

TORONTO DIOCESAN COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER

Fall 2016

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SPIRITUAL ADVISOR

Rev. Patrick O'Dea

I wish to greet all of you, the members of the Toronto Diocesan Catholic Women's League (CWL), as I begin my new ministry as your Spiritual Advisor. My appointment became effective May 31, 2016, replacing Fr. Robert O'Brien, to whom we remain grateful for his years of service.

To begin, I must confess my appointment as Spiritual Advisor came as a genuine surprise and not something I had expected! A few months earlier, I had received a phone call from the Archdiocese asking if I might be willing to consider such an appointment and naturally, had assumed others were being considered as well. When I jokingly asked, Who else is being considered? the response was definitive, "You are the first choice; no one else is being considered!". I must admit I was stunned but also very humbled and honoured.

As the Pastor of St. Edward the Confessor Parish in North York, I continue to work very closely with our parish CWL council, as I have done in other former parishes. The Catholic Women's League, for me, has always been a very important organisation within the life of the parish, the Archdiocese, and the universal Church. I have nothing but admiration for the many women I have met over the years who have been so faithful to God in this service to the Church.

I have only been at St. Edward's parish for two years, but in that time, I had the unique pleasure of meeting the legendary Mary Matthews, a long-time member of the CWL. In fact, we celebrated her 100th birthday last year. She was thrilled to know I was very supportive of the CWL she had dedicated her life to for so many years. She continued to attend the meetings even after her 100th birthday, and we had many wonderful conversations. She would recall her many years with the Catholic Women's League with much pride. One could see how much it was also like a second family to her. She inspired me by her love and dedication to the League which she continued to serve until this past year. She died on June 5th and I was honoured to preside and preach at her funeral mass. Bishop Wayne Kirkpatrick offered the prayers of Final Commendation. I only wish she could have known I was selected as the new Toronto council Spiritual Advisor. No matter, I am sure she is praying for all of us from heaven!

My appointment may only be a few weeks old, but I have been busy meeting with our Diocesan executive and was pleased to attend and

participate in the recent Ontario CWL Convention held July 10 - 13 in Stratford, Ontario.

During the Convention, it was my great pleasure to witness the hard work, dedication, joy and enthusiasm of the many women who gathered from across Ontario for four days of intense work, united in their theme to be of "One Heart, One Voice, and One Mission".

I had the opportunity to meet with Bishop William McGrattan, National Spiritual Advisor and Bishop Fred Colli, Provincial Spiritual Advisor as well as with the many priests and spiritual advisors who attended the Convention. We discussed a number of important matters and shared ideas on how we might move forward in building up and supporting the League. I was deeply impressed by the leadership of Pauline Krupa, Ontario President and her Ontario Provincial Council (OPC) and all who helped them, for their tremendous effort in organising the Convention. They made everyone feel very welcome and ensured a lively and productive Convention. More importantly, their faith and love of God and their desire to serve His Church was clearly evident in their prayer and example. The Holy Spirit was truly present and active throughout the Convention through their fine leadership.

I was also inspired by the leadership of our own Toronto council. They truly had a great presence and a strong voice in leading the way on a number of important issues, most notably Palliative Care. They took leadership in introducing a resolution (to be reviewed at the National Convention in August) that encourages the government to enhance the Canada Health Act (1984) to include Home Care. I thank each of our Toronto CWL Executive and members for being such great witnesses to all at the Convention as we move forward on this, and other important issues facing our society today. The Catholic Church needs to have its voice heard in the halls of government and the CWL is a great example of how working together can make this happen.

Finally, I look forward to working with all of you on the Toronto Diocesan CWL team as we explore further goals and objectives for the coming year, and beyond. I am currently actively looking for priests willing to be regional spiritual advisors and will update you on this as soon as possible. As well, I am delighted to inform you that I have been able to engage a guest speaker who will be able to highlight the life and example of Blessed Mother Teresa as a model for us all in this Year of Mercy. As you know, she will be canonized on September 4, 2016, by Pope Francis in Rome and we hope to have our guest shortly after.

Perhaps, over the coming weeks and months, I might suggest that all councils, and CWL members, invoke the intercession of Blessed Mother Teresa as we strive to be more "merciful" in all our works and relationships, both within and outside the church. May our hearts be full of mercy and love for all of God's people.

I close with a promise of prayer for each one of you. Please pray for me. May God bless you.

Fr. Pat O'Dea

Spiritual Advisor
Toronto Diocesan Council

PRESIDENT

Shirley Christo

“Dear Jesus ... Shine through me, and be so in me that every soul I come in contact with may feel Your presence in my soul. Let them look up and see no longer me, but only Jesus”. - Mother Teresa (Fragrance Prayer Excerpt)

Warm greetings as you enter this beautiful season. Fall is a time for presidents to guide their councils to review and to reflect on the year that is ending and to plan for moving forward. Let us complete the Year of Mercy with a renewed commitment to emulate the works of our Blessed Mother Teresa. Please carefully review Hilarion’s Spiritual Development report and our TDC website for exciting updates on the links to her canonization and a planned guest speaker. Together with other faith-filled organizations, CWL continues to be guided to act with “One Heart – filled with mercy, compassion and holiness; One voice – united in harmony to speak the truth with courage and zeal [and] One mission – witnessing to the Good News of the gospel through personal encounter and joyful service”.



Our 95th Annual Toronto Diocesan Convention held May 5th and 6th, with our sub-theme *Acting with Kindness and Mercy* is helping us to stay

focussed on the national CWL goal and 2016 sub-theme to have Hospice Palliative care in every community across Canada. In his annual banquet presentation, His Eminence Thomas Cardinal Collins passionately encouraged us to help make ethical Palliative Care available for all Canadians. He further urged that we call Medical Aid in Dying (MAID) what it really is and continue to advocate for the conscientious objection rights of both health professionals and faith-based institutions.

On Thursday evening, our guest speaker Dr. Josephine Lombardi impressed the youth, their parents, guests and CWL members with a presentation on the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy. She in turn was captivated by the recipients of the Toronto Diocesan CWL Youth Awards. On Friday afternoon, Provincial President Pauline Krupa guided workshop participants to understanding “Divine Indwelling” and clarified for all present what it means to respond to the nudge of the Holy Spirit within each of us.

Special accolades to Mary Hawkley, her co-chairs Mary Antonio and Mary Tuccitto, the members of the executive, regional chairs, the Scarborough choir and all those who worked so hard to ensure that every aspect of our 95th assembly came together so efficiently! One does not realize how many details are tended to by your efficient team until you are running your first convention! I am still in awe!

Thanks and appreciations were extended to outgoing regional chairs Sharon Bellon and Maryse Ristuccia for their dedicated service to their regions and participation on the Toronto Diocesan Council (TDC). We also thanked Connie Cristinziano who graciously stepped forward to chair Humber Valley Region for one more year.

This year in a very special way, we acknowledged five years of dedicated service of Fr. Robert O’Brien as our Toronto Diocesan Spiritual Advisor. A spiritual bouquet was presented at convention and a farewell dinner was held on June 9th to celebrate and share memories and most importantly to thank Fr. Bob for his gift of service to Toronto CWL. See more in News & Events under Spotlight on our Toronto CWL website.

Please join us in giving a very warm welcome to Fr Pat O’Dea. Thank you, Father, for accepting the appointment to be the new spiritual advisor for the Toronto Diocesan Council! We value your expertise and look forward to sharing the next five years with you.

A final highlight of our 95th Toronto Diocesan Convention was the presentation of the Patricia Beattie awards to Gloria Wilson and Janet Dunn

and Bellelle Guerin Awards to Madeleine Skeleton and Loretta Gismondi for their ongoing dedication and service to the League! Congratulations all!

At our closing Mass, a collection was taken to be divided equally between the Toronto Missionaries of Charity and the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. I hope that everyone who attended this year's milestone convention came away inspired by everything that took place, including the spontaneous collection for the fire victims of Fort McMurray.

Since the Toronto convention, we have been delighted to hear that national has approved another Bellelle Guerin award presented to Madeleine Burke at St. John Chrysostom in June. We celebrated this presentation with Madeleine at the Toronto dinner in Stratford which is where the Ontario Provincial Convention was held this year. There were over 400 registered, including 61 from the Toronto Diocese.

From start to finish, President Pauline Krupa and her OPC team ensured that participants not only understood the Year of Mercy but also had opportunity to serve. The first keynote speaker was National Spiritual Advisor Bishop McGrattan, who spoke about the meaning of Pope Francis' declaration of *The Year of Mercy*. He clarified for us the importance of us being authentic in who we are as members of the League and in our call to service. He paraphrased Pope Francis and instructed us to "Wake up the world" through evangelization and leading first with Jesus Christ!

Our two resolutions passed at our Toronto Diocesan Convention on May 6th, were presented to the Ontario Provincial Convention, and with a few minor amendments, were both passed. Congratulations to all who worked so hard to make that process happen so efficiently.

Day two was our "Day of Mercy" at the provincial convention. Everyone was given an opportunity to be involved in sorting goods from registration donations or to work at the local food bank or to quietly pray for the needs of the poor. As well during this time, there was a wonderful opportunity for reconciliation offered by the spiritual advisors in attendance. Diocesan Presidents reported on how their diocese had emulated the works of mercy as exemplified by their chosen Blessed and provincial officers and committee chairs did the same for their chosen saint or Blessed. Pictures of the respective Blesseds and Saints were hung on wooden crosses carefully constructed by the husband of Jeannie Coleman, provincial administrative assistant. It was a very powerful and moving day!

At our fall regional meetings you will hear about the August National Convention chaired by Barbara Dowding and held this year in Halifax, Nova Scotia, and learn about changes in our annual reporting system. I look forward to sharing another year with you and the very capable Toronto Diocesan team.

As we head into the fall and the canonization of Blessed Mother Teresa, let us continue to focus on emulating her works of mercy for *The Sanctity and Dignity of All Human Life*.

“If we recognize [Jesus] under the appearance of bread ... we will have no difficulty recognizing him in the disguise of the suffering poor.” (Blessed Mother Teresa)

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

Hilarion Mitchell

Sub-Conveners:

Catholic Missions in Canada	Patricia Gyulay
Lay Ministries	Laurie van den Hurk
Women’s Inter-Church Council	Claudette Wilson
Liturgical Support	Diana Gamboa
	Pushpa Lobo

“If we pray, we will believe; If we believe, we will love; If we love, we will serve.”
- Mother Teresa

We joyfully return to our CWL activities energized from the League conventions and ready to witness Mother Teresa’s canonization. This is the perfect opportunity to rejuvenate our councils by adapting the Masses, prayer services, business programs and annual reports from the conventions to the needs of the council. We also welcome Father Patrick O’Dea as our Spiritual Advisor for the next five years. Members are encouraged to keep him in their prayers as he adjusts to his new responsibilities and manages his daily parish commitments.



Mother Teresa

The Canonization of Mother Teresa will take place in Rome on September 4th on the 19th anniversary of her death. Mother Teresa of Calcutta, who is the Blessed for the Toronto Diocesan Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy project this year, is an inspiring example of the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy. Live stream coverage of the canonization will most likely be on Salt+Light at <http://saltandlighttv.org/live/> and the Vatican Television at <https://www.youtube.com/user/vatican>. Father Patrick O’Dea has organized a FREE viewing of the film, *Mother Teresa: The Legacy* by Ann and Jeanette Petrie. Ann Petrie will be present at the viewing fresh from attending the canonization in Rome. She will provide insights about the canonization and on the five years she spent with Mother Teresa during the production of the film.

Film Viewing - Mother Teresa: The Legacy

Date/Time: Saturday, September 24, 2016 at 6:00 pm.

(The regular parish Sunday Vigil Mass is at 4:30-5:30pm).

A second viewing will be on Sunday, September 25, at 3:00pm.

Location: St. Edward the Confessor Church, North York

Address: 75 Churchill Avenue, Toronto, ON

Phone: 416-221-9131

Refreshments will be provided

Action:

- Members and non-members throughout the Toronto Archdiocese are invited to attend. Donations of non-perishable foods and money for St. Vincent de Paul will be gratefully accepted.

Aboriginal Mass

The Toronto Diocesan Council’s 2nd Aboriginal Mass was held on Sunday, June 26, at St. Ann’s, Toronto, with Father Wilson Andrade and this included a Smudge or Purification Ceremony. Seminarian Mr. Matthew Hendzel, S.J., gave a presentation on St. Kateri Tekakwitha, who is the first Aboriginal saint. The goals of the Mass are to familiarize members with the Aboriginal culture, engage them in prayer, promote awareness of issues within the Aboriginal communities and advocate for change on their behalf.

Action:

- Members are encouraged to read The Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) Report to understand the sad history of the Indian residential schools system and the recommendations to bring about reconciliation on the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation website <http://nctr.ca/reports.php>.
- Members are to also study and implement the action plans for the

League Aboriginal resolutions below:

ON.14.02 Feathers of Hope - Empowering First Nations Youth

ON.16.03 Expand the Nutrition North Canada program to include
ALL air only accessible communities

2013.01 Building Relationships and Partnerships with Canada's
Indigenous Peoples

ON.11.01 Safe Potable Water for First Nations Communities

2011.02 Children of Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women.

Rosary Sunday

The 32nd Annual Living Rosary Sunday Pilgrimage will be held on **Sunday, September 11, 2016 at Martyrs Shrine, Midland**, one of the Holy Doors for the Jubilee Year of Mercy. Reverend Father Bernard Carroll, S.J from Ignatius Jesuit Centre, Guelph, will be the Celebrant and Homilist. Mass will be 12:00 Noon at the Polish Altar with outdoor confessions before the Mass. The Procession of the Blessed Sacrament with the Living Rosary and Benediction will take place at the Papal Altar at 2:30 pm. For more information, email living-rosary@rogers.com or phone 705-435-3406 or 705-428-3540.

Action:

- Councils are to invite members, parishioners, family and friends to attend, bring their banners for the procession, rosary, lawn chair or blanket and comfortable shoes.

October is Month of the Rosary

The month of October is dedicated Rosary Month and the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary is on October 7th. The Rosary provides special protection and graces and is a favorite method of honouring Mary, mother of Jesus.

Action:

- Dedicate the October meeting to the Rosary
- Encourage members to become involved in their local Rosary

Apostolate or contact: <http://www.rosaryapostolate.com/contact.html>
or info@rosaryapostolate.com

The Fellowship of the Least Coin (FLC) Prayer Service

This is sponsored by the Women's Inter-Church Council of Canada (WICC) which is a national organization of Christian women from ten church denominations. The Fellowship of the Least Coin is a worldwide ecumenical movement of prayer for justice, peace and reconciliation. Each time a prayer is offered, one "least coin" of the country's currency is set aside as a tangible token towards the prayers being answered. The collected coins are sent to the FLC Fund which provides grants to address social

justice, women's issues, education, health, ecumenism, etc. The Fellowship of the Least Coin Service in Toronto will be held on Tuesday, October 25, 2016, at 1:30 pm at Leaside Presbyterian Church, 570 Eglinton Ave. East. The theme for this year is *Let Justice and Peace Prevail*.

Funeral and Honour Guard Protocol

The National CWL Policy and Procedure Manual has been updated and includes a new section on Funeral and Honour Guard Protocol on pages 38-39. See the national website tab resources/manuals/National Manual of Policy and Procedure 2014 (updated May 2016).

Deceased Members Reporting

Deceased members deserve to be prayed for and recognized for their service to the League. Councils that are still using the manual *Form for Reporting Deceased Members* creates delay and requires extra work for the diocesan and provincial levels to reconcile. Sixty-five percent of the councils are online with the goal to have 100% of councils using the Online Administration for Membership System. This will be a more efficient way to track deceased members as it provides simultaneous automatic notification to all levels of the League.

Action:

- Sign-up with National to use the Online Administration Membership System or contact me for assistance.

End Woman Abuse 7th Annual Mass

The Catholic Family Services of Toronto Foundation and Nativity of Our Lord Parish is hosting the 7th Annual Mass offered to End Woman Abuse on Wednesday, October 12, 2016 at 7:00 pm. Nativity of Our Lord Catholic Church, 480 Rathburn Road, Etobicoke

Action:

- RSVP by email at: info@cfstoronto.com or by phone: 416-921-1163

Office of Formation for Discipleship Opportunities

The Office provides parishes or cluster of parishes with a variety of workshops on the Liturgy (training for Lectors, Ministers of Communion); Catechesis (The Social Teaching of the Church); Parish Vitality (Ways of Prayer); Family Life (The Family as the Domestic Church: Nurturing Family Spirituality); Retreats for Advent/Lent, etc.

Action: See their catalogue and contact in the link below.

- https://www.archtoronto.org/discipleship/Documents/OFD_Services_2016-2017.pdf

Advent

The Liturgical year starts with Advent on Sunday, November 27th in Year A. Advent is a time of preparation in anticipation of the birth of Christ. The Holy Days of Obligation are: Feast of the Immaculate Conception –Dec. 8; Our Lady of Guadalupe – Dec. 12; Christmas Day - Dec 25.

Action:

- Experience the Holy season by attending Advent retreats which will be listed on the Toronto Diocesan website at cwltoronto.ca as they become available.

We are guided this year with the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy calling us to be “*Merciful Like the Father*” living the works of mercy and the **League Theme, One Heart, One Voice, One Mission** and though both are coming to a close they will forever serve as reminders to us of holiness and service to others.

ORGANIZATION

Ann D'Souza

Sub-Conveners:

Annual Reports	Patricia Cross
Life Members' Liaison	Karen Lawless
Training Materials	Debbie Bates
On-Line Membership	Lucia Vacca

Welcome to all the new Organization Chairs who were elected this year. I am looking forward to working with you, please reach out to me if you have any questions pertaining to your role in your council. Let's work together to eradicate the decrease in membership and above all retain what we have.



Membership

It was a bit alarming when I received the membership file from National Office as of the end of May 2016, to note that a total of ten councils had not submitted their per capita fees, thereby making a total of 928 decrease in membership. I have asked all Regional Chairs to call council presidents to ensure that their memberships are remitted as soon as possible. I hereby ask all the Organization Chairs to take a closer look, as some councils are noted to collect fees and remit them later; please do not keep funds on hand. I have also asked the Regional Chairs to have a subcommittee across their region, a focus group to look deeper into the problems we are facing with membership, brainstorm ideas and come up with strategies, as each region is unique in its environment and structure. Looking around, we have many parishes without a CWL; we have to reach out to them to start a CWL council, we need the help of each and every CWL member. There is lot of work to do and “many hands will lighten the work”. Thanks to all the members who are diligent in paying their membership fees on time.

I have just returned from the Provincial Convention held in Stratford. The hosting Diocese of London did an awesome job in hosting the convention, it was well organized. Pauline Krupa, Provincial President had asked each of her executive to give a report on the Saint/Blessed chosen by them; Anne Madden, Organization Chair, chose Saint Louis of Casoria (St. Ludovico da Casoria), founder of the Grey Friars. He was chosen because

of his outstanding leadership and organizational skills. Here is a brief summary on him; you can look up the provincial website for more information <http://www.cwl.on.ca/>



St. Louis of Casoria, Founder of Grey Friars

Saint Louis was born on March 11, 1814, in Casoria, a suburb of Naples, Italy. He was the third sibling in a family of artisans. At the age of 18, he entered the Novitiate of Friars Minor at Lauro. He was ordained to the priesthood on June 4, 1847, and began his activity as professor of philosophy and mathematician in the various Institutes of the Franciscan order. Born into a world that had more of its typical share of strife and struggle, St. Louis' life was engulfed in social-cultural upheavals of enormous dimensions: parental loss, social unrest, rampant contagious disease, political unrest and the abomination of slavery. St. Louis took these troublesome signs of the times at the urban, regional, national and

international levels and found in them both a challenge and an invitation: a challenge reflecting a world hopelessly splintered, an invitation to bring counter challenges, if not simple solutions. Saint Louis brought solutions to situations where some only seemed feasible, and encouragement when hope seemed slim. His chronology flows with channels of generosity and courage, and tells a tale of a mission impossible. Institutions were born where none seemed possible. Strategies were mounted where hope seemed to be the offspring of desperation. His ministry flowed with love unlimited. He dedicated his life to works of charity on behalf of the less fortunate. The Grey Franciscan Friars of Charity were founded by St. Louis to assist him in the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy established by him. His Feast Day is March 30th.

Annual Report

As I am writing this report, I have just received a directive from our provincial organization chair, Anne Madden, that National is coming up with changes in doing the Annual Report; here is an extract from her directive:

On-line Annual Reports

“The process for annual reporting will be changing. The final vote for approval of this will happen at the National pre-convention meeting in Halifax this August. In Ontario, there will be a workshop in Toronto for the

diocesan organization chairs. These teams will then provide training to parishes in their respective dioceses”.

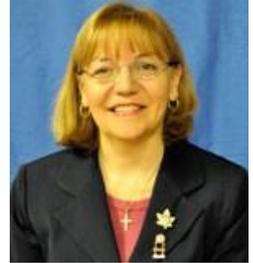
Whatever the changes, each council president should ensure that all the reports are filled in, and I would like to **emphasize** here that if a council does not have a convener, the president has to go through the report and fill it up, as there will surely have been some activity and work that would have been done in the council that falls in that convener’s category. Please do not send the report back with the remark “No convener”. **Last year only 62 out of 94 councils, submitted the Organization report**

Stay tuned as soon as I get more information; I will pass it on.

PAST PRESIDENT/HISTORIAN

Mary Capobianco

Welcome back to all Past Presidents. Whether you are in your first year as past president or already in the second year of your term, I look forward to working with all of you as we offer support and encouragement to our councils.



Patricia Beattie Annual Memorial Mentoring Award

At the Diocesan Convention in May, we presented two awards for the Patricia Beattie Memorial Mentoring Award.

The Parish Level Award, which recognizes individuals who have done extensive mentoring in their parishes and communities, was presented to Gloria Wilson from Precious Blood CWL Council in Scarborough Region. Gloria has served on the executive councils for her parish and region for many years and has also served as sub-convenor for the Education and Health Standing Committee Chair at the diocesan level. Gloria is an experienced and trusted advisor to one and all and her love of the CWL is seen in all that she does within her life. Philomena Menezes says, "*Gloria embodies what a CWL woman should be; a role model for us all.*"

The Auxiliary Award, which recognizes individuals who have accepted offices beyond the parish level either at regional, diocesan, provincial or even national levels, was presented to Janet Dunn from Guardian Angels Council, Orillia, Northern Region. Janet joined the CWL in Bramalea in 1969 and quickly took on the role of corresponding secretary. Despite then moving to Palgrave, Colgan and Midland, Janet was instrumental in starting a CWL Council in each of the parishes she moved to. Janet has also served as Northern Regional Chair as well as Corresponding Secretary and Christian Family Life Standing Committee Chair at the Diocesan Level. She also chaired and co-chaired the Toronto Diocesan Convention for five years.

Marlin Taylor says "*Janet has exemplified the Objects of the League through the work she has done in each of her councils and today still continues to guide the women of her council to be motivated and find new projects.*"

Congratulations to these two very deserving members and thank you for your generous contributions to the League.

Parish Elections

If you are close to the end of your term as past president then your council should be holding an election soon. As past president, your council's elections are usually under your direction (at the request of your president). Your committee should include your parish council's spiritual advisor and at least two other members of your council who are not running for election, perhaps previous past presidents, as they should already have some experience with the elections process.

Please prepare yourself by first reviewing the reference document *Parish Elections - Key Points* available on our website by accessing www.cwltoronto.ca > Resources > Reference Documents.

If you need any clarification or help, please contact me and I'll be happy to assist. (See the front cover of this newsletter for my contact information.)

Toronto Diocesan Elections

2017 will also be an election year for the Toronto Diocesan Council and as the outgoing past president, I will be chairing these elections. The elections will take place at our annual convention on Friday May, 5, 2017, and preparations are already underway. The first step is to identify and verify all those eligible to run. Eligibility is outlined in the *National Manual of Policy and Procedure Eligibility, Nominations and Elections* and also in the *Constitution and Bylaws 2013 Part XVI: Eligibility, Nominations and Elections*.

To ensure that our records are up to date, we need your help. After each parish election and anytime there is a change of parish president, that information needs to be passed onto your Regional Chairs and to the Toronto Diocesan Corresponding Secretary so that we can update our records, as this information then comprises the list of eligible members.

The other item that we need your help with is ensuring that your parish treasurer submits your membership dues to National Office in a timely fashion. Eligibility is defined as "*All members who have paid their membership fee for the current year, with the exception of associate members ...*". Therefore, if your treasurer fails to submit your membership to National, you will not be reflected as a "paid member".

There will be more information in the next newsletter pertaining to the Diocesan Election.

Lastly, enjoy your role as past president! Look for creative ways that you can support your council. Mentor someone in need of encouragement. Most of all, in the words of Dorothy McGuigan, Past Toronto Diocesan and Provincial President, "*may we serve the people of God in **LOVE** - Loyalty, Optimism, Vision and Encouragement*".

RECORDING SECRETARY TracyMacInnis

What on earth is a Motion Book and does our council really need one? Not all parish councils have a separate motion book, however, it is an idea worth entertaining. Have you ever been at an executive meeting and had a question on a motion from a past meeting? No, me neither, but if you did, this is where a Motion Book becomes a recording secretary's best friend.



At any given meeting, I will have several blank motion sheets available in anticipation of the council's discussions. These motion sheets are aids to help me record the content of the motion required for the motion book. It is helpful to update the Motion Book and type the minutes simultaneously so everything stays in order.

At the meeting, when a motion is made, I record on the motion sheet who made the motion, who seconded the motion, the wording of the motion and whether it was carried or defeated. I leave a spot blank on the sheet to assign it a number when I'm preparing the minutes. If you miss the wording of the motion because the mover talked too fast, or it is a long motion, you can hand the motion sheet over to the person making the motion and let them fill in the wording. Ask them to print because you want to be able to read it later. It is also not a bad idea to have the mover and seconder initial the completed motion sheet so if they forget making the motion or have some discrepancy about the content at future meetings, you have your backup data.

The Motion Book works on the calendar year. It doesn't matter if a new recording secretary comes in mid-year. She will pick up where the previous recording secretary left off. As an example, the number of the first motion made this year at our Toronto Diocesan Council meeting was 01/16. 01 is the motion number and 16 is the calendar year. Also, be sure to include the date of the meeting the motion was made in your Motion Book. This information will help you cross reference motions to minutes.

You will find most of your council's motions will center around money being spent. However, there will be other motions, such as approval agendas and minutes, plus any other business your council deems important enough for a vote.

The recording secretary seems to be schlepping a lot of reference materials to meetings, and the Motion Book just happens to be one of them. If you copy your Motion Book onto a USB stick, you'll have one less heavy binder to carry.

Motion#: 09/16 - September 2016

I move to adjourn this article

Moved by: Tracy MacInnis

Seconded by:

Can I have a seconder? All in favour? Carried.

TREASURER

Donna Capobianco

As the Fall season begins, CWL parish councils are busy getting back to scheduled meetings and planning events for the remainder of the year.

Parish Annual Reports

Late Fall is also the time of year when parish councils must work on the annual reports. You will be hearing more about annual reports at the Regional Meetings, but for now, Treasurers should be reviewing their records, making sure that all is up to date. For 2015, only 61 councils of the 94 (or 65%) submitted treasurer reports. That left a lot of good works and generosity that was not included in reports to Provincial and to National.



Please keep in mind that we are not asking you to submit annual reports in order to check on your bank balances or to see how your money is spent. The annual reports are simply to share the good news, to make others aware of the generosity and support that your council gives to your parish, community and abroad.

Diocesan Voluntary Funds

The form for the Diocesan Voluntary Funds is available on our website for your convenience. It can be found under *RESOURCES>FORMS*. The two charities supported by this Voluntary Fund are St. Michael's Scholarship and the Hope for Children Foundation. These donations can be made all through the year, but money must be received and deposited before December 31st of the current year in order to be included in the Annual Report for 2016. Please make all cheques payable to "The Catholic Women's League of Canada".

Budgets

The Fall is also the time to start preparing the budgets for the coming new year. Amounts are to be set aside to cover the operating costs for your council, but it is also very important to remember to include amounts for the League development of your members. If possible, add subsidies for retreats or attendance at Development Day and CWL Conventions. It is by encouraging participation that members have a better understanding and appreciations of the League. The budget and donations are reviewed by the executive and then should be presented to the general membership for their approval. Take a look at the overall expenses and revenue from the previous year and use that as a guideline to plan the budget for the coming year. This will ensure that the operating expenses are covered and monies set aside for any special projects that may be planned.

Last but not least, I want to remind all the treasurers to please submit the per capita fees on a regular basis. It is not necessary to wait until you have collected 100% of the membership dues before submitting. It is recommended that at least once a month you submit to National the fees that you received for that month.

If you have any questions, please visit our website www.cwltoronto.ca for the various resources available.

Sub Convener:

Philomena Menezes

Marriage and Family

Charter of Rights of the Family

Created in 1983, this document, which is based on the Catholic understanding of marriage, reinforces the family's place as the fundamental building block of society. It is aimed at "defending and promoting the rights engraved in the conscience of each human being and within the common values of all humanity". See vatican.va

**National Family Week – October 3 – 7, 2016**

Each fall, during the first week of October, Canadians in communities across the country come together for local celebrations during National Family Week. The week provides an opportunity to celebrate families and reflect on their importance in our lives. Established by the Government of Canada in 1985, the campaign has been coordinated by FRP Canada for the past many years. See frp.ca/nfw

Sanctity of Life

Bill C-14 - Medical Assistance in Dying

With the passing of Bill C-14 on June 17, 2016, it is now legal for patients to request physician-assisted suicide in Canada. Provincial lawmakers will now have the task of creating the particular regulations to guide this process. While the bill does include some protections, we must continue to make our voices heard and advocate against the expansion of these laws to include, for example, the mentally ill and mature children for which some groups are lobbying. Let us promote palliative care as the only moral, effective and compassionate choice. The Coalition for HealthCARE and Conscience is also asking your help in preventing the CSPO and the Attorney General of Ontario from forcing doctors who conscientiously object to assisted-suicide, to have to refer patients to others who will perform the procedure. Please visit canadiansforconscience.ca and join Coalition for HealthCARE and Conscience. Additional information at colf.ca & cccb.ca.

40 days for Life Campaign – September 28 to November 6, 2016

40 Days for Life is a community-based campaign that takes a determined, peaceful approach to showing local communities the consequences of

abortion in their own neighborhoods. It draws attention to the evil of abortion through the use of a three-point program:

- Prayer and fasting
- Constant vigil
- Community outreach

The 40-day campaign is modeled on Biblical history, where God used 40-day periods to transform individuals, communities ... and the entire world. From Noah in the flood to Moses on the mountain to the disciples after Christ's resurrection, it is clear that God sees the transformative value of His people accepting and meeting a 40-day challenge. 40daysforlife.com

National Life Chain – October 2, 2016

Life Chain is a peaceful and prayerful public witness of pro-life individuals in Canada and the United States standing for 90 minutes praying for our nation and for an end to abortion. It is a visual statement of solidarity by the Christian community that abortion kills children and that the Church supports the sanctity of human life from the moment of conception until natural death. See lifechain.net

Vocations

Bishop Bernard F. Pappin Bursary Fund

Established in memory of this former Provincial CWL Spiritual Advisor, the Bishop Bernard F. Pappin Memorial Bursary Fund fulfills the purpose of assisting diocesan seminarians in need of personal financial support. The fund is financed solely by donations from Catholic Women's League Councils. See cwl.on.ca for application form and further information.

Our attendance at the Ordinandi Dinner, including the presentation of the Spiritual Bouquet in March every year, is also a major feature of the CWL's support for vocations. Please keep an eye out in the coming months for more information on next year's event.

Ministry to Youth

World Youth Day (WYD) is an international Catholic event focused on faith and youth. Founded by Saint Pope John Paul 11, the event is held every 2-3 years. WYD 2016 took place from July 26-31, 2016 in Krakow, Poland and was attended by as many as three million young people. The next WYD will be held in Panama in 2019. Pope Francis has asked young people to prepare for the next WYD by *remembering the past, being courageous in the present and having hope for the future.*

DATES TO REMEMBER 2016

September 4	Canonization of Blessed Mother Teresa
September 11	Rosary Sunday- Martyr's Shrine, Midland
September 24	"The Legacy-Mother Teresa" Film 6pm, St. Edward the Confessor Parish, North York
September 25	"The Legacy-Mother Teresa" Second Viewing 3pm, St. Edward the Confessor Parish, North York
September 29	Re-dedication of St. Michael's Cathedral (TBD)
October 12	Mass to End Woman Abuse – Nativity of Our Lord
October 31	Deadline: Resolution Topic Submissions for 2017
November 3	37 th Annual Cardinal's Dinner
November 15	Deadline: Parish Annual Reports Due

REGIONAL MEETING DATES

September 22	Northern Region General Meeting St. Mary's, Victoria Harbour – Mass 7:30pm
October 5	Toronto Region General Meeting St. Monica's – Mass 7:00pm
October 6	Peel Region General Meeting St. Peter & Paul's – Mass 7:00pm
October 13	Scarborough Region General Meeting St. Aidan's
October 18	North York General Meeting St. Philip Neri – Mass 7:00pm
October 25	Humber Valley Region General Meeting St. Roch Parish – Mass 7:00pm
TBA	Durham Region General Meeting Location TBA

A Daily Prayer used by Blessed Mother Teresa and the Sisters of the
Missionaries of Charity



Dear Jesus, help us to spread your fragrance everywhere we go.

Flood our souls with your spirit and life.

Penetrate and possess our whole being so utterly that our lives may only be
a radiance of yours.

Shine through us, and be so in us, that every soul we come
in contact with may feel your presence in our soul. Let them look up and see
no longer us but only Jesus!

Stay with us, and then we shall begin to shine as you shine;

so to shine as to be a light to others; the light O Jesus,

will be all from you, none of it will be ours;

it will be you, shining on others through us. Let us thus praise you in the way
you love best by shining on those around us.

Let us preach you without preaching, not by words
but by our example, by the catching force, the sympathetic influence of what
we do. The evident fullness of the love our hearts bear to you.

Amen

SERVICE AWARDS

Maple Leaf Service Pins

Toronto Region

St. Joan of Arc:

Inez Meleca

50-Year Membership Pins

Humber Valley Region

Nativity of Our Lord:

Dorothy Scanlon

North York Region

Blessed Trinity:

Val Palazzo

45-Year Membership Pins

Humber Valley Region

Nativity of Our Lord:

Naomi Willock-Tonna

St. Roch:

Elia Salerno

Jo Cardle

Joan Bass

Barbara Cornack

40-Year Membership Pins

Durham Region

Holy Cross, Oshawa:

Maria Karchich

Humber Valley Region

Nativity of Our Lord:

Gloria Machacek

Marie Watts

Toronto Region

St. Joan of Arc:

Jilian Sawezcko

St. Monica:

Susan Weiler

North York Region

Blessed Trinity:

Patricia Keyzers

35-Year Membership Pins

Humber Valley Region

Nativity of Our Lord:

Jo-Anne Donovan

North York Region

Blessed Trinity:

Kathleen Keslik

Terry LaPorte

30-Year Membership Pins

Humber Valley Region

Nativity of Our Lord: Helen Borg
Donna Fowler Sandy Ragogna

North York Region

Blessed Trinity: Joyce Egberts
Donna Corso

Peel Region

St. Marguerite d'Youville Maureen Pereira

Toronto Region

St. Joan of Arc: Mary Collins
Kathleen McCracken

25-Year Membership Pins

Durham Region

Holy Cross, Oshawa: Adele Pelligrino
Mary McAvoy

Humber Valley Region

Nativity of Our Lord: Maria Carvalho
Mary Foran Maria Giangioppo
Frances Whelan

Northern Region

St. Paul the Apostle: Marie Charbonneau
Loretta Gismondi Donna Haueter
Elaine Tindal

20-Year Membership Pins

Humber Valley Region

Nativity of Our Lord: Stella Almeida
Mary Ann Amodeo Joanna Bates
Cheryl Carty Rose D'Souza
Marianne Hamilton Anita Haugh
Lennie McGrann Judy Zammit

Peel Region

St. Marguerite d'Youville: Annette Fernando

North York Region

Blessed Trinity: Anne Chang
Camila C.D. Nowakowski

10-Year Membership Pins

Durham Region

Holy Cross, Oshawa:
Jo Masters

Letizia Valic
Rosemarie Brugos

Humber Valley Region

Nativity of Our Lord:
Theresa Roberts

Pauline Blendick

Northern Region

St. Paul the Apostle:

Helen Wright

North York Region:

Blessed Trinity:
Hazel D’Rosario
Antoniette McCabe

Tina Brown
Marie Kwok
Anne Miklas

Peel Region

St. Marguerite d’Youville
Joan Ferro
Philomena Mendonca

Pauline Coombs
Helen Grima

Toronto Region

St. Joan of Arc:

Marian McDonell

St. Monica:

Theresa McCabe

HAPPY ANNIVERSARIES!

*St. Roch, Humber Valley Region
45th Anniversary*

*St. Monica, Toronto Region
65th Anniversary*

*Our Lady of Lourdes, Toronto Region
65th Anniversary*

COMMUNICATIONS

Lucia Vacca

Sub Conveners:

Kathleen Koyama
Sonia Villanueva

Communications

As we move into the season of Fall we look forward to the upcoming Toronto Diocesan events and meeting all of you at the Fall Regional meetings. The months of summer activities and travels to the Provincial and National conventions will be a memory, but the friendships we build with our CWL sisters along the way will remain. I welcome all of you in this journey and encourage you to be creative, connected as Communications Chairs, informing the members of the many activities and events being planned. Be mindful and respectful of our members when using the various forms of Social Media. Be sure to take advantage (if possible) of the use of parish bulletins, posters, emails, websites, etc. to connect with members. Create a newsletter, call members, be visible and always promote the League positively.



Have you seen the YouTube of our 2016 Toronto Diocesan Convention www.cwltoronto.ca? Hope it sparked an interest for you to join us next year. Mark your calendars for our 96th Annual Toronto Diocesan Council Convention scheduled for May 4 - 5, 2017. Photos of the 2016 Convention are posted on the <https://cwltdc.shutterfly.com/> for you to browse, download or print at a minimal price.

The Executive Handbook updated on May 2014 www.cwl.ca outlines the duties of the Communications Standing Committee. If you don't already have a copy of this you can download or purchase and read it to enhance your knowledge of the League. In addition, take a look at the TDC Annual Report (due November 15th) as your starting point of what a Communications Chair can accomplish. Use it as your guideline. I am looking forward to reading your success stories of 2016. If your council does not have a Communications Chair, I am sure that as a team you have found ways to connect with your members. This is a key position in a council, keeping members informed about the League and communicating with each member.

WEBSITES for Information and Resources

National: www.cwl.ca

Provincial: www.cwl.on.ca

Toronto: www.cwltoronto.ca

Be League – this online newsletter is produced by the National Office each 15th of the month; you can view it online at www.cwl.ca. See what National executives and Councils have been doing. If you have an event you wish to highlight for this publication, send it to communications@cwl.ca with a short summary (Less than 50 words and a picture). Who knows, you may be featured!

Remember “**Website Wednesdays**” – this initiative introduced by the Provincial Council is easy to make it a routine in our busy lives. Make it a practice to browse the above websites to keep informed of what the League is doing across the country and share it with members who are not connected.

Trillium News and Views newsletter (two issues per year - Fall & Spring). You can subscribe to receive this online or a hard copy (\$5.00). The newsletter features are from each of the Provincial Standing Committee Chairs, a lot of useful information for your Council.

ON-line Newsletter

This is the monthly online newsletter from Provincial www.cwl.on.ca that you can subscribe to receive by email. Just go to the website and check off the box to subscribe. Various Dioceses are featured as well as events from the province of Ontario.

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 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 following 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.

“Good Gracious! Good Grammar!” is an excellent resource document to follow when preparing your submissions. This reference article is posted on the Provincial Website at

<http://www.cwl.on.ca/sites/default/files/resources/627.pdf>.

Toronto Diocesan Council Newsletter

Each council executive member as well as council members should have a copy to guide them with the initiatives from this Diocese. Our newsletter is available three times per year, Fall, Spring and Winter for \$10.00; be sure to subscribe to receive a hard copy. Past issues are available to view on our Toronto website www.cwltoronto.ca. This is where you will find scheduled dates of Regional Meetings and other events in our Diocese. If you have events coming up, please forward your flyers/information to your Regional Chairs for inclusion on our website.

Pornography Hurts Campaign

Thank you for your efforts with communicating this program annually to your councils and members. Over 5,000 cards were printed and distributed in 2016. We will continue to send Pornography Hurts cards to our House of Commons. If you still have these cards, fill them out and mail them in to our Parliament. More information on this program will be communicated and cards will be made available.

Core Rules of Netiquette - Virginia Shea’s (1994) *Netiquette* San Francisco: Albion Books. See this “The Core Rules of Netiquette” article to follow and assist you when using emails and social media.
<http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

Inspirational Thoughts of the Day from

<http://www.thoughtfortoday.org.uk/the-best-language-for-communication/>

The Best Language of Communication

Silence is the best language for communication. It helps us understand and realize the eternal truths about the self, God and the world. In silence we are able to comprehend and express sincerely and powerfully the true values of the soul such as peace, love and joy. Silence is not the absence of thoughts but it is a state in which the mind is engaged in pure elevated thoughts that nurture these values within. The power of silence develops all mental and spiritual powers that are needed to tackle various situations successfully.

COMMUNITY LIFE

Andrea Tjioe

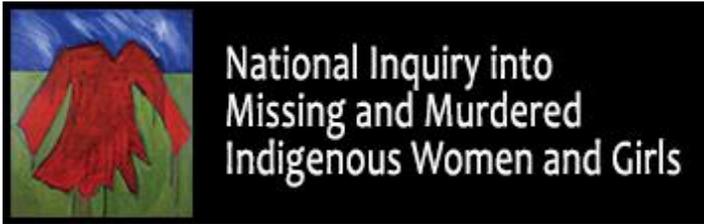
Welcome back everyone from your summer break. Summer is over, as are the conventions (Toronto Diocesan, Ontario Provincial and National), where we summarized and reported all your wonderful Corporal Works of Mercy for the year 2015. Soon it will be time to gather all your continuing Works of Mercy for the year 2016, and summarize them by completing the Parish Community Life Annual Report, due on November 15, 2016.



Re the 2015 Works of Mercy, St. Joseph Vaz was the saint chosen for Provincial Community Life Standing Committee. A paragraph from the Provincial Community Life oral report, given by Wilma Vanderzwaag, I quote, “St. Joseph Vaz leads us to our beatitude beautifully: Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy. This beatitude has been lived out and continues to be lived out through the Community Life Standing Committee. This standing committee through its areas of concern calls each of us to be merciful and to take part with compassionate action. All Parish councils in Ontario are expressing mercy in many ways with their service in compassionate action for the community.” I invite you to read Wilma’s full oral report, where you will learn a little more about St. Joseph Vaz, and why he was chosen for Community Life Standing Committee: <http://cwl.on.ca/sites/default/files/directives/1353.pdf>

Dignity and Rights of Persons – Indigenous People

As I have mentioned in my article this past spring, the Government of Canada has launched a national inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls on December 8, 2015.



With ceremony, prayers and hope, the National Inquiry into Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and Girls was officially launched in Ottawa on August 3, 2016. The Native Women’s Association of Canada’s (NWAC)’s 11-year campaign for a National Inquiry is a steadfast reality as a result of the Government of Canada’s official launch. The Minister of Indigenous Affairs Carolyn Bennett announced \$53.8 million in funding for the two-year inquiry, much higher than originally budgeted. The federal government handed over the process to the appointed five commissioners. Some hard cold facts for you to ponder as to why this launch is long overdue:

In May 2014, the RCMP released a report documenting 1,181 murdered and missing women between 1980 and 2012. A year later, it said 32 aboriginal women had been murdered and 11 more had disappeared since. The RCMP also noted there is an “unmistakable connection between homicide and family violence.”

For a more detailed information and any updates, please visit the link: <http://www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/eng/1449870049274/1449870068490>

Social Justice Award

A couple of years ago, The London Diocesan Council has established a Social Justice Award to be awarded annually, which has now been adopted by the Provincial Council CWL. This award is intended to recognize women engaged in social justice work. With this award:

- they hope to raise awareness of social justice;
- to build solidarity and community to those in need

- to hold as highest priority, the teachings of the gospels through concern for the common good and dignity of all human persons
- to bring to light issues around the world and call the world to action on behalf of those who lack this basic human right.

Alice Gazeley from the Diocese of Kingston was presented with the second annual 2016 Social Justice Award at the Provincial Council convention this past July. Aline’s strong faith and leadership, combined with her many years of service improving the lives of those dealing with poverty, earned her this award.

Award Criteria and Nomination Form can be downloaded from the CWL Provincial Council website: <http://cwl.on.ca/resources>
 Nomination Form must be submitted to the Diocesan President, via your Council president by December 15, 2016. I encourage you to look into nominating someone, who perhaps would be deserving of this recognition for her extraordinary service to her community.

EDUCATION AND HEALTH

Debbie Bates

Sub Conveners:

Public Speaking, Poetry & Essay	Mary Lou Bonnici
Genetics	Val Egerton
St. Michael's Scholarship & Health	Mary Tuccitto

I look forward to serving for another year as your Education and Health Standing Committee Chair. Colleen Randall continues to be our Ontario Education and Health SCC. Our new National level counterpart will be announced after the Elections at the National Convention in August.



Education

Youth Awards

Congratulations to all the students who participated in the Youth Awards and thank you to the teachers and parents who supported their efforts. I also extend gratitude to the parishes and regions for their dedication and hard work that keeps these contests alive year after year in schools across the

Diocese. At this time we would like to recognize the winners in each of the Youth Award categories:

MARY MATTHEWS PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST-2016

***1st Place:* Elyssa de Melo-Clem**

Topic: Detainment

Our Lady of Grace Catholic School, Angus; St. Joseph Parish, Base Borden;

Northern Region

***2nd Place:* Raphaelle Reyes**

Topic: American Sign Language

St. Bonaventure School; St Bonaventure Parish; **North York Region**

MARY DOBELL PRO-LIFE ESSAY AND POETRY CONTEST - 2016

Intermediate Essay

***1st Place:* Jaiden Wilson**

Title: Religious Freedom, Social Justice and Peace

St. Gabriel Lalemant Catholic School; St. Barnabas Parish; **Scarborough**

Region

***2nd Place:* Stephen Philips**

Title: The Sanctity of Oneself

All Saints Catholic High School; St. John Parish, Whitby; **Durham Region**

***3rd Place:* Rehleigh Giesl-Butler**

Title: To Protect the Sanctity of Human Life

Nativity of Our Lord School; Nativity of Our Lord Parish, Etobicoke;

Humber Valley Region

Senior Essay

***1st Place:* Nathan Ko**

Title: Promoting the Dignity of Human Life and Combating Moral Evil through Prayer

St. Brother Andre Catholic High School; St. Patrick's Parish, Markham;

North York Region

***2nd Place:* Alissa Mathews**

Title: The Sanctity of Life

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

Region

***3rd Place:* Katherine Revoredo**

Title: Suicide

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

Region

JEAN MCCANN SERVICE AWARD FOR YOUTH CONTEST - 2016

Winner: James Pallotto

Sacred Heart Catholic High School; St Patrick Parish Schomberg; **North York Region**

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO ST. MICHAEL'S SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

2015 Recipient: Ann Phan - Graduate of Bishop Allen Academy, Toronto

HOPE FOR CHILDREN FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

2015 Recipient: Amanda Owusu – 1st Year Community & Justice Service at Sheridan College

Watch for the 2017 Education Youth Awards Program Package that will be distributed to the councils by the Regional Chairs early this fall.

Health:

In July 2016, at the CWL Ontario Provincial Convention held in Stratford, four resolutions were adopted. Two of the four are Education and Health resolutions both originating from councils in the Toronto Diocese and were forwarded to the National council for consideration:

- **ON.16.01** Enhance the Canada Health Act to Include Home Care
- **ON.16.03:** Expand the Nutrition North Canada Program to Include All Communities Accessible Only by Air

In fear of sounding like a broken record, while it is important that new resolutions are submitted each year for consideration, it is equally, if not, more important that members carry out the action plans that are developed for each adopted resolution. I encourage you to visit the CWL Ontario Provincial website @ <http://www.cwl.on.ca/resolutions> and read these resolutions and their briefs. Share the information with your members and see if there is any interest to study one or more of these resolutions and act on the corresponding Action Plan.

Action Plans:

ON.16.01 Enhance the Canada Health Act to Include Home Care

1. Write to the Prime Minister of Canada, the Premier of your province, the Ministers of Health (federally and provincially), and your local Member of Federal Parliament and Provincial Legislature asking them to include home care in the Canada Health Act.
2. Initiate a petition among CWL members requesting that governments include home care in the Canada Health Act.

3. As a CWL council, study the Parliamentary Committee on Palliative and Compassionate Care report “Not to be Forgotten, Care of Vulnerable Canadian” as well as publications from Catholic Organization for Life and Family that deal with vulnerable people (e.g. “Families, Christ Calls us to sow joy and hope!”).
4. As a CWL council support local hospices financially as well as volunteering.
5. As a CWL council coordinate assistance to disabled and elderly (housework, cooking, appointments, shopping, etc.)
6. Invite speakers to a meeting that will educate members on home care services that are available in the community.
7. Continue to monitor progress on this issue.

ON.16.03: Expand the Nutrition North Canada Program to Include All Communities Accessible Only by Air

1. Write letters to the Prime Minister, the Minister of Health and the Minister of Indigenous and Northern affairs and local members of Parliament, urging the federal Government to expand the list of communities accessible only by air to receive the subsidies of Nutrition North Canada Program.
2. Study the list of foods that are subsidized to remote Canadian communities by going to the Nutrition North Canada website. Become aware of what is missing from the list.
3. Increase awareness about the high cost of food and the issue of food insecurity in Canada’s north by visiting www.feedingmyfamily.org for more information.
4. Skip-a-meal: in Canada each month, over 850,000 people turn to food banks for help; more than one-third of which are children and youth. In Nunavut, nearly 70% of pre-school Inuit children live in food-insecure households. Of these children, 25% are severely food insecure. You can help feed Canadian children by skipping a meal or brown bagging a healthy lunch and donating the money you would have spent to your local food bank. These dollars will help fund school meal programs, food banks and soup kitchens that provide free emergency food aid and rely on donations.
5. Continue to monitor progress on this issue.

I look forward to seeing you at the upcoming Regional Meetings that start in September.

LEGISLATION

Andrea Smart

Welcome back after the summer break and welcome to new Legislation Chairs. As I write this in the middle of a summer heatwave, there is not much happening now as both Parliament and Legislature are adjourned for the summer.



As you have all heard, Bill C-14 An Act to amend the Criminal Code and to make related amendments to other Acts (medical assistance in dying) was passed into law on June 17, 2016. The final Bill states that a person can only seek to end their life from a doctor or nurse practitioner if “*natural death is reasonably foreseeable and the patient is in an advanced state of irreversible decline.*” The first challenge to this law has been launched in British Columbia by a woman suffering from a degenerative disease affecting muscle movement. The claim is that the law is unconstitutional. I am sure that there will be future challenges to the law.

In April of this year, Health Minister Jane Philpott announced that the federal government plans to introduce legislation in the spring of 2017 to legalize marijuana. Minister Philpott stated the federal government will ensure that marijuana is kept out of the hands of children and profits out of the hands of criminals. In June, Justice Minister Jody Wilson-Raybould announced that a task force has been formed to consult provincial, territorial, indigenous and territorial governments, as well as youth and experts in relevant fields like healthcare, criminal justice, economics, industry and law enforcement. The task force will also consult companies with expertise in the sale, production and distribution of marijuana.

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 enactment amends the Criminal Code to make it an offence to cause injury or death to a preborn child while committing or attempting to commit an offence against a pregnant woman and to add pregnancy as an aggravating circumstance for the purpose of sentencing. Cassie Kaake was seven months pregnant with her daughter Molly when she was brutally murdered in Windsor, Ontario, in 2014. No charges could be

laid for Molly’s death because existing criminal law does not recognize the injury or death caused to a preborn child as a separate offence when a pregnant woman is the victim of a crime, even if the sole purpose of her attacker is to kill her child.

This is a private members bill that had its second reading on May 2, 2016.

Provincial Legislation:

Bill 193 – Door-to-Door Sales Prohibition Act, 2016

The Act establishes a prohibition for various actions related to the selling, leasing or renting of certain products in person at a consumer’s home, subject to certain qualifications. Contravention of this prohibition is an offence. In addition, any contract entered into as a result of such a contravention is void. If a contract is deemed to be void, the consumer is entitled to repayment and to the payment of any reasonable costs incurred in uninstalling and returning the product and, if applicable, in obtaining and installing a replacement. If the refund is not paid, the consumer may commence an action in the Superior Court of Justice. The consumer is entitled, if successful, to twice the money paid under the contract, in addition to the reasonable costs referred to above. A consumer who obtains an award of legal costs is entitled to recover any additional actual legal costs incurred in obtaining the order. Consumers are protected from liability if a contract is deemed void, and no cause of action against them arises as a result of the contract being deemed void.

The Minister of Government and Consumer Services is given the power to make regulations dealing with a broad range of matters under the Act. This Bill was referred to a Standing Committee on June 9, 2016.

Bill 149 – Rowan’s Law Advisory Committee Act, 2016

The Bill establishes the Rowan’s Law Advisory Committee to review the jury recommendations made in the inquest into the death of Rowan Stringer and to review legislation, policies and best practices from other jurisdictions respecting head injuries. The Committee’s mandate is to make recommendations on how to implement the jury recommendations and how to prevent, mitigate, treat and create awareness about head injuries in sports. The Committee is required to provide its recommendations in a report to the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport, which must be tabled in the Legislature and published on a government website. The Bill provides that the Act is repealed one year and three months after the day it comes into force. Rowan Stringer died from injuries she suffered while playing rugby. Rowan’s Law received Royal Assent on June 9, 2016.

RESOLUTIONS

Sue Lubowitz

As you read this, the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy will be more than half over. On the first day of the Holy Year (Dec 8, 2016), Pope Francis opened the Holy Door of Mercy. Have you heard the knock on the door of mercy? We have a choice. We could easily pretend we are not at home. We can continue to stay in our pews, in our homes and in our buildings. Or, we can choose to open the door. We can swing the door wide open. What might we be invited to see and respond to? We go through the door with the two feet of social justice. On the one foot are acts of charity. On the other foot are public justice initiatives. These are actions aimed at changing the structures that impede people from living out their God-given potential. Both feet are required to follow God's call and to achieve social justice.



One way that the CWL answers the knock on the door is through resolutions and their action plans. I recommend that you review the excellent article by Doreen Gowans, National Chair of Community Life in the Winter 2016 issue of the Canadian League (Vol.92, No.2 pages 10-11). In her article she lists resolutions that parishes can study and implement in their council activities. Strive to make the study of resolution and the action plan the focus of at least one meeting this fall. As members we are called to action by the theme: One Heart, One Voice, One Mission.

The Resolution Process Continues:

At our diocesan convention in May, the following two resolutions were presented and adopted:

TDC2016.01 Enhance the Canada Health Act to Include Home Care (St. John Chrysostom Council, North York Region)

TDC2016.02 Expand the Nutrition North Canada Program to Include ALL Air Only Accessible Communities (St. John the Evangelist Council, Durham Region)

The resolutions passed at the Ontario Provincial Convention held in Stratford in July are as follows:

ON16.01 Enhance the Canada Health Act to Include Home Care

ON16.02 Equal Access for Permanent Residence: An Amendment to the Immigration Act

ON16.03 Expand the Nutrition North Canada Program to Include ALL Air Only Accessible Communities

ON16.04 Training for the Safe Operation of All-Terrain vehicles by youth under the age of 16

Copies of these resolutions and their action plans can be found on the provincial CWL website at <http://www.cwl.con.ca/resolutions>.

Resolutions ON16.01 and ON16.02 have been forwarded to the national council for consideration to be presented to the national convention to be held in August. Resolution ON16.04 will be discussed with the provincial government as this is the appropriate level for this resolution.

ON.16.03 has been dealt with to a great degree since the provincial convention. On July 18, the Honourable Carolyn Bennett, Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs announced that Nutrition North Canada will be expanded to more communities based on revised community eligibility criteria for the program. The full text of the announcement can be found at <http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?nid=1100309&tp=1>. Eligibility has been re-evaluated to focus solely on isolation factors. In other words, to be eligible for the program a community must lack access to year-round surface transportation (for example, no permanent road, rail or marine access). Communities did not need to apply for this evaluation to occur, though all isolated communities did have the opportunity to view and suggest corrections to the community profiles that the evaluation was based upon. As a result of the new criteria, thirty seven additional communities will be eligible for the full NNC subsidy as of October 1, 2016. This includes 22 new communities and 15 that previously only received a partial subsidy. In addition to expanding the program to more communities, the Government of Canada is currently holding engagement sessions with up to 20 Northern communities to listen and learn from Northerners on how to further improve the program. Summaries of all meetings will be posted on this page: <http://www.nutritionnorthcanada.gc.ca>). The findings of the overall engagement will be used to develop options to update the program and develop strategies to ensure the long term sustainability of the program. You are asked to continue to monitor the status of this concern as well as to implement the action plan.

Deadline for Submission of Topics:

The deadline for the submission of topics for resolutions for the 2017 Diocesan Convention is Oct.31, 2016. If your council is considering a resolution, a first draft with some basic research on the subject needs to be submitted by that date. The Toronto Diocesan website (under the Resources-resolutions tab) will have all the pertinent information on how to get started.

NEWSLETTER

**Karen Nazione-Garcea
& Christine Abela**

Proofreading

Patricia Cross



We have been blessed with a beautiful summer and do hope it lasts a few weeks longer. Welcome Fr. Pat O’Dea to the Toronto Diocesan Executive, we look forward to your guidance in the upcoming five years.



In this 2016 Fall edition of the newsletter you will find very useful information and dates as submitted by

the Toronto Diocesan Executive. On September 4, 2016 we celebrate the canonization of our Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta. Included in this edition is a favourite prayer of Blessed Mother Teresa, which we encourage you to share with your councils.

This is the 2nd edition of the 2016 subscription. Renewal forms will be included in the winter edition. 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.

The Newsletter is a valuable resource which keeps us all connected and informed of all the important events taking place all over the Greater Toronto area. Please be sure to share the event dates with your councils.

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.

Our website is a great location to view photos of past events, Lucia Vacca our Communications Chair has done a great job with the content of our website and will be happy to post your photos. Council Presidents, remember to forward council anniversaries and Service Award recipients. Please forward the information to Karen Nazione-Garcea at kegarcea@yahoo.ca.

Welcome back everyone!