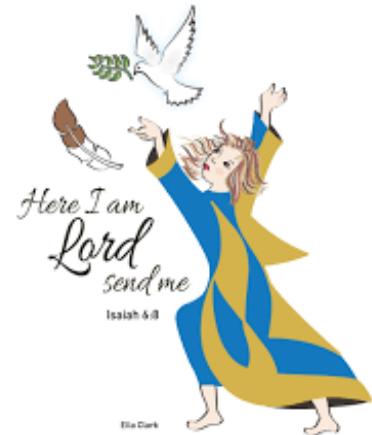




HAMILTON DIOCESAN C.W.L.
THE SPARKLE SPECTRUM
FALL REGIONAL MEETINGS
SEPTEMBER 2025



Here I am Lord, Send Me.



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

(*Reports appear as submitted)



Message from the President

Dear CWL Members and Spiritual Advisors,

As we gather this Fall for our Regional Meetings, I invite you to embrace the season of God's colour season of renewal and reflection with hearts open to learning and hands ready to serve.

As the leaves fall and the earth prepares to rest, may every daughter and son of God be reminded that His grace is always at work—quietly transforming, gently renewing. Like autumn, we too are called to let go, to trust, and to Sparkle in golden surrender to His will.

The Sparkle Spectrum is a means to of sharing important updates, celebrate milestones, and highlighting the incredible work being done by you, our incredible **Parish Councils, and our dedicated Diocesan Executive Team.**

Our strategic focus remains steadfast: *Servant Leadership, Learning & Development, and Spiritual Enrichment towards holiness and God.* It is through humble service, guided by faith and grace, that we grow our League and nurture one another. Let us continue to listen, to learn, and to lead — not for recognition, but to build a stronger, more vibrant sisterhood that ***Sparkles God's Way!***

Together, we are planting seeds of hope, courage, and renewal in our councils and in our communities. Thank you for saying “yes” to this beautiful mission.

Thank you for all that you do for God and Canada, and for participating in this edition. May you find inspiration in these pages as we continue to “**Sparkle God’s Way**” and serve as **beacons of hope and light** in our Church, communities, our relationships with one another, and beyond.

Let us unite and continue to strengthen our sisterhood in faith, service, and social justice.

Wishing you a blessed and meaningful read!

With gratitude and joy,

Teresa

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

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PAGE #	
1	MESSAGE FROM THE DIOCESAN PRESIDENT
2	TABLE OF CONTENTS
3	PRAYER OF WELCOMING AND FOR THE LEAGUE
4	NATIONAL/PROVINCIAL/DIOCESAN THEMES
5	HAMILTON DIOCESAN EXECUTIVE and REGIONAL TEAMS LISTING
6	LIFE MEMBER LISTING
7 - 8	PARISH COUNCILS BY REGION
9 - 34	DIOCESAN EXECUTIVE REPORTS
35 - XX	DIOCESAN PRESIDENT'S ONTARIO PROVINCIAL CONVENTION AND AGM DEBRIEF REPORT
	DIOCESAN VICE-PRESIDENT'S NATIONAL CONVENTION AND AGM DEBRIEF REPORT
	LIFE MEMBER LIAISON REPORT
XX - XX	PARISH COUNCIL REPORTS BY REGION Brant Hamilton Kitchener North
97	CLOSING PRAYERS

PRAYER OF WELCOMING AND FOR THE LEAGUE

For the Hamilton Diocesan CWL 2025 Fall Sparkle Spectrum

Loving and Faithful God,

We gather in Your holy presence with hearts open wide, grateful for the gift of this League and the sisterhood that binds us. As women called to serve, we welcome each other with joy, with compassion, and with the shared hope that You are doing something new in and through us.

Bless this Fall Sparkle Spectrum gathering. May it be a time of deep renewal, holy inspiration, and spiritual growth. May we feel Your light within us, guiding our path and reminding us that we are never alone on this journey.

Lord, You have called us to be **servant leaders**, to lead not with power but with love; not with status, but with faithfulness. May we embrace that call with humility and grace, reflecting Your light in all that we do.

As the autumn leaves remind us of the beauty of letting go, help us to release what weighs us down, and to make room for Your holy fire to burn ever brighter in our hearts. May we **sparkle Your way**—not for attention or praise—but as living beacons of **hope, joy, and light** in a world that longs to see Your goodness.

Bless our League, O Lord. Strengthen our bonds, renew our spirits, and ignite our mission. May we always walk forward in faith, inspired by Mary our Mother, as women rooted in prayer, action, and the love of Christ.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, our Servant King.
Amen.

(Gifted by: Teresa DiFalco)



NATIONAL THEME

Here I am Lord, Send



LEAGUE

Me.



PROVINCIAL SUPPORTING THEME

JOY OF THE GOSPEL



DIOCESAN SUPPORTING THEME

Sparkle God's Way as Beacons of Hope and Light!



HAMILTON DIOCESAN EXECUTIVE TEAM 2022-2024

SPIRITUAL ADVISOR

Father Ranjan D'Sa

OFFICERS

Teresa DiFalco, President

Laura Grint, Vice-President and Organizational 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 TEAMS

REGIONAL CHAIRS

Colleen Ionson, Hamilton Regional Chair

Debra Noronha, Brant Regional Chair

Bernadette Best, Kitchener Regional Chair

Nancy Skiba, North Regional Chair

REGIONAL SECRETARY

Mary D'Orazio, Hamilton Regional Secretary

Meagan Kadrigamar, Brant Regional Secretary

Susan Narducci., Kitchener Regional Secretary

Sherie Bowen, North Regional Secretary

LIFE MEMBERS



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

PARISH COUNCILS BY REGION

BRANT

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

HAMILTON

Canadian Martyrs, Hamilton
Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King, Hamilton
Holy Cross, Georgetown
Holy Rosary, Burlington
Holy Rosary, Milton
Immaculate Heart of Mary, Winona
Incarnation of Our Blessed Lord, Hamilton (Reactivated Jan 2025)
Mary Mother of God, Oakville
Most Blessed Sacrament, Hamilton
Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Freelton
Our Lady of the Assumption, Stoney Creek
Regina Mundi, Hamilton
Sacred Heart, Hamilton
St. Andrew, Oakville
St. Anthony of Padua, Hamilton
St. Augustine, Dundas
St. Benedict, Milton
St. Catherine of Siena, Hamilton
St. Dominic, Oakville
St. Eugene, Hamilton
St. Francis Xavier, Stoney Creek
St. Gabriel, Burlington
St. Gregory the Great, Hamilton
St. John the Baptist, Burlington (inactive as of January 2024)
St. John the Baptist, Hamilton
St. Lawrence the Martyr, Hamilton
St. Luke, Hamilton
St. Margaret Mary, Hamilton
St. Mary's Pro Cathedra, Hamilton
St. Matthew, Oakville
St. Michael, Oakville
St. Patrick, Burlington
St. Patrick, Hamilton

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

KITCHENER

Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate, Guelph
Blessed Sacrament, Kitchener
Holy Family, New Hamburg
Holy Rosary, Guelph
Our Lady of Lourdes, Waterloo
Sacred Heart, 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 (INACTIVE OCT/23)
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 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	St. Mary of the Purification, Mount Forest
Immaculate Conception, Formosa	St. Mary of the Assumption, Owen Sound
Mary Immaculate, Chepstow	St. Peter & St. Paul, Durham
St. Thomas Aquinas, Wiarton	St. John the Evangelist, Dundalk
Sacred Heart, Mildmay	St. Joseph, Cargill
Sacred Heart, Teeswater	
Sacred Heart, Walkerton	
St. Ann, Chesley	
St. Anthony of Padua, Kincardine	
St. John, Glenelg	

DIOCESAN EXECUTIVE REPORTS

Your Hamilton Diocesan Executive Team sharing highlights of their activities under their portfolios since the Fall 2025 Regional Meetings



Father Ranjan D'Sa – Diocesan Spiritual Advisor

Fall 2025

SPARKLE SPECTRUM

9



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

Pilgrims of Hope – Jubilee Year 2025

Pope Francis has declared this year as the Jubilee Year of Hope.

Celebrating Jubilee Year is an ancient tradition very well documented in the Old Testament. Judaism celebrated every 50th year as the year of the Lord. It is written in Leviticus chapter 25: "...on the Day of Atonement sound the trumpet throughout your land. Consecrate the 50th year and proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a jubilee for you; each of you is to return to your family property and to your own clan" (9 – 11). Since God is the creator and the owner of all that is existing, freeing the land, slaves and debtors was a mere gesture of acknowledging and accepting God's authority over everything.

The Catholic church revived the ancient biblical tradition of celebrating the Year of Jubilee in 1300 AD with the Papal Bull "Antiquorum fida relation" by Pope Boniface VIII. An unusually large number of pilgrims gathered at Saint Peters to celebrate Christmas with the hope of getting an indulgence of remission of sins. Though Pope Boniface VIII had not planned to grant anything, looking at the vast number of crowds, he granted them an indulgence and established the Year of Jubilee. From then every 100 years was designated as a year of jubilee.

Many thought that 100 years is a big gap between the jubilees, so in 1342, Pope Clement VI, reduced it to 50 years and celebrated it in 1350 AD. For the next hundred years there were many variations of jubilee time regarding its years between jubilees. Finally, Pope Paul II extended the inter-jubilee period to 25 years, and in 1475 a Holy Year was celebrated by Sixtus IV.

"Pilgrims of Hope" is the theme for our Jubilee year 2025. Pope Francis invites all to participate in the Year of Hope inviting them to be drawn to this hope. He then expresses his vision for the Year of Hope: "We must fan the flame of hope that has been given us and help everyone to gain new strength and certainty by looking to the future with an open spirit, a trusting heart and far-sighted vision."

Let this Jubilee Year rekindle hope in us.

Teresa DiFalco – Diocesan President



Diocesan Officer/Chair Name:

Teresa DiFalco

Diocesan Position:

Diocesan President

Contact Email:

diocesanpresident@cwlhamilton.ca

Dearest League Sisters, and Spiritual Advisors,

As we journey together in faith, the fall season is a beautiful witness to how our League continues to Sparkle God's Way — shining as beacons of hope, light, and love in our parishes, families, and communities. I am deeply grateful for the spirit, openness, and generosity of our members, whose feedback, prayers, and participation shape our Hamilton Diocesan Council and initiatives.

Listening carefully to our members, I intentionally designed the fall presentations and workshops to respond to what you shared with me — the desire for encouragement, practical leadership support, deeper faith formation, and renewed hope during times of change. Together, we reflect on how God calls each of us to let our light shine brightly, especially when others may feel uncertain, weary, or lost.

This year, we are blessed with many diocesan highlights. Our 105th Diocesan Convention and Annual Meeting of Members was a tremendous success, reflected in the warm and affirming feedback received from members. Convention costs were significantly reduced through careful stewardship and the outstanding success of our Sparkle God's Way fundraising initiatives, which will continue to support our diocesan work. I was grateful for the opportunity to visit parish councils across the diocese, offering support, encouragement, and practical assistance. One especially meaningful experience was meeting with a group of young mothers who shared concerns about the League. Through open dialogue and a League presentation, their questions were addressed, relationships were built, and these women chose to join the CWL — a powerful reminder that invitation, listening, and love truly matter.

We also celebrated the reactivation of two councils this year, a council in the North serving Dundalk, Proton, and Shelbourne, and another council in Hamilton, a joyful sign of renewal and perseverance. I was honoured to attend both Provincial and National Conventions, where four resolutions were presented at Provincial, three of which passed, and four resolutions were

presented and adopted at National. These resolutions reflect the League's strong voice and commitment to faith, service, and social justice.

At National Convention, we welcomed a new National President, Betty Colaneri, as Past President Shari Guinta concluded her term. We were also introduced to the new National theme, Ignite Your Passion, Empower His Mission — a timely and inspiring call for each of us to live our faith boldly. At the Provincial Convention, we were enriched by keynote speaker Dr. Josephine Lombardi, who spoke on the Marian Approach to Synodality — walking together in Christ and loving one another with humility, trust, and grace. Full reports on these activities are published in The Sparkle Spectrum, and I encourage all members to take time to read and reflect on them.

Looking ahead, I remind members that diocesan elections will take place next year and I encourage eligible members to prayerfully discern how you might share your gifts and talents in leadership and service. Letters will be sent to eligible members early in the new year to support this discernment process.

Our diocesan faith and service initiatives continue to be a source of great pride and purpose. These include a diocesan Advent Retreat open to all members, ongoing support for Indigenous communities through Sacred Sparks 72-hour emergency kits, and the creation of hand-made Dolls and toys (Sparkle Dolls & Toys) in support of a Catholic Medical Missions to Ghana through Our Lady of the Assumption Parish in Hamilton. These initiatives beautifully reflect our call to serve with compassion, generosity, and faith in action.

Members are encouraged to share their stories of their love for the League and what inspired you to join and what inspires you to stay. This sharing are powerful testament to the quiet yet profound witness we offer simply by being present, faithful, and united as sisters in Christ.

Leadership and spiritual enrichment will be at the heart of our fall gatherings. Under the theme "Sparkle in the Season of Change as the Harvest of Hope and Light," we will reflect on sisterhood, servant leadership, gratitude, and our call as Catholic women to be beacons of faith and social justice. Formation sessions will focus on "Sparkle God's Way – You Are a Star," using the imagery of stars and constellations to explore a sisterhood belonging, shared charisms, collective gifts, and the importance of self-care for sustainable service.

Through the Servant Sparkle Leadership Development Workshop, we will explore a S.P.A.R.K.L.E. framework — Serving with joy, Promoting with purpose, Activating the gifts of others, Reaching out with grace, Keeping the flame of faith alive, Leading with love, and Embracing everyone. Leadership is relational, invitational, and deeply rooted in Christ.

We will explore how we are all stars in a beautiful constellation called sisterhood. Allowing our inner Sparkle to shine, is representative of the Light of Christ within us as daughters of God. We are called to Sparkle, live joyfully, and to experience being cherished and loved — while forever reminding us of the enduring nature of love and community.

Always remember to leave a little Sparkle wherever you go and remain centered on sisterhood, trust, Christ-centred servant leadership, inclusivity, healing, and ongoing renewal. Stay in the light and welcome others to bask in love of God.

As your Diocesan President, it is truly an honour and a blessing to serve you. I am continually inspired by your faith, generosity, and commitment to living the Gospel. Thank you for allowing me to walk alongside you, to listen, to serve, and to Sparkle God's Way together — letting our light shine brightly so that others may see hope, love, and Christ reflected through us.

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa DiFalco, Diocesan President



Laura Grint – Vice-President and Organization Chair



Diocesan Officer/Chair Name:

Laura Grint

Diocesan Position:

Vice-President and Organization Chair

Contact Email:

vicepresident@cwlhamilton.ca

The role of Vice-President within the Hamilton Diocesan Council continues to be one of support, collaboration, and shared leadership. My work continues to be focused on Organization, assisting the Diocesan President Teresa DiFalco in her mission to support parish councils, our diocesan team and helping to ensure continuity and consistency in our diocesan operations and communications.

Since our Spring Regionals, I have had the privilege of working closely with Teresa and our diocesan team to support parish councils as they navigate both routine responsibilities and unexpected challenges. This collaborative approach reflects the strength of our League when we work together with mutual respect, clear communication, and a shared commitment to our mission.

As we move forward into the coming months, parish councils are encouraged to continue engaging with diocesan leadership, to ask questions, and to seek assistance when needed. No council stands alone; we are strongest when we walk together, supporting one another in faith and service.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to our Diocesan President Teresa, my fellow officers, regional chairs, and parish presidents for their dedication and collaborative spirit. It is a privilege to serve alongside women who so generously give of their time and talents in service to God, the Church, and our communities.

Let us continue to support and uplift one another in faith, service, social justice, and sisterhood.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Grint

Vice-President and Organization Chair

Fall 2025

SPARKLE SPECTRUM

14

Joanne Palmer – Diocesan Secretary and Communications Chair



Diocesan Officer/Chair Name:

Joanne Palmer

Diocesan Position:

Second Vice President-Christian Family Life Chair

Contact Email:

secretary1cwlhamilton@gmail.com

Dear League Sisters,

As we welcome the Fall season, let us pray and reflect on the beauty of the Fall colours and landscape created by God for us to embrace. *Lord, we thank you for the gift of family and community, and for the love and support that surrounds us. Bless our time together Lord, and help us to encourage one another in Faith and good deeds. May our gatherings be filled with your peace and joy and may we carry the spirit of unity with us in all we do. Guide us to be a source of love and strength for each other, reflecting grace in our relationships. Amen*

Activities and Updates:

The following are my activities and updates since our Hamilton Diocesan Convention in May 2025, and what a Convention it was!

- In June 2025, I attended our Hamilton Diocesan Pre-Convention Meeting, and was very pleased by feedback received.
- In July 2025, I attended a Diocesan Executive Meeting
- In July 2025, I attended the Provincial Convention in London Ontario.
- In August 2025, I virtually attended the National Convention, which took place in Toronto.
- I have attended monthly Diocesan Secretary meetings Chaired by the Provincial Secretary.
- I took part in a Resource Development Committee with other Diocesan Secretaries
- In August 2025, I attended funerals and participated in an honour guard of two long standing League members on behalf of Diocesan President Teresa DiFalco, who was away on vacation.
- In September I attended a Hamilton Diocesan Executive meeting, and look forward to attending all three Fall Regional Meetings.

As the beauty of the Fall season begins to reveal its beauty and *Sparkle*, I remind you to pause and embrace this gift, and to remember that each gift given to us by God is meant for us to Sparkle God's Way as beacons of Light and Hope for all.

I will continue to serve you with joy and gratitude, and keep our parish secretaries informed.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Palmer

Diocesan Secretary

Hamilton Diocesan Council, Catholic Women's League of Canada

Spread a little bit of Sparkle to all your Sisters



Mary Clark – Diocesan Treasurer



Diocesan Officer/Chair Name:

Mary Clark

Diocesan Position:

Treasurer

Contact Email:

treasurercwlhamilton@gmail.com

Dear Sisters in the League

“Seasons Change But Jesus Christ Remains The Same” Hebrews 13:8

Dear Sisters in the League

As we enter the season of Fall we give thanks to The Lord for providing farmers and gardeners with a bountiful harvest.

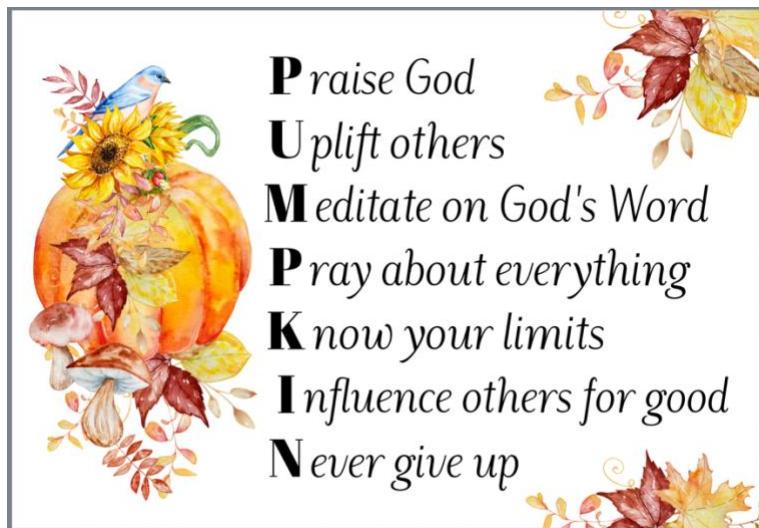
With the coming of Fall we turn our minds to the activites we have planned for the upcoming fall and winter months.

Since we last met in March of 2025.....

- I attended several meetings by Zoom in preparation for the annual diocesan convention
- I attended and presented at the Diocesan's 105th Annual Convention at the Holiday Inn Burlington May 30 – June 1, 2025
- I attended the 78th Annual Ontario Provincial Convention at the Four Point Sheraton Conference Centre, London July 6 – 9, 2025
- I attended the 105th National Convention at the Marriott Downtown CF Toronto Eaton Centre, Toronto August 10 – 13, 2025 – the first day August 10th taking in the WUCWO (World Union of Catholic Women's Organisations) Convention
- At both conventions attended opening and closing Masses, heard many speakers, took in two break-out sessions – “Send Me Lord to Ignite Our Gifts” and “Call Me Lord to Lead and Follow” and the fun evening activities. Thoroughly enjoyed myself meeting, mingling, praying and learning with Sisters in the League from not only our province but across our great country as we serve the church as Catholic women growing in faith and witnessing the love of God through ministry and service
- Was unable to attend the July 2nd executive meeting but attended the September 4, 2025 meeting at St. Andrew's Parish, Oakville
- Deposits and payments dealt with and records updated in a timely manner

My goals for the upcoming months are to.....

- Begin the 2026 budget process with committee members and present to Presidents for input by zoom for approval at the November Executive Meeting
- Gathering information to create a list as to where donations are to be listed under the standing committees of faith, service and social justice along with parish donations and other donations to help Treasurers in preparing the annual reports. Presidents, please watch for this email from your Regional Chair in the near future and with the help of your treasurer I hope to receive many replies.
- I suggest if you have not already done so to setup an email account for your council link it to your bank account to receive monies by e-transfer for such things as memberships, donations etc. Keep in mind that due to the two signatures required rule only cheques are to be issued to cover expenses.
- Send out the Administration Fee invoice by email late November early December. Presidents, please watch for this email from your Regional Chair to pass onto your treasurer for payment. Please postdate your cheque for January 1, 2026 and mail to my home address as indicated on the invoice
- Continue to be a good steward of the monies of the diocesan council by being open and transparent to all members
- I will be praying to the Holy Spirit for his guidance as you consider the gifts and talents with which you have been blessed by God when asked “Will you let your name stand for a position on the Diocesan Executive”. As my term as Diocesan Treasurer comes to an end I urge you to let your talents *“Sparkle God’s Way as a Beacon of Hope and Light.”*



Joyce Cotter – Diocesan Past-President/Historian



Diocesan Officer/Chair Name:

Joyce Cotter

Diocesan Position:

Past-President/Historian

Contact Email:

pastpreshamiltoncwl@gmail.com

“Let the field be jubilant, and everything in them: let all the trees of the forest sing for joy.”

Psalm 96:12

Fall is the most beautiful time of year in my mind. The cool crispness to the air, the time for harvesting all the bounties from the garden and the vibrant colours as the leaves change from green to red, orange and yellow. It reminds me of all the wonders that Christ has in store for us as we move from one season to the next.

It is also a time for cleanup, getting things organized and updating files or reviewing policies. The Policies and Procedures Manual contains detailed information and helpful examples/standard rules to follow when performing the work of the League.

The National P&P Manual was last updated in 2024 and can be found on the website (cwl.ca) as well as the Hamilton CWL website (cwlhamilton.ca). A member can put forward a proposed revision to the National P&P manual by December 1, 2025. Form 201 can be found under Resources on the national website.

Each Council Parish should have their own set of Policies and Procedures. Policies are established by motions or long-standing customs. Some examples are:

- Meetings – Executive, General
- Monthly Mass & Special Masses
- Annual Budget Preparation
- Annual Meeting of Members (convention) policy – paid expenses for voting/accredited delegates (travel, hotel, meals)
- Member Recognition – membership pins, special awards,
- Book of Life Protocol
- Get Well wishes/Expressions of Sympathy
- School bursaries
- Gifts, honoraria, expenses for presenters/workshops
- Archives
- Insurance coverage

- Nominations & Elections protocol

For more information on preparing/updating a Parish Council P&P, please contact Joyce Cotter at pastpreshamiltoncwl@gmail.com. I look forward to working with Parish Councils to streamline their Policy and Procedures manual.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel guide us always, as together we work for God and Canada.

God Bless
Joyce Cotter
Past President Historian



Kathy Imperatore, Faith Chair



Diocesan Officer/Chair Name:

Kathryn Imperatore

Diocesan Position:

Faith Chair (2024 – 2026)

Contact Email:

faith1cwlhamilton@gmail.com

Dear Sisters in the League,

As Catholic women called to serve God and His people, the work of the Faith Standing Committee continues to be grounded in prayer, faith formation, and lived witness. This past year has invited us to deepen our relationship with Christ and to allow that relationship to guide our service in our parishes, communities, and the wider Church.

Guided by our diocesan theme, Sparkle God's Way, and the National theme, Here I Am Lord, Send Me, we have emphasized that faith formation is the foundation of all we do as members of The Catholic Women's League of Canada. Faith grows when we pray, reflect, and journey together as sisters in Christ.

Parish councils have been encouraged to integrate prayer into meetings, honour the liturgical seasons, and offer opportunities for spiritual growth through Scripture and faith-sharing, with a focus on unity, hope, and servant leadership.

As we look ahead, councils are encouraged to continue supporting diocesan and regional faith initiatives and the spiritual needs of their members. I extend sincere gratitude to parish faith chairs, presidents, and spiritual advisors for their faithful service, which strengthens our League and bears witness to Christ's presence among us.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathryn Imperatore

Maricris Limson, Diocesan Service Chair



Diocesan Chair:

Diocesan Position:

Contact Email:

Maricris Limson

Service Chair (2024 – 2026)

service1cwlhamilton@gmail.com

In May 2025, I was honoured to assist Elder Wilamina McGrimmond at our Diocesan Convention, an opportunity graciously extended by Diocesan President Teresa DiFalco. Spending time with Elder Wilamina, whose wisdom and lived experience are deeply inspiring, was a profoundly meaningful experience.

With the support of our Diocesan President, I am currently leading two diocesan initiatives. In response to the recent wildfires, I am coordinating the preparation of 72-hour emergency kits to be sent to a northern community that was evacuated last June. As a Community Health Nurse serving these regions, I have witnessed firsthand the importance of emergency preparedness.

With God's blessing, our medical mission team from Our Lady of the Assumption Parish in Stoney Creek will travel to Ghana this October with Father Andrew. In addition to providing medical care and supplies, we will bring handmade knitted or crocheted dolls to share with children, offering comfort and joy.

This years' service focus includes Resolution 2025.04, Federal Government to Complete the Development of the Office of Palliative Care, introduced by National Service Chair Madonna Clark and Provincial Service Chairs.

I am pleased to share that Julie Gibson of St. Basil Parish in Brantford has joined the Diocesan Service Committee and is already creating Sparkle Dolls to be taken to Ghana and gifted to children in need.

Respectfully submitted,
Maricris Limson

Julia Calverley, Diocesan Social Justice Chair



Diocesan Officer/Chair Name:

Julia Calverley

Diocesan Position:

Social Justice Chair

Contact Email:

[**socialjustice2cwlhamilton@gmail.com**](mailto:socialjustice2cwlhamilton@gmail.com)

Dear League Sisters,

Autumn is upon us, and it is a season that reminds us that change is both inevitable and beautiful. The leaves change colour, the air cools, and creation itself reflects a divine rhythm - of letting go, of transformation, of preparedness for what is to come.

As Catholic Women's League members, we, too, are called to move gracefully through seasons of change. In our families, our communities, our Church, and even in ourselves - we witness shifts that challenge us, stretch us, and ultimately shape us.

But in every change, there is light. And in every challenge, there is hope. May we learn not just to endure change, but to "Sparkle" within it - to let our faith, kindness, and courage shine brightly for others to see. Like the harvest, may we gather the fruits of our labour in prayer, service, and social justice - offering them back to God with grateful hearts.

As the Social Justice Chair, I have had the great occasion to celebrate our sisterhood while attending the May Diocesan Convention in Burlington, the July Ontario Provincial Convention in London and finally the August National Convention in Toronto. With all the conventions being so close, it gave me an incredible opportunity to meet lovely women from across the diocese, the province and the country, including some very enthusiastic ladies from the Northwest Territories. They were a hoot!

At both the Provincial and National Conventions, I had the opportunity to help the social justice chairs with their resolution dialogues. It was a very enlightening procedure. Three of the four resolutions at Provincial were debated and Adopted, and all four resolutions were debated and adopted at the National Convention. This means that a delegation will go to Parliament and present our resolutions and our voice is heard.

The following four resolutions were Adopted at the National Convention and are posted on the national website. Members and councils are encouraged to read, study and work on their action plans:

2025.01 Federal Government to Create a Unified and Centralized Cybercrime Reporting System for Individuals in Canada

2025.02 Amend the Canadian Criminal Code Section 223(1) defining when a child becomes a human being

2025.03 Strengthen Support for Chaplains to Provide Faith-Based Care to Members and Families of the Canadian Armed Forces

2025.04 Federal Government to Complete the Development of the Office of Palliative Care

Social justice issues are problems that arise when there is inequality, discrimination, or unfair treatment within a society, hindering some groups from accessing their rights, opportunities, and resources. For example, some key social justice issues could include: racial and gender inequality, economic disparity, lack of healthcare and food access, environmental concerns, and discrimination based on factors like disability, age, or sexual orientation.

One particular area of social justice is the problem of homelessness. The Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness (CAEH) encourages you to send letters to the Prime Minister, the Housing Minister, the Finance Minister and the Finance Committee to demand leadership on homelessness and to fix the housing crisis. There should be affordable and supportive housing, and support for communities to resolve unsheltered homelessness faster.

The goal of social justice is to create a fair, equitable, and inclusive society where everyone has the opportunity to reach their full potential. Addressing social justice issues can lead to a more stable society, greater empathy, and shared prosperity for all.

When your council works on resolutions, you bring Hope and Light to situations that you may have encountered, undertaken or witnessed. Look around your community, province or country. What could you, would you, work to change?

2026 Resolutions Topics Submission Deadline:

I am encouraging every member/council to submit resolution topics to me by Friday October 31, 2025. As your Hamilton Diocesan Social Justice Chair, I will work with you and guide you through the process. Let's make positive changes together!

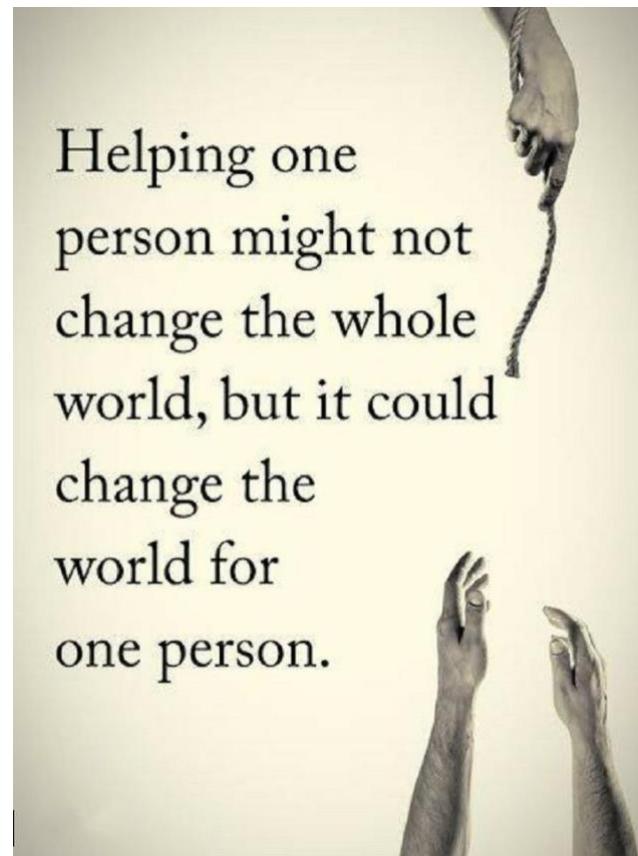
The following are some helpful resources on resolutions:

- Resources to work on Resolution are:
- Resolutions Handbook, 2025 (618)
- Resolutions Guide (620)
- Resolutions Workshop PowerPoint (833a)
- Resolutions Workshop – Presentation Guidelines and Speaker Notes (#833b) are available on the national website using your membership ID to access them.

You can reach out to me at socialjustice2cwlhamilton@gmail.com



Helping one person might not change the whole world, but it could change the world for one person.



Hamilton & Brant Regional Teams



Colleen Ionson, Hamilton Regional Chair



Diocesan Officer/Chair Name:

Colleen Ionson

Diocesan Position:

Hamilton Regional Chair

Contact Email:

hamiltonchair1cwlhamilton@gmail.com

Dear Sisters in the League,

In this season of change, let us carry the *sparkle of hope* within our hearts. May the harvest of light remind us that every ending ripens into a new beginning, and that even the winds of change scatter seeds of renewal and growth. As women of faith, may our spirits shine with gratitude, resilience, and joy as we step forward together into the beauty of what is yet to come.

Highlights Since Our Last Gathering – March 2025

It has been a privilege to represent and walk alongside you in various League events and celebrations of faith and sisterhood. Since March, I have had the joy of:

- Supporting Julia Calverley, Kitchener Regional Chair, at the regional meeting, stepping in as secretary while her own was unwell.
- Sharing fellowship at a CWL potluck with Diocesan President Teresa DiFalco at St. Benedict's, Milton.
- Participating in Diocesan Meeting and Informational via zoom and in person, in preparing for our 2025 Hamilton Convention and Annual Meeting of Members.
- Attending several CWL monthly Masses for the CWL members of the Hamilton Diocese, sponsored by the Provincial.
- Participating in Diocesan Mentoring Monday facilitated by Diocesan President Teresa DiFalco.
- Attending the Installation Mass of the executive of the newly reinstated CWL at the Incarnation of Our Blessed Lord Parish
- Attending the April and May Reels of Justice Film Festival
- Attending the 105th Diocesan Annual Convention at the Holiday Inn, Burlington (May 30 – June 1, 2025).
- Attending various council meeting with Diocesan President Teresa DiFalco.

- Attending the post-convention and diocesan meetings at St. Pius X Parish Hall, Brantford (July 2).
- Representing us at the 78th Ontario Provincial Convention at the Four Points Sheraton Conference Centre, London (July 6–9).
- Taking part in the 105th National Convention virtually, including the WUCWO (World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations) Convention on August 10.
- Honouring the life of Sister Audrey Burns, CSJ, beloved member of Holy Rosary Milton CWL, by attending her funeral as Diocesan representative on behalf of Diocesan President Teresa DiFalco (August 30 at Holy Rosary, Burlington).
- Attending the September 4 Diocesan Executive Meeting at St. Andrew's Parish, Oakville.

My Goals for the Months Ahead

Looking forward, I am committed to:

- Hosting monthly check-ins with our Hamilton Regional Presidents to ensure open communication and ongoing support.
- Responding promptly and thoughtfully to questions and concerns as they arise.
- Living out and modelling the CWL values of faith, service, and sisterhood with respect and integrity.

Together, may we continue to strengthen our bonds, inspire one another, and truly *Sparkle God's way* as beacons of hope and light in our parishes, communities, and beyond.

With gratitude and sisterhood,
Respectfully submitted,
Colleen

Mariuccia (Mary) D'Orazio, Hamilton Regional Secretary



Debra Noronha, Brant Regional Chair



Diocesan Officer/Chair Name:

Debra Noronha

Diocesan Position:

Brant Regional Chair

Contact Email:

[**brantchair1cwlhamilton@gmail.com**](mailto:brantchair1cwlhamilton@gmail.com)

"Sparkle in the Season of Change as the Harvest of Hope and Light"

"To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven..."

He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end." Ecclesiastes 3:1-11

My dear sisters in the League,

As summer rays dwindle and we enter the bountiful harvest of the season of Fall, it is good to be silent and to reflect. It is a season to be hopeful and grateful.

I myself am overjoyed with the arrival of my first grandchild, who graced this earth on June 18th, 2025. The joy of new life, is like no other, and simple tasks and activities become more joyous.

I liken this to my CWL family, as I go about my daily duties, in preparation for a busy fall season in the Hamilton diocese. There are new beginnings, for new presidents and executives, change as in the seasons, growth opportunity, and opportunity to continue to flourish in our faith journeys.

From Spring onward , there was a bustle of activity with pre-convention meetings both in person and via zoom that filled our days in preparation for this convention.

Our key note speaker Dr. Linda Dudar, was truly inspiring with her insightful talks and leading us in faith and devotion to "Say Yes to mother Mary". Her joyful talents of voice and music provided us all with such Hope and inspiration, dispelling despair and gloom and providing us with tools for change in our lives that is uplifting ,while doing the task of" internal conversion" as we strive to serve as people of God.

After the May , 105th Diocesan convention, there was a huge sigh of relief and contentment from a successful event where fellowship, and fraternity were greeted with such enthusiasm.

Our executive team continued throughout the summer months with meetings both planning for the upcoming Fall regionals and scheduling and preparing for calendar events for the remainder of this 2025 year. This continued in June, July and in Sept. This was intermingled with some well-deserved rest and relaxation, and personal “self-care”, which is essential for all of us.

Together with our diocesan counterpart for Hamilton, we met with the host councils at St Thomas the Apostle, where we were graciously greeted by Diane, and Carol and company. Their enthusiasm and delight to host the Hamilton/Brant Fall regional meeting was so lovely, and inviting in true “Sparkle Gods Way”. The church and venue are spectacular. We are looking forward to meeting with you all on Sept 27th, 2025.

In July, I had the pleasure of attending the opening day of the National Convention. This was held in Toronto, Ontario, and gave me my first opportunity to attend a national convention. The interactions of women from across Canada was like a “warm hug” knowing we are so relevant to the needs of today and that we must continue to work in our individual councils and regions to affect change for the marginalized and less fortunate. Change and flexibility are the key to addressing the needs of today. We stand on a true foundation of gospel values, but must be open to intermittent self-reflection and internal conversion, and change to grow.

Let us collect the Fall harvest, with thankfulness and lay the seeds for good change and hope to all we meet as we “Sparkle Gods Way”

With blessing,
Debra Noronha
Brant Regional Chair

Respectfully submitted:
Debra Noronha
Brant Regional Chair

Meagan Kadirgamar, Brant Regional Secretary



Bernadette Best, Kitchener Regional Chair



Diocesan Officer/Chair Name:

Bernadette Best

Diocesan Position:

Kitchener Regional Chair

Contact Email:

kitchenerchair2cwlhamilton@gmail.com

Greetings from the Kitchener Region!

As the autumn leaves turn and fall, we are reminded of the beauty that comes with change and the hope that lies in every new season. In this time of harvest, we reflect with gratitude on the fruits of the earth and on the spiritual fruits cultivated within each of us.

Help us recognize the quiet ways God has been working in our hearts: renewing our faith, deepening our hope, and calling us to be women of light in our families, communities, and world.

In this sisterhood of the Catholic Women's League, may we support and uplift one another as we continue to grow in love and service. Let us "**Sparkle God's Way**" and be like the autumn sun — gentle, warm, and steady — shining light into places that need comfort, kindness, and truth.

Let us give thanks for the beautiful bond we share as sisters in Christ. In the Catholic Women's League, we are not just members, we are companions on a sacred journey, walking together in prayer, action, and compassion. Whether through shared laughter, a listening ear, or a shoulder to lean on, the strength of our sisterhood is a reflection of God's love made visible.

As your new Regional Chair, I have been busy connecting with the various councils in our region, preparing for site visits, and getting everything in place for our upcoming fall regional meeting. I want to thank all of you for your patience and support as I continue to learn and grow in this new role. It has been a true joy getting to know the wonderful women who make up our councils, and I look forward to the next time we can gather and share in fellowship once again. May this season renew our spirits and unite us ever more deeply in faith, friendship, and mission.

Respectfully submitted,

Bernadette Best
Kitchener Regional Chair
Fall 2025

Susan Narducci - Kitchener Regional Secretary



Nancy Skiba, North Regional Chair



Diocesan Officer/Chair Name:

Nancy Skiba

Diocesan Position:

North Regional Chair

Contact Email:

northchair1cwlhamilton@gmail.com

Greetings from the Northern Region! It has been very busy since the Spring Regional. I attended the pre-convention meetings both in person and by zoom and met with the diocesan executive and the regional chairs and secretaries to plan the 105th Annual Convention.

The 105th Hamilton Diocesan convention was held in Burlington. The convention was very informative, inspiring and also a social gathering of members from all parts of the Hamilton Diocese. The keynote speaker, Dr. Linda Dudar, shared so much information. The Eucharistic Celebrations were held at St. Raphael's Burlington and St. Andrew's, Oakville. And of course, the Saturday night entertainment was enjoyable. The weekend followed the theme "Sparkle God's Way" and we truly celebrated sisterhood.

I attended the post-convention meeting in Brantford at St. Pius on July 2, 2025. I also attended a zoom meeting with Diocesan President Teresa DiFalco, and the other regional chairs and secretaries to plan the Fall Regional meeting. This is so helpful for me to meet with the other regional chairs and secretaries.

I also will attend the diocesan meeting at St. Andrew's in Oakville on September 4, 2025, to discuss the agenda for the Fall Regional and other activities.

Thank you to the CWL at St. Joseph's, Cargill for hosting the Fall Northern Regional meeting on September 13, 2025 and the CWL council at Our Lady of the Purification, Mount Forest for agreeing to host the Spring Northern Regional meeting on March 21, 2026. Our Regional meetings have been very informative. It is also a time where we have great conversations with each other. Again, we truly celebrate the sisterhood found in the CWL at these meetings.

Also, I do welcome our new CWL council in the North – St. John the Evangelist (Dundalk, Shelburne, Proton). The ladies have worked hard in restarting their council and their hard work is appreciated. Thank you.

As in the last three years, my goal for this year is to continue to act as liaison between the northern councils and the diocesan executive. I do enjoy working with the presidents and the councils in the North and I thank them 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

Sherie Bowen, North Regional Secretary



Joan Schurter – LIFE MEMBER LIAISON





TEAM SPARKLE GOD'S WAY

Debrief Report on Ontario Provincial Convention 2025

A Sparkling Experience of Faith, Leadership, and Sisterhood

Report by: Hamilton Diocesan President & Voting Delegate – Teresa DiFalco

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

I had the privilege of representing our Hamilton Diocesan Council as a member of the Provincial Council as our Council's Voting Delegate at the 78th Annual Ontario Provincial Convention and Annual Meeting of Members, held in London Ontario from July 5 – 9, 2025. Attending with me were, Vice-President Laura Grint, and Secretary Joanne Palmer who both attended as Accredited Voting Delegates for the Hamilton Diocesan Council. We were joined by Treasurer Mary Clark, Past-President Joyce Cotter, Social Justice Chair Julia Calverley, Hamilton Regional Chair Colleen Ionson, Kitchener Regional Chair Bernadette Best from the Hamilton Diocesan Council Team. Four Parish Presidents attended from the Hamilton Region, one Parish President from the Kitchener Region, one member from the Hamilton Region, and six Life Members.

Provincial Pre-convention Meeting and the London Experience

I attended the Provincial pre-convention meeting from 8:30am – 1:30pm on the Sunday, along with the Provincial Officers and other Diocesan Presidents, while the other members embarked on London Tours. Our Diocesan group enjoyed a guided tour of St. Peter's Seminary.

Liturgies

The liturgies throughout the convention were truly beautiful, with Bishop Campeau and several clergy celebrating the Masses with reverence and joy.

The Opening Ceremony and Mass took place at St. Justine's, with the opening ceremonies first followed by the Opening Mass. There was no procession except for the three flags – The Canada Flag carried by National President Shari Guinta, the Provincial Flag carried by London Diocesan President Denise Morris, and the CWL flag carried by Provincial President Colleen Martin. The church was very warm as there was no air conditioning. A brief reception followed in the parish hall, again warm with no air-conditioning. I look it at this way, the majority of us grew up without the luxury of air-conditioning and to be thankful for the opportunity and not having to wear a Chasuble on top of our clothing like our dear clergy. The closing Mass was just as lovely and meaningful.

Leading the Diocesan Reports

I was humbled to lead the collaboration and presentation of the 12 Diocesan Reports. To celebrate our shared spirit, I composed a song that embraced the beauty and gifts of each diocese and diocesan council across Ontario. I have been asked to record and share it, which I will. All in attendance participated in singing it and the reception of the lyrics were very moving. We carried the sunflower theme into our diocesan presidents presentation, symbolizing how diocesan presidents – like sunflowers – spread seeds across their regions as leader, mentors and builders of membership and sisterhood.

To bring this vision to life, I ordered sunflower costumes for our group. What began as a joyful prop soon became a delight across the convention floor. Provincial President Colleen Martin, Bishop Campeau, and even other clergy joined in the fun, wearing our sunflower costumes with smiles that lit up the room.

I was moved to tears when my sister diocesan presidents surprised me with a Spiritual Bouquet and a beautiful card, a gesture of gratitude that I will forever cherish.

Keynote Inspiration

The keynote address was offered by Dr. Josephine Lombardi, presenting from her book *Marian Approaches to Synodality*. She reminded us that synodality is about *walking together in Christ*, rooted in three forms:

- **Christology: Jesus is the Way**
- **Ecclesiology: The Church is the Way to the Way**
- **Mariology: Mary shows us the Way to Jesus**

Her words deeply resonated: “The worst kind of envy is the envy of one person’s personal gifts.” This truth reminded me of our diocesan Sparkle theme. God gave each of us unique gifts meant to shine – our personal “sparkle.” As Matthew 5:15-16 reminds us, “let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”

Sparkle Throughout the Convention

Ironically, our diocesan theme, Sparkle God’s Way, twinkled throughout the convention. The Provincial Executive presentations were both creative and entertaining, radiating joy, and delivering informative messages. Presentations/Reports were also given by our new Ontario Spiritual Advisor, Most Reverenced Bishop Alan Campeau, Ontario Provincial President Colleen Martin, National President Shari Guinta, and National Vice-President, Betty Colaneri; while workshop presentations such as *Ignite the League – One Spark at a Time* inspired us to bring new light and energy into our parish councils. I particularly respected the credit that the Provincial President gave to another executive member for helping write her report, recognizing and utilizing the gifts of others. It reminded me of one of Mother Teresa’s famous quotes - “*I have gifts that you don’t have and you have gifts that I don’t have but together we can do great things.*” How very true. I encourage all members to recognize, share and embrace each other’s gifts for the betterment of the work we do for God and Canada.

Recognizing the Good Works of others through Social Justice/Advocacy

The Social Justice Award was presented to Syl Roach, a member from St. Catharines Diocese, accepted with gratitude by their diocesan president.

Highlights of Faith and Fellowship

Among the spiritual highlights was the Evening Prayer and Healing/Reconciliation Service facilitated by our new Ontario Provincial Spiritual Advisor, Most Reverend Bishop Alan Campeau. His presence, warmth, and joy touched everyone.

And there was Fun Night! The London Diocese hosted a spirited game night where dioceses competed against each other. Our team was named Sparkle God’s Way. We wore black and our Sparkle God’s Way Pins. Each team ran a circuit of games and the team with the most points won a prize. Hamilton Diocesan Council did well, with Ashley Palmer (Joanne’s daughter) putting the only hole in one! We were gifted with Canada Day gear. Despite the summer heat wave and no air conditioning, the laughter, prizes, and camaraderie created lasting memories.

Of course, no convention would be complete without a few surprises! A little after midnight one evening, a false fire alarm had us all evacuating the hotel in our pajamas, standing in the parking lot as fire trucks arrived to check things out. Needless to say, I was in the middle of my bedtime bath. All I can say is – it’s no easy task rushing out of a tub and trying to dress a wet body in a hurry! *LOL*. It was one of those moments that reminded us that sisterhood includes not only prayer and business, but also laughter and shared adventures.

Resolutions and Business Sessions

Diocesan Social Justice Chair Julia Calverley and I were asked to be table facilitators for the Resolutions Dialogue session, taking members through three Resolutions, which were then presented during the business meeting, debated and voted on. The resolutions and their outcome are:

- 1) ON.25.01 Expand the Criminal Code to protect Politicians Against Acts of Violence and Incivility – Gifted by Sault Ste. Marie Diocesan Council **DEFEATED**
- 2) ON.25.02 Federal Government to Create a Unified and Centralized Cybercrime Reporting System for All Canadians – Gifted by Toronto Diocesan Council **ADOPTED**
- 3) ON.25.03 Federal Government to Develop the Health Canada Office of Palliative Care – Gifted by the Toronto Diocesan Council **ADOPTED**

These important steps reflect our League's commitment to faith and social justice.

Convention Credentials

Final credentials confirmed the vibrant presence of the League across Ontario:

- Diocesan Voting Delegates: **12**
- Executive Voting Delegates: **9**
- Diocesan Accredited Delegates: **16**
- Parish Accredited Delegates: **45**
- Honorary Life Members: **2**
- Life Members: **40**
- **Total Delegates: 124**

In addition, I am proud to note that aside from the voting and accredited delegates, 8 members from Hamilton Diocese were in attendance.

Final Reflection

It was an inspiring and faith-filled gathering of sisters united in League service, rooted in the Provincial theme of Joy and the Sunflower symbol. The London Diocesan Council and their Parish Councils were wonderful and welcoming hosts.

The London Diocesan were gracious and organized hosts, even honouring me as an honorary member of their council.

In an effort of saving on costs, evaluations were done electronically and via a QR Code.

With gratitude and joy,
Teresa

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

PARISH PRESIDENT'S REGIONAL REPORTS

(March 2025 – September 2025)

BRANT

BRANTFORD
BURFORD
PARIS



Parish Council:	St. Basil – Brantford
Prepared by:	Julie Gibson, President (2023-2025)
Spiritual Advisor:	Fr. Kevin D'Sousa
Number of Members:	48

Ladies of the CWL,

Since our last Regional Meeting, St. Basil's CWL joyfully gathered for a Communion Lunch, where we were blessed to welcome our inspiring and sparkling Diocesan President, Teresa DiFalco, as our guest speaker. Teresa shared an engaging presentation on the three guiding pillars of the League—Service, Faith, and Social Justice—reminding us of the true heart of our mission. We invited our Brant regional sisters to join us, and we were delighted with the wonderful turnout. Her words left us both enriched and encouraged.

Our newly formed Craft Group continues to thrive, with members knitting and crocheting beautiful items. These creations have not only supported our fundraising efforts for the CWL but have also been generously donated to St. Vincent de Paul and to those experiencing homelessness in our community. Truly, our hands have become instruments of service and love.

At the end of May, I had the privilege of attending the Hamilton Diocesan Annual General Meeting of Members and Convention (May 30 – June 1, 2025). It was a weekend filled with learning, laughter, and faith. Joining me were our Vice President, Leanne Vreugdenhill, and one of our newest members, Josephine, whose enthusiasm added much joy. I was also honoured to volunteer with the Diocesan Convention Committee and witness the many details come together to create a Spirit-filled event. The theme, *Sparkle God's Way*, set a radiant tone and left us all uplifted and shining. As a token of gratitude, our Diocesan President presented each committee volunteer with a stunning *Sparkle God's Way* brooch—a keepsake we will cherish.

Looking ahead, I am excited to be registered for the Diocesan Advent Retreat in Niagara Falls this December. My heartfelt thanks go to our Diocesan President, Teresa, and her Executive for creating such meaningful League-building opportunities where we may grow in faith, deepen our sisterhood, and continue our journey of service together.

I am humbled and elated to sit as a member of the Diocesan Service Committee.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Gibson, President

Julie Gibson, President

St. Joseph Council - Brantford
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

St. Mary Council - Brantford
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

Date: 09/02/2025
Parish Council: St. Pius X Parish Council, Brantford
Parish Council President and Term: Patricia McDougall (2019 – 2025)
Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Joseph Okoko
NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 124
Date of Last Election: 12/05/2019

March:

- 2nd - hosted a pancake/sausage breakfast for the Parish community after Mass for Shrove Tuesday - had student volunteers to assist- served 300+
- 6th - the informative guest speaker at our council meeting was the executive director of the Hope Pregnancy & Family Support Centre
- 14th - lead Mary's Way of the Cross
- 15th - Hamilton District Regional meeting - several members attended
- 16th - Bishop Crosby celebrated the Mass along with Fr. Rafal Tomon

April:

- 6th - celebrated the Ontario Provincial Mass Intentions for CWL Members – Bishop Lobsinger celebrated with Fr. Rafal Tomon – guest sisters attended, including Diocesan President Teresa DiFalco, Brant Regional Chair Debra Norohna, Brant Regional Secretary Meagan Kadirgamar, and members from other councils.
- 6th held a second pancake dinner - well attended
- 25th - hosted appreciation dinner for St. Vincent de Paul volunteers
- 26th - attended Mass at St. Basil's Church, a Holy Door church, for the Pilgrimage Day of Prayer

May:

- 1st – Fr. Rafal said Mass for us, with the Crowning of Mary, council meeting followed
- Prayers for Pope Francis - RIP
- 3rd - prepared lunch for the Be A Man regional conference - 175 attended
- 30th -June 1st - several members attended the Hamilton Diocesan Convention- provided a gift basket for the diocesan convention silent auction
- handed out donation baby bottles after Masses on Mother's Day for the Hope Pregnancy Centre - to be returned on Father's Day in June
- very well received and raised approximately \$800

June:

- 5th - had our annual Mass and potluck dinner
- 3rd - attended the Ontario Provincial Mass at St. Basil's Church
- 7th - hosted a Jubilee Pilgrimage bus trip to the Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate, Guelph and St. Andre's Church , Oakville - 42 people took part- amazing event
- 8th - we assisted with a barbecue thank you and send off for Fr. Rafal Tomon- 250 parishioners attended
- 23rd - resented elementary student awards for Grade 8 graduates
- 24th - provided service to St. Vincent de Paul executive members meeting

July:

- met with our new priests- Fr. Joseph Okoko and Fr. John Iyekowa
- 6th / 8th - attended the Annual Ontario Provincial Convention
- 21st - held executive meeting
- organized the tickets for our upcoming Christmas bazaar
- Continued planning for the bazaar

August:

- 12th attended National Annual Convention
- Started a 'back to school' backpack donation drive for the elementary students in our district

September:

- 4th - Mass and council meeting- Fr. Joseph Okoko will celebrate the Mass
- Presentation of our Spiritual Advisor pin
- welcome for our new priests from our council members
- looking forward to attending the Hamilton and Brant Regional Meeting in Waterdown on the 17th

Blessed Sacrament - Burford
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

Sacred Heart Parish – Paris
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

HAMILTON

BURLINGTON
DUNDAS
FREELTON
GEORGETOWN
HAMILTON
MILTON
OAKVILLE
STONEY CREEK (ELFRIDA & BINBROOK)
WINONA



Date: **September 4, 2025**
Parish Council: **Holy Rosary, Burlington**
Parish Council President and Term: **Barbara Mac Isaac. 2025 - 2027**
Spiritual Advisor: **Rev. David Wilhelm**
NUMBER OF MEMBERS: **113**
Date of Last Election: **January 28, 2025**

Since the last meeting in March, our council has kept up a fairly busy schedule.

In April, during Lent, we had Luisa Rossi come and do a presentation on the St John's Bible for the parishioners and this was well received and an excellent presentation. Our members assisted with the presentation of the Stations of the Cross as well as the washing of the feet on Holy Thursday. We had a very interesting presentation by Mr. Ben Boers, President of the Orchid Society and he had enlightened us on how to better take care of our Orchids.

In May, of course we had our 12 Hours of prayer and our Crowning of Mary. For our general Meeting, we held our annual Pin Presentation. Starting our night with mass for our members is always a great beginning to the evening. 12 of the 18 recipients were present and we did hand out the Maple Leaf Pin to one very deserving member.

In June we held our Strawberry Social for the parish and Rev David Wilhelm was able to give an excellent presentation on his recent visit to Rome where he attended the Funeral of our late Pope Francis

This summer, we have been preparing for a presentation to the Parish by Elea Hofman from Halton Alive on the subject of MAID and the proposed changes to the Bill.

Barb Mac Isaac
President Holy Rosary Burlington

Parish Council: **St Gabriel's Church , Burlington**
Parish Council President and Term : **Pearlie Chan (2024_2026)**
Spiritual Advisor: **Fr. Paul Niesiobedzki (Jan/2025- June /2025)**
NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 44
Date of Last Election: Jan/2024

Parish activity since last Regional Meeting (May 30/2025)

May /2025 : President Pearlie and Treasurer Jen attended the Regional meeting on May 30-June 1. Treasurer Jen Paduch received a certificate for being nominated the Frances Lovering Award. Guest speaker Luisa Rossi was invited to show us about St John's Bible which was commissioned by St John's University . Cash donation was given to WALK for LIFE hosted By Haltons Alive on May 31/2025.

June 11/2025 Potluck supper
Christian Living awards were given to two female grade 8 students of St Gabriel and St Mark schools.

Discussion on Annual Christmas Bazaar which will be held on Nov 22/2025. We also discussed Farewell gift for Fr P Niesiobedzki who will be associate Pastor with Fr Duffy at Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate in Guelph . 60 -year Pine presentation to member Rose Nesbitt. Weekly chair exercise will take a break during July and August but will resume in September.

July & August ____ No CWL meeting

Aug 10-13: National CWL Convention : attended by President Pearlie Chan & Treasurer Jen Paduch

September 15 /2025

Discussion on Christmas Bazaar with focus on Canvassing, recruit volunteers, and to get parishioners to bake . Chair exercises program resume

Honorary guard for Funeral protocol was discussed.

Members were encouraged to register for CWL Regional meeting on Sept 27
1 new member was introduced.

St. Patrick – Burlington

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

St. Paul the Apostle – Burlington

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

St. Raphael – Burlington

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

Date: September 10th 2025
Parish Council: St. Augustine-Dundas
Parish Council President and Term: Phyllis Missett 2019-2025
Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Scott Whitfield
NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 79
Date of Last Election: October 24th 2023

In May, we held our CWL Plant Sale. All funds raised went towards our graduation awards, education bursaries and the Chalice Child Sponsorship.

The Strawberry Social was held in June. After the recitation of the rosary, signing of two petitions (MAID and Taxation on Charities) the members enjoyed fresh strawberries and ice cream.

For the Parish BBQ in August, our council supplied the ice cream bars. We also donated three prizes for the Parish Silent Auction.

This month we began planning for the Thanksgiving Pie Sale and the Christmas Market.

Date: August 11, 2025
Parish Council: Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Freelton
Parish Council President and Term: Diane Bangerter 2024-2026
Name of Spiritual Advisor: Father Peter Robinson
NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 43
Date of Last Election: December 8, 2024

Attended World Day of Prayer 1st Friday

18 members enjoyed a Lenten Retreat with Simone Robinson – March 22nd

Annual Ladies Tea, Sunday May 4th @ 12:15. Sale of Alstroemeria Flowers for Mother's Day weekend of 10 & 11. May Crowning, Mass and hospitality with a great attendance.

Sacred Pilgrimage, Wed June 11 at the Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate in Guelph. Eleven participants, along with some from Holy Rosary, Milton and St. Paul, Burlington thoroughly enjoyed Mass, lunch, a tour of the Basilica and Rosary.

In June two members attended OLMC grade eight graduation in which two recipients received a bible each.

On June 21st, the CWL prepared a farewell hospitality for Father Arpee.

Plans are underway to Co-Host Fall Regional Meeting with St Thomas of the Apostle in September. The first planning meeting was held on Sunday June 8th. A second meeting is scheduled for Sunday, September 7th at St. Thomas.

In October we plan on having our Membership Drive.

Fundraisers: Sale of Easter Lillies, Sale of Christmas Planters, Sale of flowers for Mother's Day, Ladies Spring Tea.

Goals: In conjunction with OLMC School, we plan to work with The League of Mary to teach the Rosary to grade two and grade eight students. Also, our goal is to work with the Flamborough Food Bank, who will provide food for the students. This is a new initiative.

Please note: We have our monthly meetings the third Tuesday of every month after the 6:30 Mass. We break for July and August.

Holy Cross – Georgetown

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

Date:	08/13/2025
Parish Council:	Most Blessed Sacrament, Hamilton
Parish Council President and Term:	Rachel McNamara (Acting President)
Spiritual Advisor:	Fr. Charlie Jordon
NUMBER OF MEMBERS:	52
Date of Last Election:	n/a

March 17, 2015 – Our long term President Lucille DiCenso passed away. Her funeral Mass was celebrated on March 24th, with over 40 members in attendance to celebrate her life and act as an Honour Guard.

April 6th – Share the Lent Soup Lunch and Guest Speaker – Sherri Ramiez, from the DaMazenod Door. We learned about the outreach provided by St. Patrick’s Parish in the downtown Hamilton.

Mary 4, 2025 - Mary’s Baby Shower. Our Social Justice League (teen group), cohosted with the CWL a baby shower in honour of Mary. All proceeds and donations were to Regina’s Place.

June 8, 2025 – General Meeting

June 2025 – Graduations – Members attended Our Lady of Lourdes CES, and Blessed Sacrament CES, to handout graduation awards.

August 23/24 – The CWL hosted a Peach Sunday for the parish community. We provided an opportunity for fellowship and community building. We served approximately 80 parishioners.

September 7, 2025 – General Meeting. At the meeting, each member was assigned a prayer partner (or two) to pray for this year. We hope to connect with the founding members who are no longer active in the parish due to age/health reasons.

Canadian Martyrs – Hamilton

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

Date:	August 14, 2025
Parish Council:	Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King, Hamilton
Parish Council President and Term:	Karen Felker 2024-2026
Spiritual Advisor:	Rev. David Wynen
NUMBER OF MEMBERS:	63
Date of Last Election:	February 2024

Our Council’s History & Archives

Earlier in the year our past president attended the Provincial Archival seminar learning about the who, what, when, where, why and how of storing our precious CWL history. The subcommittee, including our Secretary and Treasurer, then diligently set to the task of cleanup of our Archives and a presentation at a General Meeting of our members, which was informative, fun and very well received.

Our Lady of Good Counsel

Our Faith Chair conducted an informative presentation on the history of Our Lady of Good Counsel and her significance to the CWL. A quiz and prizes tested the knowledge of our members before the presentation, lots of fun was had! The session ended with a recitation of the Litany of Our Lady of Good Counsel by all.

Marian Devotion

Our Spiritual Advisor, Fr. Dave Wynen and our Pastoral Minister led a Marian Devotion in the chapel prior to our May General meeting. Before the recitation of the Litany of Loreto, flowers were presented at the feet of a statue of Mary.

CWL Website

Our CWL website for the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King is live! This allows much more information sharing for our members and for those women interested in joining. Deepest gratitude goes to our Service Chair and committee for their dedication to this project.

CWL Service Acknowledgements

Our ceremony for the Presentation of Service Pins was attended by 44 members in June. One member received her 50-year service pin award and 8 received their new member service pin award, the others ranged from 5 years to 45 years of service. We are so blessed to have such dedicated women. We celebrated our fellowship with a lovely high tea with finger sandwiches, cheesecake parfaits, mini pastries, scones, and sparkling beverages.

Meeting schedules are in place for both General and Executive Meetings during the Fall and we have plans in place for Pilgrimage Reflections, October Pies, November Christmas Cards and our Membership Drive prior to our upcoming Executive Elections in 2026.

Date:	September 2, 2025
Parish Council:	Incarnation of Our Blessed Lord Parish, Hamilton
Parish Council President and Term:	Liz Pawlowski (2025-2027)
Spiritual Advisor:	Father Allen Varlaki
NUMBER OF MEMBERS:	12
Date of Last Election:	January 2025

After a 24-year hiatus, Incarnation of Our Blessed Lord Parish is once again an active member of the Hamilton Diocesan Council of the Catholic Women's League (CWL), marking a significant milestone in the parish's history. The Installation Ceremony of the new Executive took place during a celebration of Mass on Sunday April 5, 2025, and was attended by Teresa DiFalco, Diocesan President, and Colleen Ionson, Hamilton Regional Chair.

On April 10, 2025, the Incarnation of Our Blessed Lord Parish Council co-hosted with St Eugene's Council a Lenten Retreat. This event marked the first hosted event for the Incarnation of Our Blessed Lord council, and included a Mass celebrated by Father Joseph Akanbi followed by the Lenten retreat facilitated by Teresa DiFalco. The retreat was attended by 30 members of the co-hosting parishes, including some members from St Patrick's and St John's. The Lenten retreat was a deeply meaningful and spiritually enriching experience that brought renewal and reflection.

The Executive and Membership commemorated the Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel on April 26, 2025 by actively participating in the Mass and providing prayer cards with the prayer to Our Lady of Good Counsel to all parishioners at the Mass.

On Mother's Day, the council recognized all women in the parish by presenting them with a carnation and card to recognize and celebrate their unwavering love, selfless sacrifices, and the countless ways they nurture and shape our lives every day.

On June 25, 2025, the council welcomed our new Spiritual Advisor and Pastor, Father Allen Varlaki. Much thanks and appreciation were extended to Father Joseph Akbani for his spiritual guidance and support offered to the council during his tenure as pastor and Spiritual Advisor.

The return of the Catholic Women's League to Incarnation of Our Blessed Lord Parish is not just a renewal of tradition—it is a testament to the strength and dedication of the women in the parish, who are eager to make a difference in their faith community and beyond.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Pawlowski, President, Incarnation of Our Blessed Lord Parish CWL Council

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

DATE: **August 20, 2025**
PARISH COUNCIL: **St. Eugene – Hamilton**
PREPARED BY: **Angela Rzazewski, President**
SPIRITUAL ADVISOR: **Rev. Kevin Upendran**
NUMBER OF MEMBERS: **51**
DATE OF LAST ELECTION: **June 2024**

The Saint Eugene Council of The Catholic Women's League co-hosted a Lenten retreat with Incarnation Parish under the spiritual guidance of our Diocesan President, Teresa DiFalco. It was so well attended that we will need a larger facility next year. Members of Saint John the Baptist Council joined, as well as members of Saint Patrick's Council. We all left spiritually energized and ready for the Easter celebration.

Several members of our council attended the Diocesan Convention on May 30 – June 1. Reta Carey, a member of the Saint Eugene Council for over 70 years, received the Frances Lovering Woman of the Year Award. We are grateful for the recognition of her service and commitment to the values of the CWL.

Many of the parish social events are led by the Saint Eugene CWL Council. On July 6, a parish picnic was a huge success, in great part due to the effort and commitment of the CWL. Sunday socials after Mass help to bring the parish family together and make everyone feel welcome.

We continue our work with the Catholic Girls' League in the areas of faith and service. We have planned a variety of events to help them on their faith journey and raise awareness of social issues in our community. We have planned a visit to the Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre, the Canadian National Shrine to Saint Therese of Lisieux on October 1st. We will begin with a brief history of the order and the Monastery. We will attend Mass at 11:15am in the chapel. After lunch, we will visit parts of the Monastery and its beautiful grounds.

Respectfully submitted by:

Angela Rzazewski
President

St. Gregory the Great Slovenian Parish – Hamilton

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

St. John the Baptist – Hamilton

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

St. Lawrence the Martyr Parish – Hamilton

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

Date:	September 10, 2025
PARISH COUNCIL:	St. Luke, Hamilton
PARISH COUNCIL PRESIDENT AND TERM:	Rosanne Sogan 2022 (acting president) 2023–2025
SPIRITUAL ADVISOR:	Rev. B. Mike Francis
NUMBER OF MEMBERS:	70
Date of Last Election:	November 2023

St. Luke Catholic Parish is in a multiple *50th Anniversary* celebratory state! St. Luke Parish was established on September 1, 1975, and the school just a few weeks later. The Catholic Women's League was close behind with our inception on February 4, 1976. 50 years of faith, fun and service in our community!

Since the last Regional Meeting in March, our council continues to be active and supportive to our church and ministries. Each month, prior to our meeting, we are blessed to receive the Eucharist at Mass, and each of these Masses is in honour of the living and deceased members of our council.

At our March Meeting, Theresa Hartnett presented, *A Meaningful Walk Through Lent*. This was opened to our parishioners and was received well. A beautiful spiritual way to walk through our days of Lent.

April was once again opened to all parishioners as *Frauds and Scams* information was presented from an employee of TransUnion. One cannot be too careful when it comes to protecting your personal information. It only takes a moment for someone to steal your identity, personal information and your money. Great resources were provided, and a lengthy question and answer period took place.

May, the month of Mary was celebrated with the crowning of the icon of Mary in a beautiful ceremony following our monthly Mass. At our meeting, members were treated to a Tea Party.

June, our wrap-up month, was our traditional potluck with amazing variety of food. We followed this with our infamous mini-Nibbles *and Dibs* which is a fun time with many laughs.

And finally, we opened the Fall season with a *Meet and Greet* giving our members the opportunity to visit with their sister League members.

Respectfully submitted, Rosanne Sogan

Parish Council: St. Margaret Mary Hamilton
Parish Council President and Term: Kim Drotar 2024-2026
Spiritual Advisor: Msgr. Conn O'Mahony
NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 89
Date of Last Election: November 26, 2024

March 25, 2025	Mission with Fr. Trusz
April 22, 2025	Guest speaker Angie Bailey – Love Yourself Calligraphy
May 20, 2025	Annual CWL dinner, other activities visiting priest Fr. Raymond Peter Dinner at St. Naum's
May 24, 2025	Fr. Marcin from Toronto, talk on Women's Strength
July 1, 2025	Plant sale (perennials and annuals)
August 15, 2025	Strawberry Social
September 6-7, 2025	Sponsored BBQ at DeMazenod Door Sundae Sunday, Celebration of New School Year

PARISH COUNCIL: St. Mary Pro-Cathedral, Hamilton
PREPARED BY: Anna Kocmarek
SPIRITUAL ADVSIOR: Fr. Patras Samuel Masih
NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 10
Date of Last Election: February 2024

Dear League sisters,

Where does summer go? I wish everyone a glorious Autumn!

Our council continues to gather faithfully, meeting off-site as we persevere in our work without the support of our parish priest. Despite this challenge, we remain committed to living out the mission of The Catholic Women's League through prayer, service, and sisterhood.

Over the past year, our members have participated in both CWL and community events, representing our council with pride and dedication. We were especially honoured to take part in the community's largest local Breast Cancer Fundraiser, offering both our presence and a meaningful donation in support of those affected by this illness. In addition, we continue to reach out to fellow parishioners and parish groups, offering assistance and solidarity whenever possible.

Looking ahead, we are eager to join our sisters at the Fall Regional Meeting and the upcoming Diocesan Advent Retreat, where we know we will be spiritually enriched and strengthened in our collective mission.

We continue to place our trust in the intercession of Our Lady of Good Counsel, praying for wisdom, grace, and unity. With hearts lifted in prayer, we ask our Lord, the Prince of Peace, to open the way toward healing, understanding, and renewed acceptance of our League within our parish. It is deeply disheartening that the current disconnect arises from financial expectations placed upon us, including the sanctioning of a \$2,500 hall rental fee for CWL activities. We are encouraged, however, that this matter is under review.

Through it all, we remain most grateful for the many parishioners who support us, walk beside us in faith, and continue to pray with us.

Respectfully submitted,
Anna Kocmarek
President, St. Mary's Pro-Cathedral CWL Council

Date:	Tuesday, August 19, 2025
Parish Council:	St Patrick Hamilton
Parish Council President and Term:	Rose Kantiono (2024-2026)
Spiritual Advisor:	Diana Quildon
NUMBER OF MEMBERS:	34
Date of Last Election:	March 2024

- March 9 to March 17: St Patrick Novena
- March 22nd: Retreat – The Heart of Mary Retreat – Presenter Rosanna Golino
- March 28th: Mary's way of the cross
- March 29th: Lift Jesus Higher Rally, Toronto Metro Convention
- April 5th: Ministry of the Liturgy retreat – annunciation of Our Lord Parish, Hamilton – Presenter Fr. Andrew Quarshie
- April 10th: attended a Lenten retreat at Our Blessed Lord, co-hosted by St. Eugene's and facilitated by Hamilton Diocesan President Teresa DiFalco. Also, in attendance was St. John Council. Over 30 women attended.
- May 3rd: Rosary workshop for adults, followed by Mother Mary's crowning

- May 30th – June 1st: Hamilton Diocesan Convention in Burlington. Attended and being asked to participate as part of the Diocesan convention team.
- June 9 : Birthright Baby Shower
- June 14 : Retreat at Mount Carmel Retreat Centre, Niagara Falls, ON
- July 19 : Sleeping mat workshop

St. Stanislaus – Hamilton
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

Date: **July 31, 2025**
Parish Council: **Holy Rosary Milton**
Parish Council President and Term: **Colleen Motrich**
Spiritual Advisor: **Fr. John Van Hees**
NUMBER OF MEMBERS: **52**
Date of Last Election: **February 13, 2025**

September 12, 2024, to June 3, 2025

Back from summer break we celebrated with Fr. John welcoming us and then celebrated with our Welcome Back and Open House Wine & Cheese.

October 10th, we had Lori Branding from Food for Life as our guest speaker on the needs of our community. We also talked about No-One-Dies-Alone presented at the fall regional meeting. October 18/19, we held our Fall Rummage Sale.

November 11th, we held our Christmas Bazaar. Our General Meeting was dedicated to past members of our council. We also awarded service pins to Ingrid Bailey 55yrs, Kathy Stephenson 40 yrs, Willi Sutt 35 yrs, Jean Doiron 25 yrs, Margaret Doma 15 yrs, Ann McMullan 15 yrs, Anna Marie Jones 10 yrs, Raffaela Sposato 10 yrs, Lois Stubbs 10 yrs, Ellie Riding 5 yrs, Jean Seary 5 yrs .

December 5th, we helped with a Community Dinner at Grace Anglican with their monthly good will supper. It is a positive way to help those less fortunate in our community. We held our Christmas Dinner on December 12th. It seems to me, that we see more of our members at this type of gathering and we get to share with non-members.

January 2025 Fr. John gave us a summary of The Open Door declared by Pope Francis and how as individuals we can make this year a journey of Faith. As a council we will try to attend as many as possible.

February 13th, we held our Elections for 2025-2027.

March 1st, we attend Mass at St. Benedict Milton for the intention of the CWL executive. On March 7th was the World Day of Prayer held at Knox Presbyterian Church for the Cooks Islands. Also, that night Members lead the Friday evening Stations of the Cross. Adam Van Koeverden was the speaker of our general meeting. We had asked him to speak on how to approach the government(s) on Food, Waste and Loss. March 29th as a parish we attended an Open Door Mass at St. Andrew's in Oakville.

April, we have revised our Land Acknowledgment Prayer to a shorter version. At our April 10th meeting Sister Kathleen O'Neill lead, us in prayer to prepare ourselves for the Parish's night of Reconciliation. It was truly a faithful way to prepare.

May 2/3, we held our Spring Rummage Sale. May 8th our speaker was Ruth Hickman from the Salvation Army. As a community we so often inter-twine helping those in need in our community. St. Vincent du Paul Society cannot do it alone. With many Christian faith groups we hope to help as many people as possible.

June 1st a few of our CWL members attended the Mass and Dinner for the closing of the Regional Conventions. June 11th, we attended an Open Door Mass at Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate in Guelph, Ontario. The CWL council prepared lunch after mass and then a guided tour. It was so appreciated. Our last General Meeting on June 12 was our annual Potluck Dinner. At our Catholic Elementary Schools, we presented to the student who was awarded the Spirit Award a crucifix (5), and a bible to the student at our Catholic Secondary School. In June the monies we have made during the year are given out to our youth groups at the parish and to the food programmes in our Elementary Schools.

St. Benedict Parish – Oakville

NO REPORT SUBMITTED



Date:	Sept/02/2025
Parish Council:	Mary Mother of God, Oakville
Parish Council President and Term:	Audrey Almeida (2024 - 2026)
Spiritual Advisor:	Rev. Jerry Punnassery, CMI
NUMBER OF MEMBERS:	112 (*One member passed away in May)
Date of Last Election:	Nov/2024

- **MAY:** To celebrate our Council's 25th Anniversary Year, we organized two events. Holy Mass followed by the Crowning of Mary Ceremony in the evening. We held a social reception, served refreshments, cheese & crackers and cake. Our invitees in attendance were Hamilton Diocesan President Teresa DiFalco & her husband; CWL Parish Council Oakville, Presidents and some of their Executive members and our council members. Hamilton Diocesan President Teresa presented a certificate to congratulate our council on this milestone and delivered a lovely message. We organized our league members to participate in the liturgy: choir, greeters, ushers, sacramin, altar servers, cross bearer, lectors, extra-ordinary eucharistic ministers, readers at the Crowning of Mary, servers. We had a super turnout!
- President Audrey, Faith Chair Marion, Service Chair Suzanne attended the CWL Hamilton Diocesan Convention, May 30th meeting. We were honored that our CWL choir formed for our 25th Anniversary Holy Mass was requested by Hamilton Diocesan President, Teresa to sing at the Holy Mass, officiated by Bishop Crosby. Audrey, Marion and Olivia attended May 31st meetings and dinner. Audrey and Marion attended the meetings, Mass and banquet on June 1st.
- **JUNE:** In honour of our 25th Anniversary, we organized a High Tea Afternoon in our church meeting room. We sold 36 tickets! We invited our members to wear a hat or fascinator and to dress in their Sunday best. Our ladies were glamorous! We had an enjoyable memorable afternoon.
- Our League Council members joined the procession at the Corpus Christi Mass. We had a very good turnout.
- CWL Graduation Awards were presented to (1) Grade 12 Catholic Secondary School female Student and (5) Grade 8 female Students from our five Catholic elementary schools chosen by their teachers.
- We delivered two full carloads from our outreach project collection to Dr. Simones Warehouse, Mississauga. (bars of soap, liquid soap, used eye glasses / sunglasses, and bags of kids and adult clothing collected.
- We continue to collect clean outer 4L milk bags to make sleeping mats to donate to organizations to give to people in need.
- **AUG** upcoming CWL Christmas Bazaar event work in progress.
- **SEPT** We resume our General Meeting on Sept 10th. Guest Speaker: Topic: Home Downsizing

Parish Council: St. Andrew's, Oakville
Parish Council President and Term: Yvette Vukanovich 2018-2025
Spiritual Advisor: Father Joseph Akanbi
NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 100
Date of Last Election: January 2018

- Hosted coffee following First Friday Mass for Vocation
- Organized two Lenten Soup luncheons, with proceeds donated to Food4Kids Halton
- Held our annual bake sale
- Attended Serra dinner celebrating Bishop Crosby's 50th Anniversary in the Priesthood
- Special CWL mass for Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel
- 12 hours of Prayer for Palliative Care held over two days ending with Benediction
- General Meetings first Tuesday of every month
- Celebrated Family Rosary and Crowning of Mary with Children's Choir in attendance
- Retreat to three Pilgrims of Hope Churches for the Jubilee Year ending with mass celebration at St. Andrew's
- Attended Diocesan Convention held in Burlington, ON
- I was delighted to be asked by Diocesan President Teresa DiFalco, and honoured to act as Convention Regent for the Opening and Closing Masses.
- Presented two bursary's to St. Thomas Aquinas High School and one to Catholic Student at public school
- Presented Father Watters award to our two primary schools
- 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 Saint Carlo Acutis
- Hosted Diocesan Convention Closing mass at St. Andrew's one of the churches designated for the Jubilee Year of Hope
- Held Annual Potluck and service pins were distributed to members
- Celebrated the Feast of the Assumption Mass. Following Mass, we hosted a light luncheon for all parishioners

Respectfully submitted,

Yvette Vukanovich, President

Parish Council:	Saint Dominic, Oakville
Parish Council President and Term:	Wendy Rutherford (2022-2024)
Spiritual Advisor:	Deacon Terry Murphy
NUMBER OF MEMBERS:	89
Date of Last Election:	October 2023

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?

June: Presentation on the Three Pillars. Each pillar was followed by group discussions to generate new ideas and encourage members to think about where they could best utilize their skills.

July & Aug: Several committee meetings took place over the summer months. Planning for 70th Anniversary Celebration and Christmas Market.

Aug: President attended National Convention on zoom. Report of activities was written and distributed to members.

Sept: Each of the 3 pillar chairs presented their plans for the year. Faith chair created 'Book of Prayer Intentions' which will be present at each meeting when our Spiritual Advisor is praying with us and we are saying the rosary prior to each meeting.

Date: September 2025
Parish Council: St. Matthew
Parish Council President and Term: Jeanne Wilson
Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Paul Matthew
NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 39
Date of Last Election:

March - 3 members attended regional meeting in Burlington.

April - Daniela Salcedo from Development & Peace gave a presentation.

- \$900.00 was sent to Demazenod Door Outreach in Hamilton.
- A raffle was held to raise money for the grade 8 awards.

May - We sold carnations on Mother's Day. Proceeds going to Shifra Homes.

- We had a pot luck lunch and baby shower for Shifra Homes.
- I attended the diocesan convention in Burlington as our parish delegate.

June - We awarded 6 grade 8 awards to female students who showed faith, service and an interest in social justice.

- I attended 3 graduation ceremonies and another member attended 1 ceremony.
- Members were encouraged to write letters to their MP's regarding Protection of the charitable status of faith organizations and pro-life charities and the Expansion of medical assistance in dying.

July - I attended the provincial convention in London.

August - I attended the WUCWO convention and the National convention in Toronto.

- I visited 5 Oakville parishes and distributed material on CMIC.



St. Michael's Parish – Oakville
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

Date: 09/05/2025
Name of Parish Council: Our Lady of the Assumption Parish, Stoney Creek
Name of Parish Council President and Term: Caterina Lopez (2024-2026)
Name of Spiritual Advisor: Father Andrew Quarshie
NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 122
Date of Last Election: 2024

April 2025:

“Sparkle God’s Way” as Beacons of Hope: A mini retreat lead by Teresa Di Falco

De Mazenod Door BBQ – Members of our CWL volunteered at a Friday BBQ which our CWL supported.

May 2025:

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

June 2025:

Motivational Keynote Speaker: Rosita Hall “The Power Within”

Summer Break:

July-August

September 2025:

Milestone/New Member Mass and Ceremony

Ladies Games Night for members and ladies of the parish and friends.

Respectfully submitted,
Caterina Lopez

St. Francis Xavier CWL Parish Council Parish – Hamilton

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

Date: September/15/2025
Name of Parish Council: St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, Waterdown
Name of Parish Council President and Term: Dianne Corrin-Kiziak (2024-2026)
Name of Spiritual Advisor: Father Francis Noronha
NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 68
Date of Last Election: February/06/2024

Since the last Regional Meeting, we have been very active at St. Thomas.

We are particularly proud of our First Annual Lenten Retreat held on April 5, 2025. One of the highlights of the programme was our guest speaker, Bishop Lobsinger, who spoke on “Mary, Our Model of Hope”. We provided a free lunch, had approximately one hundred participants, included (along with other activities) entertaining games with prizes, and offered an opportunity for confessions and mass.

For our parish, we led the Stations of the Cross (April 11/25), ushered the two First Communion Ceremonies (April 26/25 and May 3/25), continued our Sunday Mass May Crowning (May 11/25), our weekly food collection, our monthly coffee & cookie service after Sunday masses, and presentation of year end grade eight awards.

I attended the Hamilton Diocesan Convention and AGM along with a few of my council members. We thoroughly enjoyed the convention!

Our major fundraiser was our Annual High Tea (May 4, 2025), featuring fancy dishes, fresh, catered sandwiches & scones, and desserts. We even had a fascinator/hat competition! It was a fun, successful event.

Of course, all of these activities require organization, team work, and planning. Consequently, we held regular monthly Executive and General meetings along with extra meetings when required.

We are blessed to have a vibrant, active, enthusiastic, and happy membership!

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

Date: 9/11/25
Parish Council: Immaculate Heart of Mary - Winona -Council -016
Parish Council President and Term: Marion Kupper (2024-2026)
Name of Spiritual Advisor: Father Gregory Merkley
NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 70 members
Date of Last Election: 2023

CWL Winona Council H-016 Activities

Monthly Coffee Sunday

To foster fellowship and visibility within the parish, CWL hosts *Coffee Sunday* once a month following the 9:00 and 11:00 am Masses. Parishioners enjoy coffee, juice, and snacks while connecting.

Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel – April 16

- A beautiful celebration took place in the parish hall:
- Members enjoyed a brunch in honour of our Patroness.
- Membership Pins were awarded to dedicated members.
- CWL sisters from St. Francis Xavier joined us, rekindling friendships and forming new ones.
- Father led a prayer and expressed gratitude for the members' service.
- The event concluded with door prizes and joyful fellowship.

Memorial Service – May

- A heartfelt memorial service was held in May to honour our deceased CWL sisters.
- A plaque bearing their names was placed on a tree in the parish grounds.
- Family members gathered in the hall for refreshments and shared cherished memories.
- Father offered a blessing to all in attendance.

Father's Day – June

- To honour all fathers, *Dad's Cookies* were served after every Mass. A sweet gesture of appreciation!

Midsummer Social – July 26 & 27

- Held after all Masses, this cheerful summer gathering featured:
- Coffee after the 9:00 and 11:00 am Masses
- Fruit punch at the 4:00 pm Mass
- Cookies and popsicles for the children

A refreshing way to celebrate summer with the parish community.

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 – Cambridge
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

St. Clement – Cambridge
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

Date: Aug. 26, 2025
Parish Council: **St. Patrick, Cambridge**
Parish Council President and Term: **Ann Osmar, 2025-2027**
Spiritual Advisor: Father Joe Selvanayagam
NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 63
Date of Last Election: January 14, 2025

March 7th

Our area's Women's International Day of Prayer was coordinated by our Past President, Mary Ann Costa. The ladies of the League prepared the social event for after the service. Many people from the Galt Area participated in this event, and donated generously to the Outreach of the World Day of Prayer. The social was very well attended and many guests remarked positively.

March 30th

Our council hosted our Parish Monthly Social following the 9am and 11am Mass

April 1st

Executive signed and addressed Easter Cards to be sent out to our current members

April 8th

- Mini Lenten Retreat "Surprised by Joy" from the book There is a Season presented by Dawn Wylie our Spiritual Chair
- Easter Cards for our Clergy were signed by all present at our monthly meeting
- a committee was struck to create a Diocesan Convention Gift Basket on an Irish theme in honour of St. Patrick, our patronal Saint

April 27th

- at 9am Parish Mass - installation and blessing of our Council's new Executive, followed by a coffee social

May 11th

- Led the Crowning of Mary at the 9am and 11am Parish Masses. All parishioners who desired were part of the procession carrying flowers, and a child carried the Crown for each Mass.

May 13th

- Special Presentation by Ontario Service Dog Trainers, led by Miram Giron our Service Chair, following our monthly meeting
- Bursary to St. Benedict High School Graduate and five(5) Lifting the Spirit of Jesus Plaques approved to be personally presented at our Parish School Graduations

June

- Spiritual Bouquets from the ladies of our Council were prepared and presented to:
- Seminarian Peter for return to his studies
- Father Anton for his assignment to a new parish
- Our Pastor/Advisor Fr. Joe for continued recovery from a TIA

June 10th

- Annual June Potluck - followed by a fun 'Mystery Auction' - funds raised donated to our Local Charities Fund

St. Martin of Tours – Drayton

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

St. Teresa of Avila - Elmira

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

St. Mary Immaculate – Elora

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

St. Joseph's Parish - Fergus

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate – Guelph

NO REPORT SUBMITTED



Holy Rosary - Guelph
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

St. John the Baptist – Guelph
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

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

Juliette (Jules) Royer, Parish Council President

St. Joseph's Parish- Guelph-Membership campaign- 2025 Monthly activities by: RM Thorne

August-Preparation

Meeting with Father Jeff, Tracy, Jules and Marie re: Review and approve campaign elements

September-Preparation

Develop a poster for the bulletin board
Develop correspondence and bulletin blurbs
PDF Fillable Membership form completion

October- Pre-Launch

Why am I a member brochure at the back of the church
Bulletin blurb (To Tracy for Oct 27 bulletin) re: Membership campaign dues remind
Readers selected for CWL Membership speech at Nov 8 and 9 Masses
Poster on bulletin board- Join/renew your membership in the CWL
Get the envelopes (Address stickers) ready for members who do not have email for the November mailout

November- LAUNCH

Email/Mailout to members reminding them of NOV date for Membership dues and ways to renew with NEW membership form (Week of Nov 4)
Tracy- Mass email with "Why am I a CWL member" and New member application to all parishioners(Week of Nov 4)- Incomplete-Something to consider for 2026

Table at Christmas BAZAAR (NOV 9) to accept Memberships (New and current members)
Marie has prepared CWL Membership speech to be delivered at all Masses – Nov 8/9 (Father Bergsma has approved the speech and it will be circulated to the readers this week)
Registration/ Welcome Table at the entrance door at Nov general meeting (Nov 12) to accept Membership dues

Table at all Masses to accept Membership dues on Nov 16-17 (Pat Grosicki (former Membership Chair)) has graciously accepted to help at all Masses that weekend, besides Jules and myself)

Telephone campaign by designated Exec Comm members and well- known members at large (Week of Nov 25 OR Dec 2) to contact members who we have not heard from
Bulletin blurb (To Tracy Nov 29 for Dec 8 bulletin) re: incentive to renew Membership by Christmas potluck (on Dec 10) to win a 2025 membership
NEW Poster on bulletin board- Join/renew your membership in the CWL (to avoid "bulletin board fatigue")

December-Follow up

Fall 2025

SPARKLE SPECTRUM

68

Registration table at the Potluck to accept Membership dues

Marie -Membership update presentation at the Potluck

Incentive- Draw at Potluck for free 2025 membership for those members that sent their dues before Dec 10

First Submission of dues to National

January-Evaluation

Evaluation of Membership Drive at Executive Comm- GDD

Marie-Follow up with gentle reminder letter to ladies we have not heard from.

Results

- 1) 99% payment of dues from current members by Dec 31
- 2) Timely remittances to National
- 3) 18 new members for 2025
- 4) Member database updated



Sacred Heart - Kenilworth
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

Blessed Sacrament - Kitchener
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

St. Aloysius Parish, Kitchener
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

Date: September 1, 2025
Parish Council: St. Anthony Daniel Kitchener
Parish Council President and Term: Roma Talboom President: January 2024 –January 2026
Spiritual Advisor: Father Edward Hennoeffer
NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 117
Date of Last Election: January 2024

REPORT OF ACTIVITIES FROM April 2025 – September 2025

April 2025: At our General Meeting, Pat Grundy, Social Justice Convenor, arranged for Jon Jukes, from PLASTICS REDEEMED to speak of his business and how plastic waste is made into useful products. We have an ongoing collection of “Beyond the Blue Box” plastics and volunteers that sort these items and send them on to this company. We purchased Sacramental Gifts , chidrens’ missals for our First Communicants and cross necklaces for those being confirmed in our parish. Some of our members attended a Celebration of Life for one of our deceased. Our big fundraiser was to host a Card Party for 150 - a great success. Our members were asked to organize and serve at the Reception after the Easter Vigil Mass and again members donated food and stayed until all was cleaned up after the celebration.

May 2025: We welcomed new transfers from disbanded councils in our city. We held a CROWNING OF MARY ceremony with songs, prayers and a Litany to Mary. We discussed and voted on disbursement of funds for new Servers’ vestments, Father Ed’s 30th Anniversary in the priesthood, the “EATS” program at Stanley Park Community Center and Sunnyside Retirement Home Spiritual Care program. 2 of our members attended the Diocesan Convention in Burlington. As a Mothers’ day activity, I told of past memories of my mother who just received her 70th year service pin from her CWL council.

June 2025: 32 members along with Father Ed and Seminarian Brandon Rigo drove to the Carmel of St. Joseph convent in St. Agatha to attend Mass with the sisters. We brought donations of paper products and canned food. Members shopped in the covent store for religious articles and maple syrup. Following this we went into the town to Kennedy’s Restaurant for dinner and social time as our last outing until September.

August 2025: Executive gathered to plan upcoming events for Sept. to Dec. 2025.

Sept. 2025: Outing to the Holy Door at St. Mary’s Church Kitchener followed by a visit to the Tiny Homes workshop downstairs to see the volunteers in action.

Respectively Submitted

Roma Talboom President St. Anthony Daniel Kitchener

Date: **09/07/2025**
Name of Parish Council: **St. John's Kitchener**
Name of Parish Council President and Term: **Leah Friedrich (2024-2026)**
Name of Spiritual Advisor: **Father Fransico Cruz**
NUMBER OF MEMBERS: **35**
Date of Last Election: **November 28, 2023**

At our meeting in April, it was an honor to give out two 50 years and one 60 year, pins of service. Their dedication to the league is an incredible inspiration. We also held a soup social event and were able to raise \$500 to support the Development and Peace program.

At our meeting in May, there was also the great honor that a Maple Leaf Service Pin was awarded to one of our members.

Another event that was met with good success was our Hot Dog and Ice Cream Extravaganza! It was great to see the fellowship and generosity of our parish.

There were also 2 letters signed by ladies on the counsel that support rejection of all proposed legislative changes to the eligibility criteria for charitable status as recommended by the Standing Committee on Finance in its pre-budget consultations in advance of the 2025 Budget. These recommendations would have severe and far-reaching consequences for faith-based and pro-life organizations that provide essential community services, and another was a letter to be sent to our local MP to request the rejection of any legislative recommendations that would permit the expansion of MAiD (Medical Assistance in Dying).

We have some exciting events planned for the fall and are blessed to have a supportive community and hope to continue to sparkle God's way.

Respectfully submitted,

Leah Friedrich, Parish Council President

St. Joseph - Kitchener
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

St. Mark - Kitchener
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

St. Teresa of Avila - Kitchener
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

Date: **March/10/2025**
Parish Council: **St. Boniface, Maryhill**
Parish Council President and Term: **Frances Vegh, 2013-**
Spiritual Advisor: **Rev. Peter Meyer**
NUMBER OF MEMBERS: **79**
Date of Last Election: **2013**

Since the Fall Regional meeting we have had 2 business meetings, a social gathering and volunteered.

In September we prepared the lunch for the Maryhill Historical Society's Heritage Day and made a donation to the Ariss & Maryhill Lions club.

In October we had a Mass and gave out 4 50-year pins, we held a Harvest basket draw and proceeds were given to the Guelph Right to Life, infant car seat initiative.

In November we held our annual gift card fundraiser and Christmas gift basket draw with proceeds to our sacramental preparation program needs.

In December we had a pot luck dinner social.

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Vegh.

President

Holy Family – New Hamburg
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

Date: **08/26/2025**
Parish Council: **St. Agatha Parish, St. Agatha**
Parish Council President and Term: **Patti Tusch 2025-2027**
Spiritual Advisor: **Fr. Mariusz Durbajlo**
NUMBER OF MEMBERS: **69**
Date of Last Election: **02/05/2025**

Since the Spring Regional Meeting, our council has been active. In March we had a presentation on Christian Meditation. The afternoon began with a simple lunch of soup and buns, and then a parishioner and retired teacher and high school chaplain introduced us to this meditative form of prayer. It was a good way to begin our Lenten journey. A Lenten Craft night was held in April; twenty people made beautiful crucifixes from clothes pins.

In May we had a special Mass and Crowning of Mary ceremony to honour our Blessed Mother, followed by a social time.

In June our members helped with the parish homecoming celebration, attended by more than 200 people. We also held a potluck lunch, followed by a speaker from Camino, who gave an informative presentation about unmasking mental health.

We prayed the rosary at the Shrine of our Sorrowful Mother in September. This was followed by the presentation of pins to ten members, including one commemorating 65 years as a valued CWL member. A tea party completed the evening.

Throughout the year we sent Caring With Love cards to ill parishioners and those who had lost a loved one, and each month visited the sick and shut-ins in nursing homes or at their homes.

We look forward to holding our second annual October Harvest lunch, raffle and bake sale. This is our major fundraising event for the year. In October we will also have a special presentation by one of our members about her pilgrimage to Italy this year.

St. Agnes - Waterloo
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

Date:	September 1, 2025
Parish Council:	St. Louis, Waterloo
Parish Council President and Term:	Donna Herbstreit (2019)
Spiritual Advisor:	Fr. Phillip Reilly
NUMBER OF MEMBERS:	106
Date of Last Election:	??

Starting in the Spring, we held a St. Patrick's Day themed card party. It was held at the Knights of Columbus hall and therefore we could open the invite to all parishes in our community. It was fun and profitable and sure to be repeated.

During Lent, we assisted St. Michael's council in hosting a Lenten retreat with Shari Guinta and Sister Aracely as presenters. On a Friday evening we made and served a Simple Supper of our homemade soup and bread to our parishioners. We then lead the Stations of the Cross.

Working with members of the Knights of Columbus, the CWL members helped promote a monthly get together for all parishioners for fish and chips.

In April we worked with the Ministry to the Elderly to host a very successful Seniors Fair. About 40 "vendors" took part to share their expertise and products to interested parties who may not have access to computers.

We continue to post information on social media. Our gift card fund raising venture is slowly paying off.

In May, we held our honouring of Mary celebration as well as presenting "Years of Service" pins to about 25 ladies, one receiving her 75th! Our First Communicants were each presented with a gift from the CWL.

One of our members is volunteering her services with Medical Ministries serving in Peru. We collected many bottles of vitamins to send with her.

Also, each Monday evening in May, we gathered around our garden to say the Rosary. Our CWL "Little Library" is up and running with books of a religious or spiritual nature. Our Council donated to the Parish a garden bench with a plaque recognizing our 100th Anniversary. And we continue to have honour guards for our deceased members and serve the funeral lunch when asked. We are always doing something!

Parish Council:	St. Michael Parish, Waterloo
Parish Council President and Term:	Shani Pregelj, 2024 – 2026
Spiritual Advisor:	Fr. Pawel Jamroz
NUMBER OF MEMBERS:	104
Number of Honourary Life members:	1
Date of Last Election:	February 27, 2024

St. Michael CWL Council activities and highlights between March 2025 and September 2025.

We added a number of new CWL members in 2025 so in March we hosting a Women's Fellowship Gathering. This was intended to both engage our new members as well as provide information to women in our parish who are interested in learning more about the CWL. The evening was interactive and attendees moved through three stations explaining the three pillars of the League – Faith, Service and Social Justice.

In March our parish also hosted a half day joint Lenten retreat with the other Waterloo CWLs. The morning began with Mass then we gathered in the parish hall for reflections on living your faith from our CWL National President, Shari Guinta and the Sisters of our Lady Immaculate.

In April, CWL members lead Mary's Way of the Cross at our parish's Friday night Stations during Lent.

Our May gathering included the Crowning of Mary and we focused on the Jubilee 2025. We watched an informative video about the Jubilee year and lead a group reflection and sharing on the theme of Hope. In May, our CWL members also facilitated a Women's small group study exploring the Trinity. This took place over 3 evenings in late May and early June.

In June we held our annual Pot Luck Social and Service Pin Celebration and handed out pins ranging from 5 to 65 years.

We've taken a break for the summer and our next gathering will take place on Tuesday September 9th. Our evening will include some time to socialize and catch up after the summer break and we'll share updates from the National Convention including the resolutions that were passed.

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

NORTH

CARGILL
CHEPSTOW
CHESLEY
DUNDALK/SHELBOURNE/PROTON
DURHAM
FORMOSA
GLENELG
HANOVER
KINCARDINE
MILDHAM
MOUNT FOREST
OWEN SOUND
TEESWATER
WALKERTON
WIARTON

Date: 09/02/25
Name of Parish Council: St. Joseph's in Cargill
Name of Parish Council President and Term: Michelle Pletch and term 2024-2025
Name of Spiritual Advisor: Father Ignatius
NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 81
Date of Last Election: 12/2023 **OR 01/30/24**

St. Joseph's CWL had a busy summer with our Annual CWL Bazaar on July 12th. We supported many local causes such as The Hanover Pregnancy Centre, The Walkerton & District Hospital Foundation, Brucelea Haven Activation Program, Mary Immaculate Breakfast Club, Sacred Heart High School, The Big Door, Walkerton Food Bank, and Saugeen Hospice. Thanks to our many volunteers, donors and people who supported us. Our new event was a popcorn stand which sold out. It was a great turnout!

Our CWL is hosting the Fall Regional Meeting on Saturday, September 13th. Plans are well underway for a faith-filled and fun day together with our sisters in the League.

We will be catering a roast beef dinner for the Bowling League for 38 people on Monday, September 29th and preparing tarts for dessert at the Kinette's Fairytale Feast on Saturday, October 25th. Our big fundraiser will be our Annual Fowl Supper which is scheduled for Sunday, October 26th at the Cargill Community Centre. Food will be served from 4-6pm. Come out for a delicious home cooked meal!

We will have an Advent Prayer Service along with our Christmas Social on Tuesday, December 2nd.

St. Ann - Chesley
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

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

Date:	September 1, 2025
Parish Council:	Immaculate Conception Formosa
Parish Council President and Term:	Marlene Voisin 2024-2026
Spiritual Advisor:	Father Emmanuel Azike
NUMBER OF MEMBERS:	71
Date of Last Election:	November 5, 2023

We held our Annual Communion Brunch April 27, 2025. This is planned always near to the feast day of Our Lady of Good Counsel. At the brunch two members received their 25 year pin, 3 members their 50 year pin and 1 member received her 70 year pin.

A donation was made in April 2025 towards the bibles for the grade 4's. Book marks were given to the first communicants and a pocket cross to those confirmed. We gave 2 scholarships to 2 high school graduates.

We continue to send our sick members a get well card and have a Mass said for a member who has passed on.

We participated in the 12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care, the World Day of Prayer and the Corpus Christi procession. We are so fortunate to still have our 4 altars at each corner of our church property, and every year Father leads the Corpus Christi procession carrying the Monstrance with the Holy Eucharist. He stops at each chapel saying prayers and blessing us all. The procession begun with little children dropping peddles of flowers along the path way. The St. Joseph's Aid Society and the CWL carry their banners leading their members and other follower's, saying the rosary as we walk along the way. Everyone is welcome to come and join us in this wonderful and holy annual tradition.

We held our annual Twilight Retreat in June 2025, beginning with the Rosary and Mass. Father Ignatius explained the theme of The Jubilee Year of Hope.

At our September 2025 general meeting, we welcomed a young moms' group from our parish who had questions about the League. To foster dialogue, we invited CWL Diocesan President Teresa DiFalco to share an engaging presentation and address their concerns. Teresa's uplifting and heartfelt message created a warm, welcoming atmosphere. Her words inspired one young mom to join immediately, while others are prayerfully and seriously considering membership. A true success and a hopeful step forward in growing our League family!

At our October 2025 meeting we will be discussing the budget guidelines. We will also discuss our fall and Christmas tasks. Our Hot turkey Supper is October 19th. Our usual monthly donations will be given.

Respectfully submitted
Marlene Voisin



Pictured taken September 2025

(On the Right) Hamilton Diocesan President Teresa DiFalco

(In the Middle) Parish Council President for Immaculate Conception – Formosa Marlene Voisin

(On the Left) _____ Marlene Bross-Durrer

Date: Sept. 5, 2025
Parish Council: St. John's, Glenelg (Mission of St. Peter's, Durham)
Parish Council President and Term: Colleen Boer (2023-2025)
Spiritual Advisor: Father Grayson Hope
NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 15
Date of Last Election: November, 18, 2023

St. John's, Glenelg spring and summer season has been busy in our parish. Our Council was chosen to host the World Day of Prayer service in our community of Markdale, Ontario. As Catholic women - we celebrate this annually in an ecumenical service which involves all five local churches. We find it a wonderful opportunity to learn about each church community and share the common purpose we have in our various faiths. Our pastor, Father Grayson Hope was our speaker this year as we hosted the service at St. Joseph's church in Markdale.

The month of April had us providing our annual Pancake Breakfast to the parish with a bountiful meal of sausage, pancakes and fresh local maple syrup provided by the Manion family.

The month of May we started our bi-monthly coffee Sundays as well as a parish-wide Bake Sale on the long weekend to encourage parishioners to gather and get to know their neighbours and new parishioners as well.

June we celebrated and honoured the fathers in our parish with cake and coffee as we gathered after Mass on Father's Day.

In July we had a parish-wide Bake Sale for the long weekend with a wonderful selection of goods from members and non-members. This encouraged several people to inquire about becoming members of our CWL Council. We encourage all women to attend our meetings to learn more about CWL.

August is the month we hold our parish Memorial Mass at St. John's, Glenelg – usually on the Saturday of the long weekend. Our Council provided a lunch at our Hall after this Mass. We had several people comment they had not attended since Covid shutdowns and that they were happy to return to celebrate this event with us to honour those buried at St. John's, Glenelg.

Three of our members were able to participate in a pilgrimage to Martyr's Shrine in Midland during the first week of August. Our pastor, Father Grayson, had organized this and our members found it very inspiring to attend. They were able to share their experience with other members in a report at our August Council meeting.

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

Holy Family - Hanover
NO REPORT SUBMITTED

Date:	09/01/2025
Name of Parish Council:	St Anthony's of Padua, Kincardine, On
Name of Parish Council President and Term:	Lillian Watterworth 2024-2025
Name of Spiritual Advisor:	Father Thomas Manninezhath
NUMBER OF MEMBERS:	62
Date of Last Election:	02/05/2024

Spring & Fall Rummage Sales

We held our Spring Rummage Sale and we are currently in planning for our Fall Rummage Sale. We hold these events yearly; they are our primary fundraiser. We have been holding them for a very long time. The main sale is on Friday. On Saturday morning SVP clients and Women's House Clients may shop for free. Anything remaining at the close of the sale is donated for the Canadian Diabetes Association and/or Goodwill.

Cursive Writing Club

We wrapped up our Cursive Writing Club in June, we teach children at St Anthony's School cursive writing during an elective period, once a week. The children use their new skill to write Valentine's cards, Easter and Mother's and Father's Day cards. In the past, the students have also written to residents in the local Retirement Home.

First Communion

The CWL provided 22 bracelets in red and white that were made by the Coptic Convent and for each knot tied, the Jesus Prayer is said (Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner).

Funeral Lunches

The CWL has provided many funeral lunches for our parish so far in 2025.

Ramoth House fundraiser

The CWL collected donation for a semi-local shelter for pregnant or those with a new born infant that require a safe place to live. We setup a playpen in the narthex from Easter until Mother's Day, and collected diapers, baby supplies and things for new mothers. Once everything was collected members of the CWL delivered it to the Ramoth House in Mount Forest.

Bake Sale

Over the May long weekend, the CWL held a bake sale.

Spring Brunch

This year we started the meeting with a fun ice breaker about flowers, followed by presentations about Formed and "Summer with the Saints", we also had a quick talk about the Amen app that is free for Catholic that bring you beautiful prayers and mediations. We then had our Pin Ceremony for years of service followed by the Maple Leaf Service presentation. We had a guest speaker talk to us about Mental Health (this was very timely just after the Walkerton school tragedy). Our Spring Brunch wrapped up with a quick discussion about the Silent Pandemic for Acquired Brain Injuries that affect a Canadian every 3 minutes.

Graduation Gifts

The CWL provided graduation gifts for a deserving male and female grade 8 graduate at St Anthony's Catholic School and a student from Sacred Heart Secondary School in Walkerton that displays excellent Christian values.

Respectfully submitted,

Lillian Watterworth
President
St. Anthony of Padua, Kincardine

Date: Aug/28/2025
Parish Council: Sacred Heart Parish Council, Mildmay
Parish Council President and Term: Pauline Diemert Term 2022-2025
Spiritual Advisor: Rev. Leszek Szczygiel
NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 97
Date of Last Election: No Elections as there were no nominations

Coffee Sundays were held May & June with various groups hosting.

For the month of May, we started with Mass and May Crowning followed by our Mother Daughter/Friend Tea. Every one enjoyed the all the fancy sandwiches and desserts. Our cold Plate Supper was held with great attendance.

Each one of the First Communion Candidates received a cross at a special School Mass from our Faith Chair.

Our June Meeting was our annual Pot Luck, which was enjoyed by all followed by a short business meeting with decision made to donate to Various Charities. Our total donation was \$4,500 to the following: Sacred Heart Church Mildmay Building Fund, Walkerton X-Ray fund, Saugeen Hospice, Wes for Youth, Ramoth House, Catholic Missions of Canada, Samaritan's Purse of Canada, Women's House Servicing Grey Bruce.

All grade 8 graduates received a photo frame and one student received a CWL award which was presented by our Faith Chair.

During the month of Sept, our CWL Ladies are busy preparing for our Bazaar which the donations go to the Church.

Date:	Sept. 7, 2025
Parish Council:	St. Mary of the Purification, Mount Forest
Parish Council President and Term:	Colleen Dalla Costa (2017-present)
Name of Spiritual Advisor:	Father Michael Anderson
NUMBER OF MEMBERS:	60
Date of Last Election:	(Sept. 2017, no election)

The CWL at the St. Mary of the Purification in Mount Forest decided to have a potluck luncheon at our final meeting in June. The menu was stripped down to beverages and desserts and all the ladies of the parish were invited. While the turnout was better than our usual meetings, it fell quite short of what I had hoped it would be.

I had attended the Hamilton Diocesan Convention in May which was very enjoyable and very informative. I had also planned to attend the CWL National Convention in Toronto but due to an unexpected personal health scare with my husband, I had to alter my plans.

Our next meeting will be September 9, 2025, where I will be setting out the agenda for the balance of this year.

There are only functions scheduled so far: our annual Christmas dinner in December and a dinner/workshop for a local transport company in November. We have had very few funerals this year.

We tried this year to resurrect our annual Soup and Sandwich which we had not had since 2019, the year before Covid started. Needless to say, it was not very well attended despite a lot of advertising. One other function we tried was an English Tea Party. It was not well attended but the scones and jam were very tasty and we may attempt it again.

As in the CWL motto, Sparkle God's way, we plan to continue doing our best this year and always.

Respectfully submitted

Colleen Dalla Costa
President
St. Mary of the Purification, Mount Forest



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



Date:	August 2025
Name of Parish Council:	Sacred Heart Teeswater
Parish Council President and Term:	Doreen McGlynn 2024-2025
Name of Spiritual Advisor:	Father Emmanuel Azike
NUMBER OF MEMBERS:	59
Date of Last Election:	January 31/2024

Teeswater CWL Report

March meeting was cancelled due to a snow storm. We participated in World Day of Prayer on Friday, March 7th at the Presbyterian Church.

April meeting, we had a local speaker do a presentation on Plant Folklore.

We held a Communion Brunch on Sunday, April 27th following the 9am Mass. We had a local speaker talk about the Red Door Project in Wingham, our next town. This project works with the United Way to offer housing support for the homeless and distressed.

Our May meeting, we had a member employed by the Bank of Montreal speak on Banking Frauds. We honoured Blessed Mary at the 9am Mass with the May crowning. The month of May we recited the rosary each Sunday before Mass. Palliative Care week was held with a 12-hour Prayer Program ending with Mass at 7pm that night. Friday, May 30th we held our 2nd annual take out fish fry – serving 125 meals. May 8th was a special day for our eldest CWL member Georgina Reinhardt making her 100th birthday – we also had another member's 90th birthday. Cards and visits were made for this special occasion.

Confirmation and First Holy Communion students received a gift from our league as well as school graduates.

Our June meeting saw us on a road trip to Ripley (nearby town) where 2 members and a few of our community ladies reside at the retirement home. We had lunch with the ladies and had social time after. Great day enjoyed by all!

July and August was quiet time for us to re-energize.

We did do a display at the Teeswater Fair promoting our league.

Our September meeting will be a fun Celtic evening with an Irish Supper and pictures and social time by President Doreen who visited Ireland in July. Friday, September 20th we have a retreat. Mass will be offered at 9am. Our Diocesan Family Ministry Director Teresa Harnett will do a presentation on our Jubilee Year, Pilgrims of Hope. A light luncheon will be enjoyed by all.

October and November will have us line dancing and hosting an OPP Officer that will speak on Human Trafficking.

October we will recite the rosary before Mass for the month.

Sunday, November 2nd we will be having our Parish Roast Beef Dinner with entertainment in the Parish Hall (fundraiser for our league)

December will find us in Christmas mode. Preparing to celebrate the season and supporting one of the programs for families needing assistance over Christmas. We hope to have a florist do a Christmas arrangement with us.

The highlight of the year was in early winter when we received a CWL quilt made and embroidered by our league members in the 1960's. A deceased member's daughter gifted the quilt back to us. We have it hung in our Parish Hall; for all to admire. It truly is a beautiful work of art!

Our members continue to do their sacristan jobs monthly and we have our prayer line on constantly for those needing extra prayers.

We participated in several honour guards at Mass for a few of our CWL members that have passed.

Respectfully submitted by:

President Doreen McGlynn

Date:	August 26, 2025
Parish Council:	Sacred Heart, Walkerton
Parish Council President and Term:	Marion Leifso (2025-2027)
Spiritual Advisor:	Rev. Leszek Szczygiel
NUMBER OF MEMBERS:	121
Date of Last Election:	January 2025

In April, several events took place. Several members made frozen meals to stock the freezer in the Walkerton Food Bank.

During one Friday night of Lent, members led the parishioners in "Mary's Way of the Cross".

A successful roast beef dinner fundraiser was prepared and served to a sold-out crowd.

Several members worked alongside 8 SHHS students to prepare bagged lunches to be distributed to the homeless on Toronto streets.

Several members led and assisted the Grade 2s from St. Teresa of Calcutta school in making one decade of the rosary using beads.

In June, awards were presented to 2 Grade 8 grads and 2 Grade 12 grads from our Walkerton Catholic schools.

Several members worked with SHHS students to prepare and serve a luncheon to paying patrons with proceeds going back to the high school.

Respectfully submitted,
Marion Leifso, Parish Council President

Date:	Sept. 4, 2025
Name of Parish Council:	St Thomas Aquinas, Wiarton
Name of Parish Council President and Term:	Deborah (Debbie) Heard 2023-2025
Name of Spiritual Advisor:	Father Francis Ajuekwe
NUMBER OF MEMBERS:	16
Date of Last Election:	April 4, 2023

In a 3 Pillar project supporting the Grey Bruce Pregnancy Centre in Owen Sound, 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 and enjoyed dinner out on the way home to Wiarton.

Three members reported on Communiqué items as well as the Archive webinar. We had a lunch out and a rosary making bee.

In April the GB Pregnancy Centre Director Leanne Hoekstra, presented their independent living, Mom/baby care, decision making, nutritional cooking programs for Moms in need.

We held a May Crowning venerating Our Lady and created a prayer card gift for the parish women on Mother's Day, featuring a photo of the Mother Mary painting on loan to Diocesan CWL, and inspiring prayer. This was made possible by the design of one of our members and the generous donation of time, technical expertise, and printing cost by a member of another mission church.

We celebrated the 34th anniversary of our mission church's CWL, and presented a first communicant boy with a CWL-made rosary in his favourite colour, red, in May.

I volunteered to help set up the jewelry table and sell at CWL diocesan convention the end of May.

In June we held our biggest fundraiser, a BBQ and Bake Sale with hamburgers, hotdogs, ice cream bars, cold drinks and a social tent for eating. The BBQ was held in the parking lot of the church after mass from 12-2. The Knights of Columbus loaned us their tent, set it up, took it down and helped out wherever needed. We netted \$1380 including several donations.

This month in September we are doing a coffee Sunday and a Hygiene product drive for the local Food Bank.



CLOSING PRAYERS

Blessed Mother, Our Lady of Good Counsel. Help us to be humble and generous in all we do. Teach us your ways to give and not count the cost. To serve others and not to ask for reward, but to serve with loving hands and compassionate hearts. Help us to hear the voice of God and to have the faith and gusto to do God's will as you have done. We welcome the joy of Your grace to overflow in our hearts, and make us peacemakers here on earth, drawing us towards holiness and to your Son, Our Lord and Savior. Amen

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

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

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

Prayers prepared by Kathryn Imperatore, Diocesan Faith Chair