



ONTARIO PROVINCIAL COUNCIL  
OF THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S  
LEAGUE OF CANADA



ON-LINE NEWSLETTER

June 2016 Edition

Featuring the Diocese of London and the Christian Family Life Standing Committee



**This Issue**

<i>Pauline's Ponderings</i>	1
<i>Mary Immaculate Council</i>	2
<i>London Diocesan Convention</i>	2
<i>Holy Trinity Council</i>	3
<i>St Francis Xavier Council</i>	3
<i>Christian Family Life Standing Committee</i>	4

**Pauline's Ponderings...**



**Greetings!**

On the feast of Corpus Christi weekend I celebrated Eucharist in two different dioceses. Reflecting on my gift of being among my CWL sisters I thought about how each of us is an integral part of the body of Christ. St. Paul writes it so clearly we are all a part, important, the same, yet different. We have been gifted with a variety of ways to share ourselves with the world. We walk in solidarity for the good of all. No one deed is less or more important than another. Issues continue to be of concern. I remind you to not give up...choose your battles and stay strong. We might think the war has been lost, but there are other battles yet to be won in our desire for all people to respect life from conception to natural death. Kudos to all for your good works.

We are officially one month before the Ontario Provincial convention to be held in Stratford. My dear friend's father used to say, "I wake up on Monday, turn around and its Friday". I can say the same about these past few months. Being on the road to attend conventions, government day and resolutions meetings, calls to mind that song, "I've been everywhere man..."! I can't even begin to list the cherished memories I have of my time spent in your dioceses and with members of the provincial team. These times spent together will be forever treasured.

This afternoon we received word that our dear Honorary Life Member Mary Matthews, was welcomed into the arms of Our Loving Saviour. I'm sure each of us who knew her or perhaps just met her have only the fondest of memories of this grand lady. May she rest in peace.

The London Diocese is looking forward to hosting the Ontario Provincial Convention in Stratford July 9 - 13, 2016. Many of the diocesan executive members are hard at work attending to all the details in preparing for a fun and faith-filled time. Forms and information available at [www.cwl.on.ca](http://www.cwl.on.ca).





ONTARIO PROVINCIAL COUNCIL  
OF THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S  
LEAGUE OF CANADA



## ON-LINE NEWSLETTER



### 50th Anniversary

On Sunday May 1, **Mary Immaculate Council, London**, held their 50th Anniversary celebration. It began with mass where members served as Readers, Eucharistic ministers and ministers of hospitality. A catered lunch followed. Past presidents attending were recognized and service pins were awarded including a 60 year pin to Past President Eileen Pietraszko.



### 96th Annual London Diocesan Convention

Over 400 women attended the convention on the theme of One Heart, One Voice, One Mission, in Sarnia, to reacquaint and make new friends, to share ideas and to experience a fun and faith-filled time. Each executive member reported on their position and related it to the convention theme and our Blessed Oscar Romero. Guest speaker Michelle O'Rourke gave an inspiring talk about Palliative Care. Father Paul Baillargeon discussed the Parish Family Grouping reorganization planned for our diocese. Auxiliary Bishop Joseph Dabrowski, Pauline Krupa, Ontario Provincial President, and Margaret Ann Jacobs, National President-elect, gave inspiring and uplifting messages. Each council in the diocese participated in Year of Mercy projects during the past year and created individual collages of pictures which were presented during the Crowning of Mary ceremony. Elections were held and a new slate of officers was installed during the Closing Mass. Our new Diocesan President is Angela Pellerin, seen below carrying the CWL flag.



**SEE YOU IN SEPTEMBER!**







ONTARIO PROVINCIAL COUNCIL  
OF THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S  
LEAGUE OF CANADA



## ON-LINE NEWSLETTER

### **Prayer Service for Caregivers, Holy Trinity Council, Windsor**

Holy Trinity Catholic Women's League Spiritual Development Chairperson Fatima Cabral collaborated with Diane Murray, Woodstock Hospital's Palliative Care Coordinator, to organize a prayer service for caregivers at the hospital on May 4, 2016. There were 25 hospital staff, volunteers and Catholic Women's League members in attendance. The prayer service was planned at 12:30 p.m. in the hospital chapel to allow staff to attend during their lunch break. Songs, prayers, readings and patient stories were used to highlight the importance of palliative care in the lives of the patients afflicted with terminal illnesses. With One Heart, One Voice, One Mission in a collective prayer to God, we raised awareness, understanding and an appreciation that true compassion is found through palliative care and that access to it must be a right for all Canadians.



Pictured are: (L) – Mary Van Veen (Holy Trinity CWL member and past president), Diane Murray (Woodstock Hospital Palliative Care Coordinator), Anne Vos (St. Mary's CWL member and past president), Fatima Cabral (Holy Trinity CWL Spiritual Development Chairperson and past president).



### **Crowning of Mary**

On Sunday May 8<sup>th</sup>, before the 10:00 a.m. Mass, **St. Francis Xavier Council, Tilbury**, celebrated Mother's Day with the Crowning of Mary. Her joyous mysteries were celebrated as carnations were brought forward by League members. Lucille Duquette, Chatham-Kent Regional Chairperson, had the honour of crowning Mary as the congregation sang "Immaculate Mary".



ONTARIO PROVINCIAL COUNCIL  
OF THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S  
LEAGUE OF CANADA



## ON-LINE NEWSLETTER

### Christian Family Life Standing Committee Rosanne Sogan, Chair



Under the umbrella of the Christian Family Life Committee there are many categories that are represented including the focus on vocations which is a vital part.

Fifty years ago there were two and three priests in every parish. Priests and religious sisters were in all the Catholic schools, the sisters nursed in the hospitals and had a distinct presence in our communities. Churches were packed for every mass. Families went to mass together. No one left mass early or skipped mass entirely to attend a child's sports game, to go shopping, etc. Mass was in Latin, with the priests backs to us. We knelt at a communion rail to receive the body of Christ on our tongue and not on our hands. Confessions were attended before you went to mass or sometimes on Saturdays ... and there were line ups!

Things have changed over the years following Pope John XXIII and the conception of the Second Vatican Council which saw two popes presiding; Pope John XXIII until his death and Pope Paul VI who became pope on June 21, 1962. On October 11, 1962, the Feast of the Maternity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the XXI Ecumenical Council of the Church solemnly began.

The results of Vatican II allowed us to pray with other Christian denominations, encouraged friendship with other non-Christian faiths, and opened the door for languages besides Latin to be used during Mass. There were a total of 16 documents which came out of Vatican II which made the changes to the church as we know it today.

Since that time we have seen even more changes; Permanent Deacons, increase in lay ministries (Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, etc.), and mass being celebrated in English. Unfortunately, fewer are attending mass or answering their call to service.

Today, it is not uncommon to have one priest covering many parishes; some parishes are sharing their priest between two, three and four parishes; and in some areas parishes are being closed down.

Vocations are a very distinct calling answered by men and women who are willing to devote their lives to the Lord. For some they are unsure about what they are doing and are hesitant to listen and answer their call. When they do hear it, they are absorbed in the love of Christ and want to fulfill their calling.

In 1998, after the death of their Spiritual Advisor Bishop Bernard Pappin, the Ontario Provincial Council of The Catholic Women's League of Canada created the Bishop Bernard F. Pappin Memorial Bursary for seminarians. Each year men who meet the specific criteria may apply for the bursary. Ten men annually may be the recipients of this award.

I encourage you and your councils to foster the gift of vocations with those in your community and to continue to maintain this worthy fund as we together support our seminarians in this yearly bursary. More information on the bursary may be found at [www.cwl.on.ca](http://www.cwl.on.ca).