

# League Lingo

LONDON DIOCESAN NEWSLETTER

2019 Spring Issue

Deadline for Next Issue  
September 1st, 2019

Inside this issue:

President's Report	2
Spiritual Advisor's Report	3
Diocesan Executive Reports	4/8
Diocesan Committee Reports	9/10
Regional News	10/13
Council News	15/34
Service Pin Awards	35/36

Special points of interest:

- Diocesan Convention Ad—Page 13
- Poster for ONroute Campaign in July re Human Trafficking—Page 15
- 2 Letters P 11 / 12 re the Detroit River Cleanup (DRCC) and the Canada- Ontario Agreement and Great Lakes Protection See Communications article P 10

London Diocesan Annual Convention—  
Windsor—April, 29, 30 & May 1, 2019



Caring for our Environment

Called  
Wanted  
Loved



## *President's Report—Rebecca McCarrell*

*“Don’t you see how wonderfully kind, tolerant, and patient God is with you? Does this mean nothing to you? Can’t you see that his kindness is intended to turn you from your sin?” (Romans 2:4)*

I am so grateful that God has far more patience with me than I deserve! I am thankful for this as I muddle my way through this year. He is closing doors, and opening windows! My job is to journey to those new windows in life and to follow his lead. I often lose my way, it seems.

Those of you who have had a significant loss in your life know what I am speaking of. One of my best friends who lost her husband the year before last tells me it is “widow’s brain” .... seems to file away information which disappears for extended times. But God is great, and He brings us through these trials perhaps with some scars, confusion or bumps but we emerge like a butterfly from our cocoon. Some take longer than others. Although I feel spring is near, I am grateful for His loving arms cocooning me through the time of loss. He gives me strength to continue, albeit differently than before.

We have some exciting times coming up within the CWL. We are embarking on a journey within the National organization of exploration of change to mold ourselves into an organization for the future. There are many opportunities available for learning skills to lead us into the future through faith, fun and fulfilment. **Won’t you take up the challenge and mitigate change at your**

council. It is exciting!

Our new National President, Anne-Marie Gorman has chosen the theme Care for our Common Home. In my meetings with Anne-Marie, she had shared her vision with me. This was the birthplace for our London Theme: Educate, Engage, Empower, Environment Care. At our convention in April, a panel discussion will be held on Tuesday to bring these themes to life. Sister Joan Atkinson will lead us through the Laudato Si – Pope Francis’ encyclical on the environment on Wednesday.

By now, our Lenten Retreat led by Anne Shore will be completed. My wish for each of you is a time for reflection and renewal so that we may become **Easter People, evangelizing God’s word** for all.

Courage For Freedom, the campaign to bring awareness of the prevalence of human trafficking along the 400 highway corridors and ONroute stops throughout Ontario is in full swing. Please **continue to send your MPP’s the postcards and emails supporting this campaign.** Also, your \$25 donation is needed to support the video campaigns that will air in July 2019. Please make sure you attend the July 30th activity at an ONroute in your area. See our Community Life directives for more information.

The Provincial Convention is being held July 13th through 17th in Kingston. This is an amazing opportunity to meet other like-minded women of faith. It is a truly uplifting experience that shows you the greater works of

the League. Try to attend...join me on the train...Train 70 connecting with Train 40 at Union Station, Toronto. I will be in Business Class, Car #1. Train travel is the **absolute way to travel...it is relaxing, especially when you travel with friends!** Make sure you use a CAA discount to get the best pricing!

August 17th through 21st the National Convention will be in the great city of Calgary! Come and enjoy what the west has to offer! Theresa Ryan and I will be representing us there. It is where **the fire of the League begins...** come and meet new friends and old!

Our Fall Regional meetings will continue with 3 venues for 2019. Thank you to these councils for welcoming us to their communities:

- September 28th: Sacred Heart Parish in Wingham
- October 19th: Holy Angels Parish in St. Thomas, hosted by Our Lady of Sorrows, Aylmer, St. Anne’s, St. Thomas, Holy Angels, St. Thomas
- October 26th: Visitation Parish in Comber

More information will be out during the summer with directions and a tentative agenda.

Questions??? Contact me [presidentcwl@londondiocese@gmail.com](mailto:presidentcwl@londondiocese@gmail.com).

I will try my best to answer and will seek answers if unknown.

Blessings to each of you for a Blessed Lent and Joy filled Easter! See you at convention!



## *Spiritual Advisor, Rev. Fr. Greg Bonin*

Dear Ladies of the Catholic Women's League,

As I enter my fourth year (April 20<sup>th</sup>) as your Diocesan Spiritual Director, every time I attend a CWL function, I am always renewed in my Spirit of Service and Giving! As I ask myself the question why, it is because of what I witness by such great leadership and devoted women leading the CWL into a Future Full of Hope. It never goes unnoticed the behind the scenes of ministry that the CWL carry out daily in their lives. I just sit back in awe and wonder how so many women take seriously the work of the CWL !

On this positive note, I look forward to our upcoming Diocesan Convention here in Windsor April 29<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> and May 1<sup>st</sup>. Again, another CWL experience that I know will renew me as a priest and as a man of faith to keep on going.

Please pray for our Holy Father, Bishop Fabbro and Bishop Dabrowski, and all the priests, deacons, religious and laity of the Diocese of London daily! With so many challenges in our Church today we need each other more now more than ever to simply keep it all together.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the Convention,

Sincerely yours in Christ,  
*Father Greg*



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

By the time you read this article, Lent will be in full swing. If you are looking for some variety in your Lenten prayer life, you can check out various websites. Some suggestions from the Ontario Provincial Council were: [www.saltandlighttv.org/blogfeed/fr-anthony](http://www.saltandlighttv.org/blogfeed/fr-anthony) and <https://henrinouwen.org/resources/daily-meditation/>. Development and Peace always has a great Share Lent programme you may also want to check. Another good source is the small booklet titled “Not By Bread Alone” by Mary DeTurris Poust, which has daily reflections. If you are a history buff, you may want to read the book “Killing Jesus” by Bill O'Reilly. This book focuses on the historical events that lead to Jesus' crucifixion.

In the recent copy of the League magazine, the new prayer for our theme “Care for our Common Home” was included. A good practice would be to recite this prayer at your monthly meeting.

In January, I sent out a request for a spiritual bouquet. This is to be presented to Archbishop Brendan O'Brien at the Provincial Convention in July from all the councils in Ontario. I asked that it be returned to me by Easter (April 21<sup>st</sup>), but have decided that May 1<sup>st</sup> would be a better date. You can even bring it to me at the convention. Hopefully I will see many of you at our annual Diocesan Convention in Windsor April 29<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> and May 1<sup>st</sup>.

Mark your calendars for our annual day at the Our Lady of the Rosary Shrine in Merlin. It has been changed to Wednesday, JULY 10<sup>th</sup> due to the change in the Ontario Provincial Convention

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

Blessings,  
*Mary Lappan*



## *President-Elect – Theresa Ryan*

### *Membership & Organization Standing Committee*

As an organization the CWL is going to be 99 years old this year. This is quite an achievement. The reason to be a national organization was to have a voice to deal with immigration in 1920. Ever since, we have been a voice to deal with many important issues. To be a national organization is important but it would not be possible without our grass roots, our individual councils. Some of the reasons for attending meetings may have changed, but a lot of our work has not. Times have changed and we must learn to adapt so that we can remain current.

What are the stumbling blocks for getting women to accept running for positions? I think a big one is FEAR. They do not know, what they do not know and that scares them. I think that we have to do a lot better job in mentorship. It would be desirable if it started at the bottom and went all the way to the top. Many councils have eliminated chairperson positions, which are basically a good way of starting to get educated. Think of them as stepping stones. These different chairs can get a member excited about not only what is happening in their council but also what is happening on a diocesan, provincial or national level. We need to get excited about taking leadership roles and not walk around like living

martyrs. The other mistake is allowing women to stay in the same position for multiple years. These positions are part of the stepping stones and if you have to skip over them, not only is it a big step for the next woman to take but it is a learning position lost. Having been in these positions for some time makes them quite comfortable and they do not want to push themselves to go higher, which is a real detriment to their council.

Recycling is a good thing except when it comes to leadership. In order for our organization to grow we need growth. By taking on positions repeatedly you make it easy for no one else to step up, and your council begins to stagnate. As an executive member your job is mentoring and grooming someone to be your replacement. I know a lot of councils have great difficulty getting women to stand for office or do not even have a president. I know there are many reasons for that. In my experience, I belong to the first generation of women who worked outside the home. So we are busier, than before, with no need to go out to socialize.

Our needs as an organization have not changed that much and we are still a valuable asset to the parish and the community as a whole. We need to educate our members

and a good way to do that is to send members (and not the same ones every year) to our annual convention, fall regional meetings and retreats. If you do not have an education fund set up, I encourage you when you do your annual budget to set money aside for one. If someone is willing to give of their time to go and get educated the least your council can do is to pay their expenses. Of course when they get back they will make a report and hopefully share what they have experienced.

Life members and diocesan executive are a resource for you as well. We are blessed to have nine life members that can help advise you. Don't be afraid to contact them.

We have several councils that exist without their churches any more. Kudos to them. Obviously they do not have much of an executive but they remain a council and do what they can with prayer.

Don't forget to pray to Our Lady of Good Counsel

*Theresa*

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Look for the ad for the London Convention on April 29th, 30th & May 1st. Found on page 14

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



*The universe* CCCB Publications. As you know our national theme is “Care for Our Common Home”.

With *Laudato Si’, mi’ Signore* (Praise be to you, My Lord), Pope Francis has given us a compelling, new kind of social encyclical on *Care for our Common Home*—the Earth. The title is inspired by St. Francis of Assisi’s *Canticle of the Creatures* which, Pope Francis says, “reminds us that our common home is like a sister with whom we share our life and a beautiful mother who opens her arms to embrace us. This sister now cries out to us because of the harm we have inflicted on her by our irresponsible use and abuse of the goods with which God had endowed her. ... We have forgotten that we ourselves are dust of the Earth (*Genesis 2:7*); our very bodies are made of her elements, we breathe her air and we receive life and refreshments from her waters.” Pope Francis will not have us treat the urgent issue of the environment in isolation or piecemeal, as he puts it. He wants us to ask ourselves the more poignant questions:

**“What kind of a world do we want to leave to those who come after us, to children who are now growing up?”**  
**“What need does the Earth have of us?”** He adds: “Unless we struggle with these deeper issues, I do not believe that our concern for ecology will produce significant results.” He makes a strong appeal for us to adopt a very difficult “change of direction,” indeed, “an ecological conversion” – but not without hope, always convinced that “humanity still has the ability to work together in building our common home.” Though at times Pope Francis addresses Catholics, Christians and believers directly, he wishes to address every person on the planet. He wants to enter into dialogue with all people. Pope Francis speaks of the striking example of the teaching of his friend Ecu-  
menical Patriarch Bartholomew: “To commit a crime against the natural world is a sin against ourselves and a sin against God.” Patriarch Bartholomew is regarded as the spiritual leader of some 300 million Orthodox Christians worldwide. The pope also firmly establishes himself in the Church’s social teaching tradition while recognizing the work of numerous scientists, philosophers, theologians and civic groups. He regularly credits various bishops’ conferences around the world to confirm points he is making in his text.

Pope Francis returns to St. Francis to help us see how, “an integral ecology calls for openness which will take us to the heart of what it is to be human.” He calls on us to approach nature with awe and wonder – ***“Rather than a problem to be solved, the world is a joyful mystery to be contemplated with gladness and praise.”***

The intensive use of fossil fuels is where we meet the problem of global warming, or climate change. *Laudato Si’* carefully sums up the current scientific consensus on the causes and effects of burning fossil fuels and presents the many levels of the problem. One of those global wounds is thirst – thirst for clean, drinkable water that will not spread disease and will not kill our children. Some parts of the world are terribly afflicted by “water poverty,” while other parts of the world continue to waste water and to pollute lakes and rivers and seas with detergents, chemicals and other waste products such as plastics. My challenge is to rid ourselves of the use of plastic water bottles. Let’s shop with reusable bags, preferably cloth. I know what a huge challenge this is since it is a struggle for me too—but baby steps first! Perhaps you would like to explore the Blue Communities Project. The website is [www.Canadians.org/blue\\_communities](http://www.Canadians.org/blue_communities). They have a good video with other connections as well.

Those of you who know me are aware of my liking of Max Lucado. So here is a quote I thought fits well with what I am trying to say.

“Nature is God’s first missionary. Where there is no Bible there are sparkling stars. Where there are not preachers there are spring times...”





## *Past-president—Angela Pellerin* *Historian, Nominations & Elections*

Has your council ever put together a history book? If so, do your members have a chance to look at it on special occasions? Do you put your photo albums and old minutes out for the ladies to look at? It is so nice to sometimes look into the past...can bring back fond memories of those who are no longer with us.

When looking through “The Canadian League *Beyond the 90’s*” put together by Honorary Life Member Lucille Cullen, I found the following:

### The Nominating Committee

The committee has assembled, their task is plain to see  
For each CWL office – to provide a nominee.  
Armed with the membership list and guarding tradition tight  
They determine that all contacted shall give their final word tonight.

Ruth offers to plan programmes for six months or there-about,

“But we need a year’s commitment” ...her name was just crossed out.

Overworked Mary felt too guilty to leave them in the lurch,

To decline a job is sinful since the League works with the church!

As president, Patricia got little done last year.

“Come one, come all, and work” she would say but couldn’t make them hear.

So, put Joan back in office – get the projects done in peace  
She has ready-made committees – three cousins and a niece!

For Communications, there is Alice – will she stand another year?

She should, the job seems simple even though duties are unclear.

But Alice says she’s “had it” with office-holding ranks.  
(It was a year without direction and without a word of thanks).

“Just read the monthly minutes, the job’s a snap” they say,

And with ease they place on a ballot the name of Daisy Mae.  
But does Daisy know of records and bushels of printed stuff?

And monthly executive meetings? “She’ll find out soon enough!”

As long as Flo is healthy, we’ve no need to explore

A recruit for Education and Health – she’s good for one year more

“But twenty years is plenty, and Jane’s requested the position.”

Yet Flo will only relinquish

through the process of attrition.

“It’s not my group to work with” Jean had the nerve to say,

Had she noticed her ideas always received a hearty “nay”?  
Susan agreed to stand for membership, though her talents didn’t suit,

She held the office last year and never did recruit.

So on and on it went until calls to nominees ceased.

But with their finished work, they weren’t very pleased.

“We need new members and ideas, they sighed – it’s been the same for years,

Why can’t we find and keep more willing volunteers?”

(Source unknown/adapted for C W L N o m i n a t i n g Committees)

Does any of this sound familiar in your councils? I know it isn’t election time right now, but perhaps you can keep this handy for your next elections.

I hope to see many of you at the diocesan convention in Windsor.

God bless.

*Angela*





## *Treasurer—Cam Cadotte*

What a winter!

I'm sure the arrival of spring will be welcomed by all.

Well here we are – another Lenten season upon us. It seems like yesterday we were celebrating the birth of Jesus and now we are looking forward to His Resurrection.

During this most holy of Liturgical seasons we are asked to change our hearts. Will this be your “best Lent ever”, the one where you accomplish all you plan? Or will you lose your determination half way through and fall off the wagon, so to speak. Don't be discouraged. It's never too late to start over. We don't have to be perfect. Jesus just asks us to do our best.

I hope many of you attended our annual Lenten retreat in Chatham. This would have been a great way to start off the Lenten season. Especially since it was at the very beginning of Lent.

I was unable to attend as I was preparing a meal for our Hearing Impaired community who were having their retreat.

Once again, a big THANK YOU to all the treasurers who sent their reports. I received only 47 reports. Without your reports I am not able to give an accurate report to our Provincial Treasurer, Patricia Rivest. But for those that I received it shows just how generous the London Diocesan Councils are.

Please use only the remittance forms with my name on it and

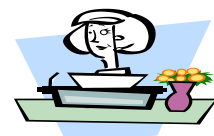
make the cheques payable to The Catholic Women's League of Canada. Discard any forms with **Mary Lappan's name on them.** If you don't have any with my name and address, please call or email me and I will send them to you.

I hope many of you will take the opportunity to attend our Diocesan Convention in Windsor. It will be held on April 29th, 30th and May 1<sup>st</sup>.

Have a blessed Lenten season. May Our Lady of Good Counsel continue to bless our homes and families.

*Cam*

## *Recording Secretary—Wilhelmina Kole*



*“What concrete actions can we take in our daily lives that will promote the common good as it relates to justice, peace and the care of creation?” - ofs in the Franciscan Voice Canada.*

As I sit and contemplate on what to say, a winter storm is raging outside. This has me day dreaming about Spring with buds bursting open on trees and plants working on giving us beautiful blooms. Oh well, that will happen in its own time.

First of all, I would like to thank all the parish councils that sent in their Parish Council Information

sheet before the deadline date. It made compiling this information much less stressful for me. For those who had January elections, thank you as well for sending in the revised information.

This chair has been a bit of a challenge for me, but as the time passes, I am becoming more confident in my abilities. I know Our Lord and Our Lady of Good Counsel “have my back” and are busy guiding me in this position through the ladies on our council.

As I spoke of in one of my directives, it is important to keep

precise records of activities and motions to have an accurate history of your council for future members to access. Let us celebrate our good works!

Our Diocesan Convention is April 29th, 30th, & May 1st, 2019. I hope to see and celebrate this time with you.

May God bless all of you and may Our Lady of Good Council continue to guide us in our work for the League.

*Willi*

*Christian Family Life Standing Committee*  
*Chairperson—Denise Lalonde Morris*



Our new theme is “Care for Our Common Home”.

The ministries in Christian Family Life can easily get involved with caring for the earth and all its’ surroundings. Since some of the restrictions for donations to Development and Peace have been lifted we can make donations to the organizations that offer clean safe water to the underprivileged countries. Organizations that teach families how to grow good nutritious food without harmful antibiotics and growth hormones, can once again receive our help.

Sanctity of Life is another area where our councils can remain active. What better way to care for our common home than making sure children continue to be created and enjoy all the benefits of a happy, healthy and safe environment?

Youth is another ministry under this chair. With our guidance and constant promotion of caring for our Earth, today’s young will provide their future generations with a green earth and they will hopefully not have to worry about their carbon footprints. How often do today’s youth get asked to reduce and recycle, but are they getting a very good example from

those around them.

How can some of these things be accomplished? First we should pray together. We can organize different days of prayer and include the elderly, the young, the disabled, separated or divorced and religious sisters and priests. Next we can plan awareness days that again include all of the above people. Finally we must constantly make the local, provincial and national politicians aware of what we believe in.

I have just finished the Annual report for our diocese and would like to thank all of you for all the wonderful work your councils do. **It’s my hope to see some of you at our Lenten Retreat on March 9<sup>th</sup> in Chatham and to many of you at this year’s annual convention in Windsor on April, 29<sup>th</sup> to May 1<sup>st</sup>.** God Bless you all and safe travels.

*Prayer for the Family*

Lord Jesus, You are the centre of the holy family. Help us to learn that our Christian families need Your love in their midst. Inspired by Your example, May we love one another unselfishly.

Mary, mother of God and our mother, teach us your ways of peace within the family.

God of grace and wisdom, show us how to be patient and kind, slow to speak harshly and quick to forgive each other.

Bless all grandparents, parents and lone parents, Lord. Be gentle in Your care for all children-

Cherish all women, Lord, especially those about to give birth. Guide all fathers to know the wisdom of your ways.

Be with the sick and comfort the lonely, Strengthen those who follow you in religious orders.

May our homes reflect the harmony of Nazareth as we share Your love with our neighbours.

We make this prayer through Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

*{Taken from Christian Family Life Study Kit}*

*Denise*





*Communications Standing Committee*  
*Chairperson—Denise Masse*



The closer one becomes to God, the simpler they become. Keep communication close to God-clear and simple. –Unknown

Life continually is in a constant state of change. As Lent comes upon us, so does spring. Both are a time for renewal. I am so grateful that our 10th annual Lenten Retreat had Ann Shore focusing on the Living Waters. Thank-you to Pat Rivest for beginning the tradition and to Mary Lappan for organizing this year's retreat. The living waters indeed fill and sustain us and as we thirst for the Lord, we can fulfill this thirst by protecting our waters, as they need to be cared for. We are called to be stewards of the Earth and this Lent why not make part of your almsgiving acts of stewardship? Many ideas can be found on our website.

The very definition of alms involves giving to others as an act of virtue, either materially or in the sense of providing capabilities, such as education. Why not educate others on the importance of protecting our common good and avoiding the "Tragedy of the Commons". Since water is owned communally, it is often taken for granted. One group trying to educate others about the importance of water ecosystems is the Detroit River Canadian Cleanup group. Their website can be found at: <http://detroitriver.ca>. Their motto is: Working together to protect, restore and enhance the Detroit River ecosystem. Their RAP co-ordinator is Claire Sanders who will be one of the panelists at convention. Please see the two examples of letters you can send to ensure the good works of this group continue. These will also be posted under the "Take Action" tab on the "Home" page.

The website has been growing beautifully as we continue to strive to give you the best resource tool we can give. Working collaboratively with Loretta Ayotte is a pleasure and her dedication to the website is appreciated. I hope you like the new tabs that have been created thus far, such as the "Take Action" tab from the "Home" page, or the new section under "Events" that include dates to remember. We have made about 100 updates and changes thus far.

We also hope the "Events" page is satisfying the three E's: Educate, Engage and Empower. I have been researching the environmental dates and finding information I hope is valuable. Also we post items that are exclusively Catholic Women's League events. Our current site does have some limitations and we are looking to expand to be able to add items that were well received at Fall Regional Days, such as our "Interactive Map" and "Calendar of Events". We continue to receive positive feedback about the ease of finding information and resources. Please continue to provide feedback, as it is appreciated. You can contact me at my personal email or the one for communications:

[cwllondoncommunications@gmail.com](mailto:cwllondoncommunications@gmail.com).

Thank-you to Sandra Cabiddu for her continued dedication and hard work on our publication of the League Lingo. We appreciate your time and talents. To the councils able to contribute, we appreciate you sharing your stories.

**Get your cameras and photos ready!** We will be having a photo contest at the Convention. Categories include: Active Outdoors, Iconic Landscapes, Urban Sprawl, Wild Weather, Flora(Plants, Trees and Flowers), Fauna, Favourite National/Provincial Park, Lakes and Rivers, Ecosystems, Stewardship in Action, Endangered Species, and Oceans. Look for more details in my directive and on our website, or from your Regional Chair. I look forward to seeing everyone at Convention.

*Communications Standing Committee*  
*Chairperson—Denise Masse*



I would like to thank all Communication Chairs, or those acting in the capacity on behalf of your council for filling out the annual reports to National. In compiling the 69 responses I found that 42, councils or 61% of councils had the chair of communications vacant, while 27 or 39% had this position filled. I have to admit that the more I work in this chair, the more I realize the importance of having our Catholic Women's League stories told.

Target areas that are under-used include: news releases for your council, advertising in local media, being a part of the parish website, producing a newsletter. All of the latter items are beneficial to building and promoting the good works of your council, while providing information about the League and the opportunities that are provided by membership, as well as who benefits from the good works. Perhaps instead of a communications chair, a committee could be formed under the chair, or a committee can do the work of the chair collaboratively to get the message out. The beauty of this chair in today's technological age is that most of the work can be done at anytime in the convenience of one's home. This may be appealing to members who cannot always make meetings and would like to contribute in some way.

Human trafficking has been an issue many have identified as being interested in, over half of our councils do not know where their member of parliament/candidates/political parties stand on human trafficking or pornography. With a federal election looming, now may be a time to find out? Perhaps someone can work on the latter and inform the council with the legislative chairperson? Just over half participate in our Postcard campaign. For this we are grateful and hope to have even more join the fight against Pornography. We also encourage councils to work with the resolutions chair to take action on Resolution 2017.02, 2004.11 and 2002.11. So far between 7-44% of councils have been able to do so.

Compassionate love, shown in kind deeds of mercy, can speak a language of its own when no other communication is possible. -Fr. Andrew Apostoli, CFR

I want to thank every member for the tireless work they do that often crosses several chairs, involves many committees and shows the accomplishments that are born out of working as a team, love for the Lord, for those in need and each other.

The World Water Day Challenge from provincial has a list of things that as tree huggers my son and I learned about and tweaked as the years went on. The savings were always welcome! Soon my husband was on board and my son has passed along the information and follows the practices now in his own household. I continue to teach my students to do the same and many families say the money they save can be put in a vacation fund to get their kids on board! Take the challenge, or if you have already met the challenge in your household, pass along the challenge to someone else. Continue to ride the wave of stewardship. Who knows how far we can reach?

Blessings,  
Denise

SAMPLE LETTER for Detroit River Canadian Cleanup Support

Please copy and send to your MPP and Doug Ford

**To:** [doug.fordco@pc.ola.org](mailto:doug.fordco@pc.ola.org)

**Cc:** [rod.phillips@pc.ola.org](mailto:rod.phillips@pc.ola.org); [lgretzky-co@ndp.on.ca](mailto:lgretzky-co@ndp.on.ca); [tnatyshak-co@ndp.on.ca](mailto:tnatyshak-co@ndp.on.ca)

**Subject:** Canada-Ontario Agreement and Great Lakes Protection

The Honourable Doug Ford, MPP  
Premier of Ontario  
Parliament Buildings  
Queen's Park

Dear Mr. Premier,

Our volunteer based Public Advisory Council is an independent adjunct to the Detroit River Canadian Cleanup based in Windsor-Essex. The DRCC is jointly funded through the Canada-Ontario Agreement by the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks partnering with Environment Canada. International in scope, the DRCC meets regularly with representatives from the U.S. side of the river.

During the current calendar year, the provincial and federal governments will be working toward a new COA agreement. In the meantime PAC urges the Government of Ontario to continue funding the current COA until its expiration In December 2019. Doing so will ensure the government's commitment to making restoration and protection of the Great Lakes a priority, as noted in the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks' 'Made in Ontario Environment Plan'. Commitment to Great Lakes restoration remains of utmost importance. Thank you for your consideration.

Yours for an improved and cleaner Great Lakes,  
[Name, Title, Location](#)

c.c. Hon. Rod Phillips, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks  
Lisa Gretzky, MPP Windsor-West  
Taras Natyshak, MPP Essex

Date  
Your Name  
Your Address  
Your phone number

Your MPP name here and for Location  
Office Address for MPP  
Email for MPP

Dear **MPP's name** ,

My name is , a constituent in this riding as a resident of at **your address**. I am a member-at-large of the Public Advisory Council of the Detroit River Canadian Cleanup (DRCC). The DRCC is responsible for the Remedial Action Plan (RAP) for the Detroit River with the goal of restoring all the beneficial uses of the river. The Council is an independent adjunct to the DRCC and is comprised of volunteers representing environmental groups such as the Essex County Field Naturalists, the Little River Enhancement Group and non affiliated individuals.

The group has one paid employee, a full time RAP Coordinator whose salary is funded jointly by Environment and Climate Change Canada and the Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (now the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks) under the terms of the Canada-Ontario Agreement (COA). The Canada-Ontario Agreement on Great Lakes Water Quality and Ecosystem Health is a plan that helps the province carry out the Great Lakes Strategy. It also helps Canada meet commitments under the Canada-US Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement.

The reason I am writing to you is that the Provincial Government has not provided information on the funding for the Remedial Action Plan and the outreach activities of the Detroit River Canadian Cleanup beyond March 2019. The federal government has committed funding until 2020. So I am requesting that you urge your government to provide assurance that funds will be forthcoming so that our RAP Coordinator and the committee's activities will be able to continue their important work. As a Lake Erie shoreline resident I know how the health of the lake is dependent on the health of the Detroit River.

The Public Advisory Council understands **MPP's name** that your government is committed to balancing the Provincial budget and all expenditures need to be examined. We do however commend to you the importance of continuity in protecting and improving the quality of the waters of the Great Lakes and the need to live up to our international commitments.

I ask again **MPP's name** that you intercede on our behalf and request a budget that includes funding for the DRCC and the other areas of concern in the Great Lakes Basin. Your early response would be greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,  
**Name, Titles, Location**



April 29-May 1, 2019

Catholic Women's League  
99th London Diocesan Convention

For full information go to  
[www.cwllondon.ca](http://www.cwllondon.ca)

**St. Clair Centre for the Arts**  
201 Riverside Dr. W., Windsor  
Hosted by: Windsor-Essex



*Community Life Standing Committee  
Chairperson—Mary Ann Horne White*



It is hard to believe this cold and snowy winter is almost over and spring will soon be upon us. We have shared World Day of Prayer March 1<sup>st</sup> in our communities. Diocesan Lenten Retreat was Saturday March 9<sup>th</sup> in Chatham. Hope you were able to attend. We continue through Lent in fasting and prayer to prepare for Easter. All councils are encouraged to donate to Development and Peace and support the Share Lent Program in their parishes. Request your funds go to the 130-member agencies who support the values of our Catholic Faith. Visit their website for more information. [www.devp.org/en/sharelent2019/materials](http://www.devp.org/en/sharelent2019/materials)

I'd like to thank all who sent in their annual reports. You do amazing work in your CWL's and communities. In the last year, Human Trafficking Awareness and Education has taken place all through the diocese. We have reached out to the homeless, the poor, those who suffer from addictions, shut-ins and those who need our love and help in Canada and in developing countries.

Check out the annual report book at our 2019 Convention for all the reports. The convention committee is planning a warm welcome to all who attend the London Diocesan Convention in Windsor April 29<sup>th</sup>-May 1<sup>st</sup>.

Our National theme is "Care for our Common Home". We are responsible to take care of the earth.

March 22<sup>nd</sup> is World Water Day. Take steps to become aware of water usage and reduce consumption.

During Lent and through the year, look within your hearts. Love your neighbour as yourself. Forgive each other and start anew with the grace of God.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the London Diocesan convention in Windsor.

*Mary Ann*



*League Lingo—Editor, Sandra Cabiddu*

This has been quite the winter weatherwise and with me breaking my left arm 3 weeks before Christmas. I was in a cast until 6 weeks ago, and now I am told I have to have surgery because a nerve in the hand has become pinched and needs to be fixed. Hopefully in the next week to 10 days.

Please take note of the poster on the next page with important information with regard to the ONroute 'World Day to End Slavery' for one day on July 30<sup>th</sup>. The poster is on Page 11 of this newsletter.

On pages 11 & 12 are 2 letters where I insert the forms. These letters are for you to copy and send to Doug Ford the Ontario Premier re the Canada Agreement & Great Lakes Protection, and the other letter is for you to send to your local Member of Parliament, re The Detroit River Cleanup (DRCC) Remedial Action Plan.

Please pass this information on to your local CWL council.

I look forward to seeing you all at our convention in Windsor next month.

I wish you all a Blessed Easter with

hopes you will be able to spend some of the holiday with your families.

God Bless & may Our Lady of Good Counsel watch over us all.

*Sandra*



# SAVE THE DATE



Join us on World Day to End Slavery for one hour  
at your nearest ONroute location on July 30th at 9:20 am  
Help raise awareness about human trafficking together!

## #ProjectONroute

Over 60% of all human trafficking in Canada is initiated along the 400 Series Highways.



**COURAGE  
FOR FREEDOM**

[courageforfreedom.org](http://courageforfreedom.org)

## *Resolutions Standing Committee*

### *Chairperson—Joan Lobsinger*



While reviewing the annual reports, I was pleased to see that some councils do take time to study and act on past resolutions. Perhaps next year all councils will. It is very easy for you to access resolutions at [www.cwl.ca](http://www.cwl.ca) and [www.cwl.on.ca](http://www.cwl.on.ca).

We are in the season of Lent. Pope Francis tells us “Lent comes providentially to reawaken us, to shake us from our lethargy.” I encourage you to take a look and see which resolution(s) may be of importance to your council, which one(s) may shake your council up, and then, take the necessary action(s).

Are you and/or your council participating in OPC's Kick-off for National Focus on Water?

The poster and memo re: water conservation can be found at [www.cwl.on.ca](http://www.cwl.on.ca). I have decided to turn off the tap while brushing my teeth. I found that is a savings of approximately 6.5 cups or one third of a gallon of water. Multiply that by the number of times I brush my teeth and I'm amazed at how much water I wasted and now conserve in one small act. Reducing shower time by one minute saves 2.1 gallons of water. Set your timers ladies.

Convention is right around the corner! I hope you are planning to attend the Resolution Dialogue on Monday April 29th at 2:30 to discuss the proposed resolutions for our 2019 Convention. The two proposed resolutions are: 2019-01 LON Draft, “Abortion

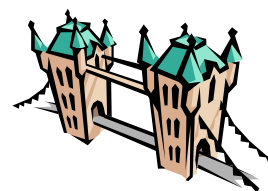
and the Effects on Mental Health”, and 2019-02 LON Draft, “Equal Access to Permanent Resident Status, an Amendment to the Express Entry System under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act as it relates to Religious Workers”. Thank you to Blessed Sacrament Council, Chatham and to members of the diocesan executive along with members of St. Michael's Council, London for all your hard work in preparing these two resolutions.

I look forward to seeing you at Convention!

*Joan*

## *Regional News—Chatham Kent*

### *Chairperson—Mary Clare Latimer*



The Chatham-Kent (CK) Region councils have continued to grow in their faith and witness to the love of God through ministry and service over the winter season of 2018-19. All councils have been encouraged to invest in the education of their members, learning more about National's strategic planning and “next steps” as presented at Fall Regional. More councils are budgeting to send members on a regular basis to Diocesan Convention, with consideration to even attend

Provincial and/or National convention, when held close by. All Chatham Kent councils enthusiastically engaged in Farmtown 1-9-99 programme and are looking forward to participating in the ONroute Corridor Anti-Trafficking Campaign in July 2019. Empowered Chatham Kent councils participated in “Project Warmth”, assisted in preparation of a local council 2019 resolution initiative and are ready to host the Annual Diocesan Retreat,

Saturday March 9th at the Spirit and Life Centre. Chatham Kent Region councils are also pleased to announce, planning is underway for our 100th Anniversary Diocesan 2020 Convention, being held in Chatham April 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Save the date!!

*Mary Clare*





## *Regional News—Sarnia Lambton* *Chairperson—Patricia Sloan*

The CWL women of Sarnia Lambton were very busy these past months. We continue to grow in faith and witness to the love of God through Ministry and Service.

All Councils had successful bazaars, teas, etc. to continue their work by giving of themselves and others. Through these endeavours, many Councils supported the homeless, the exploited, the sick and all those less fortunate by donating to St. Vincent de Paul, Hospice, Women's Interval Home and men's homes.

Many Councils support the different Ministries in their own Churches. All Councils have supported the Human Trafficking initiative by Farmtown which is going on now and in the coming months.

Meetings have been a challenge for some this past winter with weather and a lot of sickness and injury. We have had some difficulties filling vacancies on executive but our members have met those challenges and are working together to get things done.

Our potluck in January was a success and as always food and friendship was the order of the night.

We are looking forward to the Diocesan Convention in Windsor on April 29th to May 1st.

I am looking forward to my 1st Provincial Convention in Kingston on July 13th–17th. I am very proud of all my CWL Sisters in Sarnia Lambton.

*Pat*

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



Regional Meetings in Huron Perth have been well attended by the councils. We discussed at some length the pros and cons of the peanut butter and crackers initiative noting that some foodbanks do not favour peanut butter due to allergies and that crackers will get stale. Monetary donations are always appreciated.

The Crowning of Mary sock drive at the Diocesan Convention was explained. Some councils have

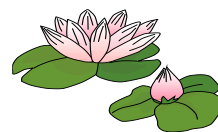
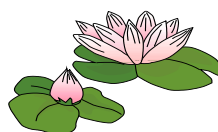
submitted pictures of their collection as well as advising where their donation was sent.

Christmas Bazaars and potlucks were a big success in the individual councils.

Huron Perth is planning a Fun Night for May 7th, 2019 in Zurich, hosted by St. Peter's, St. Joseph and St. Boniface, Zurich Councils.

Reminders for the Lenten Retreat, Diocesan, Provincial and National Conventions have been circulated.

*Mary*



## *Regional News—Essex* *Chairperson—Rose Beneteau*



I want to extend a warm welcome to all our new presidents as they begin their term of service and friendship. A special thank-you to all who are now past-presidents. Your efforts and accomplishments will keep developing through your newly appointed executive. Working together brings about great results and new incentives.

Our Fall Regional was well attended, very inspiring, and a great opportunity to set our goals higher.

Many have reached out to the homeless by collecting mittens, hats, scarves, socks and blankets. Winter clothing was supplied to our migrant workers. Walmart and Tim Horton cards were donated to many needy people, hoping to show we care and want to bring some dignity to their lives. Distributing rosaries to

patients at Windsor Regional Hotel Dieu Hospital is a visible sign by which we promote prayer and support to those suffering. Standing as an honour guard at funerals and having a guest speaker from Windsor Chapel to speak on Bereavement and Grief are ways to show compassion to our families and to our parish.

To interact with the shut-ins, we visited and recited the rosary with **them**. To brighten others' lives, we held a baby shower for our refugee family, repaired and renewed hats for seniors, had cake and sang birthday songs to seniors at Harrowood Nursing Home.

Many councils held Christmas gatherings, card parties, bingos, and bazaars interacting with the community.

A special thank-you to all the team members who are diligently working to prepare for our Catholic Women's League, London Diocesan Convention at the end of April. Promote this event to your council members as this will be a fun-packed and informative time to meet and mingle with many members of the league.

Co-chairing on the convention committee and serving as the Essex Region chairperson has increased my knowledge, humbled me by my mistakes, and brought many dedicated and prayerful women into my life.

As we journey onward, may we always rely on Our Lady of Good Counsel to lead us to her Son.

*Rose*

## *Regional News—Ingersoll* *Chairperson—Fatima Cabral*



At our Christmas Ingersoll regional meeting, council representatives brought boxes of crackers and jars of peanut butter to support the Ontario CWL council's initiative to address homelessness. These were then donated back to our respective community food banks. Then we enjoyed a Christmas luncheon.

*Fatima*





## *Regional News—London*

### *Chairperson—Dianne Kehoe*



The London Region Councils had as usual a very busy fall. Many of the councils had successful bazaars which gives them the opportunity to support their parish community and charities. We were well represented at each of the three Fall Regional Days to hear Kelly Franklin's powerful presentation on the 401 corridor and the trafficking of young girls. Her presentation resonated with many councils who have responded by supporting the ONroute initiative. Membership drives were held as well as council elections.

I am very grateful to Holy Family Council for hosting our Advent Tea in November. It was a wonderful way to begin the Advent Season. London Region stepped up and collected over 75 jars of Peanut Butter and many boxes of crackers to give to the St. Joseph's Hospitality Centre and food cupboards in their area. Tony Nother assisted with the music for our Advent Service and then led us in a Christmas Carol sing-along. It was a wonderful evening with delicious goodies and refreshments. Thank you again Holy Family Council.



The winter snow and ice storms have caused many of us to cancel and/or reschedule meetings. Nevertheless, all the councils have been busy collecting socks, 'undies', winter clothing, blankets and boots to distribute to the homeless in London and

surrounding areas. It has been a brutal winter with consistently minus temperatures. Many councils are financially supporting shelters for the homeless to get out of the cold for the night. There are councils making sandwiches every month for their local hospitality centers and providing blankets.

Our Regional meetings have been well attended with a sharing of ideas and strategies, such as sponsoring a blood bank drive during Lent. Thanks to all who donated blood and to those who have considered sponsoring an event for their parish community.

We have a good group attending the Lenten Retreat in Chatham. We are looking forward to the Convention in Windsor.

*Dianne*



*Council News—Ingersoll Region—Holy Trinity, Woodstock*  
*Submitted by: Fatima Cabral, Communications Chairperson*



Spreading Christmas Cheer

Holy Trinity CWL council in Woodstock executive members took the time this Christmas to spread some Christmas cheer to shut-in members. Volunteers baked homemade cookies and packaged them in festive boxes. Members then delivered them to council members who needed a bit of cheering up over the holidays. Smiles were plenty and the hugs much appreciated.



CWL council member, Theresa Sabourin



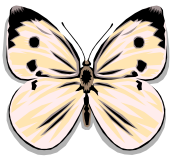
Holy Trinity CWL volunteers:  
 Fatima Cabral, Doris Anne Smith, Rosemary MacRobbie, Carmen Velocci and Trish Mezenberg



CWL council member, Ethel Carson

*Fatima*





*Council News—Ingersoll Region—Our Lady Queen of Martyr's,  
Delhi—submitted by: Vickie Braun*

A new year with a winter that has kept many indoors! Time to reflect on the many good works of ladies of our Catholic Women's Leagues.

Our parish has become one of the 1st family of parishes in the London Diocese, 'the Catholic Family of Parishes in Norfolk'. It has opened the door to sharing & being more responsive to the needs of others. The support for our fund raising projects has been very well received.

Rummage sales have been a way to distribute extra clothing & warmth to the homeless. Many extras were also given during the local Food & Toy drive at Christmas. St. Vincent de Paul is supported with volunteer hours and funds by our CWL.

February was Caring 'IS' Sharing project, convened by Rhonda McClure. This year was 'linen' supplies. Towels, bedding, toiletries, night wear, craft supplies and extras were collected (in church) and donated to the local Norfolk-Haldimand Women's shelter. All was MOST appreciated and distributed to needy ladies & their children.

Human trafficking has been addressed at Fall Regional Day with speaker Kelly Franklin from Farm Town, Aylmer, Ontario. Updates from the London Diocese were detailed by e-mails. July 30th will be 'ONroute' days to make citizens more aware of the tragedies in our communities. We have financially supported Farm Town's initiative

to help counsel youth, to return home and into society.

Our league has been continuing without a president. Meetings are chaired by volunteer members mentored by dedicate past presidents. Long standing conveners, organize events & cater to funeral lunches, 'many hands make light work' to continue Gods call.

As we enter into lent, the annual PANCAKE breakfast will be served to over 300 St. Francis elementary students by CWL members. The gift of giving continues.

We wish everyone Blessings and may this Lenten season bring strength, peace, faith & service to all. *Vickie*

*Council News—Essex Region—St. John the Baptist,  
Amherstburg—President, Mary Verstick*



My husband, our daughter, and myself belong to St. John the Baptist Parish.

I have been a member of the Catholic Women's League since 2016. In November, we held our elections for our new executive for our council, and I was elected president.

We held our Christmas get together on December 13th, 2018 and collected socks, peanut butter and crackers. Some of the socks will be presented at the CWL convention, in Windsor. The majority of items collected were donated to the DownTown Mission.

At our January general meeting, we introduced the newly elected executives and pinned one new member. On January 22<sup>nd</sup>, we had a mass offered for the unborn. Our ladies prepared refreshments and desserts for the reception for our parish that followed the mass.

For the past 5 years we have held Our Olde English Tea in June. In February, we held our first meeting to prepare for the event. Usually 125 attend and enjoy all our fancy sandwiches and desserts.

I attended my first CWL convention last year in London. It was truly

amazing. The guest speakers were well-versed and quite enlightening. All of us have been to many masses in our lifetime but this one seemed different to me. The atmosphere of seeing all those women coming together to share in our faith, was so emotional to me. Shaking hands and hugging each other, brought tears to my eyes. This is something I will always treasure.

For the next two years, I am looking forward to working with a group of wonderful and dedicated members of the Catholic Women's League.

*Mary*



*Council News—Essex Region—St. Michael, Leamington—  
President, Mary Di Milo*

In September, our CWL Council hosted a guest speaker, Maria Gianotti, from Windsor, who spoke to the parish and public on “MAID – misguided mercy”.

A \$300 donation was made and given to a young parishioner who spoke on behalf of National Campus Life Ministry.

A “Donation to the Homeless” was made in the form of \$10.00 Walmart gift cards to The Bridge, a new resource centre in Leamington which aids 18/24 year old's who may be homeless or in need of support.

CWL Membership campaign began October 1<sup>st</sup> and is ongoing.

We held our Annual Apple Pie/ Baked goods bake sale as a major fundraiser.

Our November meeting included a Baby Shower for our sponsored refugee family Mom who was expecting her 3<sup>rd</sup> child. Council presented her with a stroller/car seat and the ladies also brought other gifts. She had a girl.

Our annual December Potluck/ White Elephant Sale/Election was held. The ladies enjoyed great food and the auction proceeds were donated to the St. Vincent de Paul. A New Executive was acclaimed (no election).

Our Sock Project produced over 300 pairs of socks for “Socks for the Homeless”. Some have been donated to Matthew House, - a home for refugees in Windsor and some were put in St. Vincent De Paul gift baskets

There was no Advent Retreat as the members attended various other Advent events.

Christmas Gift Bags, containing assorted items, are donated/ distributed each year by CWL members to “Shut-in” parishioners.

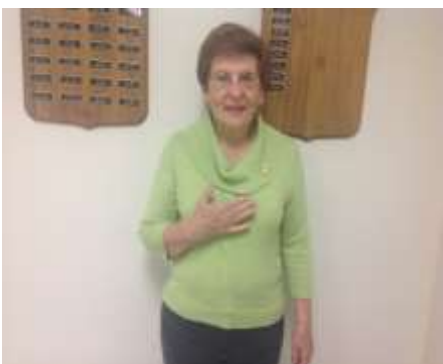
Our new Executive was sworn in at a ceremony at Mass in January.

Five CWL members have passed away in the past 6 months. Several members said prayers at the funeral home and formed an honour guard at their funeral.

We presented First Communicants and Confirmation Candidates with wooden crosses as a memento of their special day.

Portuguese Donuts will be made and sold as a fundraiser just before Lent.

*Mary*



Anne Horan with her Maple Leaf Pin



Rose Shjahid carrying baby, Kellie, and daughters Aylene and Rachelle at the baby shower.



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



This January as I began my second year as president of our council I thanked God for His many blessings!

I want to thank my executive and sister members for all their support. I was filled with anxiety as I took the presidency. How could I ever do all this! But with their support I can actually say as I told them, "I never thought I would say this, but I am actually enjoying myself!"

In October we invited our parishioners to join us at our October general meeting to hear a presentation by Tina Quiring of Southwestern Ontario Gleaners. Southwestern Ontario Gleaners is a not-for-profit charity whose mandate is to convert unmarketable produce into dehydrated vegetable soup mix and fruit snacks. The finished product is distributed FREE of charge to hunger relief agencies locally, nationally and internationally. They are dedicated daily volunteers and generous farmers. Their home base is in Leamington, Ontario.

Some 795 million people in the world do not have enough food to lead a healthy active life. That's

about one in nine people on earth. - World Food Programme (WFP).

Three members attended the Fall Regional Day. One of them was a new member to our council and on our executive. She bravely accepted to be chair of Christian Family Life. Her report back of her experience was an encouraging witness to our council members. Thank You Lynne!!

Our November Euchre tournament was enjoyed so much that I had a man say to me, "You should have one every week." To which I laughingly replied, "I don't think so!"

One of the highlights of our year is our annual mystery gift auction and Christmas party at our December meeting. We invite non-members to join us. Much laughter was heard as members joined in upping each others' bids. We raised over \$800.00 which was distributed to three charities. We teased Fr. Danny about buying his family's Christmas gifts.

In January Virginia our Spiritual Development chair shared a

beautiful reflection on the goals and resolutions for the new year written by a person that had a cancer diagnosis. Thank you Virginia.

In February we donated bags of food to Windsor Homes Coalition Kids First Food Bank.

We thank God our Father in showering our council with His grace as we strive to follow the Catholic Women's League of Canada's call to grow in faith, and to witness to the love of God through ministry and service.

At the 2019 London Diocesan Catholic Women's League convention this spring in Windsor our council members are teaming up with our sister members of Our Lady of the Atonement, Windsor region on the Hospitality Committee.

Looking forward to greeting you and spending time together!

*Louise*





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



Our council has been extremely busy this past fall. The annual bazaar on November 10<sup>th</sup>, was again a great success, thanks to all, for the endless hours of work and support. Our meat pies continue to be a big seller with four days of baking to fill the orders. An amazing group of women who come together to work, laugh and experience sisterhood. We held our Christmas party on November 26<sup>th</sup>, for members, spouses and friends with entertainment from the Belle River Fun Band Christmas show. A turkey dinner was enjoyed by all.

The theme for our 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Advent Tea was "The Holy Family." The Christmas story was read by facilitator Mary Lou Hamelin to the 30 ladies present. After discussion we were amazed how much we as women and mothers could relate to Mary's story. A hot turkey luncheon and

desserts was enjoyed by the members.

We continue to support the Rochester/Belle River Goodfellows with our pajama project. In our eighth year, we continue to provide new pajamas for every child whose family receives assistance. This year, we provided 115 new pajamas or sleep pants. Members also knit hats and scarves for the Goodfellows. We continue to support Street Help and Downtown Missions with food and warm clothing.

Our council accepted the challenge from Ontario Provincial Council to assist the homeless in Advent Season by donating 24 jars of Peanut Butter and 20 boxes of crackers to Belle River Food Bank.

We continue to hold our February meeting as a luncheon

where members make valentines to be distributed to seniors in our local nursing home. It is always a pleasure to spend time with our senior members.

Each year the parish holds the Soup and Stations of the Cross during Lent. The council hosted the first night on the 13<sup>th</sup> of March. The evening began with meatless soup served by members. The Physician Way of the Cross was led by spiritual chair Fran Dufault in the church for the entire parish.

Looking forward to the 99<sup>th</sup> London Diocesan Convention in April in Windsor. Catching up with old friends and meeting new friends.

*Lee*

*Presidents from each council are asked to please bring up to 20 pairs of socks (men, women & children's) to the convention for the procession of the gifts on Wednesday morning. Also carry a placard giving # of socks collected, printed in **BOLD** print.*

*The numbers will be tabulated for our total contribution. The London Diocese Council is looking to donate over 11,000 pairs of socks—that is 1 pair or socks per member.*

*Council News—Essex Region—St. John the Evangelist,  
Woodslee—President, Angelle Bisson*



Although I'm not much with words I'm hoping to be able say what I feel to be inspiring to you.

I have been in the Catholic Women's League going on 8 years and have met a lot of wonderful ladies. They were there to explain and show how things had to be done and it was all God's doing for me to join finally. I felt like it was time to step up and so, here I am. I think I won everybody's respect when I helped organize the show. And what was most amazing, we had all ladies that didn't always participate a lot and had them be the models for our show and they all loved it. That alone was such a way of bringing the spirit of God to us. And also some of these ladies are now coming to share the spirit with us more often.

I went to the London Convention for the first time and I thought it was an amazing thing to see so many women in the same room at one time. Everyone was friendly and wonderful, around you talking. To be with all the CWL sisters in one room, now that was breathtaking. You felt like you belonged there with them and it didn't matter if you knew their names because their faces were bright and friendly. I learn that everyone cares in their own way and that God understands that you can be spiritual in many ways, by prayer, by giving, by working hard at what you do, by

talking to others, by singing, by visiting Jesus in his home and talking just to him, by helping your neighbours, not just in your own community, but also in all the poor countries and disasters.

I received the job of the presidency in our council when we came back from the convention when I mentioned to them that I looked forward to trying new things in my life. That's when they all voted and made me the president and believes you me it is a learning process for someone like me that had not much in schooling. I'm smart don't get me wrong I learn very fast at anything that is given to me. This past half year of being a president was an eye opener. I know that God was there to inspire me to do this and I know that I have a lot of mentors out there in provincials, nationals, regional, and in all the councils around us and especially my own council. I'm looking forward to the years ahead and hope I can make a difference in our community and know that everyone in the Catholic Women League are part of my family and will always be there for me in their own way.

I found a prayer that I like to read that helps me in days to come.

*"Lord Jesus, I give you my hands to do your work. I give you my feet to go your way. I give you my eyes to see as you do. I give you my tongue to speak your words. I give you my mind that you may think in me. I give you my spirit that you may pray in me. Above all, I give you my heart that you may love me, your Father, and all mankind. I give you my whole self that you may grow in me, so that it is you, Lord Jesus, who live and work and pray in me."*

I think that says everything in every heart of the CWL League.

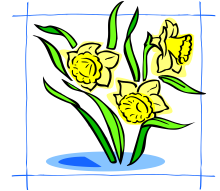
God Bless and May Our Lady of Good Counsel, be with us always

Thank You

*Angelle*



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



After the summer break, our members were welcomed back in September with our pot luck bring-a-friend meeting.

In October, Mary's altar was decorated with a large rosary and peace banner to encourage everyone to pray the rosary for peace. 140 ladies attended Our Annual Ladies Breakfast held on October 21st. This breakfast kicks off our membership drive. Beside the great meal cooked for us by the Knights, we enjoyed the guest speaker Dan Bissonnette, a local horticulturist, who spoke on the "Healing Garden".

On October 27<sup>th</sup> we were spiritually uplifted by a Day of Reflection with Sister Yvonne Parent. She spoke to us on "Gratefulness" and living with an "attitude of gratitude".

At our November meeting we listened to guest speaker Heather Taylor from the Essex Windsor Solid Waste Authority, who spoke to us about saving the environment and recycling. For the month of November, we collected food-to-go items for the Street Help Homeless Centre and as a result we were able to deliver 2 car loads of goods to them at the beginning of December.

Our annual Turkey & Basket Bingo held in December was well attended and a great success. This is our main fundraiser for the year and a big thank you goes out to the Squires and the Knights of Columbus for hosting it for us. The profits from this event go a long way in helping us to continue our charitable works. In December we hold a short meeting followed by our

Christmas social and "loonie auction" which is always a lot of fun.

Our annual "Valentine's Day" bake sale held in February was a great success thanks to the hard work and support of our members and the generosity of the parishioners at St. Clement's.

Looking forward to attending the 99<sup>th</sup> Annual Diocesan Convention in Windsor and seeing many of you there.

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

*Doris*

**THE NEW TEN COMMANDMENTS**

Prayer is not a "spare wheel"  
that you pull out when in trouble,  
but it is a "steering wheel"  
that directs the right path throughout.

So why is a car's windshield so large  
and the rear view mirror so small?  
Because our past is not as important as our future.  
So, look ahead and move on.

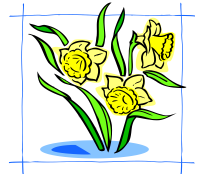
Friendship is like a book.  
It takes few seconds to burn,  
but it takes years to write.

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

- We collected new and almost new purses in September. We sold them after Masses October 13th, & 14th. With the proceeds, we purchased household items to “shower” our new refugee family with St. John’s Woodslee Parish.
- Three of us attended the Fall Regional Meeting.
- Three of our members received their Food Handler Certificates.
- Our annual bazaar and turkey dinner was a success again, selling out at 500 dinners.
- We sold ornaments for \$2.00 each with parishioners writing names of deceased loved ones on them. After Christmas, they were picked up by those who bought them
- We attached an ornament to a Christmas card and some of our members visited with shut-in members to show them that they are remembered and prayed for.
- We sponsored 3 NET Ministry youth from our parish.
- We had a Christmas pot luck dinner in our parish hall.
- We are collecting winning Tim Horton cup tabs, as well as McDonald stickers and gift cards to help the needy and homeless.
- Pat Kozak, our president, and I have been attending Diocesan Convention meetings, in preparation for the 2019 convention in Windsor April 29th, 30th and May 1st.
- We are planning our 85<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner this June.
- We have a busload of members attending a performance of Mama Mia at St. Thomas of Villanova Catholic High School where some of our parishioners attend, tomorrow.

*Janice*

*Council News—London Region—St. Justin, London—  
submitted by: Fil Kaiser, Recording Secretary*



St. Justin's Catholic Women's League in London is celebrating its 40th Anniversary this year. The council began on April 3rd, 1979. Congratulations to all the ladies who participate in this council and provide support to our parish and community.

*Fil K.*



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

- September brought some executive changes—it was great we were able to replace the members who did a great job over the years
- We made a commitment of \$3,000.00 to the Giving Together Campaign
- Some attended the Least Coin potluck
- Big event along with the cluster parishes, we hosted the Fall Regional Day which offered a lot of information
- November, we held our annual Crafternoon in which we sent all profit to the Canadian Catholic Missions – they always send the most heart warming Thank You letter
- We attended the Christmas Pot luck – for Christmas Gifts to the clergy we made a donation to St Vincent de Paul in their name
- We will be delivering flowers to some shut ins for Valentines Day
- Some of us find it sad that the Lingo will be going on-line only next year, especially the members who don't have a computer!

*Phyllis*

## *Council News—Sarnia Lambton Region—St. Benedict, Sarnia Submitted by: Jackie Detailleur*

On December 10th, 2018 St. Joseph's CWL hosted the annual Sarnia South Zone Cluster Parish CWL Potluck Christmas dinner. Members from St. Joseph's, Our Lady of Mercy and St. Benedict's all came with a wonderful assortment of dishes. They also came with donations that included men's toiletries including undergarments and socks for men's homes. We had so much the table was overflowing. We also asked the ladies to bring Peanut Butter and Crackers for our local St. Vincent de Paul. As you can see from the attached picture, we received lots of donations. The donations in

the picture covered the table from front to back and then we started piling them on top of that as well. As you can see there are boxes of donations under the table as well. This of course was just one of our donation tables. I believe we had two more next to this one that were covered with the toiletries. It was a very fun filled evening with delicious food and great prizes for the guests.

*Jackie*



*Figure 1 From Left to Right are Phyllis Vanoverbeke from Our Lady of Mercy, Laurie Hardy from St. Joseph's, and Brenda Stack from St. Benedict's.*



*Council News—Sarnia Lambton Region—Sacred Heart, Sarnia*  
*Submitted by: Domenica Rastin*

The year 2018 has been rich with blessed events for the Sacred Heart Church, Sarnia, Catholic Women's League as we strove in every possible way to fulfill the League's mission statement: namely, "The Catholic Women's League of Canada calls its members to grow in faith and to witness to the love of God through ministry and service."

We witness to the love of God through service.

The highlight of our year was unquestionably in September when we invited our diocesan archivist, Debra Majer Fraser, to speak to us on the history of the CWL in the London Diocese. Debra presented her enlightening information on the formation of the CWL in a most engaging and dynamic manner. The evening was well attended by both women and men, including a representative from the Sarnia Historical Society. The audience was mesmerized by her passion for her work and responded enthusiastically. Our League presented her with a small donation for the archives. To our delight, a considerable sum was raised, that evening, in free will donations for a new pool for *Pathways*, our Lambton County children's centre! A contingent of CWL volunteers went to *Pathways* early in November to present a cheque to this valuable community centre which services the families of children with physical, mental and social challenges. Photos of both events are attached—(see next page).

Our 2018 Christmas bazaar was the biggest and most colourful ever, literally crammed with home baking, seasonal planters, richly composed gift baskets, and sundry items, new or gently used. It has become, indeed, a door-crashing, community-wide event.

At our Christmas banquet we rejoiced for the gift of our Saviour born in poverty by taking the opportunity to offer relief to local child poverty by collecting donations of children's pyjamas, socks and baby blankets. In addition, being ever mindful of the "stranger" among us, we provided brand new winter coats for our newest refugee family and brought in gently used warm sweaters!

Our involvement with Meals on Wheels is very special to us. Once a month, six or seven CWL teams of two go out across the city and suburbs delivering Red Cross meals to those who cannot provide a hot dinner for themselves. As part of our members' education about health, we hosted a speaker on Lyme Disease. In addition, there are myriad community and nationwide organizations, too numerous to mention, which we support on a regular basis, Circles out of Poverty, being a most noteworthy one.

We witness to the love of God through ministry to the young.

Helping the young to grow in faith is a high priority among us. We made lunch for the St.

Patrick's High School students who canvassed the city for the food banks. We contributed to the making of a Snoezelen room at said catholic high school, and we provided funding for a developmental class that wanted to start a mobile coffee cart project. We fund St. Pat's involvement in Muskoka Woods. We were present as the high school was consecrated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. It is a given in our parish, that the League will always provide a gift for those making their First Communion and Confirmation.

We witness to the love of God through ministry.

Our members are a common fixture of Bereavement Ministry, Readers' Ministry, and Eucharistic Ministry, both in the church and in the community. Funeral luncheons are a staple of our League service, and sadly, we are called to this service so much more often as so many of our parishioners go to their eternal home. An honour guard is always provided for our members who have gone to the Lord's house. The Maple Leaf Pin—it has been our privilege to award the Maple Leaf Pin to two very deserving individuals: namely, Anne Marie Parizeau and Marg Maheu. We are very fortunate to have them as part of our council. The Catholic Women's League of Canada calls its members to grow in faith. Last but not least, I move on to the "faith" portion of our mission statement. All of the above would

*(Continued on page 30)*

# *Council News—Sarnia Lambton Region—Sacred Heart, Sarnia* *Submitted by: Domenica Rastin (cont'd ....)*

*(Continued from page 29)*

not be possible if our members did not have a strong faith and a firm commitment to our Catholic values. As witness to this, we assisted His Most Reverend Excellency, Bishop Fabbro, with the petition regarding the hiring of summer students. We responded to Fr. Pat Beneteau's request for the funding of discernment booklets for young women, and we pray for vocations every day of the year by hosting the Vocation Cross in our homes on a monthly basis. We served meals at our deanery conference on the vocation of marriage. We continued to raise community awareness of the need for palliative care by planning and leading a parish-wide programme of prayer events. Our faith also extends to ecumenism through our involvement with *World Day of Prayer and Fellowship of the Least Coin*.

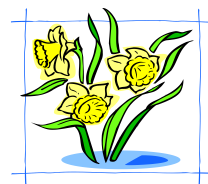
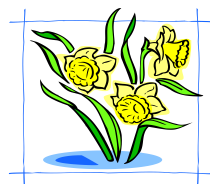
Through the standing chairs for each committee, our members are made aware of what is happening at the legislative and government level, especially those proposals that run contrary to our Catholic

values. To this end, we informed ourselves of the latest development in medically assisted suicide by watching the documentary, *Fatal Flaws*. In an ongoing effort to support Anne Gorman's theme to "Care for Our Common Home", we have been gradually eliminating consumption of one-time-use plastics.

2018 was the year that we sadly said good-bye to our departing priests, Fr. Vince Gulikers and Fr. David Johnson, and gladly welcomed Fr. Matthew Bedard and Fr. Anthony Eboh.

It is not easy to draw a clear line of distinction between ministry, service and faith. Our faith determines ministry and service. Our members' faith is evident by the fine example they set in all they do to serve God's people for the Greater Glory of God. Our parishioners' faith is evident in the way they support our initiatives, whether they be in prayer, in funds or in service.

*Domenica*



*Council News—Sarnia Lambton Region—St. Michael, Bright's Grove  
President & Communications—Nelly Kelders*

**Listening, Learning and Loving**

St. Michael Catholic Women's League is the youngest council in Sarnia Lambton. We have been in existence a little over 30 years. It has always been the philosophy of the council to create a welcoming, inviting and meaningful environment for her members to grow within. Over the years the council has continued to make adjustments to how it functions, as the needs of its membership has evolved.

Ensuring that we are inclusive is very important to us and we take time to listen to women in the parish to understand how we might become more meaningful to them. One thing that we have learned is that some women are afraid to join the CWL because of a preconceived notion that if they become a member they will be called upon to work. Again, we know that not everyone has the time right now to volunteer for our various fundraising activities. In December, when we did our membership drive, we emphasized that we want ladies to join the Catholic Women's League of Canada because we can be a powerful voice in Ontario, Canada and internationally, if we have the membership.

Once we have members signed up, the only other action we ask of them is to pray! We often get prayer requests and they are sent out to our membership for their help. That's all I have to do, is pray? You don't expect me to volunteer to do all those other things the Council does? Just pray, that is all we ask. They have joined because they no longer feel the pressure to have to participate in activities they have no time for and do not want the guilt of having to say no. They all do say, I can pray!

We bake pies, tourtieres and organize an annual Christmas bazaar. While the end products of baking workshops and craft meetings are important, and sustain our fundraising activities, the opportunity to get together and socialize with other women is of equal importance. While stirring pie filling, rolling out dough or filling the pies, the ladies have opportunities to talk to one another, to share happy news, to divulge heartaches, to laugh and to get to know another member of the community a little more fully than before. So, we don't just bake. We give the gifts of listening, of empathy, and of understanding.

There was another road trip in

November 2018. We took a busload of ladies to St. Jacob's for the day. Most of the ladies who participated were senior citizens and more than half the group came from places other than our parish. The participants were thrilled to be able to go on an adventure for the day in a safe environment, where all the details were left to someone else to worry about and they could just enjoy a day of shopping. We may not have known each other when we started but we did by the end. Everyone was quite willing to share what they had purchased, who got a great deal and what had been a pleasant surprise. Seeing and feeling their joy made the trip worth planning.

2019 has started on a quiet note. Our February general meeting will include the passing of our annual budget and as president I will update the ladies on plans for the year. We will continue to do our work, listen to our members and continue to learn and to be inspired to do what we can for our League, our community and our country.

*Nelly*



*Council News—Huron Perth Region—St. Joseph, Listowel,  
Submitted by: Theresa Redpath & Gloria Sebastian*

Number of members 91

During this Lent season our league will be leading the Stations of the Cross every Tuesday night. Our parish retreat will be during lent this year.

The CWL will be preparing and serving coffee and snacks. Also during lent our league along with our parishes will be praying the Hail Mary daily hoping to reach our goal of 1,000,000 by Easter Sunday. After every Sunday mass

our parishioners enjoy coffee and cookies. The CWL prepares coffee once a month. This year we had 9 members attend the World Day of Prayer.

In April we will be hosting our Spring Social. Our guest speaker will be Anja Noodam who will be speaking on "Walking in Israel". This event is open to our community.

September is a busy month for us as we host our annual Roast Beef

dinner for about 275 people. Many of our parishioners and the community enjoy a delicious meal.

November is when we have our Christmas Bazaar. Those who attend enjoy a lunch and get to do some Christmas shopping. Our Christmas planters are always a big hit.

*Theresa & Gloria*

*Council News—Huron Perth Region—Immaculate Heart of Mary,  
Grand Bend, President—Joanne Vandenberg*

Greetings from Grand Bend where our 80 members are quite an active group! We held another very successful CWL Bazaar in November. An energetic team of ladies made and sold over 200 homemade pies; another team made beautiful Christmas planters and dozens of local businesses as well as parishioners and CWL members donated prizes, baked goods and preserves. The soup/sandwich/pie lunch was sold out; our raffle tickets sold well, thanks to prize donations from Oakwood Inn, Aunt Gussie's Restaurant, Drayton Entertainment, Rice Developments, and the Grand Cove Quilters. We are grateful to the Grand Bend community and parishioners for their annual

support! With our Bazaar proceeds, we were able to make donations to St. Peter's Seminary; a local fund for the needy; Sisters of the Precious Blood; Catholic Missions in Canada; local food banks and Hospitals; Poor Clare's Monastery; Kids Helpline; Save-a-Family Plan; Canadian Food for Children plus we've set aside funds for projects within our parish. We've already begun planning for our November 9<sup>th</sup> Bazaar this year; all are welcome to attend!

This past fall, we sent letters to our Prime Minister, the Justice Minister and our local MPs, encouraging the government to legislate banning MAiD in hospices and palliative care

facilities, in accordance with CWL Resolution 2018:03. Monthly, a member takes our Vocation Crucifix home and prays for vocations. Our parishioners generously donated countless pairs of socks for the homeless in London and received word that most were used immediately!

In December, after a short business meeting, we held our Advent Party. 17 members received Service Pins, some for 5 or 10 and so on, and one for 60 years of service and dedication! We invited our husbands/partners to the festivities and enjoyed goodies, Christmas carol singing and a fun "left-right" gift exchange.

*(Continued on page 33)*

## *Council News—Huron Perth Region—St. Joseph, Stratford, President, Neves Pereira*

For our September meeting our council had 192 members, and we discussed, having an October Fest dinner with the proceeds going towards St. Joseph's Restoration fund. This event was a good will offering, it was very successful and we were able to donate to our church restoration Fund \$822.00.

In October we had a social event and our yearly pins presentation. We awarded 29 pins including 2 Maple Leaf Pins, one to Sharon Vollett and one to Mary Jacob. Both of these ladies are pillars of our community and very much the back bone of our council. They are always willing and ready to assist with any task without hesitation. The majority of our good will dinners are chaired and executed by both of these ladies. Our council had a few members attend the Regional Fall Days, this event is always very

informative and gives everyone in our Region a chance to exchange and share best practices.

November we got our Raffle Bazaar tickets for our Spring Draw. This project usually generates funds, which we make most of our yearly donations. (L'Arche of Stratford, Hospice and Development and Peace just to name a few)

December we had our yearly Christmas potluck dinner with our sisters in Christ from Immaculate Conception CWL. This event is a great community builder and gives all attending, a chance to socialize, laugh and of course sing Christmas Carols.

The new year arrived, and in January we usually do not hold a council meeting, due to weather and some of our members are not able to get to our meeting.

We had a first 2019 CWL meeting in February and preparations were made for the World Day of Prayer, which was hosted by St. Joseph and Immaculate Conception Church, Friday March 1st, 2019. This event was very successful and very well attended. Looking forward to our Annual Convention in Windsor, and to see everyone there.

As you read this, Spring is upon us, hopefully the weather co-operates and most of our winter weather will be behind us. With Spring comes, the most Holy Season of Lent.

May our Lady of Good Counsel continue to Bless our councils and our families.

*Neves*

## *Council News—Huron Perth Region—Immaculate Heart of Mary, Grand Bend, President—Joanne Vandenberg (cont'd...)*

*(Continued from page 32)*

After our elections in January, we stream-lined our Executive, in keeping with the CWL Strategic Plan, and now have fewer Standing Committee Chairpersons. In April, our Council will host a Pancake Breakfast, for parishioners and visitors. Five of our members will attend the CWL Convention in

Windsor, and many more will attend the Huron-Perth Fun Night in Zurich in May. We will see *Thoroughly Modern Millie* at the Huron Country Playhouse in June, and plan to attend the CWL Day at Our Lady of the Rosary Shrine in Merlin in July.

It seems there are many activities to keep us busy, working for God and Canada, and many

opportunities to meet other CWL sisters! May Our Lady of Good Counsel continue to bless each of us!

*Joanne*



## *Council News—Huron Perth Region—Immaculate Conception, Stratford, President, Lorraine Hertel*

Our members at Immaculate Conception have had a very busy first six months of the 2018 year. We again hosted Lenten Lunches starting on Wednesday February 14<sup>th</sup> until Holy Week sponsored by the Stratford and District Council of Churches. We heard speakers from the different churches on forgiveness, salvation, abandonment, distress, triumph and reunion all based on scripture.

We continued to collect items for Shelter Link dropping off numerous boxes of items for the homeless to use.

In March our members participated in leading the Stations of the Cross at the Immaculate Conception Church.

On April 15<sup>th</sup> we hosted our annual Tea and Fashion Show. Despite the ice storm, it was very well attended. Joan Ritsma from the Hospice Committee gave us an update on the hospice being erected. Students served us tea and dainties and Donna Campbell entertained us with her upbeat music. We were able to donate \$1,500 from this fun event to Hospice.

Some of our members were able to attend an excellent convention in London in April.

On June 10<sup>th</sup> we celebrated our 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. We were served a full course turkey dinner. Toasts to Canada and the League

were made by Theresa Ryan and Angela Pellerin. Marnie Goodyear entertained us with her talented music. Service Pin presentations were made to eleven members. We had nine past presidents attend who were recognized and presented with a rose.

We received Congratulations and awards of recognition from Rebecca McCarrell president of the London Diocesan CWL Council who was unable to attend because of her husband's serious illness, award and recognition from Anne Madden Ontario President and Margaret Anne Jacobs National President.

This was a fun day and lots of reminiscing and a good time was had by all. Thanks to Mary Bannon who was the convenor for a job well done.



September to December

September started on a sad note, Donna MacArthur our past president left us to receive her reward in heaven. At our first meeting in September we held a pot luck dinner. The ladies make their favorite dish to share.

We participated in the Right to Life Chain.

In October a number of our members went to Ingersoll to the Regional meeting. On another sad note Bob Hertel (my husband) left me to receive his reward in heaven.

In November we held our annual bazaar which was a great success and always a fun day. There was a Baking table, lunch counter, penny table, craft table, wheel and raffle tickets.. We raised funds for seventeen charities and services plus a sizeable chunk for ongoing expenses to the Immaculate Conception Church. We joined with St. Josephs CWL and the Knights of Columbus for our Memorial Mass to remember our deceased members.

In December we had our annual Pot Luck dinner including spouses or best friend with St. Joseph's Council. There was entertainment and door prizes. We also had elections for our new executive.

*Lorraine*

## *Council News—Huron Perth Region—St. Peter, Goderich*

### *President—Joyce Essery*

Highlights for Fall and Winter 2018:

- Organized a Pornography Hurts Campaign Postcard blitz collecting approx. 300 signatures for submission to the Government
- October Harvest Bazaar and Luncheon Fundraiser
- Membership Drive
- Donations to needy causes, charities, schools, and Parish Sacramental Programmes
- Christmas Caroling at several Retirement Homes/Nursing Homes. Each home was presented with a huge Poinsettia for the enjoyment of all residents and guests.
- Visits to shut-ins, bereaved families offering prayers, hope

and encouragement and presenting a small gift of remembrance

- Served bereavement lunches for the parish
- Christmas Dinner catered for approximately 70 members

*Joyce*



## *Council News—Huron Perth Region—St. James, Seaforth*

### *President, Mary M. Barnes*

The year 2018 finished off the last three months with September picking up where we left off in June. Plans were made for some upcoming events and visits.

In October we visited the Huron Residential Hospice located outside Clinton Ontario. We had a tour of the facility and made a financial donation as well.

November we had a presentation from Victims Services of Huron County with a financial donation made to them as well.

In December we held a Christmas potluck followed by games of cards. Visits are made on a monthly basis to shut ins and in December, Christmas Novena of Prayers are given and distributed to the shut ins from the Carmel of St. Joseph. Monetary donations were made to the Huron County Christmas Bureau as well as the local foodbank.

Our year 2019 begins with our first meeting the end of February ahead of Ash Wednesday and the Lenten Season. St. James will be

participating in Lenten Lunches for the first time. World Day of Prayer is also approaching with St. James participating in this as well.

*Mary*

*Council News—Chatham Kent Region—St. Francis Xavier, Tilbury*  
*President— Theresa Gadal,*

Our council supported “Imagination INK”, which promotes literacy in Chatham-Kent by collecting gently used children’s books which are distributed in gift baskets at Christmas.

We participated in “Life Chain” this year at a major intersection in town. Our silent hour of prayer for pro-life was a positive experience.

Prior to each weekend mass in October, members recited the rosary with the congregation.

Those who attended the Fall Regional Workshop were empowered by the presentation on FARMTOWN, an equestrian programme assisting girls, teens and young adult women who have endured sexual exploitation. We’ve decided to help support this valuable programme.

Our parish ran the ALPHA Series, an interactive session exploring the basics of the Christian Faith. Our council

hosted one of the evenings by preparing a meal held before the session.

Members represented our council at the Town Remembrance Day Ceremony on November 11th and laid a wreath on our behalf.

Operation Christmas Child works with churches around the world to deliver gift-filled shoeboxes to children living in war, poverty, and disaster. Our council made shoeboxes available for parishioners to partake in this project. A good response came from the parish. What a way to give hope, joy and love.

Birthday parties were celebrated at our local long-term care home and our retirement residence in November and February. Members volunteered to bake cakes/cupcakes for the celebration. Each birthday candidate of the month received a gift. Lots of fun and great memories were shared by all in attendance.

In December we enjoyed our annual potluck dinner/advent celebration. We provided “Get Away and Experience Paradise at Ashley’s Place” with gift bags to help support the various outreach projects Kim has undertaken in our surrounding area. In memory of her daughter Ashley, a group of friends and family members wanted to continue to share Ashley’s ideas and interests in hopes of encouraging positive experiences.

In February, Confirmation was held at our church. Our CWL Council provided and served refreshments for a reception following the Eucharistic celebration. We were fortunate to have Auxiliary Bishop Joseph Dabrowski confirm the grade 7 & 8 candidates. Each student was presented with a gift.

*Theresa*



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

September 2018 meeting opened with our annual pot luck supper followed with mass, then going into the reports being read of the activities over the summer break. With good attendance at this meeting we prepared for the **"Annual Pasta Dinner"** fundraiser. The CWL Italian ladies spent a full day in preparation for this dinner held on Sept.21 in the Meeting Room at St. Ursula's. This month **"Effect Hope"** thanked our CWL ladies for the generous amount of stamps collected, providing a cure for 60 leprosy patients. Members decided at this meeting to clean up our Atonement Garden on the church property. The bubbling rock got working with beautiful mums strategically planted enhancing the garden for the fall.

With fall now in full swing, the October meeting held discussion after reports being read, about the approaching elections this year and nominations for the various open positions within the council. At this meeting, requests were made for volunteers from our council, for the many CWL events taking place across our Chatham Catholic Family of Parishes sites. October 28<sup>th</sup> our council held the annual membership drive with many members wearing their sashes at mass.

November was an extremely eventful month for the St. Ursula council. At this meeting we organized ourselves to give assistance with the Harvest

Dinner. The monies being raised this night was for the youth programmes in the Chatham Catholic Family of Parishes. Many volunteers showed up to help celebrate the Memorial mass held at St. Ursula's and with the Kent Deanery Meeting being held at the St. Ursula site this month. In our general meeting in November we formed our sub committees for the annual Christmas Dinner for the 5 CWL councils of Chatham Kent and St. Ursula CWL was proudly hosting the event. This was held on Thursday November 29<sup>th</sup> at the Spirit & Life Centre with the theme being **"The true meaning of the Christmas Tree"**. The new CWL executive for St. Ursula was presented and also on this night, Yvette Waddick was presented (much to her surprise) with the Maple Leaf Pin. Yvette has exemplified the mission of the **Catholic Women's League** with the giving of her talents, unending hard work and dedication to the council making many projects rewarding and successful.

Other Service Pins awarded that night were:

40 years:

Maria Magliaro  
Mary Van Kessel

25 years:

Antionette Calabrese  
Clare Cleeve  
Rose Coatsworth  
Anita Fallon  
Karen O'Hara  
Hazel St. Pierre  
Florence VanDenEnden

Sadly, remembrance of Jane Cape was mentioned, as this year she would have received her 50 year pin.

A big thanks was given to Sandy Ritchie, our outgoing CWL president, for her 4 years of dedicated service as our president. CWL members from all sites attending the Christmas Party were asked to donate mittens, hats, scarfs and socks to distribute to our schools, for those children who would be in need this winter. This was an overwhelming response! The Principals and teachers at our 7 schools were so thankful when one large green garbage bag was delivered the next day to each school filled with an assortment of winter wear. The second fundraising event that night was for **"Canadian Food for Children"** with Sandy Van Ray donating 2 of her paintings. \$330.00 was raised in just a couple of hours. Amazing!!!

January 2019 general meeting opened with a mass, then welcoming Sandi Mailloux as our new president and the new Executive for 2019/2020. This meeting was focused on planning major fundraising events for the coming year, sub committees to be formed and looking for suggestions of interesting speakers to join us at the general membership meetings. With the weather being so cooperative this meeting was well attended by our members.

*(Continued on page 38)*



*Council News—Chatham Kent Region—St. Ursula, Chatham—  
Submitted by: Cathie Luxton, Communications Chairperson (cont'd...)*

(Continued from page 37)

February 3<sup>rd</sup> at the 10am mass, Father Jim Higgins inducted in the new executive of CWL St. Ursula council and the gavel was passed on to Sandi Mailloux. February 12<sup>th</sup> membership general meeting was held starting with mass, then we were on to deliberations of the budget for

this year.

St. Ursula council is starting the new year of 2019 with much enthusiasm and eagerness. Our council knows we have much to be thankful for; the past CWL presidents and their executives setting the example of generosity in their time and hard work, carrying out the mission of the Catholic Women's League. With

prayer and reflection, Our Lady of Good Counsel will be working with our council in this new year, making the year rewarding and successful in all the work our CWL will undertake.

God Bless!

*Cathie*

*Council News—Windsor Region—Holy Trinity, Windsor—  
President—Bertha Onuch*

Holy Trinity Parish CWL ended the year 2018 with a Dessert Tea in honour of our Polish Ursuline sisters who have contributed so much to our Church and the Polish Community in Windsor. Lap Blankets, made by our members, were presented to all 12 sisters in Residence. Also our Assistant Pastor, Fr. Mitch Laminski was given one with a toque.

Service pins were given to the following members:

35 years  
K Dabosz, M. Hoppa,  
K. Szczech,  
H. Wawrow, L. Zamajska.

30 years  
V. Blak-Gill, M. Ruszczak.

20 years  
B Onuch, J. Skuza.

15 years  
B, Dzik, R. Puklicz,  
H. Roznowska

10 years  
S. Flis, T. Grochal, M. Piechura

5 years  
W. Petrilli, M. Ruszczak

New Member  
B. Redko  
Spiritual Adviser Pin  
Pastor Z. Sawicki

Nor to forget our annual hat and glove drive was presented to Sister Teresa a teacher at Immaculate Conception School in the core of Windsor.

*Bertha*



*Council News—Windsor Region—St. John Vianney, Windsor*  
*Submitted by: Yvette Henkel, Communications Chairperson*

September

- we are back from summer break, but we took orders for our "fall mums" fundraiser and had 200 plants delivered the first week this month. A few of us took turns helping the people pick up their orders.
- several members attended CWL retreat day St. Patrick's Church in Merlin for a very prayerful day in July

October

- the day has arrived for our 3rd "Wonderfall Fashion Event". Again we sold over 200 tickets for this event - a good time was had by all. Our volunteer CWL members modelled lovely outfits from our retailers. The proceeds from this event were mainly for St. Vincent de Paul and other charities we support. Our very crafty decorating committee came up with the idea to wrap & decorate can goods as centerpieces for the tables which were then also given to St. Vincent de Paul.
- some of our members are attending the convention planning meetings. Congratulations to Lynn Tibor one of our members for winning the Spiritual award—National CWL award and the J Hennesey Award.

November

- the Advent Tea was hosted by our council for the Windsor

Region and reflection was presented by Helen Biales.

- our membership drive began with our president, AnneMarie Kozak speaking at each of the weekend Masses. Then we had members volunteer to assist with questions and encouragement given to newcomers.
- we presented the president of the St. Vincent de Paul with a cheque from the proceeds of our fashion show and he gave a brief description about the work of the organization.
- elections were held for our new executive team

December

Prior to our Christmas dinner social Father Daniel Bombardier said a lovely Mass and installed our officers. Then we enjoyed a delicious dinner followed by a Christmas sing-along with music provided by one of our parishioners, Ron Arkell. Ron, along with other Windsor Rotary members go to Ghana, Africa every year to assist with various projects such as school and church repairs, handing out mosquito nets and other areas improving conditions. We support him with a donation for this mission work.

January

- our new executive team: Helen Biales, President, Jan Conlon, Vice President, Diana Debergh, Treasurer, Pat Lafontaine, Treasurer and

AnneMarie Kozak, Past President have organized our calendar of events for the year and are arranging for speakers to attend a couple of our meetings. We chose 4 new charities which we will support for the next 2 years.

- our council is hosting the World Day of Prayer which is held on the first Friday in March
- two of us had a very nice visit with our member, Eleanor Divine, who celebrated her 100th birthday. We took her picture with Helen presenting a bouquet of flowers to her.

February

- we are making arrangements to visit with our members who live in assisted living homes
- encouraging members to attend the Diocesan Convention which is being held in our city this April. We are collecting men's, women's and children's socks to donate to charity.
- our general membership meeting was cancelled due to poor weather conditions

*Yvette*





*Service Pin Awards for 2018*  
*"Congratulations to our faithful & dedicated members"*



Huron Perth Region:

St. Joseph, Stratford

60 year pin  
Janice Kieswetter

55 year pin  
Gertrude Ort

50 year pin  
Ann Allen

45 year pin  
Audrey Murray  
Marion Hall  
Madeleine Visser  
Lise Willems

35 year pin  
Jaqueline O'Neill  
Catherine Culligan  
Monique Feryn

30 year pin  
Aleida Stinnissen

25 year pin  
Cecelia Benki  
Mariamma Powath  
Pat Wilby

20 year pin  
Mary Thuss  
Laura Evans  
Pauline Patterson  
Linda Zettel

15 year pin  
Elia Forte  
Danielle Wynne

10 year pin  
Beverley Birmingham  
Laura Clark

5 year pin  
Sheila Loucks  
Yvonne Nyenhuis  
Cathy Walsh

New Members  
Dorothy Dario  
Carolyn Maloney  
Anne Hayes  
Angela Savage

Chatham Kent Region

St. Ursula, Chatham

40 Year pin  
Maria Magliaro  
Mary Van Kessel

25 Year pin  
Antionette Calabrese  
Clare Cleeve  
Rose Coatsworth  
Anita Fallon  
**Karen O'Hara**  
Hazel St. Pierre  
Florence VanDenEnden

Maple Leaf Pin  
Yvette Waddick

Ingersoll Region

Holy Trinity, Woodstock

60 Year pin  
Catherine Foster

55 Year Pin  
Corrie Vink

45 Year Pin  
Yvonne Currie

40 Year Pin  
Mary Abbey  
Barb Black  
Joanne Thomson  
Mary Thorn

30 Year Pin  
Noella Cornelis-Litt  
Gail Kirk  
Jacqueline Robinson  
Doris Anne Smith  
Louise Taschner

15 Year Pin  
Isabel Lima  
Joanne Poel  
Linda Raymer  
Irene Watts-Montoux

10 Year Pin  
Kazia Sodaro

5 Year pin  
Lena Dokis  
Rita Hall  
Christine Nowak  
Tori Peddlar  
Jenny Vreeken

Maple Leaf Pin  
Fran Glab



*(Continued on page 41)*



*Service Pin Awards for 2018*  
*"Congratulations to our faithful & dedicated members"*



*(Continued from page 40)*

Windsor Region

Holy Trinity, Windsor

35 years

K. Dabosz

M. Hoppa

K. Szczech

H. Wawrow

L. Zamajska

30 years

V. Blak-Gill

M. Ruszczak

20 years

B. Onuch

J. Skuza

15 years

B. Dzik

R. Puklicz

H. Roznowska

10 years

S. Flis

T. Grochal

M. Piechura

5 years

W. Petrilli

M. Ruszczak

New Member

B. Redko

Spiritual Adviser Pin

Pastor Z. Sawicki



Protect Our Water



See the TAKE ACTION tab on the HOME PAGE of our website  
Go to PROTECT OUR WATER Postcard  
[www.cwllondon.ca](http://www.cwllondon.ca)



# FORM FOR REPORTING DECEASED MEMBERS

Name of deceased \_\_\_\_\_  
(as shown on membership list)

Spouse's name (If applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Full address \_\_\_\_\_  
(as shown on membership list)

Date deceased \_\_\_\_\_

CWL Parish Council \_\_\_\_\_

Diocese \_\_\_\_\_

Parish councils are asked to forward a copy of this completed form to National office and the London Diocesan Spiritual Development Chairperson to ensure that the deceased member's League magazine is discontinued.

Provincial chairpersons of Spiritual Development are reminded to submit a complete list of their province's deceased members, for the current year, to National Office by January 15<sup>th</sup> of each year for inclusion in the National Book of Life.

Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of council president and/or chairperson of  
spiritual development

**MAIL OR FAX TO:**     **The Catholic Women's League of Canada**  
                                 **C – 702 Scotland Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3M 1X5**  
                                 **Toll free fax: 1-888-831-9507**

**Mary Lappan, Spiritual Development**  
**London Diocesan Council**  
**798 Cedar Island Drive**  
**Kingsville, ON**  
**N9Y 3W3**

**Revised 2019**