

# TORONTO DIOCESAN COUNCIL

## NEWSLETTER

### WINTER 2021

(December to February)

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## NEWSLETTER EDITOR

**Lucia Vacca**

Sub-Convener:

Patricia Cross

Dear sisters in the League,

Wishing all of you many blessings as we end the year 2021 and welcome a brand new year of 2022 with renewed hope. Let us continue to grow in our faith to witness the love of God through our ministry and service. Let's respond to our Christian calling as "*Catholic and Living it!*"



This newsletter is one of the resources for each council and for each standing committee chairs to use for reporting and sharing information encouraging members to participate in scheduled events.

This issue includes:

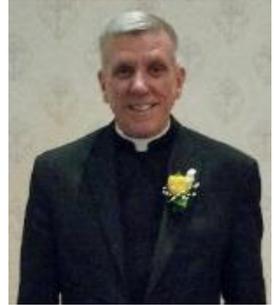
- CWL Members & COVID-19 Vaccination Policies
- Instructed Votes (Per Capita Fees Increase and Changes to C&B)
- Development Day 2022 Program
- Patricia Beattie Annual Memorial Mentoring Award
- 2022 Youth Awards
- National Centennial Committee Gratitude Project
- Preview on 101<sup>st</sup> Annual Toronto Diocesan Council Convention
- Toronto Diocesan Council Centennial Mass Highlights and so much more.

All council presidents are reminded to submit Service Awards recipients for inclusion in the next issue before January 30<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations to all the councils who have celebrated anniversaries and members who have had milestone service years in 2021.

This is the third and final issue for the year 2021. Thank you to the councils and members who have subscribed for 2021. Now is also the time for your 2022 subscriptions with details on page 44 for the Newsletter Subscription Form.

Dear Members of The Catholic Women’s League:

It has been a month since I celebrated my 40th anniversary of Priesthood (September 19). I am very grateful for your gift of prayers and mass intentions offered for that occasion.



I did manage to visit my family in Rochester, New York, in order to celebrate a special mass with them. Due to the pandemic, it was a simple, yet meaningful experience. It was nice to see them following a two-year absence due to the borders being closed.

I celebrated mass at Corpus Christi Church, the church my family first worshipped at when we arrived from Ireland (I was 7 years old). It was there I learned to be an altar-server, and it was there I later celebrated my First Mass (after Ordination). Following that, I was sent to Toronto (where I have served out all of my 40 years). However, it was great to go back to the church of my youth.

A big surprise that occurred when I arrived for the mass was the presence of a priest who first taught me how to serve. He is long into his retirement but decided to come and surprise me. He was, and still remains for me, a great role model of what it is to be a good, faithful and happy priest. I remember, even as a child, how his face always shone with happiness. He still has that glow about him! I felt so blessed to have him present.

In mentioning this recent encounter, it dawned on me that there are many people in our lives, both past and present, who stand out as shining lights -- great witnesses of God’s love and presence to us as we journey in faith. As such, I invite you to meditate on those in your life, no matter past or present, who have made you a better Catholic, and a better person; someone who inspired you to have greater faith and trust in God.

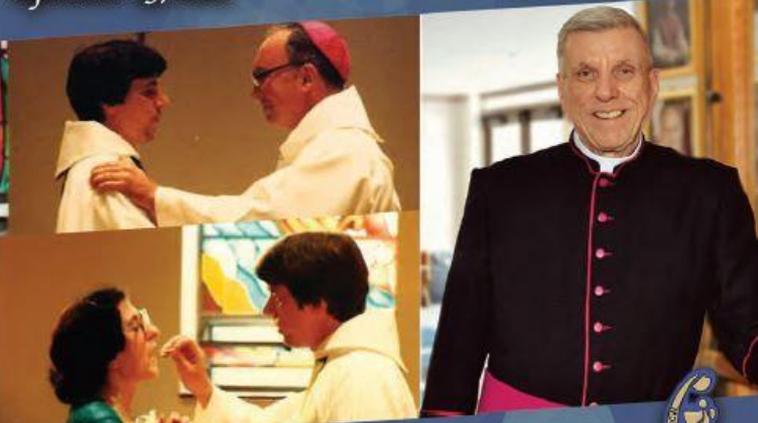
I recall one day asking a young student who was preparing for Confirmation who his favourite role model was. He reached under his collar and pulled out a chain that contained a medal of Mother Mary, a gift he received from his grandfather, who died not long after presenting it to him. He said, in wearing the medal, he felt very connected to his

grandfather, and to God whom his grandfather loved. He said his grandfather taught him to love God, and to also trust in Him. The medal of Our Lady helped the young man to pray daily that he might stay close to God.

In closing, I have a feeling you may be able to name more than one person in your life who has inspired you in faith. Perhaps, in prayer and meditation, think about them and pray for them, thanking them for being such a good role model for you.

May you go and do the same! God bless you.

*Msgr. Patrick O'Dea 40th Anniversary of Ordination  
September 19, 2021*



*On behalf of our members,  
The Catholic Women's League of Canada  
Toronto Diocesan Council (1921 - 2021)  
extends heartfelt gratitude and congratulations.*



*cwftoronto.ca*

## **PRESIDENT**

**Hilarion Mitchell**

Rejoice! We are privileged this year to be celebrating this holy Advent, Christmas and New Year with family and friends after 21 months of the COVID-19 pandemic in lockdowns and closures, being mindful that it was not possible last year. This has given us a greater appreciation of others experiencing Loneliness, social isolation, hunger and other issues. May we remember the true spirit of the season as disciples of Jesus Christ to support others. God bless you and your family during this sacred season.



### **CWL Members & COVID-19 Vaccination Policies Memo**

As the pandemic continues to evolve, COVID vaccinations are now mandatory for many organizations, including parish volunteers screened or administered by the Archdiocese of Toronto. The Catholic Women’s League follows the policies and/or protocols concerning health and safety and COVID-19 vaccinations within their diocese or archdiocese. Vaccination is not required for participants attending Mass or parish ministry meetings (such as CWL meetings). See CWL Members & COVID-19 Vaccination Policies Memo circulated October 19, 2021, which is posted on Toronto Diocesan Council website ([cwltoronto.ca](http://cwltoronto.ca)).

Further lifting of COVID restrictions are expected by mid-January and will all be removed by the end of March including the wearing of masks indoors - all good news as we *Rise Again* to our new normal.

### **2022 Instructed Votes**

As a correction to the President’s Fall 2021 newsletter article, instructed votes will not be accepted if conducted fully virtually. In-person and or a hybrid of 10% of membership attending in person and others virtual is allowed. The instructed votes are on the per capita fee increase and the eight changes in the C&B and are only proposals. There are no changes to these until they are presented and adopted at the diocesan, provincial and finally national levels. Councils may change their instructed votes by obtaining a new copy of the NCR (3-part) from national. National has extended the deadline to March 28, 2022, for the instructed votes to be submitted.

## **National League History Book Supplement 2006-2020 and Commemorative Coffee Table Book**

A copy of the National League History Book Supplement 2006-2020 was included in the 2021 Fall mailing to each council president and all life members. Additional copies are available for \$12 plus shipping while quantities last by contacting the national office. The centenary committee is also compiling a book as a memento to celebrate the past 100 years of The Catholic Women's League of Canada. To pre-order your copy, send your information by e-mail (info@cwl.ca) to national office. The cost of \$50 is not required at this time. See page #17 of the Spring 2021 League Magazine which you can download from the national website.

## **Circulating League Info**

A lot of work goes into preparing and researching the content of emails, updates (directives, communiqués), etc., by the executive at all levels of the League to keep members informed. Within and outside the League, information is constant and evolving. Individual members should make the decision on what to do with the information they receive. Council presidents and executive should not hold off from forwarding League information to members. Presidents and executive, your support is needed as not all information can be posted on websites for confidentiality reasons.

## **Toronto Diocesan Council 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 2021**

It was another memorable accomplishment during this historic 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of the Toronto Diocesan Council to celebrate the Centennial Mass on October 7<sup>th</sup> on the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. It has been a tradition of our council to celebrate a milestone anniversary Mass at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica. The anniversary activities will continue into 2022 with the time capsule opening at the 101<sup>st</sup> Convention and the publishing of the Toronto Diocesan Council anniversary history book which will complete the years 2001-2021.

Our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary year was not only influenced by the past but also on current events. These included the COVID-19 pandemic, Year of St. Joseph, Indigenous issues (the discovery of remains of children at former residential schools, the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action and the first federal holiday on Truth and Reconciliation, impacts of colonialism, and systemic racism), mental illness, awareness of diversity, environment, social justice, technology, etc. It has truly been an honour to be your diocesan President during this council's historic anniversary year.

## Welcoming the Next Century

From the formative years through the many changes in society, the Toronto Diocesan Council allowed members to grow stronger in faith, filled with love for each other and others while advocating on issues affecting our Catholic faith beyond our parishes and diocese.

We are on a continuum to shape our council as we look forward in hope post-pandemic and as the new envisioned future of the League comes into focus. Wishing each of you and your family a happy New Year as we turn the pages to welcome the next century of the Toronto Diocesan Council and embrace the new national theme *Catholic and Living It!*

*Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand."* - John 13:7

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## SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

Sub-Conveners:

**Kate O'Quinn**

Alice Warford  
Monique Forster

*You are the light of the world ... let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. (Matthew 5:14-16)*



As we begin Advent, our Season of Hope, let us take a moment to center on the meaning of the candles on the Advent Wreath. The four candles not only represent each week in Advent, they also represent the theme of each week – hope, faith, joy and peace. The above introductory words from the Gospel of Matthew remind us that the Advent Wreath is also symbolic of us moving from darkness into light. Each week of Advent, we light one more candle on the Advent Wreath, and with each additional candle being lit, we are led closer to the light – the coming of the Messiah, our “Light of the World”. This symbolism of darkness to light also holds true for us today, as we walk in the darkness of our earthly endeavours toward the light of the promised return of our Saviour, our Lord, Jesus Christ.

## **Truth and Reconciliation Committee's Calls to Action**

### **– An Introduction and Updates Presentation**

On CWL Wednesdays, the September 29<sup>th</sup> presentation was held in recognition of the first National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (Call to Action #80). It was also a continuation of Canada's road to reconciliation, from Sister Patricia Solomon's presentation on National Indigenous People's Day, June 21<sup>st</sup>. The goal for this presentation was to introduce members to four of the 94 Calls to Action for future discussions at their councils and to generate ideas as League members to keep ourselves and others accountable to stay active in the reconciliation process. Thanks again to my Committee Members - Iris McNulty, TDC Christian Family Life Chair, and Ciscily Winkler, TDC Community Life Chair and to our Advisory Committee members - Sue Lubowitz, TDC President Elect/Organization and Hilarion Mitchell, TDC President. To date, four Councils have reported using the information from the presentation, break out room feedback and resources to share with their Councils at their October General Meeting. With thanks to: St. Leonard, Brampton, St. John Vianney, Barrie, St. Andrew Brechin and St. Joseph the Worker, Oshawa.

### **Events Hosted by Women's Inter-Church Council of Canada (WICC)**

**World Day of Prayer Pray NOW video on WDP grants**– This is a four-part series of informed prayer together. WICC is calling women and men to join them in prayer for Pray NOW. This 36-minute video consists of a panel conversation with information related to WDP followed by prayer. You will learn more about WDP as well as experience different styles of prayer. This is the video link for you to join anytime at your convenience: [World Day of Prayer Pray NOW 2021 October - YouTube](#)

For information on co-ordinating a WDP Service, visit <https://wicc.org/world-day-of-prayer/how-to-participate/>

### **National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women**

will be held on Monday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm. This day stands for awareness and change against the violence that occurs to women all around the world. We know that violence against women continues. We are invited to join together via Zoom to pray to end violence against women. Visit <https://wicc.org/get-involved/events/> on December 6<sup>th</sup>, for the link.

“**Festival Day**” will be held on Saturday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> at 1:00 pm on Zoom. Register for this great opportunity to learn more about *World Day of*

Prayer (theme – “*I Know the Plans I have for You*”) and how to get involved. WICC will share information on various aspects of England, Wales and Northern Ireland (hosting countries) as well as key components of the service - music, Bible study, service video devotional speaker and grant stories. Learn more about how to organize an online service. Registration links will be available in November.

### **Faith Formation**

Manresa Jesuit Spiritual Renewal Centre in Pickering is offering in person retreats as well as virtual retreats and events. For further information go to <https://manresa-canada.ca/about-manresa/welcome-from-director/#> and click on Retreats.

St. Augustine’s Lay Spiritual Formation Program. You can now register for their *Advent Retreat: Praying with(out) Images: Devotion to Icons and the Practice of the Jesus Prayer in Eastern Christian Spirituality*. Visit: <https://staugustines.on.ca/events-listing/advent-retreat>  
*Mariology Workshop: Past and Present*. Saturday, January 15, 2022, 9:30 am. - 10:30 am. Location, costs, schedule, details and registration link will be confirmed closer to the date. Visit: <https://staugustines.on.ca/events-listing/mariology-ejnpn>

My dear Sisters in the League, as we journey through this Advent Season, let us work together and walk together, to help spread the light of Christ in the world. It is up to each of us to continue our good works, to keep the light of Christ shining in the darkness. May these words from the hymn, ‘*Bring Forth the Kingdom*’ by Marty Haugen, be a source of inspiration: *You are a light on the hill, O people, light for the city of God! Shine so holy and bright O people, shine for the Kingdom of God!* Be that shining example and always give God the glory!

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***“Imagine your anger to be a kind of wild beast, because it has ferocious teeth and claws, and if you don’t tame it, it will devastate all things, even corrupting the soul.”***

**St. John Chrysostom**

## ORGANIZATION

**Sue Lubowitz**

Sub-Conveners:

On-line Membership  
Member Development

Mary Antonio  
Andrea Tjioe

I am grateful for the opportunity to serve you for a third year as your Organization Chair. To all of you who are responsible for organization within the League at the parish level, thank you for all your hard work and dedication.



Organization has as one of its responsibilities the area of membership. The past year has been difficult for parish councils to collect memberships, primarily because of COVID-19 and issues the pandemic brought with it. I ask you all to continue to work on membership.

The Archdiocese has allowed groups to meet in halls since September. If there is still some hesitancy among some members to meet in person there is always e-mail and a telephone call that does much by letting members know you care. Please start a concerted effort to bring members back and even reach out to potential new members who may benefit from the sisterhood of the League.

The Toronto Diocesan Council is encouraging parish councils to:

- Contact members who have not remitted their membership fee as of yet
- Submit any per capita fees that have been collected as they are collected...do not wait
- Plan now to have meetings and information sessions for members that will engage them
- Take part in League development and strategic planning workshops and updates that are offered by the Diocesan council such as CWL Wednesdays
- The national website continues to have monthly updates and new items on it, particularly regarding initiatives of the implementation committee and its working groups. Be sure to check regularly

### **Implementation of the Strategic Plan**

Two workshop kits are now available on the national website under the “To Organize” tab. The Legislation Workshop is #829 and the Executive

Orientation Program is #828. As previously mentioned, the Executive Orientation Program is comprised of 10 modules totalling 230 minutes (four hours). I will be hosting an online session of this program every Wednesday in January for anyone who is interested but most especially newly elected parish executives. Each session will be approximately one hour and you do not need to attend them all to benefit from them. There will also be time for attendees to give their input. The following topics will be covered:

Jan. 5<sup>th</sup> - History of the League, Structure of the League, Promise of the League and Core Principles

Jan. 12<sup>th</sup> - Duties of Officers, Life Members and Strategic Plan

Jan. 19<sup>th</sup> - Communications and Budgets

Jan. 26<sup>th</sup> - Member recognition, Public Presence and Member Development

Other resources that councils will find useful and are a direct result of the work that working groups have completed are in the 600 series section of the “To Organize” tab. These are the Welcome Program (#621), Calendar of Social Justice (#622), Embracing Diversity (#623), Catholic Social Teaching Resources (#624) and Care for God’s Common Home (#625) which also includes a PowerPoint (#625a) and speaker’s notes (#625b). Any of these resources and workshops will help your council meetings be more engaging to members. Please let me know when you use these resources and your feedback is always appreciated.

## **Membership**

As of September 30<sup>th</sup>, membership for the diocesan council stands at 6267 members. The revised total for 2020 is 6994 with over 200 members paying the 2020 fees in 2021. As of this date a total of 29 councils have either maintained their membership or increased it. Congratulations to Guardian Angels parish council in Orillia who have added 27 members to their numbers from last year. This is quite an achievement!

Remember to start your membership drive before January 1<sup>st</sup>. Membership fees are due at national office by February 28<sup>th</sup> each year. Do not wait to forward renewals until all are signed up. Hold a drive and forward those member registrations. Continue to remit on a monthly basis.

## **Annual Reports**

These have been circulated to all councils. If you are completing a hard copy, the deadline to national office is December 15<sup>th</sup>. If you are completing on-line the deadline is January 15, 2022. The portal will be closed after that date and you will not be able to submit your council’s report. If you have questions, please feel free to contact me.

## **Development Day 2022**

This day of training and fulfillment is scheduled for Saturday, February 12<sup>th</sup> and will be held in person. Plans are underway to provide attendees an almost “normal” experience based on the projected COVID-19 protocols in place at that time. More information can be found further on pages 24-25.

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### **PAST PRESIDENT/HISTORIAN**

**Ann D’Souza**

As we enter the winter season, this year too has been rough on each of us, we must cope to find ways to adjust ourselves how to return to normalcy, though we must still be alert of our health and the family around us. It is also important to look at the good changes we have done during the COVID period. Perhaps you learned a new skill or picked up a new hobby, brought you closer to your loved one and God, counted your blessings. In the League this is a busy time, a time of reflection getting ready for 2022, as there are many things lined up for rejuvenation.



As the year ends, it is time to review and record as this will help you when writing your annual report. This is a time also to achieve all the important events accomplished in your council. History is vital as it grounds our roots and shapes our future.

### **Moira Ste. Marie Memorial Lecture**

Thank you for attending the event on October 20<sup>th</sup>, it was a good successful session being done virtually for the first time, received many accolades, how smoothly it ran and how informative, insightful, engaging and inspiring it was with the audience, and that the three speakers were knowledgeable, energetic, and demonstrated personal commitment to Catholic Education.

### **Toronto Diocesan Elections**

The Toronto Diocesan Council elections will take place on Friday April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022, at our annual convention; preparation is underway for updating the Elections Register. All parish councils can participate in the election of the officers of the Toronto Diocesan Council. Every parish president is eligible to stand for election at the Diocesan level for three terms after her two-year term as parish council president.

To be able to participate in the election process at the Diocesan convention, please familiarize your council members with the process and voting privileges. Check the National Manual of Policy and Procedure (2014) page # 101.

In the Constitution & Bylaws 2013, here are the outlines:

Part XV, Section 1. Delegates, 2, Voting Powers, 3, Instructed Vote and Part XVI Section 1. Eligibility for Office page 37.

All of the above can be found from pages 34-37.

By December, each eligible candidate will receive their discernment package either via email or mail. The mailing will include the candidate form. If you are an eligible candidate, please take time to discern your call to service, pray over it and let your name stand, you have the gift share it, this quote is very fitting *“As we lose ourselves in the service of others, we discover our own lives and our own happiness.”* - Dieter F. Uchtdorf

### **Patricia Beattie Annual Memorial Mentoring Award**

This will be a good time to look toward the member in your council whom you think would be a good candidate for this award which will be given out at our 2022 TDC Convention.

Every year at our convention two members are recognized. Please remember we have two categories.

- One for Category A: The Parish Level
- One for Category B: The Auxiliary Level (those who continued their journey at other levels of the League → Regional, Diocesan, Provincial or National).
- Members of the present Diocesan executives are not eligible for nomination during their term.
- You can resubmit a nomination if your candidate was not chosen in a previous submission.

Take this opportunity and allot some time to nominate these wonderful ladies who have been mentors and counselors to you and to the members in your council or at a higher level of the League.

Please note that either a council or an individual member can submit a nomination and all submissions must be received by March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

A copy of the nomination forms, including the criteria to apply when selecting, will be in the presidents' convention packages which will be distributed at our Development Day in February. You can find all this information on our website, <https://www.cwltoronto.ca/index.php/forms>

## RECORDING SECRETARY

Shaila D'Souza

Greetings and welcome to all Recording Secretaries entering your first year and to those of you continuing in the role. This position is rewarding as it provides an opportunity to gain more experience about the other executive positions during the preparation of the meeting minutes. The Toronto Diocesan Council's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2021 highlighted the importance of the Recording Secretary. The meeting minutes are the reference for the present work undertaken and a historical resource for those that will follow in the years ahead. Early completion of minutes following meetings will make the role less daunting.



Understanding Motions and Approval of Minutes will also assist recording secretaries and members in their respective roles during meetings.

### **Motions**

*Motions are a form of communication used by an assembly to hasten the business, make it flow smoothly, and provide members with an opportunity to participate in the decision-making process. (CWL Executive Handbook)*

With more COVID-19 restrictions expected to be lifted in the New Year, more councils will be returning to in-person meetings. As the Recording Secretary, ensure that motions conducted virtually or by email, are ratified at the next in-person meeting. Use one motion to approve these as was done at the 99<sup>th</sup> and 100<sup>th</sup> AGMs on May 15<sup>th</sup>. The president or chair for the meeting will ask for a “mover” and “second” to the motions. Once received there will be discussions followed by the vote. The Recording Secretary, sometimes with the help of another, counts the members in favour, opposed or abstained. The President or Chair then announces the outcome of the motion as “adopted, lost or rejected.” The Recording Secretary will keep a record of all in-person, email and virtual meeting and ratified in motions the Motion Book.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Can a member vote or second a motion to approve minutes of a meeting that she did not attend? YES, absolutely.

There is no requirement in Roberts Rules of Order that a member have first-hand knowledge of something before voting on minutes or other motions. Minutes are a legal record of what was done at the meeting, not what was

said. As the minutes are circulated before the meeting and are read by the person, they are entitled to approve the motion even if they were not present at the original meeting. In fact, a motion need not be made regarding the approval of minutes. The chair says, “are there any correction to the minutes?” Members may offer corrections and when there are no further corrections forthcoming the chair says, “if there are no further corrections to the minutes, they stand approved as corrected.” (The Frequently Asked Questions section of *Parliamentary Procedure Online*, which is the website companion to *Robert’s Rules Online*. FAQ #30.)

Refer to the National Manual of Policy and Procedure, The Canadian League magazine, Robert’s Rules of Order, Communiqués (national), Directives (provincial) and this Toronto Diocesan Council newsletter. They are excellent source of reference to us to maintain and run a well-organized Council.

### **2021 Recording Secretary Annual Reports**

Though many councils were not able to meet during the year due to the COVID-19 lockdowns, do still complete the 2021 Recording Secretary Annual Report Survey. You have a choice to complete the survey using a paper version due December 15, 2021, or online due January 15, 2022.

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## **TREASURER**

**Lolita Perry**

Once again it is time to wrap up the current year and start planning for the upcoming year. It is a great time to sort through unwanted documents, both manual and digital. If you are ending your term, and in the process of preparing a package for the next incoming treasurer, ensure to include written list detailing responsibilities.



### **2022 Budget**

The annual budget is one of the most integral financial, accountability tools available to ensure councils at all levels meet their goals and sustain stewardship among members. A budget is planned in consultation with the president and the executive. It is then presented to the general membership for discussion and approval generally at a January meeting. It is also recommended to ensure councils allocate funds towards charitable organizations in need of support due to COVID-19.

The approved budget will serve as a guideline in allocating funds for your donations and known expenses. It is highly recommended to include a

portion of your funds for membership development by subscribing to this newsletter – 3 issues for \$12 annually.

### **2021 Financial Statements**

It is also the time to prepare your council’s annual year-end Financial Statement. In compliance with our Constitution & Bylaws and with The Not-for-Profit Corporation Act, the Financial Statement is to be shared with members at least by 21 days prior to the meeting. Members are to be notified of the date and time this meeting is to take place. The Financial Statement for 2021 should be presented and voted upon by the general membership, in the beginning of 2022. Further information can be obtained on the TDC website: [www.cwltoronto.ca](http://www.cwltoronto.ca) on the Resources tab; scroll down to the reference documents for Treasurer. This also includes the “Treasurer 101” workshop that was held a few years ago.

### **2021 Voluntary Funds – Toronto Diocesan, Provincial and National**

Due to limited fundraising events and activities this year, it is well expected donations to voluntary funds will significantly decrease.

All remittance forms are available at our website [www.cwltoronto.ca](http://www.cwltoronto.ca) and follow the tab or the link.

The Toronto Diocesan Council Voluntary Funds are St. Michael’s Scholarship Fund and Margaret Ann Jacobs Catholic Children’s Aid Foundation Scholarship Fund. It is important that all donations are received on or before December 31, 2021 to reflect in the 2021 Annual Report.

### **Liability Insurance**

As good stewards, we must do all we can reasonably to protect the CWL from financial loss. The cost of this insurance for 2022 is \$0.50 per member. This premium is in addition to your capita fees. Kindly refer below on how insurance will be collected by the National Office.

### **Membership Fees and Per Capita Fee Submissions**

Some councils start off the new year with membership drives. Membership fees are to be remitted to the National Office by January 1, 2022 and should be completed by February 28, 2022. The membership fees are set by each council, must include national per capita fees, regional dues and the portion that remains at the council. The \$20.50 sent to national is broken down as follows; national \$13, provincial \$3, diocesan \$4 and \$.50 insurance per member, using Parish Council Remittance Form for Per Capita Fees (form 516) on the national website. The treasurer is responsible to ensure the per capita fees are promptly submitted to the national office. This will ensure

the records of years of service are kept up-to- date and that there is no delay in members receiving their copy of The Canadian League magazine.

### **Financial Records of the Council**

Accurate record keeping is essential to knowing how well-planned goals were achieved and in determining what future possibilities exist. The treasurer shall maintain an account, receipt and deposit book; keep books updated; retain cancelled cheques and receipts; balance the account book to the bank statement monthly; keep cheque statements of receipt and disbursement books on file for five years.

### **Duties of a Treasurer**

The treasurer shall maintain the financial records, receive all League monies, pay all accounts authorized, be a signing officer for all official documents, maintain financial records, present a report of revenues and expenditures at the meetings, prepare and monitor an annual budget, have the financial records audited or examined annually. The treasurer should refer to communiqués and/or annual reports from all levels, file with the recording secretary a copy of her monthly and annual reports.

### **Receive all League Monies**

Per capita fees are the means by which the League carries out its programming at national, provincial and diocesan levels. The treasurer shall, ensure per capita fees are remitted to national office by February 28<sup>th</sup> of each year; collect and remit to diocesan council or national office all donations made to the national each year; ensure all members approve all fundraising activities.

### **Pay all Accounts**

Proper disbursement procedures ensure that all legitimate expenses have been properly authorized and paid. The treasurer shall always pay by cheque and ensure there are two signatures on every cheque.

Communication is an important key to success in any chair position. If you have any questions concerning your post as treasurer, please feel free to connect with me via email: lolitaperry@rogers.com

## *Happy Anniversary!*

*St. Gertrude, Durham Region – 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

*Our Lady of Grace, North York Region – 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

*Sacred Heart, North York Region – 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

*St. Justin Martyr, North York Region – 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

*St. Patrick Markham, North York Region – 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

*St. Ann, Peel Region – 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

*St. Anthony of Padua, Peel Region – 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

*St. John Fisher, Peel Region – 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

*St. Joseph, Peel Region – 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

*St. Barnabas, Scarborough Region – 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

*St. Boniface, Scarborough Region – 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

*St. Rose of Lima, Scarborough Region – 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

*St. Thomas Aquinas, Toronto Region – 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

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### SERVICE AWARDS

#### 65-Year Membership Pins

##### **Northern Region**

St. Mary, Barrie:

Catharina Mulder

Rita Roberts

##### **Peel Region**

St. Mary

Margaret Beach

##### **Scarborough Region**

St. Boniface:

Gilda Gaglione

#### 60-Year Membership Pins

##### **Northern Region**

St. Mary, Barrie:

Verna Flynn

Inez Kempling

Marlene Rettinger

Mary Ellen Varney

#### 55-Year Membership Pins

##### **Northern Region**

St. Mary, Barrie:

Liliane Ziliotto

##### **Peel Region**

St. John Fisher:

Moira Lumley

St. Mary:

Jean Doran

### 50-Year Membership Pins

#### **Durham Region**

St. Mary of the People: Maria Dell'Alpa Helen Storey

#### **Humber Valley**

St. Roch: Joan Bass Jo Cardle Elia Salerno

#### **Northern Region**

St. Mary, Barrie: Maura Bolger Marlene Koch May McKendry

#### **Peel Region**

St. Mary: Stella Stuart Irene MoneyPENNY Clarissa Pinto

### 45-Year Membership Pins

#### **Humber Valley**

St. Roch: Gina Campeotto

#### **Northern Region**

St. Mary, Barrie: Anne O'Grady

#### **Peel Region**

St. John Fisher: Marjorie McCauley Elizabeth Watson

St. Mary: Rosalind Baker Terri Shea

#### **Scarborough Region**

St. Joseph Highland Creek: Mary Kelly Winifred Martin

#### **Toronto Region**

St. Pius X: Ann Waters

### 40-Year Membership Pins

#### **Durham Region**

St. Mary of the People: Janet Chiasson Rita Jakym

#### **Humber Valley**

St. Roch: Teresa Verrilli

#### **Peel Region**

St. John Fisher: Constance Uddenberg

St. Mary: Deborah Stuart Joanne Lindner

#### **Scarborough Region**

St. Joseph Highland Creek: Grace Beardsworth

### 35-Year Membership Pins

#### **Humber Valley Region**

Nativity of Our Lord: Audrey Jarvis

St. Roch: Alba Brunato Grace Caprara Connie Cristinziano

Teresa Fanschetti Rosemary Rizzi Rosetta Sampogna

#### **Peel Region**

St. John Fisher: Anna Marie Adair

St. Mary: Fran Caldwell Agnes Kern

#### **Scarborough Region**

Precious Blood: Norah Middleton Louisa Wu

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

Suanne O'Neill

**Toronto Region**

St. Pius X:

Madlene Cumbo

Alice Posivy

**30-Year Membership Pins****Humber Valley Region**

Nativity of Our Lord:

Martha Frigault Maria Carvalho Maria Giangioppo  
Wilma van den Hurk

St. Roch:

Severina Biasutto Antonietta Capuani  
Antonia Cardoni Carmela Celluci Ilda Cesario  
Nicolina Cipriano Michelina De Prospero  
Ida Ferrari Diana Fielli Maria Iannelli  
Maria Kuzmich Gemma Lacivita Isabella Miconi  
Lina Pasut Marcella Pravato Franca Pupo  
Elia Romano Maria Scattolin Rosa Zago**Northern Region**

St. Mary, Barrie:

Rosemary MacLellan

**Peel Region**

St. Francis Xavier:

Mary Lou Bonnici

St. John Fisher:

Phyllis Linger

**Scarborough Region**

St. Joseph Highland Creek:

Maria Steger

Philomena Traynor

St. Boniface:

Phil Carriere

**Toronto Region**

St. Alphonsus:

Anna Maringola

**25-Year Membership Pins****Durham Region**

St. Mary of the People:

Marjorie Baker

Luisa Romano

Alanna Szewczyk

**Humber Valley Region**

Nativity of Our Lord:

Joanna Bates Marianne Hamilton Lennie McGrann

Mary Ann Amodeo Helen Borg Cheryl Carty

Rose D'Souza Anita Haugh Judy Zammit

St. Roch:

Felicia Addressi Doris Agyemang Emelia Belli

Teresa Caruso Maria Pascazio Alba Reda

Cledia Ricci Joseph Roberts Gina Tramonte

**North York Region**

St. Justin Martyr:

Ruth Fuyarchuk

Cathy McElroy

Joan Barrett

**Northern Region**

St. Mary, Barrie:

Johanna Centen

Rita Cyr

Antonia Galle

Helen Lavin

**Peel Region**

St. John Fisher:

Loretta Gale

**Scarborough Region**

Precious Blood:

Lina Al-turk

Philomena Menezes

St. Joseph Highland Creek:

Marjorie Herrera

Juanita MacLean

Cynthia Menezes

Lucia Vacca

**Toronto Region**

St. Matthew: Olive Satchell  
 St. Pius X: Vicky Dunwoody

**20-Year Membership Pins****Humber Valley Region**

Nativity of Our Lord:	Muriel Bueno	Rose Machacek	Yolanda Pighin
	Etty Roach	Anna Tax	Gina Borg
	Bunny Cura	Bella Fernandes	Luisa Raposo
	Mona Ulrick		
St. Roch:	Silvana Carella	Rose Cossarin	Barbara Cossarini
	Phyllis Martelli	Vicky Orlando	Gilda Pellegrini
	Erica Rac	Nella Stagliano	Celeste Stoduto
	Kathy Tesone	Linda Villamor	

**North York Region**

St. Justin Martyr: Kathy Crupi Rita Perta Victoria Ton  
 Janet Twaddle

**Northern Region**

St. Mary, Barrie: Joan Belanger Eileen Bethune Carol Cancilla  
 Anne Marie Martyniuk Kathy Mitchinson

**Peel Region**

St. Francis Xavier:	Sharon Barretto	Beryl Fernandes	Yvonne Fernandes
	Bie Oputu	Marilou Alinea	Myra D'Souza
	Anita Falco	Alzira Fernandes	Gina Harvey
	Jan Lahouri	Elizabeth Roopan	Victoria Velasco
St. John Fisher:	Decian Mitchell		
St. Mary:	Margaret Chaisson	Stella Goncza	Barbara Cissek

**Scarborough Region**

St. Joseph Highland Creek:	Marguerite Civello	Elma D'Silva
St. Boniface:	Georgina Da Costa	Rosemarie Gaglione

**Toronto Region**

St. Alphonsus: Sung Jhung

*“It is a great advantage for us to be able to consult someone who knows us, so that we may learn to know ourselves.” – St. Teresa of Avila*

**101<sup>st</sup> Annual Toronto Diocesan Council  
Convention**  
*Catholic and Living It!*  
**Thursday April 28 and Friday April 29, 2022**

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

Ontario plans to lift all remaining public health measures including proof of vaccination and mask requirements indoors by March 2022. This is good news, and we are excited to welcome back members, spiritual advisors and vendors to our first in-person event since the pandemic was declared in March 2020.

The convention will open with Mass at 9:00 am on Thursday April 28<sup>th</sup>. The earlier start time will allow for the completion of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary time capsule opening, 2022 instructed votes, the 2022-2024 diocesan elections and installation of the new executive as well as convention business. The Resolution Dialogue session will be held virtually on Saturday April 23<sup>rd</sup>.

More details will be provided in the Spring 2022 newsletter and on the Toronto Diocesan Council website at [www.cwltoronto.ca](http://www.cwltoronto.ca).

Your 2021-22 Convention Team contacts are:

Shirley Christo	<a href="mailto:cwllmshirl@gmail.com">cwllmshirl@gmail.com</a>	905-793-0156
Elisabeth Quail	<a href="mailto:eijq@rogers.com">eijq@rogers.com</a>	416-788-0858
Zenora Mahabal	<a href="mailto:mahabalzenora7@gmail.com">mahabalzenora7@gmail.com</a>	416-702-2297

A sincere THANK YOU to Margaret Arangio for her dedicated service for the past two and a half years and a WARM WELCOME to Zenora Mahabal for her willingness to come on board!



# Catholic Women's League of Canada Toronto Diocesan Council DEVELOPMENT DAY 2022

## Theme: “Living Justice: A CWL Response”

Keynote Speakers from Development and Peace

Luke Stocking, Deputy Director of Public Awareness and  
Engagement (Ontario and Atlantic Region)

Dean Detloff, Central Ontario Animator

Fee: \$15.00 (payable by cheque to the Catholic Women’s League of  
Canada)

Pre-registration is a **MUST**. Registration opens Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>.

Registration will be cut-off when the maximum has been reached.

Maximum attendance will be determined by COVID-19 protocols  
in place as of January 31, 2022

When submitting registration, please provide the following information.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No: \_\_\_\_\_

Parish Council: \_\_\_\_\_

Region: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

- Cheques **ONLY** and payable to “The Catholic Women’s League of  
Canada”. On the memo line write “Development Day 2022”.
- Early Bird Registration Deadline: **DECEMBER 15, 2021** (two spots  
reserved per council and accepting these registrations first but **MUST**  
be paid by this deadline).
- Regular Deadline: **FEBRUARY 1, 2022** (first-come basis if spots  
remain available). Accepting after December 16, 2021.
- Spot(s) reserved upon receipt of registration with **CHEQUE ONLY**.  
Email or e-transfer registrations will not be accepted.
- No Refunds (unless dictated by COVID-19 government orders) but  
transfers of spots allowed.
- Keep a copy of this registration form for your records. Payment  
confirms your attendance.

Mail form and payment to: Sue Lubowitz, Organization Chair

201 Penn Avenue, Newmarket ON L3Y 2S4



## **DEVELOPMENT DAY 2022 PROGRAM**

- 8:30 am Registration
- 9:00 am Eucharistic Celebration  
Monsignor Patrick O'Dea, Toronto Diocesan  
Spiritual Advisor
- 10:00 am Refreshments (if possible)
- 10:25 am Welcome/Introductions/Gathering Prayer
- 10:30 am “Living Justice: A CWL Approach”  
presentation by Development and Peace
- 11:30 am Break/lunch
- 12:30 am Gathering Prayer
- 12:45-2:45 pm Workshop: From Principles to Action
- #1: Human Dignity
  - #2: Solidarity
  - #3: The Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers
- 2:45 pm Closing Remarks
- 2:50 pm Final Blessing
- 3:00 pm Departure

Inquiries: Sue Lubowitz, Toronto Organization Chair  
[jslubowitz@gmail.com](mailto:jslubowitz@gmail.com)  
905-898-7372

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

January 22	WDOP - Festival Day - Virtual
January 26	11 <sup>th</sup> Annual Bell Let's Talk Day
February 11	World Day of the Sick
February 12	Development Day (In-person)
March 1	Ordinandi Dinner (Virtual)
March 4	World Day of Prayer
March 12	Lift Jesus Higher Rally
March 14	Deadline for Mary Dobell Literacy Award to TDC
March 14	Deadline for Jean McCann Service Award to TDC
March 30	Deadline for Patricia Beattie Mentoring Award
April 23	Resolutions Dialogue (Virtual)
April 26	Feast Day of Our Lady of Good Counsel Feast
April 28-29	101 <sup>st</sup> Toronto Diocesan Council Convention
June 21	National Indigenous Peoples Day
June 30	Deadline for St. Michael's College Scholarship
July 10-13	75 <sup>th</sup> Ontario Provincial Convention, Ottawa
August 14-17	102 <sup>nd</sup> National Convention, Kelowna, BC

## **SPRING 2022 GENERAL REGIONAL MEETING DATES**

These meetings may be Virtual / Teleconferencing or In-person.  
Detailed instructions will be forthcoming from the Regional Chairs.

March 17 Thursday	Humber Valley Region	7:00 pm
March 23 Wednesday	Toronto Region	7:00 pm
March 24 Thursday	Scarborough Region	7:00 pm
March 29 Tuesday	North York Region	7:00 pm
March 31 Thursday	Peel Region	7:00 pm
April 6 Wednesday	Durham Region	7:00 pm
April 7 Thursday	Northern Region	7:00 pm

Sub-Convener:

Philomena Menezes

### Sanctity of Life

The Evangelical Fellowship of Canada upholds the sanctity of all life and all creation. It has a comprehensive website with a selection of webinars, videos and podcasts. It has actively advocated for the Protection of Conscience Rights for Healthcare Workers. Website: [www.evangelicalfellowship.ca](http://www.evangelicalfellowship.ca)



Canadian Virtual Hospice assists parents whose child faces a life-limiting illness or end-of-life circumstance to navigate child palliative care. It connects parents with services, information, resources and supports. Canadian Virtual Hospice can also provide information and support in caring for an unborn child diagnosed with a serious medical condition. Some areas that the organization supports are: coping, fears, managing symptoms, communicating with children regarding a serious illness. It has a team of experts who are able to answer questions regarding a life-limiting illness or end-of-life prognosis. Individuals can access frequently asked question. Opportunities exist to ask specific questions of an expert in the field. Discussion forums are available.

### Life and Family

WOOMB Canada teaches the Billings Ovulation Method of Natural Family Planning. It enables couples to plan or postpone pregnancy naturally, without the use of drugs or devices. The method: a) is based on scientific research; b) can assist in achieving pregnancy; c) promotes harmony in marriage. It is recognized by other faith groups as an acceptable method to plan or postpone pregnancy. WOOMB Canada is an affiliation with WOOMB International. Website: [www.woomb.ca](http://www.woomb.ca)

### Seniors

On October 28<sup>th</sup>, the Ontario government introduced a proposed bill to replace the existing legislation governing long term care facilities: *Providing More Care, Protecting Seniors, and Building More Beds Act*.

It will invest up to \$100 million to increase the number of nurses in long-term care homes by an additional 2000 nurses. Through the *Act*, the provincial government has made a commitment to train more nurses and personal support workers in order to increase staffing for direct care. The *Act*, if implemented, would mean that a long term care resident could

receive up to four hours of direct care and up to 36 minutes of allied care. Under the *Act*, accountability and transparency of the operation of LTC facilities would also be implemented. Offenders of the legislation would be forced to pay heavy fines.

The proposed legislation would update the *Residents' Bill of Rights* to include the right to be provided with care services based on the *Palliative Care* model. The present government has also made a commitment to build modern and safe long term care facilities.

Members are encouraged to write their respective MPPs to support the revamping of the existing legislation.

### **Disabled**

Hearing loss is reaching epidemic proportions. It is impossible to repair; much of it is preventable. According to a recent survey, one out of four Americans experiences some degree of hearing loss. The World Health Organization has identified environmental noise as an underestimated threat to overall health and wellness. The development in technology is responsible for the increase. Traffic, household appliances, cell phones, radios, television, loud music contribute widely to noise pollution. Protective equipment and reducing the amount of sounds and their intensity in the home can decrease the incidence of hearing loss. Scheduling daily quiet time is important as is turning off household appliances when they are not in use, to help reduce hearing loss. Further information: [www.differentandable.org](http://www.differentandable.org)

October 14<sup>th</sup> was *World Vision Day*. The World Health Organization estimates that 2.2 billion people worldwide experience vision impairment. Women are 12% more likely to experience some vision loss and 15% more likely to develop severe vision impairment in comparison to men. The incidence of blindness is 80% higher among women according to Ashley Hannon, Scientist. Researchers at Toronto Western Hospital have found that women are twice as likely to experience falls, four times at greater risk of fractures and three times more prone to depression as a result of vision challenges. Give your eyes frequent breaks from the screen. A good practice is the 20-20-20 rule. Every 20 minutes of screen time; look away about 20 feet for 20 seconds in order to prevent eye strain. Your eyes are an important part of your health, schedule regular eye examinations.

Contact your member of provincial parliament to request that yearly eye examinations be covered under OHIP.

## Vocations

Refer to [www.vocations.ca](http://www.vocations.ca) to read about *Vocations* and their importance. The website has a comprehensive listing of the various *Vocations* and a listing of Vocation Communities and Dioceses.

## Youth

*Chaplaincy Connect* offers faith support and fellowship on university campuses. Locations: [www.chaplaincyconnect.ca](http://www.chaplaincyconnect.ca)

## National Campus Life Network

The organization has a presence on several Canadian university campuses; four are located in Ontario. It is the leading anti-abortion youth organization in Canada. It provides information, visible witness at university sites, supports women facing crisis pregnancy and speakers on *Life* issues. Website: [www.ncln.ca](http://www.ncln.ca)

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## COMMUNICATIONS

Mary Tuccitto

Happy New Year to all Parish Council Communications Chairs and to the newly-elected Chairs. I look forward to working with you and meeting you at Development Day and other planned events. We play a vital role in keeping our members informed of activities, news from council and from other levels of CWL. There is much talk on the importance of technology but working with your President and keeping members informed should be timely and clear. Keep things simple, share information, use the CWL crest on parish bulletins and posters, organize a Council Newsletter, and telephone calling committee. Speak positively and joyfully about the League and remember to use the words - Catholic Women's League, rather than CWL.



As Communications Chairs, be mindful when posting items on-line or on your parish website etc. Never publish personal information such as phone numbers and personal emails and never include the link to a virtual event on posters as this may result in “uninvited” guests. Contact your Regional Chair who will forward council event posters to me for posting on the TDC website, pending approval.

## **2021 National Annual Report**

Thank you to all Parish Council Communications Chairs for completing your report. Even if a council does not have a Communications Chair this report should be completed as this is your opportunity to share how your council has kept members informed and connected to each other and to the League.

## **Christmas Postage Stamps CWL Resolution 2005.01**

Now is the time stock up on the religious Christmas Postage Stamps while they may still be available from your local Post Office. These annual postage stamps are a result of a CWL resolution presented and accepted at the 85<sup>th</sup> National Convention and it's up to us to keep this tradition alive for years to come, so ask for them by name and use them all year long.

## **Ontario Provincial Council On-Line Newsletter**

The Ontario Provincial Council produces a monthly On-Line Newsletter with reports and information from a featured OPC Chair and articles of interest. A highlight of this FREE newsletter is the parish council events shared by one of the 13 Dioceses which make up the OPC. The November 2021 issue featured the Toronto Diocese, as we were invited to submit good news stories from our councils. I take this opportunity to thank all the councils who forwarded their stories and photos to me. Although only a few were published due to limited space, I was impressed by your resilience, imagination and sisterhood in the face of lockdowns and limited in-person interaction. Your continued dedication and love of the League was evident. Go to the OPC website and look for the November 2021 issue to read about your CWL sisters in the Toronto Diocese. Logon to [www.cwl.on.ca](http://www.cwl.on.ca) to subscribe. The on-line newsletter will automatically come to your email inbox at the beginning of each month.

## **League Magazine**

As you may be aware, the fall issue of The Canadian League magazine was available online only. A survey asking members for their opinion on this was shared with Council Presidents in their Fall mailings. Please inform members of this survey and encourage all to respond to it. Members may also go directly to the National website and print a copy at [www.cwl.ca](http://www.cwl.ca) - go to To Inform/Parish Council Memos, click – Communications and there you will see - Fall 2021 – Betty Colaneri. Scroll down to the bottom page, print and complete the survey, mail it into the National Office. We must communicate our opinions with the National Council so members may continue to find lifetime fulfillment in membership knowing that they have been heard.

## **National Centennial Committee Gratitude Project**

Parish councils are encouraged to participate in the National Gratitude Project. Our frontline workers, first responders, doctors and nurses, personal support workers, truck drivers, cooks and so many, many more, have put their lives on the line since the start of the pandemic. So many industries and employees stayed open to ensure essentials were available during lockdowns and restrictions. With the Gratitude Project, we have an opportunity to show our appreciation. The gratitude project postcard (#324) can be downloaded from the national website under the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations link at [www.cwl.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/324-Gratitude-ProjectPostcard-2021.pdf](http://www.cwl.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/324-Gratitude-ProjectPostcard-2021.pdf) or under the 300 Series. You may print these beautiful postcards and hand deliver or mail them to those whom you wish to appreciate. Remember to appreciate your spiritual advisors, priests, deacons. See page 43 for details. The project runs through July 31, 2022.

## **Movies and Books**

*Bridge of Roses: The Story of Our Lady of the Cape* is a long anticipated 70 minute feature-length documentary/cinematic interpretation of the Miracle of the Ice Bridge that took place in 1879 on the St. Lawrence River. The debut screening was held at the Basilica of Notre-Dame-du-Cap in Trois-Rivieres, Quebec on October 7<sup>th</sup> which coincides with the 450<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Our Lady of the Rosary. Through this film, viewers will discover “that Mary truly is a bridge to knowing her Son” as noted by three time Gemini award-nominated Catholic filmmaker Dennis Girard. The story depicts how parishioners sought to build a new church at our Lady of the Cape but an uncommonly mild winter prevented their plans as they were unable to transport the needed construction materials and day-to-day essentials, across what should have been a frozen St. Lawrence River. The Parish Vicar, Fr. Louis-Eugene Duguay, urged his congregation to pray the rosary and miraculously, pieces of ice emerged to form a bridge, allowing construction and much needed goods to be transported from the mainland. Our Lady of the Cape is the second most popular Marian shrine in North America. Streaming access for this remarkable story of faith is available at [www.bridgeofrosesfilm.com](http://www.bridgeofrosesfilm.com)

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***“Success in life consists of standing without  
shame before God”*** St. Sharbel Makblaf

Greetings and welcome to all new and returning Community Life Chairpersons. With our National theme *Care for Our Common Home* near ending, it is worthwhile recapping some of our great accomplishments, especially throughout the pandemic. The Provincial theme on *Loneliness* has demonstrated its urgency to listen, learn and act.



### **Dignity and Rights of Persons**

Human Trafficking, Homelessness, Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Systemic Racism/Inequality, Domestic Violence, Opioid crisis, all of which undoubtedly increased during the pandemic, were addressed by councils. It has been proven in this pandemic that if there is a will, there is a way, as our political leaders are finally paying closer attention to issues affecting the marginalized.

### **Citizens for Public Justice (CPJ)**

Citizens for Public Justice is a national, progressive organization of members who are inspired by faith to act for social and environmental justice in Canadian public policy. CPJ focusses on three key policy areas: poverty in Canada, climate justice, and refugees' rights, and has been using its voice for over fifty years to advocate for a better Canada. CPJ *Poverty Trends 2021- The Change We Need*, prepared by Natalie Appleyard, shares many insights for poverty in Canada. Eradicating poverty, the root that affects most marginalized individuals requires a holistic approach by governments, institutions, communities and individuals including ourselves. Visit [www.cpj.ca](http://www.cpj.ca) to learn more.

### **Indigenous Peoples**

On September 30, 2021, Canada observed the first statutory holiday, the *National Day for Truth and Reconciliation*. Canadians spread the awareness of and reflect on the tragedies experienced by Indigenous Peoples as a result of the country's former residential school system. The federal government passed Bill C-5 in June 2021 that led to this holiday which addressed the implementation of Call to Action #80, one of the 94 Calls to Action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's report of 2015. <https://ncr.ca/records/reports/#trc-reports>. Prior to this day, September 30<sup>th</sup> was recognized as *Orange Shirt Day* which signifies the life and story of Phillis (Jack) Webstad, a residential school survivor. ([orangeshirtday.org/about-us](http://orangeshirtday.org/about-us))

## **Domestic Violence**

There has been a 30% increase in domestic violence in Canada, with women isolating with their children in silence and with their abuser during the pandemic, as calls to the crisis lines decreased. According to recent reports, homicides increased with 34 women and children killed by their abuser in 2020, and based on a seven-month count of 33 in 2021, it is extrapolated that the number may double in 2021.

## **Poverty**

People who are First Nations, Inuit, or Metis, Black, People of Colour, Disabled, Single, People of diverse sexual orientation, those with precarious immigration status, and those aging out of the foster care system are those most likely to experience poverty in Canada. These groups are also at greater risk for poorer physical and mental outcomes. Through data from Statistics Canada, it is suggested that social determinants of health may play a greater role in preventing suicides than availability and accessibility of health and services. These include proximal determinants such as employment, income, education, and food security and distal determinants such as colonialism, racism, social exclusion and lack of self-determination opportunities. The rate of death by suicide among First Nations people is three-times higher than for non-Indigenous people and the rate for Inuit people is nine-times higher.

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/en/catalogue/99-011-X2019001>

## **Food Insecurity**

The world is already facing its worst hunger crisis in at least 15 years and higher food prices are bad news for poorer nations that are dependent on imports and can also increase the risk of political instability. Here at home, food insecurity has greatly increased throughout this pandemic, affecting all ages, especially children. The Community Life Standing Committee of the Catholic Women's League of Canada has responded to a Food Bank Project (September 2021-June 30, 2022). Parish councils are invited to participate in this project to booster the supplies at local food banks. Detailed information will be sent to councils through their respective Regional Chairpersons. Visit <https://proof.utoronto.ca/food-insecurity/> for more information on food insecurity.

## **Homelessness**

Members of racialized communities are overrepresented among homeless youth in Canada at 28.2% compared to the Canadian average of 19.1%. Indigenous youth, although only 4.3% of the Canadian population, are

30.6% of the youth homeless population. <https://homelesshub.ca/blog/too-little-too-late-reimagining-our-response-youth-homelessness-canada>

### **How can Community Life help?**

Pay attention to Community-based research which is vital in ensuring that individuals and organizations are given a platform to voice their experiences and priorities. Recruit with diversity in mind and encourage leadership. Keep abreast with information from the other CWL levels.

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## **EDUCATION AND HEALTH**

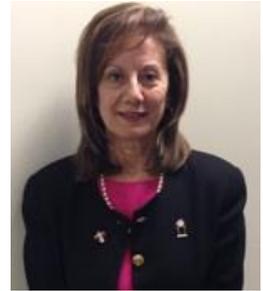
**Connie Cristinziano**

Sub-Conveners:

Youth Awards  
St. Michael's Scholarship

Val Egerton  
Donna Capobianco

At our 101<sup>st</sup> National Annual Meeting of Members, elections were held and we welcome our newly elected National Education and Health Chairperson, Margaret Schwab (of Saskatchewan)



### **Education**

#### **2022 Youth Awards Program Package**

Hopefully by now all Regional Education and Health Chairs should have received their 2022 Youth Awards Program Package.

This year due to the pandemic and all the Public Health and Safety Protocols and restrictions that have been placed on our schools, parishes and communities and for the health and safety of everyone, the Mary Matthews Public Speaking Contest will not be available.

The 2022 Youth Awards Program Packages will be available for the following contests.

- Mary Dobell Poetry and Essay Writing Contest
- Jean McCann Service Award
- St. Michael's College Scholarship

All forms for the above mentioned contests are available on our website: [www.cwltoronto.ca/resources/reference](http://www.cwltoronto.ca/resources/reference) documents.

These contests are good confidence builders for students and an opportunity for them to share their views and values on important Catholic teachings.

Let's continue to promote these contests and support our youth and give them this opportunity to share their gifts.

Deadline for the submission of regional winners of the Mary Dobell Literacy Award and the Jean McCann Service Award to the TDC Education and Health Chair is March 14, 2022.

### **2022 TDC St. Michael's College Scholarship Fund**

The Scholarship Campaign deadline is June 30, 2022. Remember to promote the St. Michael's Scholarship in your high schools and parishes. All the information including the eligibility requirements are included in the Youth Awards Program Package.

The 2021 TDC St. Michael's Scholarship was awarded to Kaitlin Lacombe who attends St. Clare of Assisi Parish Woodbridge. Kaitlin is enrolled in a Life Sciences Program.

### **The TDC Margaret Ann Jacobs-Catholic Children's Aid Foundation Scholarship Fund**

This Scholarship Program provides financial support to youth under the care of The Catholic Children's Aid Society to allow them to achieve their goals of attending University, College or job training programs. The 2021 TDC Scholarship was awarded to Whitney Nguyen.

Please continue to support these worthy Toronto Diocesan Scholarship funds with your generous donations by using the Toronto Diocesan Voluntary Remittance form which can be found on TDC website: [www.cwltoronto.ca](http://www.cwltoronto.ca).

The representatives from St. Michaels College and The Catholic Children's Aid Foundation have expressed their gratitude to CWL members for the ongoing support of these scholarships

### **CWL Bursary Fund**

The national bursary committee was pleased to award bursaries to six applicants in the total amount of \$5,500. The qualified areas were youth ministry, ministry to patients in palliative care and adult formation, including one applicant from the Catholic Women's Leadership Foundation program. Donations from councils and members to the National Bursary Fund of \$6,960 are gratefully acknowledged. Please continue to support this fund. Remittance form can be found on the national website: [www.cwl.ca](http://www.cwl.ca) under 500 series (513).

The League's new Catholic Social Teaching Resources document provides members with resources to assist us in continuing to advocate for social justice and Catholic teaching. Through this resource document we are invited to explore, grow in the knowledge of and take steps to "birth" Catholic social teaching and social justice into parish council meetings and members' lives. I encourage councils to make use of this document and explore the many ways that councils can bring to life the new social justice standing committee as a core value. Document can be found on the national website: [www.cwl.ca](http://www.cwl.ca) under resources 600 series (624).

## **Environment**

Members are encouraged to continue to support the national theme "*Care for Our Common Home*"

We are reminded of some of the ways that we can continue to change our personal habits and protect our environment:

- Reducing the use of plastic products
- Re-using plastic containers as often as possible
- Recycling plastics that can no longer be used
- Ensure plastics are not contaminated (i.e. food waste )before recycling
- Reduce garbage
- Compost

Councils are reminded that there are currently six active resolutions under this Committee Chair that address both health and environmental issues. Please visit the national website: [www.cwl.ca/resolutions](http://www.cwl.ca/resolutions) For resolutions to remain effective and active we must continue to review the action plan, educate members so proper action can be taken both individually and as a council.

## **Health**

In a recent announcement from the Canadian from the Canadian Press, Prime Minister Trudeau's new cabinet includes a new ministerial post to tackle his election promises on mental health and addiction. The Liberals' platform has also promised a new federal transfer of \$4.5 billion over the next five years to provinces and territories to provide accessible, free mental-health services. Carolyn Bennett will take on the new Minister of Mental Health and Addictions role. She will also be responsible with the development of a strategy to end the opioid crisis. This is exciting and promising news as during the pandemic it became quite evident that there is a need to have a separate ministry to combat the challenges facing our

mental health issues and addictions. Let us continue to monitor the government's promises, response and accountability on issues related to mental health and addiction crisis through this newly elected Federal Government's Ministry.

We are reminded that every action helps, now more than ever when it comes to mental health. The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Bell Let's Talk Day will be held on Wednesday January 26, 2022.

### **World Day of the Sick**

World Day of the Sick will be on Friday, February 11, 2022. This day is a day of observation started by Pope John Paul II as a way for believers to offer prayers for those suffering from illness. It is a day that calls all of us to reflect on our quality of life and the importance of human connection.

Flu season is upon us. This year, more than ever, we are being encouraged to get the flu shot. This will not only help prevent the flu and its complications, but it will also help reduce the stress on our health care system especially during the evolving COVID-19 pandemic. Check with your health provider to confirm that you are a candidate for the flu vaccine. Be safe, be healthy!

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## **LEGISLATION**

Sub-Conveners:

**Elizabeth Joseph**

Suzanne Cockburn  
Sonia Da Costa Spence

A special welcome to all newly elected Legislation Chairs and those continuing for a second year. Our responsibilities are outlined in the Executive Handbook; and include reviewing proposed legislation related to League resolutions. In our role, we are to monitor and study legislation at all levels of government, by accessing Hansard a printed record of the proceedings of government, which may be viewed on the parliamentary Web site or obtained from the library.



The 43<sup>rd</sup> Parliament was dissolved on August 15, 2021. It meant that Parliamentary and committee business, (other than the Standing Committee on Internal Economy, Budgets and Administration), ended until the

44<sup>th</sup> Parliament. After September 20<sup>th</sup>, the Senate and House of Commons have been conducting business.

### **Federal Bills**

Bill C273- An Act to establish a national strategy for a guaranteed basic income. The Bill proposes to create a new model that would serve as the foundation of our social welfare system. The Bill will enable implementation pilots between the provinces and/or territories and the national government to test large-scale guaranteed basic income programs. The Minister, with the approval of the Governor in Council, may enter into an agreement with the government of a province for the collection, analysis and sharing of data for the purpose of determining how a guaranteed basic income program might best be structured and implemented in the province. Within two years after the day on which the Act comes into force, the Minister must prepare a report outlining the national strategy and have it tabled in each House of Parliament on one of the first 15 days on which that House is sitting. The Minister must publish the report on the Department of Finance’s website within 10 days after it has been tabled in both Houses of Parliament. The guaranteed basic income removes barriers, provides an equal opportunity for everyone to succeed; and can be “a corner stone of Canada’s innovation and economic growth strategy” (Julie Dzerowicz, MPP). The Bill had First reading on February 22, 2021 and was debated at Second reading on June 14, 2021.

**Action:** Monitor this Bill as it affects the poor, will have to be reinstated in the 44<sup>th</sup> Parliament.

The 42nd session of the Ontario Provincial Legislation resumed on October 4, 2021

### **Provincial Bills**

Bill 251: The Combating Human Trafficking Act, 2021. An Act to enact, amend and repeal various Acts in respect of human trafficking matters The Bill consists of two new Acts – Schedule 1: Accommodation Sector Registration of Guests Act, 2021; Schedule 2: the Anti-Human Trafficking Strategy Act, 2021; and amendments in Schedule 3, to the Child, Youth and Family Services Act, 2017; and in Schedule 4, to the Prevention of and Remedies for Human Trafficking Act, 2017. The Act requires hotel owners and managers to keep a register of guests, record their names, other prescribed information and maintain the information in the register for the prescribed period after it is recorded. The Government of Ontario aims to end human trafficking in Ontario and support victims of human trafficking

by maintaining an anti-human trafficking strategy that include initiatives, actions and related matters considered by the Minister. Actions taken as part of the strategy shall be published periodically and the anti-human trafficking strategy shall be reviewed every five years.

Under Section 3, the Act outlines when a person has a duty to report a child who may need protection to a children’s aid society. A child worker or peace officer may bring a 16 or 17 year old to another location to offer services and support to the child, where the peace officer has reasonable and probable grounds to believe the child has been sexually exploited from being subjected to sex trafficking. It prohibits interference with a child who is subject to an order of society supervision, interim or extended society care; and includes a child subjected to a temporary order for care and custody. It also increases the maximum fine and term of imprisonment for obstruction of a peace officer or child protection worker.

Under Section 4, the Act states that a person caring for a child victim under customary care can apply for a restraining order that is longer than three years, and extends to the protection of the child, frontline workers, and family members of survivors. The Bill passed with amendments and received Royal Assent on June 3, 2021.

On October 8, 2021, Minister Stephen Lecce announced the Ontario Government has acted on the issue of Period poverty in schools by distributing six million free menstrual products per year to school boards and engaging in an innovative partnership with Shopper’s Drug Mart. This Action is in response to Bill 120 Menstrual Hygiene Day Act 2019.

**Action:** Monitor if this initiative goes beyond three years.

To access Legislation Information and follow Legislative proceedings visit the following websites:

[www.parl.gc.ca/housechamberbusiness/chambercalendar](http://www.parl.gc.ca/housechamberbusiness/chambercalendar);

[www.parl.gc.ca/LEGISInfo](http://www.parl.gc.ca/LEGISInfo)

For access to the Ontario Legislature website: [www.ola.org/en/legislative-business/bills/current](http://www.ola.org/en/legislative-business/bills/current)

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***“Our perfection does not consist of doing extraordinary things, but doing the ordinary well.” – St. Gabriel Possenti***

## RESOLUTIONS

**Andrea Smart**

Sub-Conveners:

Celestine Hall  
Tracy MacInnis

Resolutions are an important part of the Catholic Women's League. Our desire for social justice is secondary to our faith. Resolutions play an integral role in the League and can shape our cities, towns, province and country.



### **National Resolutions Update**

At National's annual members meeting in August, Cathy Bouchard advised that as no resolutions were presented at diocesan and provincial levels due to the pandemic, all resolutions from 2020 and 2021 will be presented in 2022. The two resolutions that were accepted by the Diocesan Resolutions Committee will be renumbered to 2022.01 Promoting a Holistic Parish-Based Theology of the Body Lifestyle and Procreation Teachings and 2022.02 Canada Needs a National Strategy to Address Loneliness.

At the August annual members meeting, a new National executive was elected. Rolande Chernichan is the new National Resolutions Chairperson. Rolande is of French-Métis heritage and is from the Manitoba Diocese. Rolande has a lot of experience with resolutions. She assisted in the research and development of all 22 resolutions adopted by her parish council, five of which went on to be adopted at the national level. Her service at the diocesan level included developing and facilitating resolutions workshops as well as workshops aimed at CWL leadership training. She also initiated two diocesan council resolutions, and co-authored manuals for conducting elections at the parish, diocesan and provincial levels, supported by electronic files for ease of use. She was appointed to the national resolutions committee from 2014-2016.

### **Provincial Resolutions Update**

In February 2020, the Ontario Provincial Council hosted a resolutions workshop for Resolutions, Legislation and Organization Standing Committee Chairpersons. It is now on the OPC website [www.cwl.on.ca](http://www.cwl.on.ca). It can be found in Resources, scroll down to Checklists, Samples and Other Assets, and then down to Workshops.

## **Toronto Diocesan Council 2022 Resolutions**

With the Resolutions Dialogue taking place virtually on Saturday, April 23, 2022, I thought I would share a little information on how 2022.01 Promoting a Holistic Parish-Based Theology of the Body Lifestyle and 2022.02 Canada Needs a National Strategy to Address Loneliness came to be. Resolution 2022.01 Promoting a Holistic Parish-Based Theology of the Body Lifestyle came about through a conversation members of St. Timothy's Council in North York Region had with one of our younger members at a TDC convention. The younger member's comments about not being aware of different family planning options other than the birth control pill. This conversation sparked the idea for the council to do more research. St. Timothy's Council thought it important to find a way to let all Canadian women know there are alternative family planning options available to them. When the Ontario Provincial Council announced its sub-theme of Loneliness, St. John Fisher Council in Peel Region decided to find out more information about this topic. During their research they discovered how wide-spread loneliness is and how it affects people's mental health. After reading some of the reports they believed loneliness to be an important issue that governments need to address. They organized their information and wrote Resolution 2022.02 Canada Needs a National Strategy to Address Loneliness.

### **Action Plans**

Recently some topics of our past resolutions have been in the news. This reminded me that there is still work to be done on human trafficking, vaping, truth and reconciliation and domestic violence. CityNews recently did an exclusive investigation on human trafficking and found that human trafficking has increased 44 per cent from 2019.

In her fall memo to parish council Resolutions Chairs, Rolande Chernichan suggested partnering with a standing committee chairperson that a resolution pertains to such as education and health or community life and work on putting together a letter writing campaign by your council's members at a general meeting or as individuals from home. If you are able to get the parish involved in the campaign you may attract some new members. At the very least it raises awareness of what the CWL is about. Remember that when a resolution is adopted at the provincial or national level it is attached to the pertinent standing committee. Before embarking on a parish campaign, be sure to discuss your idea with your pastor and get his approval to go ahead.



**The Catholic Women's League of Canada**  
**TORONTO DIOCESAN COUNCIL**  
*One Hundred Years: Growing in Faith, Love and Service*

We were pleased to have about 80 members and clergy join us in person at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica on October 7, 2021 for the celebration of our Centennial Mass. We also were excited to learn that about 1750 people viewed the Mass via live streaming.

Before the Mass, as it was the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, we recited the Luminous Mysteries led by Kate O'Quinn, Spiritual Development Chair and several Regional Chairs plus Ann D'Souza, Past President. Kate put together a wonderful program to help us recite the rosary in a way that encouraged us to be truly connected to the prayers.

It was a gift to us that the Most Reverend Robert Kasun, Auxiliary Bishop of the Central Region of the Archdiocese of Toronto was the Principal Celebrant. He was joined by Msgr. Patrick O'Dea, Spiritual Advisor of the Toronto Diocesan Council, and three Past Diocesan Spiritual Advisors: Fr. Edwin Galea, Fr. Damian Ali and Fr. Robert O'Brien. Rev. Deacon David Quail assisted at the Mass.

Although COVID protocols prevented a larger number from gathering at the Cathedral and did not allow us to join in the wonderful music, we were blessed with musicians from St. Michael's Choir School, who made the occasion majestic and a beautiful celebration of the Eucharist. The Cantor and Organist performed with a dedication and grace that enhanced our participation in the Mass.

We were humbled and gratified by the generous comments of Bishop Kasun in his homily and Msgr. O'Dea in his closing remarks. As someone said to me, "It made me sit up straighter" and be even more proud of the CWL.

For those of us who could be there in person, it was wonderful to see friends again.

It was also noted that with the attendance of three Past Diocesan Spiritual Advisors, Frs. Galea, Ali and O'Brien, it renewed our sense of the continuity and stability that these clergy give to the council in their

voluntary term of five years each to counsel us. It must be noted that with the present council's term extended one year because of the pandemic, Msgr. O'Dea's term has also been extended one year. We owe a great debt to them and to others who could not join us that night for their dedication to the League.

We have not been able to complete our agenda in 2021 as there was no usual gathering of many members. So, as I said in the last newsletter, at the 2022 Annual Members' Meeting we hope to open the Time Capsule which was to be opened this year. We will also show the presentation again of the Parade of Parish Councils that was first presented on Zoom at the June 3, 2021 celebration.

To you and your families, I wish a prayerful Advent and a blessed Christmas season.

We pray, as always, that Our Lady of Good Counsel be with us in all our efforts for the good of the League,

Mary Hawkley  
Chair  
100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee  
Toronto Diocesan Council





To: \_\_\_\_\_

The members of The Catholic Women's League of Canada wish to thank you for helping those in your community.



We want you to know...

- G** – how grateful we are
- R** – how much we appreciate your resilience and resourcefulness
- A** – how amazing and awesome you have been
- T** – that giving of your time and talents is greatly appreciated
- I** – what an inspiration your courage has been
- T** – how thankful we are that you were able to serve others
- U** – that we understand your sacrifices
- D** – your dedication did not go unnoticed
- E** – that your service to others during a pandemic is Exceptional!

Anchored in faith, the blue butterfly a symbol of honour and joy, yellow flowers a symbol of abundance, survival and spiritual enlightenment.

We honour your service, dedication and gracious spirit with sincere gratitude!

<https://cwl.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/324-Gratitude-Project-Postcard-2021.pdf>

# Toronto Diocesan Council

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