

League Lingo

LONDON DIOCESAN NEWSLETTER

2018 Fall Issue

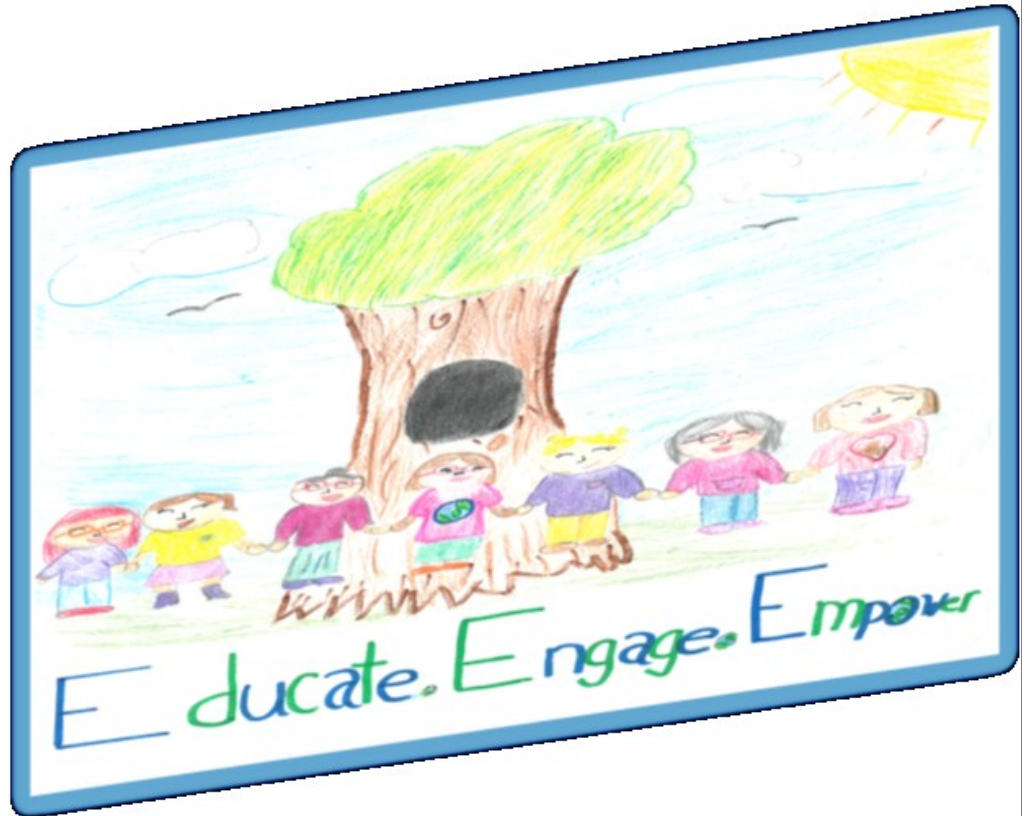
Deadline for Next Issue
March 1st, 2019

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Caring for our Environment

Called
Wanted
Loved

The League Lingo

Change is coming!

*Some Scripture tells us God wants us to change and
renew our minds*

*Though everything in existence experiences change,
we are comforted in knowing that God does not change
and that his promises in Scripture are certain.*

*We also are called to be Stewards of the Earth
and of our Finances.*

*We serve joyfully, give generously, live responsibly,
and possess sensibly.*

*To this end, the League Lingo will become totally
Digital Spring 2020.*

*For 2019, if you are unable to access the website,
www.cwllondon.ca*

A final year of printed subscriptions will be available.

*We still welcome your articles, pictures, information,
and anything you would like to share.*

*It will all be available on our website as the
issues are currently.*

www.cwllondon.ca

*Sandra will take subscriptions for 2019 at the
Fall Regionals only—there will be no solicitations*

President's Report—Rebecca McCarrell cont'd



I have chosen the theme to the right for our 2018 – 2020 theme during my term. Thank you to the students of the Eco Schools programme in Windsor and Essex County for their many entries for the theme logo. The logo was created by Alexa Gorham and chosen by my late husband as the winner. I look forward to sharing this journey with you!



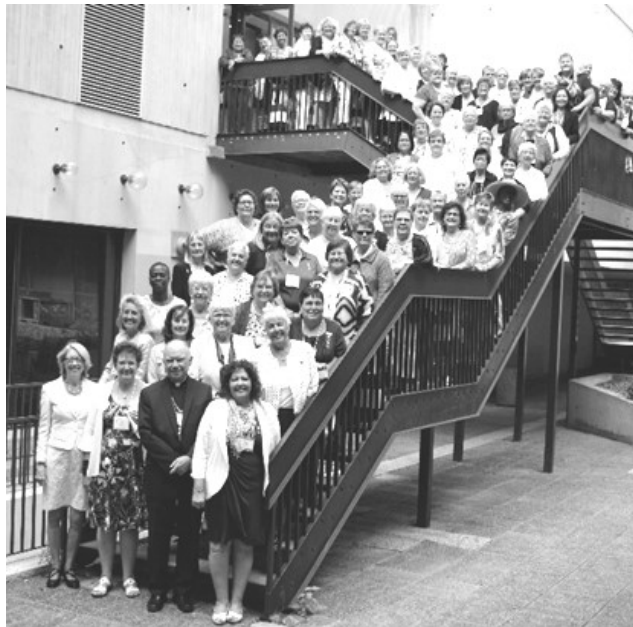
Caring for our Environment

I thank everyone for supporting me through my time of loss. It has been a long 5 years that Buz was ill, but especially the last 4 months of his life were very intense. The support for Trinity's education fund was overwhelming. Prayers, Masses and cards of sympathy are still coming in. Thank you to all!

Provincial Convention: You will find the executive reports throughout this edition of the League Lingo. Thank you to Theresa Ryan, Mary Lappan, and Mary Bannon who realized I hadn't assigned coverage and worked to get people to do reports. I was able to make my presentation, and never cried to the last sentence! Amazingly, God was with me. I'm sorry, I do not remember much about either our convention or this one and hope to make it up to you all over the next year.

National Convention: do you see anyone you know in this pic? Go to the national website to see more pictures of this event.

Try finding Mary L, Maria O, Mary B, Theresa R, Coleen and Lori from London Region, and me. There might be others that you recognize as well!



A Change is in the Air; Strategic Planning...the next steps

I was quite excited to hear the

results of the strategic planning feedback and how it would impact the look of the CWL into the future. Your comments on the annual reports, and the planning surveys have been tabulated, and are being listened to. Great numbers asked for clearer lines of communication, reduction of standing committees, and reporting process changes. Please come to a Fall Regional meeting near you and find out more information in our

EDUCATION segment that will be presented by Theresa Ryan and myself.

We will move into 3 pillars of strength...spirituality, service, and social justice. There will be different aspects introduced over the next 5 years under each pillar. In 5 years, we should see a more viable, more appealing organization to the younger generation. You can access more information on the www.cwl.ca website.

On-Line Membership is up and running!

All organization account holders should have received their information via email within the last week! Please start adding your 2019 membership in this manner.

Also, it is to your treasurer's advantage and to the advantage of the National council to enroll in automatic payment for remittance...I encourage you to do

(Continued on page 4)

President's Report—Rebecca McCarrell



Rebecca's Ramblings!

August 2018

*1 Thessalonians 5:18 King James
Version (KJV)*

*¹⁸ In everything give thanks: for this is
the will of God in Christ Jesus
concerning you.*

The graciousness of the CWL members of the London Diocese is what supported me through these past 6 months...actually 5 years! Without your love and prayers, the peace I feel would be less. Thank you, thank you, thank you...the time between Holy Week and now seems surreal, but with your prayers, I will make it through.

It is difficult as many of you know to go on without the love of your life. I am finding it very trying to go on with life without my husband, Buz. Even though we had some difficult times in our marriage (as

most do), our love carried us through and we rode the good times high on top of the wave. We were able to do some amazing things over the past 44 years. We traveled afar before we had children. Buz was met in heaven by our 7 sons ... yes, our 7 boys passed away before we had time to know the joys of parenthood, of nurturing...but God is good and blessed us with 2 girls that their birth mothers gifted to us. From these, we are blessed with 7 grandchildren...6 girls (Destinee, Trinity, Devan, Penny, Abbey, Kendall) and Patrick.

As a professional musician, Buz had the opportunity to sing back up and make music with the likes of Conway Twitty, Willie Nelson, Bill Anderson, and others. He was most proud of being one of the "Boss Brothers" with his cousin and best friend Joe (Danny Dee) Deziel. They played their last song together at Thanksgiving.

A decorated Vietnam veteran with the 173rd airborne of the US Army, he brought the horrors of Vietnam home including the damage of his lungs from Agent Orange. He was honoured by a guard at the funeral home, and the pipes with a final salute at the church.

And from my family:

*We are so thankful for you
celebrating with us the life of
Buz--our beloved Husband, Dad,
and Papa.*

*We greatly appreciate all your
expressions of love, friendship,
cards, flowers, masses, intentions,
gifts, food and generous monetary
donations.*

*Thank you for blessing us in this
difficult time....Rebecca, Kaitlin,
Jessica & families*

Rebecca

President's Report—Rebecca McCarrell ...cont'd



(Continued from page 3)

it in this manner...

And...all you need is an email address to do auto payment for individual dues to your council...check at your banks to set this up...let's make membership collection as easy as possible. Remember, membership fees are due for 2019 by December 31, 2018.

I am looking forward to visiting as many parish councils as possible during my term. Please make sure you send me a quick email at presidentcwlondondiocese@gmail.com or a note to PO Box 721, Tilbury, ON N0P 2L0.

See you at the Fall Regionals!

Rebecca



London Diocesan Spiritual Advisor—Rev. Father Greg Bonin

Dear Ladies of the CWL,

This Year's CWL Diocesan Theme is: "Environmental Stewardship".

As we return to our CWL ministry in September I personally thank each of you for believing in the work of the Catholic Women's League. I know very well that you are a dedicated and devoted group of women who work well together and support our CWL Executive. I know this year will be no different than the years that have passed.

Environmental Stewardship refers to protecting the environment through recycling, conservation, regeneration, and restoration. It means taking responsibility for our choices. This year at our monthly meetings it is the aim of the

Diocesan Executive Council to support the many 96 Councils within the Diocese of London to put systems in place that will enable each Council to:

- 1) Use resources efficiently
- 2) Reduce waste and minimize on the negative impacts on the environment
- 3) Translate reduced consumption and waste into financial savings
- 4) Provide a healthy, more efficient and effective working environment
- 5) Using non-toxic, recycled, environmentally friendly products and supplies
- 6) Using as little energy and other resources as possible and putting out the smallest amount of waste as possible

These are just a few to mention as we all get on board to support the CWL Diocesan Theme.

Along with this we will continue to offer the many parish activities that you support and volunteer for to build our wonderful community of faith.

May God Bless all you do for the Catholic Women's League of Canada!

Blessings,

Father Greg
Spiritual Advisor

It's Our Environment – Let's Take Action!





President-Elect – Theresa Ryan

Membership & Organization Standing Committee

I am looking forward to digging into this new position in the executive, as Organization chairperson, president-elect. It is certainly a learning experience. I was privileged to attend both the provincial and national CWL conventions as a diocesan accredited delegate. It is always both interesting and educational to join with women from different backgrounds, but similar interests and faith.

I hope to see many of you at the fall regionals and hopefully hand out many certificates for increases in membership. If you have not sent in your membership for 2018, it is not too late, please do so promptly.

If you have any question about leadership development, membership or anything CWL, please feel free to contact me and I will answer your question or find an answer to your question.

One thing I would like to encourage you to do is make personal follow-up contact with members who have not renewed. I have included a chart for membership across Canada that I thought you might be interested in.

Theresa

Membership Statistics for the Year ended December 31, 2017

Prov. Council	Jan. 1, 2017	New	Reinstated	Didn't Renew	Paid Members	Deceased	Dec. 31, 2017
Alberta							
Mackenzie	9,566	559	230	949	9,406	94	9,312
B.C. & Yukon	8,863	520	323	1,085	8,621	90	8,531
Manitoba	2,408	78	26	192	2,320	32	2,288
Military Ordinariate	318	15	4	34	303	1	302
New Brunswick	2,061	49	3	86	2,027	36	1,991
Newfoundland & Labrador	552	13	3	32	536	9	527
Nova Scotia	4,093	94	41	194	4,034	54	3,980
Ontario	45,174	1,933	1,093	3,757	44,443	428	44,015
Prince Edward Island	2004	43	1	83	1,965	27	1,938
Quebec	848	57	32	59	878	10	868
Saskatchewan	6,654	186	42	377	6,505	88	6,417
Total	82,541	3,547	1,798	6,848	81,038	869	80,169



Past-president—Angela Pellerin Historian, Nominations & Elections



It is hard to believe the summer break is over and it's time to get back to work. I trust you all had a good summer spending time with family and friends as well as vacationing.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you one last time for all the support you gave me over the past 2 years during my term as diocesan president. It is now time to step back a little and mentor the newer members of the executive. Be assured that I am still available to assist you if you have any questions or concerns.

I hope those of you who attended the diocesan convention, enjoyed it. Have you ever attended a provincial or national convention? I have met so many women from across the country and made many friends attending these conventions over the years. Perhaps now would be a good time to start preparing your budget and including an amount to help cover the costs of sending a few members to convention

Hamilton Diocesan Convention:

On May 25th-27th I attended the Hamilton Diocesan Convention as a guest. It was another great opportunity to get reacquainted with members of Hamilton Diocese that I had previously met at various conventions and to make some new friends. It was interesting to see that we do some things the same, but they also do some things differently. The convention began on the Friday afternoon with a

workshop on resolutions and legislation – this was done as they had no resolutions to present this year, just like us. I was then invited to join the life members at their dinner. The opening mass followed at St. Joseph's Church with Bishop Matthew Ustrzycki as celebrant. The session on Saturday began bright and early at 8 a.m. with welcome, introductions and the beginning of reports. The guest speaker was Fr. Michael King, Director of Vocations and Priestly Formation who spoke on *Respond to God's Call*. He was very interesting. After lunch Margaret Ann Jacobs, National President lead us in the strategic planning workshop. I must say I understood the process much better this 2nd time around. Along with additional reports in the afternoon, an instructed vote was taken to increase the per capita fee for their diocese. A presentation was given by Viola Poletes Montgomery from St. Jerome's University. In the evening we enjoyed a lovely meal with entertainment and a silent auction. On Sunday morning Colleen Perry, Provincial President-Elect did a workshop similar, but not the same, as she did at our convention. There was also a presentation by Joe Mancini from The Working Centre in Kitchener, on Homelessness. The information he gave was very interesting. Following the remaining reports, we broke for lunch before leaving for the Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate for the closing mass. Celebrant was Bishop Douglas Crosby. The

closing banquet was held in the evening. It was great to experience a convention in a different diocese.

Catholic Women's Leadership Foundation: During my term as London diocesan president, I was asked to assist with fundraising for the Catholic Women's Leadership Foundation. As you have probably heard, the first group of students has been chosen and our own provincial president, Anne Madden is in that group. The funds raised to date is only about half of what is needed to run the programme for 5 years. Therefore, I would ask that when preparing your budget, you consider donating to this cause. More details on the programme can be found on their website.

It is that time of the year now when most councils are busy with their bazaars, bake sales, etc. I wish you much success in these endeavours. I hope you take time out from these events to attend one of the Fall Regional Meetings. Details are on our London diocesan website at www.cwllondon.com. See you there.

God bless.

Angela



Recording Secretary—Wilhelmina Kole



*"Whether you are 16 or 116 years old,
it doesn't matter. Make yourself
100% available to God and he will
find a way to work powerfully
through you."*

Matthew Kelly – Dynamic Catholic

As we leave this very warm and hopefully relaxing summer, we begin a new season with our councils, working for God and Canada.

As Recording Secretary, it is important to keep accurate minutes at both executive and general meetings. As well, all motions need to be recorded in a separate motion book. Motions are identified with a year and motion number. An example of this is: 01-18 (first motion of 2018). In this way it is easier to look back to find that

motion without having to read through all the past minutes. It saves a lot of time.

Do you have an up to date "Handbook for Secretaries"? It is full of helpful information on your position in your council. To access this book, go to www.cwl.ca then to Resources – 600 Series - #612. This manual is available to download and print free of charge. If National office prints and posts it, shipping charges apply.

Attached to the September Directive, you will find a form that you, the Secretary, are required to fill in and return to me by regular mail no later than December 31, 2018. It identifies the **new or returning** core executive members of your CWL council. This

information is for the 2019 Executive council. In this very busy and ever changing world, good communication with the councils in the London Diocese helps make the Catholic Women's League a stronger and more effective organization.

Please keep me in your prayers as I begin this new position, as I will keep you all in my prayers. I look forward to seeing you at the Fall Regional Days.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel continue to guide us in our work for God and Canada.

God Bless!

Willi

*Please turn to the
back where the
forms are placed
for the CWL
council
information form
for you to fill in
and return to me*

Corresponding Secretary—Elisabeth Duggan

I want to welcome everyone back to another exciting year with our sisters in the League.

I had the pleasure to begin my new role by giving out two cheques from funds raised at our closing mass at our 98th Annual Convention in London.

I had the pleasure to begin my new role by going with Joan Lobsinger to hand out two cheques from funds raised at our 98th Annual Convention in London. The smiles on their faces were very rewarding. You can find the pictures and a write up from Joan Lobsinger.

The role of being a Corresponding

Secretary is a vital role to your council. As corresponding you are the person who sends greetings for birthdays, sympathies, thinking of you and thank you cards. We all love receiving a card that gives us support, encouragement or gratitude. I encourage all Corresponding Secretaries to attend the executive and general meetings of your council. It is important to submit your correspondence to your council that was received and sent out. Your president will need to know of any mail received that she has to respond to. You will also be instructed to send out correspondence as directed by

your president.

If you are not sure of your role, you can obtain a copy of the secretaries handbook which can be obtained online or purchased. To get this online go to the national website www.cwl.ca, or check the provincial site at www.cwl.on.ca or our London Diocesan website at www.cwllondon.ca

May Our Lady of Good Counsel guide you in your role as Corresponding Secretary.

Elisabeth

Treasurer—Cam Cadotte



Wow:

It is hard to believe we really did have a summer, between the heat and the rain. Now it's back to fun, friendship and fulfillment. I spent my summer learning the ins and outs of the Treasurer's job. I did take time to enjoy the Provincial Convention in Toronto. There we learned about programmes established to help the poor living on the street, a continuing theme from our diocesan convention.

There was an excellent turnout for our Day at the Shrine in July. Unfortunately I was unable to attend but have heard great things. We even had men attend. What a great way to show how ladies of faith join together.

Now it's time for bazaars, breakfasts and don't forget, a membership campaign.

Just some reminders as we enter into the fall...we still have blue CWL scarves for sale for \$20 each. I will have them available at our spiritual gatherings. I believe every treasurer has sent this message at the beginning of the fall term. The blue scarves are often seen on the ladies who form an honour guard when one of their members has died. Consider buying some for your members.

As I begin my new term as treasurer I want to ask all treasurers to look at the forms used for reporting. Make sure you use only the forms with my name on them. Please discard any forms with Mary's or Madeleine's or Rebecca's name on them.

I'm looking forward to our Fall Regional Days. It will be great to see everyone again, review old

information and learn something new. I hope everyone will make an effort to attend the day nearest to you or if you can't make it take a road trip to another region. Our Fall Regional Days will begin:

October 13 – Blessed Sacrament,
Chatham

October 27 – Sacred Heart,
Ingersoll

November 3 – Our Lady of
Mercy, Sarnia.

I am looking forward to seeing many of you on one of these days.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel continue to bless our homes and families.

Cam

Angels Explained by Children

*When an Angel gets mad, he takes a deep breath and counts to ten.
And when he lets out his breath again,
Somewhere there's a tornado.
Reagan—Age 10*

*Some of the Angels are in charge of helping heal sick
animals and pets. And if they don't make the animals get better,
they help the child get over it.
Vicki—Age 8*

Community Life Standing Committee

Chairperson—Mary Ann Horne-White



I attended the Provincial Convention Sunday July 8th to Wednesday July 11th in Toronto with others on the London Diocesan Executive.

My roommates were Helga Stuermer, Legislations; and Denise Lalonde Morris; Christian Family Life. It was wonderful to meet other ladies from all over Ontario and share the days meeting and praying together.

Our new London Diocesan President Rebecca McCarrell gave her president's report.

We were able to hear ladies from our diocese on the Ontario Provincial Executive give their reports as well; Pat Rivest, Treasurer, and Marie Therese Lamphier, Communications.

I got to meet and talk with Ontario Provincial Community Life Chairperson Joanna Sisk, and talk about upcoming initiatives. It was great to meet her.

The speakers Monday morning were from Hospice in Toronto. They spoke of going out on the streets to find homeless dying; and getting the care they would need.

They also talked about the challenge of getting the homeless to trust them and to accept their help.

For more info go to: You Tube/ CBC Journey home hospice.

Margaret Ann Jacobs; our National President spoke about leadership within the league. Her message was ---We are Servant Leaders--- Developing other Leaders.

Some of her shared insights for the league:

- * We are leaders in service
- * Be a league that has Unconditional love
- * You can Accomplish big things
- * Initiate Change
- * Be Glory in the church
- * Faithful to the Gospel
- * Be present in the Moment
- * Work Patiently, kindly
- * Belonging and Pride
- * People of Hope

After convention; my husband and I spent time with family in Rochester, New York. We call it the Horne "fandamily" re-union. Since my sister has passed, it is even more special every year to be there. This year we got to meet our great nephew Donovan.

In my first directive in May as Community Life Chairperson; I gave a challenge to all to pick up plastic when out at parks or beaches. I got a chance to do that myself with family when visiting the beach near my niece's home on Lake Ontario.

Looking forward to getting back in September and seeing all at Regional Days. A speaker from Farm Town Ontario is planned. Please plan on attending one of the days in your area.

May our Lady of Good Counsel guide us in everything we do.

Mary Ann

Look for the reports on the National Convention, found on Pages 22/25





Communications Standing Committee

Chairperson—Denise Masse

This summer brought a new adventure and a new set of mountains as my husband and I journeyed through Quebec on our way to the Gaspé Region to pick-up my son Dane in Trois Pistoles, QC. He had spent six weeks there in the French Immersion programme. What drew him to this place were language and heritage. My father's paternal family came from France and were part of the first settlement with Champlain. We have been in Canada over ten generations and Dane has been studying the family history book, as well as changes in pronunciation of the name and migration to Ontario when a small branch left from Berthierville, QC after some challenging farming years. Now he wished to return to the language.

We carefully planned out our journey toward home together to Quebec City, Berthierville and home to Emeryville. The roads in Quebec proudly still show many steeples—a welcome sight to our eyes. When in the Basilica we felt a strong connection to relatives past. The French Canadian Museum gave us many intriguing details of the story of the French Catholics so eager to grow the new world based on their faith, our ancestors a part of this story. Faith was at the centre of their communities, drove their determination to settle in new, strange lands and endure many challenges along the way. In Berthierville we saw our family name on the stone monument of St. Genevieve, that was built from 1782-1787, proudly displayed with

others and still standing tall. Six families left this place with ours and their histories and lineage intertwined. I cannot explain the feeling of being there inside this church with my son and husband.

Communication. I have pondered this powerful word since becoming the chair for this term. Communication is important and if we are not careful key parts and information can become lost. If we are not careful the full story or message may not be conveyed. Communication may mean we have to research, network and dig deeper to find the missing pieces of a story, to share a knowledge that is complete. To ensure our story exists and inspires. That is why it is so crucial that we, the humble women of the Catholic Women's League gain as much knowledge as we can, while we share our stories, celebrate our milestones, the histories of our parish councils, regions, members.

How do we share this knowledge? Some councils have a historian that will form a committee to get many members gathered to examine photos not labelled, identify the people, see if anyone has items they can add. I was given by Marg Noel a beautiful copy of CWL ladies dressed in their Sunday best for an event about 70 years ago. I would love to learn the story behind this. St. John the Baptist has a banner over seven decades old, there was a great desire to preserve it. The ladies came across this treasure and the decision was made to photograph and make cards of this

incredibly beautiful piece. See the photo in the article from St. John the Baptist, Amherstburg. How did councils merge? How do we keep the stories of those who disbanded?

Educate, Engage and Empower is our new theme. As we constantly reach out to seek new members, how do we educate them about the many wonderful things we do? What words do we choose; what forums do we utilize to get the message out? Do they know: the CWL is the voice of Catholic women expressing their values and promoting dignity and justice for all. The CWL is a gift of faith friendship and support, offering leadership development and affirmation. The CWL invites all women 16 years of age and older to share their gifts and make a difference. The CWL is a national organization rooted in gospel values calling its members to holiness through service to the people of God.

How can we engage our members and others? Show others what they may be interested in! If a topic reminds you of someone, communicate what you know. Get them interested and engaged, this will empower them to engage others and the work begins. The message will spread and we will continue to grow as members of the Catholic Women's League, honoured to be doing God's work, through His guidance.

(Continued on page 12)

Resolutions Standing Committee

Chairperson—Joan Lobsinger



It was a hot, hot summer and hot off the League Lingo Press is my first article as Resolution Chairperson.

Although I was unable to attend the 71st Annual Ontario Provincial CWL Convention in Toronto, I am happy to report three Resolutions were passed:

ON-18-01 Develop national standards for levels of pharmaceuticals in Canada's drinking water.

ON-18-02 Full implementation of Income Security: A Roadmap for Change for disabled adult Ontarians.

ON-18-03 To fully implement

alternative sentencing to incarceration of Indigenous offenders.

Hopefully you've had a chance to read these Resolutions that were sent via email to you in Directive #5 and have followed through with the suggested Action Plans. These resolutions were passed to National for consideration at the national convention in August. The income security ODSP resolution was passed on to the other provinces as requested.

It is my hope that some of you are interested in writing a Resolution that can be presented at our 2019 Diocesan Convention and guide it to fruition at next years' Provincial and National Conventions. Just a

reminder that if you are, the title and short descriptive summary of your resolution is to be submitted to me by October 1st and the whole resolution, (whereas clauses, brief and research bibliography) is due by October 15th. In January begins National's new theme "Care For Our Common Home". Perhaps some of you would be interested in writing a Resolution concerning the banning of plastic straws and/or water bottles.

I look forward to seeing you at our Fall Regional Days.

Joan

Look for my
special report
on Convention
2018 expenses
Found on page
32



Communications Standing Committee

Chairperson—Denise Masse (cont'd...)

(Continued from page 11)

While Dane was away I received a call. Dane asked me how to say Catholic Women's League in French? I did not know. I texted, called and looked on the Quebec site. I discovered it was the same. I asked him why he needed to know. Dane replied he was doing a video presentation about me. He wanted to convey the importance of the League and how it had touched our lives as a family, what he had learned himself about the League and its many good works, convey the power of prayer and sisterhood

that has helped our family and so many others, including his own friend very ill and battling cancer this year, how ladies reached out to those they did not know, lent a hand, prayed, sent a card, signed a petition, took action and fought for what was right. Communication of our Catholic Women's League story in an unlikely place.

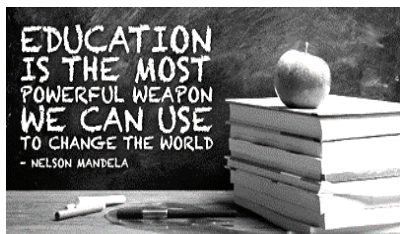
Please bring a friend to fall regionals, spread the news often of your league's good works through as many outlets as possible, papers, bulletins, social media, radio announcements, visits in schools,

newsletters, bulletin boards, invitations, emails, phone calls and social calls. Communicate the story as we seek to educate, engage, empower and share the loving gift that is the Catholic Women's League.

Denise

Look for the
Poster for info
on the Fall
Regional Days
on Page 33

1st Vice-President—Mary Bannon
Education & Health Standing Committee



Hello everyone! As the quote from Nelson Mandela says, “Education is the most powerful weapon we can use to change the world.” I’m also sure he would have included prayer. Education is a continual process; we all need to be lifelong learners. I encourage you to make use of any parish programs. You might consider approaching your pastor about being a sponsor in the RCIA (Rites of Christian Initiation of Adults). Invite speakers to your meetings to inform you about community organizations, e.g. Children’s Aid Society or Women’s Shelters. I especially want to let you know about two CWL bursaries you may wish to explore to assist you in your lifelong learning—Spiritual Advisor’s Bursary and J.L. Hennessey Bursary. Take a look at the CWL diocese of London website: cwillondon.ca and click the tab Forms. Deadline for application is April 1st.



True health involves three parts: body, mind and spirit. Eat regularly according to the Canada Food Guide and get 6 to 8 hours sleep each night to have a healthy body. Have a mind which studies and explores new ideas. Perhaps try keeping a Gratitude Journal writing in it each day something you are grateful for that day to enliven your spirit.



Finally, in keeping with Rebecca’s thrust on the Environment I leave you with a quotation from Pope Francis in his encyclical *Laudato Si*: “Humanity still has the ability to work together in building our common home. Here I want to recognize, encourage and thank all those striving in countless ways to

guarantee the protection of the home which we share.... Young people demand change. They wonder how anyone can claim to be building a better future without thinking of the environmental crisis and the sufferings of the excluded.” Care for the environment can begin as simply as using tap water in place of bottled water. We really should only use bottled water if there is a problem with our tap or well water. Companies like Nestle are reaping obscene profits while taking water from our springs such as the one in Elora. Also the empty plastic bottles take many years to biodegrade in our landfills. Perhaps consider this action in your homes and parishes.

I pray for all of us that we become more-more educated, more engaged, more empowered, more our true selves in Christ.

Blessings,

Mary

Look for the reports on the Ontario Provincial Convention submitted by the diocesan executive delegates.
Found on pages 17/21

Legislation Standing Committee

Chairperson—Helga Stuermer



What a wonderful summer we had. So much was happening at the same time. Often I didn't know which event to accept and which to let go. One thing I am so glad I was able to attend was the CWL Provincial Convention. It was an intense meeting, I didn't want to miss anything, and yet we, as always had fun in between.

So many new, and previous mentioned discussions on resolutions, and on legislation in the planning, and so very much hard work to implement it. We discussed again the development of a resolution. To write a Bridging clause, then sit with a committee, to discuss it, and create documents.

Then an action plan, backup material, and well researched. This is quite a journey before it can continue to legislation.

We listen to the Implementation of the young Indigenous Offenders Problem. It was voted and passed to go ahead with this.

Mental Health and Homelessness crisis needs to be addressed; Addiction and the lack of affordable housing is way overdue

The Liberal MP Anthony Housefather introduced legislation on May 29th. The intention of Bill C-404 is to decriminalize payment for sperm or ovum donation and for surrogacy.

In my July Directive 4, July 2018, I mentioned Bill C-404, please refer

to this directive. It is very important dealing with the reproductive issue. If Bill C-404 passes into law reproductive items could be bought and sold to make babies other than by a legal mother and father.

Even though we understand that sometimes it is difficult to be able to have a child, we must follow as Catholics the teachings of our faith. Please refer to my July Directive for further info. I will in the future bring forward more info on this very important issue.

If this bill passes into law it would mean that sperm, ova, human genes as well as a woman's womb, will be able to be bought and sold. Bill C-404 is in direct contradiction to our pro-life resolutions as well resolution 2011.01 Prohibition of Practices re: Human Reproductive Material. Bill C-404 can be found at this link:

<http://www.parl.ca/Legisinfo/Home.aspx?Mode=1&Language=E&ParliamentSession=42-1>

In my next directive I will write about bill C-38 Please stay tuned.

Palliative care initiative; I received this from Provincial Legislation Chairperson:

Palliative Care: Canadians have an opportunity to share their views with the government concerning palliative care, and help develop a framework on palliative care for

Canadians. Members are encouraged to provide feedback by:

1. Participating online** <http://www.canada.ca/en/health/canada/programs/consultations-palliative-care.html>
2. Written submission via email to End.of.life.care_soins.fin.de.vie@hc-sc.gc.ca
3. Written submission via mail in hard copy format to:

Lets talk Palliative Care
The end of Life Care team
c/o Venetia Lawless
200 Eglantine Drive ,A.L.1904D
Ottawa, ON. K1A 0K9

We are all encouraged to watch the video message entitled, "Ending Suffering": The Palliative Alternative by Dr. Neil Hilliard, palliative care physician in Chilliwack, B.C the link is available on the national website homepage (www.cwl.ca)

There will always be legislation, (relating to our Resolutions) requiring our attention.

A few days ago I came across a news piece that really disturbed me; It said that in France and Belgium they are close to passing a bill to permit physicians to euthanize Children who are sick, or deformed. All they have to ask the child is if he/she would rather die. How horrible is that!

(Continued on page 16)



Christian Family Life Standing Committee

Chairperson—Denise Lalonde Morris

Welcome Back! It is my hope everyone had a peaceful, restful and blessed summer. You may have been one of our lucky sisters and attended the National Convention in Winnipeg or the Provincial Convention in Toronto. You might have been able to attend our retreat in Merlin. Whatever you were able to do I hope you are ready to hit the New Year with all guns a blazing. In a very few weeks you will be attending your first meetings and your presidents will have the 1st batch of Directives. Some of you will frown or say to yourself why do we need these, they are just a waste of time. Well it is a time of busy schedules and technology and the

directives are one of the tools of communication the league can use to share the information and knowledge that is passed down to us from National and Provincial councils.

The Christian Family Chair encompasses many ministries and I hope in the upcoming year I will be able to give you guidance and ideas to help with the ministry of Family and Marriage, the Sanctity of Life as well as the ministries for Youth, the Disabled, Seniors, Widows, persons who are separated or divorced and one of the most lack ministries—Vocations.

No one council can hope to solve all the world's problems. It is our hope you will be able to encourage one or two persons or group to take on one of these ministries and find out how your council can make a plan and try to use the issues to involve more persons.

Happy Fall and hope to see many of you at one of our upcoming Regionals!!

Denise



Sandra Cabiddu—League Lingo Editor

I hope you have all read about the **BIG CHANGES** coming to the League Lingo.

It has come about at about the same time as I have been considering resigning as the editor. I cannot tell you how much I have enjoyed this position and what it has done for me personally. Coming from another country, leaving my parents & sister & brother behind, you all became my surrogate family, helping me over the years just as family's do. I grew so much in gaining confidence and being able to speak in front of people. If you had known me in my early years of becoming a member of this wonderful organization of ours you would not recognize the person I am today.

So I suppose this has happened as it should. I will do the newsletter for the spring & fall editions of 2019, then spring 2020 will be my last newsletter. Definitely God has a plan for each and every one of us.

I hope you will be able to support our Diocesan Council with this decision, as I have, even if with a heavy heart. I know changes in all aspects of life will happen some day, and it is hard to accept, but eventually you & I will come to peace with this decision and move on.

I hope to see you at the 1st fall regional and the last one. I will be away for the 2nd fall regional. I will take orders for a print copy for

2019 only, as the League Lingo will go totally digital for 2020. Other members of the executive will take your orders in my absence at the 2nd fall regional & pass the orders on to me.

So let's make this final year of a 'Paper' edition the best ever.

I look forward to seeing you all at the fall regionals.

God bless you all, and may Our Lady of Good Counsel watch over all of us and our families and our Diocesan Executive Council.

Sandra





Spiritual Development Standing Committee
Chairperson—Mary Lappan, 2nd Vice-President

I hope everyone enjoyed this hot, dry summer. I know I'm ready for a little cooler weather and to get back to business.

This is my first League Lingo article as Spiritual Development Chairperson and I am excited about this important position. My first assignment was our Day at the Shrine in Merlin. It was a lovely day - not too hot and was well attended. Thank you to Father Greg Bonin for saying Mass and to the members at St. Patrick's Merlin for their gracious hospitality and steering me in the right direction.

You may have heard by now that Bishop Oscar Romero will be canonized by Pope Francis on October 14, 2018. All those

prayers we sent out have been answered and it almost feels like we have our own personal saint.

Do you have a favourite saint? Three years ago we were asked to choose a woman from the Bible and give a talk at the convention on how that woman's life was reflected in our position. Although they were not saints, I found their lives fascinating. Their courage in "spreading the Good News" is remarkable. A book entitled "The Friendship of Women" by Joan Chittister is a great place to start looking into the lives of these women.

This summer I had the privilege of attending the Provincial Convention in Toronto and the

National Convention in Winnipeg. Both were valuable experiences. Look for my experiences in other articles in this issue.

Our Fall Regionals should be very enlightening. Plan to attend in your area. Hope to see you there!

May Our Lady of Good Counsel continue to support you in all your endeavours.

Blessings,

Mary

Legislation Standing Committee
Chairperson—Helga Stuermer (cont'd...)

(Continued from page 14)

Then I read that already a Canadian has introduced this to our Government. This has just happened. I will keep you all informed.

God help us all please, this is so wrong on all levels.

Gods Word can penetrate deep into our inner self, and reveal things we might not want to see.

May Gods Blessings be upon you all.

Until the next time I greet you warmly

Your sister in Christ.

Helga

*Ontario Provincial Convention—July 9/11th, 2018— Toronto, Ontario,
Submitted by: Mary Bannon—1st. Vice, Education/Health Chair*

Tuesday Activities

A sunrise service was held outdoors this morning, although you won't catch me up that early! I heard it was lovely.

A beautiful celebration of the Eucharist began our activities for Tuesday, July 10th with Archbishop Brendan O'Brien presiding and preaching; seven priests concelebrated.

Rebecca McCarrell & Margaret Ann Jacobs

Opening prayer focused on the poor and homeless. "Whatsoever you do to the least of my brothers and sisters, that you do unto me" was the refrain to our prayers.

The Credentials chair reported 161 voting and accredited members in attendance.

All three resolutions passed with a bit of discussion but they were so well done that few amendments were made.

ON.18.01 Develop national standards for levels of pharmaceuticals in Canada's drinking water

ON.18.02 Full implementation of Income Security: A Roadmap for Change for adult Ontarians with disabilities

ON.18.03 To fully implement alternative sentencing to incarceration of Indigenous offenders

I'm sure our Resolutions Chair Joan Lobsinger will have some follow up actions for us.

National President Margaret Ann Jacobs spoke about membership and that it is with great hope that on-line registration will be ready in November 2018. Right now we continue to do it by hand. She also mentioned that a Spiritual Advisor's pamphlet would be designed and made available to all Spiritual Advisors to encourage them.

An impromptu Question and Answer session particularly concerning the abortion issue followed, challenging and encouraging us. Margaret Ann Jacobs requested that we address the issue with truth and charity.

Friar Tom Purcell who was scheduled to speak at lunch about Covenant House was not able to attend due to a confusion in communication about date and time. Instead we were given time to visit and chat with each other, an experience we normally do not have at convention.

In the afternoon we had various workshops in Breakout rooms of which we selected two when we registered.

The first session I attended was

called "Sistering". Sistering is a Toronto-based women's shelter (Bloor St. W.) for women aged 16-80 who are basically the hidden homeless in Toronto. They create a safe, welcoming and non-judgmental space for women. Their doors are always open. Their values are dignity, equity, inclusiveness, aspirational and solidarity. They can provide for 50 women/night in a low-barrier, harm-reduction facility. They support 300 women who are precariously housed. They provide meals at all hours prepared by 5 chefs. Their funding comes from LHIN Toronto, (\$1,400,000), United Way (\$400,000) in addition to much fund-raising. Their rent for this renovated movie theatre is \$265,000/year and they have outgrown the facility. They work really hard with other agencies to help those women with addictions since this is a sober-living building. A testimony from one of their sisters:

*"I came to Sistering from a very bad situation with my ex-husband, and having a place to stay with my pets was very important to me. I came to Sistering with only what was on my back. Sistering has helped me with many things: employment, learning skills, job development, housing, gaining self-respect and feeling like a normal person in society. ...I now have a beautiful apartment".
(Candace)*

(Continued on page 18)

*Ontario Provincial Convention—July 9/11th, 2018— Toronto, Ontario,
Submitted by: Mary Bannon—1st. Vice, Education/Health Chair (cont'd)*

The second session I attended was "Home Share". Home Share is a for profit organization operating in the Hamilton-Wentworth-Halton area which provides a service people ask of them. Home Share is not just renting a room but building a different kind of family, a companionship. In today's economy the retirement savings threshold has to be raised to 100 years since we are living healthier and longer. Retirement homes are expensive (average \$3,038/month) and the housing market for those considering downsizing is becoming out of reach. A significant life-event can force people to face

financial erosion, hidden poverty, food security issues, isolation resulting sometimes in mental health difficulties and even homelessness. Home Share meets with people who approach them for help to determine their personalities and personal needs, whether it is task exchange in lieu of rent, lowered cost or rent payment for shared living. Home Share conducts a search, screening people to get the "right fit", vetting by conducting a criminal background and credit check, matching according to lifestyle compatibility and ongoing support and monitoring concerning the

agreement negotiated. Home Share helps homeowners to stay in their own homes for a \$1,000 one-time cost to the organization.

That night we celebrated with a delicious banquet. There, Cardinal Thomas Collins presented Margaret Ann Jacobs with the Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice award and medal for all her work in the Church. The ladies then enjoyed some dancing and music to unwind from a busy day.

Mary

*Ontario Provincial Convention—July 9/11th, 2018— Toronto, Ontario,
Submitted by: Mary Lappan—2nd. Vice, Spiritual Development*

Day 3

The last day of the Provincial Convention started with a memorial service for our deceased members and Spiritual Advisors.

Bishop Brendan O'Brien, Provincial Spiritual Advisor, gave his report. He stated he would like to see more members experience a Provincial and National Convention. He would like to see us "toot our own horn" to attract new members. At the end of his report, Bishop O'Brien was given the spiritual bouquet from the members in commemoration of his 50 years as a priest.

A workshop given by Margaret Ann Jacobs was very enlightening. It was entitled "Envision Our Future". She started with her vision for the League in the future and the prayer she composed for her theme the past two years. She stressed that the League should focus on prayer.

According to Margret Ann, we are all leaders. Different people respond to different ways of leading. "Servant Leaders" are good listeners, empathetic, value all opinions, practise encouragement and are willing to give up power to develop other leaders. She stated we also need to be visionary leaders, thinking of

the future.

Following a rousing invitation to attend next year's Provincial Convention in Kingston, we boarded buses to attend the reaffirmation and closing mass at St. Peter & Paul Church.

I encourage all our members to attend at least one Provincial Convention. It is a truly enjoyable event and will give you ideas and inspiration for your own council. You may even want to go back for more. Next year's convention is in Kingston - a great train ride away. Start planning now to attend.

Mary Lappan

*Ontario Provincial Convention—July 9/11th, 2018— Toronto, Ontario,
Submitted by: Helga Stuermer, Legislation Chairperson*



“Lord God, help us, to see your beautiful face in the hungry, the homeless, the sick, the abandoned, and the abused.

“What a beautiful summer we had, and still have. I spent some time at the cottage. We had our annual family gathering. So many came from all over. It is great to see everyone again. We had lots of fun swimming and watersports.

Prior to that, we had our Bishops Mass here to celebrate the family of parishes in our area. 5 churches were involved. Three of us were in charge of decorations. A lot of thought and work went into this. But, we worked well together. 2 of us hand selected about 100 plants. Many evergreens, to offset all the flags and banners. And, we also had many beautiful flowering plants. It looked great if I can judge by the compliments we received.

Then, off to Toronto to the convention. So much to learn. We didn't want to miss anything. Up in the corner is a little altar with our Blessed Lady and the “Homeless Jesus” sleeping on the bench. The Sculpture by Timothy P. Schmalz so detailed it is simply

amazing. I have several of his sculptures in my house. Later at the procession the sculpture of the sitting Homeless person (also Jesus) was carried in. Do we recognize the needs of others? Will we help and get out of our comfort zone and actually do something? So much help is needed. “I said a prayer for you today... I asked that he will be near you at the start of each new day. To grant you health, and blessings, and friends to share your way. (Excerpt from an Author Unknown) There are more lines to it, but I just selected a few. Prior to the convention, we collected Tim Hortons \$ 5.00 gift cards, to give to some homeless, so that they can have a hot soup & coffee with dignity. Our London Diocese collected 3,600 cards; all through the Ontario Province, 9,200 were collected. This is a super good result and will feed many homeless, runaways - often due to dysfunctional families, or Gender & sexuality identity problems. The Covenant House, and many other Crisis Support Centers are available and try to help quickly. Youth are targeted within 1 hour for the sex-trade. It is very hard to get these youngsters away from the predators. They will immediately feed them drugs, and so become addicted very quickly. Covenant House International is part of 30 locations International. They help on a daily basis at least 300/day.

We could arrange workshops, learning how to talk with our young/old without being confrontational.



Woman are the GATEKEEPERS of Life. Vincent de Paul Society are dealing with Mental Health and Homeless in our Community



This is the prayer room at the convention. Nice and quiet to contemplate how lucky we are. In the front is a homeless person. How sad and lonely he seems. Mental Health really needs to be addressed . First step is to make a road map for change. Changes for the Disability Act; for Disabled Adults in Ontario. * Help to get them a job. *Income security; * good Healthcare; *shorter waiting time to receive the care needed.

Respect for all life & rejecting violence. Legislation is needed to reject abortion, euthanasia. Protecting our Dr's from being pressured to perform abortion & euthanizing a person when it clearly goes against their conscience.

How often do we question ourselves, are we doing the right thing? How often are we fearful, are we really doing the best we can?

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*Ontario Provincial Convention—July 9/11th, 2018— Toronto, Ontario,
Submitted by: Helga Stuermer, Legislation Chairperson (cont'd)*

(Continued from page 19)

Should we do more? We need to talk to parents/grandparents, where are the children on Sunday? Why are they not in church. Even the little ones. Who keeps them away. Should we not start an early habit of having them come. When I asked someone I was told “oh they disrupt the service.” As one priest said. **The voices of the little ones are music in Gods ears.** So bring them parents. Don't work out shifts in who will stay home with them this week. It will influence them all throughout their live. Give just one hour a week and come to Mass. They need to know how important that hour with god is.



Lord I seek wisdom, Teach me to know what is important. That I have the courage to go out of my comfort zone and try to help bring about changes that are necessary to your glory. Ask people to continue to write to our governments to cease and desist the road they have taken.

Value all human life

Blessings to you all.

Your sister in Christ.

Helga



Inspirational Facts

The best kind of friend is the kind you can sit on a porch and swing with, never say a word, and then walk away feeling like it was one of the best times you've ever had.

Always put yourself in others' shoes. If you feel that it hurts you, it probably hurts the other person, too.

The brightest future will always be based on a forgotten past, you can't go on well in life until you let go of your past failures and heartaches. When you were born, you were crying and everyone around you was smiling. Live your life so that when you die, you're the one who is smiling and everyone around you is crying.

*Ontario Provincial Convention—July 9/11th, 2018— Toronto, Ontario,
Submitted by: Theresa Ryan, Pres. Elect. Organization*

The Ontario Provincial Council of The Catholic Women's League of Canada, gathered at the Marriott-Airport Hotel, in Toronto, on July 8th thru July 11th, 2018 for the 71st annual provincial convention. The theme for this convention was "Homelessness"

The official opening began with the Celebration of the Eucharist on Sunday July 8th, with his Eminence Cardinal Thomas Collins and Most Rev. Archbishop Brendan O'Brien, our Provincial Spiritual Advisor, at Nativity of Our Lord Parish.

On Monday, our keynote speakers, Namarig Ahmed and Rami Shami, spoke about their experience with the homeless and PEACH - Palliative Education and Care for the Homeless, a mobile medicine service. They described their work with the vulnerable and marginalized population. Journey Home Hospice is care for those without a home. They are trying to grow awareness of end of life services and how to access them. The life expectancy of the homeless is 37-47 years of age. The mortality rate for the homeless is much higher.

(cancer, heart attacks, hepatitis C, substance use and mental health) The CBC put out a video "Journey to Home" which can be accessed here: www.cbc.ca/news/.../journey-home-inside-a-hospice-for-the-homeless There also is a website for more info at www.journeyhomehospice.ca

Margaret Ann Jacobs, National CWL president spoke on the National Voluntary Fund. She encouraged us to give to all the charities but mentioned that Development & Peace funds are still on hold while investigations continue. She suggested that we storm the federal government with letters over the summer jobs attestation clause. We also need to support our doctors in protecting their conscience rights regarding treating patients or having to refer them for euthanasia.

Annual reports are necessary in order to keep our status as an organization. Consider making it a JOYFUL act, it could change your perspective.

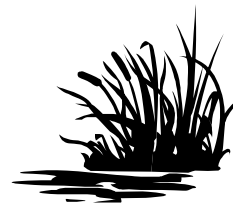
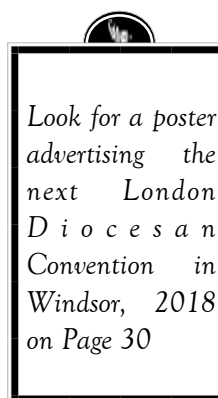
In the afternoon, the Diocesan Presidents and Officers presented their oral reports based on their

goal of "Homelessness", while linking their reports' to one of many of Mary's titles.

On Tuesday I attended the breakout session on 211 services in Ontario. What is 211? You dial 211 to get access to navigate human service resources, free, confidential, 24/7 in 150 + languages. It is an information and reference database of community, social, health & related government service in Ontario. (www.211ontario.ca) In the near future text & chat will also be available.

As always it is an awesome experience to join my sisters in the CWL to pray, share our faith and our concerns for one another.

Theresa



*National Convention—August 12/15th, 2018—Winnipeg, Manitoba.
Submitted by: Mary Bannon - Education & Health Chairperson*

Off I went to Winnipeg for the 98th convention but also a celebration of the 200th anniversary of the arrival of Catholicism to Western and Northern Canada. Festivities were in the air for sure!

Opening Mass was celebrated in St. Boniface Cathedral among the ruins of the old Basilica which was lost due to fire. The Cathedral is a more modern structure built in the form of a square with tributes to the indigenous peoples and the Metis nation scattered in the form of art and symbols throughout the cathedral. It was a lovely uplifting way to open our gathering.

Rebecca has asked me to report on the two workshops I attended on Tuesday morning. The two I chose were part of my standing chair on Education and Health to enable me to bring to our members more information on these two issues.

The first was on our call for stewardship of the environment as a response to being inspired by the Spirit. After all, in the book of Genesis God has called humanity to this care. In this workshop led by Joe Dunn and Patty Fitzgerald from the Citizens for Public Justice at first I thought I would not hear what I came to hear on the environment but in the end I was not disappointed. The intense weather activities-fires, heat, tornadoes, to name a few, point to a need to do something. The idea of banning plastic straws is a small thing but good things start small—just look at a mustard seed! The

first interfaith document on living ecological justice was not signed by the Canadian bishops but with Pope Francis's encyclical "Laudato Si" they signed the next interfaith document on care for the earth. Also available from the Jesuit Forum is a document of resources and activities titled "Care for Our Common Home". I have an e-copy of it for anyone who would like me to email it to them. Incidentally the new National theme beginning in January 2019 is "Care for Our Common Home". The CPJ has a Lenten project "Give it Up for the Earth" available from their website www.cpj.ca. The letter in 2003 from the CCCB calls forth a contemplative response (prayer), an ascetic response (change our life style) and a prophetic response (does anyone know what we stand for?)

The second was on Mental Health and wellness, defined as a sense of well-being. In Canada, 1 in 5 people will suffer from mental illness. But in our culture we tend to avoid or to just not talk about mental illness. Signs are: quality of work, quantity of work, punctuality and personal appearance. There is a stigma attached to it that causes people suffering from mental illness to have great difficulties dealing with it. This same stigma results in those closest to the person to also not talk about it. We need to Stop the Stigma.

Masses on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday were celebrated at St. Mary's Cathedral just across the street from the hotel. Wonderful liturgies!

This was my eighth National Convention. I go because I continually meet women who I have met before and get to share a marvellous experience of spiritual community and good fun. I also learn so much at each and every one.

My advice is: GO! YOU'LL LIKE IT!

Mary



*National Convention—August 12/15th, 2018—Winnipeg, Manitoba.
Submitted by: Mary Lappan - 2nd Vice-President, Spiritual Dev.*

This year the National Convention of the Catholic Women's League of Canada was held in Winnipeg, Manitoba. This was the 200th anniversary of the church in Western and Northern Canada and the spiritual component of the convention reflected this milestone. The opening mass was held at St. Boniface Cathedral, the original church of the region. All other masses were celebrated at St. Mary's Cathedral, across the street from the Delta, Winnipeg.

Monday was taken up with all the business that needed to be done. Tuesday morning was comprised of "breakout sessions". Members chose two different sessions to attend. This gave everyone a chance to zero in on what was important to them and their councils. My choices were the environment and mental health.

The talk on the environment was based on Pope Francis' encyclical "Laudato Si" and was given by a speaker from Citizens for Public Justice and a lawyer. Care of the earth and the plight of the homeless go hand in hand, as it is the poorest who suffer the most when we do not take care of our resources. Intense weather is becoming the norm and scientists are surprised at how quickly our weather is changing. They stated that churches need to learn and

share, study and pray, advocate for change and take community level action.

The next session was given by the Canadian Mental Health Association and was based on the programmes and help they provide to the public.

Four resolutions were brought to the floor (unfortunately none from Ontario) and three were passed. On Wednesday the two resolutions that both had to do with euthanasia. The first one:

2018.03 Legislate Designation of Hospice/Palliative care, Free from Medical Assistance in Dying, focused on medical assistance in dying being excluded in hospice/palliative care facilities. After a few changes, this resolution was easily passed. The next one:

2018.04, Recognize and Legislate Rights of Faith-based Health Care Facilities was vigorously contested. After many changes in the whereas clauses and discussions on just how many cities have faith-based health care facilities, it was decided to postpone this resolution. You will be able to read more about all the resolutions in the fall addition of our magazine.

Our new National President, Anne Marie Gorman introduced the new

theme for the next two years beginning in January. It is "Care for our Common Home". The prayer to go with the theme was written by Mary Ryan of St. Dundas Parish, Fredericton.

Congratulations to our two Ontario members who were elected - Shari Guinta as First Vice President and Betty Colaneri as Standing Committee Chair.

Everyone should experience a National Convention. The procession of Provincial flags always brings tears to my eyes. I am so proud to be part of a National Catholic women's organization. When you see and hear what has been accomplished across the country, you would be proud too.

In 2019, the National Convention is in Calgary. This may be too far for some of you to go, so hang on until 2020. The 100th Anniversary will be held in Montreal. Betty Colaneri is leading this centenary project and has many things planned. Start budgeting now so your council can send a representative to Montreal.

Blessings,

Mary



*National Convention—August 12/15th, 2018—Winnipeg, Manitoba.
Submitted by: Theresa Ryan—Pres. Elect. Organization*

I arrived in Winnipeg on Saturday afternoon, expecting a relief from our hot weather in Ontario but it was not to be. We were very warmly welcomed at the airport by our sisters in the League, and their hospitality lasted all convention long.

Our convention opened at St. Boniface Cathedral. There were archbishops, bishops, priests and deacons at our opening Eucharistic celebration.

Monday saw the opening Mass across the street from us at the beautiful St. Mary's Cathedral. Among the women who brought greetings, the Women's Inter-Church Council mentioned that they themselves are celebrating their 100th anniversary this year.

Our national president, Margaret Ann Jacobs was on fire with her message "The seeds were sown by other hands than yours; nurtured and cared for they grew." (Come With Me Into The Fields). She told us the registration cost would go up for national convention next year to help cover more of the cost of the convention expenses. It was also announced that online membership is working again, as all the problems have hopefully been solved. She reported there had been ten resolutions forwarded to national. British Columbia & Yukon submitted six, Manitoba one and Ontario three. One resolution was sent to Spiritual Development, two to the provinces

and three went no further. That left us with the four that were presented at the convention. We are an organization of 80,000 strong members who live out the values of faith. She told us if we have the "faith of a mustard seed" we would be able to move this big ocean liner (CWL), but to have patience because change takes time. Margaret Ann encouraged us to take advantage of the National Development Fund. She also said that we were welcoming 10 new Life members. The Catholic Women's Leadership Foundation had its first round of candidates this past year. Anyone interested in information, criteria and form for application can go to www.cwlfcanada.ca

Doreen Gowans National Chairperson of Christian Family Life reported on a programme called "Dying Healed" found at www.maketimeforlife.ca Dying can be a beautiful spiritual journey, a message that we never hear. She also mentioned the petition for 1 million against abortion and urged if you have not signed yet, to do so.

Betty Colaneri, National Chairperson of Community Life, reported that the issues with Development & Peace have not been resolved yet. Careful investigation is taking place because of partner association so that the funds are not going to groups whose ideology we do not share.

Fran Lucas, National chairperson of Education & health reported that Canadian Blood Services have removed their age restriction. She also warned us that our Catholic education is on the line again and to stay vigilant in prayer and action. She cited there has been a lot of education about banning the use of plastic straws, but that we should also stop using and ban Styrofoam. Our Resolution 2015.03 - Banning the Use of Neonicotinoid Pesticides is gaining ground. It was also reported that six women received scholarships from COADY.

Shari Guinta, national chairperson of Communications reported that we are the "children of information and the orphans of communication". The personal touch is still the best way to communicate. Our national website is under construction now but watch for the new update at www.cwl.ca

Monday evening's banquet dinner included entertainment with a storyteller and accompanied by an accomplished violinist and pianist.

Tuesday morning saw us all moving, literally, as six workshops were held in various locations. Tuesday afternoon, our keynote speaker, Most Rev Murray Chatlain Archbishop of Keewatin-the Pas held us spellbound with his talk on "Reconciliation" It can be

(Continued on page 25)

*National Convention—August 12/15th, 2018—Winnipeg, Manitoba.
Submitted by: Theresa Ryan—Pres. Elect. Organization (cont'd)*

(Continued from page 24)

heard in entirety at cwl.ca. Tuesday night the provincial dinners were held and Ontario's was a blast. "Good things grow in Ontario" rang through the air. There were 77 of us attending.

This was my first national convention that I attended in entirety. It was so inspiring to gather with 683 like minded women of faith. It was really interesting to gather with women from all over the country. It certainly gives you a different perspective than just your diocese.

Every opportunity to go to a convention is an educational & motivating experience and I am thankful for having been a delegate to this convention.

Theresa



*Regional News—Huron Perth
Chairperson—Mary M. Barnes*

As this is my first submission to League Lingo and the new Regional Representative for Huron Perth I am telling you a little about myself.

My husband Jim and I have been married 44 years in August 2018. We have not been blessed with children but do have a number of nieces and nephews, grand nieces and nephews. I am retired from the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance, Seaforth Site after 35 years in the Medical Records Department. I

currently volunteer in the Therapy Department at Seaforth Hospital one morning a week as well as being a member of the Seaforth Hospital Auxiliary and a current purchaser for the Hospital Gift Shop. I also volunteer with the One Care Program me with Dining for Seniors.

I am a 44 year member of the Catholic Women's League and a Past President for both St. James Catholic Women's League as well

as St. Patrick's Catholic Women's League in Dublin.

I look forward to interacting with my League Sisters at the Diocesan, Regional and Parish level.

Mary



Regional News—Essex
Chairperson—Rose Beneteau



September is always my favorite month. Not only do we see the splendour of God's beauty in the bright coloured leaves and the various mums adorning many porches and lawns but we get back into a routine and more scheduled way of life. This month Harry and I celebrate our 53rd wedding anniversary. God continues to bless me with a supportive and encouraging husband. We have three sons and a daughter, 7 grandchildren and are blest with a 2 month old great grandson. Harry and I were both raised in River Canard. I was a stay at home Mom for 19 years, then went back to working part time at the bank till we retired in 1998. We owned a cottage in Gaylord, Michigan and spent our winters skiing and snowmobiling. In the summer we lived on our boat for a few years and really enjoyed God's nature.

In 2010, due to my husband's health issues we moved into an apartment in Amherstburg. With our home and boat already sold we realized it was time to let go of our cottage and many things that did not fit into our new life.

God fills the void with Himself if you make room for Him.

In order to get to know people in our parish, I offered to help clean the altar. By attending daily mass, we were invited to join in with the Cenacle for Priests prayer group, right in our building. On Fridays at 3 p.m. we now lead the Divine Mercy Chaplet at church and belong to a very active Social Justice

group that started 3 years ago. To help engaged couples prepare for marriage, we work with them one on one following "The Decision to Love" format.

There was a new parishioner move in, in 2013, and she, Nancy Joncas, could not believe that St. John the Baptist Parish did not have an active CWL council. One had been established in 1924 but was dissolved in the later 1990's. After speaking to our pastor, Rev. Fr. Brian Jane, Nancy approached four of us ladies and asked us to step up to the plate (or should I say....challenged us) and we began. I chose the Spiritual Development chairperson as I knew nothing about the League and I thought...well I know how to pray. After her two year term I was elected president and Nancy assured me of her support and guidance. I began my new role. Three months later she moved away. We were in the growing process, attending every workshop or reflection day available.

Encourage each daily while it is still today. (Heb 3-13)

With Denise Masse as my mentor and Doris Coyle, my neighbouring president, I knew any information or support needed was only a phone call away. Since becoming a member, I have attended every diocesan convention. This opens our eyes and hearts to see the depth and strength of the League. Numerous women from all walks of life giving their time, talent, and gifts to make a difference in the

lives of others in need of a voice that can be heard.

Whenever someone approaches you and says, "Pray on it", you know they are asking you something you feel is not in your ability or maybe never entered your mind. After much prayer and encouragement from many, I said yes to accept being chairperson for Essex Region. I know this will bring many more wonderful, prayerful and dedicated women into my life. We had our orientation week-end on May 11th at The Holy Family Retreat House in Oxley. Spending the time with the diocesan team made me realize I was part of a new and dynamic team of prayer driven women. Within two weeks, we held our first regional meeting. Sharon Barron and many of the ladies from our council did a great job hosting it on such short notice; they knew I would be more at ease at my home parish. It gave me great pleasure and confidence to have Peggy Barrette, as secretary, and Jeanne Lauzon, as treasurer, take on their position to complete our team. There was a warmth in the air as the presidents took time to introduce themselves and share their achievements. In June, the diocesan executives gathered in Oxley again for a prayerful week-end. It was great to see many attend our day in Merlin at the shrine.

September 26th will be our next regional meeting in Kingsville, at St. John de Brebeuf after the 7pm

(Continued on page 27)

Regional News—Essex

Chairperson—Rose Benetau (cont'd...)



(Continued from page 26)

mass. We want to extend a welcome to any members interested in attending.

October 13th is the Fall Regional meeting, in Chatham. Let us invite some of our new members to spend a fun and learning day with us.

It is exciting to know we are hosting the next Diocesan Convention in Windsor. At the London convention, our ladies did a great job of dressing up and doing the Charleston as an invitation to join us here in April.

I am looking forward to working together to accomplish big things in

our own little way.

Our Lady of Good Counsel, pray for us.

Rose

Regional News—London

Chairperson—Diane Kehoe



Unfortunately as I began my term as London Regional Chairperson, I became ill and my predecessor the wonderful Joan Lobsinger stepped up and filled in for me over the summer months. I was unable to attend the Provincial Convention and also our Diocesan Merlin Retreat Day.

The London Region earned a well deserved rest following the very successful 98th London Diocesan Convention which we hosted at

the Best Western Lamplighter Hotel and Conference Centre. Even so, London Region stepped up to the plate and made an amazing contribution to the Ontario Provincial Council's Homelessness Initiative of Tim Horton Gift Cards. We sent to the Provincial Convention 102 cards (95 \$5 cards; 5 \$10 cards; 1 \$15 card and a \$25 grocery card) for a cash value of \$580. I am very proud of our region and their response to this initiative.

As we approach September, I am looking forward to working with the councils in the London Region and I pray for a productive and rewarding year.

Dianne





*Regional News—Windsor
Chairperson—Caroline Ngui*

I look forward to renewing friendships while working with the Windsor CWL Councils and the London Diocesan Council this year as the Windsor Region Diocesan Representative.

We have much work ahead of us as we plan with the Essex County CWL Councils, for a successful 2019 London Diocesan Convention to be held from April 29th - May 1st 2019 at the St Clair Centre for the Arts, Windsor. We invite everyone to come to Windsor for a great convention. Mark your calendars!

Caroline



*Regional News—Sarnia Lambton
Chairperson—Patricia Sloan*

Our Councils were busy wrapping up another year. Our potluck in May was well attended. A feast of delicious food and much laughter was the order of the day. Several Councils were represented at the annual Day at the Shrine in Marlin in July. Sadly, our prayers were much needed over the summer.

Our President, Rebecca McCarrell's husband passed away and several of our Diocesan Councils husbands have been very ill. Prayers certainly do work. Our Councils are already preparing for the upcoming Bazaar season. I am looking forward to attending as many as possible.

Pat

Evangelization is always a two-way street, We might think that we're the ones with the message, with the answers, with the Good News, and yet time and time again we discover that we learn as much from the people we're with as we had when we began the conversation.

Pope Francis

*Special Article—submitted by: Kathy Levesque—re:
Social Justice Award, given to Judy Bridgen in 2018*



Judy was nominated for the Social Justice Award by the London Diocesan Executive for her work for Social Justice. She is a most deserving recipient. She has a great love for the poor, those who are struggling with health difficulties, those who are grieving and children. She volunteers in many ministries in our parish communities. Judy Bridgen is a member of the Visitation Parish CWL, Comber, in the Diocese of London.

Judy regularly collects and buys clothes for the Windsor Downtown Mission. This mission assists those who are living on the streets. For the last several years, Judy collects items for "Heat for the Streets Windsor Homeless Centre" for children and adults. The items we collect such as scarves, hats, gloves, socks, etc. at Christmas, she brings to them. She also has made blankets to keep them warm, during the winter months, used coats which she takes to the cleaners before giving them out, and many more items.

She began and continues to support an education mission for First Communicants, by sewing tote bags for every child who will receive their First Communion. These children select items for children their own age to put in the bag, and then Judy brings these totes to the Downtown Mission. She crochets "Prayers shawls" for those who are sick and homebound. She sews beautiful fleece blankets for each child baptized in our parish.

Judy is not only involved with her Parish community, but with the community at large. In an always unassuming manner, she helps tend to the needs of the homeless. Along with the personal help she provides, she also facilitates help to the homeless from others in our community by collecting items and foods from individuals and delivering these goods to the shelters and help centers year round. She seems to be tireless in her resolve to help.

Judy is a very special woman who wants to make a difference in the lives of the homeless and the marginalized. Our Visitation Parish Catholic Women's League are very proud that she is a member of our council and of all of her efforts. Though she is facing difficulties in her health, she continues to do God's work. She is walking the path of Jesus every

day. She is truly living our National Theme "inspired by the Spirit, responding to God's call."

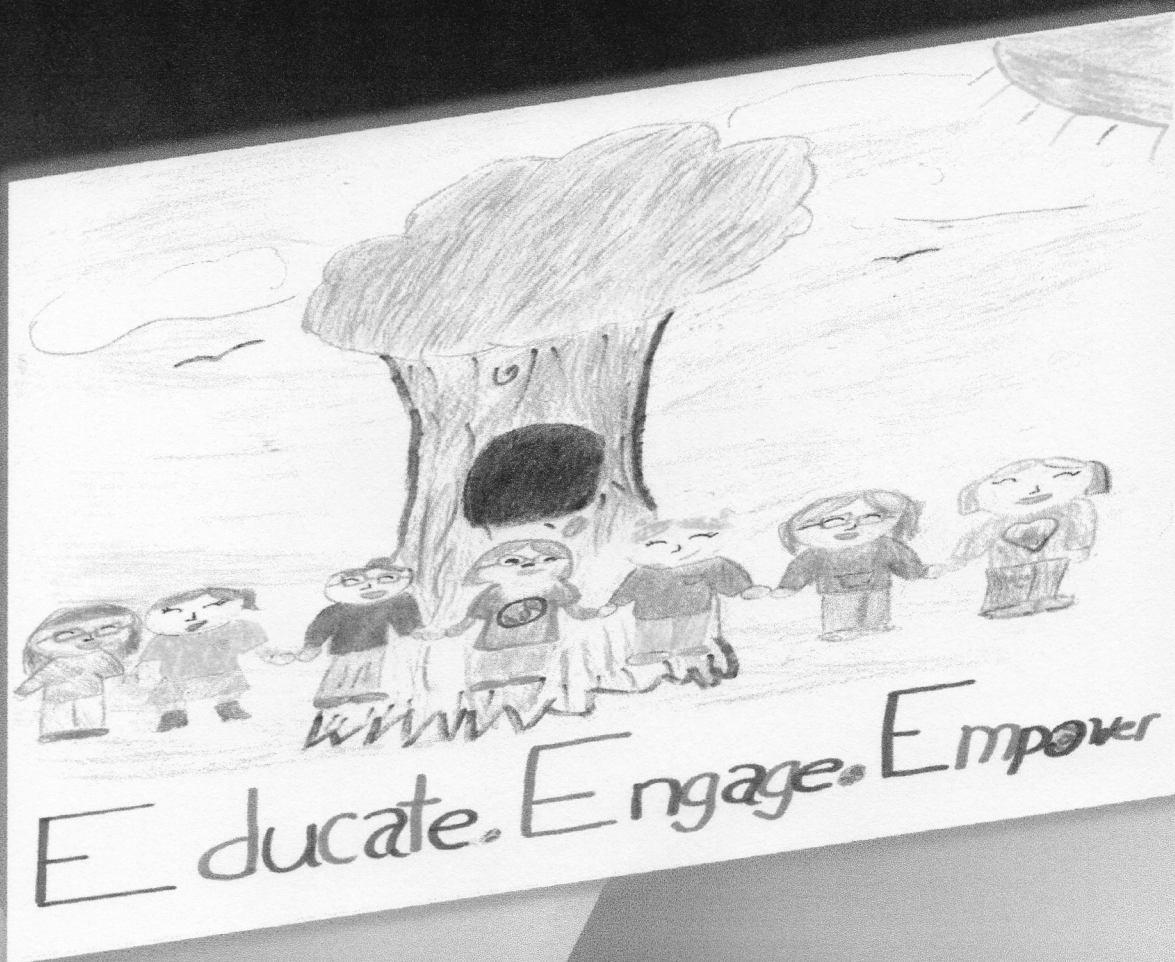
The London Diocesan Executive awarded Judy with the Social Justice Award and a cheque for her charity which was made payable to the Street Help Windsor Homeless Centre at the London Diocesan Convention on April 25, 2018.

Picture Below:

Standing:

Marie Theresa, Diocesan Past President, Marie-Theresa Lamphier, Kathy Levesque; Diocesan Christian Family Life; Alice Reaume, Helen Masse, Rita Huson, Laurie Lassaline and Judy Bridgen (Sitting)





April 29-May 1, 2019

Catholic Women's League
99th London Diocesan Convention

St. Clair Centre for the Arts

201 Riverside Dr. W., Windsor

Hosted by: Windsor-Essex

Save the Date!

Special Article with a big 'THANK YOU' - re the 2018 Convention in London—Donations made to various recipients



The theme of "Homelessness" was showcased throughout the London Diocesan Convention held April 23 - 25 at The Best Western Plus Lamplighter Inn & Conference Centre in London. A big THANK YOU for your very generous donations to St. Joseph's Hospitality Centre, Men's Mission & Rehabilitation Centre in London and Inn Out of the Cold in St. Thomas. All three agencies were in

awe at what was collected. At our closing mass, \$4,260.00 was collected and shared equally between My Sisters' Place and the YWCA Mission. Elisabeth Duggan and I are shown presenting the cheque to My Sisters' Place, - below right & myself giving a cheque to Birth Right below left.

Through your generosity, the CWL Leadership Foundation received

\$884.00 from the sale of tickets on the Blue and Gold Baskets and \$435.00 was collected for Birthright London from the sale of tickets on the layette. The items in these two raffles were donated by the diocesan executive. It was my pleasure to present Terri Bauer and Donna Thompson their cheque at the Birthright London office. God bless you all!

Joan



Special Article about the April 2018 London convention and the expenses involved in putting on a convention



We wish to thank the London Region presidents and their committees for their hard work to make the 2018 Diocesan Convention a success. We would be remiss if we didn't give a big THANK YOU to Dianne Kehoe our Registration Chair for all the time and effort she put into manning the Registration Table and the numerous hours prior to Convention.

Our goal in hosting the Convention was to provide spirituality, learning and camaraderie. It was suggested we provide a cost and revenue breakdown of the big items. We have included two charts showing the major expenses and revenue of the 2018 Diocesan Convention.

It is our hope that you enjoyed the 2018 Convention and look forward to seeing you next April in Windsor.

Blessings,

Joan Lobsinger and

Irene Kennedy

(Cont'd on page 32)

Special Article about the April 2018 London convention and the expenses involved in putting on a convention—cont'd from Page 31

2018 Convention Expenses

Registration package - printing, labels, envelopes and postage		\$195.41
Report Books and Agenda/Spiritual Booklets		\$2238.34
Liturgy & Banquet Booklets		\$430.70
Fun night (dj, snacks, bar tender)		\$827.21
Room fees	Apr. 23 Executive Meeting & Display Rm	\$550.00
	Resolution dialogue Rm	\$500.00
	Prayer Rm	\$200.00
	HST	<u>\$232.00</u>
		\$1,482.00
	Apr. 24 Display Rm	\$550.00
	Prayer Rm/Life Members meeting Rm	\$300.00
	Fun Night Rm	\$350.00
	HST	<u>\$156.00</u>
		\$1,356.00
	Apr. 25 Display Rm	\$450.00
	Prayer Rm	\$200.00
	Parallel Program Rm	\$250.00
	HST	<u>\$117.00</u>
		\$1,017.00
	*\$2,260.00 credit applied for having 200 overnight guests	
	Total: \$3,855.00 - \$2,260.00 = \$1,595.00	
AV equipment rental		\$2,122.99
Busing (School buses + Voyageur)		\$2,343.43
Tuesday break	\$12.87/person	\$1957.73
Tuesday lunch	\$33.79/person	\$8784.62
Wednesday break	\$12.47/person	\$1957.73
Wednesday lunch	\$33.79/person	\$8784.62
Wednesday banquet	\$53.28/person	\$22,324.11
Total 2018 Convention Revenue		\$53,561.89
Registration Fees		\$9,945.00
Busing (School buses + Voyageur)		\$1,115.00
Tuesday break	\$10.00/person	\$1520.00
Tuesday lunch	\$28.00/person	\$7140.00
Wednesday break	\$10.00/person	\$1570.00
Wednesday lunch	\$26.00/person	\$6682.00
Wednesday banquet	\$50.00/person	\$20,950.00
Total		\$48,922.00
		- \$4,639.89

Are you a CWL member?

If so, we want you to attend Fall Regional Days!



Catholic Women's League

Mass: 9 AM Sharp! **Cost:** \$8 (includes lunch)

Dates/Locations/RSVP:

Oct. 13th, 2018 Chatham, Blessed Sacrament

Oct. 27th, 2018 Ingersoll, Sacred Heart,

Nov. 3rd, 2018 Sarnia, Our Lady of Mercy

RSVP one week prior to your Regional Chair!

Fun: Skit "Be Pennywise"

A skit packed with life lessons! Mary Bannon, 1st Vice, Joan Lobsinger, Resolutions, Helga Stuermer, Legislation and others!

Educate: Leadership and You!

Leadership a look at how we help to lead and promote the League. Directives how to write something that educates, engages and empowers. How that one page powerful message moves through the League to our grassroots parish action members who make the real difference.

Celebration of membership and anniversaries; certificates will be awarded.

Rebecca McCarrell, President
Teresa Ryan, President-Elect

Engage: Website Wonders

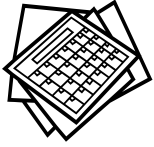
We will be exploring the updated CWL Diocesan website and venturing to find out what else you want to see. Also we want to make sure this communication tool is meeting your needs. We will be using surveys to help guide us and so you have your say.

Willi Kole Recording Secretary,
Elisabeth Duggan, Corresponding Secretary
Denise Masse, Communications

Empower: Farmtown

An organization assisting girls, teens and young adult women who have endured sexual exploitation. Learn more and how you can be part of their journey to healing.

Guest speaker: Kelly Franklin



Some Dates to Remember in the Coming Year

September 8, 2018	The birth of Our Blessed Virgin Mary
September 21, 2018	International Day of Peace
September 26, 2018	Canadian Martyr's Feast Day
October 7, 2018	Respect for Life Sunday
October 1, 2018	Vocation Awareness Sunday
October 1-7, 2018	National Family Week
October 8, 2018	Thanksgiving Day
October 16, 2018	World Day of Food
October 17, 2018	International Day for the Eradication of Poverty
November 4, 2018	Summertime Ends
November 11, 2018	Remembrance Day
December 8, 2018	Feast of the Immaculate Conception
December 10, 2018	Human Rights Day
December 12, 2018	Feast of our Lady of Guadalupe

*Council News—Huron Perth Region—St. Peter, Goderich,
President—Crystal Crowley*



St. Peter's Goderich CWL members Patricia Callender, left, and Anne Brand, right having fun while working at our Charity BBQ.

*Council News—London Region—St. Peter's Cathedral Basilica,
London. Submitted by: Dora Dannecker, Communications Chairperson*

It is hard to imagine that we are in the throes of August. Our Executive attended a luncheon and planning session at the home of Julie Sans (Council President) on Saturday, August 18. We not only enjoyed a delicious lunch but enjoyed seeing our friends.

Our June meeting was held at Ivey Spencer Lodge on Saturday, June 2, 2018. We gathered for breakfast. Father Jim Mockler joined us for the blessing and awarding of the Service Pin Awards to some of our members.

Each Spring we allocate money raised from the Christmas Bazaar and from sales of apple pies, jam and Christmas Treat Trays. Annually, we donate to the following organizations: Save-a-Family Plan, St. Joseph's Hospice of London, National Catholic Broadcasting Council (daily TV Mass), Sisters of the Precious Blood, Mission Services of London, St. Joseph's Community Centre, Regional Mental Health Care London and ANOVA (formerly Women's Community House). This year we are also giving to St. Peter's Cathedral (Operations), Near East Welfare Association Canada, Euthanasia Prevention Coalition, St. Vincent de Paul Society for bus tickets, Birthright London, Daily Bread Food Bank, London Abused Women's Centre, London Food Bank and Girl's and Boy's Club (food programme) Catholic Missions in Canada, London Area Right to Life Association and My Sister's Place.

We offer a \$1,000 Bursary to qualifying high school graduates and members of St Peter's Cathedral parish. The Bursary Committee will review the applications and the award will be announced in the near future.

We have enjoyed a rewarding and productive year to date. Now it is time to focus on the future. We will now meet to plan our Christmas Bazaar to be held on November 3, 2018. In October we will bake our pies and plan our Bazaar.



Cora Vazansky—40 Years



Sophia Tacak - 25 year pin



Father Mockler blessing pins.



Recipients—10 Year Pins

Council News—London Region—St. Martin of Tours, London
Submitted by: Marj Dupuis

I would like to communicate our Service Pin Awards to our members. See picture below:

On the far left our CWL President Michelle Lemon, Nancy Flynn received her 60 year pin, Maureen Franze received her 40 year pin, Marina Pineda and Bridget Ambrogio received their 5 year certificate and Sue Coleman is our Organization chairperson.

We are grateful for these wonderful women for sharing their faith and devotion to our league. They are an inspiration to all of us.



Council News—London Region—Mary Immaculate, London
President—Lori Alexander

One of our long time members will be celebrating her 100 years old birthday in November.

Her name is Loretta A. Meyer, born November 10, 1918.

I would like to share a picture of the London Diocesan group who attended the Provincial Convention in Toronto, July 2018



Council News—London Region—St. Michael, London
Submitted by: St. Michael's Communications Chairperson

Here are some photos from St. Michael's CWL London. We celebrated our 90th anniversary on March 20th.



St. Michael's, London, 90th Anniversary collage



Past Presidents—(L-R) Joan Lobsinger, Sandra Cater, Holly Grandy, Rieki Hoevenaars, Renee McKillop



President Margaret McGee and Spiritual Advisor
Fr. Murray Sample

*Council News—Sarnia Lambton Region—St. Michael, Bright's Grove
Submitted by Nelly Kelders—President / Communications Chairperson*

An Evening to Remember

At our December 2017 meeting, the executive council agreed to host the St. Michael's Boys' Choir School from Toronto, for a spring concert but at the same time, not really sure what this would all look like. We had the support of our pastor Father Vince Gulikers and our parish choir director, Frank Brennan. The announcement was made to our membership at the Christmas potluck dinner and then we were off and running.

Three committees were struck: Dinner Committee responsible for snacks and meal for the choir was headed by Linda Kensley; Advertising Committee who created and distributed posters and sent out announcements to local papers was the responsibility of Jo Kulik; and the Ticket Sales Committee responsible for distributing the tickets to various locations within the community was headed up by Mary McLeay and Josie Parker. As president, it was my job to oversee all the committees, liaise with the partners in the project and approve budgets as needed. I certainly had my views on how things could be done but as a leader and retired educator, I also knew that I had to let each of the chairs run with their committees. The best way to kill enthusiasm and discourage independent thinking is to make the decisions for them. Each of the committees did their jobs and they made all

the right decisions and got the work done!

Our local choir, under the direction of Frank Brennan started out small, then grew in leaps and bounds. I thought at one point that the local choir would be larger than our guest choir. The important thing about the local choir was that it encompassed so many talented people from different walks of life and different churches. It really became an ecumenical choir. They only had a few practices together and the music they sang was not your everyday hymns so most of the choir members were learning new pieces. Frank took care of all the details related to music, to ordering risers and the setup in the church. I signed the cheques!

Each month at the executive meetings, updates were given on each committee as to their progress and whether or not more help was required. We hashed out any concerns and offered suggestions for any obstacles. For me, the hardest part of the whole process was watching the ticket sales. It had been decided that we would sell a maximum of 600 tickets even though the church could hold more. We did not want people to be too crowded and we needed room for the choirs to sit as well. There was a rush for the tickets initially but then things slowed down. I was in fear of even selling 300 tickets by concert night on April 26. I kept the executive director of the choir school, Stephen Handrigan, informed of

our ticket sales and the progress of our committees. He told me not to stress, people always wait till the last minute.

The week prior to the concert there was another rush. We did not sell out but we did have a very good-sized crowd of about 450 guests. The concert started at 7pm but we advertised that the doors would not open until 6:30pm. I was adamant that we stick to this time, as in the church it would be general seating, and people do not usually react well to a last minute change in plans. So the foyer of St. Michael's was full of excited people by 6:15pm and there was a great buzz in the air. All members of both the boys' and local choirs were energized by the excitement in the air. No one minded having to wait and some even commented that it was just like being at a theatre in Toronto, waiting for the doors to open for a special performance.

At last it was 7pm and the concert started. Speeches of welcome and thanks were kept to a minimum so that we could just enjoy the sacred sounds. The music was breathtaking. The young men from the choir school were truly a treat to hear. This is not the type of music that we generally hear at church or listen to on our own. The local choir sang in the middle of the program. They did not disappoint. I believe most people were in awe as to how beautiful they sounded, yet had only come together for

(Continued on page 39)

*Council News—Sarnia Lambton Region—St. Michael, Bright's Grove
Submitted by Nelly Kelders—Communications/Education/Health Chairperson..*

(Continued from page 38)

rehearsals a few times. The finale was spectacular. The two choirs came together to sing several songs as one big choir. Did I mention, that they only had one practice together for a mere half hour! Yet, everyone knew where to stand and the singing was really unbelievable. Not knowing, one would have thought that they had been doing this together forever. The long standing ovation from the

audience was well-deserved for both choirs. What an amazing night! The work and the stress for all concerned was well worth it. We are truly blessed to have such incredible talent not only in our guests, St. Michael's Choir School, Toronto, but in our very own local talent.

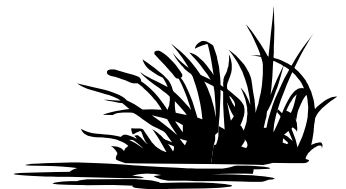
It made me think of the possibility of future concerts we could work on but then I reminded myself I could never put my executive through that stress again, anytime soon! By the

way, after expenses there was a profit realized, for both the choir school and our CWL. We have yet to determine how the money we earned will be spent but it will be done in a thoughtful manner, indicative of the hard work that went into attaining it.

Nelly



from the front
of the choir



Council News—Sarnia Lambton Region—St. Benedict, Sarnia
President—Brenda Stack

In June, we hosted our annual pot luck dinner for our 3 South Zone Parishes (St. Joseph's and Our Lady of Mercy). At this event, we collect items to be donated to St. Vincent de Paul. All three leagues presented their Service Pins (St. Benedict's names, listed on the pin awards page). Also, in June we donate \$400 each to St. Matthew's and Holy Trinity Schools for the Muskoka Woods Programme for Grade 7 students. We provided two High School students with \$200 bursaries to help with their further education. Students must fill out an application which indicates their involvement in the parish.

After the enjoyable summer, now is the time that things start to get busy. We start off early in September with our Turkey Pie Workshop when we have some 50 + ladies and some gentlemen that come out to help. On October 27th, we will be holding our Annual Fall Bazaar at which we have a great number of our members who are either working at the bazaar, donating items (knitting, sewing, jams, pickles, fancy cakes, baking, books, etc.) or both. We have been blessed with a very successful bazaar for a number of years. This year we will also be having a table for the Catholic Girls' League.

Speaking of the Catholic Girls' League, it was November 2017, that Jackie Dettailleur (our Communications & Public Relations Convener) started the

League. Starting with only two girls at the first meeting, they now have 10 members with their own executive consisting of: President, Secretary, Treasurer and Mary's Helpers for Fun & Friendship. They have an opening for: Mary's Helpers for Faith and Formation.

They meet monthly on the first Thursday (even during the summer). Meetings are held at the church hall. Their meetings always begin with a prayer. Jackie modified the CWL League Prayer by switching Women with Girls. She printed the League Prayer and Hail Mary on blue cardstock. The rest of the evening is planned around what craft or event that Mary's Helper for Fun has planned. If it is something that is time consuming, then they start with the craft and work the meeting around the craft. Some of the crafts that have been done are:

- * Mary dolls out of beads and silk flowers
- * Christmas ornaments made from clay
- * Blue slime
- * Their own tie-dyed uniform t-shirts with their Logo that was designed by their president
- * Invitations and gifts for the First Communicants
- * Calming Glitter Jars
- * Individual Mason Jar Aquariums
- * Rocks of Kindness

Mary's Helper for Fun researches crafts on her mom's Pinterest account. Once she has found one that she likes, she texts one of the

Leaders who works at Michael's who then collects what is needed for the crafts and brings them to the next meeting. The President opens the meeting using the gavel that was donated to them. The Secretary takes minutes on a form that Jackie made up so that she is able to get the important points recorded. She also reads minutes from the previous month (that have been typed up by Jackie). The plan is to have some off-site outings. They have had an outing to a local mini golf course and an ice creamery. This was done to thank the girls for the volunteer work they have done. They volunteer with the Knights of Columbus at the Saturday evening BBQ and Sunday morning Brunches. They also volunteered with the Stuff the Bus Campaign.

Instead of yearly dues, the girls decided that they would bring change to every meeting. It is whatever they can afford (not a specific amount) that is put into the jar. Once the meeting has started, the Treasurer counts the money in the jar and adds it to the balance in the Treasurer's Recording Ledger and reports the balance. Fr. Steve Saval is Spiritual Advisor and he stops into the meetings to visit with the girls and then gives them a blessing. There are 5 leaders who are all CWL members (of whom 3 are on the CWL executive). We all agree that there should be more CGL groups attached to the CWL Councils. The Catholic Girls'

(Continued on page 41)

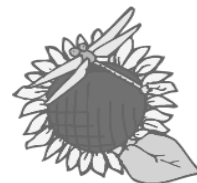
Council News—Sarnia Lambton Region—St. Benedict, Sarnia
President—Brenda Stack

(Continued from page 40)

League is attached to the three South Zone CWL's in Sarnia. A monthly report is given at St. Benedict's CWL meetings and is available to the others as requested.

Lastly, our CWL has 229 members, of which 10 are new members. Also, we are very blessed to have one of our members, Willi Kole who is Secretary on Diocesan Council.

Brenda



Council News—Sarnia Lambton Region—Sacred Heart, Sarnia
Co—Presidents — Yvette Macleod & Domenica Rastin

Right in the middle of this heat wave, it is hard to believe that it is time for the fall publication. Two highlights that I wish to share with you...one past and one to come.

One past...

At our June meeting, we were thrilled to honour one of our members for her many years of dedication to the community and parish especially to seniors and nursing homes, with the Maple Leaf Service Pin. Shown in the photo is **Margaret Maheu**, the **recipient** along with Pat Hobin. We also honoured several of our members with significant "Years of Service" pins.

5 members received 20 years, 3, 10 years and welcome to 3 new members.



Maple Leaf Service Pin -
 Margaret Maheu—
 with Pat Hobin

We love and honour all of you.

And one to come...

At Sacred Heart, Sarnia, we are hosting an evening with the London Diocesan Archivist. Her name is **Debra Majer Fraser** and she will speak to us on the history of the CWL.

Some of us have had the privilege

of meeting Debra and hearing her speak at the Sarnia Historical Society in the fall of 2017. She is a captivating and dynamic speaker, and a published author. I know that many CWL members, local historians and other interested parties would appreciate knowing how it all got started here in our Diocese. She is making a special trip from London, and it is absolutely free. It is part of the services that the Diocese provides. We will be asking for a free will donation at the door, the proceeds of which will go to Pathways pool refurbishments.

We hope to see many of you there. Good luck in your coming year.

Yvette & Domenica

*Council News—Sarnia Lambton Region—Our Lady of Mercy,
Sarnia—President—Phyllis Vanoverbeke*

- We attended the World Day of Prayer in March at St. Andrews Church, Sarnia
- Letters were sent to the government members on "Focus On Homelessness"
- We participated in the Mission held in the cluster churches
- Convention was attended by Phyllis Vanoverbeke as delegate and Joan Molson as alternate delegate
- Our Spiritual Director Deacon Lyle Lalonde and Fr Steve Savel were able to attend the banquet
- We hosted the 12-hour Palliative Care for the cluster churches. We were able to make a donation to St Joseph's Hospice
- The Giving Together Campaign - we made a commitment to make donations over a period
- May was a busy month. We held our annual Spring Tea which was a great success with lots of hard work
- The offering of Mother's Day flowers was done before each mass
- We attended the Cluster Pot Luck at St Ben's, Sarnia
- The summer was quiet

Phyllis

Cluster CWL's held a 12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care with a free will offering - we presented the offering to St Joseph's Hospice on May 4th, 2018

Left -Lesley Coene—F und Development Coordinator,

Phyllis Vanoverbeke, Our Lady of Mercy CWL,

Donna Greenwood—sSt Joseph's CWL,

Brenda Stack— St Benedict's CWL



Council News—Chatham Kent Region—St. Joseph, City, Chatham

President—Alisha Lachine

"First Annual Christmas Party Gathering"

The Parishes in the city of Chatham, were going through a transition, starting January, 1st, 2018.

The Parishes of St. Joseph's, St. Ursula's, St. Agnes, Blessed Sacrament, and Our Lady Victory would become known as "Chatham Catholic Family of Parishes." So an idea was developed by Sharon Thievin of St. Joseph's (City) CWL to invite all five CWL's to join together in "The First Annual Christmas Gathering." The date of December 7, 2017 was chosen.

The entire hall at the Spirit and Life Centre was decorated by the council of Blessed Sacrament CWL. Having five CWL councils in the City, invitations were sent to all councils. We had a wonderful evening of Prayer, Breaking Bread, Entertainment, and Pin Presentations. In attendance were 205 people.

St. Joseph's (City) CWL—Event Coordinators

Blessed Sacrament—
Hall Decorations

Back Row L—R
Seminar Rob Reneaud, Deacon
Jerry Look, Associate Pastor Fr.
Don Pumputis, Deacon Chris

Masterson, Co-ordinator Allana Myslawchuk and recipient of Maple Leaf Service Pin, Co-ordinator Elaine Goldhawk, guest Marjorie Laevens.

Middle Row L—R
Sharon Thievin Past President, St. Joseph's (City) CWL and Co-ordinator, Beth Lachine President St. Joseph's (City) CWL and Hostess.

Seated Front L—R
Colleen Keane Pastoral Minister, Pastor Fr. Jim Higgins, guest Carol Laevens, guest Mary Delaey.



Council News—Chatham Kent Region—St. Ursula, Chatham.
Submitted by: Cathie Luxton, Communications Chairperson

As you read this fall is upon us! This year has gone by fast, going faster!

After ending in June at the General Meeting our council held the annual summer BBQ. Everyone was ready for the summer break, because this past few months have been very busy planning for all the projects that we had committed to.

For our January meeting we had received a letter from Julia Hanley asking for support as she plans to go to Vancouver for 2 months on a summer mission with the Catholic Christian Outreach Organization. We are looking forward to her report this fall. Sounds very interesting.

February, we started the plans for the Annual Spring Garage Sale and because May is going to be a very busy month for our council, much preparation was needed.

Penny Liddy started our March meeting. Penny is an Image consultant from "Confident Expressions". Penny is also a parishioner. She promoted "Be the Best You Can Be", she also gave us great tips on image, skin care, make up and clothing. Very interesting night.

April blessed us with another

great speaker. Sue Hawkins of Clutter Busters. Sue spoke on making space for what matters! This applies not only to our homes but also in our lives and our hearts.

Patti Arseneault requested our support for the mission work they are doing in Uganda. Mary, her sister, spoke to our council last year and this year the team plan to go into a community, with the need of a school and a piggery for that community. Our assistance will allow these 2 projects to happen.

After planning for 4 months we started the month of May with the annual Garage Sale. And What A Garage it Was!!! Thanks to lots of planning in the past few months by the convenor Joanne Bennett, it was the most profitable garage sale to date! Due to the overwhelming support from the parishioners from their donations received, not only did we benefit, but so did Canadian Food for Children and the St. Vincent de Paul. We are so grateful to our Knights of Columbus for all their help, so that we could pull this off in one morning and with all 3 organizations benefiting!

The same day as the Garage Sale the council hosted an Hour of Prayer for Palliative Care followed

by Adoration and Benediction Rosary and Devine Mercy.

On May 15th we celebrated a mass for the deceased CWL members of our council with blue and white flowers adorning the altar.

Mother's Day our council set out a playpen for Right to Life. This was left in the narthex of the church until Father's Day. Many parishioners supported this cause and it was filled with many beautiful baby items and also gift cards for Right to Life.

Each meeting this past spring we focused on our spring events and the fall events that are about to happen, but not forgetting all the important work that takes place with education, community life and communication on legislation that is reported monthly to members and discussed at the monthly general meetings.

Our council knows we have much to be thankful for and we ask Our Lady of Good Counsel to continue blessing us in the work we do.

Cathie



Council News—Chatham Kent Region—St. Francis Xavier, Tilbury, Past-President—Theresa Gadai

Our CWL hosted lunch for the Deanery Meeting at St. Francis on February 6th. They enjoyed some delicious homemade soup, sandwiches, dessert and refreshments.

During Lent on Wednesday February 21st members of our council led the Stations of the Cross with "Mary's Way of the Cross."

At our General Meeting in March our guest speaker was Maria Giannotti. She has a BA, Bed, MA from Assumption University, MSc in Clinical Bioethics Icahn School of Medicine & Clarkson University, New York. Her areas of expertise include Palliative and End of Life Care, Catholic Health Leadership, Advance Care Planning. Her topic for the evening was Medical Aid in Dying: Misguided Mercy.

Once again our Council teamed up with the Liturgy Committee for the 40-4-40 (40 items for 40 days of blessings) project during Lent. Many organizations benefitted from the generosity of parishioners in our cluster parishes.

Our annual May Tea Dessert and Fundraiser was held in May. Members sold tickets for cash

draw prizes. The afternoon consisted of a Euchre Tournament, bake sale, raffle draws and door prizes. What a marvellous afternoon.

Members were encouraged to partake in the 12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care held on Friday May 4th. The day began with rosary, mass, adoration and benediction. We joined with St. Patrick's Council who continued the day with adoration, rosary and mass.

We placed a baby bassinette at the entrance of the church and collected requested baby items for the local Right to Life Kent.

We had our May Crowning on Mother's Day focusing on the Joys of Mary. A special blessing was given by our Spiritual Advisor Father Chris.

Our June General Meeting began with a tasty Potluck Supper. Our guest speaker for the evening was Penny Liddy who spoke about "Why we need a positive, healthy image." As an image consultant, Penny helps people to improve or enhance their appearance for personal or professional reasons through elements of image-clothing, colour, make-up, body language etc. She reminded us about the importance

of taking care of our skin as it is the largest organ in the body.

The focus for June was the Pornography Hurts Campaign which aims at raising awareness about the dangers of pornography among members, the general public and members of parliament.

We distributed the Pornography postcards, stressed the negative effects, both short and long term and encouraged parishioners to write a message and send it postage free.

Our Education and Health Committee Chairperson represented our council at the graduation ceremonies at our local high school and elementary schools. Each recipient was presented with a plaque and monetary gift.

Some members took advantage of the Annual Diocesan Retreat Day held in July at Our Lady of the Rosary Diocesan Shrine in Merlin.

Theresa



*Council News—Chatham Kent Region—Holy Family, Wallaceburg.
President—Judy Roy*

During the first couple of months this year, we were busy sending emails and letters to our MPP with our concerns about MAID. During our Call for Conscience Campaign, we gave a couple of talks on the podium about the importance of getting involved in this campaign, and we set up tables where the parishioners could take part as well. Our council hosted Marriage Prep weekend, as well as saying farewell to former President, Mary McGrail, with an honour guard, blessed candle and Mass intention. During Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, our council helped with one of the luncheons. A Sweetheart Bake Sale was held for the families of two young children being treated in out of town hospitals, to help with travel expenses. Two of our members got involved in the Community World Day of Prayer.

During Lent, our council prayed the Stations of the Cross after one of the Friday morning masses. We held an Easter Basket raffle for two weeks on a complete Easter Dinner. A reception, hosted by our clustered CWL councils, was held after the Easter Vigil Mass to congratulate our RCIA candidates on becoming new members of our faith community.

The Right to Life Banquet, held in Blenheim, was attended by ten of our members. While there, we presented a donation from our council. Two of our members attended the Diocesan Convention in Windsor. On April 22nd, Our

Lady of Good Counsel was honoured at one of our Sunday Masses. Approximately fifty ladies took part in the procession and liturgical roles. Each year, during this Mass, we present pins to our members. It is always good for our parishioners to see that we honour different members of our council.

During the month of May, we hosted a Right to Life Baby Shower in our church. Many beautiful and needed items were donated by our parishioners. Every spring and fall, we host a seniors/shut-ins Mass at Holy Family Church. We bring them to church, where Mass begins with the crowning of Mary by one of our seniors. We assist in the ministries, and serve a luncheon for them afterwards in our hall. Our council hosted a Coffee Sunday to say goodbye to our retiring musician, member Kit Keller, who has generously agreed to continue helping us with our seniors/shut-ins Masses.

Our June meeting was a dinner meeting held at The Black Goose, which is a nice change for our last meeting before our summer holiday. We continue to look after our students, honouring them with gifts when they receive their sacraments as well as graduate. A reception was hosted by our three clustered councils for those receiving their confirmation. In June we hosted a meeting with Father Chris and the CWL presidents in our cluster in our annex. During this meeting, we

make our plans for the upcoming year.

In July, we co-hosted a reception for seminarian, Steve Echert, who has been with our cluster for the past two years. Our council gave him a monetary gift as well as giving him our good wishes on his journey to the priesthood.

During the summer, we canvass our local merchants for prizes and sell raffle tickets for our annual penny sale in October. We continue to save stamps, eye glasses, soap, candles, yarn and milk bags for third world countries. We support a young man in Ghana as well as a family in India.

Thus far, we have had a busy year. We thank God for the continued support of our pastor and parish in all that we do.

May our Lady of Good Counsel continue to bless us.

Judy



*Council News—Huron Perth Region—Sacred Heart,
Wingham—President—Marilyn van Heesch*

We organized a Victorian Tea with Listowel on April 21st. We had a good turnout. Listowel, Brussels and Wingham are one parish and along with promoting the League, it was good to socialize with our parish sisters.

Several of us took turns attending the CWL Diocesan Convention in London.

Many of our members attended the Right to Life Dinner in Wingham on May 1 and we made a sizeable donation to the new hospice near Clinton.

Our members signed up for the 12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care that we organized for May 4. We had a CWL dinner at The Knights of Columbus Centre for all of our members and had a very good turn out. It was a special evening and everything went very

well. All the service pin awards were presented at this time. It was very special to have the older ladies attend with family for the presentations. Clara Ortlieb has been a member for 70 years and 3 other members for 60 years.

We do not meet for meetings during the summer but some of our ladies looked after a luncheon for a funeral and a wedding at this time. On August 22, we had an outing to watch a one woman play called "The Downs" at the Blyth Festival Theatre. It was very funny and had a great message. We highly recommend it.

God Bless! Marilyn

Our council recently recognized years of dedication by awarding service pins. Of special note, were some women with lengthy service to CWL.

In the first picture, is Clara Ortlieb, who has contributed 70 years of service to the CWL. Pictured with her are three of her daughters, Brenda Inglis, with 5 years of service, Annette Marks, with 40 years of service, and Debbie Wickens, with 25 years of service.

In the second picture are three women who received 60 years pins, Mary Hallahan, Vera Schmidt (standing beside her daughter, Rosemary Smith), and Margaret Walters, along with our parish priest, Fr. Morrison.

Marilyn



Council News—Huron Perth Region—St. Joseph, Listowel
Co-Presidents—Paula Smith & Marie Elliott

The 2018 year commenced with a membership of 90 ladies. As we all were getting over the hustle and bustle of the Christmas season we decided to be environmentally friendly at our January Meeting and learned how to recycle our Christmas cards similar to scrapbooking. By our February meeting we were getting anxious for spring so all had the opportunity to learn how to make a spring wreath.

Many ladies attended the World Day of Prayer and we organized Holy Hours for the Parish in the month of March. We decided to get some exercise at our March meeting by learning how to line dance. In April we held our annual Spring Social with a doctor discussing positive attitude in life

with record attendance which made a profit of \$2,800. Six members attended the Annual Convention in London which was enjoyed by all.

May was a busy month as we celebrated Father Morrison's 14th Anniversary with cake at Coffee Sunday, went to a Mass at the St. Agatha Monastery and hosted a very successful Victorian Tea. Our CWL meeting was very educational as guest speaker Provincial Constable Krista Denstedt educated us on Identity Theft, Fraud, Drugs and Theft in our immediate area.

We ended our first half of the year with a Potluck at the farm of our Co-President. Our speaker Emma Drummond shared her life experiences leaving a Mennonite community and learning the ways of

life beyond.

Throughout the year our CWL presented First Communion gifts to St. Mary's School students, a \$200 scholarship to St. Michael's Secondary School, Stratford graduate, an award to St. Mary's School graduate, crucifixes to married couples, child prayer books and medals to newborns, and provided morning snacks for the 95 vacation bible camp children. We provided funeral lunches, helped with visiting the sick and shut-ins in hospital, nursing homes & home visits and with Coffee Sundays. Thanks to our hardworking and dedicated ladies as they make all of this possible.

Paula & Marie

Council News—Huron Perth Region—St. James, Seaforth
President—Helen Van Bakel

2017/2018

- Thanksgiving Raffle
- Membership drive
- Co-ordinated the Rosary Programme for St. James School
- support various causes with prayers and donations
- bought Christmas flowers for the church-Easter and Christmas
- visited the shut-ins
- Christmas dinner celebration for members
- bought and presented rosaries and pictures for students receiving the sacraments of Holy Communion and Confirmation
- participated in Spring Fling
- prepared and served funeral luncheons
- Mother's Day Raffle
- June Fun Supper

Helen

Council News—Essex Region—St. Michael, Leamington
Co-Presidents—Mary Lapos

St. Michael's annual banquet was held on May 2. Crowning of Mary service in the church was followed by a banquet at Leamington Portuguese Club. Guest speaker was John Ferguson, board director at The Bridge Youth Resource Centre for 14-24 years of age (at the previous St. Joseph's church). Twenty seven members received pins for years of service. Twenty six new members received a CWL insignia pin.

Our customary collection at the banquet for 1% Development and Peace was sent instead to our partnered diocese of Whitehorse, Yukon because of the present investigation of Development and Peace by the Conference of Bishops.

Member Anne Marie Horan was presented with a Maple Leaf Pin for her 20 years of volunteering with the Children's Aid Society. Anne transports babies who are under the protection of Children's aid from their foster homes to visits with their parents and other events. She provides layettes for the newborns coming home from

the hospital. Our CWL provides financial support and knitted sweaters.

On May 4, 2018, "12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care" began with rosary at 7:30am, mass at 8am, Eucharistic adoration 8:30 am to 7pm, with divine Mercy at 3 pm. All parishioners were invited to participate in praying the rosary (for palliative care intentions) in the chapel or at home.

Co-presidents Sr. Elaine Cole and Mary Lapos attended Tuesday and Wednesday of the diocesan convention in London and thoroughly enjoyed it.

The petition letters were received by e-mail from the Ontario Health Coalition regarding conscience protection for health care workers who do not wish to participate in MAID and forwarded (by e-mail) to the 4 candidates for the provincial election in our riding.

A farewell reception was held after evening mass on June 26 for our pastor Fr. John Pirt and associate pastor, Fr. Danny Santos and also a

welcome reception when the 2 new priests arrived, pastor Fr. Tom Ferrara and Fr. Steve Marsh.

Six ladies attended the CWL day dedicated to Mary, Untier of Knots at the Merlin shrine.

In July, prayers and honour guards were arranged at the funerals of two of our members Kay Balsam and Josie D'Annibale.

Teresa Carducci celebrated her 100th Birthday in July.

Members continue to serve as Eucharistic ministers, readers, choir members, bring communion to local nursing homes and hospital, serve funeral luncheons, volunteer at Hospice and Gleaners etc.

Mary



*Council News—Essex Region—Holy Name of Jesus, Essex,
President—Janice Rounding*

We collected 120 signatures and e-mail addresses for the Call to Conscience.

Two members served dinner at the Annual Optimist Dinner to appreciate child volunteers.

We handed out prayer booklets to the first Communicants, cross necklaces for Confirmation students and crucifixes for couples at their wedding rehearsals.

We are helping a second refugee family that St. Michael's in Leamington has sponsored, with a monetary donation.

I attended the Diocesan Convention in London. Another awesome, spiritual few days. We had a Living Rosary in our

parish prayer garden before our May meeting. Since it was a Tuesday, our parish Adoration day, we had a few more people attend.

We held a raffle of 3 beautiful planters, for Mothers' Day.

We participated and helped at the Women's Conference.

Our 84th Annual Banquet was a turkey buffet dinner prepared by our Membership Chair-Laurie Lapain and family.

We will be having at least 1 member taking the Food Safety Course.

We served ice cream at our annual parish picnic this past Sunday. The K of C served hot dogs, Squires made cotton candy; there was face

painting and a bouncy castle. Our fire department brought over a truck and some handouts for the kids, who loved to have a look around the cab.

We collected backpacks and school supplies which I will be giving to a neighbour who has been taking them to Children's Aid for us for many years.

Today, Essex Region had an outdoor luncheon, hosted by a Belle River member, honouring our recent past Regional Chair, Denise Masse and recording Secretary Lynn Taylor. We had a lovely visit and great food.

Janice

*Council News—Essex Region—St. Simon & St. Jude, Belle River,
Co-President—Linda Prestyko*

March—World Day of prayer was well attended by our ladies with four participating. A new project was started - sending thinking of you cards to random members who cannot attend the meetings from individual members as Sisters in the League. Hosted regional president's meeting.

April—Four members attended the Diocesan Convention on Monday & Tuesday. Three more members joined us on Wednesday for the sessions and banquet. May—Our

meeting began with the rosary at the grotto at the front of the church. Before our meeting we celebrated by giving pins to two members with forty years, seven with twenty-five years of service and seven new members. The evening ended with a small social.

In June we ended our meeting with a blind auction. The ladies each brought a wrapped gift and they then bid on one. You don't know what you bid on until you open it.

Our September meeting will begin with a pot luck supper.

Our bazaar will be held on November 10th from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the parish hall. Please come and join us for lunch. We have meat pies, baked goods, a great penny table and a large assortment of vendors.

Linda

*Council News—Essex Region—St. Clement, McGregor,
President—Doris Coyle*

This spring our council has been busy with various activities serving God and our parish community.

Each Tuesday evening during Lent, we lead the Stations of the Cross. This year for the first time we tried to get more young people involved so we organized a special “Stations for Young People” with the Squires and Squirettes of our parish. About 30 young people ranging in age from 11 to 16 participated. Refreshments were served afterwards. We had a lot of positive feedback and are considering making this an annual event.

A carnation and spiritual bouquet were delivered to our shut-in members during Holy Week.

In April we donated 60 “Immaculate Heart of Mary” prayer cards to the Squirettes to be put in their goody bags handed out at their annual convention.

Prayer cards were also given to the

children who made their First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion.

Our council’s Manual of Policy and Procedure was reviewed, amendments were made and voted on and accepted at our May general meeting.

Two of our members attended the Diocesan Convention.

On May 9th we held our “12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care”.

Holy Spirit pins were given to the young people who were confirmed in our parish on May 20th.

Our last meeting before summer break was held on June 4th. It began with a pizza supper and ended with our strawberry social. At this meeting our 5 new members were acknowledged and presented with their welcome package and membership pin. We also presented 6 of our members with their 10 year pin, one member with her 25 year

pin, one with 50 years and one with 60 years. Congratulations ladies!

Two students (a boy and a girl) were given a \$40 Brisebois Christian Bookstore gift certificate as a “Christian Spirit Award” at their graduation.

Our first meeting after summer break is Monday September 10th. It is our pot luck bring-a-friend meeting.

We are looking forward to attending the Fall Regional Day in Chatham on October 13th, our Annual Ladies Breakfast on October 21st to which all ladies are invited and our Day of Reflection on October 27th.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel continue to bless you and guide you in your work.

Doris

Conditioner

Use your hair conditioner to shave your legs. It's a lot cheaper than shaving cream and leaves your legs really smooth. It's also a great way to use up the conditioner you bought, but didn't like when you tried it in your hair...

Measuring Cups

Before you pour sticky substances into a measuring cup, fill it with hot water. Dump out the hot water, but don't dry the cup. Next, add your ingredient, such as peanut butter, and watch how easily it comes right out.

*Council News—Essex Region—Good Shepherd, Lakeshore
President—Louis Boyde*

"For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future full of hope." Jeremiah 29:11

God's plans for our council started 25 years ago when a group of women of St. Gregory's parish developed a charter requesting to join the Catholic Women's League of Canada as St. Gregory's council.

In God's plan this council grew when the parishes of St. Gregory the Great and St. William's joined to become one parish Good Shepherd. What an appropriate name!

Yes, we celebrated the 25th Anniversary this past November of the formation of our first council but more importantly we were celebrating the ministry of our council's members in answering God's call to service to the People of God.

Our council continues to grow. At our June meeting and Strawberry Social we presented a membership pin to 10 new members. Four of these members had participated in our Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults programme. They were welcomed into the Church at this year's Easter vigil March 31. Our council gives a gift membership of one year to the women who journey in faith in our RCIA programme.

Our council has embraced for our council meetings and growth the motto "faith, fun and fulfillment" suggested in the Spring issue of the CWL magazine in an article by

Anne Gorman National President-Elect and Chairperson of Organization.

FAITH

At our meetings we are spiritually nourished through prayer and a spiritual reflection.

To carry this further we held a Day of Reflection April 18 in our parish with Sr. Yvonne Parent CSJ as facilitator. The topic was God's Gift of Gratefulness. We invited **all** the women of our parish and sent invitations to the CWL councils of the Essex Region to participate. With Sr. Yvonne's warmth, sense of fun and personal stories the day just flew by. The day had been grey and cloudy but we all left with smiles and a sense of joy and thankfulness for God's wonderful gift of gratitude. By popular demand Sr. Yvonne will share another day of reflection with us on a new topic May 28, 2019.

FUN

At our meetings we start with social time.

May 15 we joined with the members of our parish Ladies Auxiliary to host a luncheon for all those who attended our parish Spring Mass of Anointing. Fellowship and friendship are always present as we share in a meal.

Our June 21 meeting included a Strawberry Social to which we invited all members of the parish to attend.

This Fall we are planning a Euchre Tournament to be held on November 12th. We invite all members of the parish to attend and also send out invitations to the Essex region CWL councils and the local community.

FULFILLMENT

We strive to answer God's call to serve Him through meeting the needs of our brothers and sisters. We strive to be the face of Jesus to all we meet and to become evermore aware of the needs of our neighbours.

Some of the ways we have tried to help is with donations to Street Help which serves the homeless and hungry, Windsor Residence for Young Men that supports young men 16-24 years of age as they leave homelessness behind to build new lives, Iris House who provide safe and secure supportive housing and services for persons with persistent serious mental illness.

As our council's future continues, let us follow in Mary's footsteps as we pray,

Blessed Virgin Mary,
Our Lady of Good Counsel,
help us to hear and obediently
follow the voice of the
Good Shepherd.
Help us to welcome with joy Jesus'
invitation to become his disciples,
and to always live in the certainty
of being in the hands of God
our loving Father. Amen.

Louise

Council News—Essex Region—St. John the Baptist, Amherstburg

President—Sharon Barron

In February we participated in the “Call For Conscience” Campaign.

In March, we handed out baby bottles to parishioners in support of our Lady of Guadalupe’s Home for Mothers. The final amount donated was over \$7,000. Also in March some members attended a day of reflection at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church.

During Lent, when we presented the Stations of the Cross we used “Mary’s Way of the Cross”. We purchased a rose coloured stole for our Deacon Leonard Tetreault.

Our policies and procedures were updated by Past President, Rose Beneteau.

Three members attended the Diocesan Convention in London. Two other members attended for a day for their first time. It was announced at Convention that Rose Beneteau has been appointed Regional Chair for Essex County. A wonderful surprise.

On April 26th, the Feast of our Lady of Good Counsel, our new banner was blessed at morning mass. Our old banner, purchased in 1924 was turned over to our Parish Historical Committee for safe keeping. We have had greeting cards made with the picture of our old banner on the front. It is so beautiful.



In May we held a prayer service in recognition of “12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care”. Also in May we had laminated bookmarks made for the First Communion and Confirmation children

On June 2nd, we held our 5th Annual “Olde English Tea”. As usual, our members prepared all the food for 125 women. We also sold gently used ladies accessories. A talented young fiddler entertained and donated her fee to a Children’s Cancer Charity. The ladies in attendance enjoyed the delicious

meal and dressed for the occasion....hats and all.

We hosted a reception for our newly ordained ‘home town boy’ Father Tim Theriault. We assisted at our annual Parish picnic.

We also hosted our ‘State of the Parish Dinner’.

At our final meeting/pot luck dinner in June, 12 new members were pinned. We had a British theme....even the ‘Queen’ attended.

We are working with our Social Justice Committee to have a guest speaker this Fall on the subject “Mental Health in the Digital Age” e.g. pornography. Other churches and the general public will be invited.

Some members attended the Annual Summer Retreat in Merlin.

September is looking busy as we meet again to discuss the 2019 Convention in Windsor and get back to our regular meeting schedule, after hopefully a restful summer.

We will be having a Fish Fry fundraiser at our local Columbus Club in October.

This is election year for us, so we will be selecting the new executive for 2019/2020 soon.

Sharon

Council News—Windsor Region—St. John Vianney, Windsor.

Past-president - Yvette Henkel

Our president has recovered from her surgery and is back, she would like to thank everyone for the many thoughts & prayers.

February

- speakers from Madonna House attended our meeting

March

- We have an ongoing fundraiser, selling "A Touch of Swede" dishcloths, and welcomed the distributor to speak to our group about the her history with the company and expressed her desire to continue working with us for this fundraiser
- our palm braiding workshop was a great success thanks to Betty Recker and her team of experts. It was so enjoyable and many beautiful items were created.

April

4 members from our council attended the CWL Diocesan convention held in London.

May

- we continue to host a "baby shower" in May for Birthright to collect baby items and monetary donations needed to support these struggling young women who choose to keep their babies. Everyone is welcome to join us for the evening for refreshments and fellowship, followed by a brief meeting.
- Victoria Eid, Treasurer from

Birthright joined us at this meeting. several members attended Parish of Atonement CWL council's meeting to hear Ron Dunne of Downtown Mission and learn of the many aspects of this refuge for the homeless.

- several members attended Parish of Atonement's beautiful 25th Anniversary celebration and enjoyed a lovely dinner with our sister members.
- we also went to meetings for planning Diocesan convention, which our city is hosting in April 2019 - very exciting!

June

- following a lovely Mass, we enjoy our catered dinner social before breaking for the summer. It is during this event that we present pins & certificates. In our president's absence, Yvette Henkel presented the pins.

We again handed out our newsletter & mailed the rest to members who were not able to attend the dinner and we picked "Prayer Partners". We took a collection to purchase \$5.00 Tim Horton cards to be purchased & brought to the Provincial Convention

Orders for lovely Fall Mums fundraiser are going great, they will

be delivered and picked up the first week in September.

Our July bus trip to Petrolia Play House fundraiser sold out in the first week. The bus was full of laughter & chatter until we arrived at our first stop at Parks Blueberry Farm then to the theatre to enjoy the antics of the cast of "The Andrews Brothers" performance then back on the bus, next stop dinner then home. Thanks to Diana and Gloria for your hard work organizing a lovely day.

We are again, organizing a fall fashion show with proceeds going to St. Vincent DePaul Society, which will be held Wednesday October 17th.

We are looking forward to hearing from CWL life members to speak at our September meeting to offer insight and information about CWL and to encourage members to consider stepping into leadership roles especially since this is an election year for a new CWL Parish executive team.

God bless,

Yvette



Council News—Windsor Region—Our Lady of the Atonement, Windsor, Past President—Deanna Leveque

Our Lady of the Atonement Council celebrated our 25th Anniversary this year. We held a very nice celebration with mass and dinner in June 2018 with 175 people attending.

We presented the Bellelle Guerin Award to Angie Papineau. Angie and Anna Koehl started our Chapter on January 25, 1993. Angie has been a CWL member for 37 years. She would have had 57 years if there was a CWL in Emeryville where she lived for 20 years. She tried to re-open their Council but there was no interest.



Fr. Damian MacPherson was pastor at Our Lady of the Atonement and 39 women attended our first meeting. They heard the information, liked what they heard, signed on the dotted line and became our Charter members.

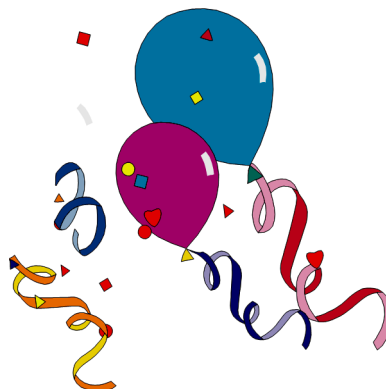
Angie guided the CWL as the first president from 1993 -1995, then again from 1998-2001. She was the

Spiritual Chairperson on our executive from 2004 - 2013. She also served on the London Diocesan Council for two years as the Windsor Regional representative.

The spirituality of the CWL attracted Angie to become a member years ago and that has always been her focus—planning retreats, reflection days, special ceremonies, preparing prayers for our monthly meetings. She continues to this day to submit spiritual material to be included in the Fall and Spring Atonement CWL newsletters.

Angie has been a very active supporter of all our programmes and activities over the years. She has maintained the Book of Life, (a record of our deceased members and Spiritual Advisers) our archives, photobooks and scrapbooks for the last 25 years.

She proudly wears her CWL pin every day. She is a wonderful friend, mentor and faithful sister to all our members and very worthy of this Award.



At our Anniversary dinner we presented CWL service pins to 4 new members, 21 ten year members, 26 twenty-five year members, 3 thirty year members, 5 thirty-five year members, and a 45 year member.

In June we held a day of reflection on the topic of Gratefulness - The Heart of Prayer, The Liberating Attitude of Gratitude and Grateful Living facilitated by our Spiritual Chairperson Sister Yvonne Parent. This took place at Holy Family Retreat House in Oxley and was attended by 23 CWL members. Fr. Michael O'Brien conducted a mass and our ladies came away refreshed and renewed in spirit.





Service Pin Awards for 2018
Congratulations to our faithful & dedicated



**Good Shepherd, Lakeshore
Essex Region**

Maple Leaf Service Pin
Audrey Rychel

25 Year Pin
Alvina Arnold
Josephine Gladysz
Diane Ruggaber
Henriette Ruggaber

10 Year Pin
Susan Brouillette

New Members

Beth McLellan
Denise Rychel
Marisa Winger
Kendall Rychel
Michelle Forde
Lyn Bondy
Emma Chenier
Larissa Gignac
Ella Hagai
Karrie Houle

**St. Michael, Leamington
Essex Region**

50 Year Pin
Lois Bechard
Argentina Cristofari

40 Year Pin
Deanna Desmarais
Lucy Howe
Lina Iacobelli
Maureen Iles
Harbah Youssef

25 Year Pin
Mary di Milo
Emily Harrison

Diane Frontera
Maria Pandeirada

**St. Benedict, Sarnia
Sarnia Lambton Region**

60 Year Pin
Armine Dennie
Anne Luciantonio
Frances McKay

50 Year Pin
Shirley Spraklin

40 Year Pin
Ann Cornell
Pat Heit
Rose Knight
Eileen Smit
Deberah Winterton

25 Year Pin
Ann Dochstader
Joyce Pare
Rosemary Poyser
Maria Signorello
Angela Sommise
Juliana Tinhla
Michaela Tinhla
Carolyn Tote
Candice Velichka
Irene Williamson

10 Year Pin
Debra Bright
Linda Iacovella
Lou Ann Seabrook

Deceased Members
Pat Daamen
Mary Frankovic
Helen Richardson
Lorrayne Slobodnik

**Sacred Heart, Sarnia
Sarnia Lambton Region**

Maple Leaf Service Pin
Anne Marie Parizeau (2017)
Marg Maheu (2018)

70 Year Pin
Martha Wilson

65 Year Pin
Nina Forbes
Wilma McNeill

60 Year Pin
Mary Parks

45 Year Pin
Ramona Kinchsular
Lois McNeil

20 Year Pin
Angela MacDonald
Suzanne Oliver
Kay McDonough
Domenica Rastin
Marguerite Reeb

10 Year Pin
Anna Kyksa
Josie Lavoratore
Betty Ruffilli

New Members
Elizabeth Kuhn
Kathy Stenkamp
Maria deGuzman

**St. Peter's Cathedral Basilica,
London
London Region**

75 Year Pin
Catherine Capitano

40 Year Pin
Cora Vazansky



(Continued on page 57)



Service Pin Awards for 2018
Congratulations to our faithful & dedicated



(Continued from page 56)

**St. Peter's Cathedral Basilica,
London
London Region—cont'd...**

25 Year Pin

Sophia Tacak
Mary Cahalah
Claire Feeney
Josephine Sansone

10 Year Pin

Veronica Abrook
Ruth Beitia
Teresita Concepcion
Valerie Cox
Teresa Eldridge
Janet Tornobuon
Deanna Holmes

**St. John Vianney, Windsor
Windsor Region**

50 Year pin

Shirley Meloche

40 Year pin

Barbara Geiger

10 Year pin

Joan Heino
Janet Marchand
Patricia Renaud
Ann Senay

5 Year Pin

Lou Anne Bryce
Jill Farkas
Erin Hebert
Carmen Lewis
Jenn Loucks
Lorraine Nikita
Jeannette Ostrogonac
Lucille Iuekket
Linda Stephens

**Insignia pin along with 'Welcome'
package for New Members**

Sandra Andrews-Robbins
Lucia Costa
Stephanie McMahon
M.J. Meyer
Louise Taylor

Certificates of Merit

Helen Biales
Mary Bell

**Immaculate Conception, Stratford
Huron Perth Region**

Honourable Mention—60 +

Leona Fleming 61 years
Marg Hilcox—61 years
Donna Crowley—63 years
Norma McIver—69 years

60 Year Pin

Therese Rousseau

50 Year Pin

Rosemarie Keller
Marie McCabe

40 Year Pin

Mary Kelly
Vera McCann

20 Year Pin

Dolores Tigani

15 Year Pin

Margaret Bettridge
Marion Boyd
Joanne Carr
Marlene Currah
Elizabeth Nichols

**St. Peter, Goderich
Huron Perth Region**

70 Year Pin

Mary O'Keefe
Marguerite Miller

60 Year Pin

Rosemarie Evans

50 Year Pin

Pat Armstrong
Marie Ange Denomme

40 Year Pin

Vera Bird
Teresa Hickey
Karla Hogan
Eveleen McDonagh
Lynda Allin
Joan McGillivray

25 year pin

Emmilla Doherty
Anne McCauley
Marilyn Williamson
Marie Middleton

10 Year Pin

Beverly Bugler
Cathy Wade

**Holy Family, Wallaceburg
Chatham Kent Region**

60 Year Pin

Germaine Burm

50 Year Pin

Madeleine VanDeVelde

40 Year Pin

Sue Anderson
Lynda Van Damme



(Continued on page 58)



Service Pin Awards for 2018
Congratulations to our faithful & dedicated



(Continued from page 57)

**Holy Family, Wallaceburg
Chatham Kent Region (cont'd)**

25 Year Pin
Sharon Duchene
Mary Lou Racz
Anna Vitek

10 Year Pin
Pauline Laba

New Members
Louise Benn
Mary Jo Pataki
Michelle McNeil
Emily Racz
Phyllis Toscani

Merit Awards
Mary Ellen Crow
Angela Huey



You might think you don't matter in this world, but because of you, someone has a favourite mug to drink their tea out of each morning that you bought them. Someone hears a song on the radio and it reminds them of you. Someone has read a book you recommended to them and gotten lost in it's pages. Someone remembered a joke you told them and smiled to themselves on the bus. Someone's tried on a top and felt beautiful because you complimented them on it. Someone has a memory that makes you grin that involves you. Someone now likes themselves that little bit more because you made them feel good.

Never think you don't have an impact. Your fingerprints can't be wiped away from the little marks of kindness that you've left behind.

