

**THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA  
OTTAWA DIOCESAN COUNCIL**



**97<sup>th</sup>**

**ANNUAL REPORT BOOK 2019**

## National Theme for 2019 / 2020



### **Our 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.

### **LEAGUE PRAYER**

We humbly pray you O God our Father,  
to bless the Catholic Women's League of Canada,  
bless our beloved country, our homes and families.  
Send your Holy Spirit upon us to give light to our minds  
and strength to our wills, that we may know and  
fulfill your great law of charity.

Teach us to share with others,  
at home and abroad,  
the good things you have given us.

This we ask through Our Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the intercession of our patroness,  
our Lady of Good Counsel.

Amen



**The Catholic Women's League of Canada**  
**Ottawa Diocesan Council**  
**Message from the Editor**

I would like to begin by thanking our Diocesan President Lynn Lavictoire for her assembling this Annual Report Book for 2019. Her computer knowledge and experience and friendly reminders were a great help to me.

Many thanks to the parish presidents who submitted annual reports and all of the diocesan officers for their reports.

I would like to mention some of the many activities that took place in 2019. Councils hosted and participated in Catholic Women's League (CWL) and parish events and fundraisers from which proceeds went to numerous charities. Information sessions and activities were carried out on the theme of *Care for our Common Home* with the provincial focus on water. Members collected food items, clothing and toiletries that were donated to area shelters, especially women's shelters. You supported parish sacraments of First Communion, Confirmation and Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) candidates by giving gifts or hosting receptions. Members led parish activities such as the Stations of the Cross, councils held masses for deceased members and commemorated significant council anniversaries. Councils celebrated members' years of service and recognized members for their hard work with certificates of merit.

I feel very proud to be a member of the Catholic Women's League of Canada. All members, executive and officers continue to serve God and Canada. I thank you for your service to your parishes and communities, doing so with a warm heart and a care for others. We are bound together by our faith and a love to help one another. We are accompanied on our faith journey by our fellow sisters in the League, knowing that they will be there for you and others, at a moment's notice.

Thank you for your unyielding service to God and Canada.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel be with us as we travel on our pilgrimage of faith.

Peace be with you all.

Teresa Psutka  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President

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### **CWL Prayer for Renewal**

God of new beginnings, ever faithful God, we thank You for your constant care for the women of The Catholic Women's League of Canada. We have sought to serve You in faith by service to your people.

Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and with the help of Our Lady of Good Counsel, we continue to discern Your call to seek justice and build Your Kingdom on earth each day.

We ask your guidance as we plan the evolution of The Catholic Women's League of Canada. Grant us wisdom, the grace of discernment, and strength. May each of us open her heart and mind to the League.

We ask this through Jesus, Your beloved Son and Our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever.

AMEN.



**ONTARIO PROVINCIAL COUNCIL**  
of  
**The Catholic Women's League of Canada**

Greetings Ottawa Diocesan Members,

Conventions are a wonderful time to reconnect with old friends, meet new sisters in the League, become spiritually fulfilled and learn more about the challenges that we face in society. It is a time to focus on our core values of faith, service and social justice.

I congratulate you on your continued efforts and good deeds in helping the lonely and under-privileged in your communities. I am so proud of how you have embraced both the provincial and national themes. You are truly inspirational!

Know that the prayers and best wishes of the almost 44,000 members across Ontario are with you as you celebrate.

You are well represented at the provincial table. Lynn ensures that your diocese has a voice.

Congratulations as you celebrate the 97<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the League in your diocese.

May God bless you and Our Lady of Good Counsel watch over you as you continue your humble service in the League, *For God and Canada*.

Respectfully,

*Colleen Perry*

Ontario Provincial President





**Ottawa Diocesan Council**  
of  
**The Catholic Women's League of Canada**

**Message from our Ottawa Diocesan President**

Sisters in the League,

It was a blessing putting together the Annual Report Book 2019 especially since there was a lot more time this spring to complete this project! Despite the pause in diocesan activities forced on us by the worldwide situation, I was completely in awe of the many significant accomplishments and contributions of parish councils in the Ottawa Diocese which occurred over the last year. It was also impressive how councils embraced the national theme, *Care for our Common Home*, and the provincial theme, *Homelessness* as it transitioned to *Loneliness*, to educate members, discuss the issues, and start new initiatives. Well done!

COVID-19 has changed how we are currently doing things and will probably change how we do things in the future when this pandemic is finally over. I take courage in the creativity and determination demonstrated by our parish councils over the last year and the resourcefulness and resilience of these councils in responding to our new challenge. While being physically distanced, we are being drawn closer together as we find other ways to reach out to each other through the phone, emails, texting, Zoom, etc. We really are sisters in the League united in Christ as we walk hand in hand with Our Lady of Good Counsel.

It has been said that every challenge is an opportunity. Certainly, the current challenges will teach us things about *Care for our Common Home* and our new provincial theme, *Loneliness*, that we never expected to learn. The Lord is taking us in new directions. The storm will eventually pass and, filled with exuberance and thanksgiving, the new growth will be amazing!

In the meantime, I thank all the members in the Ottawa Diocese for their patience, faith, and determination. Praying for each other and with each other (virtually) has been a joy and a blessing. May these blessings take root in our hearts and turn our gaze towards the radiance of the One who loves us.

Our Lady of Good Counsel, *pray for us.*  
Love, Peace & Joy,



**Ottawa Diocesan Council**  
of  
**The Catholic Women's League of Canada**

**Message from our Ottawa Diocesan Spiritual Advisor**

As I come to the end of my first year as Diocesan Spiritual Advisor, we find ourselves in difficult and uncharted times as we deal with the ongoing Covid-19 outbreak. Although I feel fortunate to have participated in many of the CWL spiritual celebrations during the year and the provincial convention in Kingston, I cannot help but think of all that will be missed this summer as a result of this outbreak. Covid-19 has left CWL members unable to meet, continue their good work and celebrate their centennial. During this year, I have come to realize all the hard work that the CWL members do for their communities and around the world. I have witnessed the comradery and spirituality of the CWL members.

For the past six weekends we have been separated from our parish families and from the celebration of the Eucharist. I know that this has been painful for many parishioners across the dioceses as well as the priests who are left without a flock to shepherd. Although this time may seem like we are wandering in the spiritual desert because of the cancellation of Masses and other activities, it may be a great opportunity to ascend the Holy mountain and grow in our knowledge, understanding and love of God. It is only when we grow in our love of God that we truly grow in our love of neighbours. As many of us have extra time on our hands, we can use this time for more spiritual reading, prayer and meditation, and watching religious programs on TV or the internet or tune into a daily Mass. May this time of physical distancing and spending more time at home become a time of spiritual growth for all of us.

Be safe and God bless.

Fr. Paul J Gaudet  
Diocesan Spiritual Advisor Ottawa

## **OTTAWA DIOCESAN COUNCIL OFFICERS – 2019**

President	Lynn Lavictoire
President-Elect	Claudette Langdon
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice-President	Teresa Psutka
Recording Secretary	Teresa Psutka (acting)
	Michelle Morrow
Corresponding Secretary	Michelle Morrow
Treasurer	Diana Baines
Past President	VACANT

### **STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS:**

Organization	Claudette Langdon
Education & Health	Teresa Psutka
Christian Family Life	Jennifer Jones
Community Life	Lynn Lavictoire (acting)
Communications	Lynn Lavictoire (acting)
Resolutions & Legislation	Lynn Lavictoire (acting)
Spiritual Development	Janet Warren
Life Member Liaison	Moira Matthews
Spiritual Advisor	Fr. Paul J. Gaudet

**The Catholic Women's League of Canada  
Diocesan Standing Committee Annual Report  
For the period from January 1 to December 31, 2019**

**President's Report**

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Diocese: Ottawa	President: Lynn Lavictoire
Spiritual Advisor: Rev. Fr. Paul J. Gaudet	
Parishes Reporting: 18/25	Members: 1,481
Life Members: 10	Honorary Life Members: 1

**Introduced, discussed or acted upon current national priorities**

- Care for our Common Home 100%
- Palliative care/hospice facilities 78%
- Removing Canada Summer Jobs program attestation 67%
- UN Convention on the Rights of the Child 28%
- Standards for testing and labelling "flushable" products 28%
- These topics were discussed at meetings which were engaged by the standing committee chairperson.

**Spiritual Advisor's role in councils**

- Monthly meetings 61%
- Supportive of the CWL 33%

**Resources used to preside at meetings**

- *Constitution & Bylaws* 72%
- Parish council manual of policy and procedure 67%
- *Executive Handbook* 61%
- *National Manual of Policy and Procedure* 39%
- *Robert's Rules of Order* 22%
- *Parliamentary Procedure* 11%

**Events councils represented**

- Church functions 100%
- Diocesan meetings and conventions 89%
- Fundraising events and dinners 56%
- Special masses 56%
- Workshops 50%
- Community events 44%
- Remembrance Day services 44%

**Events councils subsidized and by how much**

- Conferences – all expenses paid 100%
- Workshops – all expenses were paid 89%
- Diocesan convention – all expenses were paid 78%

- Provincial convention – all expenses were paid 72%
- National convention – half the expenses were paid 11%

### **Executive Handbook**

- It assisted in the responsibility of overseeing council operations 94%
- Other methods were used, e.g., e-mail, written reports, oral reports, etc.

### **Council sub-committees**

- Annual events, such as teas, bazaars, etc. 39%
- Scholarship or bursary 28%
- Visitation 28%
- Fundraising 28%
- Social events 22%
- Donations 22%

### **Issues spoken on behalf of councils**

- Council social events 100%
- Diocesan convention awards 100%
- National theme of *Care for our Common Home* focusing on water 100%
- Provincial theme on Loneliness 100%
- National convention and 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary 89%
- Strategic planning 61%
- Membership 11%

### **Assistance provided to council presidents**

- Past presidents 61%
- Current executive 39%
- Life member 22%
- Diocesan president 17%

### **Challenges faced when transitioning into the role of president**

- Not having a full slate of officers 61%
- Finding the time 50%
- Keeping members interested 50%
- Recruiting 50%
- Tedious policies and procedures 39%
- Feeling overwhelmed 33%
- Technology 22%
- Meeting expectations 11%

### **National theme**

- Councils found having a national theme beneficial 89%
- Fourteen councils liked having a national theme every two years with each new national president.

**The Catholic Women's League of Canada  
Diocesan Standing Committee Annual Report  
For the period from January 1 to December 31, 2019**

**Recording and Corresponding Secretary**

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Diocese: Ottawa

Parishes Reporting: 13/25

Chairperson: Michelle Morrow

Sub-chairperson: none

- Eleven (85%) councils reported having someone in one or both secretary roles.

**Duties of the Recording Secretary**

- Ten (91%) attended both executive and general meetings for their councils.
- Six (55%) distributed copies of the agenda.
- Nine (82%) took roll call at meetings.
- Six (55%) brought the minutes book to each meeting.
- Ten (100%) took minutes at meetings.
- Eleven (100%) transcribed and distributed minutes from the previous meeting for approval.
- Ten (91%) were a signing officer.
- Seven (64%) assisted the president with the compilation of the annual reports.
- Six (55%) knew where the council charter was located.
- Eight (73%) maintained a list of the executive with their contact information.
- Six (55%) brought their motion book to all meetings.
- Five (46%) received written reports from the executive while three (27%) sometimes received them.
- Council minutes were kept in the minutes book for seven years before being turned over to the archives.
- Eight (62%) councils reported having a copy of the *Handbook for Secretaries* from national office.

**Duties of the Corresponding Secretary**

- Six (50%) councils reported that the corresponding secretary notified members of upcoming meetings and events. Method used: email – six (100%); parish bulletin – four (67%); telephone – two (33%); parish website – two (33%); newsletter – one (17%).
- Four (34%) were responsible for sending out occasion cards such as sympathy, anniversary cards, etc.

- Seven (54%) reported having a copy of the *CWL Personal Letter Writing Guide* from national office.

## **Diocesan Recording and Corresponding Secretary Annual Report**

### **Recording Secretary**

Minutes were recorded and submitted for:

- Diocesan Officers meetings: eight (January 19, February 20, April 6, May 11, May 18, May 22, August 28, and November 20)
- Diocesan Executive meetings: four (January 26, April 13, May 25, and September 14)
- "Find Your Voice" Public Speaking Workshop: one (February 23)
- Lenten Morning of Reflection: one (March 23)
- Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel (April 26)
- Diocesan Annual Convention: one (May 4)
- Advent Retreat: one (November 30)

The above noted minutes/reports were on file and available for review or consultation upon request.

### **Corresponding Secretary**

- Various correspondences were sent and received between January 1, 2019 and December 31, 2019.

The above noted correspondences were on file and available for review or consultation upon request.

**The Catholic Women's League of Canada  
Diocesan Standing Committee Annual Report  
For the period from January 1 to December 31, 2019**

**Treasurer**

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Diocese: Ottawa  
Parishes Reporting: 18/25

Chairperson: Diana Baines  
Sub-chairpersons: none

**Annual Report Survey**

- The position was filled by 17 (94%) councils; (77%) of treasurers were elected, and (24%) were appointed.
- (89%) of the reports were completed by the treasurer.
- The majority of treasurers (41%) had been a member for six to ten years, other years of service varied from less than five years to over 25 years; and (47%) had not held the position previously.
- (88%) were between 55 and 74 years of age.
- Councils used cheque books (89%), bank statements (89%), deposit books (78%), and receipt books (50%) to keep track of receipts and disbursements.
- Councils used Excel spreadsheets (56%), other computer programs (22%) or manual ledgers (39%) to record transactions.
- Only (28%) had cheques returned to councils.
- All councils (100%) updated books frequently and (89%) retained all receipts.
- (100%) reconciled accounts monthly.
- Most councils (94%) kept financial statements and account books on file for at least five years.
- The majority of councils charged dues of \$20.00 or \$25.00 yearly.
- Most dues were collected in October (33%), November (83%), December (72%), and January (33%).
- The majority of dues were submitted to national office in November (22%), December (44%), January (53%), and February (22%).
- The majority of treasurers (89%) assisted the membership chairperson with the remittance package to national.
- All councils (100%) donated to National Voluntary Funds submitted through national office.
- All councils (100%) contributed funds to parish activities.
- Fundraising initiatives included bazaars, bake sales, funeral lunches, silent auctions, "Teas," craft shows, dinner and entertainment, banquets and plant or garden sales and many more activities.
- Most councils (94%) paid all expenses by cheque.
- One council maintained a "Petty Cash" for small purchases.
- The majority of councils (80%) had three signing officers: the president,

treasurer and secretary; others chose different signing officers for various reasons such as proximity to the bank.

- Annual budgets were prepared by (67%) of councils and most (75%) were presented in November, January or February.
- Financial statements were presented at monthly general meetings by (100%) of councils.
- Council books were examined yearly by only (61%) of councils. Most were reviewed by an individual who is usually an experienced bookkeeper (55%) or experienced in accounting (45%).

### **Shared Thoughts on the Challenges of Completing the Survey**

- Some respondents had no problems, but many had trouble accessing or printing the survey. Several commented they did not have a computer and had to count on other members to complete the survey for them.

## **Financial Statement**

For the period of January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019

The financial contents of this page have been deliberately omitted.

**Statement of Review of the Ottawa Archdiocesan CWL Council**  
**2019 Accounting Records**

At the request of the Ottawa Archdiocesan CWL Council Treasurer, I have examined the Financial records for the year ending December 31, 2019, and have found them to be in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. The accounting records are entered using spreadsheets, and are comprised of monthly bank reconciliations, deposits, transfers and paid invoices.

Deposited cheques were properly endorsed or stamped deposit only as required. The bank provides pre-printed cheques. All bank statements, which include Bank deposit slips, ATM deposits and photocopied cheques on both sides, were reconciled on a monthly basis. All void/cancelled cheques were accounted for.

**Review of Transactions**

I have reviewed expense transactions for 2019 and supporting documentation was present for each. Expense receipts including travel were generally reasonable, and original receipts were attached to each claim.

In general, prudent financial and administrative practices are in place and executed as required.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.



Maureen Corrigan  
Financial Manager (retired)  
Government of Canada  
(613) 749-5285

4 February 2020



## **Diocesan Treasurer's Annual Summary Report**

**Donations for the period of  
January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019**

The financial contents of this page have been deliberately omitted.

**The Catholic Women's League of Canada  
Ottawa Diocesan Council  
BUDGET FOR 2020  
Approved at the Executive Meeting on January 25, 2020**

The financial contents of this page have been deliberately omitted.

## **BUDGET FOR 2020 (continued)**

The financial contents of this page have been deliberately omitted.

**The Catholic Women's League of Canada  
Diocesan Standing Committee Annual Report  
For the period from January 1 to December 2019**

**Past-President/Historian**

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Diocese: Ottawa

Chairperson: VACANT

Parishes Reporting: 14/25

Sub-chairpersons: none

**Serve in a Consultative Capacity**

- Six past presidents (56%) have held this position before.
- Eleven of twenty-five councils reported this position was filled.
- Four past presidents (36%) were called upon for advice on a monthly basis.
- Nine presidents (64%) felt supported and encouraged by their past president's help.

**Be Responsible for Archives and History**

- Eleven past presidents (78%) were responsible for the archives in their councils.
- Seven councils (50%) stored their archives in their Catholic Women's League (CWL) room, cupboard or filing cabinets at the church.
- Three past presidents (21%) stored their council's archives in their homes or in the home of another member.
- Twelve past presidents (86%) knew the location of their council charter.
- Eight councils (57%) stored their archives in filing cabinets; seven (50%) used bankers' boxes; seven (50%) used memory sticks to store archived information.
- Eight councils (57%) kept photo albums; two (14%) kept scrapbooks.
- Five councils (36%) kept annual reports indefinitely; one (7%) kept them for nine-ten years.
- Nine councils (64%) stored the Book of Life indefinitely.
- Ten councils (71%) kept deceased members' history indefinitely; one council (7%) kept them for one-four years.
- Six councils (43%) kept financial information indefinitely; one council (7%) kept them for nine-ten years.
- Nine councils (64%) kept past executive lists indefinitely; three (21%) for five-eight years.
- Seven councils (50%) kept membership renewal data indefinitely; three (21%) for five-eight years.
- Seven councils (50%) kept minutes of executive meetings indefinitely; four (29%) for five-eight years.
- Seven councils (50%) kept minutes of general meeting indefinitely; four

- (29%) for five-eight years.
- Eight councils (57%) kept records of service pin and award recipients indefinitely; three (21%) for one-four years.
  - Five councils (36%) kept executive members written reports indefinitely; three (21%) for five-eight years.
  - Ten councils (71%) kept years of service for members indefinitely; two (14%) for five-eight years; one (7%) for one-four years.
  - Ten councils (71%) reviewed their archives as needed.
  - Nine councils (64%) maintained a history book.
  - Ten councils (71%) labelled photo albums.

**Facilitate the Study and Implementation  
of the  
*Constitution & Bylaws 2013 (revised)***

- Thirteen councils (93%) had a copy of the *Constitution & Bylaws*.
- Four councils (29%) used it multiple times a year.
- Fourteen councils (100%) had a copy of the *National Manual of Policy and Procedure*.
- Nine councils (64%) had their own manual of policy and procedure which was updated whenever a policy was changed.

**Diocesan Highlights**

- In December 2018, the diocesan archives were moved to a Dymon Storage facility due to lack of space at the Ottawa Diocesan Centre. This continued to be in effect in 2019.

**The Catholic Women's League of Canada  
Diocesan Standing Committee Annual Report  
For the period from January 1 to December 31, 2019**

**Organization**

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Diocese: Ottawa

Chairperson: Claudette Langdon

Parishes Reporting: 14/25

Sub-chairperson: Marilyn Foote-Pollock

**Recruit Members and Maintain Membership**

- Thirteen councils (93%) advertised in the parish bulletin and on bulletin boards.
- Eight councils (57%) used display tables at parish events, personal invitations, potluck dinners, membership teas and other social events for recruitment.
- Seven councils (50%) gave presentations at masses.
- Five councils (36%) used their spiritual advisor's support.
- Four councils (29%) used promotional displays.
- Three councils (21%) had membership envelopes in parish collection boxes.
- Two councils (14%) gave gift memberships and used social media.
- One council (7%) used telephone trees.
- All councils presented service pins, certificates of merit, awards, had new member ceremonies and reaffirmation ceremonies.
- New members were engaged by councils with conversation, new member kits, mentoring, invitations and orientation sessions.
- Members were encouraged to invite their children and grandchildren to become members and to participate in subcommittees.
- Thirteen councils had new members join their council.

**Leadership Development**

- Four councils (29%) had members who participated in a planning strategically session.
- Ten councils (71%) set annual goals and plans that included members' input.
- Five councils (36%) had members of their council that played a role on another level of the League which included four at the diocesan level and one at the provincial level.
- Six councils (43%) were familiar with the Catholic Women's Leadership Foundation (CWLF) and 21% promoted the application to the foundation for leadership studies to members.

## **League Resource Material**

- All reporting councils had the *Constitution & Bylaws* and *League Prayers*.
- Twelve councils (86%) had the *Ceremonies Booklet* and *The Canadian League* magazine.
- Eleven councils (79%) had *CWL Prays*, the *Executive Handbook* and *Handbook for Organization Chairpersons*.
- Ten councils (71%) had the *Guidelines for Treasurers* and the *National Manual of Policy and Procedure*.
- Nine councils (64%) had the *Handbook for Past Presidents*, the *Handbook for Spiritual Advisors* and *Leading the League*.
- Eight councils (57%) had the *Handbook for Secretaries*; seven (50%) downloaded online resources; six (43%) had the *Parliamentary Procedure* and five (36%) had the *Resolutions Supplement to the Executive Handbook*.
- Councils purchased promotional material including service pins, prayer cards, welcome brochures, CWL pens, invitation cards, mass cards and notecards.

## **Annual Reports**

- Seven councils (55%) used the guidelines to assist their executive members in completing their reports.
- Eleven councils (79%) reviewed minutes to complete these reports; eight (57%) kept a monthly record of activities; seven (50%) met as a group, reviewed the annual CWL parish council calendar and reviewed chairpersons' reports.

## **Life Membership**

- Six councils (43%) reported having life members and these councils benefited from those life members.
- Life members held positions on the parish executive level, e.g., as parish council president, as chairpersons and mentored other executive members.

**The Catholic Women's League of Canada  
Diocesan Standing Committee Annual Report  
For the period from January 1 to December 31, 2019**

**Community Life**

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Diocese: Ottawa

Parishes Reporting: 11/25

Chairperson: Lynn Lavictoire (acting)

Sub-chairpersons: none

**Dignity and Rights of Persons**

- Six of the eleven councils that reported had Community Life Chairpersons.
- Three councils were familiar with the *United Declaration of Human Rights*.
- Regarding support for minority groups:
  - four councils provided a monetary donation to those suffering from domestic violence; and one had a guest speaker;
  - nine councils provided a monetary donation to those suffering from homelessness; one council had a guest speaker; and one volunteered;
  - one council had a guest speaker regarding human trafficking; and one provided a monetary donation;
  - eight councils donated to those suffering from poverty; and one volunteered.
- With regard to Indigenous people:
  - six councils were aware of the struggles of Indigenous women;
  - one council discussed Bill C-262 *United Nations Declarations on the Rights of Indigenous People*;
  - five councils continued to review and monitor Resolution 2017.01 Full Implementation of the Supreme Court Decision in *R. v. Gladue* for Indigenous Offenders.
- Two chairpersons became aware of the laws and what had been done in the fight against human trafficking and so:
  - one chairperson shared this information with their council members;
  - one council discussed the topic "Dignity and Rights of Persons: Human Trafficking in Canada."

**Social and Economic Justice**

- Four councils took steps regarding Resolution 2018.01 Attestation Requirement on Canada Summer Jobs Program that was adopted at the 98<sup>th</sup> Annual National Convention even after a change was made in the 2019 application for the program.
- One council invited a guest speaker to speak on social economic justice at one of their council meetings.
- Five councils encouraged members to participate in the work of organizations caring for those in need. Two gave prayerful support and three gave financially.
- With regard to caring for those in need:

- affordable housing – four supported financially and two in prayer;
- before, during and after school programs – two supported financially and two provided prayerful support;
- clothing drives – five councils supported financially, three volunteered and two provided prayerful support;
- drop-in centres – two provided prayerful support and volunteered;
- emergency shelters for the homeless – seven provided financial support, five prayerful support and two volunteered;
- emergency shelters for those experiencing domestic abuse – five provided prayerful support and three gave financially;
- employment and skills training – two provided prayerful support;
- Food banks – seven gave financially, five volunteered and four provided prayerful support;
- food hampers – five supported financially, four provided prayerful support and three volunteered;
- resource centres for single parents – two gave financially and provided prayerful support;
- restorative justice program – two provided prayerful support;
- soup kitchens – two councils provided prayerful support, one gave financially and volunteered.
- Three councils supported organizations geared towards assisting Indigenous peoples.
- Two councils familiarized themselves with restorative justice programs and prison ministry.
- One council promoted and financially supported Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA).
- Members of two councils attended workshops or seminars on topics related to social justice.

### **Refugees, Immigration and Citizenship**

- One council became informed about Canada's official immigration and refugee policies.
- Six councils rated their understanding as good concerning the needs of immigrants and refugees in their communities.
- Seven councils participated in Remembrance Day services and nine supported the Royal Canadian Legion poppy campaign.

### **Developing Countries**

- Three chairpersons became aware of the conditions of child labour in developing countries.
- Two became knowledgeable through study about the economic difficulties of developing countries.
- Councils supported the following organizations that focus on developing countries; Chalice, Doctors Without Borders, Habitat for Humanity, Samaritan's Purse and Save a Family Plan.

**The Catholic Women's League of Canada  
Diocesan Standing Committee Annual Report  
For the period from January 1 to December 31, 2019**

**Education & Health Standing Committee**

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Diocese: Ottawa  
Parishes Reporting: 13/25

Chairperson: Teresa Psutka  
Sub-chairpersons: none

**Catholic Education**

**Catholic Schools and Catechesis**

- Five councils became informed about the quality of Catholic religious instructions in their parish and inquired how they could support the program; seven councils were informed about the quality of Catholic religious instruction in the Catholic schools in their area.
- Five councils actively encouraged parents to participate in all areas of their children's Catholic school education and activities.
- Nine councils (69%) investigated the needs of Catholic schools that could be met by their council. These needs included sacramental, faith development, scholarships and bursaries, breakfast and lunch programs, extracurricular activities, tutoring, school supplies, transportation, monthly rosary for school children and funding special events.
- Nine councils (69%) were aware of the family life programs being taught in the Catholic schools in their area.

**Rites of Christian Initiation**

- Councils reported that members were personally involved and participated in the Rites of Christian Initiation programs in their parish.

**Literacy and Continuing Education**

- One council encouraged members to assist people who wanted to improve their literacy skills.

**Scholarships and Bursaries**

- Seven councils provided a bursary, scholarship or provided funds.
- Councils contributed to Catholic Christian Outreach; provided a bursary for Catholic women furthering their education; contributed to a bursary for high school, university, college students; contributed to a bursary for NET Ministries of Canada.
- Five councils (39%) promoted the National Bursary Fund.
- Three councils contributed to Coady International Institute.

**Wellness and Sickness/Disease**

- Councils took action on the following health related resolutions: 2016.02,

2015.01, 2011.03, 2007.03, 2004.08 and 2001.01; circulated and signed a petition; had discussions at council meetings and had guest speakers from a hospice centre.

- Two councils participated in the CWL Mental Health Postcard campaign.
- Councils supported the following national organizations that focus on the health and wellness of Canadians – Canadian Red Cross, MaterCare International and Relay for Life.
- During National Hospice Palliative Care Week, councils participated in the “12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care” by arranging a prayer service at home or in their parish; supplied brochures on local palliative care facilities and services; held a discussion about how to assist in palliative care; welcomed and supported those who shared their own experiences of palliative care; took a free will offering and donated it to a local hospice.
- Councils wanted to learn more about senior services and housing and personal support assistance.
- One council prepared and presented a resolution concerning the shortage of long-term care beds in Ontario. It was adopted at diocesan and provincial levels.

### **Environment**

- Six councils (54%) participated in the CWL Water Pledge Challenge campaign.
- Councils had special initiatives to celebrate World Water Day to acknowledge the focus on water. These included education on different uses of water and how to preserve it; requesting the parish not to purchase plastic water bottles for events; completing pledges; using a grid to tally water saved in the home and sharing the results and discussing water usage, costs and ways to conserve water.
- Five councils (39%) acted on resolution 2004.07 Water Use in Canada.
- Councils addressed the following environmental issues: recycling; reducing use of water, Styrofoam cups and paper; eliminating plastic water bottles; used green bins for organic waste; used renewable energy; composting; roadside or community clean-up and climate change.
- One council invited guest speakers to a round table discussion to address environmental issues. Attendees gained an awareness of climate change and how individual actions affect the global climate. Issues addressed were water use, recycling and the fashion industry.

### **Genetics**

- Seven councils (78%) rated their knowledge as good in regards to the advantages and disadvantages of technology to alter genes in light of the teachings of the Catholic Church.

**The Catholic Women's League of Canada  
Diocesan Standing Committee Annual Report  
For the period from January 1 to December 31, 2019**

**Christian Family Life Standing Committee**

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Diocese: Ottawa

Parishes reporting: 11/25

Chairperson: Jennifer Jones

Sub-chairperson: none

**Marriage and Family**

- Four councils (36%) supported people who suffered from domestic abuse.
- Councils promoted family enrichment programs by donating money to a local women's shelter, made referrals to appropriate organizations and offered personal support on a parish level.
- Six councils (55%) organized Mother's Day events; three (27%) Father's Day; and two (18%) special anniversaries.

**Sanctity of Life**

- Eight councils (73%) attended the March for Life; seven (64%) attended the 40 Days for Life; seven (64%) participated in the Pro-Life Masses and Pro-Life Walks; four (36%) participated in the Life Chain; two (18%) attended the National Week for Life and Family events, pro-life dinners and vigils.
- Five councils (46%) donated money and gifts to the following organizations that advocated for the sanctity of life: local pro-life organizations, Campaign Life Coalition, Euthanasia Prevention Coalition, Priests for Life, Pregnancy and Family Support Services and LifeCanada.
- Four councils (36%) had the current pro-life brochure available in their church vestibule.
- Four councils (36%) wrote letters to inform legislators of CWL resolutions on abortion and euthanasia.
- Ten councils (91%) prayed regularly for the protection of life.

**Ministry to Youth**

- Five councils (63%) participated in programs for young people in their parish and encouraged young people to share their gifts in ministry.
- Councils sponsored youth events or youth ministries in their parish community through NET Ministries, Catholic Christian Outreach (CCO), leadership camps and retreats, World Youth Day and youth conferences.
- Three (27%) purchased subscriptions to Catholic magazines, videos or books for use in the local community, school and parish library.

**Ministry to the Disabled**

- Two councils (25%) invited disabled persons to take part in liturgical celebrations.

- Three council (27%) organized and participated in support groups and respite for caregivers.
- Two councils (18%) urged communities to make churches and other public buildings more accessible.
- Six councils (55%) arranged for a special designated space with ease of access for wheelchairs in their church.
- One council (9%) supported shelters and programs designed to assist the disabled.
- Councils reached out to the disabled by visits, phone calls, prayers, sent cards, provided transportation, brought communion, and gave gifts on special occasions.

### **Ministry to Seniors**

- Nine councils (82%) gifted seniors with membership; eight (73%) brought communion, involved them in CWL events and provided them with transportation; seven (64%) visited; five (46%) prayed with them and sent cards of encouragement; three (27%) invited newly-retired women to join them; two (18%) initiated social programs and celebrations, invited them to share their faith story and shared a meal.

### **Ministry to Widowed**

- Seven councils (64%) sent cards of condolences; six (55%) arranged memorial services and/or funeral lunches and provided prayer and support after the death of the spouse; five councils (46%) invited widows to attend CWL meetings and events; four council (36%) visited them; three (27%) gifted them with prayer shawls and invited them to community events; and one (9%) included them in family outings, encouraged participation in programs offered by the parish and ensured there was a bereavement program in the parish.

### **Ministry to Separated & Divorced**

- Two councils (18%) offered their time when separated and divorced persons needed a confidant.
- One council (9%) sponsored or attended informal presentations on the annulment process.

### **Vocations**

- Councils promoted religious vocations and supported many options. Eight councils (73%) sent spiritual bouquets; five (46%) adopted or supported seminarians and participated in prayers for vocations; two encouraged families to invite priests and religious into their homes, hosted luncheons, supported the priestly retirement funds; and one (9%) invited priests and religious to speak on vocations.

**The Catholic Women's League of Canada  
Diocesan Standing Committee Annual Report  
For the period from January 1 to December 31, 2019**

**Communications Standing Committee**

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Diocese: Ottawa

Chairperson: Lynn Lavictoire (acting)

Parishes Reporting: 10/25

Sub-chairperson: none

***The Canadian League Magazine***

- Four councils (40%) found *The Canadian League* a useful resource as an educational tool; two (20%) found this to be an excellent resource.
- Two councils (20%) found the magazine to be a resource for advocacy and action; three (30%) found it a source for new ideas.
- Three councils (30%) found it useful as a spiritual resource.
- Three councils (30%) found it useful for 2019 convention oral reports.
- Seven communications chairs (70%) found that all articles published in the winter 2019 edition resonated with them. The top five articles were: Cannabis, the League's Core Purpose, Core Values, Mission Statement and Envisioned Future.

**Media: to Promote the League**

- Three councils (30%) viewed the two 2019 national convention speakers that were available for at-home viewers on cwl.ca.
- Seven councils (70%) shared with their members the League sponsored mass on April 26, 2019 in honour of the Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel.
- Two councils (20%) encouraged members to visit the CWL on Facebook and Twitter.
- Eight councils (80%) searched on cwl.ca for current information.
- Two councils (20%) promoted the League by watching: *Salt + Light: Woman on a Mission* and *CWL's Testimonial Video*.
- Seven councils (70%) shared the strategic planning information with their members; three (30%) were aware of the monthly updates on the national website; six (60%) have reviewed the "Core Purpose, Core Values, Mission Statement and the Envisioned Future" that was found on page 13 in the Winter 2019 League magazine.

**Media: Evaluation and Promotion of Good Content**

- Six councils (60%) promoted faith-oriented programs.
- Three councils (30%) monitored media content.

### **Media: Newsletter and Bulletins**

- Ten percent of the councils encouraged members to subscribe to and promoted Catholic newspapers, periodicals and magazines. Some financially supported masses for shut-ins and/or Vision TV.
- Seven councils (70%) organized a telephone committee to invite members to events.
- Four councils (40%) prepared newsletters for their council. The newsletters were produced twice annually and distributed by e-mail.
- Ten councils (100%) used e-mail to send out meeting agendas and minutes.
- Most councils have used e-mail, church bulletins, bulletin boards, parish websites, diocesan website, flyers/posters, Friday Fax and On the Spot to advertise their council's activities and events.

### **Media: Relations**

- Two councils (20%) submitted material for publication.

### **Pornography**

- Two councils (20%) took steps to become informed about the influence that pornography has on children and adults. They read newspaper articles, contacted agencies such as Child Pornography Hurts, viewed the website [fightthenewdrug.org](http://fightthenewdrug.org) and reviewed current legislation.
- Two councils (20%) promoted the *Over 18* documentary and one (10%) promoted the *Red Light Green Light* film.
- Four councils (40%) encouraged members to become educated on Internet safety.

### **Diocesan Communications Chair Report**

- The diocesan website was updated. It was maintained regularly with information and current events from the parish and the diocesan levels.
- Special projects included the diocesan Christmas card, "Photo Gallery" and changing the website's overall look.
- Attended all officers and executive meetings. Prepared reports and e-mailed information passed on from national and provincial levels to the parish communications chairperson as well as to presidents whose council do not have a communications chairperson.
- Served as projectionist for all diocesan events for presentations, e.g., PowerPoint presentations.
- Attended the Lenten Morning of Reflection and Advent Retreat. Also attended the diocesan, provincial and national conventions.

**The Catholic Women's League of Canada  
Diocesan Standing Committee Annual Report  
For the period from January 1 to December 31, 2019**

**Resolutions Standing Committee**

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Diocese: Ottawa

Chairperson: Lynn Lavictoire (acting)

Parishes Reporting: 9/25

Sub-chairpersons: none

There were nine chairpersons who reported. Of those who reported, three (33%) councils had this position filled.

**Research and Preparation of Resolutions and Briefs**

- One council prepared a resolution on the issue of Long-Term Care Beds.
- One council (11%) e-mailed their local Member of Parliament asking support for the Catholic Women's League and was successful.
- Seven councils (78%) attended workshops that outlined the resolution process in the League:
  - at a diocesan convention
  - at a provincial convention
  - at a national convention
  - information provided at the September Executive Meeting.
- One council (11%) attended Catch the Fire or S'Mores workshops.
- Three councils (33%) referred to communiques and/or annual reports at all levels in the League.
- Two councils (22%) contacted their local government representative by letter; one (11%) telephoned; one (11%) visited in person.
- Two councils (22%) considered and studied issues that might become resolutions.
- One chairperson discussed ideas with her council and considered forming a resolution.

**Study and Implementation of Resolutions Passed by other Levels**

- One council acted on 2019 resolutions adopted by the provincial council. Resolution topics included: Long-Term Care Beds, Canada Summer Jobs Program and Children's Rights. Information was shared with members by email and at general meetings.
- Five councils (56%) became familiar with the 2019 resolutions that required action as listed on cwl.ca.
- Six councils (67%) supported resolutions adopted at all levels through meetings, e-mail, newsletters; four (44%) signed petitions; three (33%) wrote to federal or provincial governments; and others had a guest speaker and met with a local member of parliament.
- One council (11%) participated in the White Ribbon Campaign and received a supportive response from their member of parliament.

**The Catholic Women’s League of Canada  
Diocesan Standing Committee Annual Report  
For the period from January 1 to December 31, 2019**

**Legislation Standing Committee**

Diocese: Ottawa	Chairperson: Lynn Lavictoire (acting)
Parishes Reporting: 7/25	Sub-chairpersons: none

Seven councils reported on the Legislation Standing Committee Chair. Of those who completed the survey, one council had the position filled by appointment.

**Monitor and Study Legislation at All Levels of Government**

- One chairperson knew the names of their local, provincial and federal government representatives (municipal, provincial and federal).
- One council received mailings from their municipal representative.
- One council was informed on the issues being discussed by government at all levels (municipal, provincial and federal).

**Briefs and Position Papers**

- One council accessed *Hansard*, the printed record of the proceeding of federal government.

Knowledge of Federal Bills:

Acts	Very Aware	Some Knowledge	Not Aware
C-57		2 (29%)	5 (71%)
C-75		2 (29%)	5 (71%)
C-418	2 (29%)	5 (71%)	

C-57 – an Act to amend the *Federal Sustainable Development Act*

C-75 – an Act to amend the *Criminal Code*, the *Youth Criminal Justice Act* and other Acts and to make consequential amendments to other Acts

C-418 – Protection of Freedom of Conscience Act

- Some councils have monitored and/or acted upon the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act – in particular human trafficking and Access to Palliative Care.
- In general, councils shared information at meetings and provided links to relevant websites.

**The Catholic Women's League of Canada  
Diocesan Standing Committee Annual Report  
For the period from January 1 to December 31, 2019**

**Spiritual Development Standing Committee**

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Diocese: Ottawa

Parishes Reporting: 12/25

Chairperson: Janet Warren

Sub-chairperson: none

**Spiritual Growth of Members**

- Ten councils (83%) studied the theme *Care of our Common Home*. Three (25%) prepared prayer services, one (8%) hosted a workshop and one (8%) studied *Laudato Si*.
- Seven councils (64%) spent one third of their meeting time on spiritual aspects of membership.
- Regarding liturgies or programs for the councils, there were many: ten councils (83%) recited the *League Prayer*, nine (75%) attended mass, eight (67%) organized honour guards for deceased members, seven (58%) said seasonal prayers, six (50%) did scripture reflections, six (50%) did the Stations of the Cross, six (50%) prayed the rosary, four (33%) spent time in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, three (25%) did a crowning of Mary, three (25%) did the Divine Mercy Chaplet, three (25%) did novenas, three (25%) participated in World Day of Prayer, two (17%) had media events, two (17%) had candlelight vigils, two (17%) held retreats, two (17%) did visual displays, one (8%) did litanies and one (8%) reflected on biographies of holy women and women of the Bible.
- Regarding resources used: five councils (50%) used *Living with Christ*, six (60%) used *Lectio Divina*, six (60%) used Formed website, six (60%) used Pray App, eight (80%) did a 3-Minute Retreat App, eight (80%) participated in the *33 Days to Morning Glory* retreat, six (60%) used the Vatican website, and seven (70%) used *Word on Fire* with Bishop Barron in planning.
- Other resources used were: four councils (40%) used *CWL Ceremonies Booklet* and *CWL Prays*; two (20%) used *Catholic Digest* website, the *CWL Day of Peace* and *Hope activities kit* and the *Prayers and Workshops for Women of Peace and Hope*; and one (10%) used *Rediscovering Catholicism*, *The Word Among Us*, and *Alpha*.
- Four Spiritual Development chairs (40%) enrolled in various lay formation programs; e.g., Alpha bible study, pastoral care, Lectio Divina, and Marian conference.
- Eight councils (67%) celebrated the Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel with a mass.

- Seven (58%) of Spiritual Advisors attended CWL meetings when they could. Six councils (50%) had members who attended mass before meetings.
- Councils encouraged members to enroll in groups promoting lay formation programs: five (56%) for the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*; one (11%) for the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops and Vatican website.

### **Role of Women in the Church**

- Three councils (25%) studied women in scripture. Eight (80%) promoted awareness of women's place in church and society.
- Members took on leadership roles in the Church: nine (75%) on parish council; eight (67%) parish committee chairpersons; four (33%) diocesan council /committees; two (17%) on parish finance committee; two (20%) pastoral liturgy committee; and one (8%) pastoral associate.

### **Evangelization and Mission Assistance**

- Three councils (25%) supported the Keep Christ in Christmas campaign.
- Six councils (50%) had subscriptions to *Catholic Missions In Canada* magazine.
- There were three examples of other missions being supported with time and treasure: e.g., Esk-Omi, Kee-Pas, and St. Francis Xavier.

### **Lay Ministries**

- Council members were active in lay ministries within the parishes, e.g., Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, hospitality, music, lector, decorating, sacristan, cleaning, catechist, facilitator, and usher in order of participation levels. Many CWL members had leadership roles.

### **Ecumenism and Interfaith Endeavours**

- Three councils (25%) invited women of other faiths to attend social events.
- There was participation in organized events; e.g., *Week of Prayer for Christian Unity* and *World Day of Prayer* - four (33%), WUCWO - three (25%).

### **Challenges faced as Spiritual Development Chairperson**

- Making the one third spiritual time interesting and relevant.
- Accessing material.
- Choice of topic presented and engaged members.
- Identifying the needs of the council.
- Finding a relevant speaker.
- Spiritual Development chairpersons were challenged by the survey. Some found the questions limiting and did not provide the freedom to report what was being done.

**The Catholic Women's League of Canada**  
**Life Member Liaison Annual Report**  
**For the period from January 1 to December 31, 2019**

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Diocese: Ottawa

Life Member Liaison: Moira Matthews

Honorary Life Members: 1

Life Members: 10

Life Members were informed via e-mail or post of what was happening at the diocesan, provincial and national levels. Birthday cards, get well cards, etc., were sent out to the members. Life Members were constantly asked to pray for others, not just for those in our diocese, but requests also came from life members in the province and nationally.

Life Members were active in various capacities in their parishes and diocese:

- Members took part in honour guards at CWL funerals;
- One was our current provincial president;
- All were mentors at their parish councils and at the diocesan level;
- Three served their parish as sacristans; two were treasurers of their council; one was the council president;
- Three served their parish as lectors, Eucharistic ministers;
- Two served as altar servers;
- One was the Funeral Reception Coordinator for her parish;
- One was chair of the Parish Social Committee;
- One was the scheduler for parish ministries and chair of the Liturgy Committee;
- One was the council Organization chair;
- One was her council's Resolutions and Legislation chair;
- One served as the co-chair of the parish library and assisted with the archives;
- One served as the chair for her council's Nominations and Elections Committee;
- One was the chair of gifts and services at her council;
- One served as the chair for sending special occasion cards to council members;
- One served on the diocesan committee updating Hosting Guidelines;
- One served as co-chair of the diocesan "Find Your Voice" Public Speaking workshop;
- One served on the Diocesan Registration Committee;
- One served as a reader on the Provincial Council Resolutions Committee;
- One served as the Parish Council Secretary; one was a cantor for her parish;
- One served as Minister of the Anglophone Franciscan Fraternity in Ottawa.

**The Catholic Women's League of Canada  
Ottawa Diocesan Council  
Life Members 2019**

**Honorary Life Member**

Joan Chesser

**Life Members**

Shirley Bernier

Moira Matthews

Kay May

Edith Mockler

Jane Munro

Colleen Perry

Colleen Shirley

Heather Sisk

Anida Simurda

Sharon St. Jean

**Military Ordinariate Life Member Living in Ottawa**

Marilyn Olsen

**The Catholic Women's League of Canada**  
**Parish Council Highlights**  
**For the period of January 1 to December 31, 2019**

**Annunciation of the Lord**

President Michèle Hundertmark  
Spiritual Advisor Fr. John Likozar, CC  
155 Members  
1 Life Member

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We made a concrete footprint in our community. To help Youville Centre build and furnish a new playroom for their daycare, we pledged \$15,000.00 towards this project. We held a Women's Breakfast, raffled off a 75" TV, a quilt and held a Ladies Night Out. We raised over 85% of our goal. Our annual bazaar raised funds to support our regular charities. We also prayed for our sisters, celebrated their lives and enjoyed each other's company.

**Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

President Joan Lepage  
Spiritual Advisor Fr. Dominic Lim  
64 Members

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The monthly rosary with the children of Assumption Catholic School was in its 17<sup>th</sup> year. Seeing the children have a desire and say their prayers gave us great pleasure. We had tremendous results with our "Socks and Mitts" campaign for the homeless in the month of December. Our council delivered several bags to St. Vincent de Paul, to the Ottawa Mission and the Shepherds of Good Hope.

**Divine Infant**

President Frances Chicot  
Spiritual Advisor Fr. Waldemar Podlasz, SDS  
74 Members

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We worked in aid of a number of initiatives and charities. We collected donations of non-perishable food items and money for St. Vincent de Paul Society and the Orléans-Cumberland Community Resource Centre. Members offered shamrocks to raise funds for St. Patrick's Home of Ottawa. We raffled off a chocolate Easter bunny. Members participated in a baby shower to assist the Miriam Centre. We assisted the Sacramental Preparation Team and gave gifts to children who received First Holy Communion and Confirmation.

### **Holy Redeemer**

President Sharon Sudsbear  
Spiritual Advisor Fr. Paul Nwaeze

31 Members

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We donated money, gift cards and items to two organizations in June and December. A spiritual event was held in May and we invited our parishioners. We offered our prayers for palliative care patients, doctors, nurses and care workers. In September, we had a card workshop. Our first fundraiser, held in October, was a success. A monetary donation was made to St. Mary's Home. In November, we had a guest speaker from Development & Peace.

### **Holy Spirit**

President Pauline Foley  
Spiritual Advisor Msgr. Joseph Muldoon

99 Members

1 Life Member

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We hosted the 96<sup>th</sup> Ottawa Diocesan Convention on May 4. Twice, we hosted Mary's Way of the Cross and Poverty meals during Lent. In September, we raised funds at a paint night event. We sponsored a young lady who lives in Tanzania, Africa through Chalice. We provided funds to assist our parish seminarian. With funds raised from our bazaar, we provided charitable donations to the Elizabeth Fry Society of Ottawa, a bursary to an honors student graduating from high school, and provided funds to the foodbank.

### **Immaculate Heart of Mary**

President Frances Murphy Pike  
Spiritual Advisor Fr. Stephen Liang

39 members

2 Life Members

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Our council awarded three bursaries of \$150.00 each to grade twelve students in our parish. During Christmas, we collected clothes, toys, donations and gifts from members and from the parish community for young women and their children at the Youville Centre. We held a book sale and offered coffee once a month. We assisted at all parish activities.

### **Our Lady of Fatima**

President Jean Anderson  
Spiritual advisor Fr. Bosco Wong

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No report.

### **Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal**

President Mary Ellen James

Spiritual Advisor Fr. Robert Masternark, SDS

78 Members

1 Honorary Life Member

2 Life Members

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In January, our council invited students from our local high school and elementary school who assisted in collecting 1200 pairs of socks which were donated as follows: the men and women socks to the Shepherds of Good Hope and the children's socks to the Embrun food bank. We hosted a round table presentation on the environment in October. In their talks, speakers, John Dorner, Ann Jackson and Theresa James included Catholic teachings.

### **Our Lady of the Visitation**

President Beverly O'Hara

Spiritual Advisor Fr. Bill Penney

26 Members

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Our fundraising events, such as our Tea Party and Paint Afternoon, were successful as we were able to donate to 14 charities with monetary donations as well as the collection of items to help some of the most vulnerable people in our community. Our Recycle and Reuse Program was strong and we helped people in our immediate community and on an international level. Our CWL council also enjoyed a social evening at our Parish Bingo Night and led the Stations of the Cross.

### **Resurrection of Our Lord**

Membership Coordinator Fina Lobo

Spiritual Advisor Fr. Tadeusz Jordan

34 Members

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Council was inactive. Members met throughout the year for social outings. Rather than disbanding, the members voted to have their council remain inactive another year.

### **St. Andrew**

President Linda Lovelace

Spiritual Advisor Fr. Frank Brewer

24 Members

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We contributed toiletries and gave a generous cash donation to Evelyn Horne Emergency and Transitional Housing for Young Women (formerly Young Women's Shelter). We continued to fundraise for our church land and building fund. We hosted coffee socials in our parish once a month.

**St. Basil**

President Elizabeth Larmond Elliot  
Spiritual Advisor Fr. Daryold Winkler

43 Members

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During Lent we led the parish in Mary's Way of the Cross twice. We organized a marriage blessing for couples who celebrated milestone anniversaries. We held funeral receptions for families of deceased parishioners. A speaker from Hospice Care Ottawa spoke to us on palliative care. With our parish Green Team, we had a speaker on water conservation. We prepared a brunch for the Carlington Community Chaplaincy.

**St. Bernard**

President Patricia Chaplinsky  
Spiritual Advisor Fr. Eslin Pereira, CMF

32 Members

1 Life Member

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We celebrated International Women's Day at a local restaurant and led the Stations of the Cross that evening. We prayed Mary's Way of the Cross on Friday, April 12. In June we presented our St. Bernard CWL Christian Award in the amount of \$750.00 to Lisa Uchelimafor. Our council initiated "Poverty Sock" campaign for fire victims who were living in tents in an Ottawa wooded area. Our parishioners also collected 655 hats, mittens and socks for them.

**St. Catherine of Siena**

President Beverley-Lynn Rowan  
Spiritual Advisor Fr. Hezuk Shroff

19 Members

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We finished the year and held a "Paper Bag Auction" at our Christmas Potluck Dessert Social. Proceeds from this event went to buying socks for residents of Care Centre Home for the elderly in Metcalfe. In addition, we made sandwiches for the homeless, organized an Angel Tree at Christmas for the Waupoos Foundation and provided Christmas presents for underprivileged children.

**St. Clare**

Presidents Ada Gorrie & Tilly O'Connor  
Spiritual Advisor Fr. Bob Poole

No report.

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### **St. Ignatius the Martyr**

President Lilian Martineau

Spiritual Advisor Fr. Saviour Karamvelil, OFM

**39 Members**

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Our members helped with parish expenses, hosted a Card and Dessert Party, held a Christmas Bake Sale, participated in the parish Garage Sale and helped with other parish fundraisers. We collected diapers and other items for babies and donated them to Birthright of Ottawa. We collected purses, tote bags, winter accessories, comfort and hygiene items, snacks, candies and small gifts to help ladies in Ottawa. Our environmental activities included discussions on water conservation and recycled used toner cartridges.

### **St. Isidore**

President Jennifer Bowler

Spiritual Advisor Fr. Matthew Keshwah

**29 Members**

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This year our council held its annual Psalm Sunday Bean Supper and our Tea & Bazaar in the spring. We continued to support our parish in various ways including rosaries, stations of the cross, confirmation receptions, etc. Many of our members joined our parish's new Alpha community. Despite some obstacles, we moved forward as a positive faith filled community.

### **St. John the Apostle**

President Rosemary Fikis

Spiritual Advisor Fr. Lindsay Harrison

**59 Members**

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We discussed water conservation and preservation. We held three successful bake sales and donated \$800.00 to the OK Clean Water Project in Cameroon, Maryvale Academy, Catholic Christian Outreach and Campaign Life Coalition. We weaved mats out milk bags for developing countries and knitted or crocheted lap blankets for ailing parishioners. We hosted a Christmas Sing-Along with reception and the proceeds were donated to two local food banks. We worked in cooperation with the Knights of Columbus.

### **St. Leonard**

President Carol Dailey and Suzie Noaro

Spiritual Advisors Fr. Titus Egbueh and Fr. Gerard Plant

**50 Members**

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Pillar of Faith – A Prayer List was maintained throughout the year with requests. We dedicated 1/3 of our meetings to Spiritual Development.  
Pillar of Service – We raised \$3,000.00 which we donated to 15 different local and international charities. We taught third graders about the Rosary.

Pillar of Social Justice – Our Resolution Chair wrote letters to MPs and asked them to support CWL resolutions. Members protested MAID. Dedicated members met regularly to make milk bag mats for third world countries.

**St. Margaret Mary / St. Faustina** (Cumberland)

President Marie-Claire Patterson (acting) / Barbara d'Entremont

Spiritual Advisor Deacon Tom Donohue

34 Members

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The St. Faustina CWL Council was created this year by the amalgamation of two parishes: St. Edith Stein and St. Margaret Mary. We participated in the Baby Bottle drive for the Miriam Centre, collected items for A New Day centre for victims of human trafficking, collected winter clothing for children at St. Michael (Ottawa) Elementary School, prepared an All Souls Day Mass and assisted Seniors Bingo at the Cumberland Lodge.

**St. Martin de Porres**

President Sharon St. Jean

Spiritual Advisor Fr. Titus Egbueh

79 Members

1 Life Member

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Participated in the "12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care" and the provincial focus on water project. Supported Ottawa Innerscity Ministries and held a Paint Night to support our council's charities. Celebrated the Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel with mass and a reception. We held a memorial mass for deceased members that passed away. Organized a parish international potluck while recognizing those who immigrated to Canada.

**St. Mary's** (Almonte)

President Cindy Zorgel

Spiritual Advisor Fr. Paul J. Gaudet

108 Members

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Our biggest fundraiser was the Fall Bazaar and Tea. New for us was a "Breakfast on the Go" bake sale after the Sunday morning mass where we raised over \$1300.00 for the local food bank. Fifty members attended our December meeting where we ate, sang and were merry with a quiz about Christmas plants and flowers and a game of Life Bingo. At this meeting we collected gifts for the residents of our nursing home and carried out 12 boxes filled with gift bags. We also collected money for St. Vincent de Paul.

**St. Maurice**

President Maureen Farnand  
Spiritual Advisor Fr. Lawrence Hyginus  
134 Members  
1 Life Member

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Our spring tea and fashion show was a community event with 120 women. We were able to donate 17 large gift bags to Nelson House as part of the HUG program. The bazaar was another opportunity to invite the surrounding community into our lovely atrium. The membership drive was successful and brought 17 new members to our council. The bake sale and raffle in November was a success, we met our parishioners, and as extended an invitation to the women of the parish to our multi-cultural potluck.

**St. Patrick (Fallowfield)**

President Cathy Gasper  
Spiritual Advisor Fr. Paul Shepherd  
85 Members  
1 Life Member

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We hosted Our Lady of Good Counsel Memorial Mass. In October, we celebrated our 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with mass and High Tea where we collected 210 purses and filled them with toiletries, hats, scarves and mittens for the Cornerstone Women's shelter. We fundraised for our Church Restoration Fund and our Christmas stocking campaign supported the poor in Ottawa's missions and shelters. We prayed and supported each other.

**St. Philip**

President Veronica Gervais  
Spiritual Advisor Deacon Mark Masson  
67 Members

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We celebrated our 200<sup>th</sup> Parish Anniversary. There were many events throughout the year. We continued to cater to funerals and meals for the Legion. We organized our annual Christmas Pie and Bake Sale as well as a high tea in June.

**The Good Shepherd**

President Doreen Dumont  
Spiritual Advisor Fr. Virgil Amirthakumar  
82 Members

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We assisted with a Lenten Retreat, led the Stations of the Cross twice, served a soup supper during Lent, gifted First Communicants, Confirmandi and RCIA candidates, offered bursaries and presented moms with flowers for Mother's Day. We had a successful craft fair, an Electronic Recycling event, and held monthly masses offered for living and deceased members and spiritual advisors. We celebrated the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our council.

## **Ottawa Diocesan Council Members' Awards 2019**

### **Bellelle Guerin Award**

Our Lady of Fatima

Diana Baines

### **Maple Leaf Service Pin**

Holy Redeemer  
Holy Spirit

Shirley Sarrazin  
Louise Beggs, Ann Ryan,  
Donella Gabriele

St. Basil  
St. Leonard  
St. Mary's (Almonte)  
St. Patrick's (Fallowfield)

Alberta Casey  
Carol Dailey  
Mary Lou Labrie  
Nancy Gulley, Barbara Byrne

### **60 Year Service Pin**

Annunciation of the Lord  
Holy Redeemer  
St. Martin de Porres  
St. Patrick's (Fallowfield)

Pat Bennett  
Shirley Sarrazin  
Marguerite Amyotte  
Nora Burnett

### **55 Year Service Pin**

Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal  
The Good Shepherd

Marcella Woods  
Joan Tompkins

### **50 Year Service Pin**

Annunciation of the Lord  
Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal  
St. Patrick's (Fallowfield)

Dureen Coade  
Jane Munro  
Kay May

### **45 Year Service Pin**

St. Patrick's (Fallowfield)

Betty Clarke

### **40 Year Service Pin**

Annunciation of the Lord  
  
St. Leonard  
St. Margaret Mary/ St. Faustina  
St. Patrick's (Fallowfield)

Ann Franklin, Marg Fraser,  
Suzanne Langlois  
Doneen Brazier  
Pauline Murray  
Emily Harding

**35 Year Service Pin**

St. Patrick's (Fallowfield) Pat Hoganson

**30 Year Service Pin**

St. Patrick's (Fallowfield) Joyce Laine  
The Good Shepherd Sophie Kwok

**25 Year Service Pin**

Annunciation of the Lord Carmella Lemay  
The Good Shepherd Stase Danatis, Bernadette Ojiaju

**20 Year Service Pin**

Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Anne Lommen, Heather Sisk  
St. Patrick's (Fallowfield) Barbara Byrne, Teresa McCarthy  
The Good Shepherd Alma Haggart, Mary Niero

**15 Year Service Pin**

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Dianne Burns, Bernadette Rykes,  
Madeleine Samson  
St. Martin de Porres Margaret Houlahan,  
Sharon St. Jean  
St. Patrick's (Fallowfield) Marie Higgins

**10 Year Service Pin**

Annunciation of the Lord Paule Balanaser, Pierrette Berry,  
Danielle David, Monica de Romer,  
Elizabeth Fortier, Rebecca Meuse,  
Jannette Ladouceur,  
Cynthia Millan, Kim Pownall,  
Joan Wills, Margo Smith  
Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Florence Burns, Mary Stanton  
Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Renee Langman, Lise Roy  
St. Leonard Jean Lashley  
St. Martin de Porres Barb Baldock, Christine Beelen,  
Louise Cournoyer, Teresa Dokken,  
Marybeth Ellis, Gail Everest,  
Patti Floysvick, Violet Freelend,  
Cathy Hammond, Fern Hutt,  
Anne Marshall, Colleen Morin,

St. Patrick's (Fallowfield)  
The Good Shepherd

Joanne Perron, Sue Primeau,  
Nicole Szeideman, Janet Uyeda,  
Maureen Wood, Helen Chan  
Wendy Bertrand, Susan Burnett  
Noeline Edwards, Lana Kinnie

### **5 Year Service Pin**

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Carmela Durego, Nora Horrigan,  
Laura Lafreniere

Holy Spirit  
St. Margaret Mary/ St. Faustina

Pauline Foley, Victoria Harris  
Barbara d'Entremont,

St. Martin de Porres

Jane Gagnier, Theresa Roche  
Dianne Dagenais-Bowie,  
Jen Daigle, Mary Devenney,  
Mary Beth Edwards, Linda Hobbins,  
Nicole Kohlman, Cheryl McCarthy,  
Teresa Northorp

St. Patrick's (Fallowfield)

Margaret Larmon,  
Paulette O'Connor

### **Certificate of Merit**

Divine Infant  
St Martin de Porres

Patricia Chura, Dana Richardson  
Eda Caldeira, Jo Houle,  
Rosanne Nadon, Patricia Moore,  
Vi Dobson, Knights of Columbus,  
Harber Skof, Louise Rathier

The Good Shepherd

Lana Kinnie, Lorraine Coveney,  
Linda Chong

### **Ontario Provincial Social Justice Certificate of Participation**

St. Maurice

Pamela Swords

### **Bursaries**

Annunciation of the Lord  
National Bursary Fund

Anne-J Rene, Chiara Sawilla  
Lynn Lavictoire

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

**The Catholic Women's League of Canada  
Ottawa Diocesan Council  
Our Deceased Members 2019**

**Annunciation of the Lord**

Pierrette Berry  
Helen Reynolds

**Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

Patricia Keelan  
Sylvia Gosselin  
Helen McNeil

**Divine Infant**

Mary Jo Armstrong  
Natalie Grenier  
Elizabeth Fowler  
Anne Labrecque

**Holy Spirit**

Emma Cladera

**Immaculate Heart of Mary**

Pamela Van Haeften

**Our Lady of Fatima**

Catherine McDonell  
Eva Hegmann  
Carmelita McCann  
Margaret O'Brien  
Spiritual Advisor Sister Katherine "Kitty" McCann

**Our Lady of the Miraculous**

Wilhemina Langens  
Linda O'Donnell  
Beverley Plunkett  
Johanna Van Dam

**Resurrection of Our Lord**

Alice Arsenault

**St. Catherine of Siena**

Dora Nooyen

**St. Ignatius the Martyr**

Katheleen "Kay" Scharf

**St. John the Apostle**

Mary Elizabeth Bernice "B" Brown

Joan Proctor

Betty Gleeson

Jackie Henderson

**St. Leonard**

Agatha Thissen

**St. Margaret Mary/St. Faustina**

Janet Kehoe

**St. Martin de Porres**

June McCarville

Maureen Kelly

Spiritual Advisor Reverend Father Brian Hennessey

**St. Mary's (Almonte)**

Viola Larose

Anne Marie "Marie" Seaman

**St. Maurice**

Eleanor Boissonneault

Shirley Lamontagne

Mary Johnston

**St. Patrick (Fallowfield)**

Irene Auger

Kimberley Brigden

**St. Philip**

Jacqueline "Jackie" Oman

Gaetane Noden

**May the souls of the faithfully departed rest in His peace.  
Our Lady of Good Counsel, *Pray for us.***

## **APPRECIATION**

Coming together for an Ottawa Diocesan Convention is usually an opportunity to meet with members from all across the diocese to pray together, laugh together and to enjoy the whole experience.

This year, which would have been the 97<sup>th</sup> Annual Ottawa Diocesan Convention of The Catholic Women's League of Canada, was of course a little different because of the coronavirus pandemic. Before the cancellation of this convention, there were numerous meetings which took place in the background to plan and organize a successful event. To all those who offered up their dedicated time and efforts in this respect, the Ottawa Diocesan Officers offer up a huge:

# **THANK YOU!**

### **CONVENTION PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Convention Convener: Michèle Hundertmark

Liturgy: Janet Warren and Sharen Reynaert

Registration: Diana Baines

Annunciation of the Lord Planning Committee:  
Parish Council President-Elect Jane Prini  
Recording Secretary Sonya LaRocque

Ottawa Diocesan Council:  
President Lynn Lavictoire  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President Teresa Psutka

**May the blessings of our Lord  
always be upon you.**