



ALBERTA MACKENZIE PROVINCIAL COUNCIL FALL 2020 Newsletter



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.

My Dear Sisters in the League:

From the President's Desk: Judy Look

As you begin reading our Fall newsletter I invite you to reflect on the words of Charles Dickens in the Tale of Two Cities: "It was the best of times, **it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom**, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of light, it was the season of darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair." Don't we sometimes just feel like that? In many ways COVID is "the best of times" as we revisit the importance of relationships, families, friends and our God; the worst of times as we see people lose their jobs, businesses and the breakdown of families; the age of wisdom as we discern our role as Catholic women; the age of foolishness as people disregard hand washing, self-isolating and staying home when sick; an epoch of belief as we deal with systemic racism and movements like Black Life Matters; an epoch of incredulity as we say this really can't be happening; the season of light as we learn to manage technology; the season of darkness as our churches have limited worship, the spring of hope as we see the economy recover and the winter of despair as we see it turn down.



Reflecting on those words, we come to the realization that now is the **time** for action. I use the word action because this is no time for complacency, self-absorption or self-pity. By the grace of God, we are in the right place at the right time to be the light and hope for others. We need to take advantage of this time to connect with our sisters in the League, to write letters to our MPs and MLAs, to enrol in a webinar, to study the Church's position on life, to send thank you notes, to start a novena, to join a working group, to become comfortable with Zoom or other on-line meeting programs, to begin a prayer cohort with League sisters, to read a book on the lives of the saints, to bake cookies for the neighbours, to receive the Eucharist, to pray for the unborn and the future of the League.

To do this we need to live the words of Bellelles Guerin, our first National president. She stated at the first dominion convention in Toronto in 1921, "We have before us some days of serious and strenuous work. Let us approach it with all the zeal and good will that is in

our souls. Shoulder to shoulder, heart to heart, let us go forth from this convention bound by a solidarity that nothing can break, gentlewomen, but brave soldiers holding our banner of patriotism to our beloved country and of inviolable fidelity to our glorious faith!"

With those words in mind we must roll up our sleeves, face our current situation and move forward recognizing that we do not know what is in front of us, but we do know that God leads the charge. If we involve God and his Mother, they will give us the courage we need to face our current reality. A few weeks ago, I watched webinar presentations on Collective Trauma - trauma being defined as a "a deeply distressing or disturbing experience". One of the presenters, Alexis Griffith-Waye, Director of Learning and Development at Harvard University was speaking about resilience in the workplace. She defined resilience as a person's ability to easily adapt to and change with the challenges and struggles that people face in their lives. She noted that the foundation for resiliency is **gratitude** and underlying gratitude is **faith**. Resiliency is built upon optimism, mental agility, connection and self-regulation. She spoke of optimism as something that comes from knowing ones' reality and planning for it. The more I thought about her talk (my first cup of tea) the more I started to realize that in this time of COVID we as members must develop resiliency. We must greet our day with gratitude and be optimism. We have our faith in our God and our Blessed Mother, we need to make plans and acknowledge that things are going to be different not just in the short term but in the future as well. We have to take our present knowledge of the League and ask ourselves: how can we adapt it to make the League come alive in this time of social distancing? How do we welcome when there is no one present to welcome? How can we be Church if we can't gather? We have to move from the thinking of "when this is over" to the thinking "action can't wait". We must make a difference now. We must take our present circumstances and infuse them with relationships. We must make an effort from behind our masks to become present to the other. God calls us by name and so we must call others by name.

So, as we enter this Fall season, let us become resilient women, immersed in our faith, optimistic about our future, inspired by Our Lady of Good Counsel and guided by the Holy Spirit. Let us be like those women who in 1921 became risk takers thinking outside the box so all women in Canada would have an opportunity to join an organization where they could live out their Baptismal promise to build the kingdom of God through service to others. **Let us wave our banner of Faith, Service and Social Justice for all to see.** Let us be the hope for the world. Let us have the courage to drink from the third cup of tea. Let us move to action!

Have a very blessed Fall



CoVid-19 and the Catholic Women's League

Due to the CoVid-19 Pandemic that has gripped the whole world since March of 2020, the usual activities that the Alberta Mackenzie Provincial Council would have carried out over the past several months have been cancelled. The National Executive of the Catholic Women's League of Canada have sent out several information memos on how the League would operate during this time. The first, dated March 20th, directed that all diocesan and provincial conventions be cancelled as was the National 2020 convention in Montreal. With the National office being located in Winnipeg, MB, National had to close the office as directed by the Public Health Act in Manitoba and work from home for the month of April.

Along with churches closing and gatherings being restricted, regular CWL meetings across the nation were cancelled. Our League sisters took the stay at home, self isolate, social/physical distance suggestions seriously. National released several memos regarding the pandemic:

March 20: Cancellation of Conventions:

<https://cwl.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Response-to-COVID-19.pdf>

May 5: National Office Re-opening:

<https://cwl.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/20200505-Response-to-COVID-19-Office-Reopening.pdf>

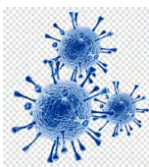
May 6: Frequently asked Questions:

<https://cwl.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/20200506-COVID-Update-II.pdf>

June 12: Requesting the extension of terms of officers for an additional year:

<https://cwl.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/20200616-COVID-Update-III.pdf>

This was followed by a memo to Provincial presidents and past presidents from National Past President Margaret Ann Jacobs that parish council terms should also be extended by a year. Your diocesan presidents have or



should be informing all parish councils of these extension requests. Discussion of how this may affect your parish council should be discussed with your executive and members.

73rd Annual Convention

Our Provincial President, Judy Look hosted the Provincial Convention by herself as did our Diocesan Presidents. This was in line with the instructions from National as to how the cancellation of conventions will be handed for 2020.

Alberta Mackenzie Provincial Council
73rd Annual Convention
Holy Spirit Church 10827 – 24 Street S.W.
Calgary, Alberta T2W 2Z2

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 11:15am by President JUDY LOOK in the ST. MARK ROOM at HOLY SPIRIT PARISH, Calgary AB for business including the passing of Resolutions, conducting of Instructed Votes or Elections.

As there was NO QUORUM present, President JUDY LOOK declared the MEETING ADJOURNED.

Time 11:17am. June 5, 2020 Judy Look



The 73rd Annual Convention was to be held in Lac La Biche, AB, St. Paul Diocese. Judy thanks the planning committee for all their work. It was decided that the 74th Annual Convention will be held (if possible) in Lac La Biche AB, June 2021.

ABMK Prays the ROSARY:

President Judy Look has invited all to a Rosary Prayer session via ZOOM every Wednesday evening since May 13th. The invite goes out to all diocesan presidents, usually the Sunday before and in turn is distributed to all council presidents to distribute to their members. The invite is also posted onto the ABMK website. The intention is to pray the rosary every Wednesday while the coronavirus grips our nation and the whole world. Members are invited to send Judy their prayer intentions weekly. Participation so far has varied between 20 to 48 people from all areas of the Alberta Mackenzie Provincial Council.

The Rosary ends with the praying of Pope Francis's Prayer to Mary during this pandemic:

*O Mary,
you always shine on our path
as a sign of salvation and of hope.
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of
the Sick,
who at the cross took part in Jesus'
pain, keeping your faith firm.
You, Salvation of the Roman People,
know what we need,
and we are sure you will provide
so that, as in Cana of Galilee,
we may return to joy and to feasting
after this time of trial.
Help us, Mother of Divine Love,
to conform to the will of the Father
and to do as we are told by Jesus,
who has taken upon himself our
sufferings
and carried our sorrows
to lead us, through the cross,
to the joy of the resurrection. Amen.*

<http://www.cwl.ab.ca/ABMKRosary:20201007.pdf>

The link is updated weekly.

CWL Action:

With the Pandemic closing down so many events, the one thing the Catholic Women's League can do is write letters and send in postcards of issues and resolutions that the League has presented to the governments.

The ABMK provincial council has purchased Mandatory Age Verification postcards. Requests for the cards should go to your Diocesan Communication Chairs. With live streaming of pornography even more prevalent during this time, we need to act!



With Long Term Care / Senior Care Facilities being hard hit with the coronavirus, we need to send to our federal government Palliative Cards. ABMK purchased a limited amount of these cards. Email abmkprovcommunications@gmail.com for these cards.



Mental Health card are also available from National.

National 2020 Speakers Series:



Anne Gorman, National President Report

submitted by Judy Look

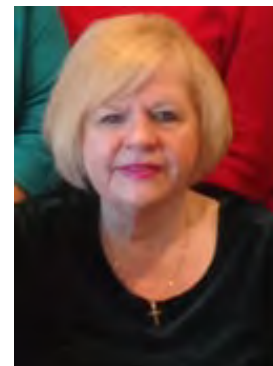
What a wonderful experience the 2020 Speakers Series was for our members. Although it wasn't convention it was a real shot in the arm as we continue our journey with COVID. We all know that in 2020 all CWL conventions across the country were cancelled. As well, we all know that you cannot keep a good CWL council down and our National Council is no exception. As conventions were being cancelled their creativity flowed as they began to think outside the box. If members can't come to us, we'll go to them. How can that happen if we can't gather? Webinars were the answer. So, from August 10-14, 75,000 members were invited to listen and grow from the giftedness of the speakers first scheduled for convention 2020 but rerouted to the Speakers Series.

On the last day of the series our National President spoke to us summing up the previous days and sharing the work she had spearheaded in the year. Listening to her you got had the impression that you were present in the convention room. She began with the introduction of her table officers where we got to see them up close. She gave a chronological report on the timeline of COVID -19 entering CWL reality in March to the moment of her webinar and the reasons behind all the difficult decisions especially cancelling conventions. I encourage you to listen to her webinar on YouTube.

If she couldn't present in person, she was going to keep the webinar experience as normal as possible. She invited questions from members and addressed them as they came in. Through the questions we learned about membership, elections and the invitation to all executive members at all levels to stay on another year. As a servant leader she invited her executive to answer the questions in their areas of expertise. Her report was very reflective of how all councils were operating. Each council president in her own right has been working hard to stay connected to her executive and her membership. Ann attended more meetings than usual as she met through technology with her table officers, the National executive, the provincial presidents, the planning strategic and implementation teams. She had the opportunity for professional growth as she participated in webinars on our behalf – The Power of Values Thinking, New Evangelization, WUWCO Pray Together Day, training on the new technology and a governance workshop on effective boards knowing that all the knowledge gained would help the League to grow. She voiced disappointment as she listed all the events cancelled due to COVID -19. One of the few gifts given to the National President is the ability to participate in conventions around the country and you could sense a real loss as she mentioned all of them as well as the cancellation of her own national convention in Montreal. She gave a shout out to all 2020 convention planning committees acknowledging their hard work only to learn that work would not bear fruit. She acknowledged the gift of technology recognizing that through it the organization could move forward. We understood her source of strength as she shared her virtual attendance at daily Mass and praying the rosary with Cardinal Collins in Toronto following the closure of all churches.

Our National President lives the words expressed by Bellelle Guerin, our first National president, who stated at the first dominion convention in Toronto in 1921, "We have before us some days of serious and strenuous work. Let us approach it with all the zeal and good will that is in our souls. Shoulder to shoulder, heart to heart, let us go forth from this convention bound by a solidarity that nothing can break, gentlewomen, but brave soldiers holding our banner of patriotism to our beloved country and of inviolable fidelity to our glorious faith!" Thank you, Madame President, for all your hard work and dedication to the League; you truly are a servant leader.

Greetings from Your President-Elect – Mary Hunt



My Dear Sisters in the League,

The global pandemic has challenged us and perhaps changed our lives forever. The CWL Mission Statement is *The Catholic Women's League of Canada call its members to grow in faith, and to witness to the love of God through ministry and service.* Through these months of pandemic, I have grown in appreciation of the fact that of the “*forever gifts*” of the Holy Spirit which are faith, hope and love the greatest of these gifts truly is love as hope and faith rely on love for their existence. In 1 Corinthians 13:2 St. Paul says, “If I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. Faith and hope are dead, sterile things if not accompanied by love.

In 1 John 4:8 we are told that *God is love* and later that *My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. There is no Greater love than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends...*

Mother Theresa is well known for saying “**Not all of us can do great things. But we can do things with great love.**” Love can change everything. Intentional love is possible through works of faith, service and social justice which are the identified three pillars of the Catholic Women's League.

We are called to use **intentional love** in our lives to introduce change and social justice. As Christians, we reach out in love because we recognize the face of Christ in every person. Our dignity is not earned and so it cannot be forfeited...our mission is to protect the life and dignity of each human person. There are many ways that we can do this including the Care for Our Common Home, participation in liturgical and other church ministries, soup kitchens/funeral luncheons, support of the Alberta March for Life, Catholic Social Services, Volunteering at the Food Bank, St Vincent DePaul, Women's Prison, Development & Peace initiatives, Catholic Women's Leadership Foundation and the list goes on. Ways to support advocacy and social justice include the Seniors Advocate, Sanctity of Life Support, GrACE (Grateful Advocates for Catholic Education and the Coady Institute. Advocacy will include the prayerful consideration of resolutions to improve the lives of everyone. Write letters to members of government, sign petitions and meet with government representatives. Host Forums to provide information and challenge others.

Faith and hope benefit the possessor; but love always benefits another.

In the coming months, we will be called upon to participate in various surveys and committees dedicated to the change and growth of the League. I encourage you to accept the call as it will impact the League of the future. It is an important opportunity for your voice to be heard.

Annual Reports - Fran Lucas has advised that information regarding annual reports will be available on November 1st. Join Executive Director Kim Scammell as she gives an informative, how-to webinar on “*How to Complete an Annual Report Survey*”. Register on the CWL national website. Two dates are available: Wednesday, October 28th or Tuesday, November 24th.

I will prepare a Communique providing more information as it becomes available.

Membership continues to be an ongoing challenge for our councils. **I challenge each of you to practice intentional love and invite one woman to become a member...**if each of us did this we could double the membership. You would be a mentor and a friend to this person so that they would be comfortable in participating in League activities. Perhaps you could introduce them to other members and take it upon yourself to connect with them at least once a month to chat or share a cup of tea. The impact of your gesture of love would potentially ripple down becoming a tsunami of good news for the League. I invite you to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have. It is with a grateful heart that I remember the blessings in my life and the words of Jesus **Love one another as I have loved you...**

With Love, Mary Hunt (780-487-3165 or 780-221-3165)



Father Andrew Bogdanowicz –

ABMK Provincial
Spiritual Advisor

Greetings. In this difficult time, I invite you to say the Novena to the Will of God recommended by Fr. Don Dolindo Ruotolo, known as the Surrender Prayer. Surrender means to say to Jesus:

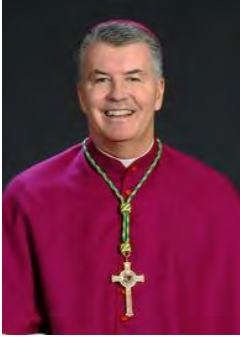
"O Jesus, I surrender myself to you, take care of everything!"

I hope that saying this prayer, at least 10 times every day, you will find peace and joy even in the most difficult moment.

May the Blessed Mother, Our Good Council, assist you and protect you from all fears.

The full surrender novena link: <https://www.fatherdolindoruotolo.com/>





Bishop William T. McGrattan - Diocese of Calgary

Reflections on COVID-19: “What is the Lord’s call for us in all of this?”

In the month of January, we started to hear reports about the outbreak of a virus in a city in China. As we listened to the news reports and watched with concern for the health of the Chinese people, we could never have imagined much less predicted the impact this virus would have upon people living in every corner of the globe.

Millions of people have fallen ill with the virus, many have died, many survived, and some have survived with life-altering health challenges. We need to acknowledge this deep human suffering and I encourage the women of the CWL to continue to pray that God will ease the burden of suffering locally and globally.

With the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, many usual and routine human interactions have been changed by the health precautions that are in place. Suddenly, daily life involves:

- remaining at home during the shut-down and when ill even with mild symptoms;
- self-isolating and awaiting results from the COVID-19 testing;
- practicing physical distancing of 2 metres or 6 feet with those outside the household / social circle, or at gatherings or at church;
- protecting the social circle;
- wearing a face covering/mask when physical distancing is a challenge or where it is mandatory to do so;
- washing hands frequently and thoroughly; and
- adhering to public gathering limits and rules.

At first, most people likely expected the pandemic to be short-lived. However, as the days and months dragged on, it became clear that COVID-19 is virulent and the action to curtail it would involve a “shut-down.”

- Churches suspended the public celebration of the Eucharist.
- Lay groups such as the CWL and other parish organizations curtailed their normal meetings and ministries.
- Schools and businesses closed.
- People were temporarily or permanently laid off.
- Restrictions on visiting hospitals and care facilities prevented us from being present to those who were sick or ill and especially to the elderly.

The restrictions on social gatherings have impacted our communal life of faith. We know intuitively that the Eucharist and other Sacraments are enhanced by the social and human reality of coming together to form the Body of Christ. The communal experiences that have formed our life of faith give us meaning and comfort. And without them, the faith community experienced grief at their loss. Even when the public celebration of the Eucharist resumed during these pandemic days, there are health precautions that continue to modify the ways the community members gather - wearing a face mask, being screened, keep the physical distance between parishioners, avoiding social gatherings, not singing, sanitizing hands and leaving quickly so that the church can be cleaned and disinfected.

As Christians and people of faith, we are being challenged to understand these experiences through the very gift of our faith and the person of Christ. Our God has not abandoned us; He is with us and in the words of Matthew's Gospel, "... remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Matthew 28: 20)

At the most recent St. Mary's University, Calgary, 2020 "virtual" CWL Annual Lecture in Catholic Studies, Sr. Nuala Kenny SC, MD, said that in this time of pandemic it is not sufficient to look for the "same old-same old." Sr. Nuala says that we need to "move from the *same old, same old* to the *new and prophetic*."

Pope Francis expresses the same sentiment in his new encyclical, *Fratelli Tutti*:

*"As I was writing this letter, the Covid-19 pandemic unexpectedly erupted, exposing our false securities. Aside from the different ways that various countries responded to the crisis, their inability to work together became quite evident. For all our hyper-connectivity, we witnessed a fragmentation that made it more difficult to resolve problems that affect us all. **Anyone who thinks that the only lesson to be learned was the need to improve what we were already doing, or to refine existing systems and regulations, is denying reality.**"* (*Fratelli Tutti*, #7, October, 2020.)

As people of faith, the question for us in this pandemic isn't "*How do we get back to where we have been?*" The question for us is, "*What is the Lord's call for us in all of this?*"

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

Moving from grief and loss to being creative and hopeful is essential for this faith journey. St. Ignatius of Loyola reminds us that the grace of God comes to us in many ways:

"Try to keep your soul always in peace and quiet, always ready for whatever our Lord may wish to work in you. It is certainly a higher virtue of the soul, and a greater grace, to be able to enjoy the Lord in different times and different places than in only one." (quote from St. Ignatius of Loyola)

In these *different times and different places*, it is wise to prayerfully discern God's Presence in all of this. Sr. Nuala Kenny highlighted three lessons we are learning through this pandemic and I will add two more.

- **First**, those who are most vulnerable have been the most impacted. As people of faith, we are called to recognize this suffering and to respond with the witness of our faith. Proverbs 31: 8-9: "*Speak out for those who cannot speak, for the rights of all the destitute. Speak out, judge righteously, and defend the rights of the poor and needy.*"

"the Covid-19 pandemic momentarily revived the sense that we are a global community, all in the same boat, where one person's problems are the problems of all. Once more we realized that no one is saved alone; we can only be saved together." (*Fratelli Tutti*, #32.)

- **Second**, we need to discover once again the meaning of the Latin phrase in gathering for liturgical prayer such as the Eucharist, *lex orandi, lex credenda* – During the pandemic, the importance of our commitment to a personal prayer life, a communal prayer within the family, as the domestic Church, the importance of the Word or scripture and the devotional life of prayer in our Catholic tradition has emerged with a renewed significance. The way we pray will lead us in the way we believe and witness to our faith in moving forward.
- **Third**, when inviting others to return to the communal practice of the Faith following the pandemic restrictions, we will need to display a deep desire to listen to them and understand why some people may have chosen to leave or to discontinue their involvement in the life of the parish, the lay movements and the Sunday Eucharist. This listening process may be painful but it can also be a transformative response.

And to this list, I also add two further reflections rooted in quotes from Pope Francis in *Fratelli Tutti* - one about hope and one about taking an active part in bringing about the fulfillment of that hope.

- **Four**, we are a people of hope and we need to give voice to this hope of renewal of society and the Church after the pandemic.
I invite everyone to renewed hope, for hope “speaks to us of something deeply rooted in every human heart, independently of our circumstances and historical conditioning. Hope speaks to us of a thirst, an aspiration, a longing for a life of fulfillment, a desire to achieve great things, things that fill our heart and lift our spirit to lofty realities like truth, goodness and beauty, justice and love... Hope is bold; it can look beyond personal convenience, the petty securities and compensations which limit our horizon, and it can open us up to grand ideals that make life more beautiful and worthwhile”. Let us continue, then, to advance along the paths of hope. (Fratelli Tutti, #55.)
- **Five**, we are called to be active in our faith, hope and love, to be God’s hands and feet on earth as St. Teresa of Avila says.
Each day offers us a new opportunity, a new possibility. We should not expect everything from those who govern us, for that would be childish. We have the space we need for co-responsibility in creating and putting into place new processes and changes. Let us take an active part in renewing and supporting our troubled societies. (Fratelli Tutti, #77.)

As the world and the Church continue to be thrust into this pandemic, we may be looking for a way back. But we are not called to turn back. **Jesus says to the disciples, ‘No one who puts a hand to the plough and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.’ (Lk. 9: 62).** We are called to faithfully and boldly go forward in hope.



ALBERTA MACKENZIE PROVINCIAL MEMORIAL SERVICE

Due to the cancellation of the 2020 Alberta Mackenzie Provincial Convention, the Memorial Service for Deceased Members in 2019 did not take place. The ABMK Council honours our CWL Sisters that have passed by placing their names in the Book of Life and in this newsletter. Please use the service provided to pray for our deceased members.



Prayers for Deceased Members

Gracious God, hear our prayers on behalf of your faithful servants who you have called to be with you in paradise. May they be welcomed joyfully into the presence of the angels and the saints. We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

A Reading from the Gospel according to John 17:24-26

Father raised his eyes to heaven and said:

“Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, so that they may always see the glory, you have given me, because you loved me before the foundation of the world, Righteous One, the world has not known you, but I have known you, and these have known that you have sent me. I have made your name known to them and will continue to make it known so that the love with which you loved me may be in them, and so that I may be in them”.

Prayer

Mary, our mother, gave herself completely to you. Blessed is she who gave humanity to Jesus and blessed are our sisters who spent their lives serving others in God’s name. We join Mary in proclaiming your greatness and thank you for giving us life through the death and resurrection of Jesus. Amen

BOOK OF LIFE 2019

St. Paul Diocese:

Leonisa Albaran
Rhea Atkinson
Jeanne Bilodeau
Mary Coli
Katie Kuzyk
Odélie Marchildon
Pat Peters

Grouard-McLennan Diocese:

Mary Chelick
Cecile Doucette
Irene Dufresne
Justine Klovansky
Bertha Meyer
Madeleine Paul
Jean Quinn
Reta Rocheleau (2018)
Mona Watchhorn

Mackenzie-Fort Smith Diocese:

There were no deceased members in the Mackenzie-Fort Smith Diocese for 2019.



Alice	Anderson(18)	Eliza C	Herle(18)	Leona	Pepin
Helen	Angyal	Jocelan	Hinsberger	Helen	Reiser
Ann	Anthoney	Stephanie	Hugo	Janet	Roberts
Hilda	Bertsch	Jean	Humphrey	Nel	Romano
Georgina	Blanchard(18)	Leona	Job	Lucila	Rosales
Fran	Boras	Anne	Judd	Sylvia	Saranchuk
Mary	Borylo	Gabriele	Kalincak	Lena	Schmaltz (18)
Anne	Brunner	Josephine	Klein	Mary	SchmidtPenner(18)
Clare	Burns	Norma	Knox	Jeanette	Simpson
Dorothy	Daignault	Vera	Kobryn	Annie	Smigelski
Frances	Delaney-Davis	Terry	Koch	Dorothy	St Germain
Florice	Desmet	Lillian	Leduc	Marie	Stickel
Ivanka	Dimnik	Karol	Lentzen	Doris	Strekaf
Patricia	Emerson	Rose	Macaraeg	Rose	Tallman
Aldona	Ewazko	Linda	MacAulay	Patricia	Terry
Theresa	Fallows	Dorothy	MacInnis	Mary	Thibert
Wilma	Feddema	Maria	Marinelli	Inga	Tope
Irene	Forgo	Emily	Martens	Rosemarie	Troiano
Rose	Franks	Margaret	Mastel	Ona	Trudel
Edith	Garrecht	Dennis	McDonald	Pat	Tzotzos
Lydia	Getz	Jean	McKerral	Betty	Van Gaal
Terry	Gratton	Florence	Mettlewsky(18)	Wilma	Vervoort
Eileen	Habdas	Catherine	Miller	Leona	Vierboom
Emily	Hammel (18)	Mona	Millward	Erma	Wagner
Margaret	Hansen	Jean	Mooney	Donna	Waldorf
Patricia	Hartman	Carole	Nelson	Maria	Young
Shirley	Hazen	Yvette	Nogue	Kay	Zatylny
Patricia	Heisie	Eva	O'Brien		
Emily	Henderson	Martha	O'Brien		



Betty	Adamcik	Genevieve	Froehler	Lorraine	Nyuli
Flo	Anderson	Marie	Ganser	Wally	O'Hara
Karen	Aubrey	Margaret	Germain	Marie	Olson
Rose	Auburn (18)	Olive	Goertzen	Joanne	Overguard(18)
Hilda	Bachand	Josephine	Hailey (18)	Ella	Ozubko (18)
Patricia	Bain	Ann	Hansen	Longine	Pacholik
Cathy	Beer	Hilda	Heck	Mildred	Panylyk
Emilie	Beier (18)	Jeanne	Hepp	Hazel	Paradis
Margaret	Beier (18)	Susan	Holzman	Edna	Parker
Frances	Berry	Pat	Horrigan	Henrietta	Peterson
Audrey	Bilawchuk	Mary Ann	Ingram	Margaret-Anne	Plosz
Donna	Bonk	Elaine	Jones	Agnes	Reid (18)
Cecile	Burhoff (18)	Winnifred	King (09)	Eileen	Renick
Maria	Carlton (18)	Helen	Kucy	Marie	Roe
Paulette	Chenard	Nora	Lamoureux	Carol	Ross
Jeannine	Courchesne	Christine	Lawrence (18)	Agnes	Rouleau (18)
Margaret	Craig (17)	Gwendolyn	Leibel	Aline	RouseauZunti
Kay	Cross	Gladys	Lucas	Jean	Schell
Christina	De Jesus	Steva	MacPhee	Valentine	Sealy
Minnie	Deibert	Irene	Maguire	Mary	Stokowski
Lucille	Dendwich(18)	Barbara	Maier	Amanda	Tarnawski
Bernice	Desaulniers	Antoinette	Marchand	Anne	Vetsch (18)
Bernie	Dielschneider	Leola	May	Mary	Vincent
Elianne	Diletzoy	Doris	McDonald	Genevieve	Warren
Helen	Dizy	Lorie Marie	McMillan	Helen	Weiszhaar
Bernadette	Dube	Jennie	Medynski	Betty	Wenger
Cathy	Evers	Maria	Melo	Anna	White
Julia	Faubert (18)	Kathleen	Meraw	Helena	Williams
Jane	Fisher	Jean	Michaels	Mary	Wnuk
Sandra	Fitzpatrick	Magdalen	Miklos	Darlene	Zimmer
Rose	Frison	Lucille	Nay		



National Speaker Series:

Dr. Donna Orsuto



Women Together Caring for our Common Home

submitted by Mary J. Hunt

Dr. Orsuto began her presentation with some reflections on *Laudato Si* by Pope Francis which was published five years ago. We are called to reflect on the encyclical to discern the choices we need to make for ourselves, our families, our communities, countries of the world, in other words Our Common Home. She referred to St. Clare of Assisi who wrote the first monastic rule by a woman for women who recognized the importance of our dependence on one another whether it be through our need for care while reaching out to care for others or through learning to see and appreciate beauty. She draws to our attention that the word,

care is mentioned over 30 times in *Laudato Si*. We are encouraged to pray for a deeper understanding of what care is for our common home and how we can make a difference. Dr. Orsuto says that we are on earth as pilgrims journeying to eternity...not to waste or accumulate but to receive all as a gift and to return thanks.

In a document recently published by the Vatican, *Journeying Towards Care for our Common Home: five years after Laudato Si* we are reminded that everything is connected and forms a complex socio-environmental crisis that calls for a true ecological conversion and personal discernment as to what that means to us.

Dr. Orsuto draws to our attention that *Laudato Si* reflects common Catholic social teaching as it calls us to *See, Judge and Act*. We *see* by paying attention to what is happening...we hear the cry of the poor and the earth, and the connection between them. We can *judge* and make good decisions based on the Gospel of Creation which states that the earth belongs to all and should be treated as such. We need to *act* as our decisions affect others and future generations. Pope Francis calls us to be open to ecological conversion and radically change the way we live.

Dr. Orsuto states that key is a deep Christian spirituality, prophetic, contemplative, with the conviction that “less is more” that is embraced by community. How can this be done? She encourages us to do the following:

- **Be Connected:** be mindful and aware of creation and the creatures within it.
- **Be Grateful:** with a grateful heart be thankful for creation’s beauty
- **Repent:** by acknowledging ecological sin in the Church
- **Change Life Styles:** challenges us to “Live simply so that others may simply live”.
- **Be Close:** remain close to the poor in heart, mind and deed.
- **Pray:** Pray for creation by using the prayer from the encyclical at council meetings.
- **Live Simply:** Adopt eco-friendly practices. Listen to one another.
- **Advocate:** Rely on the inspiration and moral compass provided by Pope Francis.
- **Discuss Laudato Si in our councils:** Two questions we may want to discuss are 1. Can you briefly share one idea that inspired you or one way that you have put into action the teachings found in Laudato Si?
2. How does Pope Francis inspire or encourage you as you reflect on how to respond to the ecological crisis?

Dr. Orsuto encouraged us to read *The Duty of Delight: The Diaries of Dorothy Day* and *All the Way to Heaven: The Selected Letters of Dorothy Day*. She suggested we check out the World union of Catholic Women’s Organization website www.wucwo.org for the president-general’s June message.

In closing she shared an African proverb that states “*If you want to go fast, go alone; if you want to go far, go together*”. We are reminded that together we can make a difference.

National Speaker Series:

Sr. Nuala Kenny

submitted by Jan Myhre and Renee Spohn



Women and Healing our Wounded Church

Sr. Nuala is no stranger to the League, as she spoke at previous national conventions. She tells us that we need to be women of the church, healing the church in this day and age; and also that we need to ask Jesus' mother Mary for help. She was the one who God chose to raise His son Jesus. Her "YES" was the foundational yes for all of salvation history. Even when we don't understand what is happening, Jesus loves us throughout.

In his 2018 Letter to the People of God, Pope Francis says, "Every one of the baptized should feel involved in the ecclesial and social change that we so greatly need. This change calls for a personal and communal conversation that makes us see things as the Lord does...to be where the Lord wants us to be, to experience a conversion of heart in his presence." Sr. Nuala asks what might need healing and how we, as women, can contribute to the healing of the church? We have a special role to help each other see things as the Lord does, and to experience a conversion of heart in His presence.

Fran Lucas—National President Elect



The League of the Future—Part III

Fran thanked our sisters who said, "YES," worked hard and set us on the right path to make year one a success. The 53 working group members logged over 4,000 volunteer hours and over 800 League members participated. The "Star Wars Episode II" presentation urged us to become active as we experience another 100 years of Faith, Service, and Justice for God and Canada.

"With still more to do there will be more opportunities for members to say YES to this exciting work of envisioning and crafting the League of the Future."

Sharon Ciebin (Group 4) and Lisa Henry (Group 1) enlightened us with the results of the year one working groups:

Affirmation—The new "Welcome Program" will be launched through provincial councils this fall. It focuses on members' gifts, orientation, and companionship; and can be adapted to meet each council's needs to engage all members.

Reorganization—They recommend an "Instructed Vote" to reduce the eight Standing Committees to three. It was achievable by reviewing all League levels and streamlining the executive officers.

Marketing—The first initiative, "Building a Foundation," connects us through the League's new website section and social media. Our achievements are showcased in storytelling vignettes and in the 100th Anniversary video. Watch for the new campaign: "If you only knew."

Six new working groups are underway in year two: Goal 2—Catholic Social Teaching; Goal 3—League Misconceptions, Diversity, Toolkits, and Spiritual Formation; and Goal 4—Strategic Leadership and Parish Council Options.

Visit the National website (cwl.ca) to access the monthly updates, Planning Strategically Booklet, and Prayer for Renewal. Be informed. PRAY that God will guide the Implementation Committee and the working groups. Ask the Lord to bring us through the challenges of the pandemic, keep us safe, and make the Strategic Plan a success.

Watch for the next "Call Out" in January! It's your opportunity to serve on a working group or focus group in 2021; and to have your voice heard through surveys and questionnaires. Remember that every great journey begins with a "YES."

Speak to the Earth and I Shall Teach You



Having listened to Dr. Cory Andrew Labrecque, I found it very interesting how he spoke about “Healing the Earth.” He mentioned how industrial pollution has affected the air, water, agriculture, land pollution and overpopulation as well as global climate change. There are tons and tons of plastic in the oceans around the world smothering the creatures that live in the oceans. The human species will have to populate a new planet within 100 years it is to survive---climate change, overdo asteroids and so on.

In Romans 8: 22-23 it states that “ We know that all creation is groaning in labor pains even until now; and not only that, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits

of the Spirit, we also groan within ourselves as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. We must perceive our earth and treat it as your own home.

Dr. Labrecque talked about Genesis and mentioned how God created the Story of Creation-----creating the environment. God saw everything that he had made and indeed it was very good and on the 7th day he rested. God said be fruitful, multiply and fill the earth.

Dr. Labrecque talked about living things, balance, harmony and the sabbath as a time to rest---(refrain from working) to seize on the 7th day. God is master and creator of the land. Shabbatt is the practice of mastering of rest----taking the time to reflect on what God has done for us in the previous six days.

The pandemic has brought the world to a standstill in many cases. The amount of reductions in pollution has been down by 25 to 50 %. It was a time to us to come to a standstill and think about where we are going.

Mention was made about the Garden of Eden where God created Adam and Eve from the soil .and this was done in a garden to till the land. The main character is the garden emphasising Another interesting point Daniel 3:57-82, Creation Praises of God: Angels of the Lord, Heavens, Waters, Sun and Moon, Stars of Heaven, Shower and Rain, Winds, Rivers and Seas. God did many great things for us.

Dr. Labrecque spoke about the Environment Themes in the Catholic Christian Tradition. God as Creator and author for unity in all of creation and value is given to the physical and material of each individual. We are a Eucharistic People, we need the body and blood of Jesus Christ. Humans were created from dust and we will return as dust. We are to act with justice and compassion and a penchant for the poor and vulnerable.

Another interesting topic was the “Climate Change as a Civil Rights”. He referred to an article written by Reverend Gerald Durby who wrote that climate change is a civil rights issue dealing with floods, droughts, breaking temperatures, children dying from starvation as their parents do not have the needs to provide for their families.

In Pope Francis encyclical letter, Laudato Si’, Pope Francis writes that we have been become dormant and not taking care of our environment and surroundings. In order for change to take place, we must act on several areas in our lives and think of the future. We are compulsive in consumerism, unconcerned for other creatures, throwaway culture that is too quick to discard and replace it and have no consideration for the fragility of the planet. It is our duty toward being natural as it is an essential part of faith. We are connected through integration and (inter) independence.

Questions to think about:

1. Does care for creation necessarily lead to nature worship?
2. Does concern for creation come at the expense of concern for the human poor?
3. How does making reference to the environment impact the way we approach the Issues at hand?
4. How are we called to act?

<https://cwl.ca/re-watch-the-summer-speaker-series-webinars/>

<https://cwl.ca/re-watch-the-spiritual-retreat-women-in-mission/>

Greetings from Your Spiritual Development Chair – Gladys Brown



Thanks for My Many Blessings

I am grateful for being able to share my thoughts with Sisters in the Catholic Women's League in the Alberta Mackenzie Provincial Council.

I thank God for being so good to me and my family.

God, You are faithful and gracious and You have blessed me beyond measure. Thank you for everyday blessings to which I have become accustomed, but never want to take for granted: clean drinking water, electricity, food in my home, a roof over my head and a bed to sleep in.

This past summer we had beautiful weather, enjoyed being outside working on my yard together with the lovely flowers. I had several comments on the flowers because they were huge and the color was something else. I had the opportunity to go for walks, ride my new bike and socializing with neighbours. In August I travelled to Jasper with my granddaughters, had gorgeous weather, sightseeing and shopping. As I always do, I spoil my granddaughters by going shopping and they were in their glory. I took time to go to Elk Island Park, sat read a book and was amazed at the large crowd of people in attendance. Also, going out to Mundare to my home place where I grew up. Again, many memories came back together with tears, remembering my parents and grandparents. Very special place in my heart.

I want to thank God for freedom to attend Mass during the weekdays and weekends, for our parish priests and for seeing parishioners moving forward in their lives.

God, thank you for things You are doing in my heart and in my life. I love and adore You, Lord, and my heart overflows with gratitude for all these blessings.

Happy Thanksgiving!



Daily Thanksgiving Prayer

Dear God,

Thank you for your amazing power and work in our lives,
Thank you for your goodness and for your blessings over us.

Thank you for your great love and care.

Thank you for your sacrifice so that we might have freedom and life.

Forgive us for when we don't thank you enough, for who you are,

For all you do, for all that you've given.

Help us to set our eyes and our hearts on you afresh.

Renew our spirits, fill us with your peace and joy.

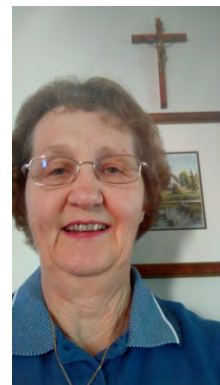
We love you and we need you, this day and every day.

We give you praise and thanks, for You alone are worthy!

In Jesus' Name. Amen

Greetings from Your Treasurer – Gwen Elliott

This year has been an unusual one as we try to carry on with our CWL activities while not being able to gather together as councils or at conventions at Diocesan, Provincial and National. We have had to find other ways to communicate and to care for and support our members and communities. Councils continue to support our members in Mackenzie-Fort Smith Diocese by donating to "Nickels for the North". \$2900.32 has been received from councils throughout Alberta. On checking the mail today, another \$694.50 was received from the Calgary Diocesan Council from donations sent by councils in the Calgary Diocese. **Thank you all for your generosity.** Funds totalling \$3594.82 will soon be sent to Mackenzie-Fort Smith Diocesan Council.



Looking ahead, it will soon be time to complete your annual reports. Council Treasurers, please complete your reports so that your Diocesan and Provincial treasurers are able to compile the most complete information on the donations and activities of your councils.

Blessings and keep safe

Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops and CCODP

In late August, National President Anne-Marie Gorman received a letter from Rev. Richard Gagnon (Winnipeg) president of *the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops*, informing that the League could reinstate its 1% program for Canadian *Catholic Organization for Development and Peace (CCODP)*. Parish councils can now collect and submit 1% of all revenue earned to the national voluntary fund for CCODP.

Please encourage your diocesan counterparts to share this news with their parish councils. CCODP has worked hard throughout the world to reach those in great need. The national website will be updated with this information and an updated CCODP brochure will be created.

Greetings from Your Past President – June Fuller

As I sit at my computer to write this newsletter article for the annual ABMK newsletter, I can't help but reflect on how our world has changed in just a short 7 months and it makes me think about how the future will play out.

Yes, this should have been a year of celebration for the League, celebrating its 100th Anniversary as a 'National CWL' organization.

However, we were not able to meet in convention and therefore we could not formally recognize and honour the vast accomplishments that the League has achieved over the past century. But it is interesting to look back at articles from the past 100 years and reflect on the changes that occurred during that time-period. Our dear Sisters in the League faced many issues including a pandemic, depression and wars just to name a few, yet these ladies persevered and continued to serve the Church and the League to build it into a highly respected organization of Catholic Women.

During this time, life has slowed down immensely for our CWL councils, as we cannot meet on a regular basis or have our usual fundraising/social events. For all Past Presidents, this is a time to go through your files and decide what information needs to be archived, in order to preserve the information for future generations.

This may also be a time to review your council's policies for any additions or deletions that may need to be changed to align with the way your council operates.

This is also a good time, to go through your membership lists and make note of ladies that you may want to encourage to take a Leadership role on your next Executive. As you know, because of the Covid-19, all executives at all levels of the League will have an addition one year of service. So, this will give you a little extra time to talk to your members and encourage them to consider letting their names stand for your next election.

I am impressed with all levels of the League, and how they have continued to reach out to their members during this pandemic, whether it be through newsletters, communiques, rosary gatherings or informal gatherings in parking lots. I commend you for your commitment to the League and I wish all of you a wonderful fall and look forward to when we meet again in person.

Many blessings!



Greetings from Your Education and Health Chair – Gerda Hazenburg

God is good all the time!

In my home in the Northwest Territories, we have been cut off from the rest of Canada since March and even today we are only able to travel to Nunavut and not have to self-isolate for two weeks upon our return home. As for all of you my sisters, the Pandemic has brought about quite a change. We have had to move from praying and meeting together, learning and brainstorming, as well as having lots of fun (as only a group of women can do), to being home alone with our computer for company.



As your chair, I have prepared four communiques since February, which I hope you have had the chance to read. The first is a call to action to promote the dignity of human life. The second communique written on April 3 is to help us deal with the pandemic in the areas of health and of education and is a call to share our faith. The third communique is a follow-up and call to action for all of us. The last communique to date discusses the role of families and Catholic education.



The Pandemic is still very much with us and, to avoid a second wave of the Pandemic, we need to remain vigilant. Also, with the flu season coming upon us, we are urged to get a flu shot (if you can). Access the Public Health sites to be informed of the up-to-date pandemic numbers and issues:
<https://www.alberta.ca/coronavirus-info-for-albertans.aspx>
<https://www.gov.nt.ca/covid-19/>

We have been allowed to worship together, although in a limited capacity, and celebrate the sacraments once again. What joy for our families as this celebration at St. Michael's in Behchoko in August demonstrates. Let us gather safely over the next few weeks. Happy Thanksgiving to all.



Greetings from Your Resolutions Chair – Betsy Fletcher



Greetings! Well here we are in October already. This is the time of year that after a summer of rest, the CWL rolls up its collective sleeves and gets back to the work of the League. Unfortunately, with Covid 19 gearing itself up for further battle, we are limited in some of our favourite activities.

With permission from our Parish Priests, some councils will be able to begin having meetings in our parish halls. Remember, if you do gather for an in-person meeting, you must follow all the Alberta Health Services and Diocesan protocols for social distancing, mask wearing and sanitizing.

The slowdown in activities gives us more time for working on resolutions. Now is a good time to follow up on some action plans suggested in previous resolutions. Are there letters to be written? Can you contact your local MLA or MP to express concerns about something? How about new resolution ideas, have you seen or experienced something during this time of pandemic that has made you think about how something might be changed for the better?

At the moment, we have been given a gift of time: time to conceive ideas for new resolutions; and time for research and planning. Does your council have any ideas that you haven't worked on that you can revive? Once a resolution has been archived, it can be reviewed and reworked with new research and up-to-date language. A number of resolutions have been archived in 2020. A list will be attached to the next resolutions communiqué.

Currently there are plans in the works for a team from Provincial council to visit with Ministers at the Alberta Legislature. We will remind the Ministers of our concerns when we last met, to see if there has been any action on the issues we brought forward. We want to make sure that they know we are serious about the Seniors' Advocate, Dental Care in Schools, Interprovincial/Territorial Child Welfare Interventions, and Recognition of Obesity as a disease.

Links to your MLAs in Alberta and the Assembly Members in the Northwest Territories:

<https://www.assembly.ab.ca/members/members-of-the-legislative-assembly>

<https://www.ntassembly.ca/meet-members/premier-and-ministers>

MISSION STATEMENT

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.

Greetings from Your Legislation Chair – Sharon Malec



As we advance in the season of Harvest, COVID is still raising its ugly head.

There are 3 Bills that have been passed by the Alberta Assembly that are of concern to us. Your council should continue to gather information about the following bills so that we can be prepared. When the time is right, we will then be able to take action if needed.

1. Bill 22 – Albertan’s Right to a Fair Hearing
2. Bill 30 – Health Care Changes.
3. Bill 32 – Significant Changes to the Provincial Employment laws and Union Dues spending (Union busting)

Have you ever been to the Parliament Buildings in Ottawa, the Alberta Legislature Building or the Northwest Territories Assembly? Included is a list of virtual tours that you can take to these buildings.

House of Commons

www.ourcommons.ca

Alberta Legislature

www.assembly.ca

Northwest Territories Assemble

www.ntassembly.ca



If you have been there, notice the changes. Time does not stand still there.

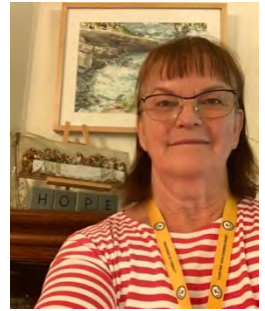
Have you ever sat in the gallery and observed a session of the assemblies? You can watch one on your TV or computer. They are available when the houses are sitting.

A meeting with the Members of the Alberta Legislature, Ministers, and/ or their Ministerial Assistant is being arranged. President Judy Look, President Elect Mary Hunt, Resolution Chair Betsy Fletcher and Legislation Chair Sharon Malec will be attending this meeting. The date is yet to be finalized. Previous meetings have been fruitful, and we hope that this one will be as well.

Remember to be kind to all that you come in contact with and keep safe.



Greetings from Your Communications Chair – Janet MacPhee



Words speak volumes:

Wash your Hands Wear a mask Don't touch your face
Stay Home Self Isolate Social/Physical Distance 2 metres / 6 feet
Flatten / Plank the Curve
Lockdown Shut down Follow the Arrows
Closed Cancelled Closed Cancelled Closed Cancelled
Bubble / Cohort

BE KIND BE CALM BE SAFE: words by B.C.'s provincial health officer, Dr. Bonnie Henry that calmed a city in lockdown: "This is our time to be kind, to be calm, and to be safe."

When you think of last year at this time:

- the Calgary CWL Diocese was still basking in the aftermath of the National 2019 Convention, where over 900 members and guests gathered physically together
- your ABMK provincial council had just completed their Fall Meeting at the Star of the North Retreat in St. Albert – planning how the council will help all parish councils into 2020
- your Diocesan councils may have just completed Fall Meetings / Workshops
- councils planning Fall Suppers and Bazaars, planning fundraising events, planning Advent Christmas events

This year: CANCELLED – since March 2020, due to church closures, restrictions on numbers that can gather, and the age group that is most CWL members are in, it was best that all in person conventions, meetings, workshops be cancelled.

How do we communicate with our members when we cannot gather physically?

New words (sort of): ZOOM, Facetime, I-meetings, Google Meets, Webinars, On-Line Speaker Series.

Councils also revisited the telephone call method and sending by regular mail letters and cards to members. With Fall upon us and Public Health allowing a bit more gatherings, councils will engage their members as limited physical gatherings can take place. The parish priest does have the final say as to what groups can meet in the church. Many councils have met in the church parking lots, bring their own chairs and coffee and having a meeting in a different normal way. Honour guards were also held in the church parking lots for our beloved members. A virus is not going to keep the CWL from communicating and getting things done (as limited as they may be).

The ABMK Provincial Council has gathered by ZOOM, in June and in September. Communiques have been posted to the website, keeping our members informed of issues and educating them on others.

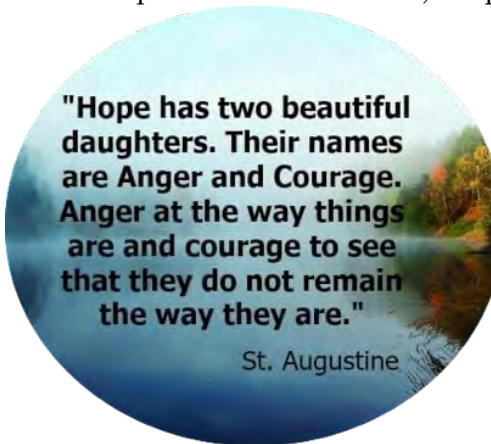
National keeps members informed – with communiques posted on their site, bringing the National Speakers Series on-line (and which can be reviewed again through the website) along with all information for the Implementation of the Strategic Plan.

<https://cwl.ca/>

<http://www.cwl.ab.ca/>

<https://cwl.ca/re-watch-the-summer-speaker-series-webinars/>

<https://cwl.ca/re-watch-the-spiritual-retreat-women-in-mission/>



"Hope has two beautiful daughters. Their names are Anger and Courage. Anger at the way things are and courage to see that they do not remain the way they are."

St. Augustine

Greetings from Your Community Life Chair – Theresa Hickey



September is my favourite time of year. I love the beauty of the fall vibrant colours, the northern lights, the stillness of the lakes, the birds singing in all their Glory. God certainly speaks to me this time of year. It's also my Birthday Month, September 30th. What a special month to be born, from a family of twelve, seven brothers and five sisters, I was fortunate enough to be the only sibling born in September. The CWL Theme definitely comes to my mind in this beautiful time of year as well. Care for Our Common Home.

This past August I travelled to Calgary, Alberta for six weeks to welcome our Seventh Grandchild, a beautiful grandson, Denim Daniel, born August 22, on his mom's birthday. What a wonderful birthday present. In January 2021 my husband and I will celebrate our 47th Wedding Anniversary. Since 1994, The Catholic Women's League has been a big part of my Life. I have held many positions with CWL, along with sitting on many Church and Community Organizations.

Since March 2020, COVID 19 has really changed our lives, there is a feeling of being stuck in the present and the inability to plan for the future. Complete lockdown definitely caused some torment and concerns for all.

COVID 19 has impacted all councils at all levels of the League. Zoom, Webinar and Social Media is now the new normal. I presently hold two positions: ABMK Provincial Community Life Chair and Communications Chair St Patrick's Parish Yellowknife, NT. I have written five communiques, attended the Fall Executive Meeting on Zoom, prayed the Rosary with members, communicated through email the planning of our church services in the pandemic, meetings for SSVP on Zoom when needed, now back to church and gatherings for SSVP with social distancing. As ABMK Community Life Chair, I see some major issues in our Society, such as Poverty, Homelessness, Abortion, Climate Change, Civil Rights and Racial Discrimination, Human Rights, Euthanasia, Mental Health Issues, according to Habitat for Humanity, a quarter of the world's population lives in conditions harmful to health. As a CWL Community Life Chair, I honestly see that WE, (The Catholic Women's League) making a difference. Members passed several resolutions, one concerning the rights of the unborn child, another nuclear arms' ban. The Catholic Women's League will continue to make major contributions to Society. We are making a difference!

On September 16, 2020, I joined with other CWL ladies across Canada to view online The Spiritual Retreat with our National Spiritual Advisor Bishop Stephen Jensen. Bishop Jensen reminded us the important roles women play in our society. August 10 – 14, I connected with the online Summer Speaker Series. It was a great opportunity to catch the highlights of the National Conference and once again feel the connection with the League especially with COVID 19. I have always enjoyed working with CWL Ladies, I have learned that being a CWL Member you will always have a friend who forgives and trusts each other. I have found joy, kindness and non-judgemental relationships in our League.

As we continue our work For God and Canada in these unprecedented times, let us continue to be kind to the less fortunate and those who are struggling with difficulties in our midst. Having a sense of Community helps us reach our goals.

At the beginning of 2020 my goal was to start a March for Life for the first time in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories, all the planning was done, everything was set to go. COVID 19 cancelled that plan.

When the World says 'GIVE UP' - Hope whispers 'Try it one more time'.

Greetings from Your Christian Life Chair – Celine Berlinguette



My dear sisters in Christ, it is difficult to comprehend the reality of time passing us by. It seems as if only yesterday we gathered in Grande Prairie as we started our terms on the Alberta MacKenzie Provincial CWL Council. I am grateful that I was granted the Christian Family Life Chair.

Growing up in a Catholic home, my family, the church, school and community (multi-cultural/multi-religion community) contributed in developing my Christian values. As I continue into my second year as Christian Family Life chair, I have come to realize how easy it is to become complacent in some aspects of our Christian lives.

The Covid-19 Pandemic has awakened my senses to what is important in my life. Not being able to attend the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and not being able to receive the Most Holy Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ left a void in my life. My prayer life increased and my attendance to live-streamed and television Masses increased, however I still felt emptiness.

Through the mercy of God, at the beginning of June, churches were re-opened with restrictions in place. To ease the reopening of our Church, volunteers were needed to take registrations for the various Masses as well as needing volunteers for the point of entry, ushering and the sanitizing crews. Volunteering my time was and is something that I can do. My dear sisters, in speaking to people from various parishes across the province, one area that needs our help is volunteerism in our Churches especially during this time of pandemic. Since attendance the Masses are limited in numbers it also limits the number of volunteers that we get.

My summer was filled with yard work, gardening, taking long walks and plenty of time to appreciate nature. We are blessed to live on a farm where social distancing was made easy. My husband and I take care of the cemetery, church/ cairn site and the hall grounds in our small Normandeau community. Many hours were spent enjoying the great outdoors.

During the month of August, I participated in the CWL Summer Speaker Series and thoroughly enjoyed their presentations. I also attend the “Spiritual Retreat – Women in Mission” with Most Reverend Steven Jensen our National CWL Spiritual Adviser.

On August 22nd, in St. Catherine’s Parish in Lac La Biche we were blessed to have the Diaconal Ordination of Deacon Gordon Taylor. Even during this time of COVID, with the many restrictions, a beautiful celebration was had.

On October 1st, at the St. Paul Cathedral three Transitional Deacons were ordained to the Priesthood. Due to COVID restrictions, I was unable to attend in person but was fortunate enough to be able to witness the Ordination via “Live Stream.”



(Kneeling) – Dcn Gordon Taylor
(Standing) – Most Reverend Bishop Paul Terrio



(pictured from left to right)

Rev. Fr. Adrian Tumanda
 Rev. Fr. Marvin Tanquerido
 Most Reverend Bishop Paul Terrio
 Rev. Fr. Jonnel Eucare

“And I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding.”

~Jeremiah 3:15

As we continue to live our lives from day to day, we pray that that we may be healthy, safe from the COVID virus and that a vaccine will be developed for the protection of all mankind. May God bless us and protect us!



CORE VALUES

FAITH - following Catholic teaching

SERVICE - local, national and international

SOCIAL JUSTICE - actively involved in society



You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.

Ps 23

Alberta Mackenzie Provincial Council ZOOM Fall Meeting

Submitted by Judy Look, President

September 11-12, 2020

Faith

Service

Social Justice

On September 11th and 12 your provincial executive meet through Zoom to discuss activities most pertinent to the Catholic Women's League in Alberta. Usually we meet at The Star of the North Center in St. Albert and we certainly were missing the companionship of our sisters. Zoom is a great tool, but it does not allow for hugs; conversations with each other or socializing that just happens because we like each other.

Friday

Friday night we discussed the League of the Future II, the Welcome Kit and Video. The diocesan presidents will be discussing both through Zoom meetings with their parish council presidents. We are excited about the Welcome Kit as it's a very comprehensive package on how we can make our members feel part of our organization. We encourage all of you to look at the League of the Future II so you can become current in what's happening.

Saturday

Action for the executive:

- Accept the resignation of Annamaria Matsui as provincial secretary
- Appoint a new secretary
- Finance Subcommittee to review the budget in light of the changes due to COVID - 19
- Begin collaborating with the Knights of Columbus on mutual areas of interest
- Send thank you letter to Provincial Government for funds directed to palliative care Education and reach out programs and especially the \$5 million to Covenant Health
- Ideas to celebrate the 100th anniversary of our organization to come to the winter meeting
- Committee chairs to review their job descriptions to update the Policy and Procedure Manual
- Possibility of History Book reflecting the provincial council years from 1968 to the present
- Encourage councils to send photos of events happening in their dioceses
- Request a meeting time with the provincial government
- Encourage all members to get involved in the working groups for the Strategic Plan
- Assigned subcommittees to work on alignment of job descriptions, research CWL Endowment Fund and study the three pillars
- Postcards to be distributed through diocesan council presidents
- Fall Newsletter will be sent out in October

Reports were shared by all committee chairs and diocesan presidents. To find out what's happening in each committee check out the website.

Celebration Time

St Michael's Council in Calgary won all three Father Krewski Membership Awards: increase in membership, increase in new members and increase in percentage membership. Congratulations to St. Michaels'

A special thank you to Bishop McGrattan who was our guest on Saturday. He invited us and all members of the League to the AB/NWT Bishops' initiative COVID & the Call to Faith- a series of panel discussions and the Catholic Social teachings happening weekly until to November 2 through Grandin Media.



A summary of my activities since COVID began
ZOOM Meetings

- several meetings with provincial council and individual committee chairs;
- meeting with the Alberta/NWT Bishops'
- meeting with provincial presidents and the national president
- meeting on board governance
- meeting of the executive of National Council
- listened to the Speakers Series
- attended several webinars
- prepared for and facilitated the Fall meeting

CORE PURPOSE

Uniting Catholic women to grow in faith, and to promote social justice through service to the church, Canada and the world

- wrote letters to the government
- host Wednesday evening AB/MK Prays the Rosary
- ongoing discussions with a member on how we will become more involved in indigenous issues

IN PERSON

- called to order the Provincial Convention at Holy Spirit in June and adjourned as there was no quorum
- presented at the Calgary Diocesan executive meeting August 12,
- attended the Calgary Diocesan Council Fall Meeting at St. Peter's Church in Calgary September
- met with Vince Reyes State Deputy of the Knights Columbus to discuss collaboration in areas of mutual interest
- met with a young lady involved in Campus Outreach Ministry
- met with Gloria Lundberg to invite her to the position of secretary on the council.

Ladies, although many of us are social distancing and we do not have the ability to have large gatherings the opportunity to use technology to our advantage is amazing. There is so much to learn and in that learning we have the opportunity to help the League grow. Think about our interaction with online masses. Yes, in some way we were spectators but not in the sense of being totally engaged with the prayers of the Mass. Those prayers (taken from scripture) as we listened and responded to in our own homes lets the Holy Spirit permeate our hearts so we could use these moments to understand the gift that God has given us through our faith. We could not receive the Body of Christ, but we were being fed from the words of Christ. We have been truly blessed through this time of COVID as God does provide and uses the technology very effectively.

May your day be blessed as it is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it and remember that everything we do is to be for the honour and glory of the Father.

Secretary

With the resignation of Annamaria Matsui as provincial secretary, Life Member, Gloria Lundberg has accepted to fill the position and we are most grateful.

We wish Annamaria all the best.



thankful
AND
blessed



The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Diocese of Mackenzie Fort Smith
Shirley Gutierrez
Diocesan President Mackenzie-Fort Smith



What a challenge we have to deal with in this pandemic crisis! And it didn't make it easier if you live in the North and all borders are in lockdown. But we are resilient and draw strength from our families, friends and sisters in the league. Our faith is much stronger as we pray more and get closer to God!

With that said, each council continues to be a part of their parishes' services, and support as best as they could in their communities practicing the health protocols. Members connect with each other thru phone calls, texting, e-mails or even visiting.



I attended Yellowknife council Fellowship bar-b-que – meet and greet with their new president, August

Meetings are especially challenging when positions are not filled up, but our sisters always make things happen. However, not many meetings happened because of this covid situation concerns. Our monthly meetings and the Annual diocesan convention that supposed to happen in April got cancelled and was replaced with virtual meetings and teleconferencing. We were able to do a virtual workshop for our presidents and seven members attended facilitated by Life member, Donna Prevost. She talked about the importance of being a president and the roles and responsibility that comes with it. She also gave pointers on how they can do their reporting. And we are excited because the other committee workshops are in the works. Pandemic or not, members continue to engage thru volunteer on community coop, meals on wheels, prayer services, families dealing with tragedies, helping on their church's improvements and so much more. One council had a successful online fundraising to be able to continue the organizations and individuals that they support.

Care for Our Common Home— The commercial dishwasher that one council donated to their parish was in total operation by the beginning of March which helped save water and stopped using disposable plates, cutleries, cups, etc. Also, councils continue to recycle bottles and donate them to organizations like schools, senior and sports programs to help them financially in their project expenses.

Important date in our Diocese: Our upcoming Annual Fall teleconference is scheduled on the 24th of October.

Here are some activities that councils were engaged In:



Tree planting in June



Taken for Diocesan convention in Ma



Meeting with Gerda in HR -Oct 3



Mass outside



Meeting with Pres & Past Pres in June



Prepping to paint church steps



Church fundraising in February 2020





The Catholic Women's League of Canada
ArchDiocese of Grouard-McLennan
Christine Becher
Diocesan President Grouard-McLennan



2020 has been a year like no other in which a lot of the things we take for granted are no longer within our grasp. It has however allowed us to slow down, to appreciate our families and all the blessings we have been given as well as to focus on prayer. The usual CWL routines have been altered, but in our councils we have kept our parish communities going and reached out to our CWL sisters. Some of our councils have chosen not to meet while others have been able to meet via zoom or at a safe distance. The outreach projects we have all undertaken in the past are thriving and growing.



Livestreamed Masses have allowed us to participate during the lack of in-person Masses.

Membership numbers have dropped from 513 in 2019 to 409 as of early September figures. There were delays in receiving confirmation from National, but these issues are being resolved.

On October 19, 2019 Fairview hosted the Fall Educational Workshop. Our speaker was Tal Woolsey of CAWST who spoke on Safe Water For All to align with our theme: A Change of Heart: Less is More. His message was very well received by all.

Our Spring Spiritual Workshop was hosted by McLennan on February 22, 2020.

Provincial President-Elect Mary Hunt spoke on love with emphasis on Faith, Social Justice and Service including works of advocacy and works of mercy. It was very enlightening. Sister Connie Harkin, Spiritual Development Chair, spoke on justice: its definitions and what God is calling us to do in order to make a better world. Provincial President Judy Look had hoped to be able to present to us but was unable to come. We hope for another opportunity in the coming months.



St. Peter and St. Paul CWL, Rycroft

The Diocesan Executive Meeting planned for March 21, 2020 was cancelled due to the cancellation of all CWL conventions during the covid-19 pandemic. A meeting of "one" was held to follow the protocol from National to adhere to requirements of the Constitution and Bylaws. Some councils are starting to plan meetings either virtually or in person as fits their needs.

Many councils have planted a tree in honour of the 100th Anniversary of the CWL. In Bezanson each member helped plant a blue spruce tree, blessed by Father following Mass. Grande Prairie planted a Courageous Crab Apple tree on September 8 on the Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Grimshaw planted a

chokecherry tree, donated by a member, in front of the church. A plaque will be placed at its base. McLennan planted a flowering cherry tree in the Chancery yard on June 24, the Feast of Saint John the Baptist. Afterwards 8 members enjoyed a coffee party on the Chancery veranda. Rycroft planted a tree donated by a member and Sexsmith plans to plant a lilac tree in October. Peace River planted a blue spruce tree blessed by Father on September 20. Beaverlodge and Fairview also hope to plant a tree in the near future. Whitelaw planted a Princess Kay Ornamental Plum tree in July, blessed by Father Feroz with a plaque of commemoration.

Other activities I have undertaken include participating in a Parliamentarian Workshop, hosted by Calgary Diocese. My sincere thanks to them for the invitation and kind CWL hospitality. I was able to listen to the Summer Speaker Series sponsored by National, all of which are available on you tube. It was a great opportunity to keep informed of League activities. I also listened to the lunchtime presentation August 26 by Rose-Marie McCarthy on the book WINning: The Trials, Tribulations and Triumphs of Opening a Women's Shelter. A copy of the book has been purchased for Diocesan use. I have listened to the first 2 of 7 reflections produced by Grandin Media on issues raised by the pandemic. They are posted at noon each Monday on Grandin Media. Judy Look, our Provincial President, has hosted Rosary Zoom meetings each Wednesday evening at 7:30 P.M. which I have been able to participate in as often as possible.

A Diocesan Executive Meeting for Table Officers is in the planning stages for later in October. We look forward to more councils starting to meet as conditions permit although we don't know what the next few months will look like.

I wish everyone many blessings and good health as we journey together.



St. Joseph's, Grande Prairie plants a Courageous Crab Apple tree to celebrate the League's 100th.

St. Theresa of the Child of Jesus Church, Whitelaw AB planted a Princess Kay Ornamental Plum to commemorate the League's 100th. Father Feroz Fernandes blessed the event.



The Plague reads:

July 2020
 The CWL of Saint Theresa of the Child Jesus Church, Whitelaw, Alberta commemorating its 100th anniversary celebrating our roots from the past century while we look to the future and branch out into the next century



St. John the Baptist feast day, June 24, 2020, the McLennan CWL with Fr. Eucharius, 1 husband and 5 members planted a flowering cherry tree to commemorate the CWL of Canada's 100th anniversary. We had coffee and biscotti's on the Chancery entrance veranda, fun and joy was experienced by all.



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The Catholic Women's League of Canada
ArchDiocese of Edmonton
Mary Molloy
Diocesan President Edmonton



These past months have been extraordinary for us as individuals and as a nation. Our lives, once customary and familiar, have been interrupted by the pandemic in many ways. Yet the need to respect the safety and well-being of others remains a moral duty. Our dedication to this task will continue for some time to come.

The pandemic has highlighted the strength of our organization. Our members are resilient, drawing strength from both each other and our faith in God. Members have been connecting through telephone and email, safely gathering in small groups to pray and share experiences, have meetings, and honour friends at funerals and other celebrations.

Respecting the need for protective masks and physical distancing, Edmonton Diocesan Officers have continued to meet in small gatherings and online. Virtual meetings have been held monthly since March and in-person meetings were held at Hawrelak Park to approve motions and develop plans for the remainder of 2020. Diocesan Officers have a great appreciation of the importance of personal connection and are resolute in wanting to meet with their fellow Council Presidents. In April and September, we met with Parish Presidents through our Parish Buddy System. In May, we held a “CWL, Coffee and Conversation” virtual gathering in each of our four regions. More regional workshops are planned for the months of October & November. The workshops will provide information on the “Strategic Plan Year II”, the “Welcome Kit” and explore ideas on maintaining CWL membership during this pandemic. The first workshop was held October 3rd and the next are scheduled for October 17th, October 24th and November 7th. Presidents and President-elects are invited to a virtual presentation November 14th to review the “Welcome Kit” and discuss how to implement the kit in their parish councils. A Diocesan wide virtual Memorial Service for Deceased Members is planned for November 18th to honour those members who passed in 2019.

On August 26th the Edmonton Social Planning Council held a virtual “Lunch and Learn” entitled the “*History of the Women’s Shelters*”. Rose-Marie McCarthy (CWL Life Member) and Lynn Hannley discussed the history of the women’s shelters chronicled in the book “WINning: The Trials, Tribulations, and Triumphs of Opening a Women’s Shelter’s”. That history relates how the CWL was instrumental in establishing these vital shelters. More information on the book can be found at <http://www.enable.org/winning>.

Our priorities for our Diocese have changed but we remain committed to connecting with our membership and to provide opportunities to engage our members. On September 26th, Diocesan held a virtual retreat entitled “**Season of Creation 2020: Jubilee for the Earth**” facilitated by Belinda Halbach. The presentation was in response to Pope Francis call to mark the “Season of Creation” from September 1 to October 4th. Belinda is currently enrolled in the Laudato Si’ animators course organized by the Catholic Climate Movement, a CWL Council President and a graduate of the CWL Leadership Foundation Program.

Our 2020 recipient of the CWL Doreen Melton Scholarship for seminarians studying at St Joseph Seminary was Andrew Sheedy. Andrew is from Holy Family Parish in St. Albert and has been studying at St Joseph's Seminary for three years. He began with a propaedeutic year and is completing his second year of philosophy at the University of Alberta. Andrew was presented the award on September 22nd at St Joseph's Seminary. Diocesan will continue our Adopt-A-Seminary Program with the seminarians in residence.



Our 25TH Annual Poster Contest entitled “Bees - God’s Amazing Creation” was delayed due to the pandemic. The entries have now been judged and the winners for the three categories from K-6 will be announced shortly. Certificates and awards will be announced at our Region Workshops, the winners contacted through mail and the finalists will be displayed on our website.

In lieu of physically attending the Annual Faith Fun Fit Run supporting Newman Theological College and St Joseph’s Seminary, we donated our normal expenses for this event as a donation. We also contributed our annual donation of one month’s rent (\$4500.00) in support of St Benedict’s Chapel in downtown Edmonton.

Members attended the National Summer Speakers Series and feedback received from our councils was very positive. Members are grateful to be able to access the speakers’ presentations if they are unable to attend the presentation.

Our councils have responded in many ways to help out the church and their communities during this pandemic. Examples include offering help to seniors and assisting those parishes celebrating mass on Sundays. Our Lady of Perpetual Help created an innovative program for the homeless by sewing and serving lunch in cloth bags as well as making masks for health care workers in senior homes. Their contribution during the pandemic will be recognized by the Royal Alberta Museum where their masks and lunch bags will become part of the permanent display at the museum highlighting significant contributions in response to COVID-19 in the province of Alberta.

Rose Goudeau, a 45-year member was presented the Belle Guerin Award on October 7th at St Vital Parish, Beaumont. The presentation was made on the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary with a rosary recitation in the Grotto followed by a prayer service and reflection led by Fr. Shayne

Craig. Rose is a past Diocesan President for Mackenzie-Fort Smith when she belonged to Assumption Parish, Hay River. In 2006, Rose moved to Beaumont, AB where she remains active on her parish council and CWL serving as the spiritual standing chair, mentor and by actively recruiting new members.



I close with these words of Pope Francis: “The pandemic has brought us to a crossroads. We must use this decisive moment to end our superfluous and destructive goals and activities and to cultivate values, connections and activities that are lifegiving.”

Stay safe and God Bless





The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Diocese of Calgary
Jan Myhre
Diocesan President Calgary

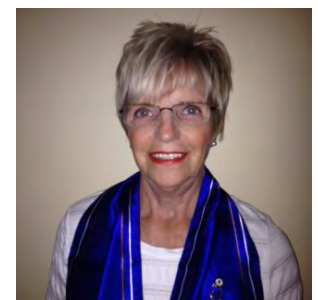


Greetings on behalf of the Calgary Diocesan Council. And what a year it's been. On February 1, 2020, we held our very first Winter Meeting. Our Fall Meeting had been cancelled due to the weather, however the weather on February 1st was much improved and we welcomed over 120 members. We learned about the progress of the construction of the new Marian Shrine Church Our Lady of the Rockies in Canmore, heard about St. Francis Xavier Chaplaincy in Calgary, and honoured our councils who earned Walter Krewski Membership Certificates. ABMK President Judy Look entertained us with her exuberant presentation on the League, and members shared ideas on how our councils can incorporate the League's Core Values of Faith, Service & Social Justice.

The Calgary Diocesan Council sponsored a Parliamentary Procedures Workshop on February 7 & 8, where we welcomed members from across ABMK. 18 of us spent 2 days learning how to run a meeting efficiently. Our facilitator was excellent, and even though this can be a dry topic, he kept us entertained while learning the basic factors of Motions. Four of the 18 wrote the exam to become a member of the National Association of Parliamentarians, and all four passed with flying colours.

In March, COVID-19 changed our lives. Our League activities all came to a screeching halt as everything shut down. However, you can't keep us down for long, and we began to adapt. We learned how to gather virtually. We contacted each of our members to reach out to them, show them they were valued, and ensure of their wellbeing. We put into action our Core Values of Faith, Service & Social Justice by praying for each other; our families; the health care providers, and first responders; our teachers and care givers. Our members answered the call to Service and Social Justice by making and donating thousands of facemasks.

Also, in March, we lost our dear friend and sister Carol Schlachter after a brave battle with cancer. Carol was a 62 year member, past diocesan president, and lived and breathed CWL. National had just approved Carol's Life Membership in the League and so Past President Janet MacPhee and I drove to Brooks on March 21st to present Carol's Life Membership Pin and Plaque to her children, who took them to Carol in the hospital. Carol passed away two days later on March 23rd. She is sadly missed, but we know she's looking down on us, guiding us from heaven to ensure that we "*do our job*", and do it well!



On the Feast Day of Our Lady of Good Counsel, April 26th, Bishop McGrattan celebrated Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral for the Life and Honorary Life Members of the League. Although we couldn't attend in person, the Mass was livestreamed and members could watch from coast to coast.



Our 98th Annual Calgary Diocesan Convention would normally have taken place from May 1 – 3, 2020, however conventions at all levels were cancelled, and on May 4th, in order to comply with *the Constitution & Bylaws*, I held the convention alone.

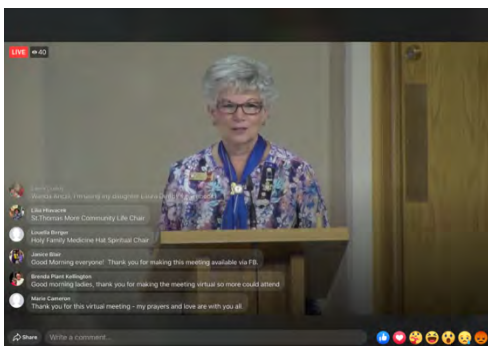
During the summer months, the members of the Calgary Diocesan Council prayed for Bishop McGrattan. We encouraged our members to pray Rosaries, Novenas, Divine Mercy, and in the end we presented Bishop McGrattan with a spiritual bouquet consisting of 1,179 General Prayers, 1,152 Holy Rosaries, 340 Divine Mercy Chaplets, 840 Memorare Prayers, 210 Mass Intentions, 63 Novenas 130 Hours of Adoration, and 108 Corporal Acts/Spiritual Works of Mercy.

The weather cooperated with us this year, and we were able to hold our Fall Meeting, albeit a condensed version. We were hosted by St. Peter's Parish in Calgary, and we ensured all safety protocols were followed by using hand sanitizer, wearing masks and safe distancing. A quorum was reached, and we were able to welcome many other members via livestreaming through our Diocesan CWL Facebook page. Even though we couldn't give them a hug, it was wonderful to be able to greet many of our council presidents. We were able to conduct business, pass motions, and present awards, including the Alberta Mackenzie Walter Krewski Awards for increase in membership.



We are very proud of St. Michael's Council in Calgary, who won all three Awards: Greatest number of new members – 26; greatest increase in membership within their Council – 36; and greatest percentage increase in membership – 112.5%! Well done, St. Michael's!!

We will continue to look out for each other, to pray for each other, to serve our parishes and each other. As St. Paul said in his letter to the Philippians (4:13), "I can do all things through Christ, who strengthens me."





The Catholic Women's League of Canada

Diocese of St. Paul

Lolain Alsmo

Diocesan President St. Paul



St. Jean Baptiste Council, Morinville, Alberta:

We had a sister pass suddenly May 15 and could not attend her funeral due to the pandemic. To show our support to the family and her 25 years as a member, we held an Honor Guard outside the church with the required 6-foot social distancing. It was very beautiful. Fifteen members stood together to honour our Sister.

Prayers

Simonne Chevalier



!CELEBRATIONS!

FATHER WALTER KREWSKI AWARDS

Annually, the Father Walter Krewski Awards are given to councils in Alberta Mackenzie for increases in membership during the previous year. The purpose of the awards is to encourage councils to promote the Catholic Women League in their parishes and to recruit new members. Presentations are made at the annual Provincial convention. This year the convention was cancelled due to COVID-19 and the awards were presented at a later date.

In 2019, for only the second time in the history of the awards, all three awards were presented to the same council, **St. Michael, Calgary**. The first time this happened was in 2010 when Holy Trinity in Parkland County claimed all three awards. This is a wonderful achievement and one that we can all look to for inspiration.



The first award is a beautiful stained-glass Madonna is given to the council that has the greatest number of new members in the previous year. [Please note: 'New Members' are only those who have never held a C.W.L. membership before]. Information is submitted by each Parish Council President. St. Michael in Calgary had 26 new members.

The second award is a presentation plaque of Our Lady of Good Counsel and is given to the council that has the greatest increase in membership in the previous year. Information is to be submitted by each Diocesan Treasurer. St. Michael in Calgary had an increase of 36 members.



The third is a statue and is given to the council with the greatest percentage increase in membership in the previous year. Information is to be submitted by each Diocesan Treasurer. In 2019, St. Michael, Calgary had a 112.50% increase membership.



Congratulations to St. Michael, Calgary for this very special achievement. Their council was reactivated in 2018 with 32 members and in 2019 had 68 members. This achievement represents a lot of hard work and dedication to spreading the good news of the League to the women in their parish. Well done...thank you!