				\$2,569.00
St. Agnes, Waterloo	H-036	110	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
St. Aloysius, Kitchener	H-037	66		\$150.00	\$150.00	\$100.00	\$150.00	\$50.00		\$814.00	\$814.00	\$2,228.00
St. Mark, Kitchener	H-042	47		\$300.00			\$100.00	\$250.00		\$200.00	\$750.00	\$1,600.00
St. Boniface, Maryhill	H-049	91			\$385.00		\$884.00	\$1,448.00	\$1,217.00			\$3,934.00
St. Clement, Cambridge	H-051	100			\$290.00						\$475.00	\$765.00
St. Francis of Assisi, Kitchener	H-055	38										
St. John The Baptist, Guelph	H-062	49					\$317.00	\$546.00				\$863.00
St. John, Kitchener	H-063	38		\$582.00					\$264.00			\$846.00
Blessed Sacrament, Kitchener	H-064	80			\$150.00			\$600.00	\$2,700.00	\$200.00	\$300.00	\$3,950.00
St. John the Evangelist, Arthur	H-067	51										
St. Joseph, Fergus	H-069	63					\$500.00	\$4,275.00		\$3,500.00	\$650.00	\$8,925.00
St. Joseph, Guelph	H-070	155	\$200.00	\$100.00	\$100.00		\$1,829.00	\$11,695.00	\$3,319.00	\$4,250.00	\$890.00	\$22,383.00
St. Joseph, Kitchener	H-072	23										
St. Louis, Waterloo	H-077	107		\$2,022.00	\$2,023.00		\$2,727.00	\$875.00	\$125.00	\$200.00	\$848.00	\$8,820.00
St. Martin of Tours, Drayton	H-078	13										
St. Mary, Kitchener	H-080	35										
St. Mary Immaculate, Elora	H-083	79					\$90.00	\$386.00		\$701.00	\$500.00	\$1,677.00
St. Mary of the Visitation, Cambridge	H-085	72			\$200.00		\$770.00	\$615.00	\$740.00			\$2,325.00
St. Michael, Waterloo	H-086	95					\$150.00	\$450.00		\$200.00		\$800.00
St. Patrick, Cambridge	H-087	64					\$133.00	\$1,646.00			\$375.00	\$2,154.00
St. Teresa of Avila, Elmira	H-094	64										
St. Teresa of Avila, Kitchener	H-095	72	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

PARISH ANNUAL TREASURERS SUMMARY REPORT 2024

St. Anthony Daniel, Kitchener	H-105	111		\$400.00	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$1,150.00	\$3,366.00		\$1,100.00		\$6,816.00
NORTH												
Holy Family, Hanover	H-010	95		\$100.00	\$100.00		\$410.00	\$3,100.00	\$100.00	\$6,007.00	\$100.00	\$9,917.00
Immaculate Conception, Formosa	H-015	76			\$600.00		\$1,800.00	\$6,744.00	\$600.00	\$3,721.00		\$13,465.00
Mary Immaculate, Chepstow	H-017	49										
Sacred Heart, Mildmay	H-031	99			\$200.00		\$873.00				\$1,061.00	\$2,134.00
Sacred Heart, Teeswater	H-033	54										
Sacred Heart, Walkerton	H-034	133	\$50.00		\$100.00	\$100.00	\$987.00	\$818.00	\$200.00	\$1,040.00	\$2,480.00	\$5,775.00
St. Anthony of Padua, Kincardine	H-046	79	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$300.00	\$1,750.00		\$500.00	\$750.00	\$3,900.00
St. John, Glenelg	H-061	14										
St. Joseph, Cargill	H-068	67	\$100.00		\$100.00					\$899.00	\$4,600.00	\$5,699.00
Our Lady of the Rosary, Dundalk	H-073											
St. Mary of the Purification, Mount Forest	H-082	52										
St. Mary of the Assumption, Owen Sound	H-084	72										
St. Peter & St. Paul, Durham	H-101	31										
St. Thomas Aquinas, Wiarton	H-102	17				\$100.00		\$700.00		\$400.00		\$1,200.00
St. Ann, Chesley	H-103											
TOTAL MEMBERS		5744										
TOTAL DONATIONS			\$500.00	\$5,604.00	\$9,469.00	\$1,250.00	\$21,940.00	\$77,598.00	\$25,907.00	\$69,169.00	\$25,754.00	\$237,191.00

Joyce Cotter – Past-President/Historian



Dear League sisters,

"I Sparkle God's Way by having an open heart, inspiring members in their ministry and serving with joy."

Mentoring, supporting, offering encouragement and just plain showing up are some of the most important qualities of a Past President Historian. It is the knowledge, experience and giving sage advice that can offer comfort, dispel nerves and build confidence to the Elected Officers and the Council members.

Over the past year, parish council Past Presidents kept members informed of the workings from the national and provincial levels. Another supported the Hamilton Diocese "Resolutions" at the diocesan and provincial conventions. One Past President organized a pilgrimage to the Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate, Guelph. While another reactivated past practices such as civic committee meetings, fellowship events, and Out4Lunch program.

One Past President gifted new members with a prayer intentions book and pen as part of the Welcome Kit. Another Past President organized a YouTube video to showcase member's actions over the years with current and historical photos and used it as a membership recruitment tool. A Council created a display of CWL info, mission and League activities at the entrance of the parish. While others participated in recruiting new members and outreach to senior members in their parish.

A responsibility of the Past President Historian is to be the keeper of the history and archives for the Council. Many Councils culled, scanned, completed history and shared archives with the membership. One Council introduced League activities & articles on a local newspaper blog. Many Councils took photos of special events, general meetings, workshops, food and clothing drives, milestone birthdays, installation ceremonies, membership pin presentations, fundraisers, community projects, and student awards to name a few.

Four Councils celebrated their 100th Anniversary of the League and two Councils celebrated 70 years in the League. Historical displays, memorabilia of photos/newspaper articles, special Masses, luncheon/banquet, Family Tea, honouring past presidents, presentation of plaque, video presentation highlighting history of council, group photo of members on church steps,

memories from past presidents were organized for the celebrations. Councils invited the Bishop of Hamilton, National, Provincial and Diocesan Presidents, Diocesan Executive members and Life Members to attend the special celebrations. One Council presented Bishop Douglas Crosby OMI with a letter written by Saint Teresa of Calcutta for the Diocese of Hamilton, Bishop Farrell Library and Archives.

Councils involved the youth in the “Go Make a Difference” Community Project by welcoming students to serve and volunteer at their Anniversary celebrations as well as preparing a luncheon for parishioners. One Council involved a high school class to make and engrave a plaque honouring the 100th Anniversary of the League. Another council gave a presentation to grade 6 class about the history, purpose and activities of CWL and their importance to the parish and community; letters and an invitation to join were sent home to the Moms to encourage further conversation with their child; posters were made by the students to celebrate the council’s 100th Anniversary of the League.

Councils recognized the importance of their Spiritual Advisors with a special luncheon, a photo memory book, and spiritual bouquets. A special spiritual bouquet for Bishop Douglas Crosby, OMI 75th birthday was planned and members were able to sign a birthday card at the 104th Annual Diocesan Convention.

Some future goals for the next year are: labeling/organizing archival material for the Hamilton CWL archives, updating photo albums, creating a checklist for Parish Councils. Encouraging Councils to display their archives yearly to allow non-members to witness the accomplishments of the League.

Another goal is to organize the 2026 Diocesan Elections by preparing nominations and elections packages. Hamilton Diocesan Council has many talented and gifted members who are called to serve the members of our League and in so doing, reaching out to our sisters beyond our own borders. I hope to encourage Councils/members to be visible as leaders in the parish community and in their ministry for God and Canada.

As Sisters of the League, we foster a sense of belonging to a community of women, who inspire each other to lead spirit-filled lives as we joyfully affirm that God’s presence blesses every aspect of our ordinary life. The incredible work, and dedication of the members from the Hamilton Diocesan Council shows their commitment to this promise. May Our Lady of Good Counsel guide us to her Son and may we discover everlasting joy in finding Him.

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.” Roman 15:13

Respectfully submitted,
Joyce Cotter
pastpreshamiltoncwl@gmail.com

Kathy Imperatore, Legislation Chair



Dear League sisters,

I Sparkle God's Way... by embracing the sacred responsibility of helping our members grow closer to Christ through prayer, reflection, and faith-filled opportunities.

It is a humbling privilege to serve as your Hamilton Diocesan Faith Chair. I hold this role close to my heart, knowing that the spiritual well-being of our members is at the centre of all we do. The Faith Chair plays a vital role on the Diocesan Executive—nurturing the spiritual life of our council executive regional teams and our members, encouraging deeper relationships with God, and helping our members feel supported on their personal and collective journeys of faith.

Throughout this past year, I have had the honour of attending several Diocesan Executive Meetings and leadership development sessions thoughtfully facilitated by our Diocesan President, Teresa DiFalco. These gatherings have deepened my understanding of servant leadership and strengthened my commitment to fostering a faith-filled, welcoming environment for all members.

I am invited to participate in monthly virtual provincial Faith Chair meetings, where ideas are shared, we discuss spiritual growth opportunities, and unity across the province. I am deeply grateful for the visionary initiative Diocesan President Teresa introduced for the year-long series of monthly Masses offered for the members of our diocese by Provincial. In keeping with our diocesan mission of promoting inclusivity, unity, connection, and sisterhood, these Masses have been divided to take place in equally in the four regions. This connection of sisterhood—offering all members, no matter where they reside, the opportunity to gather in worship and experience the beauty of our Catholic faith together.

I also had the joy of attending the Fall 2024 and Spring 2025 Regional Meetings across our diocese. Each meeting provided meaningful time for prayer, connection, and dialogue, and reminded me of the great gift we have in the League sisterhood. Additionally, I had the privilege of attending both the 2024 Provincial and National Conventions, where I was inspired by the shared faith, vision, and energy of Catholic women from across Canada.

In the stillness of prayer and the power of silence, we hear the gentle whisper of God's voice. As Faith Chair, I am reminded daily of the importance of creating space in our lives and our

councils to simply be with the Lord. Whether through guided reflections, liturgies, or moments of silence, we are called to listen—to allow God’s voice to guide our hearts, renew our spirits, and strengthen our mission.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve in this meaningful ministry. May we continue to Sparkle God’s Way, and may our faith shine brightly as a beacon of hope and light to everyone we meet.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathryn Imperatore, *Hamilton Diocesan Faith Chair*
faith1cwlhamilton@gmail.com



Maricris Limson, Service Chair



Dear League sisters,

"I sparkle God's way by answering His call to serve with grace, compassion, and love."

This past year has been a truly humbling and grace-filled journey as I served in the role of Service Chair for the Hamilton Diocesan Council of The Catholic Women's League of Canada. I have had the privilege of attending numerous diocesan meetings, where I've been deeply inspired by the leadership, guidance and kindness of our Diocesan President Teresa DiFalco, and the commitment of our members to living out the League's mission in every corner of our diocese. Through prayerful collaboration, mutual encouragement, and joyful service, we continue to walk together in faith, bringing hope to our communities.

In my own life, I have the blessing of working as an emergency nurse at a local Hospital, and on special assignments as a healthcare provider serving an Indigenous community in the remote northern areas of Ontario. This experience has profoundly shaped my understanding of service. I witness daily the resilience and strength of individuals and families who face unique and challenging circumstances. It is in these quiet, often overlooked places that I have truly come to see the face of Christ in those I serve. This work continues to strengthen my conviction that service is not just an action—it is a posture of the heart. It is the call to see with eyes of compassion, to listen with empathy, and to love without hesitation.

This personal journey has influenced my service at the diocesan level, reminding me of the need for meaningful outreach that speaks directly to the needs of our communities. One initiative I am currently working on is a diocesan-wide service project focused on feeding the hungry. I am exploring opportunities to bring our diocesan team together in a hands-on act of service—preparing and distributing meals to those experiencing homelessness and food insecurity. In doing so, we hope to live out the Gospel call to love our neighbour and to serve Christ in those most in need.

We are also looking ahead to embrace more service opportunities throughout the Hamilton Diocese—not only within our own parishes and cities, but also by reaching out to communities beyond our borders. The world is aching for kindness, dignity, and connection, and the Catholic Women's League has an important role to play as a beacon of light, hope, and healing.

One of the highlights of this year was the Easter Chocolate Drive I led on behalf of the Hamilton Diocesan Council in response to a heartfelt request from the DeMazenod Door Outreach. With the support of our Diocesan President Teresa DiFalco, diocesan team, Regional Teams, and parish councils throughout the diocese, we coordinated the collection of Easter chocolate donations during our Spring Regional meetings. The response was overwhelming. It brought such joy to deliver a full car load of chocolates—each one a small act of love, reminding the recipients that they are seen, valued, and not forgotten. We are so grateful for the generosity of our sisters in the League and for the opportunity to share God’s sweetness with those who might otherwise go without.

It is truly humbling to serve God’s people, especially those most in need. As women of faith, we are called not only to pray and speak of love, but to *be* love in action. To visit the sick, feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and offer comfort and dignity to the marginalized. This is what it means to Sparkle God’s way—as beacons of hope and light in a world that so desperately needs it.

As we continue this Jubilee Year of Hope, may we all be encouraged by the words of Scripture:
“...whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.” –
Matthew 25:40

Let us go forward in hope, embracing each opportunity to serve with open hands and open hearts. For in serving others, we bring them the love of Christ—and that is the greatest gift of all.

Respectfully submitted,
Maricris Limson, Diocesan Service Chair
service1cwlhamilton@gmail.com



Julia Calverley, Social Justice Chair and former Kitchener Regional Chair



I Sparkle God's Way as the Social Justice Chair by advocating with compassion, raising awareness, and inspiring faithful action for justice and dignity for all.

Over the past year, I have had the unique privilege of serving our members in two important capacities: as Kitchener Regional Chair and, more recently, as Diocesan Social Justice Chair. Each role allowed me to walk alongside our CWL sisters, supporting, guiding, and listening—all while keeping service, sisterhood, and social justice at the heart of our work.

Kitchener Regional Chair

Following the 2024 Diocesan Convention, I was honoured to accept the role of Kitchener Regional Chair at the invitation of Diocesan President Teresa DiFalco. With gratitude and joy, I reconnected with many members who remembered me from my time as Diocesan Treasurer prior to my illness. My first action was to send warm welcome letters from both President Teresa and myself to all parish councils in the region.

We successfully hosted our Fall Regional Meeting at St. Joseph Parish in Guelph—a meaningful and joy-filled gathering that balanced information sharing with fellowship. I later shared meeting minutes and followed up with parishes, reinforcing the open communication channel that is so vital to our League.

Throughout my term, I had the privilege of attending various parish events, including a breast cancer fundraiser at St. Mary's Pro-Cathedral in Hamilton, and a beautiful Civic Meeting of Spirituality at St. Joseph's in Guelph. I also accompanied President Teresa and Vice President Laura Grint to support councils in transition, including visits to St. Agnes in Waterloo and St. Patrick's in Cambridge, where we discussed leadership and League structure.

While much of my work focused on growth and support, there were also difficult moments. I was present for discussions regarding the disbanding of councils at Sacred Heart in Guelph and St. Mary's in Kitchener. These visits were emotional reminders of the challenges some of our councils face.

Despite a Canadian postal disruption in December, the strength and resilience of our members shone through. Thank you to all who helped ensure administrative fees were collected, whether by acting as drop-off depots or delivering them in person.

Our 2025 Spring Regional Meeting was held at St. Mark's Parish in Kitchener, in collaboration with St. John's CWL Council. Even while recovering from a broken wrist, I was heartened to see the two councils work together seamlessly and we were able to offer our members a spirited, engaging, and informative event—complete with a fun round of *Family Feud*!

As Regional Chair, I served as a bridge—bringing information from the national, provincial, and diocesan levels to our parish councils, and elevating parish voices and concerns to the diocesan table. With great confidence and joy, I passed the torch to Bernadette Best when she accepted the appointment by Diocesan President Teresa. Bernadette is a dedicated servant leader who will continue to nurture the councils of the Kitchener Region with compassion and strength.

Social Justice Chair

In the latter part of this term, I was honoured to be appointed Hamilton Diocesan Social Justice Chair by President Teresa. In preparation, I had already begun attending provincial-level social justice meetings at her request to ensure our Council remained informed, engaged, and represented.

Social justice is central to our Catholic identity and a core pillar of the League. As Chair, I am committed to equipping our members to embrace advocacy through education, action, and resolution development. Our Diocesan Council has a rich history of bringing forward resolutions that reflect the concerns and values of our members. With the collaboration of parish-level social justice chairs, I hope to build upon this legacy—encouraging new resolutions that speak to the signs of the times and uphold Gospel values.

I am eager to connect with parish councils to learn what issues they are passionate about, where they need guidance, and how we can work together to be effective voices for change. From food security, homelessness, affordable housing, euthanasia, human trafficking, women's health, to Indigenous reconciliation and environmental stewardship, there is no shortage of work to be done. Every voice matters, and every small action can create a ripple of hope and justice.

In closing, I thank all my CWL sisters for your trust, resilience, and commitment to living out our League's mission. May we continue to Sparkle God's Way—standing up, speaking out, and lifting others in love and faith.

Respectfully submitted,
Julia Calverley
socialjustice2cwlhamilton@gmail.com

Colleen Ionson, Hamilton Regional Chair



Dear Sisters in the League,

I Sparkle God's way by serving with a joyful heart, guided by faith and committed to building strong connections among our parish councils. It continues to be my honour to serve as your Hamilton Diocesan Regional Chair and a member of this incredible diocesan team under the inspiring leadership of our Diocesan President, Teresa DiFalco.

This past year has been very busy and fruitful. I was blessed to represent the Hamilton Region Councils at several diocesan executive meetings. I also attended several leadership development sessions, strategic visioning, and onboarding initiatives—all led with grace and clarity by President Teresa DiFalco. These gatherings have not only deepened my understanding of League work but also reaffirmed our shared purpose in service to God and one another.

One of the great joys of the year was co-chairing two very successful and well-attended Regional Meetings alongside Brant Regional Chair Debra Noronha. In alignment with our diocesan president's beautiful vision of inclusivity, we again encouraged the collaboration of co-councils to host our regional gatherings. These partnerships created vibrant and welcoming events, and our host councils excelled in planning and hospitality.

Both regional meetings offered enriching spiritual and leadership workshops, skillfully prepared and facilitated by Teresa DiFalco, that fully engaged both the diocesan team and all attendees. I also had the pleasure of supporting our Kitchener Regional Chair, Julia Calverley, at her regional meeting, stepping in to assist while she healed from a challenging injury.

Throughout the year, I have been committed to helping parish councils navigate League policies, procedures, and bylaws—calling on the diocesan president when needed. This year has certainly been a time of growth and transition as we continue to embrace the new League structure and our foundational pillars of **Faith, Service, and Social Justice**. We've also adapted to evolving communication strategies across all League levels, ensuring clarity and unity in our efforts.

As your liaison, I have monitored CWL emails daily and responded in a timely and thoughtful manner, ensuring that parish councils in the Hamilton Region felt supported and connected. I also stayed current with League initiatives by regularly reviewing CWL websites and updates.

This year, I served on the **Frances Lovering Award Selection Committee** and participated as a proof-reader on the **Annual Convention Report Book Committee**. It has been an honour to contribute to these important initiatives that recognize and reflect the incredible work being done across our diocese.

In addition, I attended several parish membership drives, special events, Zoom sessions for the *Reels of Justice* film series, and **World Day of Prayer** services at Our Lady of the Assumption and St. Andrew's Parishes. A highlight was attending the **Installation Mass** in April for the executive of our newly reinstated council at **The Incarnation of Our Blessed Lord Parish in Stoney Creek**. I was also blessed to attend a self-directed **Lenten Retreat** for my own spiritual nourishment.

My goal continues to be to represent and support each of you to the best of my ability. I am inspired by your faithfulness, resilience, and dedication. May we each embody God's hope, and may our actions reflect the love and light of Christ. Let us serve with joy, lead with compassion, and never forget the strength we find in our CWL sisterhood.

"Let us walk together in the way of righteousness, along the paths of peace and harmony. Blessed are those who keep God's ways."

Let us pray:

Our Lady of Good Counsel, we ask for your intercession for a world in desperate need of your guidance, and for counsel in our lives. Amen.

Respectfully submitted,
Colleen Ionson, Hamilton Regional Chair
hamiltonchair1cwlhamilton@gmail.com

Mary D'Orazio, Hamilton Regional Secretary



Debra Noronha, Brant Regional Chair



Dear Sisters in the League,

I Sparkle God's way by being challenged to new ideas , developing new ways to communicate, demonstrate the 3 Pillars, and watch our CWL councils thrive and GROW!

"HOW GREATLY TO BE DESIRED are all his works, and how sparkling they are to see!". This quote emphasizes the radiant beauty and wonder of God's creations and can be interpreted as a reflection of the "sparkling" nature of God's way. - *Saint John Paul II*

Where has the time gone!

As I review and reflect on the events, and activities our CWL councils have embarked on since May of 2024 till present, it makes me pause and be so grateful to work with a wonderful executive team.

It' been a hectic year with many new ideas lots of interaction, reflection, fellowship and fraternity.

Dare I say it's been a brilliant, and shining example of how we can lift each other up to Sparkle and Shine, as we showcase each other's talents, and challenge each other every day to be our best.

So, what has been accomplished?

I have attended the Leadership and mentorship training offered by Diocesan President Teresa DiFalco, bringing along new council members to onboard them and introduce them to their roles and endless possibilities for growth in their respective councils. This has been especially useful for parish presidents, who have found this refresher illuminating and very informative.

There have been numerous communiques regarding topics for the 3 Pillars. Parish Presidents have been kept well informed, that the flow of information to the parish level has been respectfully timed, organized, transparent and concise.

The Fall and Spring regional meetings were very well organized and attended, and most remarkable was the ability of 2-3 councils to work together (in proximity) to provide seamless meetings for all to attend, learn, and feel very welcomed. The co-Council presidents were wonderful to work with and division of labor made their task effortless. Diocesan President Teresa DiFalco's direction to structure the same agenda for each regional meeting and supporting multiple parish councils to host these meetings has proven to grow and strengthen these regional meetings.

The new year brought the "Pilgrims of Hope".

Our Ontario Provincial Council, provided special Masses, which Diocesan President Teresa DiFalco asked the Regional Teams to support and assist her in her idea to distribute the Masses evenly across Diocese so that all members have an opportunity to take part in them. This coupled with the Holy Door churches, provided opportunity for engagement and participation across the diocese of visiting and attending special CWL Masses. I have had the pleasure to meet many CWL members and their presidents, at these Masses, as they arrive decked out in CWL League blue with sashes scarves, and pins. To the general parishioners attending Mass it was most impressive to see rows of our members. This allowed for us to work on the goals of – Engaging more fully with councils, and providing ways to grow in our Faith and prayer life especially as we endeavor to be "Pilgrims of Hope" in this year of the Jubilee 2025.

With our Diocesan presidents leadership, we have been challenged to "think out of the box", always being respectful of others, and supportive in resolving the ongoing trials and issues councils face today.

I have had the pleasure of working with some councils undergoing some challenges, who were open to our visits and coaching to achieve good results.

As I have indicated in the past, I am uniquely positioned to be your voice for the Brant Region. I have attended many diocesan executive meetings over this past year, proudly representing the councils that I have been appointed and entrusted to represent around the Diocesan Executive table. My goal is to continue serving the Brant Regional CWL Parish Councils with grace and integrity. Please contact me if I can ever be of assistance. I can be reached at my diocesan email at **brantchair1cwlhamilton@gmail.com**

I look forward to seeing everyone at the 105th Hamilton Diocesan convention being held in Burlington, Ontario. Lots of planning and work has gone on in preparing a Sparkling agenda, with time to reflect, and rejoice as sisters in the CWL.

I do hope you take this opportunity to come for the entire weekend. Much has been done to make the event reasonable in cost for many to attend.

In addition, I do hope to attend the National convention in Toronto in Aug, 2025.

As we embark on a glorious summer break, let us all.

“Sparkle God’s Way and be a Beacon of Light to all we meet”

Respectfully submitted,
Debra Noronha - Brant Regional Chair
brantchair1cwlhamilton@gmail.com

Meagan Kadirgamar, Brant Regional Secretary



Bernadette Best, Kitchener Regional Chair



Dear Sisters in the League,

“I Sparkle God’s Way...” by saying yes to the call to serve.

I am deeply grateful and honoured to have been appointed as the Kitchener Regional Chair by our Diocesan President, Teresa DiFalco. Her confidence in me and her unwavering commitment to developing servant leaders is both inspiring and humbling. Having previously served as the Kitchener Regional Secretary, the transition into this new role has been a comfortable yet exciting one—filled with hope, purpose, and joyful anticipation for what lies ahead.

It is a true blessing to serve the Kitchener Region and the many vibrant parish councils within it. I look forward to building strong relationships with each council and supporting their efforts to live out our League’s mission with faith, service, and sisterhood.

Together with our newly appointed Kitchener Regional Secretary, Susan Narducci, I am committed to serving as a faithful and responsive liaison between the councils of our region and the diocesan executive. We are excited to contribute to the shared vision set forth by Teresa—one that champions servant leadership development, inclusivity, transparency, and the creation of opportunities for our members to grow, learn, and lead.

Above all, we are focused on fostering a warm, welcoming, and encouraging environment where every member feels valued, heard, and uplifted.

As we move forward in faith, I ask for your prayers and support, and I offer mine in return. May we continue to Sparkle God’s Way together—shining brightly as beacons of hope and light in our councils, communities, and beyond.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bernadette Best, Kitchener Regional Chair
kitchenerchair2@gmail.com

Susan Narducci , Kitchener Regional Secretary



Nancy Skiba, North Regional Chair



Dear League sisters,

As North Regional Chair I “Sparkle God’s Way” by being an active member of the Catholic Women’s League both at the parish level – Sacred Heart Parish Walkerton and at the diocesan level.

It is a pleasure to meet so many ladies who are committed to the Catholic Women’s League. It is wonderful to have the support that is needed as North Regional Chair. I believe that we all “Sparkle God’s Way” together in our work for God and Canada.

I attended the CWL Diocesan Convention in Kitchener in May 2024. The convention was very informative, inspiring and also a social gathering of members from all parts of the Hamilton Diocese. It was at this convention that I was asked by the new Diocesan President Teresa DiFalco if I would continue serving as North Regional Chair, and I graciously accepted. The fall northern regional meeting was held on September 14th, 2024 at St. Mary of the Assumption in Owen Sound. That day was successful with 9 councils present, 8 diocesan executives (including Father D’Sa), 1 regional chair, 1 regional secretary and 18 members. The spring regional meeting was held at Holy Family Parish in Hanover on March 29th, 2025. Attendance consisted of 53 in total, 32 members, 13 presidents and 8 executives. This attendance was amazing. Again, it was a very successful day.

I would like to thank both St. Mary of the Assumption and Holy Family for hosting the regional meetings.

Since the last convention I have attended many diocesan meetings – a few in person and more by zoom. When attending in person, I visited some of the churches in the Hamilton diocese. At St. Andrew’s, Oakville the meeting was an in-person meeting. Diocesan President Teresa DiFalco led a workshop on Leadership and Visioning – looking ahead and working together in the CWL. I also participated in onboarding and mentoring sessions led by Diocesan President Teresa DiFalco. Many of the meetings dealt with preparing for the regional meetings and discussing plans and activities for all the regions. In these meetings we also talked and practiced “Sister Squabble” which was a lot of fun. The final meetings have been in preparation for this year’s convention.

We had a positive response from the northern councils on the Masses that were requested by the Ontario Provincial Council. The Masses are for the intentions of all the CWL members in the Hamilton Diocese. The north was successful at booking the Masses for June, July, and August. June 7th – Holy Family, Hanover; July 5th – St. Mary of the Assumption, Owen Sound; and August 2nd – Immaculate Conception, Formosa and St. Mary of the Purification, Mount Forest. My goal is to continue to act as liaison between the northern councils and the diocesan executive. I will continue to be helpful in answering questions that presidents have and if I can't I will pass the question to the diocesan executive. I do enjoy working with the presidents in the north and I thank the presidents and their councils for all the work that they do. We must continue to "Sparkle God's Way" in our work with the Catholic Women's League.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Skiba - North Regional Chair
northchair1cwlhamilton@gmail.com

Sherie Bowen, North Regional Secretary



**2024 DIOCESAN TEAM CHRISTMAS DINNER AT
DIOCESAN PRESIDENT TERESA DIFALCO'S HOUSE**



LIFE MEMBER LIAISON'S ANNUAL REPORT

(MAY 2024 – APRIL 2025)

Joan Schurter – Hamilton Diocesan Life Member Liaison



“In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in Heaven.”

Matthew 5:16

Hamilton Diocesan Life Members Sparkle God’s way by sharing their history, and lived experiences in serving the League at various levels. They are a resource to be tapped for help and guidance; we are here to serve all.

Life Members have been inspired by Jesus who is the Light of the World. They bring light and hope into all our Catholic Women’s League relationships and their endeavors exemplify their love of the League. They light a candle in the darkness and glow like the embers for Christ in the storm of life and the Catholic Women’s League ministry.

In Hamilton Diocese, we have eight Life Members including our National President, Shari Guinta. Sadly, in November 2024, we mourned the passing of our Life Member sister, Jacqueline Papke. We all strive to stay involved and informed of the happenings in Hamilton Diocese and throughout the League with exchanges from Provincial/National liaisons.

Here are a few of the League activities where the Life Members were involved:

- Worked with a parish council for seven months preparing three resolutions which all passed and defended them at the provincial convention in Sudbury
- President of parish councils (2)
- Committee member of Recruit Parish Leaders working group for National
- Co-chaired Diocesan convention (2)
- Perused the National and Provincial Website for updated information
- Submitted a short note and picture to National “Spotlight” re: Christmas gathering of Life Members
- Working with Past Diocesan President on projects

- Spoke with several councils giving advice/suggestions regarding various subjects either by phone or email
- Visited members and helped with Mass in Long Term Care Homes
- Enjoyed summer BBQ and Christmas gathering with Life Members
- Served as parish council historian and prepared elections for their council
- Participated in Provincial and National webinars
- Attended Diocesan, Provincial (4) and National (2) Conventions

Our faith-filled Life Members were actively involved in their parishes:

- Lector and Eucharistic Minister
- Volunteer with St. Vincent De Paul Society
- Decorating committee, funeral luncheons
- Usher and assist with Hospitality at weekend Eucharist
- Co-chair Prayer Shawl ministry
- Participates in recycling group each week at church
- Planned and read at World Day of Prayer
- Attended Catholic Missions in Canada Mass
- Collection counter for Sunday offerings
- Co-chair of Hamilton Diocesan Screening Committee
- Helped with income tax receipts and envelopes

The goals of the Life Members are to be an important resource to many, while staying active in their own parishes. We are ready to offer support and a listening ear. We can do speaking engagements at Mass to generate interest in new members. We are always looking for ways to continue our personal spiritual growth in the sisterhood of the League, while sharing our experiences with other members. We are teachers, counselors, sponsors, advocates and allies. Life Members are mentors within and throughout the League.

Strive as we do to leave a little God sparkle everywhere you go!

Joan Schurter
Hamilton Diocesan Life Member Liaison
lifememberliaison1cwlhamilton@gmail.com

Prayer for Hope and Renewal

For the 105th Hamilton Diocesan CWL AGM/Convention

(Written by: Teresa DiFalco, Diocesan President)

Heavenly Father,
We gather before You with hearts full of gratitude and hope as Catholic women united in faith, love, and service. Thank You for the blessing of the Catholic Women's League and for calling us to this sacred time together at the 105th Hamilton Diocesan AGM and Convention.

Lord, may this be a time of holy renewal—
A time to rekindle our purpose,
A time to deepen our bonds of sisterhood,
A time to listen, learn, and lead with courage and compassion.

In this Jubilee Year of Hope, we pray for Your Spirit to guide our deliberations and decisions. May everything, we do reflect the light of Christ and the joy of Your Gospel. May we Sparkle Your Way as beacons of hope and light to everyone we meet.

Bless our members and our spiritual advisors, speakers, and every member gathered here. Strengthen us to continue our mission of faith, service, and social justice with hearts open to Your will.

Mary, Mother of Hope, intercede for us and cover us in your mantle of love. May we always walk together as women of faith—servant leaders in the Church and in the world.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.



PARISH PRESIDENTS' ANNUAL REPORTS

(MAY 2024 – APRIL 2025)



BRANT

BRANTFORD
BURFORD
PARIS





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



Sparkle God's Way!

Be A Beacon of HOPE and LIGHT to Everyone You Meet

Parish Council: St. Basil - Brantford
Prepared by: Julie Gibson, President
Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Kevin D'Sousa
Number of Members: 55

This past year has been a meaningful and active one for the Catholic Women's League at St. Basil Parish in Brantford. I am pleased to present this annual report, highlighting the dedication, compassion, and faith-filled service of our members.

In May 2024, our council was represented at the Hamilton Diocesan Convention by Vice President LeeAnne Vreugdenhil and Secretary Lorraine Good, who attended on my behalf. Their comprehensive report was shared with our membership during the July 2, 2024, general meeting.

Over the summer, we welcomed Sheila Robertson into the role of Treasurer, following the passing of our dear sister in the League, Christine Telfer. Sheila has embraced this important role with care and commitment.

Through our ongoing support of Catholic education, we were pleased to provide bursaries to Assumption College School and each of our three parish elementary schools. We also donated funds to Camp Brébeuf and Camp Marydale, enabling one child at each camp to enjoy a week of day camp—a gift of summer joy and faith formation.

I had the privilege of attending the Ontario Provincial Convention in July, held in Sudbury. It was an inspiring and enriching experience, filled with presentations, voting sessions, and powerful witness. Bishop Thomas Dowd's presence and words were especially moving and affirming of the League's mission.

In September, I participated in the Hamilton/Brantford Regional meeting, which fostered connection and shared direction for our regional councils. Diocesan President Teresa DiFalco provided servant Leadership training and development, which was most insightful and inspiring. I have learned so much under her kind and professional leadership.

On October 20, 2023, our members joyfully packed and shipped over 100 shoeboxes to *Food for Children*, destined for children in Peru. We also sent 17 handmade sleeping mats—acts of charity that reflect our mission to serve with love.

In January 2025, I attended a general meeting hosted by the CWL at St. Pius X. Among our discussions were the upcoming joint Masses planned for April 5 and May 3, as well as a shared vision for a CWL pilgrimage to various parishes within our Diocese that have been designated Holy

Door sites during the Jubilee Year of Hope. This pilgrimage has now been confirmed for June 7, 2025.

Here at St. Basil's, our January "Coffee and Chatter" gathering after the 9:30 AM Mass featured a silent auction. The event was a great success, raising funds to help offset convention costs, support school bursaries, and contribute to camp sponsorships.

Later in the year, I was delighted to start a Craft Club, which has grown to include six dedicated members. Together, we knit and crochet hats, scarves, and mittens. Some items were sold to raise funds for the CWL, while others were donated—two large bags to local individuals experiencing homelessness and two totes to the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

Looking ahead, our council is preparing to host a First Communion Luncheon on May 25, 2025. We are honoured that our Hamilton Diocesan President, Teresa DiFalco, will be our special guest speaker, presenting on the CWL's Three Pillars: Faith, Service, and Social Justice.

We are proud to share that three members of our council will be attending the 105th Hamilton Diocesan CWL Convention later this month. Their participation ensures our continued engagement and presence in the wider CWL sisterhood.

I offer heartfelt thanks to every member of our St. Basil CWL council. Their dedication, prayers, and service are the light of Christ in action and the hope to continue to grow and strengthen our CWL Council. May we continue to "Sparkle God's Way" and be beacons of hope and light to all those we encounter. I love this theme, and find it so uplifting and inspiring.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Gibson, Parish President, Catholic Women's League
St. Basil Parish, Brantford



St. Joseph – Brantford
NO REPORT SUBMITTED



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



Sparkle God's Way!

Be A Beacon of HOPE and LIGHT to Everyone You Meet



Name of Parish: St. Pius X Parish Council - Brantford
Prepared by: Patricia McDougall, Council President (2020 - 2024)
Name of Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Rafal Tomon
No. of members: 123

April 25/24: Twilight Retreat.

May 02/24: meeting; hosted dinner for St. Vincent de Paul; home-made lunch for Be A Man group; members attended the Pro-Life March on May 9; held Crowning of Mary; members volunteered at Earth Day-Clean Brant; Miraculous Medals awarded to children for their First Communion; members attended the Hamilton Diocese Regional Convention.

June 6/24: Mass and potluck dinner; 65 ladies attended; farewell evening for Parish priest on June 8/24.

September 12/24: meeting; welcomed Fr. Rafal Tomon - 'Top of the World' - variety of unique desserts; sponsored 2 bus trips for St. John's College students to visit seniors.

October 3/24: meeting; collected 400 items of warm clothing - delivered to the St. Leonard's Society for Homelessness

November 7/24: meeting; 140 Christmas gifts for seniors; membership renewal planned; 16th-annual Christmas Bazaar - our net was \$11,000; 22- welcomed CWL Hamilton Diocese executive committee; 23rd - lunch for the Saint Vincent de Paul Society

December 5/24: Advent Mass and potluck dinner - donations of \$7900 were awarded.

January 9/25: featured the film 'Pilgrims of Hope' - planned Pilgrimage trip with sister councils; 25/26 - had membership table display after Masses.

February 6/25: meeting; welcomed guest speaker - care and estate planning of aging parents

March 6/25: meeting; guest speaker from Hope Pregnancy and Family Support Centre; March 2nd - provided pancake meal for the Parish- 300 served; led Mary's Way of the Cross. During the Fall months, we provided for 8 funeral luncheons.

April 5/25: Mass with Ontario Provincial intentions for all CWL members, Bishop Wayne Lobsinger officiated, prayer to Our Lady of Good Counsel.

May 1/25: meeting; May 3, provided home-made soup lunch for Be A Man organization, (170 people attended); May 3, attended Ontario Provincial intentions Mass at St. Basil's Church; 'baby bottle' donation drive May 10/11 for Hope Pregnancy and Family Support Centre; members to attend the Hamilton Diocesan 105th Anniversary Convention; gift basket assembled, (featuring the book by Pope Francis); continuing monetary awards to graduating students in our Parish.

Peace and God bless.

Respectfully submitted,
Patricia McDougall, Council President





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



Sparkle God's Way!

Be A Beacon of HOPE and LIGHT to Everyone You Meet

Parish Council:	St. Mary's Brantford H-023
Prepared by:	Angela Rowley, President (2022 - Present)
Spiritual Advisor:	Fr. Laszlo Amaszka
Number of Members:	70 + Life Member 1

I can't believe how fast my two-year term went by. It was so much fun, why not do it again.

Scheduling four general meetings a year best meets the needs of our membership. All other information (as it arises) is conveyed to members via email and/or by calling members by keeping them informed. This is also a way that we check on our older members and keep them included. In between our meetings we have offered information sessions. We had a police officer come and speak to us about scams and a financial wellness check evening to make sure we are on the right track for our future. We celebrated Advent with a reflection evening that was presented by our Faith Chair together with St. Mary's Pastoral Minister.

At each gathering we invite our members to bring a donation (as per the needs of the organization) to assist those in need in our community. This year we have donated to St. Mary's Church, St. Vincent de Paul, the GRAND RIVER COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE—SHOWER STATION and our local high school.

Our members donated items to our two sold out bake sales and we sold over 100 apple pies (baked and purchased from a local bakery) in time for Thanksgiving. We continued with our line dancing fundraiser. It has become a hit, 25-45 dancers per class, twice a week. In Lent we watched 'The Chosen' Season 4, which caught us up and we were able to go to the movies to watch Season 5, The Last Supper.

We sent out birthday cards to all of our members. Christmas Dinner was celebrated at a local restaurant. Let's not forget our annual celebrations, May Crowning, Our Lady of the Assumption Mass and Potluck, Mary's Way of the Cross, and The Living Rosary.

Our membership drive brought in 10 new members. We must be doing something right. Welcome packages are given to all new members. Looking forward to our Pin Ceremony in June.

All of this could not have happened without our Executive and the members. Thank you!

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Rowley,
St. Mary's Brantford, CWL President



Sacred Heart - Paris
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

Blessed Sacrament - Burford
NO REPORT SUBMITTED



HAMILTON

BURLINGTON

DUNDAS

FREELTON

GEORGETOWN

HAMILTON

MILTON

OAKVILLE

STONEY CREEK (ELFRIDA & BINBROOK)

WINONA





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



Sparkle God's Way!

Be A Beacon of HOPE and LIGHT to Everyone You Meet

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 continues to keep very active in Parish activities and our council.

This was an election year for us and unfortunately, we were unable to have a member take over the role of President, however we do have a vice president who is willing to step up for the following term. Until that time we will continue with the present officer.

We were successful in recruiting four new members after a Hospitality Sunday. Many of our parish members both male and female attended and congratulated us on including them in our activities such as our Lenten Soup and Bun night, a night with the St John's Bible and when we had Dr Mansour come in to review how to use the AED and perform CPR if it deems necessary. Upcoming, we will be having Fr David Wilhelm speak about his recent trip to Rome where he had been invited to the canonization of Carlo Acutis but instead, was privileged to attend the funeral of Pope Francis.

In September, we are planning a night with the parish to inform them of the possible introduction of new further legislature regarding MAID. We will be recruiting a speaker from Halton Alive to help with this important topic.

Our fund raising efforts give us ample monies to continue giving to our Holy Rosary Parish, local and global needy charities and to the Canadian Missions.

With the help of our Youth Minister and the Knights of Columbus, we gave all the First Communion recipients a package that included a children's mass book, a rosary and a lapel pin.

As a council of many elderly members, we have lost a couple who have gone on to their eternal reward. We also have given six complimentary memberships this past year and unfortunately a few have chosen not to renew their memberships. Currently we have 117 paid up members and hope to increase that number next year.

Barb Mac Isaac, President
Holy Rosary CWL, Burlington

St. Gabriel – Burlington
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

St. Patrick – Burlington
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

St. Paul the Apostle – Burlington
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

2025 REACTIVATED COUNCIL INCARNATION OF OUR BLESSED LORD





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Parish Council: St. Raphael's , Burlington
Prepared by: Leony Hettinger – President (2019)
Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Wilson Andrade
Number of Members: 47

I Sparkle God's Way by journeying in faith, fellowship, and service with the members of St. Raphael's Catholic Women's League.

Throughout the year, our council remained active and engaged, holding monthly meetings that provided a space for prayerful reflection, meaningful discussion, and collaborative planning of League initiatives. These regular gatherings continue to strengthen our sisterhood and deepen our shared mission of faith in action.

It was a great joy and honour for St. Raphael's Parish Council to co-host, alongside St. Gabriel's CWL Parish Council, the 2025 Spring Regional Meeting for the Hamilton and Brant Regions. The meeting, held at our parish hall, brought together members from across the regions for a day of learning, connection, and spiritual enrichment.

Our council was also blessed to host the Opening Mass, Ceremonies, and Reception for the 105th Hamilton Diocesan Annual General Meeting and Convention. This special occasion was made even more memorable through our collaboration with the Knights of Columbus and Diocesan President Teresa DiFalco in organizing a solemn and striking honour guard of Fourth Degree Knights—one of the largest ever assembled for a diocesan event. It was a beautiful and dignified expression of Catholic unity and reverence.

Hosting our League sisters and working as part of the Diocesan Convention Team was a truly rewarding experience. I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to serve in this capacity and to witness the vibrant faith and dedication of so many remarkable women.

Respectfully submitted,
Leony Hettinger



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Parish Council: St. Augustine-Dundas
Prepared by: Phyllis Missett – President (2019)
Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Whitfield
Number of Members: 77

The St. Augustine CWL Council had a productive and enjoyable year. Our general meetings included presentations, spiritual development and fun activities. Presentations included information on Regina's Place, The Jubilee Year, The Three Chairpersons and The Nickels and Dimes Ministry. Pass the Package, mod podge pumpkins and Bingo were some of the fun activities.

We were able to make generous donations to local and national charities. This was possible because of successful fundraising events such as The Easter Flower Market, The Spring Plant Sale, The Thanksgiving Pie Sale, The Christmas Market and The Poinsettia Sale.

We presented bursary awards to three female parishioners who enrolled in education programs to improve their employment opportunities.

The members of the St. Augustine CWL Council definitely did "Sparkle God's Way" this past year.

Respectfully submitted,

Phyllis Missett, President

Our Lady of Mount Carmel - Freelton

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

Holy Cross - Georgetown

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

Most Blessed Sacrament – Hamilton

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

Canadian Martyrs – Hamilton

NO REPORT SUBMITTED





Hamilton Diocesan Council
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Sparkle God's Way!

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Name of Parish Council:	Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King, Hamilton
Prepared by:	Karen Felker 2024-2026
Name of Spiritual Advisor:	Fr. David Wynen
Number of Members:	62

PILLAR OF FAITH

Our Faith Chair and team continues to provide lively, faith-filled and interactive reflections at each General meeting. These include dramatizations with participation of our CWL members of Ruth's Encounter with Jesus, The Cost of a Miracle, The Faith of a Little Girl, A Conversation with God and Our Lady of Good Counsel just to name a few!

PILLAR OF SERVICE

Our Service Chair and team have invested considerable time and talent and have launched our new CWL webpage! Also all our members provide service and participate in many areas, they include visiting nursing home residents and parish shut-ins, serving as Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors and Ushers, serving at parish breakfasts, and assisting at the Jubilee Year of Hope by welcoming pilgrims at the Cathedral Holy Door. Our Service Chair shared a presentation on her December 2024 Mission Trip to Guatemala: For the Love of Matteo, truly inspirational!

PILLAR OF SOCIAL JUSTICE

Through our Social Justice Chair and team we learned about the Amnesty International Project 'Write for Rights' resulting in our CWL members writing over 50 letters in support of this initiative. In keeping with our desire to align with the National strategy focusing on mental illness, our Chair arranged for a Registered Psychotherapist to present during our March meeting; this included recognizing conflict styles as well as not being taken advantage of, that is being 'nice like Jesus but not a pushover' was appreciated by our General Membership.

CWL ARCHIVES

Our Past President attended the Provincial Archives seminar, which then assisted us in defining historical significant items within our Parish CWL. The subcommittee, including our Secretary and Treasurer, then diligently set to the task of cleanup and digitization of our Archives and a presentation at a General Meeting of our members, which was informative and very well received.

MEMBERSHIP

Our President, Membership Chair and Treasurer took the lead on our membership drive, which resulted in an increase in membership helping to offset the number of members that transferred/moved to other parishes. We included a bulletin insert highlighting CWL success stories from our National website and we asked for support from the women in our parish to continue this essential work. The increased number of

CWL members that are proudly wearing their CWL scarves and pins (their “CWL bling”) while serving our parish at numerous events and on the altar is truly heart-warming and inspirational.

We are very blessed, and it is a privilege, to serve our parish as sisters of the Catholic Women’s League.

Incarnation of Our Blessed Lord – Hamilton

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

Regina Mundi – Hamilton

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

Sacred Heart – Hamilton

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

St. Anthony of Padua – Hamilton

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

St. Catherine of Siena – Hamilton

NO REPORT SUBMITTED





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Parish Council:	St. Eugene - Hamilton
Prepared by:	Angela Rzazewski (2022 – Present)
Spiritual Advisor:	Father Kevin Upendran
Number of Members:	54

The Saint Eugene Council continues to “Sparkle God’s Way”. Our members are committed to fulfilling the goals of the League 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. We have introduced a bi-monthly birthday celebration at the Mandarin restaurant. This is a welcome opportunity for some of our older members who don’t get out often to socialize. There is never a shortage of volunteer drivers for those who have given up driving, this includes for Sunday Mass. Another wonderful example of sisterhood in action.
- On March 19, in partnership with the Father J Fergus Duffy Council of the Knights of Columbus, we celebrated the feast of Saint Joseph with Saint Eugene Catholic Elementary School. Our goal was to foster devotion and better understanding of the role of Saint Joseph as foster father of Jesus and patron saint of Canada.
- Many of our members attended the World Day of Prayer at Assumption Parish and a wonderful retreat hosted by the Saint Patrick Council.
- On April 10, we co-hosted a Lenten Retreat with Incarnation Parish. We extended an invitation to Saint John the Baptist and Saint Patrick Councils. Teresa DiFalco, our president, developed for us the theme of “Hope, Forgiveness and Healing”. We left the evening spiritually renewed, ready for the upcoming Holy Week. We are so grateful for Teresa’s example of “servant leadership”.
- We continue our involvement with the students of St Eugene School through various volunteer activities such as crafts and reading improvement. We 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!

- On March 21, 2025, our pastor and spiritual advisor, Father Upendran celebrated the opening Mass for the Saint Eugene Catholic Girls' League. We currently have 22 members. On Sunday, May 4, some of the girls attended the parish May crowning and helped with the parish social after Mass. Many of the parishioners expressed their joy in seeing them being involved in the parish.
- 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.

Respectfully submitted,
Angela Rzazewski, President





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Parish Council:	St. Gregory the Great Slovenian Parish - Hamilton
Prepared by:	Sidonia Poppa, Vice-President
Spiritual Advisor:	Father Drago Gačnik
Number of Members:	64

Although our membership numbers have declined over the years, you will find CWL members involved in every aspect of our parish community- Parish council, Liturgical committee, Choir, Parish cleaning, Treasury/Financials, Children's Liturgy, Children's Summer Camp, hosting our beloved Annual Parish Bazaar, contributing to Spring and Fall Parish Banquets, Cultural Traditional events, Easter Passion Play and celebration events such as New Year's. We support our parish to the best of our abilities following our Christian Catholic and Catholic Women's League values. We remain an integral part of our parish community.

Catholic Women's League Spring and Fall Regional meetings are attended as well as our Diocesan Convention where we gather new insight on how to continue on our journey as faithful women.

Our patroness, Our Lady of Good Counsel is honored with a special mass where we also initiate new members and acknowledge 10,15,25,40 year memberships. This year we were blessed with 2 new members.

All deceased members are remembered and honored at our annual Memorial Mass. Recently deceased members are honored with a candle Honor Guard at their funeral mass and a donation is made to St. Gregory's in their memory. This past year we lost 2 members

There is a conscientiousness amongst us to always consider our elderly and ill with visits and cards.

We support our children's sacraments of Communion and Confirmation with corsages or boutonnieres with Our Lady of Good Counsel medallions.

Monthly meetings are held where we pray and reflect on our faith together. This past year, being the 60th Anniversary of our parish, we reflected on the dedication and service of our members over these past years at St. Gregory's.

We offer significant financial support to our parish through proceeds from our Votive candles and Bazaar. We support our parish community, National and International initiatives such as our visiting priests, Slovenian summer camp, Children's Liturgy, Good Shepherd, Food Share, Catholic Northern Missions, and Chalice where we sponsor a young girls' education.

Although our numbers are only 64 we are a dedicated and faithful group living the values of the League and our Catholic faith, enriching our lives with our faith and our cultural traditions. We are grateful for our blessings, the guidance of Our Lady of Good Counsel and Spiritual Advisor, Fr.Drago. This council continues to be prayerful, dedicated women committed to the League and to our parish.

Respectfully submitted,
Sidonia Poppa

St. John the Baptist – Hamilton
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

St. Lawrence the Martyr – Hamilton
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

ST. BENEDICT COUNCIL - OAKVILLE





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Parish Council:	St. Luke, Hamilton
Prepared by:	Rosanne Sogan, President 2022
Spiritual Advisor:	Fr. Mike Francis
Number of Members:	70 - Life Member 1

Last June, we enjoyed a potluck with sister members from St. Francis Xavier Council. In addition, Deborah Lancaster, a Registered Holistic Nutritionist from St. Catherine of Sienna Parish, gave us great insight to holistic benefits. Also in June, two gifts were given to a female and male Grade 8 students for Christian Attitude at their graduation and one to a high school student.

September, our *Welcome Back* night was memories of growing up by having an ice cream sundae and the council hosted Coffee Sunday.

At our October meeting, we were brought up to date by City Councilor Matt Francis (no relation to Fr. Mike). Many questions about our area were discussed in depth. The rosary was prayed prior to Sunday Mass in conjunction with the Knights of Columbus.

In November, we honoured the deceased members and spiritual advisors; a beautiful solemn candlelight ceremony, for those now shining down on us. We also held a bake sale following week-end Masses while hosting Coffee Sunday.

A fun-filled December potluck and games night was what we all needed to end off our year. Everyone had a great time. Gift cards were collected and given to support several agencies in our city via our Angel Tree program, and our Stocking program helped us support 8 families from our school.

The decision to postpone our elections until this Fall was made in January, as members were not ready to commit to a position on council. An *Early Bird Draw* for free membership for the year took place, and following the meeting we enjoyed sisterhood. The council hosted Coffee Sunday.

February was dedicated to listening to 2 police detectives who deal with trafficking. This is in line with our National Resolution #3.2024

Our March meeting brought the dynamic speaker, Teresa Hartnett, Director of Family Ministries for the Diocese, who spoke on *A Meaningful Walk Through Lent*, a personal reflection on our faith and actions. This was opened to the parish. We also hosted Coffee Sunday. In addition, a parish Food Drive was held as part of our Lenten almsgiving (40days) for the Good Shepherd Centre.

In April, Mary Simchison, Senior Manager of Transunion gave a presentation on scams. Very eye-opening. This too was opened to the parish. We also held a successful Easter Basket Draw – one for adults one for children and thanked our Parish Secretary on Secretaries Day as well as gave our First Communicants a gift.

As May is the month to honour our Blessed Virgin, the rosary was said prior to Sunday Mass, and we held a Crowning Ceremony on our meeting night as well as a Mother's Day Tea Party.

Respectfully submitted.

FIRST PROVINCIAL MASS AT ST. DOMINIC'S – OAKVILLE JANUARY 2025





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

May 2024	Plant sale
May 2024 Villa	Annual dinner at St Naums guest speakers from Margaret Place, hospice at St Joseph
June 2024	Sponsored BBQ deMazenod door
July 2024	Canada Day Strawberry social
Oct 2024 options)	How to have a Catholic funeral with Dwayne Cahill (Funeral planning and burial
Oct 2024 Shepherd	Twinkle toes project, Confirmandi stuff socks with toiletry items delivered to Good & Out of the Cold
Nov 2024	Christmas Potluck
Mar 2025	Bake Sale
Mar 2025	Lead the Stations of the Cross
April 2025	Calligraphy with Angie Bailey

Respectfully submitted,
Kim Drotar





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Parish Council: St. Mary Pro-Cathedral - Hamilton
Prepared by: Anna Kocmarek
Spiritual Advisor: Father Patras Samuel Masih
Number of Members: 12

I Sparkle God's Way by holding steadfast to faith, hope, and perseverance even in the face of adversity.

This past year has been particularly challenging for our council. Despite our deep desire to be active contributors to parish life, our efforts to promote the Catholic Women's League and hold events within our parish have not been met with support. Multiple requests to meet on parish premises have gone unanswered. We have not been granted permission to advertise or share CWL initiatives in the parish, and we are now being asked to sign a formal hall rental agreement that includes substantial fees to use our own parish hall for CWL events. These barriers have made it extremely difficult to carry out our League mission in the way we would like.

Nevertheless, our council continues to meet in the home of one of our members. It is a testament to the faith, resilience, and sisterhood that unites us. We remain committed to discerning a path forward and are actively seeking ways to address this most unusual and frustrating set of circumstances.

We humbly ask for your prayers and support. Please keep the members of St. Mary's Pro-Cathedral Parish Council in your hearts as we work toward reconciliation and renewal. May the Holy Spirit and Our Lady of Good Counsel continue to guide us with wisdom and grace.

Respectfully submitted,
Anna Kocmarek



**Hamilton Diocesan Council
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Parish Council: St. Patrick, Hamilton
Prepared by: Rose Kantiono, President
Spiritual Advisor: Diana Quildon
Number of Members: 34

- ✚ March 12: We resume our meetings with the elections to renew our executives
- ✚ April 28: Installation of newly elected officers and CWL mass
- ✚ Social Justice: Evelyn Shoemaker worked with women at Wilma's Place to make sleeping mats for the homeless. She held two workshops about sleeping mats.
- ✚ May 14: Special Guest: Phil Small - read from his inspirational book, On the Way to Here;
- ✚ May 19: WL Mass and the crowning of Mary
- ✚ May 25-26: Rose, Diana, and Evelyn attended the diocesan convention
- ✚ June 11: Birthright shower and social
- ✚ September 10, 2024: St Luisa Rossi presented Saint John's Bible
- ✚ Saturday, October 19, and Sunday, October 20: Membership drive: six new members expressed their interest in joining the CWL
- ✚ November 1st: Domino Pizza fundraiser
- ✚ November 9th: Participation in the Remembrance Day service; Poppies were distributed to the altar servers and to people in the congregation
- ✚ November 16th and 18th: Cookies drive weekend for the Social Navigator coat giveaway. Our target was 2,500 cookies, but we exceeded it by just over 200 for a total of 2,751 cookies!
- ✚ November 30: Rosary workshop for children
- ✚ December 10: Christmas social gathering
- ✚ March 9 to March 17: St Patrick Novena
- ✚ March 22nd: Retreat – The Heart of Mary Retreat
- ✚ March 28: Mary's way of the cross
- ✚ May 3rd: Rosary workshop for adults, followed by Mother Mary's crowning

Respectfully submitted,
Rose Kantiono

PROVINCIAL MASS AT ST. PATRICK'S – HAMILTON



St. Stanislaus – Hamilton
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

Holy Rosary – Milton
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

St. Benedict – Milton
NO REPORT SUBMITTED



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Parish Council: Mary Mother of God, Oakville
Prepared by: Audrey Almeida, Council President (2023-2025)
Spiritual Advisor: Father Jerry Punnassery, CMI
Number of Members: 113

- **May 2024** – Meeting - Diocese of Hamilton Deanery & Halton Catholic School Board. CWL President and team organized arranged luncheon.
- **CWL Crowning of Mary with Mass** - local Councils invited.
- **Annual Diocesan Convention, Kitchener** - President, Social Justice Chair attended.
- CWL Bookmarks given to students receiving the Sacrament of Holy Communion.
- **June 2024 - CWL Graduation Awards** - one Secondary and four Elementary schools.
- **Corpus Christi Mass** – CWL, KofC led procession
- General Meeting /Social-Reception. Speaker: Carole Bertuzzi Luciani, Moodivator, “Engaging Aging”.
- **September 2024** - CWL Outreach Projects - Collected used eyeglasses, new soap bars and made floor mat with milk bags. Delivered to Dr. Simone's (CFFC Warehouse).
- President organized **Parish Bereavement meeting** for new project - Speaker, Teresa Hartnett, Family Ministry Director.
- General Meeting / CWL Council Elections 2025 – 2027 discussed, made Candles for Christmas Bazaar.
- Hamilton/ Brant Fall Meeting - President, Faith and Social Justice Chairs attended.
- **October 2024** - General Meeting
- **November 2024 - CWL Annual Christmas Bazaar** weekend, amazing!
- CWL Service Years Pins given (1) 40th; (2) 25th; (6) 10th; (6) Insignia members.
- CWL Executive Council Elections /Christmas celebration -refreshments, carols, prizes.
- **Annual Membership Drive** weekend.
- **December 2024** - Joint Executive Meeting and committee members.
- **January 1, 2025** - Parish celebrated Feast Day, **Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**, Holy Mass reception - CWL & K of C, over 750 attended.
- Funeral Mass - deceased member - CWL Honor Guard – set up room, food, assist reception.
- Executive Meeting and General Meeting. Lent suggestion, importance of donating blood, Canadian Blood Services using CWL code.
- **February 2025** General Meeting (Games: Bingo/ Euchre, treats, prizes). Financial donations voted of **\$10,000 from Christmas Bazaar to Parish, Parish Ministries and Community charitable organizations.**
- Sacrament of Confirmation - (5) schools - CWL Bookmarks given to recipients.
- CWL Lenten Collection - March 5th - April 19th, outer milk bags, used eyeglasses, sunglasses and bars of soap (any size) for Dr Simone's Warehouse (CFFC), Mississauga. Delivered items in April.

- **March 2025** - Executive Meeting and General Meeting. CWL led Stations of the Cross on First Friday. President, Faith and Social Justice Chairs and a member attended Hamilton /Brant Regional meeting, Burlington.
- **April 2025** Speaker: Deacon Jim Whittaker presented “Lenten Reflection”.
- Mass Intentions for CWL Council Members.
- **May 2025 -CWL Council’s 25th Anniversary Mass - Crowning of Mary** and reception.

Respectfully submitted,

Audrey Almeida, Parish Council President





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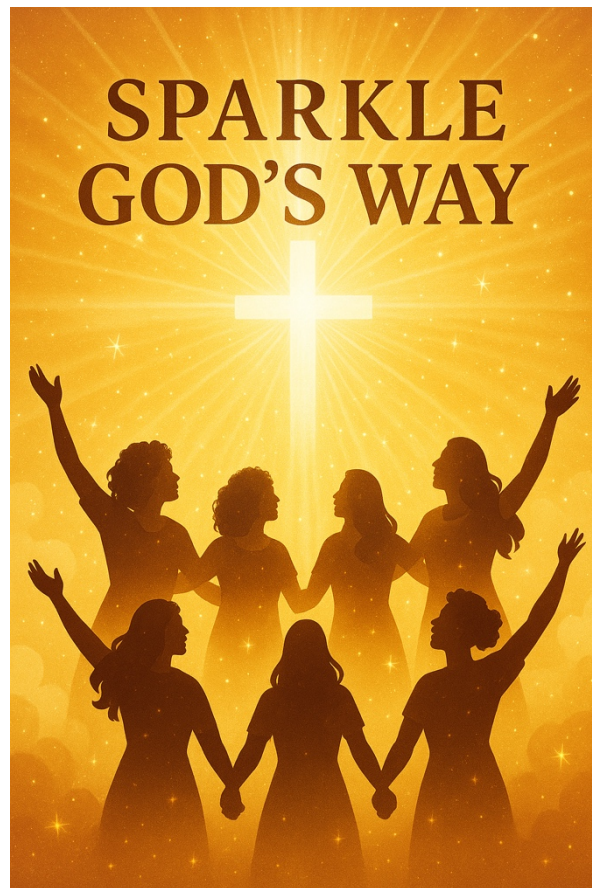


Parish Council: St. Andrew's Oakville – H-039
Prepared by: Yvette Vukanovich
Spiritual Advisor: Monsignor Cornelius O'Mahony
Number of Members: 100

- Hosted coffee following First Friday Mass for Vocations
- 12 hours of Prayer for Palliative Care held over two days ending with Benediction
- Sponsored Outdoor Rosary and May Crowning with the children's choir accompanying
- Special CWL mass for Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel
- Attended the Annual convention and the Brant Regional Meeting
- Regional President & Secretary presented the new Structure of Faith, Service & Social Justice
- Making & distributing flowers & Mother's/Father's Day cards to over 150 Seniors
- Retreat to Martyr's Shrine and Sainte Marie Among the Hurons with donation to Martyr's Shrine
- Hosted our Spring and Christmas/Clergy Appreciation potluck dinners
- Mass celebrated by Bishop Crosby & tree dedication for his 75th Birthday
- Mass for Deceased Members
- Presented a bursary at St. Thomas Aquinas High School
- Presented Father Watters award to our two primary schools
- Delivery of Christmas "Boxes of Hope"
- Donated to St. Vincent de Paul Outreach Program
- July / August Coffee on the Deck following noon masses on Tuesdays
- Celebrated special CWL mass for Feast of the Assumption followed by High Tea
- Advocacy for Social Justice Causes encouraging members to write letters for MAID and the charitable status for faith based charities
- Gave Sacramental Gifts of prayer card bookmark & blessed medal of soon to be Saint Carlo Acutis
- Supported Forty Days for Life
- Introduced a longer Faith Formation at monthly meetings using the monthly prayers from the "Pilgrims of Hope" Passport Book
- Attended Regional Meeting
- Made up Boxes of Hope for Christmas for Halton Alive initiative
- Hosted "World Day of Prayer"
- Two Lenten Lunches with proceeds given to Halton Food4Kids
- Annual Bake Sale
- Lady of Good Counsel Mass including the Installation & Reaffirmation Ceremony for the Executive
- Supported Serra Dinner celebrating Bishop Crosby's 50th Anniversary in the Priesthood

Respectfully submitted,

Yvette Vukanovich, President





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Parish Council: St. Dominic - Oakville
Prepared by: Wendy Rutherford
Spiritual Advisor: Deacon Terry Murphy
Number of Members: 95

May: Sale of roses on Mother's Day. Funds donated to Shifra Homes & Halton Alive. Bake days and Coffee Café and Friday adoration have been continued once each month. Several members continue to work at Good Shepard weekly. Funeral luncheons when requested, Three members attended Diocesan Convention in Hamilton.

June: Statue of Our Lady of the Cape with screening of Bridge of Roses movie, procession & reception. Summer Garden Party- people loved ice cream. Collections taken for Native Child & Family Services

July: Shifra Homes baby Shower. Sunday Sundae for all parishioners. Attended fundraising dinner for Mary Queen of the Rosary Shrine in Port Colbourne.

August: parish BarBQ held in backyard of rectory. Joint venture with KofC.

September: quiz about CWL used as mixer for first meeting of season. Winner received Halton Alive banquet ticket. Survey distributed on whether to make fewer but larger donations. Regional meeting attended by 6 members. Each month Social Justice committee is updating us on Lauato Si. SoupsOn lunch to raise money for Demazanod Door

October: a member donated a QS handmade quilt to use for a raffle to raise money for our bazaar. Membership campaign 95 members including 13 new members.

November: Several members worked at a Demazanod BarBQ in Hamilton. Annual Christmas bazaar. Attended KofC 70th anniversary dinner.

December: several members attended Oakville Prayer Breakfast. Advent candlelight service & reception. Christmas member luncheon catered by Harbourside. Angel tree gifts donated by parish to Oakville Senior Citizens Residence in Oakville. New Year's Eve celebration with food and games for kids. Handed out Epiphany Kits to all members of the parish.

February: participated in 33 Days to Morning Glory. Video presentation on Care for Creation. Encouraged members to access Government Survey on extension of MAID. Group decorated pretzels to sell for Valentines.

March: Our Young Vincentians gave a talk on their work with the homeless, preparing and distributing food. We donated \$750 to 'Ancilla's Kitchen'. Introduced group to Flame of Love rosary. 2 members attended regional meeting

April: Divine Mercy Novena from Good Friday until Divine Mercy Sunday. Setup food for those participating in Good Friday Walk. Our Lady of Good Counsel feast day recognized with cake & coffee and group picture.

May: Discussions ongoing re: 70th Anniversary celebrations. Upcoming Shifra Baby Shower with help of Young Vincentian. Social Justice having a plant sale supporting the Laudato Si initiative?

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Rutherford, Parish Council President



St. Matthew - Oakville
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

St. Michael - Oakville
NO REPORT SUBMITTED



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



Sparkle God's Way!

Be A Beacon of HOPE and LIGHT to Everyone You Meet



Parish Council:	Our Lady of Assumption – Stoney Creek
Prepared by:	Rosemarie Ortiz (2024-2026)
Spiritual Advisor:	Father Andrew Quarshie
Number of Members:	116

Dear Ladies in Faith,

This year has been a truly vibrant and active time for Our Lady of the Assumption CWL. Through Faith, service, and fellowship, we come together to participate in a wide range of events that have enriched our spiritual lives and strengthened our bonds with one another.

September:

Our Milestone/New Member mass and celebration is a wonderful way our CWL celebrates the legacy of our members and welcoming our new members. This beautiful celebration lets non-members see what a strong sisterhood we have within the parish community.

November:

We remembered our CWL and women of the parish who passed away this past year. Their loved ones are invited and encouraged to display a photograph to be displayed at a table by the altar. The names are posted on a display board, so the parish community can join in prayer and unity. The CWL Christmas Marketplace held in November is a highly anticipated event by our parish community. For many, the Marketplace begins the festive joy of the season. The marketplace ran during Remembrance Day weekend, and we were blessed to have a young man from the cadets offer poppies. The vendors, bake sale, penny sale and silent auction are well received. For the second year in a row, we brought back the tearoom. The ladies who volunteered in the tearoom work hard all weekend serving up tea and hot chocolate. Money raised is donated to the parish and various charities. A highly successful event.

Our Christmas Social opened with an Advent Liturgy and lighting of the second candle. It was a wonderful way to slow down and reflect during such a busy month. Ladies brought their favourite appetizers and sweets. Over \$500 in gift cards were collected and given to Regina's Place.

February:

The CWL and Parish hosted a Parish Community Soup fest. Members and Parishioners donated pots of hot soups. After mass, parishioners were able to purchase a bowl of soup. Money raised was donated to the parish and Neighbour to Neighbour.

Our CWL members participated in the annual Coldest Night of the Year Walk for Neighbour to Neighbour.

Our CWL hosted a Ladies Game night. A variety of games were brought in and played. We will be hosting one in September.

March:

The CWL hosted the World Day of Prayer. All who attended joined in ecumenical prayer for peace, justice and unity.

April:

We invited Teresa DiFalco as a guest speaker to facilitate a mini retreat themed Sparkle God's Way: Beacons of Hope in the Jubilee Year of Hope".

A group of ladies volunteered for DeMazonod Door Friday Barbeque.

Prayer Angels participated in the 12 hours of palliative care which ended with a mass in the Parish. The CWL hosted a Sisterhood Tea where members and all ladies of the Parish were invited for "Sips, Sweets and Sisterhood. A fun afternoon including gift basket raffle. Our Annual Garage Sale/Plant Sale/Bake Sale

Ongoing:

A group of CWL ladies make and deliver sandwiches to DeMazonod Door each month. Our Membership Newsletter is sent out to members 4 times a year, highlighting CWL events and participation.

A group of CWL members help the parish with teaching the rosary to Grade twos at the feeder school. Donation given for Christian Award for Bishop Ryan and CWL award for the Grade 8 Graduation of the Feeder schools.

Respectfully submitted,
Rosemarie Oritz

St. Francis Xavier – Stoney Creek
NO REPORT SUBMITTED



**Hamilton Diocesan Council
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Sparkle God's Way!

Be A Beacon of HOPE and LIGHT to Everyone You Meet



Parish Council: St. Thomas the Apostle – Waterdown
Prepared by: Dianne Corrin-Kiziak, Parish Council Acting President (2024-2025)
Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Francis Noronha, CSC
Number of Members: 64

Our council continues to grow and strengthen each year. This year, after the restructuring of our Parish Council, we have prioritized learning more about our changed roles, and adding new and exciting events to our calendar, while continuing with our usual Parish and CWL activities.

In May, 2024, we organized our annual May Crowning at one of our Sunday Masses and attended our 104th Diocesan Convention. Our annual June events included attending our two Elementary School Graduations, providing our CWL grade eight awards and also hosted a Final Dinner and Pin Ceremony. At our July planning meeting and luncheon, we drafted an ambitious plan for this year.

We had an amazing start in September, inviting the parish to “A Great Symphony of Prayer: The Our Father as a Programme of Life” with our guest speaker, Dr. Josephine Lombardi. On a role, we invited Theresa Hartnett to speak at our October general meeting and Baby Shower. There were cake and gifts and much comradery. Afterwards, our car full of gifts was delivered to Birthright in Hamilton. We continued in our past roles: ushering Confirmations (moved from the spring), holding a very successful Membership Weekend, running a Christmas Bake Sale Fundraiser, and hosting our annual Christmas Dinner.

Two of our members attended the Spring Regional Meeting. April was busy! One of the highlights of our Lenten Retreat was our guest, Bishop Lobsinger, who spoke on “Mary Our Model of Hope”. We provided a free lunch, had approximately one hundred participants, included entertaining games with prizes, and an opportunity for confessions and mass. This was followed by another Bake Sale, our leading of the Stations of the Cross one Friday in lent, and ushering two First Communion Ceremonies.

Of course May featured our biggest fund raiser – our High Tea featuring, fancy dishes, fresh catered sandwiches, fresh baked scones and many desserts. It was a fun, successful event.

As always we continued our annual May Crowning, weekly food collection, and monthly coffee and cookie service after masses.

During this last year, we have enjoyed much Sparkle for sure!

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



Immaculate Heart of Mary - Winona
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

**Catholic women standing in faith and love, lifting up our Indigenous sisters
in solidarity, healing, and hope.**



KITCHENER

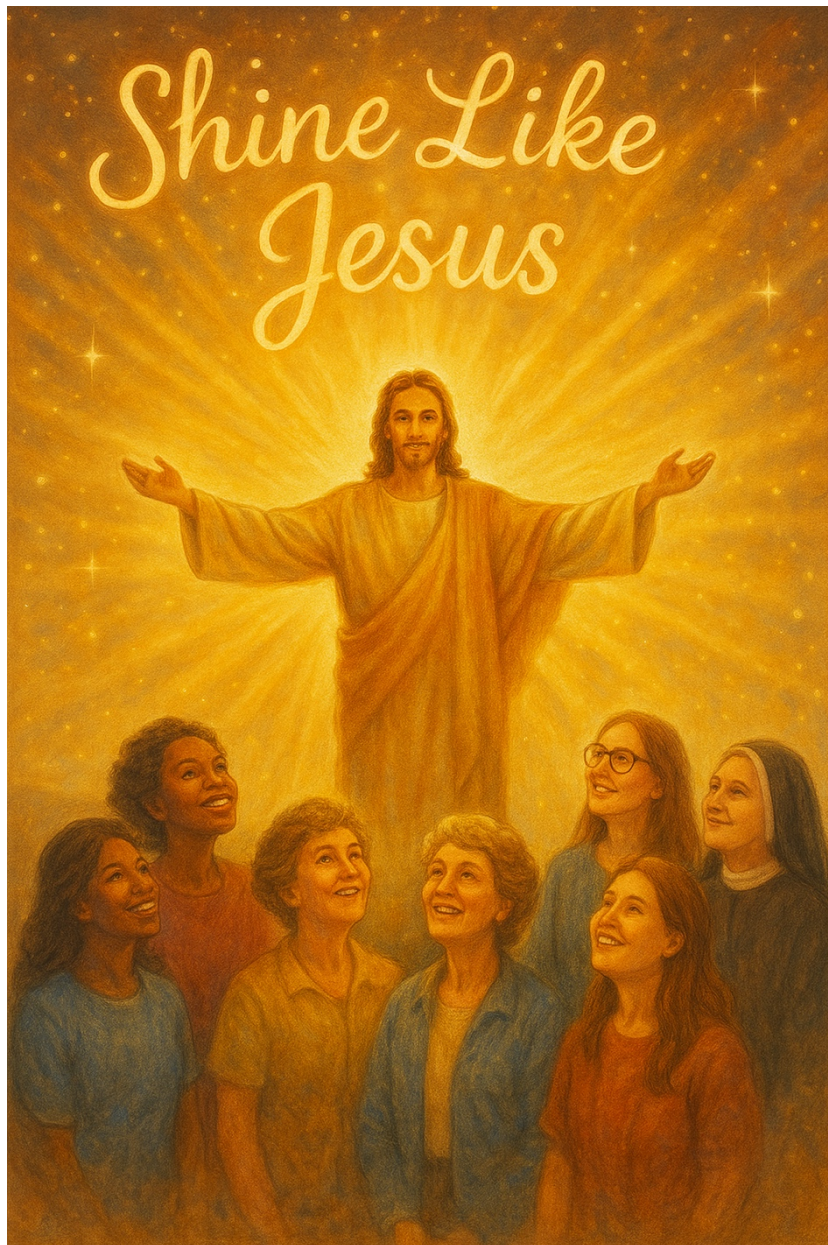
ACTON
ARTHUR
CAMBRIDGE
DRAYTON
ELMIRA
ELORA
FERGUS
GUELPH
KENILWORTH
KITCHENER
MARYHILL
NEW HAMBURG
ST. AGATHA
WATERLOO



St. Joseph, Acton
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

St. John the Evangelist Council – Arthur
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

St. Clement Council - Cambridge
NO REPORT SUBMITTED





**Hamilton Diocesan Council
of
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Sparkle God's Way!

Be A Beacon of HOPE and LIGHT to Everyone You Meet



Parish Council:	St. Mary of the Visitation, Cambridge (Hespeler) #h-085
Prepared by:	Christine O'Neil (2025 – 2027)
Spiritual Advisor:	Fr. David Reitzel
Number of Members:	81

May 2024: Made crosses from Easter Palms and personalized cards for our Seniors & Homebound. Participated in First Holy Communion celebrations with our local schools presenting CWL personal Holy Cards.

Held a successful spring Bazaar focusing on “Mothers”. Participated fully in the processing and crowning of Holy Mary.

June: Attended a grade 12 graduation and presented a student with \$250 Bursary. Held our year end Potluck with 65 members attending and provided farewell gifts and blessings to our Spiritual Advisor Father Ed.

September: Celebrated a welcome back Liturgy and delicious hot meal with our new Pastor and Spiritual Advisor Fr. David Reitzel. Fr. David, our guest speaker, spoke of his vocation story. 60 members attended.

October: Hosted newly elected Diocesan President Teresa DiFalco who presented on the 3 Pillars and discussed the elections process. 45 members attended. During the month we also hosted a “craft day” for the ladies of the parish.

November: Hosted Memorial Mass welcoming St. Patrick's & St. Clements councils and the Knights of Columbus - 100 in attendance. Assisted in Confirmation masses for 3 schools and provided Holy Cards to each child.

Held several craft days making items for our Christmas Bazaar held on 16/17th. Displayed 25 beautiful baskets, overwhelming support, largest fundraiser yet!

December: Assisted with the Parish Woman's Day Retreat. Held our Christmas Potluck, well attended with 70 people, and welcomed our youngest 18-year-old member!

January: Prepared for upcoming Elections with documentation to & from members - response was very good. Assisted in the first “Priest Prayer Day” with 20 Priests in attendance. Welcomed our 2nd 18-year-old member to the council!

February: Elections were held on Feb 4th followed by a beautiful Installation service on Feb. 16th Sunday Mass. Assisted with the 2nd "Priest Prayer Day". Held several CWL craft days. A few ladies attended a Human Trafficking event in Guelph

March: Hosted the World Day of Prayer welcoming 4 local Christian Churches. A beautiful service with 65 in attendance!

Our 7 Executives attended the Regional meetings. After modeling our diocesan themed (Sparkle God's Way, Be a Beacon of Hope and Light to Everyone You Meet) fascinators were asked by Diocesan President Teresa DiFalco to be part of the Convention.

April: Held our Ladies day with 60 members attending. Guest Speaker Rosetta DelMonte gave a beautiful presentation on the "3" Therasas'. Anniversary pins were presented, our longest member 75 years!

May: Assisted at Confirmation for 3 local schools providing each student a CWL Holy Card. Worked on our 1st project using our 3 Pillars to assist our local Seniors home.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol O'Brien, President



Sparkle God's Way Fantastic Women and their Facinators!

St. Patrick's - Cambridge
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

St. Martin of Tours – Drayton
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

St. Teresa of Avila - Elmira
NO REPORT SUBMITTED



Shine like Heaven – The Light of Christ Shines within YOU!



Hamilton Diocesan Council
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Sparkle God's Way!

Be A Beacon of HOPE and LIGHT to Everyone You Meet



Parish Council: St. Mary Immaculate - Elora
Prepared by: Colleen Cudney, Organization & Communication Lead 2023-2025
Spiritual Advisor: Father Hayden Starczala
Number of Members: 83

The new Leadership Team model, introduced in 2023, which replaced the Executive model of governance in our parish League has been received with support and favour by members and by our Spiritual Director, Father Hayden, Starczala.

Under the direction of the Leadership Team, we have conducted general membership gatherings in September, November, January and April. These meetings have been fruitful in conducting business, generating ideas, making decisions and providing learning opportunities. Outcomes of these meetings include;

- a decision to allocate at least 25% of fundraising moneys to parish needs,
- a presentation from Guelph-Wellington Women in Crisis outlining the services they provide in our community,
- introduction of a recruitment/volunteer focused campaign to fill leadership roles which replaced the previous nomination model,
- viewing a film 'Introduction to the Jubilee Year 2025 – Pilgrims of Hope', followed by an exercise exploring the concept/meaning of Hope as experienced through our Catholic faith, church tradition, the word, sacred liturgy and music,
- agreement to launch a member volunteer giving campaign for the fall of 2025,
- and the announcement of our 2026 Incoming Leadership Team.

In addition to these gatherings we held Leadership Team meetings in June and February. These meetings provided the small group of six an opportunity to review our organization structure, leadership roles, goals and objectives. We discussed a Member Planned giving program, developed a Leadership Succession plan. We reviewed leadership roles and developed Role Descriptions. We established and launched a new recruitment structure to fill leadership roles.

In June and December, 2024 and February, 2025 we published 'Go Forth Together', St. Mary's CWL Newsletter. This publication provides an avenue to communicate to all members on a regular and ongoing basis.

We conducted a successful membership drive that saw 79 member renewals and 4 new memberships for a total of 83 members. On January 1, the Solemnity of Mary, we conducted the presentation of services pins (for the years 2019 – 2024) following the 11:00 am mass. Five members received 15-year pin, four members 25-year pin, seven 40-year pin, two 50 -year pin, four 55 - year pin, five 60 -year pin, and three 65 -year pin. On March 8 we formed an honour guard at the funeral of Mary Klein, a 65- year CWL member and parishioner of St. Mary's.

Our fundraising efforts consisted of our annual Bake Sale in May, proceeds from the Good Will collection from the Advent Reflection afternoon and assisting as servers for the Knights of Columbus charity breakfast in March.

The Spiritual activities included the distribution of thirty-five prayer cards to the First Communicants in June, co-hosting an Advent Reflection afternoon with the Knights of Columbus on December 1, and fulfilling 641 prayer intentions through our weekly Prayer Intention program.

Recipients of our Giving and Financial support included; the Christmas Charity drive held December 7 for Guelph-Wellington Women In Crisis, a annual scholarship to a deserving graduate(s) of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic High School in Guelph, a graduation award to a student(s) of St. Mary Catholic Elementary school in Elora as well as financial support to Michael House in Guelph, Guelph- Wellington Right to life, Catholic Missions of Canada and for parish needs at St. Mary's.

To celebrate our members, the League and our neighbouring sisters in the CWL we hosted a joint year end mass and potluck dinner with St. Joseph's, Fergus in June and once again with St. Joseph's CWL for a pre-Christmas mass and Turkey dinner in December.

Respectfully submitted,
Colleen Cudney, Organization and Communication Lead





**Hamilton Diocesan Council
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Sparkle God's Way!

Be A Beacon of HOPE and LIGHT to Everyone You Meet



Parish Council: St. Joseph's Parish Council, Fergus, Ontario
Prepared by: Joanne Gregson - President 2025
Spiritual Advisor: Father Robert Hetu
Number of Members: 67 Members in 2024, currently 68 for 2025

The year 2024 started with our membership drive in early January. Monthly meetings were held monthly with the exception of July and August. Our council continued to have a successful year promoting activities in the area of service, social justice and faith.

On March 14th, we held a special celebration in recognition of the 100th Anniversary of St. Joseph's Parish Catholic Women's League. A special mass was held which was officiated by Bishop Douglas Crosby followed by a catered dinner. The National President, Shari Guinta, as well as our Provincial President, Linda Squarzolo and the Hamilton Diocesan President, Joyce Cotter were in attendance. An enjoyable evening for all.

In 2024, we continued with holding a Mother, Daughter, Friend tea the day before Mother's Day. There were just over 80 people in attendance. A fun game of bingo was enjoyed by young and old alike. The women from St. Mary's Immaculate Church were also invited. This is a special event where it is open to all women of the Parish, where by you do not have to be a CWL member in order to attend.

Members of the CWL attended the World Day of Prayer which was held in Fergus.

At the September meeting, Teresa Hartnett was our guest speaker and the October meeting a representative from the Grove Youth Wellness Hub. These two meetings were held on Sunday's immediately following our 11 am mass. Good attendance for both.

November was busy with our Annual Bazaar which was another great success. Funds from the Raffle were donated to Groves Memorial Hospital and to the St. Joseph's Parish Building Fund. Further donations were to be made to various charitable organizations in January of 2025.

Our Christmas Dinner and Mass was celebrated in the beginning of December with St. Mary's Parish CWL being the host but in the St. Joseph Parish hall as theirs is still under renovations. An enjoyable evening was held for all.

Our Tree of Hope was a success, a little different as the request from the school for the families in need was to have gift cards. This allowed the families to purchase what they were really in need of and what the children or parents really would like to receive. There were also tags on the tree for The Elora House and Portage which were also gift cards.

Our meetings are now being held on Sunday's immediately following our 11 am mass, a light lunch is offered. Attendance has more than doubled from when we held them in the evening during the week. Driving in the evening was deterring people from attending. At the one meeting we had the members making Christmas Cards, which they really enjoyed. These were sent or delivered to the parishioners that were housebound or in nursing homes.

Respectfully Submitted,
Joanne Gregson, President





**Hamilton Diocesan Council
of
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Sparkle God's Way!

Be A Beacon of HOPE and LIGHT to Everyone You Meet



Parish Council:	Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate (Guelph)
Prepared by:	Bernadette Best – Past-President (President 2023 – 2025) Mary Muller - President (Feb 2025 -2027)
Spiritual Advisor:	Fr. Ian Duffy
Number of Members:	105

On May 4, 2024, we held our annual Spring Market. We had a variety of local vendors, a 50/50 raffle, Silent Auction, and a BBQ lunch sponsored by Wally Parr sausages. Proceeds went to our Parish and various local charities.

On June 11, 2024, 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 members.

On August 4, 2024, we served a meal for 50 pilgrims on the second evening of the pilgrim's annual eight day walk from Guelph to the Martyr's Shrine in Midland.

On September 10, 2024, we enjoyed a presentation by our Faith Chairperson on Sacramentals and in particular the Green Scapular, which was given to the world by the Blessed Virgin Mary through a series of apparitions to Sister Bisqueyburu, a Daughter of Charity, in the early 1840's in Paris, France. On the Feast of the Nativity of Mary, September 8, 1840, the Mother of Jesus Christ appeared holding in her right hand her Immaculate Heart, mounted by flames and holding in her other hand a scapular. For more information www.greenscapular.com.

On November 16, 2024, we held our annual Christmas Bazaar. All the hard work from many volunteers paid off with an outstanding Bazaar. There were over 20 vendor tables with unique crafts, jewelry, hand knit blankets and toques, and Christmas greens and arrangements. Our bake table was very successful and once again recorded the highest sales. A lot of beautiful items were sold at the silent auction table and penny table. The chili con carne lunch was a hit and enjoyed by many. Proceeds from the Bazaar went to our parish and several local charities that were agreed upon by our council.

On December 10, 2024, after celebrating Mass, our members had a tour of the Basilica and learned about the rich history of our parish.

On February 11, 2025, our council held an election night. We were pleased to welcome Mary Muller as our new council president and three new members as chairpersons. Also, on February 13, 2025 we presented, discussed and passed our 2025 budget.

In March 2025, our council participated in the Forty Hours of Lenten Devotion which was preached by His Eminence, Thomas Cardinal Collins at the Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate from March 10-13, 2025. There was Mass each evening, and forty hours of semi-continuous Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament throughout these days. On March 11, 2025, after our general meeting, our council attended Mass together and on March 13, 2025, our council hosted a reception at the conclusion of the Forty Hours of Devotion.

On April 8, 2025, we were pleased to have Fr. John Iyekowa speak to our council about his pagan upbringing in rural Nigeria and how God led him to become a Catholic and then ultimately to the priesthood. Fr. John only recently joined our parish as an assistant, his first since he emigrated to Canada.

Respectfully submitted,
Bernadette Best, Past-President

Holy Rosary - Guelph

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

Sacred Heart - Guelph

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

St. John the Baptist - Guelph

NO REPORT SUBMITTED



**Hamilton Diocesan Council
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Be A Beacon of HOPE and LIGHT to Everyone You Meet



Parish Council:	St. Joseph - Guelph
Prepared by:	Juliette Royer, Council President (2024-2026)
Spiritual Advisor:	Fr. Jeff Bergsma
Number of Members:	169

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

May - The Crowning of Mary at every mass was special. We held a Craft Night with Kirstan McCarthy as a cost of \$12. Kirstan led us in making a beautiful prayer chaplet.

June - We held our Evening of Spirituality which started with mass followed by a lovely dinner and Fr Mike King was our guest speaker. His topic was 'Inner Peace and Fasting from Social Media'.

September - We host the Hamilton Diocesan Council Kitchener Regional Fall Meeting

October - We hosted the Civic Spiritual Evening for all CWL Leagues in Guelph. Our speaker will be Cardinal Collins. We opened the evening to members of our Knights of Columbus and BLD/OSG (Bukas Loob sa Diyos Filipino name meaning "Open in Spirit to God").

November – Our Christmas Bazaar took place and we made over \$10,000. Most of this money went to the over 30 organizations we donation to yearly including our own parish.

December - Our Christmas potluck is a highlight for the ladies. Our members enjoyed a live band with plenty of food

January – We launched our first Soup'Her campaign. The campaign idea arose when Marie Thorne, VP was preparing address labels for Christmas cards that we send to our elderly and infirm CWL members. She thought to herself; what more can we do for these wonderful ladies? Can we prevent the January blahs? The thought of bringing our members homemade soup suddenly crossed her mind, and she believe it was divine intervention that brought this idea forward. She called it Soup'HER January.

Together with the Parish, BLD and KofC we assisted in providing lunch for a Day of Ignatian Spirituality. Raj Vijaykumar from Loyola House in Guelph led this day of prayer and a talk on Ignatian Discernment.

February – We hosted our Mother/Daughter Lunch and Installed 18 New Members

March – We hosted the World Day of Prayer. The Service was prepared by the WDP Committee of the Cook Islands. We raised over \$400 though attendance was light. We attempted to provide food that is found in the Cook Islands. The ladies decorated the church hall and the event was lovely.

April – We help out Annual Banquet at the Victoria East Golf Club. We present service pin to 15 of our members and for the first time we provided pins for 5-year increments. We also presented the Merit Certificate Award to our sister Huguette Allaire and Maple Leaf Pin to our sister Estrella Pontalba.

We will join the Knight of Columbus later this year to cook and serve dinner to the poor and less fortunate at the Royal City Mission in downtown Guelph.

I look forward to my last half of the year representing the ladies of this parish.

Respectfully submitted,

Juliette (Jules) Royer, Parish Council President



Sacred Heart - Kenilworth
NO REPORT SUBMITTED



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



Sparkle God's Way!

Be A Beacon of HOPE and LIGHT to Everyone You Meet

Parish Council: Blessed Sacrament – CWL – Kitchener, ON
Prepared by: Wendy McGrattan - President (2025 – 2027)
Spiritual Advisor: Father Lukasz Kopaniak
Number of Members: 79

Our Activity Report from May 2024 – December 2024

April 13th: CWL Spring Tea. 85 attended. Proceeds were donated to Marillac Place, a Women's Shelter in Kitchener

May 7th: Crowning of Mary & Deceased Members Mass. Meeting and refreshments to follow. Our Outreach Project was completed re: Anti-Human Trafficking in Waterloo Region. Project was through St. Josephine Bakita Elementary School, items were collected and delivered to the AHT Center in Waterloo region. This was a successful event.

June 6th: Closing Potluck Dinner: Raffles and 50/50 draw/Door Prizes. Gave donations to the Winston Park Nursing Home and the Westmount Nursing Home for residents who didn't have any Christmas presents or were in need. We also gave a donation to the Rockway Centre in Kitchener to a senior citizen who didn't have any money to attend the workshops or Cards/Games Day or activities.

September 17th: Opening Mass and General Meeting. Guest Speaker: Reflexology/Wellness and demonstration

October 16th: CWL Meeting – Prayed the Rosary. Topics: Memberships, Pins and Handouts for members

November 14th: CWL General Meeting – Update on memberships – Process started for Elections and Voting Procedures for New Executive 2025.

November 27th: Christmas Potluck: Advent Prayer – Raffles, 50/50 draw/Door prizes/Cake Raffle – Santa visited. Children's church choir performed. We collected Journals for the Women's Prison Ministry.

December 7th: Bake Sale and Bazaar – Proceeds donated to the Working Centre,

Our Activity Report from January 2025 to June 2025

January 14th: Installation of New Executive. Meeting/Social to follow

February 19th: Valentine Games/Card Party: Refreshments/Snacks/Door Prizes

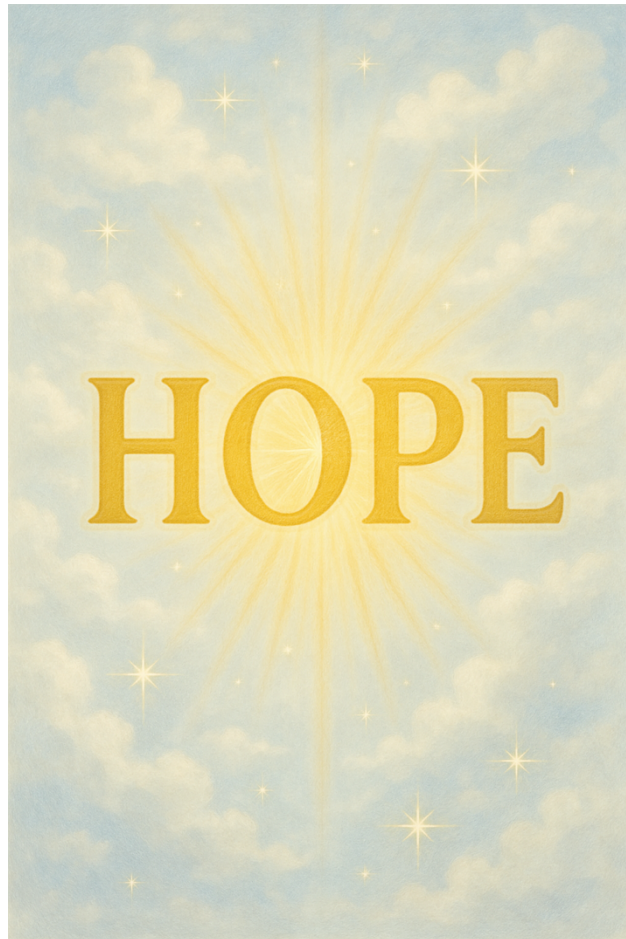
March 18th: Lenten Retreat: Speaker, Father Lukasz Kopaniak

April 3rd: CWL General Meeting: Easter Flower Arrangement Demonstration

April 11th: CWL performing the Stations of the Cross @ 7:00 mass

May 13th: Crowning of Mary and Deceased Members Mass/Social and Guest speaker to follow

Respectfully submitted,
Wendy McGrattan – Blessed Sacrament Parish CWL President



St. Aloysius - Kitchener

NO REPORT SUBMITTED



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



Sparkle God's Way!

Be A Beacon of HOPE and LIGHT to Everyone You Meet



Parish Council: St. Anthony Daniel Kitchener
Prepared by: Roma Talboom, President (2022 - Present)
Spiritual Advisor: Father Ed Henhoeffer
Number of Members: 114 – Life Member 1

May 2024 – Prayed for Palliative Care patients; donated \$500 to Lissard House/Innisfree ; celebrated Crowning of Mary; contributed \$75 for flowers

June 2024 – Executive provided tea and goodies for members; gave reports from Convention; provided entertainment

Sept 2024 – Gifted \$500 to Deacon Luis for his Ordination; introduced new Pastor – Father Ed, who spoke of his life journey to the Priesthood;

Oct 2024 – Theme of the Rosary, Speaker of the Power of the Rosary for the League; members made a Rosary craft

Nov 2024 – Mass for our 69 deceased members; major fundraising Bazaar

Dec 2024 – Potluck dinner; members invited friends (70 in attendance); speaker Dr. Ken Shonk, topic Health & Happiness

Jan 2025 – Planning meeting for Executive members for Feb – June *** welcomed 7 new transfers from St. Mary's council that folded.

Feb 2025 – Soup Luncheon for members; Father Ed displayed his new Cope provided by CWL; Speakers from Canadian Mental Health Association on topic of "Coping with Winter Blues"; donated \$500 to them

March 2025 – Lenten Spiritual Retreat lead by Shari Quinta; several area Councils are invited

April 2025 – Earth Day presentation on Recycling Beyond the Blue Box; major fund raiser – Annual Card Party

May 2025 – Mass followed by Crowning of Mary Ceremony

Respectfully submitted,
Roma Talboom, Parish Council President

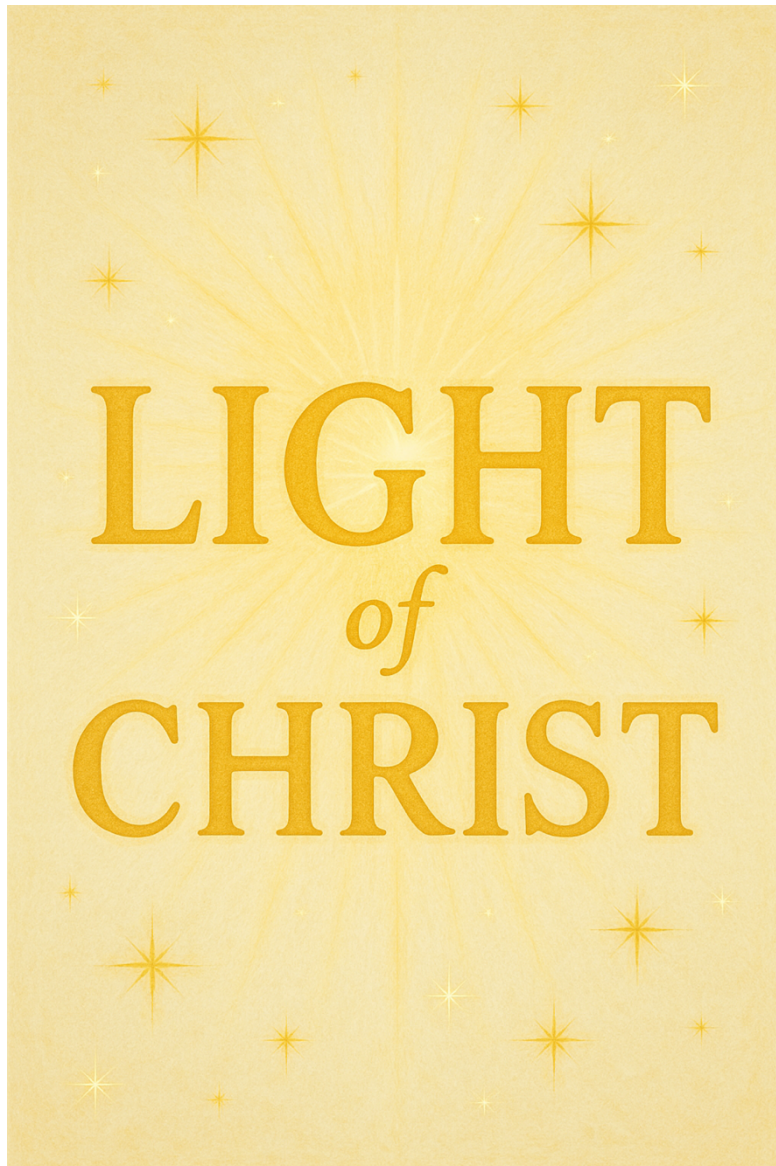


St. John's - Kitchener

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

St. Joseph - Kitchener

NO REPORT SUBMITTED





**Hamilton Diocesan Council
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Sparkle God's Way!

Be A Beacon of HOPE and LIGHT to Everyone You Meet



Parish Council:	St. Mark, Kitchener
Prepared by:	Anna Joseph – Past-President
Spiritual Advisor:	Father Roque Concepcion
Number of Members:	42

We invited representatives from Marillac Place to provide an overview of their services for homeless mothers and expectant mothers. The Service Chair organized a drive to collect baby clothes, diapers, and other essential items for their Pre-Natal Care Basket.

Sold Gerbera Daisies during Mother's Day weekend, after each Mass. This is part of our fundraising. Hosted Crowning of Mary. Parishioners were given flowers to present to our Lady after the special Mass.

Organized Book Sale. Parishioners were asked to provide gently used books for the sale. Half of the funds raised from the sales were donated to a parish family that tragically lost their husband/father, as well as other organizations.

Had our year end Potluck and our Service Pin presentation.

Organized a Food Drive for the Carmelites of St Joseph. Mass was held at the Monastery, followed by a presentation on the Scapular.

Held our membership drive. Video presentation and members spoke from the pulpit, inviting ladies to join the CWL.

Held an Advent Retreat, "My Soul Proclaims the Greatness of the Lord" Our Faith Chair took us on a journey of reflection and meditation on Mary's Hymn of Praise to Our Lord.

New Year potluck, Secret Prayer Sisters were revealed and new ones selected. Also played team games. Co-hosted Hamilton Diocesan Regional meeting. St Mark and St John Council worked together to host this event.

Our Social Justice Chair organized a talk on Mental Health. One of our members, that's a registered psychologist did the presentation.

Our secretary organized a Lenten Retreat titled "The Good Shepherd". We created boxed images of the Good Shepherd while reflecting on the Stations of the Cross from His perspective.

Hosted the 2025 Kitchener Spring Regional Meeting.

Respectfully submitted, Anna Joseph, Past-President

St. Teresa of Avila - Kitchener

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

St. Boniface - Maryhill

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

Holy Family – New Hamburg

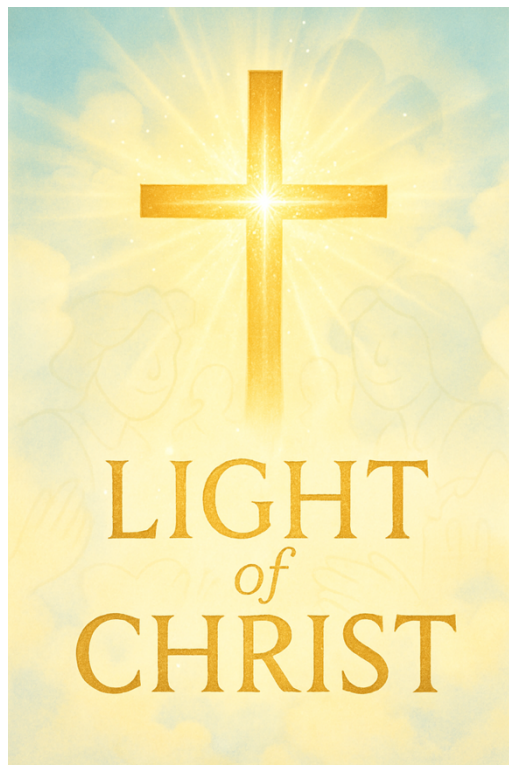
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

St. Agatha – St. Agatha

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

St. Agnes - Waterloo

NO REPORT SUBMITTED





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



Sparkle God's Way!

Be A Beacon of HOPE and LIGHT to Everyone You Meet



Parish Council: St. Louis, Waterloo
Prepared by: Donna Herbstreit, President (2019 – Present)
Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Philip Reilly
Number of Members: 105

Our first meeting of 2024 was on February 7th. Our guest speaker was an RN who gave a demo on how to use our new AED's. All parishioners were invited. In March, we held a baby shower gifting needed items to our guest speaker from Marilac Place, a home for unwed mothers and babies. Our April meeting showcased the "history panels" that depict 100 years of our council.

April 14th! A wonderful day of thanksgiving and celebration! We began our day with a concelebrated Mass with Bishop Crosby. Music was amazing with combined voices of two choirs, soloist, piano, pipe organ, guitars and trumpet...and church bells! Following Mass, about 160 guests enjoyed lunch, the guest speaker being National President, Shari Guinta. In 1986, the proceeds from that year's mission sale were sent to Mother Teresa of Calcutta. Mother Teresa sent a handwritten "Thank You" note that was framed and presented to Bishop Crosby by Mary Smith who was our president that year (deceased 2025) to be placed in the archives of the Hamilton Diocese. Our guests were entertained by a performance of a play written by our own Rosemary Danayka that convinced everyone that the "League must live on!"

Our May meeting had our honouring of Mary ceremony as well as the presentation of insignia pins and years of service pins to 39 ladies. We joined other parishioners every Monday evening at our garden to recite the rosary. At our June meeting, one of our members gave a concise and accurate report on "Synodality and the CWL" as presented by Linda Staudt at the AGM. We resumed our meetings in September. October's guest speaker was one of our parishioners, Paul Butler who spoke to us of Sacramental Awareness. Our main fund raiser, the "chili cookoff" was a successful event as was our Mission Bake sale in November. And...we are now sending the Minutes by email! Our final meeting of the year was a wine and cheese party and Christmas Carol singing. On December 13th, the CWL worked alongside the SVDP members to host a reception following a music concert in the Church. The proceeds from the free will offering were shared with the two ministries. A monthly newsletter is sent to all members by email, printed and left at the Church doors or mailed. Another busy and productive year at St. Louis Council!

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Herbstreit, President



Welcome Home! You are my sister, you are my friend.





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Parish Council: St. Michael, Waterloo
Prepared by: Shani Pregelj (2018 – Present)
Spiritual Advisor: Father Jamroz
Number of Members: 102

During the past 12 months, our council organized meetings and events that encompass faith and spiritual growth, league development, social justice, fellowship and fun.

In Spring 2024, work was done to complete 3 resolutions. These were presented and passed at the Diocesan level but did not move forward at the Provincial level. Despite the outcome, the overall experience of preparing and presenting resolutions was very engaging and rewarding.

We covered a number of topics at our evening meetings including a guest speaker from Marillac Place (a shelter for pregnant women experiencing homelessness), our Crowning of Mary in May and a very engaging presentation on Our Lady of Kibeho (Marian apparition in Rwanda) and one member's experience with meeting with one of the visionaries. Our annual pot luck and service pin celebration took place in June and we handed out pins ranging from 5 to 70 years

We hosted two fundraisers – a Purse and Jewellery sale (May '24) and Bake Sale (Nov '24). Both events were successful and a great way to get members and parishioners involved.

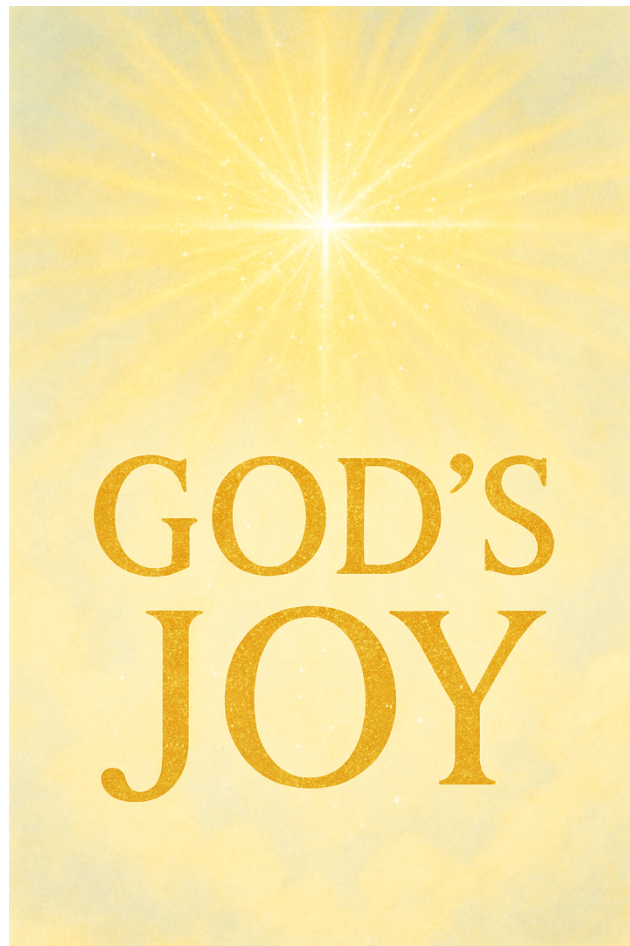
A membership drive at the beginning of 2025 was a success and resulted in a dozen new / lapsed members joining / re-joining our council. To keep the momentum going, we organized a Women's Fellowship Gathering in March aimed to engage our new members and those interested in learning more about the CWL. This was fun evening and was well received by all.

Our soup lunch and movie - "The Miracle club" took place in February. Members enjoy this event and an opportunity to gather for some food, fun and fellowship on a cold afternoon in February.

At the end of March, we hosted a joint Lenten Retreat with the other Waterloo parish CWL's. The morning reflections focused on "living your life as a woman of faith" with presentations from Shari Guinta, CWL National President and The Sisters of Our Lady Immaculate. This was well attended and a wonderful way to connect with other League Sisters and grow in faith as we prepared for Easter.

Our council is looking forward to another successful year ahead. Our focus is to keep our new members engaged and planning events that will strengthen the relationships between CWL members and all women in our parish.

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





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Parish Council:	St. Joseph - Cargill
Prepared by:	Michelle Pletch, Parish Council President (2024-2026)
Spiritual Advisor:	Father Ignatius Saiki
Number of Members:	82

Our CWL held a successful St. Joseph's Bazaar on Saturday, July 13th. Lots of community members from surrounding areas attended to make the day a success. The events included: Penny Tables, Candy Game, Bake Tables, Food Booth, Silent Auction, Kids' Zone, Fish Pond, Raffle Tables, Ham Draws, Pay 'n' Pull Raffle, Bingo and Touch 'n' Take. This year's event will be held Saturday, July 12th, 2025 from 11:00am-2:30pm. Please come out and join in the fun!

On Tuesday, October 8th at 6:00pm, our Council hosted the Cargill Lawn Bowling Banquet to end their season. Forty bowlers enjoyed a delicious roast beef dinner. \$567 was profited. We also hosted a luncheon for Cargill Homecoming's Ambassador's Pageant. A donation was made back to the CWL by Cargill Homecoming which has been earmarked towards making our church accessible with a ramp and chair lift, pending approval from the Diocese.

Our parish council had a busy fall preparing for our Fowl Supper on Sunday, October 27, 2024 from 4:00pm-6:00pm. We served 325 adults, 26 children and 10 free children (5 and under) as well as our many CWL volunteers who assisted for the day. It was amazing seeing the excellent teamwork the previous day and throughout the meal. We sold advanced tickets at the Cargill Variety and The Walkerton Meat Market, as well as at the door. Thanks to the many hours of volunteering that members put forth to make our meal happen.

We welcomed Advent with a special prayer service at our annual St. Joseph's Christmas Party on Tuesday, December 3, 2024 at 6:00pm. We collected lots of food which was distributed to the Walkerton Food Bank on our behalf. There was a potluck meal and games which had all people mingling and Christmas songs to demonstrate our spirit. It was an enjoyable evening despite the snowy weather.

January and February were quieter months with relevant emails circulating about provincial and local CWL information. March had us preparing with gifts for the First Communicants and Confirmation students. Our Council has also taken over providing dinners for OECTA's monthly meetings in our church basement. Prayers were offered for the passing of Pope Francis and a capable predecessor who will continue his mission in moving the church forward. Masses will resume prior to our regularly scheduled meetings at 6:30pm beginning in June.

Respectfully submitted, Michelle Pletch, Parish Council President

St. Ann - Chesley

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

St. Peter & St. Paul's - Durham

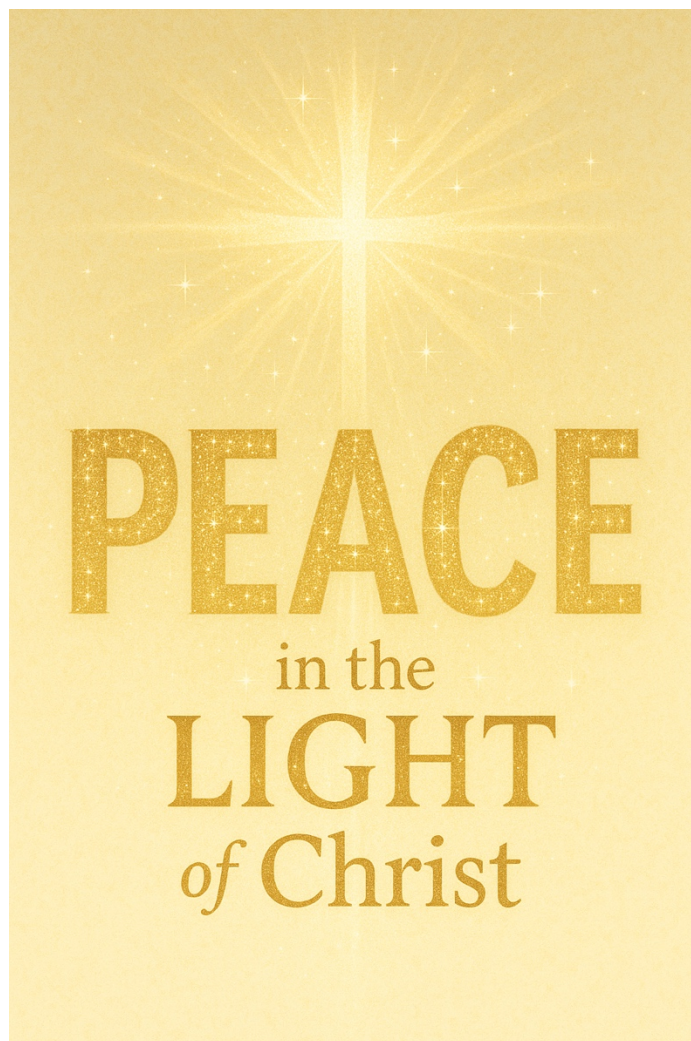
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

Immaculate Conception - Formosa

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

St. John's - Glemelg

NO REPORT SUBMITTED





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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:	95

In October, the CWL ladies made and sold pumpkin pies as a fundraiser. A fun time working together.

At the October meeting members enjoyed a Christmas craft by creating small Christmas trees using styrofoam and fabric, and enjoyed some social time.

In November, the CWL assisted the Knights of Columbus with a Sunday morning breakfast following Mass. The proceeds were donated to the parish and a new electric range was purchased for the Lenhard Room kitchen. These breakfasts have continued monthly to help with church upkeep/ finances.

Throughout October and November, the CWL requested donations of items of warmth. In a few weeks we gathered 167 items of socks, mittens, scarves and hats for men, women and children of all ages. These items were gathered and displayed on a Christmas tree in the church Narthex. In December, the St. Vincent de Paul Society distributed the items with the Christmas hampers.

During the month of November, at all the weekend Masses, members wore their CWL sashes. This made visible our members for the parish community, particularly highlighting the large number of members who volunteer as hospitality ministers, Lectors, Eucharistic ministers and with the music ministry.

The annual Christmas dinner was held November 28 where members enjoyed a catered turkey dinner and a silent auction. With the money raised at the silent auction , as well as the Change for Charity jar collections for 2024, we were able to donate \$1500 to Saugeen Hospice towards their future build.

In March, we were happy to host the North Spring Regional meeting starting with mass at 9 a.m. We were told this was the best turnout of all the regional meetings. Thanks to all who attended !

We put a together a lovely basket for the Convention auction and are busy planning another breakfast and pie baking in June. Busy hands are happy hands !

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Boerkamp, Parish Council President



St. Anthony of Padua - Kincardine
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

Our Lady of Good Counsel Pray for Us





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Parish Council:	Sacred Heart - Mildmay
Prepared by:	Pauline Diemert (President 2023-2024)
Spiritual Advisor:	Father Leszek Szczygiel
Number of Members:	97

In May we had May Crowning during Mass followed by Mother's/daughters/friend Tea. Which was well attended.

Our cold plate supper was held in May and enjoyed by all.

In honour of the First Communion Children. We presented each one a Cross following the School Mass

Our pot luck was in June following by our general meeting in which we donated to Wes for Youth, Sauguen Hospice, Ramoth House Catholic Mission of Canada and Samaritan's Purse.

Grade 8 graduations received a photo frame for graduation. A CWL Award was presented to grade 8 and a grade 12 graduate.

Coffee Sundays were held in May, Sept, Oct, Nov, March & April. A great time to Socialize for our church community.

In September our Member's work hard in organizing Our Parish Bazaar. A great success.

At our Meeting in October, members participated in making a pumpkin centerpiece for their Thanksgiving celebration. We all enjoyed this activity.

In November our Guest Speaker was Marisa Dales Lantz who spoke about Christian Meditation on our Schools. We all had an opportunity to participate with it.

Our Christmas Celebration was held in December. We had a catered Turkey Dinner and everyone enjoyed the spirit of Christmas with draws from the penny table. Service Pins were given to Nichole Smaltz and Clarire Wardlow-Bernard and Kathy Liesemer all receiving 25year service Pins. We also collected items for the food bank.

In March we had Father Luc Payette speaking on the Holy Rosary. We also present Father Les with a donation to the building Fund. In April we had Charlie Schmalz speak to us about the Women's Center in Kincardine. Many of our members brought in items for donation to the Women's House.

Respectfully submitted,

Pauline Diemert, Parish Council President



St. Mary of the Purificaiton – Mount Forest
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

St. Mary of the Assumption – Owen Sound
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

Sacred Heart - Teeswater
NO REPORT SUBMITTED



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Parish Council: Sacred Heart - Walkerton
Prepared by: Marion Leifso, President (2025-2027)
Spiritual Advisor: Rev. Leszek Szczygiel
Number of Members: 127

In May 2024, our council was involved in several events. We were involved in the First Communion retreat with the Gr. 2 class from St. Teresa of Calcutta School. We helped the Gr. 11 and 12 Hospitality class from Sacred Heart High School host a luncheon. The CWL also served a dinner for the Second Hand Rose Shop volunteers. We also hosted an evening for all parishioners to hear a presentation from Simon Walley from Matercare followed by refreshments. Rosaries were distributed to the Gr. 2 class at an assembly at St. Teresa of Calcutta School. Our monthly meeting had Jessica Connor from the WOMB (World of My Baby) as the guest speaker. We also put on a successful roast beef dinner as a major fundraiser. Finally, 2 delegates attended the annual Diocesan Convention in Kitchener.

June 2024 was another busy month. We assisted in the Anointing of the Sick Mass and provided refreshments. Our monthly meeting began with a pot-luck supper which had musical accompaniment from Matt Schuett and 2 students from the music class from Sacred Heart High School. CWL awards were presented to deserving graduates at St. Teresa of Calcutta School and Sacred Heart High School. In September 2024 our CWL hosted a sell-out crowd-pleaser, our annual fish fry.

A busload of CWL members, family and friends went on a pilgrimage to the Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate in Guelph in October 2024. After time for prayer, Mass was said by Auxiliary Bishop Ustrzycki. We enjoyed a lunch prepared by the CWL and then had a tour of the basilica.

Barb Vandenhauser from "Big Door" was our November 2024 guest speaker. Free weekly meals that are given out there to anyone who is in need. A youth after-school drop-in center also operates there. In December 2024 a Christmas craft and bake sale was hosted by the CWL. We also enjoyed a catered Christmas turkey dinner. Members were asked to bring a toy for the Optimist Club's gift collection.

In January 2025 we hosted the Sunday Social attended by 60-70 people after Mass. Our two youngest members made and served chili and accompaniments to the hungry participants at no cost to them.

April 2025 had us put on another successful roast beef dinner as a fundraiser. Members also assisted the Gr. 2 class from St. Teresa of Calcutta in making a decade of the rosary.

Respectfully submitted,
Marion Leifso, Parish Council President



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Parish Council:	St. Thomas Aquinas Warton h-102
Prepared by:	Debbie Heard, President 2023-2025
Spiritual Advisor:	Fr. Francis Ahuekwe
Number of Members:	16

In May 2024 our council installed a rosary display case for council-made rosaries; began rosary prayers before Mass; presented a 1st communicant with a rosary at Mass; May crowning of Mother Mary and flower to women on Mother's Day. Rosary sales occurred on most summer Sundays.

Our Fundscrip gift card sales fundraiser was held in June, and November 2024, and March 2025. We did several coffee Sundays, and bake & hostess gift sale with homemade soup and bread mid-December by donation.

A major fundraiser BBQ, Bake Sale and Silent Auction was held after Mass Sunday July 14, 2024 with participation from mission parishes, and local community. It was financially and socially successful.

A 3 Pillar activity involved discussion with the 3 local schools' needs and a donation to their breakfast clubs. In October, guest speaker Nancy Forgrave from Bruce Peninsula Hospice described expanded programs for people requiring help and company to stay at home, as well as end of life support.

November's guest speaker was a young man describing his slide into drugs, homelessness and near death from his addiction, to God's help in climbing out and perseverance in recovery. December was busy with a parish ladies' Christmas dinner out, CWL service acknowledged; Bake and hostess gift sale after Mass with coffee, soup & bread; and nursing home Christmas caroling. Singers came from the CWL, church choir, and other prayer groups.

January 2025 service pins were distributed, pews and hymn books cleaned, and a pancake and sausage breakfast held after Mass - well received in January!

In a 3 Pillar project supporting the Pregnancy Centre, we collected layette items of baby essentials from our parish and two other mission churches during the month of March. Some members visited the Jubilee church in Formosa. Three members reported on Communiqué items and the archive webinar. We had a lunch out and a rosary making bee.

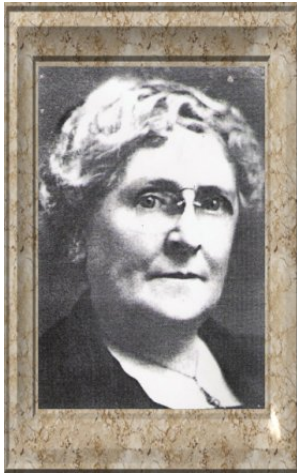
In April the Pregnancy Centre Director Leanne Hoekstra presented their programs for Moms in need.

We held a May Crowning venerating Our Lady and created a prayer card gift for parish women on Mother's Day, featuring a photo of the Mother Mary painting on loan to Diocesan CWL, and inspiring prayer. We celebrated our 34th anniversary with cake, and are presenting a first communicant with a rosary in May.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Heard, Parish Council President





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 Jean Culliton, 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

2024 MEMBERSHIP INCREASE CERTIFICATES

Membership increases certificates were presented to the following parish councils at the 2025 Spring Regional Meetings by Diocesan Vice-President and Organization Chair Laura Grint, recognizing an increase in members in 2024. 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
BRANT	
Sacred Heart, Paris	9
St. Mary, Brantford	21
St. Basil, Brantford	2
St. Pius X, Brantford	14
St. Joseph, Brantford	1
HAMILTON	
Canadian Martyrs, Hamilton	3
Holy Rosary, Burlington	6
Holy Rosary, Milton	4
Mother Mary of God, Oakville	3
Most Blessed Sacrament, Hamilton	3
Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Freelon	1
St. Andrew, Oakville	2
St. Dominic, Oakville	17
St. Eugene, Hamilton	15
St. Gabriel, Burlington	8
St. Lawrence, Hamilton	4
St. Margaret Mary, Hamilton	7
St. Mary Pro-Cathedral	1
St. Patrick, Burlington	17
St. Matthew, Oakville	5
St. Mary Pro Cathedra, Hamilton	1
St. Benedict, Milton	20
KITCHENER	
Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate, Guelph	11
Holy Rosary, Guelph	9
Holy Rosary, New Hamburg	9
St. John the Evangelist, Arthur	6
St. Joseph, Fergus	5
St. Mark, Kitchener	8
St. Mary of the Visitation, Cambridge	19
St. Patrick, Cambridge	11
NORTH	
St. John, Glenelg	4
St. Joseph, Cargill	1
St. Mary of the Assumption, Owen Sound	1

CLOSING PRAYERS



Gracious God,
As we close this Annual Report and reflect on the many blessings of the past year, we thank You for Your constant presence in our lives and in the work of the League.

We are grateful for the faith, dedication, and service of every member who has answered Your call with open hearts and willing hands.

Continue to guide us, Lord, as we journey forward. Fill us with courage to serve, wisdom to lead, and compassion to love—always shining as beacons of hope and light.

May we remain rooted in prayer, united in sisterhood, and faithful in our mission.
With Mary, our Blessed Mother, and under the gentle care of Our Lady of Good Counsel, may we continue to Sparkle Your Way in all that we do.

We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.



Loving and Faithful God,

As we conclude this chapter of service and look ahead to our 106th Annual General Meeting and Convention, we place our hopes, our work, and our hearts in Your hands.

We thank You for the light that has guided us this past year and for the strength You give us to serve with joy, humility, and purpose.

Mary, our Blessed Mother and Our Lady of Good Counsel, walk with us on the path ahead. Teach us to listen with compassion, lead with wisdom, and serve with love. Inspire us to be true servant leaders—joyfully humble, deeply faithful, and ever ready to be Your hands and heart in the world.

Help us to Sparkle God's Way—
radiating kindness, hope, and grace in all we do.

May our councils flourish in unity and may our members grow ever closer to You and to one another. Until we gather again for our 106th Diocesan Convention, keep us rooted in prayer, strengthened by sisterhood, and ever faithful to our mission.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Our Lady of Good Counsel, **pray for us.**

*Here I Am Lord, Send Me, Joyfully,
to Sparkle God's Way as a Beacon of Hope
and Light to Everyone I Meet.*

