



## Toronto Diocesan CWL Council Plants 115 Trees for the National Centenary 2020 Tree Planting Project on Saturday, September 19, 2020!

### Summary

**Thank you!** About 25 CWL members and family from eight councils from Durham, Humber Valley, Northern, Peel and Toronto regions participated in the Toronto Diocesan Council’s National Centenary 2020 Tree Planting Project on Saturday, September 19, 2020. Participants included Hilarion Mitchell, Toronto Diocesan CWL President, Margaret Ann Jacobs, Past President & Chairperson of Laws/Honorary Life Member, regional chairs Mary Grossi (Humber Valley), Aurora Chavez (Peel) and Araceli Farinas (Toronto). Thirty-two individuals were registered, and a few others had to be turned away due to gathering limits of 30. The family of the late Nuradi Dahanaggamaarachchi St. Anne’s CWL Council who passed on August 27<sup>th</sup> were also in attendance to dedicate a tree in her honour.

### Land Acknowledgement and Prayer Service

The event opened with the Land Acknowledgement for Brampton, Bolton and Caledon which is the traditional territory of the Huron-Wendat, Haudenosaunee (ho-den-oh-show-nee), and Anishinabek (ah-nish-nah-bek) Nations and most recently the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation. This territory was the subject of Treaty 19, also known as the Ajetance (ah-jet-ahnce) Purchase.

The event was opened with a prayer service written by Kate O’Quinn, Toronto Diocesan CWL Council Spiritual Development Chair, which incorporated the Seasons of Creation (Sept. 1 – Oct. 4) and the National’s 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary themes.

### Registration, Waiver, Planting Instructions

COVID-19 screening was required for all participants before entering the planting area. Staff from the City of Brampton Parks Maintenance & Forestry, Community Services and Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) welcomed us into the planting area. They provided planting instructions including health and safety for handling equipment (i.e. shovels/spades), demonstration on how to plan, etc.

The planting took place at the Gore Meadows Community Centre, 10150 The Gore Road, Brampton, ON. It was a beautiful brisk 11-14°C but sunny morning on the last Saturday of summer 2020. The area is known to have wildlife such as deer, and staff said they saw one in the morning.

We were the first community tree planting for the year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Participants were required to plant a minimum of 2-3 trees and with the ground being very dry, digging the holes were somewhat difficult. In this single day event, **115 trees** from 11 varieties listed below were planted. The cost of the trees was covered by the

## Toronto Diocesan Council National Centenary 2020 Tree Planting Project

City of Brampton. The newly planted trees were surrounded by a deer fence to protect them from wildlife.

- *Cornus alternifolia* (Alternate Leaf Dogwood)
- *Viburnum dentatum* (Arrowwood)
- *Acer saccharinum* (Silver Maple)
- *Amelanchier laevis* (Serviceberry)
- *Aronia melanocarpa* (Black Chokeberry)
- *Diervilla lonicera* (Bush Honeysuckle)
- *Spiraea alba* (Meadowsweet)
- *Cornus racemosa* (Gray Dogwood)
- *Quercus macrocarpa* (Bur Oak)
- *Viburnum lentago* (Mammyberry)
- *Rosa blanda* (Meadow/Smooth Rose)

Planting Event Photos: Below



Toronto Diocesan Council National Centenary 2020 Tree Planting Project





**TORONTO DIOCESAN COUNCIL**  
**NATIONAL CENTENARY 2020**  
**TREE PLANTING PROJECT**



*Celebrating our “roots” from the past century as we look into the future and “branch out” into the next century.*



**Saturday September 19, 2020**  
**10:00 am – 11:00 am**  
**Gore Meadows Community Centre**  
**10150 The Gore Road, Brampton, ON**

## **Land Acknowledgment (Brampton, Bolton and Caledon)**

The land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Huron-Wendat, Haudenosaunee (ho-den-oh-show-nee), and Anishinabek (ah-nish-nah-bek) Nations and most recently the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation. This territory was the subject of Treaty 19, also known as the Ajetance (ah-jet-ahnce) Purchase.

## **League Prayer**

We humbly pray You, O God our Father, to bless The Catholic Women's League of Canada. Bless our beloved country, our homes and families. Send Your Holy Spirit upon us to give light to our minds and strength to our wills that we may know and fulfill Your great law of charity. Teach us to share with others at home and abroad, the good things You have given us. This we ask through our Lord Jesus Christ.

## **A Prayer of Thanksgiving**

God of our past, we gather today to give thanks for the past. We think back to those who first had a vision of an organization of Catholic women, to those who put their names forward to run for an elected office, to those who gave of their vision, their talent, their time, to make it happen.

And as we remember the efforts of the founders of the Catholic Women's League of Canada, we offer words of thanks and praise

God of growth, we remember too, those who helped the Catholic Women's League of Canada to grow in wisdom and in faith. We think of all the women and Spiritual Advisors who provided governance and leadership. For all these varied forms of leadership we are grateful.

God of community, we remember events that brought us together; Meetings and conventions at the Parish, Diocesan, Provincial and National levels. For the gifts of friendship and fellowship, we say thanks.

God of our present, on this day, we gather here in Peel Region to plant 100 trees in celebration of our 'roots' from the past century. We remember all who led this community of Catholic women to this day. For 100 years of ministry to and with the League; for 100 years of growing together in love; for all that has made us what we are now, as we 'branch out' into the future, Caring for Our Common Home, we give you thanks and praise. Amen.

## **Creation Prayer**

God our Father, you created the world and sent your own Son to live among us, made of the same stuff, breathing the same air, marvelling at sunrise and sunset just as we do. Help us to participate in the life around and within us as your life, as you living in us and we living in you and in each other. God of love and life, restore us to your peace, renew us through your power and teach us to love all that you have created and to care for the earth as your gift and our home. Amen.

### **Reading: Genesis 1:26-2:3**

Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground. So, God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them."

God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground." Then God said, "I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds in the sky and all the creatures that move along the ground—everything that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food." And it was so. God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day. Thus, the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array. By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so, on the seventh day he rested from all his work. Then God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.

## **Intercessions**

**Leader:** As we pray in gratitude for God's blessing upon all of creation and the work of our hands and feet as we plant these trees, let us not forget that we must do the works of holiness in our lives. Let us, then, pray to God, saying: **Lord of Creation, hear our prayer.**

**Response: Lord of Creation, hear our prayer.**

**Leader:** We thank you for the gift of the Catholic Women's League of Canada, established in 1920, in Montreal. We give thanks for the creation of our motto "For God and Canada", still alive in our hearts and actions today. Let us give thanks for all we have accomplished over this last century. We pray to the Lord. **(R)**

**Leader:** Through Jesus Christ you have made the world abound in works of holiness; grant that, living in him, we may share in his fullness and life and bear much fruit, we pray to the Lord... **(R)**

**Leader:** You planned that all your children should share in the goods of your creation; grant that all those who are in need may come to enjoy an untroubled life and to glorify you and praise your holy name, we pray to the Lord... **(R)**

**Leader:** You govern creation with your wisdom and grace: we pray that our world and national leaders may learn from you and do all it takes to protect, promote, and foster harmony in creation, we pray to the Lord... **(R)**

**Leader:** May your blessing act in us, O Lord, and transform us with your renewing power, so that we might be wholly disposed to heed the cry of the poor and the earth and give ourselves wholeheartedly to their care and protection. **(R)**

**Leader:** The Catholic Women's League of Canada, from its beginning, is a League composed of women of faith and women active in service and social justice. May we always stay strong to our commitments as we move forward into our next century. **Amen.**

### **A Prayer of Gratitude for Creation**

God of the universe, we thank You for Your many good gifts - for the beauty of Creation and its rich and varied fruits, for clean water and fresh air, for food and shelter, animals and plants.

May these trees we plant today, and all the trees planted across Canada as a symbol of our 'roots' of the Catholic Women's League of Canada, show our commitment to Creation, to the League and to the Care for Our Common Home. Amen.

Written By: Kate O'Quinn, Toronto Diocesan Council Spiritual Development Chair



# TORONTO DIOCESAN COUNCIL NATIONAL CENTENARY 2020 TREE PLANTING PROJECT



Celebrating our “roots” from the past century as we look into the future and “branch out” into the next century.

**DATE:** Saturday September 19, 2020

**TIME:** 10:00 am – 11:00 am

**WHERE:** Gore Meadows Community Centre  
10150 The Gore Road, Brampton  
(end of parking lot)

**MAXIMUM:** 30 Participants; No Charge

**RSVP:** Thursday September 10, 2020

**CONTACT:** Mirella Kaman, President  
St. John Fisher Council, Peel Region  
[mirellakaman07@gmail.com](mailto:mirellakaman07@gmail.com)  
905-867-0377



## COVID-19 Contact Tracing

- Provide name, address, email and phone number when you RSVP
- Masks are mandatory and bring your own gloves
- Conduct COVID self-assessment at home and if sick, do not attend
- Adhere to physical distancing of (6 feet or 2 metres)
- City of Brampton Parks Maintenance & Forestry, Community Services will also conduct COVID-19 screening and will check off participants from the RSVP list

## Tree Planting Details

- Planting tools, trees, etc. will be provided by the City of Brampton
- Each participant to plant 2-3 trees, dig the holes, apply the mulch, etc.
- Dress comfortably for the weather and wear fully closed footwear for your safety as it may be muddy at the site and a bit of a walk from the parking lot.

## CWL Colours

- Wear your CWL colours for the photos by council, region and the Toronto Diocese
- Bring your **reusable** filled water mugs for your hydration

