



CATHOLIC
and **LIVING IT!**



Go Make a Difference!

I will go, Lord, where you lead me.

I will hold your people in my heart. Psalm 30

Your Will, Not Mine! Mark 14:36



PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN COUNCIL

E-NEWSLETTER - FALL 2023

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Newly elected Diocesan and National Officers

Various CWL Councils' events

Important Dates

Highlights of the Provincial Convention -

Cornwall

Highlights of the National AMM – St. John, NB

AND MORE....



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Peterborough Diocesan Spiritual Advisor, Officers, and Sub-Committee Appointees 2023-2025

POSITION	NAME	E-MAIL ADDRESS
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Vice-President	Wendy Tedford	vppocwl@gmail.com
Past President & Historian	Helena Lessard	ppdocwl@gmail.com
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Communications Secretary	Rosemary Guy	cmpocwl@gmail.com
Treasurer	Anne Marie Werry	trpocwl@gmail.com
Faith Committee Chair	Marguerite Goodfellow	faithpocwl@gmail.com
Service Committee Chair	Lynda Macpherson	servicepocwl@gmail.com
Social Justice Committee Chair	Lois Crider	justicepocwl@gmail.com
SUB COMMITTEE APPOINTEES		
Corresponding Secretary	Joan Gaensbauer	copocwl@gmail.com
Life Member Liaison	Anne McKinnon	lpocwl@gmail.com
Mentorship Liaison	Madeline Pearson	mmpocwl@gmail.com
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PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN WEBSITE: www.peterboroughcwl.com

PROVINCIAL WEBSITE: www.cwl.on.ca

NATIONAL WEBSITE: www.cwl.ca





Thanksgiving Day Prayer

*Heavenly Father, on Thanksgiving Day
We bow our hearts to You and pray.
We give You thanks for all You've done
Especially for the gift of Jesus, Your Son.
For beauty in nature, Your glory we see
For joy and health, friends and family,
For daily provision, Your mercy and care
These are the blessings You graciously share.
So today we offer this response of praise
With a promise to follow You all of our days.
~ Mary Fairchild*

From the President's Desk: Maria Fitzgerald



An e-mail bcc'd to me read: *"Unfortunately, I have attached another disband letter, for St..... (Peterborough council name)"*

The message in these words was so devastating and so final. A fragment of our Diocesan CWL family had become disconnected and lost as in the parable of the lost sheep!

Sisters, this has happened too many times recently throughout Canada. Members have expressed that communication between them, and the national, provincial, and diocesan offices has been inconsistent due to internet unavailability, technology challenges, exhaustion that the same people are doing all the work, a decline in new memberships and the impact of COVID. When completing the Unity Outreach Project with one council, silence, shock, and sadness overshadowed the dialogue when the president said: "We feel like a number" and I thought, "this is a loud call to action!"

In the beatitudes, Jesus outlined the Christian principles by which we are called to live, that we must reach out to the downtrodden and the poor in spirit – those councils and members who feel forgotten and abandoned. We must be peacemakers – with undeniable faith, courage, and determination to make a difference in their lives, the lives of all CWL members and everyone we meet as we *witness to the love of God through ministry and service* – our CWL mission.

The following is the Peterborough Diocesan plan to *Go and Make a Difference* to improve communication, to maintain membership numbers, and to encourage inactive councils to return to active status.

- No member will be left behind. All will feel welcome, needed, wanted, and validated hopefully resulting in increased member satisfaction.
- To date, each member of a disbanded or inactive council has received a letter of commendation and thanksgiving for her many years of service with an invitation to join adjacent councils. Several have accepted the invitation and been welcomed into their new council. We pray for more transfers.
- With travel being an issue with regards to meetings attendance, (Zoom success is determined largely by internet connections), meetings will be held throughout the Diocese rather than at one central location. At our May 24 post convention meeting in

Huntsville, representatives from each Lakeshore parish were in attendance and an in-person quorum was realized. The Fall meeting is Oct.18th in Peterborough.

- All meetings must answer, “What’s in it for me?’ for members to see a purpose and desire to attend and join.
- Since many members expressed being overwhelmed at the number of e-mails being received, Presidents now receive a weekly Wednesday news update from myself, the Diocesan President, and Officers. Nineteen such Letters have been forwarded to date. The parish president or a designate, forwards the letter to all members of their council using their personal e-mails as requested. Congratulations to the presidents who are creatively discovering new ways to reach those members without e-mail or computers.
- Inactive councils, also receive the letters, and are invited to attend meetings, but do not have an official role.
- Parish council submissions are encouraged. Most recently, St. Alphonsus used this opportunity to advertise a retreat being planned.
- Interactive workshops and ‘take aways’ will be a part of each meeting.

Sisters, Christ cherished every lamb just as we cherish every member. It is hoped that, with the plans above as a springboard, we in the Peterborough Diocese will *Make a Difference* in answering God’s call to protect the 99 and bring home the lost sheep among us.



Spiritual Advisor’s Message: Fr. Roy Villas

“Blessed are the Peacemakers, for they shall be known as the Children of God.”

To my dear sisters of The Catholic Women’s League of Canada,

In this time of Synodality, I urge all of us to be instruments of peace. Synod invites each community to find a place for growth into their gift of identity where God is at work through

practice and ritual. With Christ as our role model, let us accept all without prejudice. It is an invitation to let Christ once again be Christ in each of us.

As Thanksgiving approaches let us be a messenger of God's love and peace and reach to those in need. As Pope Francis' stated earlier this year: "we all need one another" and consider St. Francis' prayer "Make me and Instrument of thy peace."

[Prayer of St. Francis \(Accompanied\) | Instrument Of Thy Peace | Pote/Delgado | Sunday 7pm Choir - YouTube](#)

Vice-President: Wendy Tedford

As we venture into a new season for the CWL, we have a few challenges, as we all know. We also know, that as members of The Catholic Women's League we embrace challenges.

With the organizational structure, we are travelling in somewhat confusing streets. During the Post Convention Meeting, Maria began a series of workshops to introduce the structure. During the Fall Meeting, we will take part again. As we receive clarifications, we will pass them on.

The decrease of membership has been a recent topic of discussion in preceding months. I would like to reintroduce the pamphlet created a few years ago for parishes. Within the pamphlet it highlighted what your council usually accomplishes, your parish address and phone number, your president's contact information, and some information for the CWL. There is money in the budget to have these made, and your council could place them within the church. Please **bring the above information with you** to the Fall Meeting in Peterborough on the 18th of October 2023.

Please remember to always fill in the sheet identifying your member's skills. This is so important as we work with our members to keep everyone involved within each council. Yes, it is another piece of paper to fill in, or a computer form to fill in, however it can be so enlightening to read, and to refer to when we are planning things.

As with so many things today, it is harder to keep many things active and processing. The CWL is no different. Have a discussion with your Spiritual Advisor and engage him. Sometimes they are just waiting for the invitation. Perhaps you will have to gently push them along. Let's work together.

When contacting me please use wtump@nexicom.net or leave a message at 1-705-761-8211.



Past President and Historian: Helena Lessard

Although not typically within the purview of Past President/Historian role, I offered to continue to look after the Peterborough Diocesan CWL Gmail accounts. I was recently informed about some information about Gmail by Google that I wanted to share with you along with what has been happening with the setup and maintenance of the Peterborough Diocesan Gmail accounts.

In 2021, of email accounts opened, Gmail accounted for 36.5% of the accounts. Wow, Gmail usage continues to grow. Probably because it is free and easy to use. Although CWL business is conducted in English, Gmail supports 105 languages so if one knows another language and has relatives and/or friends who know that language, one could have a personal Gmail account and use it for that purpose. Or I suppose one could try out the Translate app that Google has available.

Gmail is simple and works with virtually any device. Gmail is compatible with most popular web browsers. Also, Gmail is compatible with Apple computers and those computers which use Windows. For mobile devices, Gmail can be used on both iOS and Android. One of the Google apps that can be found through Gmail, is Google Meet which is similar to Zoom or other video meeting programs. Google offers a wide variety of training and tutorials about Google Meet. However, if one is looking for more assistance about Gmail, the Google Workspace Learning Centre is a guide from Google on how to use Gmail including Gmail features and how to organize one's mail.

With regards to the CWL Gmail accounts, about ten years ago, Peterborough Diocesan Council set up Gmail accounts for use by diocesan officers and parish councils. First, we do not access the CWL accounts to check up on you but to check up on the account. This step is to assist you in the functioning and maintenance of the account. For example, as contact information changes, the changes are reflected in the account. With our structure changes recently, contacts were changed, added, or deleted as necessary. It makes it easier to send an email since one can start to input an email address or one can send a mass email to a group of contacts based on labels such as Council, Life Member and Officer or Appointee.

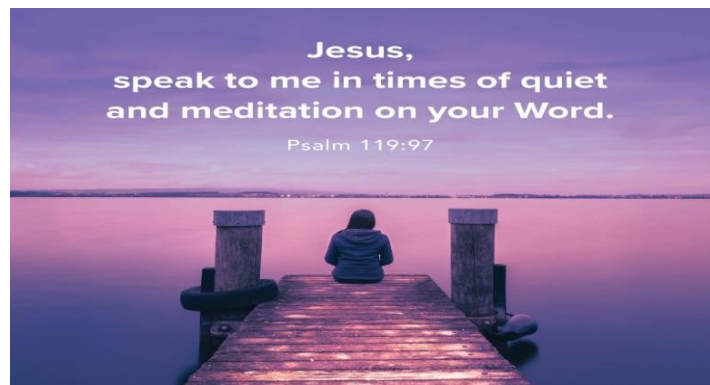
Some changes have been made to CWL Gmail accounts. If the CWL account is forwarded to a personal email account, the change has been made to delete the Gmail copy of a forwarded email rather than keeping a copy in the Gmail inbox. This change will help to keep the account cleaned up. Also, if necessary, the Google account name and the name used to send mail as have been changed to the council's name and the council location followed by CWL. For example, St. Mary's Lindsay CWL for councils or Past President Peterborough Diocesan CWL for officers/appointees.

Google has recently implemented a new policy about inactive accounts. Beginning December 1, 2023, Google will delete any account that has been inactive over a two-year period. For any account that gets deleted, the Gmail address could not be used again. Thus, it is especially

important for those accounts that are forwarded to personal email addresses to access the account on a regular basis. The easiest way to keep the account active is to read an email in the inbox or to send an email from the account. Send an email to oneself or the diocesan officer looking after Gmail. For this term, that would be myself.

Information which is shared through Peterborough Diocesan CWL Gmail accounts allows for continuity when individuals change positions. If you have any problems, questions, or concerns, please feel free to write or phone me.

With regards to the Past President/Historian position, part of the role is to mentor the President just as the President mentors the Vice President (President-Elect in the old structure). Past presidents are also responsible for elections. The new structure is being implemented across all councils and this transition will not be completed until 2024. Although there are less chair positions, keep in mind that any council does not have to do it all nor does any chair or position. Plus, this is a great opportunity to get others involved based on the information provided on the Member Information Form that councils should be getting members (new and old) to complete. Any questions about the election process related to the new structure can be directed to myself.



Recording Secretary: Rosemary Guy

Let me introduce myself ---Rosemary Guy as current Secretary of Diocesan Peterborough Executive. I have been a CWL member since 1988 but only active since 2011. I was President of Our Lady of Mercy Council, Port Hope from 2012-2018 and Diocesan Secretary from 2018-2021. Presently I am assisting the Service Chair on my home council.

My career was in nursing—hand-written charts for 40/45 years of working. I studied Latin in high school as an alternative to typing or secretarial courses so I would not be hired as a secretary but have been accepted as a volunteer.

My duties at Diocesan are to take minutes at the Spring Convention, Postconvention and Fall meeting and any other meeting arranged by the President. I would then type these minutes,

A child and grandchild of CWL members I resisted joining until after my retirement 8 years ago (I thought the CWL was a bunch of old ladies drinking tea) when I joined the council at St. Mary's where I found a community of likeminded women. I served as council president from 2019-2021 (the COVID years) and am now Past President and Health and Communication Chair.

My focus besides health has been on the Role of Women in the Catholic Church. I am currently amid a deep dive through church documents trying to gain a better understanding of the role. I am honored to serve as Faith Chair of the Peterborough Diocese, and I pray the Lord be with me as I take in this role.



Service: Lynda Macpherson

“When we attend to the needs of those in want, we give them what is theirs, not ours. More than performing works of mercy, we are paying a debt of justice.” Pope Saint Gregory the Great

As your new Service Chair, I am learning about the diverse topics represented in this chair. At first, I was overwhelmed but, I have come to see the potential for what we may accomplish as a team. Yes, **TEAMWORK!** What a wonderful opportunity to engage with women in our parish to work together in helping our parishes, our communities, our Diocese!

Let's take **Evangelization** for example: you could assist in your parish's R.C.I.A. or work with the Children's Liturgy program at your church. The CCCB has great resources including The Directory of Catechesis, 2020. [Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops \(ccc.ca\)](http://ccc.ca)

Under **Marriage and Family**, you may wish to have a knitting bee for hats, mitts and gloves and then make them available for needy families at a table at the back of your church.

Wellness & Sickness/Disease covers a large scope and thus it is very easy to “service” whether it be getting involved with Community Compassionate Care, advocating for proper long-term care, or taking a couple of minutes to call your shut-ins and offering a sympathetic ear.

There are more topics in this chair which over the course of my term I hope to address with you but in the interim, may I refer you to “The Joy of Leadership – Module 1 – Ministries” and “Toolkit for Service” available on our National website [The Catholic Women's League of Canada \(cwl.ca\)](http://cwl.ca) under Strategic Planning Resources and Updates. These are awesome resources and easy to use.



Advice, help and support regarding euthanasia and assisted suicide prevention and all end-of-life treatment issues.

Confidential and free: 1.855.675.8749

www.CompassionateCommunityCare.org



Social Justice: Lois Crider

Truth and Reconciliation is something we are all striving through many councils' activities. At Our Lady of Mercy in Port Hope we planted a tree last year and this year there will be a special service that I will be working on with our council's president.

At the National AMM the following resolution was passed:

2023.01 Combating Textile Waste in Canada Resolved, that national council of The Catholic Women's League of Canada in 103rd national annual meeting of members assembled, urge the federal government to establish new programs and to expand established subsidies aimed at reducing textile waste in Canada.

As a result of this resolution, your council may wish to have a brainstorming session on how to decrease the staggering number of textiles that go into our landfill sites. Remember the 3 R's: reduce – reuse - recycle!

Bill C-39 An Act to amend the Criminal Code (medical assistance in dying).

The bill received Royal Assent on March 9, 2023, and immediately came into effect, officially postponing the eligibility date for persons suffering solely from a mental illness until March 17, 2024. The delay was based on the advice of clinicians, researchers, and the faithful around the safeguards for its use. The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) released a statement on May 9, 2023, which states that “we remain profoundly concerned about, and strongly disagree with the expansion of the ‘eligibility criteria’ for euthanasia and assisted suicide (i.e., ‘Medical Assistance in Dying’ or ‘MAID’) to persons whose sole medical condition is a mental illness.¹ Euthanasia/Assisted Suicide.” See below for the CCCB complete position on Mental Health and Euthanasia/Assisted Suicide and letter to the government.

- [Message to the Catholic Faithful on Permitting Persons Living with Mental Illness to Access Euthanasia/Assisted Suicide](#)
- [Open Letter to the Government of Canada on Permitting Persons Living with Mental Illness to Access Euthanasia/Assisted Suicide](#)

"We have received baptism, entrance into the Church, and the honor of being called Christians. Yet what good will this do us if we are Christians in name only and not in fact?"

–St. Andrew Kim Taegon

Corresponding Secretary: Joan Gaensbauer

I recently accepted the invitation to be involved on the Peterborough Diocesan Council as your corresponding secretary. It will be a privilege to send messages relevant to the needs of our members.

My husband, Herb, died this summer and messages of love and empathy from so many CWL sisters gave me peace and comfort. When I was younger, I participated actively in League service which often required patience, physical help, and time from my husband. He always supported these efforts. I now encourage all of us to help our priests, councils, and communities as well as we can. Love and consideration are always needed, even in difficult times. Please contact me through our president or my contact numbers. Prayers and peace in all you do.



Life Member Liaison: Anne McKinnon

We have all survived the last few hot days of the summer.

All correspondence received by the Provincial Life Member Liaison has been forwarded to the eight Life Members in this diocese.

Some of the Life Members met socially but at unfortunate events, one being the Celebration of Life for Joan Gaensbauer's husband, Herb and recently at the Mass for Katie Probst's son, who died in Ottawa, and has a funeral mass was in Woodville. Sympathy cards were sent to them both.

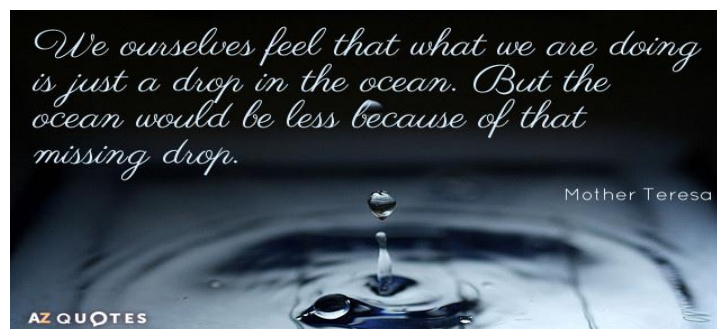
Joan Gaensbauer has agreed to be on the executive taking the position of Corresponding Secretary. Glenda Klein is president of her council, St. Mary, Lindsay; Joanne Hough is president of St. Vincent de Paul, Lindsay; Lois Crider is holding the Social Justice convenor on the diocesan executive; Wendy Tedford, who is a past diocesan president now holds the position of vice-president; Madeline Pearson is president of her parish, St. Patrick, Kinmount and Mentorship Liaison for our Diocese and I hold the position of Life Member Liaison. As you can see, we Life Members are all still active in our parish or Diocesan councils, one way or another. Here's to another successful year.

The life members are here to guide you, and answer any questions you have. Keep them coming!



Mentorship Liaison: Madeline Pearson

As mentorship liaison, I have assigned each parish council a mentor at the Diocesan level. The council should feel free to call, text or email their mentor with any questions or concerns they may have. Mentors are there to help with project planning or to offer an opinion or advice. Mentors will be happy to hear from members and support them in their endeavours.



CWL Events Around the Diocese

St. Alphonsus Ligouri: Betty Sommer

Since the spring convention our Council has been quite busy!

At our May meeting we had an inspiring young lady, Katie Girard, speak about her incredible medical journey. Unfortunately, Katie had several brain aneurysms since 2019. She fought an incredible battle and having to learn to walk and all other life skills again. She is now the spokesperson for Making A Wish Foundation.

In June we helped with the Retreat for our Grade 8 students. We also held our annual summer picnic followed by our Service Pin awards. We had 6 members receive 5-year pins, 1 member for 10 years, 4 members for 15 years, 2 members for 20 years, 2 members for 25 years, 4 members for 30 years, 2 members for 40 years, 1 member for 50 years. We also presented our Spiritual Development Chairperson with the Maple Leaf Pin.

In July we helped out with the Knights of Columbus annual yard sale, and we hosted the Bake Table at this event.

Now we are getting ready for upcoming events this Fall. We are having a Spiritual Retreat on Saturday, September 16th focusing on the Divine Mercy.

Pictured to the left are some of the 50 attendees at the retreat led by the Capuchin Franciscan Brothers Stephen and Allen.



It was a wonderful gathering of our CWL sisters from Peterborough, Huntsville, Lindsay, and Cobourg which included our Diocesan President Maria Fitzgerald, Faith Chair Marguerite Goodfellow, Service Chair Lynda Macpherson, and Social Justice Chair Lois Crider.

Brothers Stephen and Allan explained the development of Marian Devotion leading back to the 2nd century. Mother Mary is the patroness and Queen of the Friars hence their great devotion to her.

St. Paul's, Gravenhurst: Sue Kelly

Hosting our first High Tea on Mother's Day! It was so successful that plans are underway for next year! Great organizing by Shirley Cormier.



Annual birthday lunch when members celebrate special birthdays that end in 0 or 5.



Organized by Dianna Russell and Betty White.

CWL members, with Spiritual Advisor Fr Obiji, gather around the Mary Memorial table in honor of two deceased members, before Mass and their monthly meeting held September 12th. Peterborough Diocesan President, Maria Fitzgerald, was honored to be present at this lovely ceremony.



St. Michael's, Cobourg: Cyndy Harper



On April 18th, the Cobourg Police were invited to come and talk about fraud, scams and other similar crimes targeting our community, especially seniors. This presentation was open to all parishioners.



Attending our Peterborough Diocesan convention are pictured below:
(from left to right) Diocesan Chair Lynda Macpherson, Past President Co-Chair Carol Lawless,
President-Elect Susan Visneski, President Cyndy Harper, Treasurer Yvonne Trudell and Past
President Co-Chair Therese May.



On May 1st Faith Chair Nancy White organized the Crowning of Mary service held in our chapel and opened to all parishioners.





On June 13th, our council held our annual Sunset Walk with Mary. This was open to all parishioners and we incorporated the “Kindness Rock” project.



President Cyndy Harper is pictured presenting a new membership pin to Sandy Terranova.



St. Mary's, Lindsay: Glenda Klein

Fifteen members and friends attended the Coronation Party on May 5th at Aunt Laura's Tea Room in Bethany hosted by St. Mary's CWL, Lindsay to celebrate the service of the late Queen Elizabeth and the crowning of King Charles III. The ladies were fashionably dressed in fascinators, hats and even some gloves.



The high tea included scones, jam, cucumber sandwiches and other delicacies. Members enjoyed taking part in the Royal Quiz. Each attendee was gifted with a commemorative British bracelet.

Congratulations to the following women who received awards this June: **New** – Julia Neal; **5 year** - Sharon Heffernan, Anna Hopkins, Carol Jewell, Suzanne McCarthy, Maria Winkelaar and Michelle Minielli; **10 year** - Margaret Bak, Lillian O'Connell, Roxanne Purdy; **15 year** - Meghan Crooks, Kathleen Walden; **20 year** - Brenda Curtis, Marg Johansen; **25 year** - Theresa Campbell, Helen Costello, Gisela Wippler; **30 year** - Janet Healy; **35 year** - Beverley O'Reilly; **40 year** - Dianne Evans, Marie Jackson; **50 year** - Deanna Allen; **55 year** - Anne Lynch; Joan Webster; **60 year** - Noreen Brasier.

Certificates of Appreciation were presented to Gloria Broad, Margaret Johansen, Jo-Anne McPherson, Lillian O'Connell, and Joanne Hough for Paul Hough.



Happy Appy Yappy New member Julia Neal (R) receives her welcome package and pin from 1st Vice-President Gloria Broad as President Glenda Klein (L) emcees the Happy Appy Yappy Party, hosted by St. Mary's CWL, Lindsay on June 6, 2023. The meal consisted of appetizers and desserts, served with lots of conversation.

Keewatin-LePas Twinning Project



St. Mary's CWL, Lindsay has packaged and shipped 11 boxes of school supplies to the archdiocesan office for further shipping by train to Sacred Heart Parish in Pukatawagan, Manitoba. The school supplies included pencils, erasers, pencil crayons, crayons, markers, rulers, pens, paper, colouring books, glue sticks, tape, fabric, yarn, knitting supplies and patterns, holy cards.

Fr. D.R. Amarlapudi in Pukatawagan will be distributing the items. Most items were purchased, but many were donated by our members who are excited about the project. We hope they will find a use for the "extras" we included although we did not send everything on the suggested list.



Holy Angels, Brighton: Margaret Tackaberry



In June we presented Betty Czulo with her 65-year pin. We were very fortunate that Maria was here to give her Unity Presentation and assist in presenting Betty her pin.



Our Lady of Assumption /St John the Evangelist, Otonabee /Keene: Anne Marie Bolin

On June 7th our council held a potluck supper and Service Recognition ceremony.

Anna Marie is pictured below giving an award to Dolly Kylie for her 73 years of service!



Otonabee/Keene newly elected Executive for 2023-2025

left to right: Val Collicutt Justice chair, Ruth Cirallo Faith chair, Gladys Fowler Service chair, Jean Hall Secretary, Barb Lynch Treasurer, Anna Marie Bolin President, Joanne Bolton Past-President.



St. Mary of the Assumption – Huntsville: Laila Etherington

Pictures below were taken during our meeting in September 11,2023 at St Mary's of the Assumption in Huntsville. We had a potluck lunch, birthday cake and balloon including July and August birthdays celebrants. Our council was busy servicing three funerals, one of which was a CWL member.



For our next meeting in October, we are having a guest speaker that will talk about the benefits of knockers. A winter coat drive for the hot lunch recipients and for a small fee, new household items will be available during our sponsorship of the parish coffee Sunday.



God is good, All the time, and All the time, God is good.

St. Patrick's, Kinmount – Madeline Pearson

Being a rural CWL Council has its challenges. Being a shrinking and aging council makes it even more challenging. Only three of our members live near our Church. The rest are thirty minutes to an hour away, making travel difficult sometimes. We lost a long time CWL member this year and another is unable to drive from her remote location any longer. Of our twelve members only one is under the age of sixty and half our members are eighty or older. However, this doesn't prevent us from rallying enough members to assist at funeral luncheons or celebrations of life. We stay in touch with our members and recognize birthdays and other milestones.

We had planned on finally celebrating our 100th anniversary in June but had to cancel due to an unfortunate accident, so we are now looking forward to holding the celebration in 2024. There will be service pins presented at that time, including a 70-year pin, a 60-year pin and several over 30-year pins recognizing the commitment of our members.



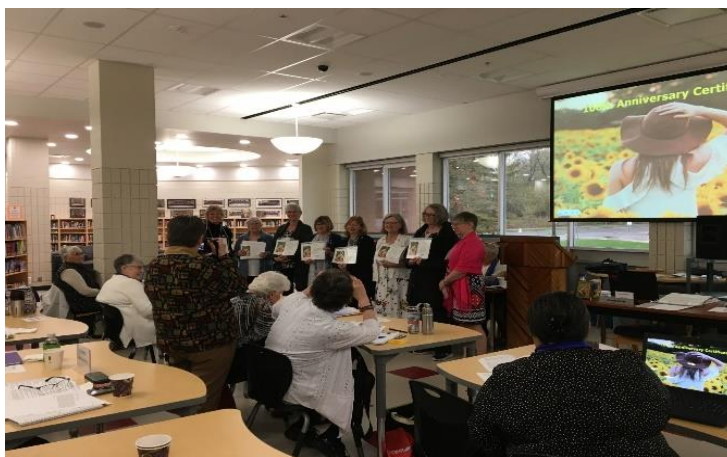
Peterborough Diocesan Convention – Peterborough April 29, 30

Attendees were encouraged to bring items that would be then sent to Fort Hope through Habitat for Humanity.

Clothing, food, games, and school supplies filled suitcases and boxes.



Our Peterborough Diocesan Council was finally able to celebrate our 100th Anniversary albeit two years late.



Presidents from various councils across our Diocese are presented with certificates marking their council's special anniversaries!

Ontario Provincial Convention – Cornwall July 8-12



Fr. Eugene O'Reilly, a Redemptorist priest, was our guest speaker who cajoled, inspired, prayed, and entertained us throughout Monday. His message was for us to live in the moment and to live the Beatitudes. He is pictured singing a song from his latest CD "Songs to the Renew Spirit & Heart".

The Flirty Gertie Show

The Peterborough Diocesan Team plus helpers getting all geared up for the Flirty Gertie Show at the Ontario Provincial Convention in Cornwall in July. These ladies really know what they want... or don't want in a man. Pictured (clockwise) are Glenda Klein, Lois Crider, Betty Sommers, President Maria Fitzgerald, Lynda Macpherson, Joanne Hough, Lillian O'Connell, Helena Lessard and Wendy Tedford. Absent at time of photo: Paddy Fitzgerald Nolan and Maureen Vanderwouden.



Closing Mass held on July 12th at St. Peter's with the Provincial Executive re-affirming their vows. Many thanks to the CWL music directors, Patricia McRae and Norah Kupczyk and the choir members for so generously sharing their wonderful talents. Such beautiful music throughout the convention!



National Annual Meeting of Members – St. John, NB August 13-15

Opening Mass Reception



Following the opening mass at Holy Redeemer Church in St. John, NB, life members Glenda Klein and Wendy Tedford share friendship, fun and food with Melina Nobert, newly elected president of the newly formed Ottawa-Cornwall Diocesan CWL.



Dancing the Night Away

Life member Glenda Klein (L) and Peterborough Diocesan Service Chair Lynda Macpherson (4) are enjoying the festivities at the Little Country and Little Rock 'n' Roll night.

Honouring our Deceased Members



At national convention, Past President Anne-Marie Gorman processes the Book of Life honoring the deceased members of our League.

President Fran Lucas places the white rose in honour of our deceased spiritual advisors. Each provincial president around the table has placed a red rose and lighted candle honouring the deceased members from her province. In the background is the live-streaming picture for those who were unable to attend in person.



Celebrating at the Gala Supper in St. John





National Officers 2023-2025 of The Catholic Women's League of Canada

Glenda Carson, Social Justice Chairperson; Joline Belliveau, Service Chairperson; Rolande Chernichan, Faith Chairperson, Dorothy Johansen, Secretary-Treasurer; Shari Guinta, President; Betty Colaneri, Vice-President (Organization Chairperson); and Fran Lucas, Past-President

Closing Mass and the Installation
of our newly elected National Officers

The procession of our provinces and
territories flags was most memorable.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Lindsay



Saturday November 4, 2023 - Baskets Galore Silent Auction and Luncheon.
Doors open at 11:30 am with lunch at 12:30 pm.
Tickets at \$35 may be ordered at 27poCWL@gmail.com
Order early as we sell out early!

Otonabee/Keene

November 4th the CWL will hold its annual "Snowflake Bazaar" from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.
There's something for everyone!!



Campbellford



St. Mary of the Visitation will be hosting our annual Advent Tea and Bazaar at St. Mary's School on December 2nd from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm

Port Hope

Sunday **November 12th** Our Lady of Mercy CWL is having a 'Festive' Bazaar from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm at the Knights of Columbus hall, 1 Elias St. Port Hope



Cobourg



St. Michael's annual Christmas Bake Sale will be held on the weekend of December 2 & 3 before and after each Mas

DATES TO REMEMBER

October 1	National Seniors Day
October 9	Thanksgiving
October 16	World Food Day
October 18	Diocesan Fall Meeting
October 22	World Mission Sunday
November 19	World Day of the Poor
November 26	World Day of Youth
December 3	1 st Sunday of Advent
December 12	Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe
December 25	Christmas Day

Diocesan Convention will be held in on May

Provincial Convention will be held in Sudbury July 7-10.

National Convention will be held next year in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan Aug. 11-14

RANDOM THOUGHTS

Aging

On the 8th day.....,

God created Seniors. Most seniors never get enough exercise. In His wisdom, God decreed that seniors become forgetful so they would have to search for their glasses, keys, and other things, thus doing more walking. And God looked down and saw that it was good.

Then God saw there was another need. In His wisdom, He made seniors lose coordination so they would drop things, requiring them to bend, reach and stretch. And God looked down and saw that it was good.

Then God considered the function of bladders and decided seniors would have additional calls of nature requiring more trips to the bathroom, thus providing more exercise. God looked down and saw that it was good.

So, if you find, as you age, you are getting up and down more, remember it's God's will. It is all in your best interest even though you mutter under your breath.



Lord, send down Your Spirit to guide me during Advent this year.

May the Holy Spirit help me journey closer to You and lift me up when I feel down and lead me when I feel lost.

I may stumble at times, but I know my ultimate journey is to draw closer to You and build Your kingdom here on earth—a kingdom that Jesus's birth, life, and death helped secure.

Amen.