

TORONTO DIOCESAN COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER

Winter 2016

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SPIRITUAL ADVISOR

Rev. Patrick O’Dea

Although only a few months into my new role as your Spiritual Advisor, I have been involved in a lot of activity around the various regions of the Toronto Catholic Women’s League.



Firstly, I was pleased to be able to find and invite new Spiritual advisors for the various Regions of the Catholic Women’s League of the Archdiocese. All have now been installed following their formal approval and appointment by His Eminence, Thomas Cardinal Collins, Archbishop of Toronto. I thank them for their generous help and dedication.

It was my pleasure to attend many of the regional meetings of the Catholic Women’s League, to celebrate mass, to install the new spiritual advisors, to share in a meal, and to learn of the great work being accomplished in each league of our archdiocese. I am very grateful for the prayerful support, greetings, and welcome that I received at each meeting. I thank all of you for your generous service and commitment to the Church. I look forward to the regions I still have to visit as well.

Secondly, as you know, the film, “Mother Teresa: the Legacy” premiered at St. Edward the Confessor Parish in late September over a two-day period. We were honoured that Ann Petrie, the film producer, attended each of the screenings in order to speak personally on her work with Mother Teresa, whom she followed and filmed for over ten years. Ann, and her sister, Jeannette Petrie (co-producer) were also invited by the Missionaries of Charity to Rome for the Canonization of Mother Teresa.

A number of people wished to purchase copies of the film on DVD to show to their local councils. Many purchased them at the event; others signed up to have them mailed. Please note you can order it personally from Ann at mapetrie@gmail.com . The cost is \$21 per film. Some wondered if she would come to their parish. Should you wish her to present and speak at one of your future council meetings, she is open to possible invitations, since she now lives in Toronto.

Thirdly, some exciting news: the Archdiocese of Toronto has a new auxiliary bishop, Bishop Robert Kasun. He will be the Bishop for the

Central Region. In fact, Bishop Kasun, only a few days in Toronto, attended the screening of the film on Mother Teresa and enjoyed speaking with Ann Petrie. He has a particular admiration for Mother Teresa and so was excited to see the film. He was happy to learn that it was sponsored by the Archdiocesan Catholic Women's League and thanked them for hosting the screening. He strongly recommended that it be shown throughout the diocese, especially in this Year of Mercy. I might suggest it be used within your councils, and perhaps even as an evening in which you invite parishioners to attend.

In conclusion, we are now in the month of November, a time in which the church places a special emphasis on praying for our beloved brothers and sisters who are deceased. Perhaps local councils might wish to pray in a special way for the many deceased members of the Catholic Women's League, who served with such love and devotion over the years. May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace.

Please know of my prayers for you and your important ministry. At the end of the day, let us thank God for His many blessings and for the opportunity to serve Him in one another.

I have a special prayer that I keep by my nightstand. It is a prayer composed by Blessed Cardinal Newman. I share it with you; may you find it helpful as you serve the Lord each day.

*May He support us all the day long,
till the shades lengthen
and the evening comes,
and the busy world is hushed,
and the fever of life is over,
and our work is done.
Then in his mercy may He give us a
safe lodging, and a holy rest and
peace at the last.*

*Yours in Christ,
Fr. Pat O'Dea*



Love begins by taking care of the closest ones -
the ones at home.

(Mother Teresa)

izquotes.com

PRESIDENT

Shirley Christo

It is hard to believe that as you receive this newsletter we will be completing the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy. It has been a privilege to hear through your presidents' regional reports the many ways your councils have emulated the works of mercy of St Teresa of Calcutta. As the year ends the challenge is for each of us to continue to provide 'life giving love' through our service for God and Canada. To assist us with this goal we joyously welcome our new national president Margaret Ann Jacobs! In her first presidents communiqué she encouraged us to continue to work on our current theme and "be women of mercy and compassion"¹. Given the unique challenges in our secular society, Toronto diocesan council reaffirms our commitment to CWL members to do our 'Simple Duty' together as Mother Teresa taught us for the sanctity and the dignity of all human life^{2:3}.



Guided by the wisdom of Pope Francis as shared by the World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations (WUWCO) we encourage all CWL members to join together with others as family of faith to

“transform our society through giving, forgiving and uniquely caring for the vulnerable”^{4;5}. Moving forward, we ask all regional councils to partner with their pastors and other faith –filled ministries and organizations to assess and to continue to address the unique needs of each parish community. In November, the three-part series titled ‘Last Things’ continued to educate the uninformed. It included a movie viewing of ‘Vulnerable: The Euthanasia Deception’, a discussion of Ethical palliative Care and a presentation on the legal implications for ‘End of Life Preparation’ after Bill C14. In service, the League, through its current sub-theme and pledge cards continues to encourage “the formation of palliative care teams in all communities across Canada”¹.

During the month of November, we also remembered our deceased CWL members Mary Matthews and Lucille Cullen whose mentorship and selfless actions have guided us in our spiritual development and direction in the League over many years. ‘May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed rest in Peace’.

Many of our members witnessed the Canonization of St Teresa of Calcutta and have diligently studied her life and determination to be the ‘Light of Christ’ in witnessing the ‘Suffering Jesus’ in everyone she met and cared for⁶. Meeting Ann Petrie the director of the movie ‘Mother Teresa: The Legacy’ at a special screening session was a highlight that brought understanding to the meaning of ‘Woman of Service’ in the CWL.

This time of year is the time for doing membership drives and for having elections to determine your new parish councils. Why not think about hosting an event that exemplifies service extraordinaire in helping a cause in the parish and /or the larger community instead of the usual membership drive? Remember non-Catholic women can join the CWL so have an opportunity to join available for the female participants sixteen years of age and older.

It is also the time of year to collect council’s stories of service for our 2016 annual report.

Please note that this year we will be doing this online and in a survey /questionnaire format so be sure to read Ann D’Souza’s entry for tips. I remind all of you of the firm deadline for this annual survey of Dec

31, 2016⁷. I also direct you to the Toronto website under resources for an excellent ‘Key Points’ election tip sheet (Scroll the Parish Information section to Elections).

In closing, I welcome all new and returning presidents and thank you in advance for your leadership role. Please ensure that your council membership dues are submitted promptly to national and inquire early of your executive and members about needed resources. I look forward to hearing through Ann what training is required and will work with the appropriate levels of the League to arrange a training session and /or a Leadership course.

Finally on behalf of the Toronto Diocesan Council, I wish you and your families a truly blessed Christmas and much Peace Joy and Love as we move into 2017 motivated by a new national CWL theme “Inspired by the Spirit: Women Respond to God’s Call”. I look forward to journeying with you ‘for God and Canada’.

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

Hilarion Mitchell

Sub-Conveners:

Catholic Missions in Canada	Patricia Gyulay	416-934-3424
Lay Ministries	Laurie van den Hurk	705-428-5537
Women’s Inter-Church Council	Claudette Wilson	416-467-0720
Liturgical Support	Diana Gamboa	905-824-5526
	Pushpa Lobo	905-278-5044

“Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone”.

Corinthians 12 (4 – 6)

As 2016 comes to an end in the holy Advent and Christmas seasons, it is the perfect time for the outgoing and continuing Spiritual Development Chairs to reflect on the spiritual activities that



enriched members during the year. Congratulations new Spiritual Development Chair as you continue your faith journey building on the holy works of your predecessor. Our Catholic community was gifted this year with the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy and witnessed the canonization of the Blessed Mother Teresa, now known as Saint Teresa of Calcutta. Record numbers attended the viewing of the film, *Mother Teresa: The Legacy* by Ann and Jeanette Petrie that Father Patrick O’Dea organized in late September.

Action: Copies of the film *Mother Teresa: The Legacy* is under \$20.00 and available through the following:

- Novalis (416) 363-3303 or <http://www.novalis.ca>
- Salt and Light TV at 416 971 5353 or their website at: <http://saltandlighttv.org>
- Pauline Book Store 416- 781-9131 or <http://www.pauline.org/>

2016 Spiritual Annual Online Electronic Reporting

During the general meetings this fall, Shirley Christo, Diocesan President and Ann D’Souza, President Elect/Organization advised that the Annual Reports going forward will be managed by the National CWL with an online reporting system using multiple choice questions. Instructions were sent in early November to the council presidents.

Action:

- Spiritual Development Chairs to complete by the December 31, 2016 deadline so that the spiritual development activities from your council are captured at all levels of the League.
- See Ann’s report for more details on how to complete online

Spiritual Growth of Members

The Spiritual Development Chair in collaboration with the executive and members helps to strengthen the spiritual life of the council. 2017 will give rise to the new National Catholic Women’s League theme *Inspired by the Spirit, Women Respond to God’s Call*. This provides further opportunities for councils to grow spiritually by stepping out of their comfort zone to bring new, fresh and updated spiritual programs. Spiritual growth can be facilitated with meaningful spiritual readings and reflections during meetings and gatherings; planning and attending retreats; attendance at regular and special masses; pilgrimages; guest speakers; special celebrations such as Feast Day of Our Lady of Good Counsel and anniversary celebrations; etc.

Action:

- Read the 2015 Annual Spiritual Reports from Toronto, Provincial and National as they will provide other new spiritual ideas that are different to your council's usual
- Complete the new 2016 Spiritual Annual Online Report as it will help to set goals that the council could focus on in 2017.

Study of Catholic Teachings

League resources such as the Spiritual Development Handbook section outlines the Study of Catholic Teachings as one of the duties of the Spiritual Development Chair. Specifically it states that “Faith is a way of life which is characterized by a constant and ongoing conversion and renewal of mind and heart.” Members must constantly be in the process of spiritual growth. The social teachings of the church are realized by the League Mission and lived out by its Objects. The observances of the liturgical calendar, the sacraments, regular mass attendance, retreats; ALPHA program, March for Life, Lift Jesus Higher Rally and Stations of the Cross are some of the ways to understand and live out our Catholic teachings.

Deceased Members Reporting

As of this newsletter article, sadly 110 members have been reported as deceased for 2016. Unfortunately, we know that there may be more as some parishes are not timely in reporting, or those still using the manual entry are not reporting their deceased members to all levels of the League.

Action:

- Report deceased members as occurring to National if using the online system and for those yet to go online, use the form for Reporting Deceased Members.
- Host remembrance services if not already done during All Saints' Day or All Souls' Day, start a council Book of Life and other ways to recognize deceased members.

Evangelization and Mission Assistance

During the preparation of this newsletter article, retreats and other spiritual workshops were not available to coincide within the timeframe of the newsletter.

Action:

- Encourage councils to also share their knowledge of spiritual events directly to me or to their Regional Chair which may be posted on the TDC website or circulated by email.

Catholic Missions in Canada (CMIC) 2017 Calendar

The Free Calendar Program **is available for Catholic organizations that** take part. Up to 25 Calendars are available to sell as a fundraiser for charitable works. Last year, many of the proceeds were donated back to the CMIC to support the growing needs of the Canadian missionaries. Councils can **order the calendars:**

1. Email: calendar@cmic.info
 2. Phone: 416-934-3424 or toll-free 1-866-937-2642
*Free Calendar Program – Patricia Gyulay at Ext. 227
- Catholic Missions in Canada <http://www.cmic.info/catholic-missions-in-canada-2017-calendar/>

World Day of Prayer Festival Day

Women's Inter-Church Council of Canada, Toronto Region Festival Day is the planning day for World Day of Prayer. Other regions within the Archdiocese of the Toronto have different planning dates so contact your local designated coordinators.

When: Saturday January 14, 2017

Time: 9:00 AM - 1:30 PM

Location: Yorkminster Park Baptist Church 1585 Yonge Street (north of St Clair Ave)

Donation: \$15.00 (to cover the cost of church rental, speakers, etc.)

Lunch: Please bring a bag lunch

World Day of Prayer 2017

World Day of Prayer is an international ecumenical Christian's laywomen's celebration. It allows women globally to share their concerns and hopes from their context with their sisters and brothers in 170 countries through prayer and traditions of their country. The Philippines is the host country in 2017 with the theme of the service "*Am I being Unfair to You?*" Generally the World Day of Prayer is held on the first Friday in March which will be on March 3, 2017. However, there is flexibility depending the needs of the hosting church.

Action:

- Check within your local area for the churches hosting the service for 2017.

National Catholic Women's League Theme 2017 – 2018

With each new National Catholic Women's League Executive, the incoming president selects a theme to guide members during her term. Margaret Ann Jacobs, National President 2016 – 2018 chose the theme *Inspired by the Spirit, Women Respond to God's Call*. Margaret Ann's wrote in The Canadian League Fall 2016 issue that her vision for the League is to pray for members to know and experience God's unconditional love; to be

empowered by the gifts of the Spirit to respond to God's call in joyful service embracing the vulnerable ..; evidence the Fruits of the Spirit by being loving, joyful ...; kindness and goodness touch the lives of all they encounter, who are faithful to the gospel message ... More details and explanation about the theme will be made available in January 2017 with info sent from National to the councils and will be available on the National website.

Action

- Spiritual Development Chairs to review the theme resources and incorporate them into existing or new prayer programs (i.e. spiritual readings and reflections, Litanies, etc.), during the year
- Review the theme at a council general meeting, hold special workshops and attend diocesan events

Let our New Year's resolutions start by deepening our faith and service to others under the theme *Inspired by the Spirit, Women Respond to God's Call*. It will be very exciting as we receive and develop this theme over the next two years.

ORGANIZATION

Ann D'Souza

Sub-Conveners:

Annual Reports	Patricia Cross	905-889-5724
Life Members' Liaison	Karen Lawless	905-279-6186
Training Materials	Debbie Bates	905-820-1239
On-Line Membership	Lucia Vacca	416-283-3536

Membership:

Increasing membership should be the responsibility of every member. We owe it to our council to help in the increase, if each member looks for opportunity to recruit one member in the twelve months of the year we will be increasing in leaps and bounds.

- * The strength of our organization lies in our members, treat each one with respect, enjoy the sisterhood, take time to talk with each other. Ensure some time is carved into the meetings to mix and mingle.
- * Welcome new members, ensure they have a buddy for six months from the time of their joining so that they do not feel neglected and feel lonely and stop coming to meetings. One of the reasons why we lose members.



As of August 30, Toronto has a decline of 163 members, hopefully councils have paid their outstanding membership. Christmas is around the corner, gift a year's membership to your friend and family who are not members.

- At your year-end get-together recognize those members who help at events. Everyone likes to be appreciated!

Very proud to announce the addition of two councils to The Toronto Diocese in October:

- * Reactivation of "St. Ignatius Loyola" Council, Peel Region
- * New Council "Our Lady of Annunciation", North York Region

At the start of the new year, you will be having your annual membership drive. You should start advertising in the Church bulletin, convince your pastor for you to speak from the pulpit outlining all the good work done in your council. Have a display board, have photographs from the past events.

Annual Report:

National would like councils to report to them directly and hence the online electronic reporting has come into effect. As I write this report (end of October) Council Presidents should be receiving their annual report package from National.

- The package will be mailed out on October 27, it will be addressed to the Council Presidents (to parish treasurers if there is no council president). All relevant information will be in the package.
- It will be like a survey, with multiple choices, click on the buttons which pertain to your council.
- The link to do the report will be active as of November 1.
- **Reporting will close on December 15, 2016 (no exceptions).**
- Treasurers too should complete their reports by December 15.
- If a parish does not have a chairperson, mark it as "vacant" and fill in the report for all the items that have been completed or accomplished.

It is the responsibility of all Councils to submit their Annual report.

- Do all reports for a parish need to be sent from one computer at the same time? → No, the reports will be collated per parish as they are received.
- The report can be saved either in pdf or in word format. Reports can also be printed for your records or forwarded to anyone.

Feel free to forward your feedback to me ant_dsouza@hotmail.com
We can always constructively improve the process as we move forward.

Member Development:

A reminder to let your regional chair know if you require PET (Parish Executive Training), in each region; we have trainers to give this course.

Development Day:

Mark your calendar for Saturday, February 11, 2017 (8:00am – 2:30pm); plans are under way. Please send in your registration before the deadline (January 31, 2017). Parish Presidents, please urge your members to attend, fill in the registration form (see page #: _____)



Reactivated Council: Congratulations to St. Ignatius Loyola with Spiritual Advisor, Fr. Tim Hanley

PAST PRESIDENT/HISTORIAN

Mary Capobianco

As the winter months approach, we are all busy starting our preparations once again to rejoice in the coming of our Saviour. In the League it is a very busy time as well; a time of reflection and a time of renewal.

Now is the time to review and record, through the annual reports, the many wonderful life-giving events in which your council participated or initiated. Annual reports bring accountability and credibility to the achievements of each standing committee and reflect the work of all



members across Canada. Share with others the projects or undertakings that benefitted your members, your parish and your community.

Archives:

Archives are the permanent history of the League and the preservation of archives should be a priority for every past president. The past president is encouraged to appoint an archives sub-committee or an experienced council member to help maintain the archives and history. Historian is not just a title. It is a duty.

Duties include:

- Reviewing and updating archives of the council at least once during a two-year term.
- Discarding items that may be considered temporary or not of historical significance.
- Checking all officers' and chairs' reports for items of significance. These should be in the Recording Secretary's file.
- Reviewing the Corresponding Secretary's files for items of historical interest.

All materials pertaining to each chair should be filed together. Mark the name of the Standing Committee, the Chair's name and the year.

Miscellaneous archive items should also include:

- list of presidents, spiritual advisors, terms in office, and dates
- list of council's executive for each year
- list of recipients of awards, maple leaf service pins, other pins as well as the date of presentation
- special projects, including the financial statement of the project.
- copies of council newsletters
- a record of the charter, dates and names of charter members.

An inventory of the archived materials should be maintained for easy reference. Three copies of this inventory will ensure continuity. One copy is to be kept with the archival files, one copy in the past president's archival file and a copy given to the current president and noted in the minutes.

Note that it is also recommended that funds be included in the council budget to purchase archival supplies. The past president should inform the council treasurer of any requirements prior to the setting of the council's budget.

Your archives serve as permanent lasting records of achievements and historical materials for your council. It is most important that safe storage be provided for these valuable records. Consult with your Spiritual Advisor on the possibility of keeping them safely stored at your parish.

Parish Elections:

This is the time of year that many of you will be choosing a new parish executive. If this is an election year in your council, as Past President, you may be asked to Chair the Nominations and Elections Committee. The committee should also include your Spiritual Advisor and two other members of your council who are not running for office.

In order to be well prepared, consult the *Constitution and Bylaws, 2013, PART XVI, Sections 1 to 5* as well as the *National Manual of Policy and Procedure, APPENDIX 5: Archives Guidelines for League History Provincial, Diocesan and Parish Councils.* pages 202 and 203.

Prepare and circulate the nomination forms along with a membership list (names only).

Once the completed nomination forms have been returned, the committee will contact the nominees to see if they are willing to stand for election.

It is extremely important to have personal contact with all possible candidates. Speak positively about the role of the executive and try to outline the duties of the executive positions and what would be expected of a member on the executive. Encourage your members to share their gifts and allow their names to stand for election.

After the election, please forward an updated copy of the Parish Information Sheet to your Regional Chair. A copy of this form can be found in the Toronto Diocesan Council Manual of Policy and Procedure, Appendix D. This is available online at cwltoronto.ca > Resources > Manuals.

Toronto Diocesan Elections:

2017 will also be an election year for the Toronto Diocesan Council and preparations are well underway for updating the Elections Register in time for the May 2017 elections. Eligible candidates should receive their letters in the mail in the month of December. I would like to encourage all eligible members to let your names stand for election. Our Diocesan Council is an excellent training ground for any CWL member and you can't help but learn because we are such a large and active Diocese. If you receive a letter of eligibility, I ask you to prayerfully consider to let your name stand. Toronto

needs experienced and committed members so we can continue our work for God and Canada.

Patricia Beattie Annual Memorial Mentoring Award:

Now is the time to start discerning whom you think would be a good nominee for this award for 2017. A nomination may be submitted for each category: Category A - Parish Level and Category B - Auxiliary Level (for those members that have served beyond the Parish and Regional Levels). Either a council or an individual may submit a nomination and all nominations must be received by April 10th, 2017. The nomination process and the nomination form, including criteria, can be found on our cwltoronto.ca website.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Alice Warford

As we prepare to journey through the four weeks of advent in anticipation of the coming of the Infant Jesus, many councils have been discerning through the election process. Please remember to send the names of your new executive to your Regional Chair immediately after the elections so she can forward this information to the appropriate chairs.

I know that throughout my term as your corresponding secretary I have continually asked that you keep this information up to date. I'm sure I sound like a broken record, but it is imperative that we have accurate names and contact information so we can get information to you in a timely fashion. Also this information is used to produce the election register for the Diocesan Elections every 2 years. This year being an election year it's extremely important to have the register up to date so everyone who is eligible can be contacted.

Please note that the Canada Post Christmas stamp, Madonna and Child will be available on November 1, 2016 and comes in a package of 12. We encourage you to use these stamps for your correspondence over the holidays. What a wonderful way to keep Christ in Christmas.

I wish you success on your upcoming elections and continued success to those councils who have another term.

TREASURER

Donna Capobianco

It is again that time of the year where we are all busy wrapping up the current year and planning for the new.

As we wrap up the current year and start to plan for the new, it is also a good time for some “housecleaning”, sort through unwanted documents and organize the files. If you are ending your term and preparing the files for a new treasurer, remember to include a written list of all the duties that your position entails. No detail is too small and it can be very helpful to the new person coming on board.

2016 Financial Statements:

This is an important part of the Treasurer’s responsibilities. As per our Constitution & Bylaws , Part XIV, Section 10 page 33, the Financial Statements need to be made available to the voting members 21 days prior to the general meeting that the statements will be presented at. For example: the statements can be prepared and distributed in January. They can then be presented and voted on at the February meeting.



Per Capita Fees:

It is never too early to start collecting the 2017 per capita fees. The fees are due January 1st and should be collected and remitted to National Office no later than February 28th. All fees collected should be remitted to National on a timely basis as received. This ensures the members are properly credited for the years of service and continue to receive the Canadian League Magazine without interruption.

Voluntary Funds: The Toronto Diocesan Voluntary Funds are St Michaels’s Scholarship and the Hope for Children Fund. It is important to ensure we receive all donations for the voluntary funds in time to be deposited no later than December 31, 2016 in order for the council to be listed in the 2016 Annual Report. The form for the Toronto Diocesan Voluntary Funds is available on line at www.cwltoronto.ca. Please make all cheques payable to **The Catholic Women’s League of Canada**. For the National and Provincial Voluntary Funds, please refer to their respective websites for more information and forms.

2017 Budget: Last but not least, we need to remember the importance of a well planned budget for the new year. The budget once drafted, needs to be reviewed at your executive meeting and then voted on at the general meeting.

Always remember to refer to the National and Provincial websites for helpful resources and directives from our respective counterparts and fellow treasurers.

CHRISTIAN FAMILY LIFE

Suzanne Cockburn

Sub Convener: Philomena Menezes 416-757-6670

Marriage and Family

Jubilee of Mercy

November 20 {the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe} will mark the end of this extraordinary celebration - The Jubilee of Mercy, during which we were called upon to contemplate the mystery, and to perform works of mercy, so as to attain a more profound relationship with the Lord.

The Jubilee was a tremendous success with Councils at our Fall Regional Meetings reporting their visits to the Holy Doors and their many Corporal & Spiritual works of Mercy such as praying for the living & the dead, visiting the sick, feeding the hungry, visiting food banks or holding clothing drives. For more information visit archtoronto.org, im.va or watch Salt & Light TV.



Vocations

The 27th Annual Ordinandi Dinner will be held on Tuesday 7 March, 2017 at the Pearson Convention Centre, 2638 Steeles Ave., E. Brampton { @Airport Rd}. The cost \$70 - Adult. The CWL has reserved tables for our members. Make cheques payable to "Serra Foundation" with a list of the attendee{s} names & addresses and mail to: Suzanne Cockburn, 184 John Tabor Trail, Scarborough, ON M1B 2R2 before the **deadline January 28, 2017**. Cheques may be postdated to January 28, 2017.

The Spiritual Bouquet should be sent directly to Imelda Santos: 64 Porter St., Bradford ON L3Z 1E8, call 905-775-7819, email imelda.santos@sympatico.ca **no later than February 20, 2017**. Remember to invite your Parish and nursing home residents to participate, and work with your H&E Chair to include their school Masses and daily prayer in the bouquet. Engage the youths & other Ministries of your Parish to assist. See your package for a list of suggestions. Last year the Ordinandi received over 1.5million Spiritual Bouquets and were very appreciative, so let's not disappoint them this year.

On October 6 the Vatican announced "Young People, the Faith & the Discernment of Vocation" as the theme for the next Synod of Bishops set to take place in 2018. Describing the Vocational Ministry as an encounter with God. Pope Francis calls on both the Clergy & the Laity to get out of our comfort zones and to take a more dynamic approach to this most urgent mission. More info @ catholicnewsagency.com

Ministry to: Divorced

The debate continues on the question of whether or not civilly remarried divorcees can partake in Communion. High ranking Church officials and commentators have offered varying interpretations as to whether Pope Francis' s apostolic exhortation "Amoris Laetitia" does indeed represent a paradigm shift that allows for a changed pastoral practice. What they all do seem to agree on however is that marriage and family must continue to be "the central theme in pastoral care because the family is the way of the Church." Stay tuned.

Ministry to: Youth

Faith Connections was established by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Toronto as a way to connect with and minister to young adults 18-39 years of age. Check out their website for more information @ faithconnections.ca

Sanctity of Life

As Canadians debate the controversial Bill C-14 in light of the June 6 Supreme Court imposed legislation deadline, the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition is releasing 4 short videos entitled "Belgium's Advice to Canada" from it's upcoming documentary film "The Euthanasia Deception" Euthanasia has been legal in Belgium since 2002. In the videos victims & advocates offer a stern warning to Canada & any country considering enacting laws that allow assisted death. Go to info@epcc.ca

Two recent news items are worth noting on the issue of Euthanasia & Assisted Suicide. Firstly, in British Columbia it is reported that two of the five regional health authorities have instructed voluntary societies offering hospice & palliative care that they must provide euthanasia & assisted suicide. Not only does this fly in the face of the philosophies & constitutions of such voluntary hospice societies, the order has been given without any consultation with these organizations and apparently without the knowledge of the BC provincial ministry of health.

Secondly, the recent arrest of a Southern Ontario nurse for the murder of 8 care home patients has served to highlight the not uncommon practice of doctors or nurses intentionally causing the death of patients. Again, we need to make our voices heard and to demand that an in-depth investigation be done into every care home in Canada, especially now that Euthanasia & Assisted Suicide are now legal.

Lastly, I will like to welcome all the new Christian Family Life Chairs. Thank you for saying "Yes".



“Viewing of Mother Teresa film” with Bishop Kason, Fr. Pat, Elizabeth Quail, Hilarion Mitchell, Marie Gennero, Ann D’Souza, Ann Petrie and Carol Pitcher

Development Day, 2017

Saturday, February 11, 2017

Christ the King/Cristo Rei Parish

3495 Confederation Parkway

Mississauga, ON. L5B 3G5

<http://www.cristoreiparish.org/>

Join your sisters in the League. Every year this day is set aside to bring together all the sisters in the Toronto Diocese, the day is packed with activities “focus on spiritual growth, ways to improve and develop ourselves, be successful in what we do”.

Keynote speakers: Sr. John Mary
Sisters of Life, Toronto

8:00 am Registration
8:30 am Mass
9:30 am Refreshment break
10:00 am to 2:15pm Presentation & workshop
2:30pm Closing prayer

Cost \$10:00 per person. Coffee & tea will be provided – bring a brown bag lunch. Pre-registration is a **MUST**. Registration will be cut-off when the maximum has been reached, you will be advised.

Please complete and return to: Ann D’Souza, 5342 Ferret Court,
Mississauga, ON. L4Z 3M4. Email: ant_dsouza@hotmail.com

DEADLINE DATE: January 31, 2017 Cost \$10.00.

Cheque payable to “CWL of Canada”. Your payment confirms your seat.

Name: _____ Phone No: _____

Email: _____

Council: _____

Region: _____

DATES TO REMEMBER 2017

February 11	Development Day
March 3	World Day of Prayer
March 7	Ordinandi Dinner
March 17	Mary Matthews Public Speaking submissions due
March 17	Mary Dobell Pro-Life Essay & Poetry submission due
March 17	Jean McCann Youth Service Award submission due
April 26	Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel
May 4 & 5	96 th Annual TDC Convention – Marriott Toronto Airport

REGIONAL MEETING DATES

March 16	North York Region General Meeting St. Mary Immaculate – Mass 7:30pm
March 30	Toronto Region General Meeting St. John Bosco – Mass 7:00pm
April 4	Northern Region General Meeting Guardian Angels, Orillia – Mass 7:30pm
April 5	Durham Region General Meeting
TBA	Humber Valley Region General Meeting
TBA	Durham Region General Meeting Location TBA

Happy Anniversary!
St. Gregory, Durham Region
65th Anniversary
St. Martin of Tours, Peel Region
40th Anniversary
St. Francis de Sales, Durham Region
55th Anniversary

SERVICE AWARDS

Maple Leaf Service Pins

Peel Region

Sts. Peter & Paul: Merlyn Crooks
St. Martin of Tours Rufina Charles

North York Region

Blessed Trinity: Velma Letterio Arlene Steger
Louise Tonelli

65-Year Membership Pins

Durham Region

St. Gertrude: Laura Lefaive

Humber Valley

St. Gregory Mary Gauci

60-Year Membership Pins

Durham Region

St. Gertrude: Ann McGeown Nancy Roy
St. Mary of the People Dorothy Lawless Rita Ladouceur

Northern Region

Guardian Angels: Margaret Harris

Humber Valley

St. Gregory Eileen Hehn

55-Year Membership Pins

Durham Region

St. Gertrude: Mary Corrigan Nora McDonell
Frances McKenny Phyllis Noonan
Cathy VanHeugten Marg Younger

Humber Valley Region

St. Gregory Dorothy Pojaujis

50-Year Membership Pins

Durham Region

St. Gertrude: Sally Borovsky
St. Mary of the People Shirley Laturski

Northern Region

St. Paul the Apostle: Linda Lemire
Guardian Angels: Joan Kaak

Humber Valley Region

St. Gregory: Mary Howlett

45-Year Membership Pins

Durham Region

St. Gertrude: Maria Gallant Maureen McAvoy
Brenda Tuepah Bernice Corrigan
St. Isaac Jogues: Eileen Couch Cecilila McCaughey

Humber Valley Region

St. Gregory: Helen Gillis

40-Year Membership Pins

Durham Region

St. Gertrude: Vera Tandy Joyce Luck
St. Mary of the People Rose Ambra Irma Dus
Jeanette Bussanich Monica Freeman
Theresa Powers Aline Radek
Ann Scholtes Blanch Szekeres

Northern Region

Guardian Angels: Helen Keller Kathleen Townes
Gert Mulcahy

Peel Region

St. Martin of Tours Helen Boyd Mary Daisy
Kay Yager

35-Year Membership Pins

Durham Region

St. Gertrude: Mary Ann Ellsworth
Hilda Rembala

Humber Valley Region

St. Gregory Anita Edgar Marie Carver

Peel Region

St. Martin of Tours: Vivien Fernandez Legia Neglia

30-Year Membership Pins

Durham Region

St. Gertrude: Angela Herd Iris Petrie
Maria Zak Bernadette Tuepah
Lorraine Veroba

Northern Region

Guardian Angels: Rosella Derochie

Scarborough Region

St. Joseph Highland Creek: Jean Lewis Yoshiko Huang
Pam Canham

Peel Region

St. Martin of Tours: Mary Coady Regina Falcioni
Sally Hill Lois Lack
Lois Lack Ann Morrison
Micheline Venner Margaret Walker
Mary Weber Pauline Young

25-year Membership Pins

Durham Region

St. Gertrude: Pauline Korkush Marlene Pulla
Livia Zupanic

St. Mary of the People Mary Ann Kemp Maria Romao

Northern Region

Guardian Angels: Stella Scrivo Anna McMillan
Isobel McDonnell Cosmina Ethier
Barbara Mazur

St. Paul the Apostle: Linda Gaspar Helen Pollock

Scarborough Region

St. Joseph Highland Creek: Maria Steger Philomena Traynor

Peel Region

St. Francis Xavier: Mary Lou Bonnici

20-Year Membership Pins

Durham Region

St. Gertrude: Stella Baxter Helen Feeney
Gladys Giroux Fiorina Latin
Marion Lukow Rose McIntosh
Ann Olesky Diane Vesters
Patricia Winters

St. Isaac Jogues	Karen Branson	Venola Alexander
	Kathleen Brown	Cathy Forster
	Andrea MacFarlane-Grieve	
	Pauline McCafferty	Fran Pereira
	Alice Quigley	Annette Viscomi
	Pat Smith Robertson	

Northern Region

Guardian Angels:	Anne Cranney	Sophie Makarow
	Teresa Novosky	Maria Timpano
	Carmenchita Ventura	

Scarborough Region

St. Joseph Highland Creek	Marjorie Herrera	Cynthia Menezes
	Lucia Vacca	

Peel Region

St. Martin of Tours:	Ann McGillvary	
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10-Year Membership Pins

Durham Region

St. Gertrude:	Reta Baker	Laurie Beaton
	Linda Butler	Heather Cassidy
	Margaret Cirtwill	Mary Cole
	Ann Curtin	Lena Griffin
	Beth Jenish	Louise Liberty
	Justina Novak	Christine Reid
St. Isaac Jogues:	Marisa Cicuto	Gwen Conway
	Julie Peschisolido	Ellen Cannon
St. Mary of the People	Tracy Brennan	Dolly Richards
	Sara Varnum	Maureen Webster

Northern Region

Guardian Angels:	Noreen Davidson	Jackie Majury
	Suzanne Simmons	
St. Paul the Apostle:	Carla Beckett	Evelyn Bertrand

Scarborough Region

St. Joseph Highland Creek:	Ann Anthony	Anita Anthony
	Therese Baduria	Nicole Corrado
	Erin Corrado	Rosemer Enverga
	Marilena Florio	Patricia Furtado
	Patricia Hall	Mary Karawaju

Leela Kinoshita
Maureen McGrath-Corrado
Rose Rozinka Josie Troccoli
Anna Vigliatore

Peel Region

St. Francis Xavier:

Charmain Alweyn Susan Wylde
M.Olivia DeSouza
Lucinda Pereira-Quadros

St. Martin of Tours

Ida Spagnolo MaryCarolWanca Faria
Mary Cichocki-Beaudry
Daphne Gordon Gloria Policarpio
Theresa Sultana

Humber Valley

St. Gregory:

Mona Masse

Welcome! New Council Our Lady of Annunciation.



COMMUNICATIONS

Sub Conveners: Kathleen Koyama 905-294-2130
Sonia Villanueva 905-567-1971

The Communications Standing Committee Chair is one of the vital positions on the executive. Why is that? The simple answer is, members need to be kept informed and knowledgeable of what is happening at all levels of the League. There are many ways to keep in touch with your members: have a calling committee for members who do not have email and like to hear a voice, create a newsletter summarizing events and noting upcoming events, have posters, bulletins, advertisements, and websites keeping members interested and encouraged to join in the action of your council. Encourage members to attend Development Day, Regional Meetings and Conventions. Wear your CWL service pins and scarves to be visible and to promote the League at all times.



NEW National Annual Reports Online

As you complete the National Communications Chair Annual Parish Reports as the Communications Chair, I hope that you found this process easier and quicker to complete. Your good news stories are to be shared, even if you do not have a Communications Chair, please fill out the form/survey so that each level of the Organization will have a complete compiled analysis of each Standing Committee Chair. I am sure that each council will have something to report under Communications.

Pornography Hurts Everyone Campaign

The campaign for Pornography Hurts Everyone began in Hamilton Diocese in the 1990s and it has continued to today where we encourage all members at all levels to promote it by using the cards, having speakers and educating members and the community at large.



The Catholic Women's
League of Canada



**Pornography
Hurts Everyone**

The pornography cards for this campaign were distributed to all Parish Council Presidents at each of the Regional Fall General Meetings. Be sure to put your Name, Address and a question. NOTE: each of these cards is worth 100 votes. The National

website www.cwl.ca has a PowerPoint presentation developed on this topic for your use. It was created by Christa Grillmair, Communications Chair from Victoria Diocese. To view and download, for this presentation go to <http://cwl.ca/communications-communicue-4/> This program falls under the Communication Standing Committee Chair. These cards can be distributed for signatures at your annual dinners or within the Parish, not just for CWL members.

Parish Events - Articles Required from the Toronto Diocese for the Provincial ON-Line Newsletter

The Toronto Diocesan Council will be featured on the On-Line Newsletter for Provincial for the issue which will be published for **March 2017**. I would like to encourage each Parish Council in Toronto to submit an article to highlight what your Council has been working on. Please forward your article with a picture to me at lucia.vacca@sympatico.ca by **January 31, 2017**. Only a few articles will be chosen to be featured for the March issue, submit your story follow the guidelines below and stay tuned.

Here are the Guidelines for submissions: Editorial Guideline (adapted from *Be League*)

- Each Parish Council is asked to provide articles and photographs.
- Items must be about CWL events. How was the CWL involved?
- Items should be new or innovative and able to be replicated by councils.
Council title and location must be mentioned.
- Each article will be typed and *not to exceed 100 words*.
- Only one photograph should accompany each article.
- Photographs must be cropped and sent in *.jpg format*. Written permission is no longer required to publish pictures of individuals.

Media

Continue to visit each of these websites on a regular basis and also encourage all your members to do so. National – www.cwl.ca - Provincial – www.cwl.on.ca - Toronto – www.cwltoronto.ca

Subscribe to receive the online newsletters: Be-League from National and On-Line Provincial Newsletter. These are both issued monthly. Visit these websites and review the information under Communications Chair – Communiqués and Directives. Renew your subscription for the Toronto Diocesan Newsletter (Spring/Fall/Winter). Be sure to introduce the Toronto Diocesan Newsletter to your members as they also may wish to subscribe.

National Centenary Celebration and Logo Contest!

The National Centenary Committee will be hosting a series of events to celebrate our 100th Anniversary of this League and to make this extra special, they have decided to encourage members to create and submit a logo for this occasion. The contest deadline is December 31st 2016 and the Contest Rules are on the National website www.cwl.ca under <http://cwl.ca/100th-anniversary-celebrations/> Centenary Celebration and Logo contest. Let's see if we in the Toronto Diocese can be a winner. Encourage your gifted members to come up with a special logo for this occasion.

Council Facebook Guidelines

The National has posted a Do and Don't list of recommendations for building and maintaining a Facebook page for your Parish. If your Parish is engaging in this social network please read this document on <http://cwl.ca/facebook-guidelines> this information was posted to this website on September 20th.

Tips for Conference Calls

The National website under Resources / Manuals offers a document entitled "*Seven Tips and More Productive Conference Calls*" here is the link <http://cwl.ca/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/Seven-Tips-for-More-Productive-Conference-Calls.pdf> these suggestions are very helpful and offer an effective way in yet another means of communicating with members or executives.

Movies

"I'm not ashamed" the Rachel Scott Story-
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k1Fzxbv1f6E> Columbine true story

Books

The following books may be of interest:

"A Catholic Guide to Caring for Your Aging Parent" a guide for caregivers go to www.loyolapress.com

"A Spirituality of Caregiving" by Henri J.M Nouwen

COMMUNITY LIFE

Andrea Tjioe

As I begin my second and final year as your Toronto Diocesan Council Community Life chairperson, I would like to congratulate Betty Colaneri (Ontario Provincial Council Past President), the newly elected National Community Life chairperson. I'm looking forward to pass along her most informative Community Life Communiques to you, in the coming year.



Dignity and Rights of Persons – Human Trafficking

Allow me to re-iterate from the most recent Directive of Wilma Vanderzwaag's (Ontario Provincial Council Community Life Standing Committee Chair) with regards to the appalling statistics of "Human Trafficking":

Did you know?

- \$32 billion is made worldwide per year from human trafficking
- average age 13 ½ years for prostitution
- there is a direct link between pornography and human trafficking
- \$96 billion is made in pornography each year
- 68 billion daily internet searches for pornography
- in Canada 90% of the victims of human trafficking are Canadians
- Indigenous women and youth are especially vulnerable

Human trafficking is an under reported crime. The Ontario government has spent 72 million dollars on this issue with a new strategy that includes prevention and community support, an enhanced justice sector and Indigenous lead initiatives as well as an anti-human trafficking agency.

February 8th is our Holy Father's dedicated day for prayer against human trafficking.

Here are two websites for more information-thetraffickedhuman.org and www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/ht-tp/index-eng.htm.

Human trafficking touches every community on the planet and destroys lives.

Social and economic justice

As some of you who attended the National Convention heard that a motion was passed to establish a permanent **Voluntary Fund for CNEWA** (Catholic Near East Welfare Association). This designation and our support through Velma's Dream, which helps fund a Shepherd's field hospital and a youth project are so appreciated by CNEWA, and Velma Harasen was deeply moved by this motion. Back in September, I had the opportunity to attend a CNEWA fundraising dinner, themed "Baptism by Fire". The event was very well attended and greatly supported by the members of the Knights of Columbus Ontario State Council. Both Shirley and I were introduced as representatives from the Catholic Women's League Toronto Diocesan Council. Fr. Henri Boulad, as the keynote speaker delivered a reflection on Christianity in the Middle East and contemporary world. He spoke on the situation in the Middle East needing our support – in prayers, advocacy and financial support. On behalf of the people in Syria, Iraq and Egypt, he extended a heartfelt thank to everyone for our caring and selfless support.

Refugees, Immigration and Citizenship

The 103rd World Day of Migrants and Refugees will be celebrated on January 15, 2017. The theme of Pope Francis' Message is "Child Migrants, the Vulnerable and the Voiceless". In his Message, the Holy Father wants to draw attention to the reality of child migrants, as they are the most vulnerable group; the absence of adults to accompany them prevents their voices from being raised and heard. You may view Pope Francis' full Message for the "World Day of Migrants and Refugees 2017" in the link below:

http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/migration/documents/papa-francesco_20160908_world-migrants-day-2017.html

Congratulations to you my sisters in the League, for it is at the grass root Parish level where all the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy are being actioned, for you have all embraced The Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy well. I hope that you will all take a few minutes to complete the On-Line Community Life Annual Report, and I am so looking forward to read all the wonderful Works of Mercy that you have been doing. Let us continue to strengthen our communities and beyond with compassionate action. Blessed are the merciful, for mercy shall be theirs.

'Tis the season of Gifting will soon be upon us, here are a few ideas of gifts of a different kind:

- “Gift of Time” volunteer as a family in food banks, soup kitchens, senior homes, Out of the Cold, bagged meals for the homeless, etc
- “Two Gift in One” – give gifts in their name, ie. Chalice Canada (check out Chalice Gift Catalogue – for as little as \$10.00 for Animal Feed or \$15.00 for Chicks & Ducklings) or any monetary donation to your recipient’s favorite charity in their honour.

May you be blessed especially during this magical Christmas season from our family to yours.

EDUCATION AND HEALTH

Debbie Bates

Sub Conveners:

Public Speaking, Poetry & Essay	Mary Lou Bonnici	905-890-5908
Genetics	Val Egerton	705-727-4902
St. Michael's Scholarship & Health	Mary Tuccitto	416-283-8828

After the elections at the convention in Halifax this past August, we welcome our new National level Education and Health Standing Committee Chair - Fran Lucas. As well, we welcome our new Education and Health Standing Committee Chairs across the Toronto Diocese in the councils that had their elections this fall!

As was announced at the Regional Meetings, the League has changed the Annual Reports submission process and you will now be submitting your reports online. Be sure to complete your Education & Health Annual Report before December 31st, 2016.

EDUCATION:

Youth Awards

In my last newsletter article the winners of the 2016 Youth Awards contests were recognized. However due to an error on my part, the Poetry segment winners of the Mary Dobell Pro-Life Poetry and Essay Contest were missed.

I would now like to recognize those winners and to express my apologies for the omission.

Mary Dobell Pro-Life Essay and Poetry Contest - 2016

Intermediate Poetry:

1st Place: Shada Barkho

Title: What We've Lost

Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic School; St. Timothy's Parish; **North York Region**

2nd Place: Emerson Purdy

Title: Bullies

St. Jean De Brebeuf School; Holy Martyrs of Japan Parish, Bradford; **Northern Region**

3rd Place: Jason Coimbra

Title: I Still Love You

Mother Cabrini Catholic School; Nativity of Our Lord Parish, Etobicoke; **Humber Valley Region**

Senior Poetry:

1st Place: Diego Ardon

Title: The Value of Life

Brebeuf College School; St. John XX111 Parish, North York; **North York Region**

2nd Place: Hillary Zaichuk

Title: Saving Lives is Pro-Life

All Saints Catholic School; St. Francis de Sales, Ajax; **Durham Region**

3rd Place: Noelle Ochocinski

Title: The Seed That Never Grew

All Saints Catholic High School; St. Leo the Great Parish, Brooklin; **Durham Region**

By now all councils should have received their *2017 Education Youth Awards Program Packages* from their Regional Chairs. The package is available on our website www.cwltoronto.ca under the *Resources* tab and then under *Reference_Documents*. If you have any questions don't hesitate to reach out to the contacts provided on the Package's checklist page.

The location for the 2017 Mary Matthews Public Speaking Contest has been confirmed. The finals will be held on Saturday March 25th, 2017 @ St. Francis Xavier Parish - 5650 Mavis Rd, Mississauga, ON L5V 2X5. Registration for the contestants will begin at 12:30pm and the contest at 1:00pm.

Recipients of the 2016 CWL Scholarships

- The St. Michael’s Scholarship – was awarded to Michele Vitu. Michele is a graduate of Loretto Abbey Catholic Secondary School and she attends Nativity of Our Lord Parish in Humber Valley Region.
- The Hope for Children Foundation Scholarship – was awarded to Lisa-Marie B. and Lisa is entering her last year of Practical Nursing at Humber College.

When allocating funds to the charities your council supports, kindly consider including a donation to these two worthy scholarships.

HEALTH:

Flu Shot

The flu season is upon us – have you had your Influenza vaccine also referred to as the flu shot? Studies have shown that the flu shot reduces the number of visits to the doctor’s office; reduces the number of hospital admissions and reduces the number of deaths. These are all good reasons to get on board, so check with your doctor to confirm that you are a candidate for the vaccine and if you are then get your shot. Do your part for a healthier winter!

Shingles Vaccine

Have you or anyone you know had shingles? Shingles is a painful rash on one side of the body and its severity and the possible complications vary from case to case. Shingles is caused by the varicella zoster virus – the same virus that causes chickenpox. The varicella zoster virus doesn’t go away after one has had chickenpox. Instead, the virus lies dormant in the nerve cells and, then years later if triggered, reactivates as shingles. Though experts are not sure what conditions are required for shingles to develop, it is believed it could be triggered by a weakened immune system related to age or unhealthy stress levels. It is thought that one in three people will develop shingles during their lifetime.

Did you know that once you’ve had shingles it can come back? It has been recommended that those over the age of 50 consider getting the vaccine to help reduce the chances of triggering shingles and lessen the severity of the rash and associated pain. According to the Ontario Ministry of Health,

studies show that the vaccine is highly effective when seniors are vaccinated between the ages of 65-70. Ontario has acted on these findings and on September 15th, 2016 announced that effective immediately the shingles vaccine will be administered free of charge to seniors in Ontario who are between the ages of 65-70. So speak to your doctor. For those who are not in the 65 to 70 age bracket and have private health care coverage; be sure to check your policy to see if Shingles is covered.

I look forward to seeing you at Development Day in early February and at the upcoming Spring Regional Meetings.

LEGISLATION

Andrea Smart

We have a lot going on with legislation right now! At the federal level we have electoral reform, new food guide legislation, Cassie and Molly’s law and at the provincial level a new Bill to create an amendment to the Parentage and Related Registrations Statute Law.

Although **Bill C-14 An Act to amend the Criminal Code and to make related amendments to other Acts (medical assistance in dying)** received Royal Assent on June 17, 2016, there remains the outstanding issue with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario (CPSO) policy for patient referrals for assisted dying. The federal government did not include conscientious objection in the law. Coalition for HealthCare and Conscience is seeking a judicial review for the conscientious objection section of the CPSO policy.



The last bullet point of the policy reads “Where a physician declines to provide medical assistance in dying for reasons of conscience or religion, the physician must not abandon the patient. An effective referral must be provided. An effective referral means a referral made in good faith, to a non-objecting, available, and accessible physician, nurse practitioner or agency. The referral must be made in a timely manner to allow the patient to access medical assistance in

dying. Patients must not be exposed to adverse clinical outcomes due to delayed referrals.”

Update: C-225 – An Act to amend the Criminal Code (injuring or causing the death of a preborn child while committing an offence) Short Title: Protection of Pregnant Women and Their Preborn Children Act (Cassie and Molly’s Law) This Bill was defeated in the House of Commons on October 19, 2016 with Cassie’s mother Nancy and Molly’s father Jeff Durham in attendance. Cassie Kaake was weeks away from giving birth to Molly when she was murdered. Introduced as a private members bill by Cathay Wagantall the MP for Yorkton-Melville in Saskatchewan, the purpose was to amend the Criminal Code so that two murder charges could be brought against anyone who killed a woman and her unborn child.

As part of his election platform, Prime Minister Trudeau promised a review of Canada’s electoral system. He promised to put an end to first- past- the- post elections. Town hall meetings have been held across the country to engage the general public’s views on electoral reform. The House of Commons has set up a special committee to hold hearings and recommend a replacement system by December 1, 2016. More information on electoral reform can be found in the Legislation report on pages by Carol Richer in the fall issue of the Ontario Provincial CWL newsletter Trillium News and Views and the Simon Fraser Institute website <https://www.sfu.ca/~aheard/elections/reform.html>.

Provincial Legislation:

Bill 33 – An Act to amend the Long-Term Care Homes Act, 2007 to establish a minimum standard of daily care, The Bill amends the Long-Term Care Homes Act, 2007 so that a long-term care home will have to provide its residents with at least four hours a day of nursing and personal support services, averaged across the residents. The minimum hours may be increased by regulation. Subsection 6 (2) of the Long-Term Care Homes Act, 2007 is repealed and the following substituted: Based on assessment of resident (2) The licensee shall ensure that the care set out in the plan of care is based on an assessment of the resident, the needs and preferences of that resident and takes into account the licensee’s duty to comply with subsection 8 (5).

Bill 57 – Katelynn’s Principle Act (Decisions Affecting Children) In 2008 when she was seven years old Katelynn Sampson died from being brutally abused over many months by her legal guardians. Many factors

contributed to Katelynn’s vulnerable situation and to her case not being addressed by authorities. The jury in the coroner’s inquest into Katelynn’s death made 173 recommendations for preventing another tragic death. The first recommendation the jury made at the inquest was to give kids in the child welfare system a say in decisions about their care. Authorities have heard over and over again from the children in care that they feel their voices are not being heard in the decisions that are being made about their care. Already, children’s aid societies must seek police and Children’s Aid Society records in cases where non-parents are to take custody. After Katelynn’s death the Toronto Children’s Aid Society ordered an internal audit. That audit found that half a dozen calls concerning Katelynn’s welfare had been received in the months before her death. The jury in the coroner’s inquest recognized that all children and youth have a valuable contribution to make about what is in their best interest and that in all decisions regarding practice, policy, and legislation that affect them, children and youth should have a say in what would work best for them. The Act requires that any person making a decision under Ontario legislation affecting children must apply Katelynn’s Principle when making the decision.

RESOLUTIONS

Sue Lubowitz

Sub Convener

Maureen Webster

News from National Convention: This was an election year at the national level and the new National Resolution Committee Chair is Joan Bona (Nova Scotia).I am also pleased to let you know that the Toronto resolution on Home Care was adopted at national convention for action by councils across the country. In The Canadian League/Fall 2016 issue you will find the text and action plan for each of the five resolutions adopted at the national convention. They can also be found on the national website @www.cwl.ca Please take time to review, share and take appropriate actions on these resolutions:



- 2016.01 Equal Access to Permanent Resident Status
- 2016.02 Eating Well with Canada’s Food Guide
- 2016.03 Warning Labels on Food and Drug Products for Inactive Substances and Additives

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

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

Councils are encouraged to become familiar with these issues. Discuss the brief at a meeting and invite discussion. Take ownership of the resolution by working on the action plan as a committee of interested members. This is how we can, individually or as councils, bring about change.

Every year dedicated women with a passion for an issue work on resolutions that reach the national level. On the national CWL site there are active past resolutions that are still relevant and need the efforts of councils to bring them to fruition. Here are three that councils may consider to study and work on:

Resolution 2009.01 Exit Strategies for Prostituted Persons

This resolution can be worked on by the Community Life and/or Communications committee at your parish. The resolution urges the federal government to provide sustained core funding to provinces for services that meet the needs of persons wanting to exit a life of prostitution.

The RCMP estimates that 600 to 800 people are trafficked into Canada annually year, and another 1500 to 2200 persons are trafficked through Canada to the United States annually. 90% of Canada's trafficking cases involve domestic human trafficking and less than 10% involve people being brought into Canada. The average age of entry into prostitution in Canada is 13 years of age. The typical age range of females trafficked for sexual exploitation by organized crime networks in Canada is between 12-25 years of age. There is a high level of trafficking of Aboriginal girls between the ages of 7 to 12. Aboriginal girls are grossly over-represented in prostitution and among the women who have been murdered in prostitution.

On November 6, 2014, Bill C-36 received Royal Assent. For the first time in Canada, it became illegal to buy sexual services. The new law is called *The Protection of Communities and Exploited Persons Act*. Much work is still needed. Members are encouraged to write the Minister of Justice, Hon. Jody Wilson-Raybould to request the enforcement of Bill C-36 in all jurisdictions. Members are also encouraged to continue with the **“Pornography Hurts” postcard campaign**. The updated 2015 version of the postcard can be found on the Toronto CWL website under the “Resources” tab. Other ways to bring awareness to this issue: contact local police on how they are implementing C-36, challenge media for their disregard of the law when publishing sexual ads of women and girls by sending a letter to the publisher, support agencies that assist the exploited

(such as Covenant House) and finally tell others by starting a conversation about the issue.

Resolution 1996.03 Advance Directives for Health Care This still active resolution recommends that councils at all levels initiate education and promote awareness regarding advance directives for health care and durable powers of attorney, through workshops or seminars. At the provincial convention in July 2016, keynote speaker and palliative care expert, Michelle O'Rourke spoke on end of life care and discussed advance directives. Only 15 to 25% of people complete an advance directive. The Canadian Catholic Bioethics Institute (<http://www.ccbi-utoronto.ca>) holds regular talks on end of life topics that members may wish to attend or book for their parish. An advance directive plan can be found at <http://www.advancecareplanning.ca>.

Resolution 2014.02 Electronic Cigarettes

Resolution 2014.03 Flavoured Tobacco Products Ban

The Tobacco Act is almost 20 years old; it needs to be modernized to deal with a whole range of issues related to new products like water pipes and e-cigarettes. The federal government is currently reviewing its approach to e-cigarettes. Health Canada says the move will balance the need to protect young people from nicotine addiction while allowing adult smokers to legally buy vaping products and e-cigarettes to help quit smoking or as a potentially less harmful alternative to tobacco. An estimated 87,000 Canadians, including many young people, will become daily smokers this year — placing them and others at risk of developing a variety of diseases and illnesses. In May 2016, the Ontario provincial government enacted a law on vaping. Members are urged to contact their federal MP and communicate their concern on this topic.

Update on Resolution ON14.01: Mandatory Labelling of Genetically Modified Food Products: The action plan recommends that councils follow the progress of Bill C-257. This bill did not progress because the mandate for that government was over with the election in fall 2015. There is however, a new bill dealing with this issue. It is private member's Bill C-291. Members are encouraged to contact the appropriate new ministers for this portfolio and voice their concern.

Ongoing Action: Members are urged to write to Premier Wynne and the Minister of Health, Dr. Eric Hoskins, to request that freedom of conscience of healthcare professionals be protected. The same protection should also be extended to healthcare institutions. Colleges and/or associations of healthcare professionals should recognize and respect their members' right

to freedom of conscience. Healthcare professionals should not be required to facilitate, either by referral or other forms of participation, in physician assisted suicide.

I look forward to seeing many of you at development day. If you have worked on a resolution (recent or not), I would appreciate hearing about it. If you have photos, handouts or any other visuals of the work done, please bring them along for me to look at. I thank you for your work and dedication to the resolutions.

NEWSLETTER

**Karen Nazione-Garcea
& Christine Abela**

Proofreading

Patricia Cross

905-889-5724



This is our Winter Edition and we welcome all new Spiritual Advisors. Fr. Pat has done a great job ensuring all regions have been covered. In this edition of the newsletter you will find the registration form for Development Day in February and an early notice on our upcoming 2017 Convention. Please make notes of the



dates.

This is the 3rd edition of the 2016 subscription. The renewal form can be found at the back of this newsletter. Also, there is a subscription form on our website, www.cwltoronto.ca, or you can email: abelachristine@hotmail.com and then mail the cheque, payable to Toronto Diocesan CWL Council, to Christine Abela at the address on the back cover of the newsletter.

Once again we congratulate all members who have achieved new membership pin levels. Especially all members with over 50 years of membership. Also, congratulations to all councils celebrating milestone anniversaries.

We thank everyone for their submission and sharing of events. Unfortunately we are not able to include all photos submitted due to space limitations. We also apologize for any errors and omissions.

Council Presidents, remember to forward council anniversaries and Service Award recipients to Karen Nazione-Garcea at kegarcea@yahoo.ca.

By now all our Christmas Craft Shows and Bazaars are over and we anxiously await the coming of our Saviour.

Wishing Everyone a Blessed and Holy Christmas!

Save The Date!
New Location
96th Annual Toronto Diocesan CWL Convention

Inspired By The Spirit, Women Respond To God's Call!

All CWL members and friends are invited and encouraged to attend!!

Thursday, May 4th and Friday, May 5th, 2017

Toronto Airport Marriott Hotel
901 Dixon Road, Toronto ON M9W 1J5

Gain CWL knowledge and pride in an atmosphere of Spirituality, Prayer and Fun with your CWL sisters. Be informed with the Resolutions Dialogue, Guest Speakers, Provincial & National News. Be present to support the various Council Awards, Youth Awards, Catholic Girls League Updates and Vendors.

The Presidents' Convention Packages with all the details including Registration Form and the Banquet Ticket Order Form will be distributed at Development Day - February 11 2017 and the Toronto Diocesan website www.cwltoronto.ca will be updated as information becomes available.

Your 2017 Convention Convener and sub-Conveners are:

Convener:

Mary Hawkley 905 668-1644 mahawkley@sympatico.ca

Sub Conveners:

Mary Antonio 905 770-9086 m.antonio@sympatico.ca

Mary Tuccitto 416 283-8828 marytuccitto@hotmail.com

*Please be reminded, as a courtesy to your Sisters in the League, this is a
scent free event*