



Pembroke Diocesan Council
of the Catholic Women's League of Canada
Newsletter



The Blue and Gold

February 2019

Table of Contents

Spiritual Advisor's Message	2
President's Message - Carmel Rumleskie	3
Organization - Joan Lemay	4
Historian – Pat Weller	5
Christian Family Life - Elaine Turner	6
Communications - Bev Drouin	7
Community Life – Joan Kelly	8
Education & Health – Lore Coyne	9
Legislation - Maureen Brennan	10
Resolutions - Sheila Bielawski	11
Secretary – Donna Provost	12
Spiritual Development - Irene Perrault	13
Treasurer - Pauline Hughes	14
Conventions	15
Diocesan and Provincial Conventions	15
Council Activities	16
Diocesan Council	16
Arnprior – St. John's Chrysostum	20
Calumet Island – St. Ann's	20
Deep River - Our Lady of Good Counsel	21
Pembroke – St. Columbkille's Cathedral	21
Corbeil - Sacred Heart of Jesus	22
Renfrew – Our Lady of Fatima	22
Renfrew - St. Francis Xavier	23
Whitney – St Martin of Tours	23
Important Dates to Remember	24
In Memoriam Clare Flagler, Life Member	24
Convention Dates	25
Diocesan Convention Registration Form	26
Provincial and National Convention dates	27
Spring Meeting Agenda	28



February 2019

My Dear Sisters of the League,

My greetings to each of you for this latest edition of the Blue and Gold. I trust that the pages of this edition will introduce the readers to the events of the diocesan council and the matters which are transmitted to us from our provincial and national bodies. It is so important for us to have this exchange of information across the various levels of the Catholic Women's League and allows us to appreciate the importance of the work done at the grass roots and highest levels of the league.

Every once in a while, each one of us falls victim to the frustration of knowing that our efforts in a certain task have come to naught. Events develop and come out in a manner completely different than we had expected and we suffer the apparent failure of wasted efforts and concerns. Most often, this frustration results from relatively minor events but because we have invested so much of ourselves we feel the frustration more acutely.

It is so good for us to take a good deep breath, step away from the matter and put things into perspective. And with time and not a little grace we come to the realization that our pride has been the primary reason for our frustration. We had allowed ourselves to be blinded into thinking that there is only "one way", that my reputation had somehow been connected to the success of the matter. Having come to this refreshing realization we purify our hearts, re-focus our intentions and express to the good Lord our thanksgiving that we had even given the opportunity to be involved. It helps so much, when we realize that we are doing the Lord's work in everything we do. From the most mundane to the most exhilarating and important, our faith allows us to see that everything is his work. That the Lord has given us the health, the interest, the talents to pursue and work towards a goal is a true gift. And the accomplishment of these tasks is in the Lord's hands. With this appreciation, we are able to pursue each task with the best of intentions.

When we are completely honest with ourselves, we see how easily we can lose our direction and fall into this way of thinking. A good remedy to this common mistake is to begin each task by dedicating our efforts to the Lord. Let him glorify our work and bring it to the fruitful conclusion that he wishes and at the time that he deems best. Knowing that we are doing the Lord's work is deeply comforting because we can then be assured that it will follow the course the Lord wishes regardless of whether or not we see the direct fruits. St. Joseph is a wonderful example of this virtue, a simple labourer, who followed the way of the Lord when the path seemed hidden. He knew through faith that it would always bring forth the fruit of the Lord's work.

My dear sisters I hope that we will soon have the opportunity to meeting together. Let us keep in prayer all of our suffering and deceased members.

In Christ,

+Michael Mulhall
Bishop of Pembroke



PRESIDENT
Carmel Rumleskie

To all members of the Diocese,

My grateful thanks to you for your continued support and ongoing enthusiasm for the League. We are a wonderful organization of women with a strong desire to build up the church and bring the Good News to the poor: namely the poor in spirit, the poor in true charity and the poor in wisdom.

St. Teresa of Avila tells us that, "Christ has no body now, but yours. No hands, no feet on earth, but yours." What a challenge for all of us: to be disciples of Jesus spreading God's love and mercy every day. Henry Nouwen said: "When we honestly ask ourselves which person in our lives means the most to us, we often find that it is those who, instead of giving advice, solutions or cures, have chosen rather to share our pain and touch our wounds with a warm and tender hand."

My challenge to you is to continue to be the light of Christ wherever you are. Our Focus **Homelessness** has been a real learning curve for most of us. How many of us knew the seriousness of this issue as 35,000 Canadians are homeless on a given night? At least 235,000 Canadians experience homelessness in a year. The number of adults 55+ years old experiencing homelessness is rising--a combined 24% of shelter users. 12,000 are homeless in Ontario. There are as many as 5,000 "hidden homeless" in Canada on a given night (people couch surfing with family or friends). Let us continue to ease the burden of the homeless by donating money or resources, volunteering with groups that help and advocating for the needs of the homeless. All councils in Pembroke diocese have supported the homeless with outstanding generosity and love. The number of socks, peanut butter jars, crackers, coats, toques, mitts, personal women's products, money, gift cards, toothpaste and brushes, other winter wear and numerous other articles has been phenomenal. I am so proud of you! Thank You!!

Membership month has passed. That does not mean we can't invite and encourage women to join us at any time of the year. We are in this organization for faith, fun and fulfillment. Spread the word! Many members are eligible to run for office on the diocesan council. You will enjoy the experience if you take the challenge. Working with a group who is passionate about The Catholic Women's League of Canada will be a great experience and opportunity to grow in faith and knowledge. Give it a try!

Our National Theme for the next two years is: "Care for our Common Home". The focus is water. The average family can waste 180 gallons of water per week or 9,400 gallons of water annually from household leaks. That's equivalent to the amount of water needed to wash more than 300 loads of laundry. Washing a car uses about 150 gallons of water, so by washing less frequently you can cut back your water use.

My term as Pembroke Diocesan President will be completed at Convention 2019 in Douglas on May 25th. I have enjoyed my second term as President although I had more energy 20 years ago! The new direction being developed within the League is exciting and hopefully attractive to the young women in our parishes. Remember to pray for all your sisters in the diocese. Come to Convention this May and help me celebrate with the new diocesan council to be installed. Many blessings to all members!



PRESIDENT-ELECT AND ORGANIZATION
Joan Lemay

“My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.”
2 Cor. 12:9-10

As I stare at the outline of my duties as chair of organization standing committee, I experience complete writer's block. What can I tell you for my report on Organization? After speaking to many of you over the past two months and hearing expressions of frustration (with writing reports), hopelessness (with declining membership and no one to accept executive positions) and fatigue (with trying to keep up), I realize that many of you are experiencing these same feelings. After many silent prayers to God, I turned to the word of God and I found my hope. The CWL is going through a time of growth and change with the development of its strategic plan and dealing with new systems (for reporting), the rewording of our mission statement, core purpose and core values and envisioned future. This can make one feel weak and maybe even out of touch. But God's grace is always with us.

Recruit Members and Maintain Membership: Amanda McCormack sent a questionnaire to all on-line administrators on January 11, 2019. In keeping with the objectives of the strategic plan, there were 4 questions to complete. She requested a response by January 28, 2019. If you do on-line membership and did not receive this email, please let Amanda know.

Leadership Development: The diocesan executive members are presenting workshops on the CWL Strategic Plan to all parish councils. These may already be completed by the time this Blue and Gold is published. Remember that the strategic plan is a 5-year plan and is evolving. We will continue to look for more explanations and communications from National office.

League Resource Material: Please access the CWL websites, both cwl.ca and cwl.on.ca for information. The Canadian League Magazine is also an excellent source of information.

Annual Reports: Thank you to all who completed your annual reports. At this time (January 28th), your diocesan chairs have received the summaries of the reports from the parishes in the Pembroke diocese and are working on their reports to send to provincial council. These will be published in the Pembroke Diocese Annual Report Book. Thank you also to all the parish council presidents who have submitted your reports to me for the diocesan annual report book. I have asked that your reports are submitted to me by April 1, 2019.

League members do such good works: in our parishes, our communities, nationally and world-wide. Our reports are a record of our works.



**PAST PRESIDENT – HISTORIAN
Pat Weller**

Now that we are into a new year, I would like to remind all parish councils to prepare a highlight of 2018 for the diocesan history books. This should include a list of your current executive, important events and accomplishments over the past year, any service pins or other awards received by your members, a list of any members who have died, and any other highlights that are important to your council. The binders take 8 ½ by 11 sheets. Each page should be in a plastic sheet protector. I will have extra sheet protectors on hand if you need them. The pages can be brought to the Spring diocesan meeting in Barry's Bay or to the convention in Douglas. I look forward to receiving your histories and having them to share with all our members across the diocese.

As a second note, as we approach the end of term, we are in an election year for diocesan council. A new diocesan executive will be installed at the diocesan convention in Douglas. Members who are eligible for election to the diocesan council have been sent, either by mail or email, a letter asking for their consideration to let their name stand for the next term of the diocesan council, 2019-2021. It is a big step. I remember when I was first approached to sit on diocesan council. I certainly wasn't sure of my abilities but with a close group of League sisters by my side, encouraging and supporting me, I have been able to achieve many things that I never thought possible. It will be like this too, for those of you who take the step forward. Consider the possibilities that a seat on diocesan council could bring as the League undergoes renewal and revitalization through its Strategic Planning. And consider how the new national theme, "Care for our Common Home", may shape our adventures in the League over the next two years. You can be a part of this.

Following the advice of our Provincial Past President Pauline Krupa, let us all pray the League Prayer daily for all the women who are eligible for this next election. Our Lady of Good Counsel, be our guide and intercessor as we discern our path in the League.

Prayer intentions of the Holy Father for the month of February.

Universal: For a generous welcome of the victims of human trafficking, of enforced prostitution, and of violence.



CHRISTIAN FAMILY LIFE
Elaine Turner

In her recent Communique, National CWL Chairperson of Christian Family Life Pat Deppiesse advised Members that she had confirmed three sub-committee chairpersons to help her cover the different aspects of Christian Family Life. Nancy Simms will report on vocations, Evelyn Rigby on sanctity of life and Joan Bona on ministry to seniors and widowed.

CFL Suggestions in Pat's Communique:

1. Sanctity of Life:

i) Consider subscribing to the magazine Reflections to assist in pro-life advocacy. Reflections Magazine is a bi-annual, full-colour, glossy publication with a focus on a single, key, life issue and is available for \$20.00/year. To order your annual subscription, call toll-free at 1-866-708-5433 or visit LifeCanada at director@lifecanada.org.

ii) Help curtail euthanasia by visiting patients who do not normally have company and find activities that the patients enjoy: reading, singing, playing cards, solving puzzles or watching a favourite TV program.

2. Ministry to Youth: Help young people to build community. See bcatholic.ca and catholicnewsagency.com/news/bishop-barron-at-synod-of-bishops-young-people.

3. Ministry to Disabled: Try to understand the difficulties physically challenged people face. Visit lockedoutoflife.com or notdeadyet.org for more information.

4. Vocations: Sunday, May 12, 2019 is the 56th Annual World Day of Prayer for Vocations. Visit worlddayofprayerforvocations.com for more details and the message of his Holiness Pope Francis for the 2018 World Day of Vocations and view a short video.

In this Communique, Pat has done a great job in her initial pursuit of ways for achieving her personal theme: "How can we help" and "How can we serve." Let us all try in some way to help all our CWL Councils to achieve this theme.

**"Start by doing what is necessary; then do what is possible;
and suddenly you are doing the impossible."
St. Francis of Assisi**



**COMMUNICATIONS NEWSLETTER Editor Webmaster
Bev Drouin**

“The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.” (Numbers 6:24-26 NRSV)

Thank you to all who completed their annual reports by the deadline. If you did not get a chance to complete them, please ensure that our Organization Chair, Joan Lemay gets a copy of the President’s report for the Annual Report Book.

A few excerpts from the Provincial Communication Chair, Marie-Theresa Lamphier.

Warmth and Comfort Project: We have come to a close on this project and have already received some wonderful results. Just a reminder that final counts of socks, peanut butter jars and boxes of crackers, should be received by myself by January 15th at the latest. Thank you one and all for your contribution to this initiative.

And now for some Diocesan requests, please send me the names of those receiving volunteer awards (e.g., Mayor’s Volunteer of the Year, Citizen of the Year, Life Member Award, Maple Leaf Awards etc.).

Pornography Postcard: Doreen Gowens mentions, in her communiqué, the New Pornography Postcard and the resolution that is incorporated with this postcard. You can find more info at <https://cwl.ca/wrap-week-facts-trafficking-and-pornography/>. You can also print the postcard from that page. Please familiarize yourself with this resolution and take action as required.

ON-Line Newsletter: Just a reminder that if you don’t already receive the ON-Line newsletter in your in-box, please do not be afraid to register for it. The monthly newsletter will have a link come to your in-box and you just have to click on it to review it. These monthly issues are often used to bring updates from different chairpersons without having to send a directive, plus various interesting articles. We also share testimonials as to why members of the executive keep on doing what they are doing... motivational for others who are contemplating letting their name stand for other positions. Go to the provincial website and go to the right of the main page to register at <http://www.cwl.on.ca/>.

Elections: Many councils and diocese have had or will be having elections this coming year including the Provincial Executive. I ask you to pray for all those discerning their call to this ministry. Encourage others to say “Yes” to do the will of the Holy Spirit...if the Holy Spirit asks, it can never be bad! Trust in the Lord!

May Our Lady of Good Counsel bless you and guide you on your CWL journey



COMMUNITY LIFE

Joan Kelly

“He who pursues righteousness and kindness will find life and honour” (Proverbs 21:21)

Another year of ***faith, fun and fulfillment*** has been completed. Just a brief update of what has happened in the last while.

Social & Economic Justice

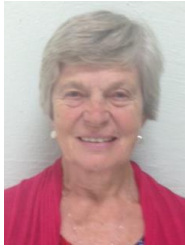
The year of 2018 has been a busy one and we have taken on the task of providing for the Homeless. Items were collected at the Fall Meeting and donated to various charities for the homeless. As well, many councils met the Provincial Challenge of “Warmth and Comfort” to collect 2019 socks for the homeless by the end of the year. The final count for the Pembroke Diocese was **1978** socks. We also collected **59** jars of peanut butter and **61** boxes of crackers. Many councils continue to donate to local shelters and food banks on a yearly basis collecting clothing, money, personal products and food to share. CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE COUNCILS! Your generosity is outstanding!!

Canadian Catholic Organization of Development and Peace

“In a directive from the National President Anne-Marie Gorman and National Spiritual Advisor Bishop Stephen Jensen dated November 17, 2018 they stated that since the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) have found that many groups supported by the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace (CCODP) are at odds with the moral teachings of the Church. It is recommended that CWL parish councils who collect donations of behalf of CCODP check with the approved charities to donate to and direct their donations to those specific organizations. Please consult your Spiritual Advisor.

***“Only God knows the good that can come about
by reading one good Catholic book.”***

St. John Bosco



EDUCATION & HEALTH Lore Coyne

“It is not how much we do but how much love we put in the action that we do.”
Mother Theresa

As we begin the new year of 2019, this gives us time to reflect and review the activities of the past year and what our goals and hopes are for this coming year. As the standing chair I have information available in both Health and Education shared with me from the Provincial Chair, Wilma Vanderzwagg, which I am pleased to share with all of you.

Education

- ❖ The National Bursary fund has made changes which will take place effective this year. Courses offered in the United States may now be pursued if the program is not available in Canada; thus allowing more members with the opportunity to apply for the National Bursary.
- ❖ We want to thank and acknowledge Sandra Blais, Ottawa Diocesan Education and Health Chair, for keeping us informed on the recent Physical and Health Education (specifically sex) Curriculum. The Ontario government provided an opportunity for parents to give their feedback regarding the new curriculum and its impact. As councils we will have an opportunity to give our feedback as there will be an online survey in addition to a schedule of telephone town halls in every region of the Province.
- ❖ Those interested in studying at a Catholic College please note that Our Lady Seat of Wisdom in Barry's Bay offers a three-year Bachelor of Catholic Studies degree.

Health

- ❖ North Bay regional health centre has a peer support worker program in place to assist patients in the midst of a mental crisis. Staff will be available to listen and support clients who may be in crisis while waiting to see a Doctor. It's not just about fixing broken bones; we need to help people from the inside out, one's heart and mind. *Lisa Henry's post, “Never give up on someone with mental illness. When “I” is replaced with “we”, illness becomes wellness.”* Inspiring words to live by.

Remember if ever you are in need; reach out, there are those who will help and want to help. We all need each other.



LEGISLATION
Maureen Brennan

“Legislative activity is always best based on care for the people” (Pope Francis).

Scavenger Hunt 2018 for the Legislation committees captured the interest of 26 teams across Ontario. Educating members about homelessness issues within our individual communities and reviewing legislation that is in place was the aim; and was successfully accomplished. We expect a summary of the completed surveys early in 2019.

One very important piece of legislation that was before the Federal government is **Bill C-211 Federal Framework on Post Traumatic Stress Disorder Act**. No person is exempt from the effects of mental illness. It does not discriminate based on sex, religion, race, age or how much money one has. Members were encouraged to take action, by putting social justice into action through supporting this legislation. Members are reminded when writing letters to government remember, you can share that you are a League member when writing in regard to a particular CWL resolution however, you cannot write on behalf of the League or on CWL letterhead.

The Ontario Provincial Council issued an urgent bulletin on August 8th requesting a call to action in support of resolution **ON.18.02 Immediate Implementation of Income Security: A Roadmap for Change for Ontarians with a Disability**. We were urged to write both the Premier of Ontario and Minister of Social services stating that eliminating the income security pilot project and other recommendations within the report is not acceptable to us as Ontario citizens concerned for those at risk of homelessness.

The Catholic Women’s League delegation that travels annually to Parliament Hill came away from meetings on Parliament Hill in December optimistic on many fronts. After a meeting with opposition MP Marilyn Gladu, the MP said she is expecting soon the federal government’s proposed national framework for palliative care legislation as required by her private member’s Bill C-277 that passed into law in December 2017.

Stay tuned.



RESOLUTIONS

Sheila Bielawski

Resolutions have been a major part of The Catholic Women's League since its beginning. They bring an awareness to many of the concerns and injustices shown to the weak and the vulnerable in our society. Four topics that have been put forward to be considered at the annual provincial convention in July are:

KINGSTON: Pilot Project for delivery-care system for Talk Therapy

LONDON: 1. Abortion and the Effects on Mental Health

2. Equal Access to Permanent Residence Status, an Amendment to the Express Entry System under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act as it relates to Religious Workers

TIMMIMS: Qualified Physical and Music Educators in Ontario Schools

TORONTO: Need for Canadian Research into short-and long-term side effects of the hormonal contraceptive pill

For a brief explanation of each of these proposed topics go to www.cwl.on.ca and check out the ON-Line Newsletter.

The national executive is undertaking changes to the resolutions process. They are looking at making improvements to the discussion of resolutions presented at the convention. Rather than focussing on the text or wording (wordsmithing), they hope to focus more on the issues being addressed in the resolution. A list of the proposed improvements can be found on the national website www.cwl.ca "Communication #2 – Resolutions".

If you haven't studied one of the resolutions passed at last year's convention take one that you feel strongly about and if the action plan asks to write letters, bombard the government with your concerns. We may get some more response seeing that this is an election year.



**SECRETARY
Donna Provost**

***“To do good, one must have a little courage, be ready for sacrifice, deal affably with all and never slight anybody”
(St. John Bosco)***

I serve as both recording and corresponding secretary. I welcome any new secretaries and encourage you to have on hand a copy of the Handbook for Secretaries. It can be requested or downloaded from the national website at www.cwl.ca. Two other good resources are Robert's Rules of Order and Participate with Ease.

Each job is equally important. As recording secretary, we record the minutes correctly, concisely and completely. The minutes can be distributed to the membership or read at the meeting. The minutes do not become an official record until they have been approved. As corresponding secretary, we send all correspondence that is requested by the President. We also receive and report on any correspondence that is received. The secretary also keeps the Presidents list current and updates as soon as there are changes. These are then forwarded on to the members.

My term as both recording and corresponding secretary will be over in May at the Diocesan Convention. It has been my honour to serve the League in these positions. I have worked with a great team of ladies on the Diocesan Executive. It has been such a positive experience and truly have experienced Faith, Fun and Fulfillment with these ladies.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel Bless You

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD

The month of February is traditionally dedicated to the Passion of Our Lord in anticipation of the liturgical season of Lent. In this month, we begin to meditate on the mystery of Jesus' sufferings which culminated in his death on the Cross for the redemption of mankind. Saints who had a special devotion to Christ's passion include St. Francis of Assisi, who was the first known saint to receive the stigmata; St. John of the Cross; St. Bridget of Sweden; and St. Catherine of Siena.



SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT Irene Perrault

The National theme: "Care for Our Common Home" became effective on January 1, 2019. Resources for the theme can be found at https://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint_id=5601

Anna Tremblay, Ontario Provincial Standing Committee Chairperson also suggests that prayers which touch the theme should also be incorporated into our meetings.

Councils should try to participate in the World Day of Prayer held on March 1, 2019. Anna reports that the program was written by women in Slovenia, one of the smallest countries in Europe. This year's theme is "Come - Everything is ready!" based on Luke 14:15-24. 12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care. ***"Let us not underestimate the power of so many voices united in prayer." Pope Francis.***

On Saturday, May 4, 2019, all CWL councils in Pembroke Diocese, as well as all across Canada, are asked to pray in support of palliative care as a moral alternative to euthanasia. There is plenty of information on the National website, www.cwl.ca, to help you prepare for this day. If you have palliative care established in your area be grateful and support them.

One of the objectives of the Spiritual Development Standing Committee is the study of Catholic Teachings. Every fall the Pembroke Diocese has a formation day for parish Catechists. In the fall of 2018, I attended the workshop on reconciliation and the sacrament of the sick. This program is for any practicing Catholic who wishes to become more informed about their faith. One of the things that I learned at this meeting was that when an individual receives the sacrament of the sick, he/she receives the anointing on the palm of the hand. The priest receives his anointing on the back of the hand because he has already received the anointing on the palm at ordination.

I have found that by attending these days I always hear something that I did not know. Who knows when you will be called upon either by a grandchild, your own children or even a family member to explain something about the Catholic faith! That is why I feel it is important to always be able to help someone grow in their faith.

"We shall steer safely through every storm, so long as our heart is right, our intention fervent, our courage steadfast, and our trust fixed on God."

St. Francis de Sales



TREASURER
Pauline Hughes

Membership fees are determined by each parish council and includes diocesan, provincial and national per capita fees, as well as the fee (if any) for the parish council itself.

Prior to the Diocesan Convention in 2017 our fee schedule in Pembroke Diocese included monies paid directly to National (i.e. National \$13, Provincial \$3 and \$1.50 Diocese) *plus* a Diocesan Levy of \$1 per member and a Diocesan Fee of \$45 per council. At that convention we voted to combine all fees and send one payment to National with our membership registration. So, currently Parish councils make one payment to National (\$13.00 plus \$3 plus \$3.50 for a total of \$19.50). For all councils this was a more equitable fee structure and for the smaller councils it cost less per member than the previous fee schedule.

Currently, the majority of councils in our diocese have a membership fee of \$20. This does not leave a lot of cash from membership fees in the Parish coffers. Understandably, some councils have expressed the desire to raise the membership fees at the parish level.

If you wish to increase your membership fees there are a number of things to consider. National Policy and Procedure specifies:

- an increase in the membership fee of an individual parish council is determined by the recommendation of the parish council executive,
- followed by a notice of motion at a parish council meeting,
- and approved by a majority (greater than 50%) of the members voting at the **next** meeting
- All parish council members shall be notified of this agenda item 30 days prior to the vote.

Parish collection envelopes are ordered early in the current year so any council that wishes to increase their membership fees for 2020 should make this decision soon, so that there is sufficient time to inform the parish that you wish to change the amount specified on the collection envelope.

CONVENTIONS

DIOCESAN CONVENTION



Carmel Rumleskie's family singing for us



Pat Weller with Provincial President Anne Madden



Registration Committee, Danielle Dawkins, Mary Hass and Margaret Maloney



President Carmel with Ella Box Congratulations on membership drive.

PROVINCIAL CONVENTION TORONTO



Team Pembroke, Donna Provost, Pat Weller, Joan Lemay, Irene Perrault and Bev Drouin playing the CWL version of Family Feud. We won!



Bev Drouin gets a high five from Our Holy Father.



Provincial Contingent, Carmel Rumleskie, Bev Drouin, Donna Provost, Margaret Maloney, front row Pat Weller, Joan Lemay and Irene Perrault



Twins?? How uncanny that these two lovely ladies wore the same dress!



Bev Drouin with Life Member Mary Ellen Stinson

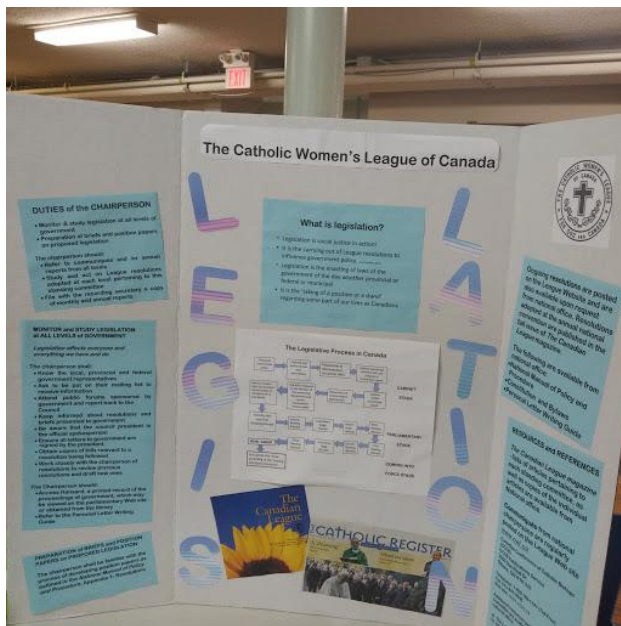


Council Activities



DIOCESAN COUNCIL

Fall Meeting
Our Lady of Lourdes, October 20, 2018



Maureen Brennan's Legislation story board



Blessing of the parish councils Books of Life

Day of Reflection September 8, 2018



Irene Perrault leads a prayer service for deceased members. Joan Lemay lights a candle for a sister member.



Father Ryan Holly spoke to us on the letter of his Holiness Pope Francis to the people of God

Homeless Project



St. Francis Xavier CWL collection of socks for homeless and foodbank



St. Anne's Parish CWL invited representatives from L'EntourElle, a local women's shelter, as guest speakers at our Fall meeting - they were presented with a donation of new socks and non-perishable food items to help them with their supplies at the shelter - they were very appreciative of this act of charity.



Our Lady of Good Counsel donation to the Deep River and Area Food Bank and the North Renfrew Family Services, Sharon Munro and Susan Patterson



Bev Drouin, Ida Gendron, Mary Pat Ladouceur and Madeleine Boulanger with St. Anthony's contribution to the Homeless project. We also contributed packets of personal hygiene products for distribution to the food banks.



The Catholic Women's League of Holy Canadian Martyrs Church in Combermere made a delivery to the Barry's Bay food bank, Tuesday, Jan. 22. As part of a national Warmth and Comfort Project, parishioners donated peanut butter, soup, and other foodstuffs to the bank, to help in the post-Christmas time. Terry Newcombe and staff welcomed Lesley McCambridge, Sylvia Stamplecoskie, Clare Beatty, Kristan Hamon, Dragi Anderchek, Mary Yaraskavitch and Shirley Radey into their busy operation. We hope many will continue to support this most worthy cause.

NEWS FROM THE PARISH COUNCILS

ARNPRIOR – ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTUM



The St. John Chrysostom CWL council of Arnprior once again provided Rosaries as gifts to the young people making their First Communion, participated in the Confirmation celebration & assisted at the Graduation of the grade eight students. We also organized another very successful Apple Pie Fundraiser for our council. With excellent support and help from the ladies we made a total of 510 pies, which were pre-ordered and sold and is a very popular undertaking. Arnprior council actively supported the food bank which is housed in St. John Chrysostom church. We have designated masses, on the first weekend of each month, as food bank Sundays. Again this year, with help from a local quilters group, who make and donate Christmas gift bags, our CWL ladies encouraged donations of, and collected, personal care items. The CWL ladies, this year also collected approximately 488 pairs of socks for distribution along with peanut butter and crackers. As a result, we were able to fill 117 Christmas bags to be given by the Food Bank at Christmas to people in need and those who might be alone during this time.

CALUMET ISLAND – ST. ANN'S

St. Anne's Parish C.W.L. hosted Our Lady of Good Counsel celebrations on April 26, 2018. Along



with our Spiritual Advisor, Father Christian Kakule and our members, were our neighboring CWL council members and invited guests, Carmel Rumleskie and Donna Provost from Diocesan and Spiritual Advisors, Father Réal Ouellette and Father Basil Tanguay. A great celebration was had with presentation of service pins and special recognition awards to many members - and we enjoyed a lovely buffet lunch afterwards.

DEEP RIVER – OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL



Fashion show at June Potluck dinner



2018 executive with our new parish priest Fr. Beachey

PEMBROKE - ST. COLUMKILLE'S CATHEDRAL



Annual CWL and parish donation to Operation Christmas Child. In the photo is Becky Chaput and Dan Connor, local co-ordinator of Operation Christmas Child.



Volunteers from the CWL Tourtière Fundraiser. Quite a fun day for our group. Our next event will be held on February 7th, a Valentine Dessert Card Party from 7 to 9 pm. This is an annual event, that attracts a crowd of about 60 to 70 card players.

CORBEIL – SACRED HEART OF JESUS



Installation of new executive for 2019-2020

RENFREW – OUR LADY OF FATIMA

At Our Lady of Fatima (Renfrew) Catholic Women's League annual awards dinner President, Nancy Guyea, assisted by Ella Box, presented service awards to members recognizing 10 year to 50 year membership and commitment to the League. The prestigious Maple Leaf Service pin was awarded to Darlene Meleskie in celebration of her many years of exceptional and unselfish contribution to our CWL council and its many activities. Also recognized for outstanding service to the League, were Berny Mortimer and Darlene White who were presented with Certificates of Merit.



Ella Box, Darlene Meleski, Nancy Guyea



Left to Right Back Row: Raina Newberry (10), Jessica Belanger (10), Father Ryan Holly, Darlene Meleski. Middle: Darlene White, Sylvia Currie (20), Lynda Grady (25), Berny Mortimer. Front: Judith Anderson (45), Ann Dargus (50), Marjorie Coghlan (35), Nancy Guyea

RENFREW – ST FRANCIS XAVIER



Lore Coyne receives Maple Leaf Service Pin

2018 Annual Donation Presentation - At their October general meeting the St. Francis Xavier Catholic Women's League (CWL) presented cheques to Hospice Renfrew, Sunshine Coach, Renfrew and Area Seniors Home Support and St. Francis Xavier Parish Care Fund. Each year the CWL raises funds to present awards to graduating students and to support the parish, various local organizations, as well as missions abroad. Money is raised through a Rummage Sale, held in the spring, and through a Tea and Talent Sale.



Shown in photo, left to right, are Elaine Turner (SFX CWL Christian & Family Life Chair), Betty Coulas (Renfrew Hospice), Judy Ewart (Renfrew & Area Senior's Home Support) Susan Ringrose (SFX CWL Community Life Chair), Joan Lemay (SFX CWL Historian/Past President), Martha Scott (SFX Parish), Shirley Ann Holley (SFX CWL Resolutions and Legislation Chair) and Colleen Sheehan (Sunshine Coach).

WHITNEY – ST MARTIN OF TOURS



A few members from St. Martin of Tours, Whitney sorting a collection of socks, hats, mitts gloves, peanut butter, crackers, coffee, feminine products, combs, tooth brushes & paste, etc. These items were donated by our members as well as other parishioners and community members. These items will be taken to the Barry's Bay Food Bank.

Left to right, Lynda Stubbs, Viola Laginski, Janet Lynch & Julie Kubisewsky

Important Dates to Remember

1. Pembroke Diocesan Spring meeting Sat., April 13, 2019, Barry's Bay
2. 12 hours of Prayer for Palliative Care May 4th
3. Annual Pembroke Diocesan Convention Sat., May 25, 2019, St. Michael's, Douglas
4. Pembroke Diocesan Day of Reflection Sat., Sept.??, 2019, ???
5. Pembroke Diocesan Fall meeting Sat???, 2019, Host council: TBD

In Memorium



Clare Flagler, Life Member

Clare McAlpine was born in 1921 and had been a CWL member since 1950 and a Life Member since 2000. She began her CWL career in Windsor and then in 1962 became a member in Arnprior at Saint John Chrysostom and in 1973 she moved to Bancroft. She was a Council President for 7 years: three in Arnprior and four in Bancroft. While serving on the Arnprior Council she received her Maple Leaf Service Pin.

She served on the Pembroke Diocesan CWL executive. She was Christian Family Life Convenor 1973-77, Diocesan President 1977-79 and Communications Convenor 1981-1982. She served as Provincial CWL convenor of Family Life from 1976 to 1977. She was the keynote speaker on "Catholic Education" at the Hamilton convention in 1976 and was the panel organizer and moderator of "Nurturing Vocations" at the Kingston convention in 1977. She served four years as the Corresponding Secretary at Our Lady of Mercy CWL in Bancroft.

Her local obituary closed with the following Irish Blessing:

May the road rise up to meet you;
May the wind always be at your back;
May the sun shine warm upon your face;
And the rains fall soft upon your fields and until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of His hand.

You are cordially invited to
The 98th Annual Convention
of the Pembroke Diocesan Council
of The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Saturday, May 25, 2019
St. Michael's Parish, Douglas, Ontario K8A 2V2
Registration 8am Start Time 9 AM

Please join us to share in a day of prayer, reports, guest speakers and fun.

A presentation by Colleen Perry, Ontario Provincial President-Elect entitled, "We can make a difference" and Phil Small speaking about his book: "On the Way to Here" will be enlightening and refreshing. The responsibilities of the Treasurer and the President will be reviewed. A new executive will be installed for 2019-2021. We are grateful to the parish council at St. Michael's for hosting this convention. Let's support this council by signing up. Together we demonstrate CWL core values: Faith, Service and Social Justice. We will touch base with the new National Theme: **"Care for our Common Home"** with a focus on WATER across Canada.

More information is included on the next page. Check it out!

<u>Mission Statement:</u>	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.
---------------------------	---

<u>Envisioned Future:</u>	The Catholic Women's League of Canada is an inclusive and engaged community of Catholic women inspired by faith. It is: A vital participant in the church; A valued partner for social justice; A respected advocate at all government levels; Connected to the world.
---------------------------	--

Save the Date!

Ontario Provincial Convention

July 13 - July 17, 2019

**Location: Ambassador Hotel and Conference Centre
1550 Princess St., Kingston, ON**

We apologize for the inconvenience the date change may cause.

Registration link

<http://www.cwl.on.ca/sites/default/files/bulletin/1842.pdf>

We look forward to seeing you!

Co-Chairs: Bernadette Burgess & Kathy Huffman

**99th Annual National Convention
August 18 - 21, 2019, in Calgary, Alberta**

Hyatt Regency Hotel and Conference Center

Registration link

<https://cwl.ca/calgary-2019/>

Hope to see you there!

**Pembroke Diocesan Council of the Catholic Women's League of Canada
Annual Spring Meeting Saturday, April 13, 2019 9am to 2 pm
St. Lawrence O'Toole Parish hall, 19454 Opeongo Line, Barry's Bay ON**

Agenda

- 9:00 AM Registration and Refreshments
- 9:20 AM Meeting called to order: Carmel Rumleskie
Spiritual Opening: Irene Perrault
Welcome: Host Parish Council: Beth Hildebrandt
Parish Council Spiritual Advisor: Rev. Pat Dobec
Diocesan Council Spiritual Advisor: Bishop Michael Mulhall
Diocesan Council President: Carmel Rumleskie
- 9:40 AM Approval of Agenda: Carmel Rumleskie
Secretary: Donna Provost: Approval of Minutes of Fall meeting Oct. 20, 2018, Correspondence
Treasurer: Pauline Hughes: Financial Statement: Year-end Summary, Current statement, Insurance
- 10:00 AM Bishop Michael Mulhall: "Sharing News and Views with members"
- 10:30 AM Stretch Break - Please Note: Jack and Patricia Duggan will be in attendance with their religious articles.
- 10:45 AM Presentation of Education and Health committee: Lore Coyne
Standing Committee Chair Reports:
President-Elect/Organization: Joan Lemay
Community Life: Joan Kelly
Resolutions: Sheila Bielawski
Spiritual Development: Irene Perrault
Legislation: Maureen Brennan
Christian Family Life: Elaine Turner
Communications: Bev Drouin
Education and Health: Lore Coyne
Past President/ Historian: Pat Weller
Life Member Liaison: Margaret Maloney
President: Carmel Rumleskie
- 11:30 AM Review of National Strategic Planning Presentations: Questions / Comments.
- 11:40 AM Presentation of Communications committee: Bev Drouin
- 11:55 AM Collection of donations to Homeless. Count. Picture with group.
- 12:05 Noon Angelus and Grace. Lunch served by host council with gratitude.
- 12:50 PM Opening Prayer: Irene Perrault
- 1:00 PM Guest Speaker: Jackie Agnew: "Housing and Homelessness in Renfrew County"
Introduction: Pat Weller Appreciation: Margaret Maloney
- 1:45 PM Closing Remarks by Spiritual Advisor and President. Prayer.
- 2:00 PM Adjournment.

Our Lady of Good Counsel, Pray for us!