

**The Catholic Women's League of Canada
London Diocesan Annual Report Book
January to December 2019**



We remember
With great fondness
Our deceased members
Of
The Catholic Women's League
Of Canada,
Whose lives are a tribute to
Womanhood,
In their devotion to the
Lord Jesus Christ
And to
Our Lady of Good Counsel
Whom they loved and served,
And in whose presence, they now rejoice.



The Catholic Women's League of Canada

Diocese of London

Themes for 2019

National Theme "Care for our Common Home"

Provincial Theme "Loneliness"

Diocesan Theme Educate, Engage & Empower"



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.

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.



Objects of the League

shall be to unite Catholic women of Canada:

To achieve individual and collective spiritual development

To promote the teachings of the Catholic church

To exemplify the Christian ideal in home and family life

To protect the sanctity of life

To enhance the role of women in church and society

To recognize the human dignity of all people everywhere

To uphold and defend Christian education and values in the modern world

To contribute to the understanding and growth of religious freedom,

social justice, peace and harmony

Diocesan Executive

Position	Name
Spiritual Advisor	Father Greg Bonin
President	Rebecca McCarrell
President-Elect/Organization	Theresa Ryan
Life Member Liaison	Lucy Hendriks
1 st Vice-President/Education & Health	Mary Bannon
2 nd Vice-President/Spiritual Development	Mary Lappan
Recording Secretary	Wilhelmina Kole
Corresponding Secretary	Elizabeth Duggan
Treasurer	Cam Cadotte
Past President/Historian	Angela Pellerin

Diocesan Standing Committees

Position	Name
Christian Family Life	Denise Lalonde-Morris
Communication	Denise Masse
Community Life	Mary Ann Horne-White
Legislation	Helga Stuermer
Resolution	Joan Lobsinger

Diocesan Regional Chairpersons

Position	Name
Chatham-Kent	Mary Clare Latimer
Essex	Rose Beneteau
Huron-Perth	Mary Barnes
Ingersoll	Fatima Cabral
London-Middlesex	Dianne Kehoe
Sarnia-Lambton	Patricia Sloan
Windsor	Caroline Ngui

Table of contents

Diocesan Executive.....5

Diocesan Standing Committees5

Diocesan Regional Chairpersons5

Letters of Greetings.....7

Executive Reports..... 13

Regional & Parish Reports..... 35

Chatham-Kent Region 36

Essex Region 45

Huron-Perth Region 52

Ingersoll Region 62

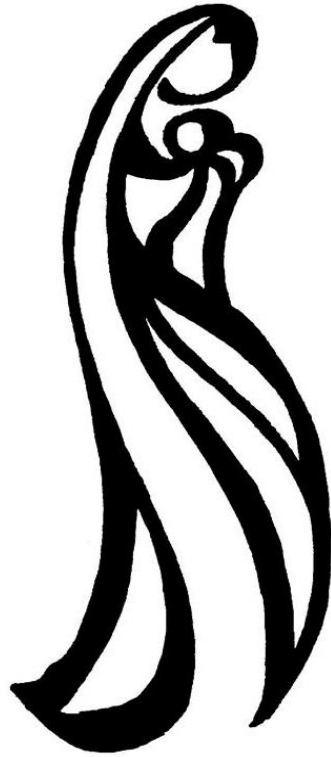
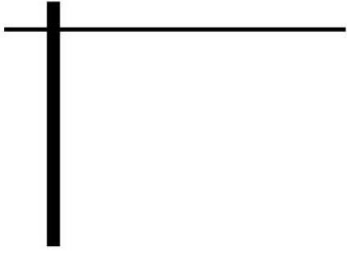
London Region 69

Sarnia – Lambton Region 80

Windsor Region..... 87

Life Members Reports 94

2019 Member Councils 101



Letters
Of
Greetings





DIOCESE OF
LONDON
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

1070 WATERLOO STREET
LONDON, ONTARIO N6A 3Y2
CANADA
519-433-0658
FAX: 519-266-4353

20 January 2020

Catholic Women's League of Canada
London Diocesan Council

Dear Sisters in Christ,

It is a privilege for me, along with Auxiliary Bishop Joseph Dabrowski, to extend to you a sincere welcome as you gather in Chatham for the 100th Annual Diocesan Convention of the Catholic Women's League.

This remarkable milestone anniversary is a unique opportunity for us to celebrate the legacy of yesterday, the joy of today, and the hopefulness of tomorrow. It is a time to honour the successes and achievements of the Catholic Women's League and to reflect on the wisdom of the past that guides your way for the future. This anniversary marks a century of courageous witness to the Gospel, of social activism, standing up for causes that deserved a voice, and of being instruments in the work of evangelization.

Bishop Dabrowski and I are very grateful for your contributions not only to the Diocese of London, but also to our country and the Church in Canada. We look back in thanksgiving for your support of our ministry as bishops and we look ahead with anticipation as the CWL continues in a tradition of excellence.

May God, through the intercession of Our Lady of Good Counsel, bless you, your families, and your good works.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Ronald Fabbro, C.S.B.

Most Rev. Ronald P. Fabbro, C.S.B.
Bishop of London



The Catholic Women's League of Canada

Greetings to my dear sisters in the London Diocesan Council!

Congratulations on 100 years of service for God and Canada! Another convention is upon you which presents several opportunities through your reports and programs to reflect on all the good things your membership has accomplished in the past year.

The parts of the world we call home in Canada are blessed with diversity in cultures, climate, numbers, and topography. While each of us shares the common bond of suffering, we have generally been blessed with peace and some prosperity. Having said this, it comes with a great responsibility.

Many councils have been focusing attention on the disadvantaged, the homeless, migrants and refugees, who have fallen prey to situations that in many cases are beyond their control. It is our duty and responsibility to "feed" those among us in whatever way we can. His Holiness, Pope Francis, in his address on the anniversary of World Day of Migrants and Refugees, in January, 2018, said it is our duty "to welcome, to protect, to promote, and to integrate" all who need care. While His Holiness spoke directly of migrants and refugees, this applies as well to those among us who are vulnerable in so many ways. "Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him?" (James 2:5).

As members of your diocesan community, you have attempted to emulate what Jesus did. "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour" (Luke 4:18-19).

When I reflect on the scripture passages, it connects me to the commands that are directed to each of us as Christian Catholic women. I am confident that as members of The Catholic Women's League of Canada, each woman in this diocese does her utmost to support the least among us.

God bless all your efforts in the past year to make your community a place of welcome and sustainability. You deserve to take time to reflect upon your accomplishments as you meet in convention. A well-deserved pat on the back is something you can give each other while together and once you return to your parishes.

We have many challenges ahead, but with the intercession of the Holy Spirit and Our Lady of Good Counsel, there is so much reason to continue to be hopeful women of faith in service to God and Canada. "Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and will be repaid in full (Prov. 19:17).

Your sister in the League,

Anne-Marie Gorman
National President



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

Greetings London 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 underprivileged 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. Rebecca ensures that your diocese has a voice.

Congratulations as you celebrate the 100th 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



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

April 2020

2019 was a wonderful year of transition within The Catholic Women's League of Canada, London Diocese! It was challenging at times as we learned to work within the newly established Family of Parishes. Many of the "norms" found during the past 99 years in our parishes changed and it meant our councils had to be flexible in how they approached their parish communities. It meant that some moved to combining meetings, combining executive, or remaining the same. As we move into our 100th year, these changes will work themselves out, and we will emerge as a stronger organization.

As I am writing this in April 2020, amid the pandemic, I applaud each of you for keeping our membership in prayer, and for assisting to combat the loneliness this pandemic is creating. For our seniors, it is a difficult time...no interaction, no church mass or meeting, just staying at home alone. For our younger women, a time to "homeschool" their children, and deal with all things foreign to a working population. But on the bright side, we are learning new skills...cooking has become the way of life rather than restaurant or take out foods, computers are being used as tools to conduct business, and meetings. And, especially are being utilized to "livestream" our Masses and other prayer groups. It may seem difficult now, but will lead to a higher "education" of all.

Renewing friendships, making new friends, and celebrating our spiritual journeys together are part of this great organization. I encourage you to learn new things, laugh and celebrate who we are and what we do as members of The Catholic Women's League of Canada.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel bless you in all you do!

Rebecca McCarrell, President

2018-2020



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

December 2019

Dear Sisters in the League, Spiritual Advisors, delegates and guests,

On behalf of the London Diocesan CWL Executive, along with the Chatham-Kent Region Convention Committee, it gives me great pleasure to extend to you all a very warm welcome to the 100th Annual Diocesan Convention in Chatham, Ontario.

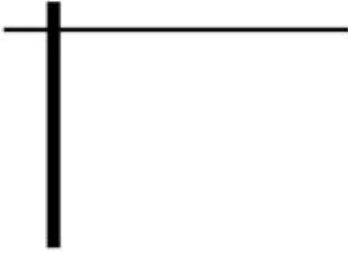
The Catholic Women's League has a reputation for responding wherever there is a need. This year, we celebrate, in all humility, 100 years of responding wherever there is a need! Over 100 years, your actions have ensured that the timeless Gospel values of loving service, social justice and solidarity with people in need have been faithfully put into practice. Women of the CWL are exemplary witnesses to the virtues of faith, love and hope in action.

As we kick off our 100th anniversary celebration, I wish you all every success in your noble endeavors to celebrate your 3-day schedule of making new friends, exchanging your ideas, celebrating your faith and becoming very productive and successful in your deliberations for the years to come.

May you all have a very pleasant stay in beautiful Chatham, Ontario.

Regards,

Father Greg Bonin
London Diocesan Spiritual Advisor
Catholic Women's League of Canada



Executive
Reports



Diocesan President's Annual Report 2019

Rebecca McCarrell

President: Rebecca McCarrell

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Gregory Bonin

Members: 10,600

Honorary Life Members: 0

Councils: 95

Life Members: 10

Regions: 7

London Diocese continues on their journey to celebrate 100 years in 2020. Many of the activities in the 2019 year were in support of this quest combined with Care for our Common Home (National theme) encompassing environmental concerns, Homelessness, and Loneliness (Provincial themes) and our own theme of Educate, Engage, and Empower.

Our membership is quite active in Social Justice issues and have been instrumental in support of Farmtown Canada's initiatives on Human Trafficking especially throughout the 400 highways in Ontario. Hundreds of our membership supported the demonstration in July.

Support of life at all stages remains a priority within our councils. Euthanasia Prevention Coalition, support for physicians and agencies who do not wish to be part of MAID, Hospices and different activities for the homeless, less fortunate and the lonely were upheld in every community.

Many of our parish council presidents fit into the recycled category and have more than 25 years of membership in the CWL. The majority of these women are between 65- and 74-years young with 12 who range in age from 75 – 84.

Many presidents acknowledge that succession planning remains the most difficult aspect of the position. Filling of all executive positions is problematic given the age of membership and the lack of new and younger members. Membership in general is on the decline and the lack of new and younger members is partially contributed to the change in the diocesan structure of Family of Parishes.

Over 18,000 pairs of socks were donated for the Out of the Cold campaign. These were distributed to the many agencies that support the homeless and less fortunate of London Diocese.

2019 was a year of transition, within our parishes, councils and communities. We look forward to celebrating 100 years in 2020.

Diocesan President Elect

Theresa Ryan

Organization Standing Committee Report

Parishes Reporting: 65

Recruit Members and Maintain Membership

Advertising in church bulletin was cited as most successful method for recruiting new members, closely followed by personal invitation. Members who did not renew were given personal telephone call or invited to a meeting by email or snail mail. Members were recognized by presentation of service pins, and cards or announcements. Councils engaged new members by welcoming them at meeting, conversations and invitation. Online membership is now used by 75% of councils. Most commonly used reminder of dues is church bulletin followed up by phone calls.

Leadership Development

Participation in the League development days was 42%. Participation at diocesan convention was good where most councils sent multiple members. About 71% of councils had someone attend annual retreat days. A small amount, 28% of councils participated in leadership workshops. There were 23 members who attended provincial convention and 10 that attended national convention. Planning strategically sessions were held at our fall regionals where most councils participated. Thirteen councils reported having executive members on diocesan council, 7 councils regional and three have a member on provincial. Majority of councils reported no training has been offered in their council this past year specific to developing leadership skills. Majority of councils followed 90-minute meeting protocol, faith, fun and commitment. This year 60% of councils were aware of the Catholic Women's Leadership Foundation.

League Resource Material

The Canadian League magazine was cited as the most useful resource at the council level. Many are accessing the websites of different levels of the League to obtain handbooks, guides, prayers, policy & procedures and bylaw material. Service pins are used by 63% of the councils but other promotional material is seldom used.

Life Membership

London Diocese has 10 Life Members. Our Life Members are asked for guidance and to provide mentorship to a small percentage of councils. Life members are not utilized as much as they would like. Councils are not aware of the role of a Life Member or how they could use their wealth or knowledge.

First Vice President

Mary Bannon

Education and Health Standing Committee Report

Parishes Reporting: 64

Sub-chairpersons: Dara Hartman, Mary Kennedy

Catholic Education

- (i) **Catholic Schools and Catechesis:** A high percentage (81%) have informed themselves about the quality of religious instruction in their parishes and have enquired about how they might support the program. A large number (87%) have become informed about religious instruction in schools and 73% have encouraged parents to participate in all areas of their children's school education. About half of the councils have investigated the needs of Catholic schools that could be met by the council. Needs identified were scholarships or bursaries (71%), sacramental/faith development (58%), school supplies (32%) and breakfast and lunch programs (29%). 63% or 40 of the 64 responses are aware of the family life programs in Catholic schools.
- (ii) **Rites of Christian Initiation:** The 64 responding councils reported a total of 88 participants in the RCIA program in their parishes.

Literacy and Continuing Education

About 1/3 (27%) of the councils responding had encouraged members to assist those who wish to improve their literacy skills. 63% replied that they had a current list of Catholic universities or colleges in London diocese. There seemed to be some confusion since 5% said there were no Catholic colleges/universities in the diocese-perhaps these thought it meant "municipality".

Scholarships and Bursaries

56% indicated they did not have a list of scholarships and bursaries available to be accessed for Catholic women to further their education although 59% said that their council provided a bursary or scholarship or funded another bursary/scholarship. Most councils replied "not applicable" to the varying recipients, although 76% provided bursaries to high school students. Specific comments dealt with support of students involved in parish service, Net ministries, funding of high school uniforms for students in need, support of parish seminarians and help through Guatemala Hope. 38% of the councils supported National Bursary and Coady International with a total of \$1200.

Wellness and Sickness/Disease

Members indicated that they had signed petitions, attended sessions with Alex Schadenberg concerning euthanasia, listened to speakers about local hospices and financially supported these

hospices. A large number participated in 12 hours of Prayer for Palliative care in various ways. Some also indicated they had participated in the Mental Health Postcard campaign. Due to the way the actions were reported it was difficult to determine which resolutions the councils had acted on and the percentages for each. For the Mental Health Postcard Campaign 14% participated, although 25% supported the Canadian Mental Health Association. A small percentage 14% indicated that their members had donated blood through registering for the Partners for Life Program under the League's ID (catho11269).

Environment

With the emphasis on water 41% participated in the CWL Water Pledge Challenge Campaign and 16% celebrated United Nations World Water Day by reminding members not to use plastic water bottles and to bring reusable containers to meetings. Councils participated in the Postcard Campaign and educated members about Flushable Wipes. Some participated in the water pledge challenge. A total of 33% acted on Resolutions: 2004-Water Use in Canada, 2001-Water Quality in Canada, and 2005-Developing Countries and Water. Members took their own actions for Earth Day, both in their parish bulletins and at meetings, also encouraging reducing their use of hydro. Other issues were non-use of Styrofoam (70%), recycling (69%), composting (20%).

Genetics

Councils rated their knowledge of the advantages and disadvantages of technology to alter genes in light of Catholic teaching: 70% good, 22% fair and 11% very good.

Other

Concerns were indicated about learning more about the Opioid crisis, bioethics, Catholic universities, ways of assisting indigenous culture particularly with awareness of the poor quality of water in many of their communities. Council activities were very important such as: local charities assisting pregnant women and women battling substance abuse. An active role is played in homelessness through the Out of the Cold project and assistance to the St. Vincent de Paul Society. They support sacramental preparation and volunteer at the schools.



Second Vice President

Mary Lappan

Spiritual Development Standing Committee Report

Parishes Reporting: 65

Sub-chairpersons: Kathy Levesque
Joan Jakubo
Jackie Detailleur

Spiritual Growth of Members

Members used a variety of resources for their spiritual growth. Many of these were “tried and true” programmes such as CWL Prays. Websites such as “Dynamic Catholic” and “Salt & Light” were also used. Members took advantage of parish programmes such as “Why Catholic?” and “Alpha” for their spiritual growth. Resources suggested in communiques from National were NOT used by more than 80% of the members.

Study of Catholic Teachings

There were no specific ways that councils studied Catholic teachings. Most were not familiar with a variety of material. Councils stayed with what was offered by their parish, Alpha programme, Why Catholic? To increase their knowledge of Catholicism.

Role of Women in the Church

A large percentage of councils (60%) did not promote an awareness of women’s place in the church. However, the same percentage had leadership roles in their parish. These included the pastoral council, finance committee and liturgy committee.

Evangelization and Mission Assistance

Approximately half of the councils subscribed to Catholic Missions in Canada. All councils support some type of mission either monetarily or with goods.

Lay Ministries

Over 50% of council members participated in lay ministries or chaired a ministry in their parish. These included Eucharistic minister, lector, hospitality, sacristan, choir and decorating

Ecumenism and Interfaith Endeavours

Other than the World Day of Prayer, councils had very little interaction with other faiths. Fellowship of the Least Coin, the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity and WUCWO Day were not promoted by the majority of the councils (over 75%).

Recording Secretary

Wilhelmina Kole

Recording Secretary Report

Parishes Reporting: 73

London Diocese has 94 CWL councils, and of those 73 responses were received for Recording Secretary using the electronic Annual Report Forms, that is 77%.

39 councils stated that they had both a Recording Secretary and a Corresponding Secretary; while 11 councils identified that the same person did both jobs. 1 council said that the position was vacant.

The question was asked who was completing the survey. 84% identified themselves as the Recording Secretary or both, while 8% said other. (Other was usually the president)

64% (47) were elected to the position, while 30% (22) were appointed to the position.

When asked how long they had been a CWL member, 45% (25) said that they had been a member for more than 25 years. 16% (9) had been a member for less than 5 years with the rest between members between 5 and 25 years.

64% (35) ladies stated that they had held this position before.

49% (27) stated that they were between the age of 65-74, 26% (14) between the age of 55-64, trending down to one person between 25-34 and none below that age.

The mean number of years holding position of Recording Secretary is 4.15 years.

The following questions were asked regarding meetings:

- Do you take roll call 61% said yes
- Do you bring minutes book to meeting 91% said yes
- Do you take minutes at meeting 98% said yes
- Send out minutes of previous meeting 87% said yes
- I am a Signing officer 55% said yes
- I assist president with annual report 61% said yes
- Do you bring motion book to meetings 87% said yes
- Don't have a motions book 23% stated this

When asked if they knew where Council Charter was located 82% knew where to find it.

87% of the ladies maintain a list of the executive with their contact information.

When asked if they received written reports from the executive, 41.5% said sometimes, while another 31% said yes and 12% said no, they did not receive executive reports.

The mean amount of years that councils keep minutes in the minutes book was 5.5 years before becoming archived.

77% of the parish council secretaries have the National Handbook for Secretaries, which is unchanged from 2018.

Following are some of the challenges faced by Recording Secretaries in 2019.

- Not all members have an email address/computer to send out minutes electronically; so small number of copies of minutes/agendas are printed out to bring to meeting.
- Doing minutes at trial online meeting was very difficult so we have returned to meeting together.
- Ensuring accuracy of minute taking – send minutes in advance of the meeting and reviewing them at the meeting

Success stories

- We have become a more open council and are working with other groups in our parish and thus attracting new members.
- Learning to record the minutes and typing them on the computer and then learned to email them to my president. This gave me a lot of confidence in myself
- Addressed the challenge of being secretary and believe I was successful in doing this.

Recommendations

Encourage every council to have a Secretary Manual from National. It would be a great help to anyone who is new to the position.

Encourage every council to have a separate Motion Book to house all the motions made by the council.

Corresponding Secretary

Elizabeth Duggan

Duties

- ***The responsibility of corresponding secretary, is to provide a list of all correspondence***

Recommendations

- This year's annual survey indicated that many councils do not have an Administrative Assistant
- The survey indicated that 8% of the London Diocesan council's have an administrative assistant and 21% indicated that the position is done by both the recording secretary and corresponding
- The responsibility of sending out occasion cards, sympathy is done by 39% of the councils
- A copy of the CWL Personal Letter Writing Guide from our national office is in possession of 58%. This is an 11% increase from 2018. It is important that every council have one to assist them in writing letters, how to write and where to send. Councils can obtain a copy which is available via the web site.
- It was noted that the position of Administrative Assistant is still very new and many councils are not aware of the duties.
- An updated Manual for Recording and Administrative Assistant would be helpful for councils.



Past President, Historian

Angela Pellerin

Parishes Reporting:64

Sub-chairpersons: Pat Rivest
Lucy Hendrikx
Lee Levergood

Serve in a Consultative Capacity

Although more than half of the past presidents attend meetings, less than half are called upon for advice on a regular basis. However, 90% indicate their president feels supported and encouraged by them for help.

Be Responsible for Archives and History

A little more than half indicate they are responsible for the archives in their councils and 50% keep the archives in a cupboard or filing cabinet at the church. A few keep them in the secretary's home and the parish office. Most councils keep photo albums and scrapbooks and half of the councils use banker boxes for storage. Only 22% use memory sticks. Less than half keep a copy of the annual reports indefinitely, but the majority keep their book of life indefinitely. A little more than half of councils keep the minutes of their executive meetings and general meetings indefinitely. The archives are reviewed as needed by 91% of the councils. Slightly more than half keep a history book and a large number keep labelled photo albums.

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

Almost all councils have a copy of the Constitution & Bylaws however, 45% of them rarely if ever refer to them for help. They also have a copy of the National Manual of Policy & Procedure although half of them rarely refer to it.

Diocesan Highlights

Only half of the councils in the diocese have supported the Strategic Planning by passing along the info and responding to surveys. It has given a council the opportunity to discuss how the standing committees would fit under the new structure consisting of the 3 pillars: Faith, Service, Social Justice. Members have been encouraged to be patient and open to the new process.

A few took advantage of attending fall regional meetings as well as diocesan/provincial/national conventions. They have promoted the League not only at the diocesan but also the provincial and national levels.

Diocesan Highlights(cont'd)

The past presidents continue to work at all activities and events in their councils.

Past presidents are trying to find ways to encourage members to take on leadership roles in their councils. They are also working on bringing in new members to ensure their councils survive.

Several councils are going to be celebrating their 100th anniversary in the next year or two.



ARCHIVAL TIPS The passing on of history and tradition gives members a sense of pride and importance in belonging to the League.

The past president should: • prepare an archival index of all materials • arrange for the safe storage of archival material • preserve the council history through scrapbooks, photograph albums and minutes.

Treasurer
Cam Cadotte

2019 Annual Disbursements as reported in the London Diocesan Parish Council Reports

FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2019 TO DECEMBER 31, 2019

Council: London Diocese

Council President: Rebecca McCarrell

Treasurer: Cam Cadotte

Donations Reported for the past calendar year

\$ Totals (omit cents)

National Voluntary Fund	
Coady International Institute	\$ 1,020.00
Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace	5,166.00
Catholic Missions in Canada	6,687.00
Catholic Near East Welfare Association	210.00
Euthanasia Prevention Coalition (until August 18, 2020) _____	1,575.00
National Bursary Fund	_____
National Voluntary Fund Sub-total	14,658.00
Standing Committees	
Spiritual Development	\$ 25,989.00
Organization	15,511.00
Christian Family Life	38,989.00
Community Life	96,400.00
Education and Health	37,031.00
Communications	3,774.00
Standing Committees Sub-total	217,694.00
All Donations	
National Voluntary Fund Sub-total	\$ 14,658.00
Standing Committees Sub-total	217,694.00
Parish Donations	62,885.00
Other Donations	900.00
TOTAL	296,137.00

Other Donations:	Bishop Pappin Bursary	\$ 375.00
	National Family Planning	125.00
	National Bursary	400.00

Christian Family Life

Denise Lalonde Morris

Parishes Reporting: 65

Marriage and Family

Only 20% of our councils attended workshops or seminars on family such as marriage preparation and encounter weekends. Few of them have special events on Mother's and Father's Day, while a few make notes of anniversaries, have liturgical celebrations for married couples. No one celebrates National Family Week. Almost all councils had support in place for those suffering domestic abuse.

Sanctity of Life

Our councils made a good showing at pro-life dinners, life chains and pro-life walks. Some participated in 40 days for life, march for life and offered masses for pro-life. 11% did not participate in anything. Many members made the effort to view the movie "Unplanned" and attended the Regional days to hear the presentation on the horrors of abortion and its affects on mental health. Almost no one has learned about Pope John Paul's Theology of the Body. Most monetary donation were given to local pro-life, Euthanasia Prevention Coalition and to pregnancy and Family support services. A few give to Campaign Life, Priests for Life and Life Canada. 10% did not give funds to this ministry. Brochures on pro-life from National were not purchased or displayed in their churches. Many had not met with pro-life legislators while most wrote letters of support for CWL resolutions on Abortion and Euthanasia. Most councils do pray for the protection of life.

Ministry to Youth

Most councils have not started to promote the next World Youth Day in Lisbon, Portugal in 2022. Over half the councils do not participate in programmes for young people. Most of the youth are encouraged to serve at events and in choirs. Some become catechists, lectors, ushers and help with cleaning. No one had a Catholic Girls League. Very little sponsorship was given to youth. There was a little support given to summer camps, Sunday schools and Steubenville. Over 2/3's have not purchased subscriptions to Catholic Magazines, videos or books for use in the local community.

Ministry to the Disabled

A lot of councils brought communion, prayed for, visited or called, sent cards and brought gifts for special occasions and provided transportation to the disabled.

Ministry to Seniors

Most councils provide for seniors by make a point of bringing communion, visit, include in activities, send cards, phone, provide transport, share a meal and organize events. A few have encouraged sharing their faith stories, involve them in intercessory prayer and provide respite care.

Ministry to Widowed

Almost all councils provided services for the newly widowed. Cards, calls, visits, funeral lunches, prayer and prayer shawls as well as an honour guard. A few councils have ensured a bereavement programme.

Ministry to Separated & Divorced

Almost no councils looked for help from the league or sponsored/attended presentation or purchased the brochure "Annulments Today- Merciful and Just". The majority have not focused on this ministry at all.

Vocations

Sending spiritual bouquets, prayers and masses, supporting seminarians, hosting luncheons and donating to retirement funds are a few things councils have done to support our religious. Unfortunately, over 10% of councils do not focus on this ministry.

Participation

The HUG initiative, Euthanasia Prevention, Coalition and the Human Trafficking -On Route were the most participated in activities this past year.

"
" *"God has created me to do Him some definite service. He has committed some work to me which He has not committed to another. I have my mission. I may never know it in this life, but I shall be told it in the next. I am a link in a chain, a bond of connection between persons.*
"
" *He has not created me for naught. I shall do good; I shall do His work. I shall be an angel of peace, a preacher of truth in my own place, while not intending it if I do but keep His commandments.*
"
" *Therefore, I will trust Him, whatever I am, I can never be thrown away. If I am in sickness, my sickness may serve Him, in perplexity, my perplexity may serve Him. If I am in sorrow, my sorrow may serve Him. He does nothing in vain. He knows what He is about. He may take away my friends. He may throw me among strangers. He may make me feel desolate, make my spirits sink, hide my future from me. Still, He knows what He is about."* Cardinal Newman
"

Communications

Denise Masse

Parishes Reporting:59

Sub-chairpersons: Loretta Ayotte- Webmaster
Sandra Cabbidu-League Lingo

The Canadian League Magazine

80% of parish councils (47) felt the magazine was useful as an educational tool. –the value of the magazine in other areas as a resource tool produced percentages of between 78-75% (46-44) the most useful areas were for advocacy/action and spiritual, followed by convention oral reports and new ideas.

Top three articles of interest were as follows: Winter: *President's Message, Jesus-The Best Communicator!*, and *Listen to Silence*. Fall: *Dignity and Rights of Persons: Human Trafficking in Canada, President's Message* and *From the National Spiritual Advisor tying with Highlights from the 99th Annual National Convention*.

Media: for Evangelization

51% of councils (30) promoted faith-orientated programs, the same number of councils from last year, while only 10% (6) promoted World Communications Day, down one council from the year prior.

With regards to Resolution 1978.03 Catholic Press that encouraged members to subscribe to Catholic media, 70% of councils (41) had not done so. The highest number for promotion was 15% (9) for Salt and Light TV, followed by mass for shut-ins and Vision TV each with 12% (7) councils.

Media: to Promote the League

Councils have encouraged members to use media to promote the League in the following ways: CWL Social Media 56% or 33 councils, use the website cwl.ca 71% (42) of councils, use of local media to advertise events 56% (33), phone invitation committee 64% (38) and prepared news releases was under-utilized at 31% or 18 councils only. -73% of councils use email to send minutes and meeting agendas.

Media: Evaluation and Promotion of Good Content

promotional videos are largely unseen with between 23%-12% (13-7) having watched the productions.

44% (26) of councils were unsure if they had spoken out about media content, 24% (14) had, including creating a petition against an anti-Christian movie on Netflix for Christmas and complaints to Canadian Broadcast Corp. regarding content and timing of shows.

Media: Newsletter and Bulletins

Newsletters were produced at 42% (25) of councils mainly by either the communication chair, or the president. –the majority of councils produced the newsletter annually, or twice annually. Most of the newsletters were distributed by email 52% (13), followed by parish mail slots and bulletins.

Articles are contributed to the Diocesan Newsletter biannually and to the provincial ONLINE newsletter monthly.

Media: Relations

45% of councils have reached out to the local media to benefit the League, with material submitted for publication 31% (18) being the highest, followed by advertising at 24% (14).

Pornography

30% of respondents read articles to become informed about the influence of pornography on children and adults and 22% contacted agencies or reviewed current legislation.

Resolutions remain valuable tools that can be utilized far more than the 42-7% of councils that currently are.

Campaigns done included writing to MPs, MPPs, the ON Route demonstrations, working with FarmTown and Pornography Hurts.



Community Life

Mary Ann Horne-White

Parishes Reporting: 64

Sub-Chairpersons: Pearl Bradd
Madeline Visser

Dignity and Rights of Persons

Councils have become familiar with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. They supported those suffering from poverty and homelessness; volunteering their time, having speakers, and giving donations. Councils have supported St. Vincent de Paul and the Christmas Giving Trees at their parishes, and supported Right to Life and Birthright through the year.

Social and Economic Justice

Our diocese supported those suffering from Human Trafficking. Many had speakers, donated, and shared the day July 30th with Project ONroute on Highway 401 to end Human Trafficking. Councils visit the homebound and those in retirement and nursing homes regularly. In the last year, members have become more aware of those suffering from Racism and the struggles of Indigenous women.

Refugees, Immigration and Citizenship

Most councils know the difference between a temporary foreign worker, immigrant, and refugee. Many councils worked with their parishes sponsoring immigrant families in their communities. Councils participated in Remembrance Day Services and some sent Christmas cards to the military overseas and wore red on Fridays to support our military.

Canadian Catholic Organization for Development & Peace (CCODP) Members continue to be involved and attended Development & Peace Workshops in their communities. They shared the information with their CWL. Councils supported Development and Peace Share Lent Campaign at their parishes.

Developing Countries

Councils gave to Save a Family Plan, CNEWA, Chalice, Red Cross, and Food for Children. Some councils continued to support aqua boxes with the Rotary Club. Members have become more aware of child labor in developing countries. Some have invited speakers from developing nations to learn more about those nations.

Legislation

Helga Stuermer

Parishes Reporting: 43

Monitor and Study Legislation at All Levels of Government

It is very important that our directives are being passed down to the **Legislation Standing Chairperson**, & then to be read by the CWL chairs, then all members at large, Then they in turn can monitor & follow all Governments important bills on all level.

Briefs and Position Papers

Legislation

66% reported position to be vacant; 34% as filled;
53% where appointed; 47% elected;

Length of being a member:

More than 25 years: 46%; 11-15 years:20%; 6-10 - 12%; 21-25 – 12%;16-20 – 10%; less than 5 (-).

Knowledge of names of local, provincial & federal government representatives. (Provincial)

95% responded yes; 5% no. **Federal:** 95% yes; 5% no; **Local:(municipal)** 95% yes, 5% no
58% are not receiving mailing, 42% yes from municipal gov.
53% yes; 47% no from provincial;
53% yes; 47% no from federal rep.

Attending public forums sponsored by governments at any level

Brought info back to councils: 79% responded no; 21% yes Debate for election, meetings on: "caring for our common home" Info on environmental issues; Human Trafficking; by Prov. MPP.
Government knowledge: somewhat informed 53%; well informed 42%; not informed 5%;
84% have not accessed any printed records of the proceedings of federal government; 16% have.

BILL C-57: An Act to amend the Federal Sustainable Development act: 70% not aware; 29% some knowledge; 2% very aware.

Bill C-75: An Act to amend the Criminal Code: The Youth Criminal Justice Act: 48% had some knowledge; 48% not aware, 4% very aware.

The awareness of the following Federal Bills:

Bill C-418; Protection of Freedom of Conscience Act:38% some knowledge 34%; very aware, 29% not aware. Other federal bills some councils monitored & acted upon:

Bill C418; the attestation of summer employment grants; some council signed petitions, some parishes signed petition on C418, some not 14 responded not.

At the 99th annual national convention, national council adopted Resolution 2019.02: Canadian Support for the United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons; What action has councils taken:84% yes; 13% no.

At the 98th annual national convention, national council adopted Resolution 2018.03: Legislate Designation of Hospice/Palliative Care Services in Facilities to Exclude Medical Assistance in Dying. Please identify what actions your councils have taken.

Some Provincial bills some councils monitored: An overview of the resolutions listed previously, have been presented at meetings. Some long-term overview regarding Long-term Care Beds

Bill regarding applying pressure on family members with respect to MAID Bill regarding the intimidation of medical practitioners to take part in MAID Resolution with respect of abortion & its effect on mental health of woman

Bill 36: cannabis legislation, Mental Health & Addiction care for children & youth. Some responded none.

Bill C14: Euthanasia extension for children, Abortion & Mental Health. Some responded: no; **MAID Statute Law Amendment Act2017:** most councils responded to be extremely interest. The screening of Fatal Flaws followed by discussions was very well attended by members. Court cases are being monitored such as Quebec Superior Court of Justice September decision to struck down a restriction limiting assisted dying to terminally ill patients concluding the requirement to be an unconstitutional barrier, forcing 2 Quebeckers with incurable conditions to keep on living in great pain.

Some reported it was read & discussed and members were aware. Anti-Abortion: Effect on mental health was discussed, and made aware off. Some responded no, no.

2015.02, 2018.02 on setting standards for products marketed as flushable (Toilets are not garbage cans) 4 no's 1 N/A.

Pharmaceuticals in our Water very concerned. Members need to pay attention to current issues re: provincial premiers' action against health & education. Discussions re: candidates in upcoming federal election & the right to vote. Councils distributed the letter from Bishop Fabbro on this regard.

Some members are doing a letter writing campaign on2019.2. some No.

Some supported OnRoute demonstration against Human Trafficking. Some financially supported Farmtown. A local organization rescuing young woman from prostitution & providing counselling. Most councils found it challenging to complete this survey asking if it could not be simplified. Not having a chairperson another point, too time consuming. Some are just not comfortable with a computer. Time to complete this survey because no person to do it Some had no difficulty completing it. Many councils do not have a legislation Chair person, No one wants to take this on. Most members do not see the importance of this chair. I often stressed the importance of legislation Chair The need to keep informed of what the government is doing on all levels. In many councils the information given does not filter down to the councils in general. Members find it overwhelming, & quite confusing

Resolutions

Joan Lobsinger

Parishes Reporting: 56

Sub-chairpersons: Rebecca McCarrell
Angela Pellerin, Mary Bannon,
Theresa Ryan and Fr. Greg Bonin

Research and Preparation of Resolutions and Briefs

One council researched and prepared a resolution involving the difficulty of obtaining permanent resident status for religious workers in light of the Express Entry system initiated in 2016. The resolution was returned to them by the Ontario Provincial Review Committee for further research. A second council researched and prepared a resolution that was accepted by the Ontario Provincial Council: Abortion and Mental Health.

Although the majority of the 56 councils (84%) reported they had not considered and studied issues that might become a resolution, 9 of the councils did and 6 of those have discussed these ideas with their council. That is very promising! In fact, one council reported they have an issue of concern and hope to prepare the resolution in 2020.

Only 17% of the councils have a Resolution Chairperson, some of whom attended the resolutions dialogues held at diocesan, provincial and/or national conventions; and some who attended workshops held at diocesan regional days. Most of the chairpersons refer to communiques and/or annual report forms from other levels.

Study and Implementation of Resolutions Passed by Other Levels

Just less than half of the councils, 43%, reported studying the 2019 resolutions presented on cwl.ca.

Action items were followed on these 2019 provincial resolutions: ON.19.02 “Abortion and Mental Health”, and ON.19.03 “Long Term Beds”. Letters were sent to the Premier, Minister of Health and MPP’s.

Some councils continued to act on ON.18.01 “Develop National Standards for Levels of Pharmaceuticals in Canada’s Drinking Water” through the “Protect our Water Postcard Campaign”. Councils also reported on participating in the Water Conservation Challenge.

Support was given to ON.15.04 “Provision of Regulated Housing for the Chronic, Severely Mentally Ill” through a local campaign. As a result, \$20,000.00 was awarded to Indwell London which provides stable housing for people leaving mental health hospitals.

42% of the councils reported contacting their federal government representative by writing letters, 11% by phone calls and 16% with a personal visit.

43% of the councils reported contacting their provincial government representative by writing letters, 5% by phone calls and 11% with a personal visit.

44% of the councils reported contacting their local government representative by writing letters, 13% by phone calls and 8% with a personal visit.

The specific actions councils undertook to support resolutions adopted at any level were:

- Made members aware of issues through meetings, emails, or newsletters.
- Signed petitions
- Held letter writing sessions
- Arranged for a guest speaker
- Organized demonstrations
- Mobilized members to address the issue through local outreach

Some councils also reported supporting the “Call for Conscience Campaign” and the “Pornography Hurts Campaign”.



When we change the way we see things, the things we see change. *Wayne Dyer*

Sub-Committees

League Lingo Editor Sandra Cabbidu

This is my last report for League Lingo. As of December, 2019 I am no longer the Editor.

I completed Spring & Fall 2019 of the newsletter for the 2019 year. The last of the orders received were successfully sent out. Unfortunately, the copy I sent on for the website, got a bit scrambled up. This had never happened before, so I don't know what happened.

Unfortunately, now in the future there will no longer be a printed copy or paid orders accepted. I am very sad & in total disagreement with this decision to go only with an on-line edition. I knew I was going to resign soon, because of my age, but this decision made it easier for me to resign.

I wish you all well, and I hope there will be enough articles sent in and plenty of people will be able to read the League Lingo in its new format on-line.

My hope is if there are some of you that have no access to a computer, or just don't know how to get on to our London Diocesan Website, there will be the ability to print a few copies.

Thank you to all of you who became my friends over the years. You just don't know how you helped me when difficult things happened in my life. You all became my surrogate sisters, with my own sister so far away in England.

I won't say goodbye, I will say "Au revoir ". I will see you at the 100th Anniversary Convention, but after that, we shall see how life goes!

May Our Lady of Good Counsel watch over us all and guide us in our lives.

Website Webmaster Loretta Ayotte

For the past four years I have overseen keeping our online presence up to date. I have generated and revised many pages of the website to keep the information current and help keep our members informed. I post new directives and events along with other general information so members have quick access to see what is happening in the organization. I hope access to the information has been helpful to members as they continue to make a difference in their communities.



Regional & Parish Reports



Chatham-Kent Region
Mary Clare Latimer
Regional Chairperson

13 councils

In 2019, the parish councils of the Chatham-Kent Region, continued to convey hope and compassion in witness to the love of God, through ministry and corporal works. Reflecting on the National Theme "Our Common Home" and our Provincial Theme "Loneliness", councils donated cash, food and their time to provide to the hungry, the thirsty and the homeless, replenishing local food banks, distributing sandwiches, hot soup, coffee and "hope" on the streets.

Through the 2019 Centenary program "H.U.G", all councils offered warm clothes, socks, shoes/boots and toiletries, and ongoing assistance to Men's and Women's Shelters, the Migrant Worker Ministry, the Salvation Army and the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

Financial support was again afforded toward our Northern Indigenous Missions and local Indigenous public awareness events.

Members continue to grow in their awareness surrounding the Chatham-Kent housing first program and other community poverty reduction action plans that empower at risk youth, the mentally ill, addicted, trafficked and/or sexually abused; proudly supporting the "Abortion and the Effects on Mental Health" resolution, along with participation and prayers to propel the Canada wide Project Maple Leaf.



Blessed Sacrament, Chatham

President: Patti Johnson

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Jim Higgins

Number of Members: 149

Life members: 0

At Blessed Sacrament CWL we are always trying to make a difference in the lives of the lonely and down trodden. Many of our members work on the Luncheon committee to help feed Elderly at card parties and families after a funeral. We also have a good turnout at funeral masses with our honour guard. We collect winter wear and food for our homeless shelter a few times a year. We also visit and take the Body of Christ to those in the hospital and nursing homes.

St Agnes, Chatham

President: JC Wright

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Jim Higgins

Number of Members: 88

Life Members: 0

St. Agnes Catholic Women's League was chartered on September 9th, 1957. After 62 years our council has closed its charter. It was a decision that has not been entered into lightly. The decline in our council has been steady over the past several years and we have tried in vain to keep our council afloat. We have been unable to empower our members to take on leadership roles. Therefore the very painful decision was made to close our council. We followed protocol and completed every step. In October we held a general membership meeting where the tough decision was made by all in attendance (by majority vote) to close our council. Our 78 members were welcomed with open arms to 6 other councils- near and far... It is with great sadness that we sign off here.

St. Joseph's (City), Chatham

President – Beth Lachine

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Jim Higgins

Number of Members: 100

Life Members: 0

In 2018-2019 year, our council held a Yard Sale with our sisters in the St Joseph (Harwich) C.W.L. which was a great success.

We volunteered at the 'Soups On' fundraiser that was held at the Spirit and Life Centre for Hope Haven which is a shelter for men.

The Project EnRoute that was held at the 401 service centres in July was well attended by many C.W.L.'s and other organization which highlighted human trafficking.

Our council along with the Harwich council hosted the Diocesan Lenten Retreat, and also attended the 99th anniversary in Windsor.

Our council along with the Harwich council donated a 'Buddy Bench' to the students at St. Ursula's school and in honor of the St. Joseph students past and presented who have moved to St. Ursula's until a new school that will be built in the future. St. Joseph's school closed in June of 2019.

Our council assisted at many funeral luncheons, receptions, etc. during the year.

We also assisted at the reception to say good-bye to Fr. Don who was transferred to London, a retirement reception for Mardie Lessard a long-standing Bookkeeper for our parish.

Our council ended the 2019 with a Christmas dinner at Rossini's Restaurant and enjoyed a great meal and friendship with our members and special guests, Fr. Jim, Fr. Jude and Fr. Peter.

As we enter 2020 our council along with the Harwich council will be hosting the 2020 London Diocesan 100th Anniversary Convention that will be held at the John B. Bradley Convention Centre May 27-29th in Chatham. We are looking forward to welcoming all the Councils from the London Region.

St. Joseph (Harwich), Chatham

President: Clara T. Roesch

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Jim Higgins

Number of Members: 86

Life Members: 0

Members of St. Joseph's Harwich CWL volunteered at Soup's On, a CWL and K of C sponsored project to raise funds to support Chatham Hope Haven, a local men's overnight shelter.

Funds were sent to Aqua Box, run by the Rotary Club of Stratford, Ontario. Aqua Box is a simple, low-cost filtration system that can provide purified drinking water to a family of 5 for up to one year. Boxes are sent around the world when catastrophes strike.

Financial support was sent to Chatham's Women's Centre, Chatham Hope Haven and ROCK Missions, a local group that helps close the gaps in our homeless community.

Members visited at hospitals and long-term care facilities.

Members attended prayer vigils at funeral homes, stood in honour guards for our deceased sisters and held funeral luncheons for members, their families and fellow parishioners.

St. Ursula's, Chatham

President: Sandra Mailloux

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Jim Higgins

Number of Members: 152

Life Members: 1

To feed the hungry: Donation to "Shepherds Way", of cash and food to provide meals to those in need. Donations to our local food bank.

To clothe the naked: Donations of clothing to our local St. Vincent de Paul Society.

To shelter the homeless: Sponsored a joint fundraiser with the local Knight of Columbus councils to raise funds for the shelter for homeless men in our community.

To visit the sick: Visits by members to assisted living facilities, nursing homes and hospitals.

To bury the dead: Honour Guard at CWL members funerals. CWL members regularly sing at all funeral masses. The CWL provides the luncheon for many of our Parish Funerals.

Our Council has also made donations to Catholic Missions of Canada and our local hospice.

St. Michael, Dresden

President: Lisa Camillo

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Raymond Lawhead, Fr. Chris Gillespie

Number of Members: 63

Life Members: 0

Dresden is a small community of 2,700 that is part of the large community of Chatham-Kent. This year we took the opportunity to promote our league by participating in a street banner program.

As the visitors and residents walk our beautiful main street, they will see a banner featuring a family, reading: Dresden, #The Lifestyle, St. Michael's Catholic Women's League.

Also, this year we honoured the dead who made the ultimate sacrifice, by laying a wreath at the cenotaph during the Remembrance Day ceremony.

Our elderly are very important to us as our ladies participate in "Meals on Wheels" and bring Holy Communion to the nursing homes and shut ins on a weekly basis. However, this year we did a little extra. Our Christian Family Life Chairperson, Ellen Jennen, put gift bags together with toiletries and snacks. Our ladies arranged a time to visit with our shut ins and delivered them along with the gift of their time and of themselves.

In the struggle to have society realize that all are important in God's eyes, Spiritual Development Chairperson, Pat Maure, co-ordinated "12 hours of Adoration and Prayer for Palliative Care".

Although our community is small, we do have a lot of "working poor". The need to constantly supply our town food bank is on the rise. Our Community Life Chairperson, Diane Quesnel, challenged us to donate weekly and also co-ordinated two food drives. Diane also promoted our "Little Ways" campaign by asking us to collect used stamps. The Redemptorists sold our stamps for \$1100 and then matched it to present Canada Food Banks with a cheque for \$2200.

Our Lenten challenge lead by Organization Chairperson, Anne Jennen, was to donate one item from our closets for each day of Lent. She distributed large bags on the 1st Sunday of Lent. It was surprising how easy it was to fill that bag.

As St. Michael's Catholic Women's League celebrates 95 years in 2020, we already have guest speakers for "Ministry of Care" and a new program for the homeless in Chatham-Kent confirmed.

St. Patrick's, Merlin

Co-Presidents: Christine Drew

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Chris Bourdeau

Number of Members: 43

Life Members: 0

These are some of the ways that our council worked on the seven-corporal works of mercy this past year.

We provided funeral lunches for the families of deceased parishioners and in October we held a mass for the deceased members of our CWL.

We had postcards made up asking the Minister of Health to fund research into pharmaceuticals in drinking water and to then set rigorous quality standards for the presences of pharmaceuticals in water comparable to the World Health Organization.

We sponsored a monthly birthday party at a local nursing home providing cupcakes and entertainment.

At Christmas we visit the sick and the shut-ins singing Christmas carols and providing a small gift.

We gathered clothes and personal items and took them to Ashley's Place where they were distributed to Women's shelters and homeless shelters locally.

Every year our budget includes donations that help the poor and the needy, such as Save-a-Family Plan, Women's Centre, St. Vincent de Paul, Canadian Missions and more.

Sacred Heart, Port Lambton

President: Beverly Moffat

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Chris Gillespie

Number of Members: 93

Life Members: 0

Mathew 23:31-46 This is the foundation of this particular passage in the Bible, and from which Corporals Works come from.

At Sacred Heart, we have a fantastic Food Bank. In each Sunday bulletin, we ask for what is needed, such as peanut butter, soup crackers and canned meats. For March, a \$1.00 a day for forty days or what one can afford, will be collected by the Food Bank. There is an evening dinner each week, where a supper is prepared for the homeless, and clothing/socks are given out to the needy as well. There is a great need for visitation in this area for our older and sick, we do our best with ladies from our CWL visiting and taking note of what they need. We are working on a program with the K of C to visit together.

Funerals at our Church are provided with the CWL preparing the "after funeral meals."

Doing, being, assisting, giving, etc. are part of what God wants us to do. Bellelle Guerin saw this need and created the CWL which has been on the move for almost 100 years.

St. Michael, Ridgetown

President: Sue Martens

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. John Juhl

Number of Members: 69

Life Members: 0

Members of St. Michael's CWL have responded to God's call of serving the needy in various ways. Our council supports a poor family in India through *Save a Family Plan*. We donate money, clothing and various articles to *Canadian Food for Children*, focusing on a different product every year. In 2019, we collected 423 tubes of toothpaste and 573 toothbrushes for oral care in underdeveloped countries. In November, money is donated to The Salvation Army and St. Vincent de Paul from our council, for use in the *Christmas Hamper Program*.

Seventeen H.U.G.(Helping, Understanding & Giving) Bags were assembled and distributed to the men's and women's shelters, to *The Sandwich Guys* who supply the needy living in hotels, to our local Salvation Army and to a local church who runs a free clothing boutique for the poor. One of our members volunteers to make soup for the soup kitchen to feed the hungry.

St. Michael's folk choir, which is composed of CWL members, volunteers to sing at our local nursing home once a month. It is always an enjoyable time for both the residents and the CWL! Several members volunteer at the nursing home once a week and visit the residents to help with activities in the home. One member organizes a bingo every month for the residents -complete with prizes and treats!

Several members help organize and volunteer at Vacation Bible School in the community. The children learn about God and how much they are loved by God and others. It is a very successful event where children enjoy and feel accepted. We collected money for a water well in a rural school in Ghana to give water to the thirsty.

CWL members have prayers and an honour guard at the funeral for a deceased sister in the League. These are always well attended. In November, our council placed a wreath at the cenotaph to honour those who gave their lives for us.

To give support to the new Moms at Refuge, a member from our council coordinates the *Baby Bottle Boomerang*, plus our council gives a donation to *Right to Life* along with a baby shower for the same organization. St. Michael's CWL works with *New to You* which organizes a large *Mom to Mom Sale* twice a year for the community. They give us many large boxes of leftover clothing, toys and baby items which we bring to Refuge. Last fall, we needed to use a small trailer to transport so much! These items are received with immense gratitude and a quote in a thank you note from a volunteer is well worth repeating- "Thank you all for helping us do what we love to do and, you can't out give God!"

Members of our council are enthusiastic about helping our brothers and sisters in need. We feel very blessed and grateful to have the ongoing support of such a wonderful community.

North American Martyrs (St. Paul's), Thamesville

President: Mary Covemaeker

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. John Juhl

Number of Members: 57

Life Members: 0

We have donated canned goods and gifts to Thamesville Sertoma for their Needy Baskets in December.

A few of us have gone out to visit the sick and shut ins in our community.

We have had an Honor Guard for our deceased members

We do not have too much activity in our club other than meetings once a month and only about 5 members come to it.

St. Francis Xavier, Tilbury

President: Donna Bourdeau/ Liz Trudell

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Chris Bourdeau

Number of Members: 148

Life Members: 0

Question: How did your council work on the 7 Corporal Works of Mercy this past year?

As stated in the Catechism of the Catholic Church "The *works of mercy* are charitable actions by which we come to the aid of our neighbour in his spiritual and bodily necessities."

(a) To feed the hungry-Spiritually we encouraged participation in our monthly First Friday Adoration; recited the rosary before weekday masses and before weekend masses in October; attended a retreat at the Diocesan Shrine in Merlin; involvement with the Rosary Apostolate in the two schools; participated in Life Chain.

Bodily-We worked with the Social Committee on the Christmas Concert in which we collected cash donations/canned goods for our local H.E.L.P. Centre; provided refreshments for the Confirmation Reception; provided food for a Coffee Weekend; supported the Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign; hosted Deanery Meeting

(b) To give water to the thirsty- We encouraged members to possibly make changes in their homes to reduce consumption of water.

(c) To clothe the naked- We participated in the Diocesan HUG bag initiative for the Retreat Day and also as an Advent Project for our parish in which proceeds went to Ashley's Place; participated in the Sock Campaign for the convention; participated in the Baby Bottle Boomerang Campaign to support REFUGE Kent;

(d) To shelter the homeless- Donations were given to the Missions in Canada; participated in the World Day of Prayer held at Valetta Presbyterian Church; contributed to Development and Peace; participated in the Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Campaign.

(e) To visit the sick-Many members made weekly hospital visits, brought communion to shut-ins at home and long care and retirement facilities; were caregivers for family members or neighbours.

(f) To visit the imprisoned or ransom the captive- We participated in the Human Trafficking Awareness Day held at the 401 on-route; supported the Anti-Abortion Petition to Bill C-418.

(g) To bury the dead- We observed prayers at the funeral home for deceased members; were honour guards at the memorial masses; held a prayer service for deceased members at our June General meeting; had masses for the deceased; laid a wreath at the cenotaph for the Remembrance Day Observance.

Holy Family, Wallaceburg

President: Delina Bogaert

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Chris Gillespie

Number of Members: 110

Life Members: 0

Twice a year we hold a Senior/Shut-in Mass. This involves several volunteers who pick up parishioners from Senior Residences or their homes.

We have an annual Advent Tea and Social which involves a service in the church facilitated by one of our members. The clergy attends and participates when asked. A social afterwards is enjoyed in the room next to the church.

Our annual big fundraiser is a Penny Sale. Many parishioners and members sell tickets as well as purchase tickets.

We hold an Easter basket raffle

We visit seniors who are not able to leave their place of residence.

All the funds that we raise support good causes, such as:

Right to Life; Call of the Poor; Lend A Hand; Aqua Boxes; Canadian Food for Children; Least of the Coins; Chalice; St. Vincent the Paul; Community Meals; Make A Wish s/w Ontario; and other causes that help to sponsor children's activities and needs, just to name a few.

Our Lady Help of Christians, Wallaceburg

President: Margaret Cushman

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Chris Gillespie

Number of Members: 186

Life Members: 0

Humanitarian

Our council hosted the Inter-denominational World Day of Prayer on March 1st, 2019, with 8 other churches participating. We also provided the fellowship luncheon for the Holy Week of Prayer at the Christian Reformed Church in Wallaceburg.

We collected socks and personal hygiene items for local Women's Shelter and Men's Shelter. We also collected items of baby clothing for our Annual Right to Life Baby Shower in May.

Our CWL Council supported the Pastor's home-building mission trip to El Salvador, "Homes for Hope". Also, we supported the Development and Peace "Share the Journey" walk for refugees, held

in June. Participated in endorsing Christmas cards to War Veterans in hospitals in London and Toronto, Ont.

Local

Supported Petitions of 1 Million Signatures to be sent to Ottawa protesting abortion and euthanasia; participated in "An Hour of Prayer for Palliative Care", and H.U.G.S.

Collected warm hats and mitts for the school children, donated funds to schools to provide outerwear for children in need.

Sent cards of congratulations, get well and thank you to members as occasion arose. Also, sent condolence cards to family members of the deceased. Some of our members participate in a Bereavement Committee and deliver Memorial Candles to family members of a deceased parishioner.

We provided funeral luncheons at our church for bereaved families; we had an honor guard at the funerals of deceased members and provided Parish Prayer Services at the funeral home. Some members also act as altar servers at funeral masses at our parish.

We held a Mother/Daughter Pot Luck in June at which our sister councils are also invited to friends and children as well. This is always well attended by our members and pastors.

Youth Ministry: our CWL supported our youth in many different ways in 2019; we provided tickets for some of the youth to attend the Right to Life Banquet in Chatham in April; we donated funds toward the cost of transportation and accommodation for youth and leaders to attend the Right to Life protests against abortion held in Ottawa in May, 2019; donated funds for youth to attend the annual Stuebenville Youth Conference with their leaders, in Stuebenville Ohio in July.

Fundraisers held to support the above causes: Roast Beef Supper in March, Annual Yard Sale in June, and our Annual Fall Bazaar in October.

Our CWL members are involved in all aspects of parish and community life. They serve as Extra Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Choir members, Readers, Commentators, Ushers, Bulletin folders, on church decorating committees, our local Hospital Auxiliary and cooking and serving food for the hungry at our church when we have our monthly Community Meals, and more.

Seniors

Members participate in Ministry of Care in our Family of Parishes; visiting shut-ins; taking Communion to shut-in's; assisting with feeding in nursing homes; visiting bereaved families, visiting the lonely, serving however they can.

Essex Region
Rose Benteau
Regional Chairperson

11 councils

How do we as Catholic Women of Canada make a difference in people's lives?

By helping to feed the poor, many are volunteering at Gleaners, who send freeze-dried food all over the world. Serving hot meals for migrant workers, making many donations to St. Vincent de Paul Society and to the Downtown Mission are a variety of ways we feed the hungry.

The Welcome Centre for Women, Street Help, and the Bridge for Youth receive many socks, clothing and personal care products as a result of our yard sale and gently used purse drive.

Being aware of ways we can Care for our Common Home, we promote and pledge to conserve water. We also use paper products instead of styrofoam. Recycling our ink cartridges and properly disposing of used batteries are more ways we are vigilant.

Spiritual works of mercy are promoted by visiting the sick and the homebound, by bringing them cards and praying with them. Phone calls are always an added good touch. Many rosaries are given to patients in the hospital. Assisting at Hospice is another way we reach out and console those in pain-filled situations. We offer a mass for our deceased members. We also offer a 12 Hour day of prayer for Palliative Care by reciting the rosary or by attending an hour of adoration. During Lent, many councils have a day of reflection, attend our retreat day, or lead the Stations of the Cross.

To increase knowledge in our faith, gift cards are awarded to students for use at a religious store, and holy cards are presented to our First Communion, Confirmation, and RCIA candidates.

Donations are made for altar cloths and to purchase stoles for our ordained permanent deacons. To be visible in our community, many usher at mass, help serve at Alpha programs, stand for the unborn during 40 days for Life and Life Chain. Many attend the Right to Life dinner or sponsor someone to be there. To show respect for our deceased, we stand as honor guard at their funeral and lead a prayer service at the funeral home.

Each small gesture of kindness makes a great difference in the world around us.



St. John the Baptist, Amherstburg

President: Mary Verstick

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Matt Kucharski

Number of Members: 77

Life Members: 0

We gave Spiritual Bouquets to Provincial Archbishop, Brendan O'Brien and also to Fr. Brian Jane for his 15 years of ordination.

Many of our ladies attended the Lenten retreat which was held in Chatham.

During the Fridays in lent our parish had the Stations of the Cross. The C.W.L. had one of those Fridays where members took part in the readings and carrying of the Cross and candles.

There was a mass for our Patron Saint, Our Lady of Good Counsel.

On the 40 Days for Life, we held a vigil at the hospital to stop abortion.

Some of our members participated in the Human Trafficking which was held at the On Routes. We had a guest speaker who actually was involved in that trade to talk to us.

The retreat in Merlin was attended by a number of our members.

Also, the Fall Regional at Visitation was attended.

We had a guest speaker from Gleaners to give a talk.

We had a "Guard" at the funerals of our two members who passed away.

St. Simon & St. Jude, Belle River

President: Lee Levergood/Linda Prestyko

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Antony Kolenchery

Number of Members: 225

Life Members: 0

Our Council's corporal works include:

To feed the hungry, our council continues to donate food to Street Help and Windsor Youth Centre in Windsor.

To give water to the thirsty, financial support to Development Peace Program for Third World.

To clothe the naked, financial support to Sleeping Children Around the World as well as two families in India through Save A Family Plan. Baby clothes donated to Our Lady of Guadalupe Home for young single mothers. Donation of 103 pairs of pajamas to Goodfellows families.

To shelter the Homeless, financial support and donation of clothing, bedding etc. for the homeless through Street Help in Windsor

To visit the sick, throughout the year cards are sent to our sick members. Visits to the home bound and local nursing homes during the Christmas season as well as Valentines Day.

To bury the dead, each deceased member has a prayer service and honor guard. The family is given a sympathy card and a mass is offered. At our November meeting, a memorial service is held for all deceased Members. We also participate in the Annual Parish Memorial service to honor our deceased members.

Visitation Parish, Comber

President: Nancy Sylvestre

Spiritual Advisor – Fr. Eugene Roy

Number of Members: 151

Life Members: 0

During the year 2019, our council has worked on the seven-corporal works of mercy in our parish and community as follows:

To feed the hungry: “Man is not fed by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God” says Jesus. Food is very important and sharing it with others and the poor is necessary. But, that bread, needs to be given over and over again. This is what fills the hungry soul as well as healing the human soul and body. Eucharistic Ministers bring Holy Communion to those are hungry. Bringing people to the Holy Latin Mass and preparing them to worthily receive the Real Body and Blood of Jesus is the greatest thing we can do for others. We support the foodbanks and a mission in Windsor – Street Help and Downtown Missions through donations of food and monetary donations.

To give water to the thirsty: Jesus is the crystal, clear spring from which flows all that is life giving; the Bible and the Holy Sacraments. Without water, there is no life, human, animal or plant. So, we want to share our faith with those who are thirsting for meaning in their lives as well as giving someone something to drink.

To clothe the naked: We clothe the naked by supporting missions with clothing...socks, shorts, mitts, gloves, etc. especially in the winter. Some our ladies make blankets to give to them.

To shelter the homeless: We provide donations for homeless shelters to purchase food, sleeping bags, etc.

To visit the sick: We visit the sick in the hospitals and at home, giving them company and praying for them. Our council sends spiritual bouquet cards to our members who are ill and also to shut-ins of parish community. This is done at Easter during Holy Week and at Christmas during advent. They visit the members and shut-ins with a visit. It is greatly appreciated. We also send out cards of encouragement to our members when they are sick or experiencing a difficult moment.

To visit the imprisoned, or ransom the captive: Many of our parishioners are held captive in their homes as they are homebound and do not have a means of transportation to get anywhere. Some are also in prison and members go and visit them. These people are not alone. Our members bring news of Jesus to them and give them hope. Some of our members transport people to appointments and bring them out for an outing.

To bury the dead: We provide CWL prayers and honour guards for our deceased members. Many of our members serve the funeral luncheon for their families. We send out sympathy cards to family members. We have prayer angels who are called when our CWL member’s family passes. They say special prayers for one week for them.

Holy Name of Jesus, Essex

President: Pat Kozak

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. David Boutette

Number of Members: 119

Life Members: 0

We donate to Essex Food Bank, Esk-Omi Mission, Moosonee Mission, Trapper’s Lake Spiritual Centre, and Essex Region Goodfellows.

We collected socks for Essex Community Services and baby sleepers for Ronald McDonald House Windsor and back packs with school supplies for Children Aid Society and Essex Food Bank.

We donate to Holy Name of Jesus Mission Group, St. Vincent de Paul, Our Lady of Guadalupe House, Windsor Hospice and Save a family Plan in which we sponsor a family in India.

During Advent, we visit our housebound, shut-ins and nursing home members and give them a Christmas card and ornament.

We participate in CWL/Parish Prayers for our deceased members, and provide an Honour Guard at their funerals. We also offer a Mass Intention for them.

We continue to work on the Corporal Works of Mercy, with God's help.

St. Anthony of Padua, Harrow

President: Margaret Noel

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Rick Janisse

Number of Members: 46

Life Members: 0

Although we are a small council, we try to do as much as we can to include the works of mercy in our activities. During 2019, members visited the lonely people in nursing homes and in assisted living homes. We prepared and served dinner for the migrant workers on the last Sunday of the months of May to October. Several members went Christmas carolling at the Harwood Assisted Living Home. By delivering meals on wheels we get to visit the home bound. We continually collect new and used rosaries and bibles to give to the patients at Hotel Dieu Grace Health Care.

To give to the needy we collect toiletries for Hiatus House and socks for the homeless. Canned goods are sent to the St. Vincent de Paul Food Bank. We host the receptions for the first reconciliation and the confirmation candidates. To promote respect for life, we stand for Life Chain in our town and attend the Right to Life dinner at the Fogolar Furlan Club. Masses are offered in November for our deceased members and in April for our living members. On the first Friday of our Lenten season, we led the stations of the cross. We arranged a Lenten day of reflection at the Holy Family Retreat House, in Oxley. The theme was on The Poverty of Loneliness.

St. John de Brebeuf, Kingsville

President: Rose Jones

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Rick Janisse

Number of Members: 110

Life Members: 0

Feed people; Meals on Wheels, Support SSVP food bank in our parish, Volunteer at South Western Ont. Gleaners (rough crop vegetables for dry soup mix that is shipped to needy Indigenous people of Canada and people aboard, also apple snacks for school children in Essex county). Provide pancakes on Shrove Tues for St John de Brebeuf elementary school students.

Sick; Hospital visitations, Long term care, nursing and home bound visitations and we send out get well and thinking of you cards when appropriate.

Clothe; Provide socks and other necessities to The Bridge Youth Centre (centre for troubled youth, ages 16-24). They provide temporary beds and showers as well as counselling.

Homeless; Support Guadalupe Home, a shelter and support group for new mothers and pregnant women in crisis.

Captive; Support committee that sponsors refugee families on the fringes of the camps.

Dead; Provide Honour guard for deceased CWL members at their funeral services at the church.

St. Michael, Leamington

President: Mary Di Milo

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Tom Ferrera

Number of Members: 234

Life Members: 1

Soup Day was hosted by St. Vincent de Paul. Members donated soup and time. Monies are donated to help feed needy in community. Our annual December Potluck /White Elephant Sale /Election - The ladies enjoyed great food and the auction proceeds were donated to the ST. Vincent de Paul.

Donated \$500 to Refugee Committee - Several members helped organize the sponsorship of refugee family of 8 from Tanzania. They found housing, furnished house with donations and items bought. They supplied food for first while and aided with adjusting to new life. After almost a year, they are still looking out for them and available for assistance, as needed.

Donated \$1000 to "Out of the Cold" Project – Reaching out to 300 invisible **Homeless Individuals** in Leamington. This project will at least keep homeless more comfortable and dignified through the winter.

Collected backpacks, purses filled with items at June Potluck supper and distributed them to various homeless shelters, Hiatus House, Matthew House etc. in Windsor

Another member regularly collects and brings donated clothing and essentials etc. to The Inn (Women's Shelter) on Bridge St. in Windsor.

Christmas Gift bags were distributed to Shut-in parishioners.

Some members are part of hospitality committee providing refreshments and desserts to the Migrant Workers after 3:00 pm. Mass on Sunday afternoons.

Members visited/brought Communion to hospital and nursing homes and volunteered at Hospice Residential Home, Erie Shores. We also hosted birthday parties at 3 nursing homes in town.

Members were encouraged to call or reach out to lonely members, living on their own, widowed etc.

St. Clement, McGregor

President: Doris Coyle

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Seejo John

Number of Members: 108

Life Members: 0

In the past year our council has worked on the corporal works of mercy in many ways. The following are just a few.

To help the homeless in our area, we prayerfully and financially supported the Street Help Homeless Centre, as well as collecting and delivering food-to-go items for their care packages. We donated to our local St. Vincent de Paul and some of our members are volunteers with them, serving those in need in our community. To help combat loneliness, we sent special thinking of you cards to our members, made phone calls and visited those in nursing homes at Easter and gave them a carnation to help brighten their day. We supported a family in India through the Save-a-Family Plan. We shared letters with them throughout the year and it was wonderful to see them grow and begin to achieve independent living. We helped our parishioners to become more aware of human trafficking by providing them with important information and facts on this issue. We showed our support for the victims and survivors by participating in the #onRoute Campaign.

As our mission statement says, through ministry and service to others, we are witnesses to God's Love and it allows our own faith to grow and be strengthened.

Good Shepherd, Tecumseh

President: Louise Boyd

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Patrick Benetau

Number of Members: 83

Life Members: 0

Good Shepherd Catholic Women's League filled paper bags with snacks to be given to Kids First Food Bank, donated rosaries to Hotel-Dieu Grace Health Care; extra socks not taken to the Convention were distributed to St. Vincent de Paul and Divine Mercy; canned goods donated by members were delivered to St. Vincent de Paul and Divine Mercy; hats, gloves, scarves, etc. donated by members were donated to Salvation Army.

Financial donations were given to M.O.S.T. a mobile outreach program to help those on the street; Women's Welcome Centre; Iris House for persons with serious mental illness; St. Vincent de Paul (North of 60) which supplies food and clothing to Indigenous peoples, Street Help and Residence for Young Men.

Good Shepherd Parish held a mass for Unclaimed Bodies of Windsor-Essex County and many of our Catholic Women's League members attended. Members were urged to stop the use of plastic water bottles; Members wrote to the Minister of Health requesting the government to fund research into pharmaceuticals in drinking water. Several of our members are part of a new Ministry

entitled "Homebound" where they bring communion, the parish bulletin and hold prayer service to shut-ins. A memorial service was held for our deceased members; CWL prayers and the Honour Guard takes place for all deceased members of our Council whenever requested by the family.

Ste. Anne's Parish, Tecumseh

Name of President: Annette Marier

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Eugene Roy

Number of Members: 221

Life Members: 0

Our council picks a charity every year to donate clothing or needed items
Last year 2019 we collected warm clothing jackets sweaters gloves and socks
For Street Help a homeless shelter.

This year we are collecting hairbrushes, razors, toothbrushes, and clothing for the Women's shelter
We also elected to save water by not running water while brushing our teeth this will save 25,000 gallons of water.

St. John the Evangelist, Woodslee

President: Angelle Bisson

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Vince Gulikers

Number of Members: 95

Life Members: 0

How did our council work on the seven corporal works of mercy this past year?

We provide help for Hospice, Visit and comfort the sick at the Senior Homes, Food for the homeless at the Food Drive, Clothe the poor at Downtown Mission, Helping 3 ongoing Families from India and Africa helping them with Education, Shelter and Living, CWL HONOR GUARD at funerals, Gleaners in Leamington donate our time every 2nd Thursday of each month. Make prayer Shawls for those in need of comfort.

Tsp prayers

**Thank you, sorry, please
Perhaps the simplest way of structuring a prayer
is to use the three words thank you, sorry, please.**

Huron-Perth Region Mary Barnes Regional Chairperson

16 Councils

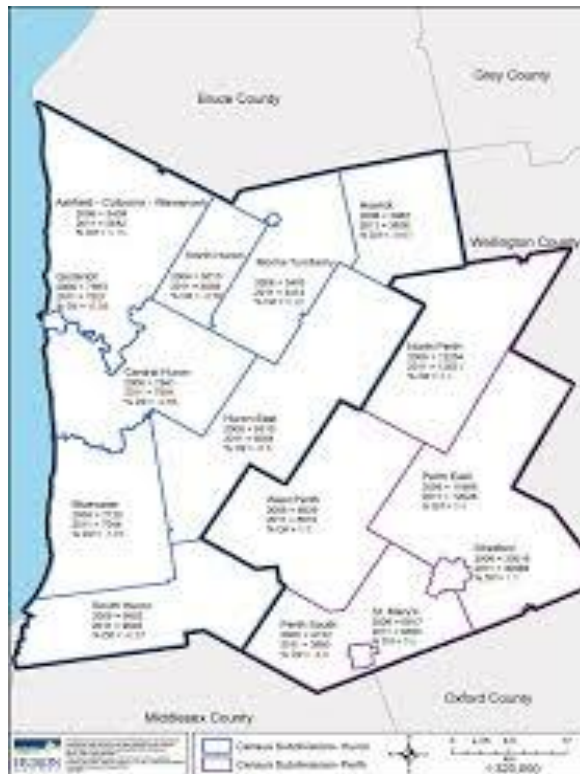
As I complete the end of my two-year term as Regional Chairperson and will begin my next two years the Councils of Huron Perth have embraced Homelessness with various projects. The HUG project was very successful in each council with donations forwarded to various organizations in both Huron and Perth.

We have all participated in Funeral Prayers, Masses, Guard of Honour, Funeral Lunches in our Parishes. Visits to sick and shut-ins with various cards for various occasions are carried out by individual councils.

Participation in Lenten Lunches and World Day of Prayer has also been part of some councils.

An introductory presentation by Compassionate Community Care has been presented with workshops planned in the coming year.

I look forward to my second two term as Regional Chairperson.



Sacred Heart, Bornish-Parkhill
President: Tammy Vandersanden
Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Tony Laforet
Number of Members: 69

Life Members: 1

No report

St. Patrick's, Dublin
President: Kathy Rowland
Spiritual Advisor: Father Philip Joseph
Number of Members: 57

Life Members: 0

St. Patrick's, Dublin CWL members have embraced the scripture, "Whatever you do to the least of my brothers, so you do unto me" (Matthew 25:31-46). The corporal works of mercy have been an aspiration of CWL members of the past and present.

In this past year, we helped feed the hungry in the community, by volunteering and donating money and food to the local food banks. Our CWL had a sock drive last winter and made a large contribution of new socks to the Salvation Army, who then distributed them to those who are in need in the local communities, so that they would have warm, dry feet. We have many dedicated members who visit those who are sick, lonely and unable to attend Mass. They are given the gift of a flower and a card. A Mass is offered on their behalf. All proceeds collected from our spring bake sale, at the Staffa Maple Syrup Festival, were donated to support Hospices in both Perth and Huron Counties. This past spring, members and parishioners, from St. Patrick's, Dublin and St. James, Seaforth parishes participated in a spiritual retreat called, "Commit", led by our Youth Minister Karen Doyle. The underlying theme was bereavement and prayer. We continue to offer funeral lunches and honour guard to support families with bereavement. As members of the Catholic Women's League we are proud, and often times humbled, as we help those in need.

Precious Blood, Exeter
President: Pauline Hogan
Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Len Desjardins
Number of Members: 85

Life Members: 0

No report

St. Peter's, Goderich

President: Joyce Essery

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Ronnie Tagnines

Number of Members: 153

Life Members: 1

(Clothe the Naked, Shelter the Homeless) - H.U.G. Project – donations were made to: Women's Shelter and Out of the Cold Program (for the homeless). Donations included socks, underwear, money and toiletries. Socks were also provided at Convention per request.

(Feed the Poor) – Four Breakfasts (Free Will Offering) were held following Sunday Masses. This enabled us to feed those unable to afford to purchase their breakfast. We support a Sponsor Child through Chalice. We donate to local Food Bank on a regular basis through the Parish.

(Bury the Dead) - Mass for Deceased Loved Ones of CWL Members – something new this year. On the first Friday of the month Mass is requested for Deceased Loved Ones. Following Mass, snacks and refreshments are available and a time of fellowship enjoyed. We honor the deceased, pray for their souls, and allow those attending to begin to heal from their grief and loneliness. Funeral lunches are provided as requested.

Following the death of a CWL member, they are remembered in prayer at our general meeting, their names provided to National office, and their name entered into our League Book of Life. This handwritten Book of Life is displayed during Mass on All Souls Day, and CWL Masses offered for Deceased. Cards are sent to family members suffering a bereavement. Also, Mass is offered for all deceased CWL members in November.

(Visit the Sick) – We visited and Engaged Residents in Christmas carolling at local nursing/retirement homes. Each home was presented with a large poinsettia, and snacks/refreshments allowed us to spend quality time with residents. Cards are sent to those sick or recovering from surgery. CWL members, through the church, bring communion to the homebound, conduct weekly communion service at a nursing home, coordinate Parish Prayerline requests, and distribute Bulletins and prayer lists to retirement homes.

(Give Water to the Thirsty) – A Spiritual Reflection Day, "Laudato Si, Care for our Common Home", was held which focused on making changes in our daily lives to protect and care for Mother Earth. Protect Our Water postcards were distributed to the Parish for signing, collected and sent to Ottawa urging national standards or laws to protect our water.

(Ransom the Captive) – Members distributed to parishioners for signing, 'Pornography Hurts' postcards; then collected and mailed them to Ottawa. Members organized and attended the Project ONRoute Human Trafficking Media Screen Awareness Campaign on July 30 in Woodstock.

Immaculate Heart of Mary, Grand Bend

President: Joanne Vandenberg

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. (Antoine) Tony Laforet

Number of Members: 84

Life Members: 0

Our Council is blessed with many dedicated and active Catholic Women's League members!

In June, we held our annual Ham & Strawberry Social; the proceeds were directed to our area food banks in Zurich, Forest and Ailsa Craig. We feed the hungry.

We clothe the naked. Dozens of pairs of socks were collected and were gratefully received by homeless men on the streets of London.

We bury the dead. When a League member passes away, we provide a CWL Honour Guard and prepare a luncheon, if requested.

We visit the sick and lonely. Some of our shut-ins receive the Eucharist on a regular basis, and receive the gift of a plant at Christmas. In 2019, our Corresponding Secretary sent out a total of 149 greeting cards - for Masses, for sympathy and thinking of you; congratulations for milestone birthdays and wedding anniversaries; for Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation and Weddings; Thank you cards; Christmas, Valentine's Day, Easter and Thanksgiving cards were sent to shut-ins, to those who moved away, and to those in nursing homes. All recipients were touched by our thoughtfulness.

Since our Council was formed in 1956, we have accomplished many good works, for God and Canada. Our Lady of Good Counsel, pray for us as we carry on!

St. Patrick's, Kinkora

President: Wilma Kolkman

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Benjamin Raze

Number of Members: 97

Life Members: 0

We, at St. Patrick's Kinkora Council, have responded to God's call to work on the seven corporal works of mercy this past year in the following ways:

- By visiting the sick, shut-ins and the elderly in their homes and nursing homes and by giving them Christmas tins and cards, we convey to them that they are still a vital part of our parish and that they are not forgotten.
- We have reached out this year to the less fortunate in our community. Several women helped to put on a free meal for about 100 people in Stratford who were so appreciative.
- We participated in the H.U.G. (Helping, Understanding, Giving) project and donated many needed items to Optimism Place in Stratford, our local women's shelter.

- We kicked off a new initiative called S.W.A.G.—Serving With Action and Grace. Groups made up of three members visit each other during the year and also reach out to someone who might be lonely.
- Several beloved parishioners have passed away this year, both young and old. We have served funeral luncheons, participated in honour guards and supported those who are grieving.

This year, we at St. Patrick’s Kinkora CWL have tried to bring Christ to the homeless and lonely in our community.

St. Joseph’s, Listowel

Co- Presidents: Theresa Redpath

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Keith Morrison

Number of Members: 91

Life Members: 0

To feed the hungry: We give to our parish food drive every Easter and Thanksgiving.

To clothe the naked: We donated socks to the homeless shelter here in Listowel.

To shelter the homeless: We donated tooth brushes, tooth paste, deodorant, shampoo and face soap to the homeless shelter.

To visit the sick: We visit the residents in the retirement home in our community. Weekly visits to both men and women. Sometimes we polish nails, comb hair and bring residents to the dining hall for entertainment. We also go on outings such as a luncheon at one of the local restaurants. We help them select lunch and drinks from the menu.

To bury the dead: We prepare and service lunch for our deceased parishioners. If the deceased is a member of the CWL, we provide an honour guard for her.

St. Vincent de Paul, Mitchell

Co-Presidents: Mary Sanders

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Benjamin Raze

Number of Members: 65

Life Members: 0

This is 100 years for which CWL has been a blessed organization. I have been privileged to have been a member for the past 25 years. Our council has changed in size over the years doing God’s will and working for Canada. This past year we have worked on some of the corporal works of mercy. We have collected food for the Mitchell food bank. As well we’ve collected socks and toiletries for the homeless and shelters. We have visited the sick in our nursing homes and helped celebrate their birthdays in the month of August. Some of our members are involved in the welcoming and care of a refugee family of 8 from Syria. This family is adjusting well to this country and small town. Another thing we have done is to have honor guards at funerals and provide comfort and receptions for our deceased members of the parish.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Mount Carmel

Co-Presidents: Elisabeth Mc Falls/Clasina Geurts

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Ben Huyge

Number of Members: 62

Life Members: 0

Our Council prepared a luncheon in Nov. for widows, widowers and the elderly. We worked with the Knights of Columbus and Exeter Precious Blood CWL to hold a Parish picnic/farewell to Fr. Len in June and a Ham and Sausage Supper in October. We worked with Fr. Ben, the Knights and Our Lady of Mount Carmel School to put on a Pork Roast Dinner for Meet the Teachers night at school. Over 300 were fed.

We support the Aquabox program through the Rotary Club of Stratford to supply boxes for emergency clean water to countries where it is needed.

Our Council put together 6 large boxes of personal care and household items to support 6 women and their children in Exeter's Second Stage Housing.

Mount Carmel and Exeter CWLs organized to have Kelly Franklin of Farmtown Canada speak in Exeter on Human Trafficking and the ONroute Project. Four of our members attended an Ingersoll ONroute on July 30th.

We supported a university student on a mission to Cameroon and sent a parish student to CCL camp.

We had an honour guard for a deceased member, we put on funeral lunches and a number of members sing in the choir for funeral masses.

St. Peter's at St. Joseph

President: Carrie Van Osch

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Matthew George

Number of Members: 52

Life Members: 0

Here are a few examples on how our council worked on the seven corporal works of mercy... Like other parishes in our diocese and beyond we brought in a refugee family and more than giving them the gifts of the Corporal Acts of Mercy we also love them. Now they have a real sense of belonging, of safety, vision of hope for their future and a home again.

In December we had an amazing guest speaker, Eugene Dufour, who is a Therapist at STAR Family Health Team. He spoke on providing excellent and compassionate care for people in need of end of life care. St. Peter's has always been a great supporter of our local retirement residence, Blue Water Rest Home, so it fit really well with our continued support of 'Visiting the Sick'. Weekly we have a group of council members who help Father Matthew George with a mass for the residents. We donate annually to an 'Ice Cream Fund' where the residents look forward to their weekly treat. Each March we participate in 'The World Day Of Prayer' on-site at the Rest Home so all can attend. It's beautiful to see their smiling faces singing along with the program.

'Feeding the Hungry' is something all the people of the Parish at St. Peter's take seriously. We not only have food drives to help fill the shelves after major holidays but collect monthly for our local Blessings Community Store. As per Patricia Langford, Spiritual Development stated, "Members donate hours of their time voluntarily in the store, picking up donations and presenting items for sale to help when money is the best answer. The hearts and hands of these ladies bring me near to tears when I see all the hidden little acts of Corporal works that go on here day after day. I have lived in many parishes over the years but never has this generosity been as obvious, genuine and unselfish to my eyes".

Holy Name of Mary, St. Marys

President: Shirley Ann Beecroft

Spiritual Advisor: none currently

Number of Members: 107

Life Members: 0

In the Gospel of Matthew (Mt.25:31-46), Jesus explains that, at the end of time, the Son of Man will come to judge us on the deeds which we have done, including to feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, welcome the stranger, clothe the naked, care for the sick and visit the imprisoned. During 2019 members of our CWL council have tried to do these things as well as trying to alleviate some of the problems of the homeless and those who suffer loneliness. Food and drink collected during the World Day of the Poor campaign was shared between the St. Marys Salvation Army Food Bank and the St. Vincent de Paul in Stratford. We also made a donation of money and grocery cards to the local Food Bank.

An astonishing 373 pairs of new warm socks (some of them hand knitted) were collected for the less fortunate. These socks and gently used clothing items were donated to Coats for Kids, House of Blessing, ShelterLink, Optimism Place and a temporarily homeless man who stayed in St. Marys during the late winter and early spring.

Some of our members visit people in the two local nursing homes on a regular basis, while other members assist in the day programs in the nursing homes and the local hospital. A few of our members prepare and lead ecumenical prayer services at one of the nursing homes while others serve as extraordinary Eucharistic Ministers bringing Communion to the ill and those who cannot get to church.

Although we do not actually bury the dead, several of our members sing in the Resurrection Choir and serve as lectors when required, we also have two teams of CWL members who alternate in providing a luncheon for family and friends after the funeral. Each November we organize and participate in an Annual Memorial Mass for all parishioners who have died during the year.

An outstanding event for us occurred in the autumn when one of our members travelled to Masakae, Uganda with the OMACARE group to work at a shelter which assists young homeless boys to leave life on the streets. These boys were given shelter, clothing, food, medical care and education to prepare them to eventually find work and a safe permanent place to live. We were thrilled to be able to donate to this venture and to hear about it when she returned.

We enjoyed participating in these deeds and hope one day to hear the Son of Man say to us: "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these, my brothers, you did it to me". (Mt.25:40).

St. James, Seaforth

President: Mary Barnes

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Philip Joseph

Number of Members: 99

Life Members: 0

St. James Council is dedicated to the shut ins of our Parish at home as well as the hospital and nursing/retirement homes in our area. Visits are made monthly with rotating visitors. Announced Masses are given for all deceased members with CWL Prayers and Guard of Honour upon request of the Family. Various cards of sympathy are also sent.

Funeral lunches are catered for families with 17 this past year including 5 deceased members.

A successful HUG project was carried out during Advent with donations going to the Women's Shelter in Goderich and Room to Grow in Clinton.

Immaculate Conception, Stratford

President: Marjorie Skinner

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Dick Bester

Number of Members: 88

Life Members: 0

Feed the hungry: Donations to Christmas Basket Fund, Missions Canada, Peace & Development, Canadian Food for Children, L'Arche, St. Vincent de Paul, and Local Community Food. Ongoing support of a family in India under Save A Family Plan.

Give Water to the Thirsty: Donated to Aqua Box Rotary Project. They assemble boxes with the tools/instructions to purify water and are sent immediately to countries that are hit with unexpected calamities and no clean water available. Educating ourselves on the harm that plastics are doing to the waterways and landfills. Good information given at the last Convention to motivate us to be more aware of polluting water.

Clothe the Naked: Collected 400 pairs of socks, along with new slippers, pjs. etc. Distributed to Shelter Link and House of Blessing.

Shelter the Homeless: Collected items, towels, bedding to be used at Shelter Link. Also, collections of personal and other needed items for women to use at Optimism Place, the home for the abused, and also when they leave for another safe haven.

Visit the Sick We have members who visit before Easter & Christmas, other members visit in hospitals. One member does phone visiting to those who are living alone and keeps them abreast of what is happening in their Council and develops relationships.

Ransom the Captive: Members were in the picketing blitz one day and drove to OnRoute near London on Highway 401 to show their support and bring awareness that young girls and women are being lured unknowingly at first to be used in the sex trade. Police and CWL spoke to the crowds and also Founder Kelly Franklin who started Farm Town in the country where girls can go to a safe place and integrated back into Society. Made a donation to help run this safe place. We are always busy in the parish ministry and provide for the young and other areas with not enough room here to share. Every year we host, prepare and serve at the Lenten Luncheons for 6 Wednesdays from Noon-1pm. Different ministers and our priest bring a Lenten message. Open to the Community. Our well known Bazaar is in November. In 2020 is Sat 7th, 9:30-1PM. All profits are mainly directed to the parish building fund as well as to 15 other parish and community needs. Our Fashion Show profits went to help open our first Rotary Hospice in 2019. Have prayers and spiritual content at our meetings. Blessings to all who could come to be with other sisters at the 100th Convention Anniversary. A once in a lifetime journey for God and Canada.

St. Joseph's, Stratford

President: Neves Pereira

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Dick Bester

Number of Members: 190

Life Members: 0

Our council this year decided to investigate the homeless situation in Stratford. Raymonde Abooud took on the role of investigator and became our leader in coordinating how we were going to be able to assist with this dire situation. After many hours of investigating it, we decided to make bags with the basic daily needs for some of the homeless in Stratford. St. Joseph's parishioners once again out did themselves, with donations of water-proof bags, toiletries, energy bars, can openers, face cloths, tooth brushes, shampoo, socks, deodorants, scarves, hats and gloves. Members of our council were able to put together 29 bags in total for both men and women.

These bags were then taken to the Stratford House of Blessing, Shelter-link and remainder of some extra items were given to the St. Vincent de Paul. Some of our council members also assists with the Community Kitchen at St. Joseph's church hall. This evening meal is put on a monthly basis for anyone in our community that needs assistance.

Members of our council are very active with the St. Vincent de Paul Society and many other community organizations. This project gave our council a great opportunity to enhance our community building skills and to become more aware of how big the homeless situation is in our City.

Sacred Heart, Wingham

President: Marilyn van Heesch

Spiritual Advisor: Father Keith Morrison

Number of Members: 88

Life Members: 0

Examples of Corporal Works of Mercy we worked on:

Feed the Hungry - Benevolent Breakfast with proceeds going to needy in our community
- once a month helping with a lunch (with other churches) to serve the lonely and less fortunate in our community
Clothe the Naked - donated socks and pjs, etc. to the local Out of the Cold program
Shelter the Homeless - Donate supplies and \$ to a home for single mothers and their babies.
Visit the Sick - visit people in the hospital
Visit the Imprisoned - visit the housebound and in nursing homes
Bury the Dead - served several funeral lunches

St Boniface Zurich

President: vacant

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Matt George

Number of Members: 92

Life Members: 0

No report



Ingersoll Region
Fatima Cabral
Regional Chairperson

11 Councils

All eleven Ingersoll regional councils were busy in 2019 carrying out activities that focused on Caring for our Common Home (national theme) and homelessness (provincial theme). Over 1000 pairs of socks were collected by councils in preparation for the London Diocesan convention last April in Windsor. Majority of those socks stayed in each council's communities and were taken to shelters and other groups that support those less fortunate. Many councils supported the HUG campaign facilitated by Denise Lalonde-Morris. Councils donated gift cards, toiletries and comfort items to community agencies that help women, men and children. Clothing our naked was achieved by these generous activities.

On July 30th, 2019 Ingersoll region CWL councils had outstanding representation at the #Project Maple Leaf Human Trafficking Awareness event. Members gathered at the Woodstock ONRoute location with their signs highlighting this national crisis targeting young people in our communities. Many councils also donated to Kelly Franklin's Courage for Freedom charity to raise money to allow the media campaign to run during the month of July at all ONRoute locations in Ontario. Protecting our most vulnerable youth is everyone's responsibility.

Lastly, Ingersoll regional councils participated in the "Protect Our Water" postcard campaign. Most councils participated by distributing postcards to their members and parish community. The postcard campaign encouraged the federal government to test for pharmaceuticals in our water sources. Some councils met with their MPs to discuss the issue and present the signed postcards. Our water source is precious and all are dependent on water not only for drink but also to grow our agriculture, water our animals and support cleanliness in our communities.

Above all our members pray. We pray for the unborn, the sick and dying and those struggling with addictions. We pray for those that are vulnerable to human trafficking, euthanasia and abortion. We pray for CWL members that have died and honour them with an honour guard at their funeral or a funeral luncheon for their family and friends. Our faith and commitment to service translates into the numerous hours of work we do for our League, church and community



Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Parish, Delhi

President: Vacant

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Alan Dufraimant

Number of Members: 178

Life Members: 1

Our Lady Queen of Martyrs, CWL has been doing “ works of corporal mercy” in our community for 83 years.

- **To give water to the thirsty**, support Save a family Plan \$300 annually and participated in save water Card campaign.
- **To feed the hungry**, providing donations to the snack program at St. Francis school as well as cooking the pancake lunch for over 325 students each Shrove Tuesday.
- **To clothe the naked**, Spring & Fall rummage sales provide help to homeless in community by giving them pride in obtaining extra clothing for themselves + warming blankets. Extra clothing is also distributed to homeless by members.
- **To shelter the homeless**, a Share & Care project to provide necessities for families in women’s shelters (in February) and assist with annual Food & Toy drive for over 52 families at Christmas .
- **To visit the sick**, provide nursing home residents in Courtland with a birthday celebration including corsages, bingo, cake and socialization.
- **Visit the imprisoned/Or ransom the captive** Support voice for life , plus a LARGE amount of donations to local hospitals, nursing homes, senior support, Catholic Missions, Palliative care homes, Camp Trillium & schools with bursary’s and assistance for bussing. Assist with Migrant Ministry each Sunday during summer.

To bury the dead Ladies served funeral lunches during the year & said rosaries with honour guards at funerals(22) and provide their voices in choir at over 48 funerals

Sacred Heart, Ingersoll

President: Joanne Schoenmaker

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Gilbert Simard

Number of Members: 142

Life Members: 0

The Provincial Themes for the past year were Homelessness and Loneliness. Through our many events and activities, we as a council have strived to support these themes. Many fundraisers and social events further helped us to work on the seven corporal works of mercy.

Successful collecting of 186 pairs of socks, supporting Ingamo house , Coats for Kids drive, our Missions ladies weekly meeting to clothe the needy are examples of our efforts to support those in need.

Social justice work has kept our members engaged with many causes: human trafficking (Onroute Project), Protect our Water (150 cards sent), Mental Health Issues and Abortion (letter writing to MPP), and our newest project of daily prayer to the unborn (9 months of prayer).

Monthly coffee Sundays, prayers, cards and emails to the sick, singing and prayers at our Nursing Home visits, recent Paint Night in support of the Alzheimer Society and guest speakers have helped us bring fellowship through socially to our members.

Funeral Home prayer service, Annual Memorial Mass, support for Bereavement group helps us to honour our deceased members. Support to our local schools for busing, awards, Vacation Bible School helps with our next generation.

With God's help and spiritual support from all we as a council will continue to strive to work on the seven corporal works of mercy and towards reducing "Loneliness".

Sacred Heart, Langton

President: Linda Vandenriessche

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Thomas Kuriako

Number of Members: 177

Life Members: 0

No report

Our Lady of LaSalette, LaSalette

President: Edith Heleniak

Spiritual Advisor: Rev. Fr. Alan Dufraimant

Number of Members: 88

Life Members: 0

The Our Lady of LaSalette CWL is announcing our upcoming 2021 celebration event marking our centennial anniversary. Currently, the CWL comprises of 82 dedicated and hard-working members. In retrospect of their efforts recently, our work has focused on resolving homelessness in the community and helping those who are experiencing distress and loneliness mostly impacting community residents in nursing homes by participating in events that can make a great difference in their day (i.e., celebrating their birthday or organizing bingo events, or simply spending time with residents in person or by call). Spiritually, our most reason service provided comfort and refreshments proceeding with funeral programs (including rosary devotion and honor guards).

Last year an annual Christmas food donation was made to support our local food bank in Delhi. Through these blessed donations we have supported our community members in need including homeless people in shelters with essentials and toiletries. Also, equally important is providing support for the younger generation of our community members by supporting high school graduates through financial donations so they can have the opportunity to pursue their future callings.

St. Peter's, Norwich

Co-President: Mary Ellen DeKlerck/Catherine (Kay) Couwenburg

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. John Pirt

Number of Members: 12

Life Members: 0

Well here we are at the end of another year. We have in our small group experienced some more health challenges and issues. But we keep on supporting and helping each other. Ten out of our 12 members come to our bi-monthly meetings. All twelve members renewed their membership in 2020. That was wonderful considering we had an increase in per capita membership dues.

In 2020, we will be a council that has carried on for 49 years without a parish church. We are very thankful for the blessing that we are still a part of the Catholic Women's League of Canada. We are looking forward to carrying on in our prayers and helping each other where ever possible or fulfilling the needs in our community. We are thankful for others who encourage us to keep going.

St. Cecilia, Port Dover

President: Evelyn Hudecki

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Alan Dufraimont

Number of Members: 75

Life Members: 0

St. Cecilia's Catholic Women's League Activities on the seven corporal works of mercy: - visit shut-ins at Christmas - contribute to the local hospital's fund drive - donate to the local Food Bank, Save a Family, Simcoe District Voice for Life, to the St. Vincent de Paul Christmas baskets, the Cancer Society & the Catholic Missions - donate to the Tumaini Children's Foundation, an orphanage in Tanzania started by one of our parishioners and are hosting a community fundraiser for them. - are members of the board at the local food bank - volunteer at the local food bank

Sacred Heart, Princeton

President: Debbie Randall

Spiritual: Fr. Rick Dales

Number of Members: 19

Life Members: 0

No report

St. Mary, Tillsonburg

President: Darlene Papaioannou

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. John Pirt

Number of Members: 278

Life Members: 0

To Feed the Hungry: Our C.W.L. ladies help with St. Vincent de Paul Society in providing meals once a week at our church. Our Fund-raising meat pies are also helping many people with a simple meal and are delivered to some of our shut-ins.

Give Drink to the Thirsty: Baby Bottle Campaign and help give to various missions in need of water.

To Clothe the Naked: Our C.W.L. Ladies did the sock campaign, and collected 357 pairs and were distributed within our community. Also provided clothing and goods to an organization called Fresh Start for young mothers.

To Shelter the Homeless: Our League provides money to pay for hydro, rent, and transportation. Our rummage sale ladies donate coats and necessities for the homeless during our St. Vincent de Paul dinners.

To Visit the Sick: Our League visits nursing homes, hospitals and shut-ins. We knit prayer shawls to give comfort to those who are ill.

To visit the imprisoned: C.W.L ladies have sent cards and emails in the past.

To Bury the Dead: Our members pray the Rosary, attend as Honour Guards, sing at mass, and serve lunches. Mass intentions are provided for our deceased members. Every year we have a mass and candle lighting ceremony for our C.W.L. deceased members.

Loneliness: I provided a topic on Loneliness in our Church bulletin and our C.W. L. newsletter. Our Christmas Bazaar was coming up and I encouraged everyone to bring a family member, a parishioner or a friend to just enjoy the Christmas atmosphere . Maybe take in a little shopping , a delicious lunch or a friendly visit over a cup or coffee. I noticed that people did listen and many provided a great day for those in need of companionship.

St. Michael's, Walsh

President: JoAnne Deconinck

Spiritual Advisor: Father Thomas Kuriacko

Number of Members: 64

Life Members: 0

No report

St. Bernard of Clairvaux, Waterford

President: Tinie Klunder

Spiritual Advisor Fr. Alan Dufraimont

Number of Members: 67

Life Members: 0

In 2019, our council was involved with several ministries at the church and in the community, members visited the sick and the shut ins, volunteered at the soup kitchen , Supported the food cupboard and St. Vincent the Paul ,and provided funeral luncheons when requested.

Our main project for the past several years ,our council has sent warm clothing to the Northern Missions . We have also provided the Missions with monetary funds to buy food and other necessities.

Another service our members assist with is the Migrant Ministry. Members collect and sort work clothing . The clothing is sold for a reasonable price to the workers. All proceeds go towards the cost of providing busing to church on Sunday.

Holy Trinity, Woodstock

President: Carmen Velocci

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Dariusz Jagodzinski

Number of Members: 171

Life Members: 1

Here are some of the things our council did in 2019.

At different times during the year small groups came together to say the Stations of the Cross and the Rosary at Holy Trinity Church as well as Sakura House for Palliative Care. We also contributed to Hope Box, a Ministry to give hope and inspiration to women who have had miscarriages.

Some members joined in the Hike for Hospice and others gave support to raise money for Sakura House, our local Hospice for Palliative care. Some members participated to raise money in the annual Canadian Cancer Society Relay for Life calling themselves the 'Holy Trinity Flames'. Other group members baked, collected and distributed cookies along with our newsletter to CWL shut-ins.

During Lent, we collected 552 pairs of socks which we distributed to our local shelters in Woodstock, Operation Sharing, Daso, and Ingamo Homes and Beginnings Pregnancy Care Centre. With the profits from our mint smoothies fundraiser, we distributed gift cards to women in local shelters.

In coordination with Euthanasia Prevention Coalition we have 10 volunteers who were trained for the Compassionate Community Care Project for seniors in Woodstock and surrounding areas.

Our Council participated and supported the #Project Maple Leaf Against Human Trafficking. We also had a 'Pornography Hurts Campaign' signing by members as well as parishioners. Postcards were dropped off to our MP.

Our council challenged our Parish Community to conserve water using different strategies in their households. Also, we coordinated a postcard signing weekend to raise awareness to our Federal government that there is no national standards or laws in pharmaceuticals in drinking water.

Many of our members volunteered their time to help serve at funerals in our Parish. We always have an Honour Guard for deceased CWL members.

Our annual 'Starlight Bazaar' was a big success with the proceeds donated to local charities as well as Canadian and Foreign Missions.



The Seeds Of Greatness...

Ah, summer vegetables, fruit and such. How wonderful is the harvest of the season? What about your harvest season?

This tomato was from a single plant in my garden that became lunch today. It grew from a single seed.

But, look at the abundance of seeds within it! How many more plants could be started from this one piece of fruit?

Sometimes we wonder if we are having an impact in our lives, or the lives of others around us. Sometimes we doubt if we make a difference.

Next time you feel that way, think of the tomato, it all starts with a single seed and that seed is you. Go make something awesome happen in the lives of others.

Who knows how many you can inspire?

London Region
Dianne Kehoe
Regional Chairperson

19 Councils

As I complete my second year as Regional Chairperson, I am delighted to say it has been an exciting and busy year. The councils in the London Region never cease to amaze me in the work that they are doing. They have taken up the National and Provincial themes and run with them. Councils and their members continue to work with the homeless providing food to soup kitchens along with blankets and clothing for the cold winter months. Working together with other ministries to assist those in need. Campaigns to conserve water; to care for our environment; to change our attitudes and gain a greater and more compassionate understanding towards our indigenous and homeless brothers and sisters.

The Family of Parishes (St. Thomas, Aylmer, Wallacetown & West Lorne) successfully hosted the Fall Regional Days. There was an excellent turnout with an update on the Strategic Plan and a truly inspiring talk by Penny Vandebroek. The Fall Regional Days are a wonderful educational opportunity for all CWL Members and a great way to network with other councils and strengthen our Sisterhood.

St. Patrick's, London hosted our Annual Advent Tea, also well attended. I am forever grateful to the councils who volunteer to host Regional events.

This past year London Regional and London Central Committee amalgamated. It was a good meeting and discussion and now we are one.

This promises to be a wonderful year as we celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Catholic Women's League at our Diocesan Convention in Chatham. Smaller celebrations within the region are in the planning stages. Many of the councils are planning to plant a tree as per the National Centenary Project.



Our Lady of Sorrows, Aylmer

President: Sue Zimmer

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Graham Keep

Number of Members: 150

Life Members: 0

We started our year with a speaker from Mary's Meals outlining their organization and their work to feed the children – a meal a day in Third World countries. We continue our support of our local Food Bank at the Corner Cupboard with food donations throughout the calendar year.

Our council collected new socks which were donated to our Christmas Care Program in the community and we held an April Shower meeting where donations were collected for the local women's shelter with food – clothing – hygiene products on the list. Our efforts continued with the homeless shelter through monetary and food donations to Grace Café and our new Aylmer homeless shelter.

A committee was formed to visit the sick or shut-ins whether in nursing homes or their own homes we have a monthly report at our meetings to update the membership who in our parish family needs assistance or simply a visit.

We introduced a new funeral wreath at our Memorial Mass which is on display during a member's funeral along with the wreath we will include the Book of Life to our funeral procession. We spent a great deal of time devoted to the importance of renewing your membership this year and explaining to members why you should leave instructions with a family member.

We will celebrate our 70th Anniversary in June along with our Memorial Mass for deceased members, we are blessed to still have an original charter member among us.

Sacred Heart, Delaware

President: Rose Bujnowski

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Thom Blondin

Number of Members: 70

Life Members: 0

Our CWL currently participates in Parish initiatives of food bank drives once a month and clothing drives, to be delivered to the local St Vincent de Paul Thrift store, twice a year.

We collect feminine hygiene products at our regular meetings to be delivered to the food bank at the Women's Shelter. We have recently spearheaded a sock drive along with the parish food drive, proceeds of which are delivered to the Salvation Army Thrift store.

We visit home bound and sick at Christmas to share fellowship and deliver a poinsettia. We offer an honour guard to our deceased members during their funeral.

We are in the process of starting an initiative called Days for Girls where we sew kits of reusable feminine pads for girls in third world countries so they can continue to attend school during the times of their periods.

St Charles Garnier, Glencoe

President: Brieda Newsome

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Thom Blondin

Number of Members: 58

Life Members: 0

To encourage new members, we again distributed envelopes containing information about the work of C.W.L. We celebrated the feast of Our Lady of Good Council. Members wore their sashes and participated as greeters, choir, gift bearers, readers and Eucharistic ministers. We supported financially and with gifts our usual charities Save A Family, Rural Women's Shelter, Families for Children, Birthright, Four counties Hospital, St Vincent de Paul and St Charles Garnier Church. The giving tree guaranteed all needy children had a special gift for Christmas. We participated in World Day of Prayer. We continued to comfort the bereaved serving funeral lunch and providing a guard of honour for deceased members. We visited the shut-in and brought a gift of flowers and friendship. We continue with our Prayer Shawl ministry and sending Mass Cards and get well wishes to members of the parish as required. We also attended the Convention this year.

Holy Cross, London

President: Maria Marques Di Cicco

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Nelson Cabral

Number of Members: 54

Life Members: 0

Holy Cross Council in 2019, continued our support of both local and international charities.

Locally, we donated to the St. Vincent de Paul Society, Holy Cross Council with a financial donation. We also made donations directly to a young family from our parish, who lost their wife/mother and were experiencing financial hardship.

We continue to urge our members to help organizations in our community including donating to Anova based on the list of items that they send to our regional council. Donations by our members were made to My Sister's Place after a social media post requesting help.

We also encourage our members to donate and shop at charity based second hand stores (STVDP, The Mission Store, ReStore, etc.) to help support the work that they do. Whenever possible, one of our members will take leftover food from events in our parish to the Men's Mission location on York St.

Each year, our CWL members will go out to the shut-ins of our parish for a visit at Christmas time and take them some cookies or a blanket. We are also working with the eucharistic team to ensure

that shut-ins will have the opportunity to have someone visit them and bring the eucharist each week if they so desire.

Internationally, we continue to support families in India through Save a Family plan. We have been doing this for over 40 years.

Holy Family, London

President: Mary Van Dyk reported by Fran Bennet

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Robert Remark

Number of Members: 167

Life Members: 1

Our Chapters Service to others this past year... We support The St Joseph's Soup Kitchen. Anova Women's House. (Toiletries, Fem. Hygiene products, etc.) My Sisters Place, Drop in Resource Centre for the Vulnerable. (Gently Used Clothing, Socks, (Mitts, Scarves, "Blankets") (HOPE COMFORTERS Extended group, meet each Tues. am.) to crochet, "Blankets" Slippers, Toque's, Scarves, for CAS, Merrymount Children's Centre, Ronald McDonald House, Unity Project (resource centre for Vulnerable Young Adults) ANAGO Home for Young girls age, 11-18. We also have an Honour Guard when requested, as well as Funeral Luncheons. For very many years, we have supported a former, parishioner (who's brother still is, and, mother was a 50 plus member of our CWL) who became a priest, "Br. Blaise", each year we hold a bake sale. He in turn sends many pics, some of which are of the homes they are building, with concrete blocks which they create by filling a simple wood box and letting it dry in the sun. He also sends us, hand woven items that we sell in our annual Bazaar.

Mary Immaculate, London

President: Mandy Bossuyt

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Augustin Ogundele

Number of Members: 151

Life Members: 0

Our council observed the seven-corporal works of mercy this year by:

- Collecting food, clothing, toiletries for homeless shelters year-round and collecting money for organizations that support them (Catholic Canadian Missions in Canada). We also donate funds to St. Vincent De Paul in our parish and we're financially supporting one of our own council women and her family that are going to Dominican Republic on a building project this summer.
- We have supported water conservation initiatives presented by our Regional council and encouraged members and their families to be mindful of water consumption, pollution and waste. This is an effort to ensure that there will be clean accessible water for future generations.
- We have members who visit the sick and homebound members of our council and provide prayer shawls, cards and mass cards for them at Christmas and Easter

- We have served funeral luncheons and posted honour guards at funerals for our parish family and council members and participated in our parishes Mass of Remembrance by escorting parishioners and providing refreshments after the Mass

St. Andrew the Apostle, London

President: Ann-Marie Parsons

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Jason Tellis

Number of Members: 64

Life Members: 0

No report

St. George's, London

Co-President: Cynthia Hellsten and Natalie Newterenko

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. John Jasica

Number of Members: 200

Life Members: 0

No report

St John the Divine, London

President: Colleen Kelly

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Pio D'Oria

Number of Members: 143

Life Members: 0

In 2019, St. John the Divine continued the support of the homeless of our community through its leadership in collecting socks, underwear, toiletries, sleeping bags, children's books, peanut butter and biscuits. The items were distributed in a variety of ways:

The Christmas hamper campaign by the parish St. Vincent de Paul Society which supported 160 families, St. John the Divine/ St. George St. Vincent de Paul "Cover me Love" campaigns where their members visit the homeless in the streets,

My Sister's Place.

Members continue to give out gift cards (e.g. Tim's) or granola bars to those homeless they encounter on the street. In support of our parish youth sorting items at the Food Bank, CWL members attended as chaperones. After learning about the social enterprise run by Youth Opportunities Unlimited (Y.O.U.), members have purchased their products on line, in the downtown London Y.O.U. or at Farm Boy or Remark.

For the loneliness theme, the council sends Get Well cards to members who are ill and Christmas cards to our shut-ins. This year members were encouraged to send a Christmas card to recognize the members of the armed forces who would not be home for Christmas. A number of members visit parish shut-ins regularly for prayer and sharing of the Eucharist.

St. Justin's Council, London

President: Maureen Duncan

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Charles Akinloye

Number of Members: 131

Life Members: 0

Some ways we have worked on the seven-corporal works of mercy this past year. We support with monetary donations many organizations that feed the poor and homeless. Left overs from funeral luncheons are taken to the Men's Mission. We participated in the collection of Tim Horton cards for the homeless. We made and collected hats, mittens and scarves to donate to various agencies. We have many members who make regular visits to our house bound or nursing home members. We held a shower for Birthright. We provide funeral lunches for parishioners, and honour guards for deceased members. We helped the young granddaughter of a member to fulfill her Make-a-Wish Foundation wish. We contributed to New Day London, working to provide mental health support to London's transient population.

St. Martin of Tours, London

President: Linda Sherridan

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Jose Lopez, F.M.M.

Number of Members: 69

Life Members: 0

Donated funds to our Community Breakfast and Supper Programs as well as St. Vincent de Paul
Collected 700 pairs of socks and distributed evenly between Mission of Hope, Unity Project, Men's Mission and Rotholme Centre

Donated 70 gently used purses filled with toiletries feminine hygiene products to Mission of Hope

Donated 67 pairs of pajamas at Christmas to Merrymount Children's Centre

Collected 150 jars of peanut butter and jam for St. Joseph's Hospitality Centre

Hosted a Birthright shower and delivered numerous baby products

Participated in 12 Hrs. of Palliative Care and World Day of Prayer

Participated in Merlin Retreat/Advent and Lenten Retreats

Some of our members participate in a bilingual bible study Spanish/English

We have started a phone/card chain for members in nursing homes and our shut-ins who do not have e-mail

Members participate in the monthly masses at the 3 nursing homes in our area

Donated 39 Cross in the Pockets for 1st Communion recipients - made by one of our members

We are a small council but very strong in faith and action.

St. Michael, London

President: Dorothy Sample

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Murray Sample

Number of Members: 169

Life Members: 0

We host a bingo at Dearness Home 6 times a year. Each Sunday we bring Eucharist to 4 retirement/nursing homes, plus private homes. We make visits and calls to homebound members.

We made and distributed Valentines and Christmas ornaments to Chartwell Nursing Home, plus purchased Christmas gifts for residents who have no family to offer this. We provide an honour guard for members' funerals. We support monetarily 30 service organizations. We hosted Alex Schadenberg for the London Deanery when he presented the documentary "Fatal Flaws." We hosted "12 hours for Palliative Care" for the parish including Mass, Adoration of Blessed Sacrament, Stations of the Cross and divine Mercy Chaplet. We participated in Daffodil and Pink Ribbon sales for cancer. We worked at the London Food bank. We participated in water conservation awareness. We regularly collect health and sanitary products for My Sister's Place and at Christmas we hold a baby shower for Birthright. Members participate in "Life Chain", "Forty Days for Life", "Farmtown Demonstration" (human trafficking) and "Pornography Hurts Campaign". We offer Lenten Prayer Request cards for the parish, individuals write out a prayer request and take another request home to pray for, bring it back at Sunday and take another. These are also prayed for at each weekday and Sunday Mass. We make and donate hand knitted goods such as hats, afghans and shawls which are distributed to the schools, homeless shelters and when priests make hospital or bereavement visits.

St. Patrick's Parish, London

Presidents: Mary Paradine

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Adam Gabriel

Number of Members: 120

Life Members: 0

How did our council work on the seven corporal works of mercy this past year?

- Provided meals to less fortunate in the community and hosted festive events for the sick and shut-ins of our parish
- Hosted speakers from local homeless organizations and collected clothing donations for the needy
- Regularly visited nursing homes and hospitals and distributed poinsettias at Christmastime to our home-bound members
- Hosted speaker who is active in the prison ministry
- Provided strong support for grieving families at funerals with CWL honour guards, choirs and luncheons

St. Peter's Cathedral Basilica, London

President: Julie Sans

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Jim Mockler

Number of Members: 110

Life Members: 0

"Whatever you do to the least of my brothers, so you do unto me."

How did St. Peter's work on the seven corporal works of mercy this past year?

Dealing with homelessness and loneliness, we started and continue today discussing, educating sharing our experiences and creating awareness of these provincial themes to our members. The most important starting point was not to judge those that we encounter. Our homeless community has benefited by St. Peter's CWL members trying to better understand them as a person, talking with them, continue to provide money to assist with what they need in the moment, bringing food/meals and distributing gift cards. Human Trafficking was another topic that was further researched, organizing guest speaker Kelly Franklin to educate us the fate of women and men that are enslaved at the hands of organized crime. A wonderful turnout supporting the On Route project in July 2019. Our council supports the work of 519 Pursuit which is very focused on those downtown, assessing their needs and delivering care packages to them that will assist with daily living. Their unique approach of listening to them, developing relationships and ultimately building trust is key in their success. Each individual has very distinct circumstances that can't be fixed by being pigeon holed as experienced when dealing with government agencies.

At our General meetings, cards are circulated for those that are unwell, hospitalized or recent surgeries in order to keep in touch, show our love and support for our sisters . St. Peter's CWL supports monthly masses for our sick, for special intentions and the deceased. We honour, the dedicated service and support of our deceased members by organizing the honour guard at CWL funerals. St. Joesph's Hospice has been an annual destination for donating quilts and presenting a cheque to support their good works. In small groups, we provide our service at the Winter Welcome event, assisting with the provision and serving of meals to St. Vincent de Paul clients, lenten lunches available for a freewill donation, welcoming parishioners as they enter the church for weekend masses. The consolidated effort put forth in the bazaar provides St. Peter's CWL to distribute monetary donations to those community agencies that are providing services to the most vulnerble residents in London. Our work continues every day with each encounter to foster a culture where all life is valued with dignity and respect.

St. Patrick's, Lucan

President: Nancy Hess

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Ross Bartley

Number of Members: 102

Life Members: 1

Our small group of women is very involved in the Ailsa Craig Foodbank which feeds and supported 105 homes in 2019. One of our members in on the board of directors and reports at monthly meetings. Our group collects food the first Sunday of each month and delivers to the Foodbank. (There are also monthly monetary collections at mass) The director reported there are people living in their cars, in garden sheds and trailers year round and some who own their home but have no hydro.

Some of our members are very active at visiting parishioners who are housebound.

Our annual fall bazaar raises approximately \$2000 and every penny is donated to LOCAL charities as decided upon by the membership each January.

Our group writes out beautiful Christmas cards each November to send to members of our parish who are sick and shut in.

Our group pays the membership for members who are over 90, in nursing homes or are housebound. There are 10 of these members this year.

Our membership has an honour guard at funerals for members who have passed away.

Holy Angels, St. Thomas

Presidents: Terry Collins

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Graham Keep

Number of Members: 114

Life Members: 0

Members of Holy Angels' Catholic Women's League give generously of their time, talent and treasure, both in the church and in the community.

Our members help to feed the hungry by working and contributing at our outreach dinner and a community outreach dinner. They also prepare sandwiches for a local outreach café. Donations of clothing and socks are given to Inn Out of the Cold, Grace Café, Women's Emergency Shelter and Teen Center. A baby shower is held every May, with the articles being sent to the St. Thomas Elgin General Hospital, to be used for babies whose parents are in need of support. Cards are sent to the sick of the parish and visits are made to our shut-ins.

We provide funeral receptions for parishioners who have lost their loved ones. If a member passes, we provide an honor guard at the funeral Mass.

Currently we are raising money to help build and operate Hospice Elgin. It will use the same model of care as St. Joseph's Hospice London, providing care for the dying and support for families.

St. Anne's, St. Thomas

President: Michelle Harris

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Graham Keep

Number of Members: 200

Life Members: 0

No report

All Saints, Strathroy

President: Patricia Buren

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Thom Blondin

Number of Members: 192

Life Members: 1

All Saints CWL supported St. Vincent de Paul financially, as well as one of our members on the Advisory Committee; financially supported: the Women's Resource Centre; Strathroy Food Bank; offered a free lunch once a month to numerous patrons (Helping Hands); once a year pay for haircuts and provide a lunch (including birthday cake) for January birthday residents of one of two nursing homes in Strathroy; Fresh Start Maternity (financially as well as donating toiletries) for unwed mothers; one student to attend Right to Life rally in Ottawa; CWL memberships in local nursing home residents; bussing for elementary students of one Catholic school in town to attend Mass; St. Vincent de Paul Society. Donations given to South Western Ontario Youth for Christ to establish a drop-in Centre (\$1500), Guyana Outreach (\$500 yearly). Several members perform music and support weekly Mass or prayer service at the 2 nursing homes. The Pastoral Care group visit regularly nursing home residents and shut-ins. St. Joseph's Hospice and L'Arche receive the proceeds from our Good Friday meatless soup lunch. Prayer sessions are provided at nursing homes for deceased CWL members and honour guard at funerals for those families requesting same as well as alter servers at funerals. Visits are made to bereaved families following funeral.

We financially support St. Vincent de Paul, Women's Rural Resource Centre, Salvation Army Food Bank, Helping Hands monthly free lunch.

We donated \$1,500 to the SWOYFC organization. Also, donation to Guyana Outreach – \$500 annually.

We facilitate Mass or prayer service weekly at two nursing homes. Our pastoral care group visits hospitals and shut-ins. We support Lambeth L'Arche Home and St. Joseph's Hospice with profits from our Good Friday meatless soup lunch.

We provide Honour Guards and prayer service at funeral homes for deceased members.

We provide altar service and choir members at funeral masses for deceased members and visit the bereaved family members.

St. Helen's, Wallacetown

President: Mary Lou McMillan

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Graham Keep

Number of Members: 47

Life Members: 0

- To feed the hungry, we put a monthly notice in the bulletin of items most needed by the local food bank. Donations of food, cash, and new toys at Christmas were brought to the church and distributed to two local food banks.
- To give water to the thirsty, we filled out the water survey and discussed ways to conserve water.
- To clothe the naked, we collected 324 pairs of socks and distributed them to local shelters for men and women.

- To shelter the homeless, we gave donations to the local woman's shelter and Fresh Start for single mothers.
- To visit the sick, we are part of the auxiliary for the local nursing home, which has fundraisers to purchase extras for residents and we host the tea room twice a year. We host a 12-hour vigil for Palliative Care at St. Helen's Church. Our visitation committee visits the sick and the lonely shut-ins on a regular basis and brings them a gift at Christmas. Our prayer chain is well known throughout the community and we offer prayers for any family that requests them.
- To visit the imprisoned or ransom the captive, we donate to Catholic Missions in Canada, and to Save a Family by supporting a family in India. We also participate in World Day of Prayer.
- To bury the dead, we have an honour guard and a floral tribute for deceased members of our CWL. We provide funeral prayers and lunches as required.
- To support our priests and our parish we donate to the seminary fund, gifts for priests, assist with First Communion and Confirmation celebration, donate to and participate in parish fundraisers, purchased a new Roman Missal and donated awards for St. Mary's School. We also host a weekly coffee break after mass and an annual Christmas party.
- In summary we are a small dedicated group of women who are humbly working behind the scenes to support our parish and our community.

Sign of the Cross-

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

Trace the Sign of the Cross on:



The **ears**- that I might listen to God's voice and hear God's Word.

The **eyes**- that I may see God in everything.

The **lips**- that I may speak of God to others.

The **heart**- that I remember that I am loved by God.

The **hands**- that I may do good deeds throughout the day.

The **feet**- that I will follow Jesus and walk his ways.

finish with a blessing:

May God bless me and keep me safe. Amen.

Sarnia – Lambton Region
Patricia Sloan
Regional Chairperson

12 Councils

Sarnia Lambton Annual Report 12 Councils There are 12 Councils in Sarnia Lambton. Six in the city of Sarnia and six in the County of Lambton including Corunna, Port Lambton, Petrolia, Wyoming, Watford and Forest. The work that our League does is widespread. This past year our Sisters have really demonstrated the Corporal Works of Mercy regarding homelessness and loneliness. All our Councils enthusiastically took part in collecting socks for Convention for the homeless. It didn't stop there. Most Councils collected socks and toiletries for Christmas hampers. The Councils in Sarnia participate in The Irish Miracle for St. Vincent de Paul and Salvation Army and for Cyclone Aid for the Inn of the Good Shepherd. They are both city wide food drives with St. Pat's students and many volunteers helping at the 1 day event in December and again in the Spring. They are both successful events with all Councils contributing monetarily and physically. This past Christmas all Councils in Sarnia Lambton participated in collecting art and craft supplies for the Mental Health Ward at our local Hospital. Some gave monetary donations as well. I was able to present 9 boxes of supplies to the Hospital for the children and teenagers in crisis on the Mental Health Ward. Unfortunately, there is an acute need for their services at Bluewater Health. Some Councils have worked with Habitat for Humanity building affordable housing. Most of our Sisters visit the sick at hospitals, at nursing homes and the home bound. Sadly, we have buried the dead. Overall, our CWL Sisters in Sarnia Lambton live the Corporal Works of Mercy on a daily basis. They are the very best they can be— true Sisters of the League.



St. Michael Parish, Bright's Grove

President: Nelly Kelders

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Matthew Bedard

Number of Members: 142

Life Members: 0

2019 was another busy year for St. Michael CWL. We grew our membership by two members and continuously promote the good works of the League to our parish community.

Sadly, in 2019, three members passed away; the most in one year, in our more than 37 years as a Council. We gladly provided an honour guard for each of our members and witnessed firsthand, how important this simple gesture was for each family.

At our February general meeting, we invited a representative of the Migrant Workers Ministry to make a presentation on the importance of their work and how parishes can assist them. While we are a suburban community, we are aware of the many migrant workers in Lambton County and wanted to know more about how we could support them. As well as a monetary donation to the Ministry, several of our members are active on the committee and in providing food for their monthly migrant mass and dinner.

We took our September general meeting off site, meeting at St. Joseph Hospice in Sarnia. Maria Muscedere, the Fund Development Manager, gave us a presentation on the various programs that the hospice provides and then she provided a tour, throughout which we continued to ask many questions. Most of us had no idea of all the programs and certainly not the history of this important facility for our community. St. Michael CWL presented monetary gifts for the hospice and its child grieving program as well as a lap quilt for residents.

Our favourite general meeting has to be the Christmas meeting, where we begin with mass and then a potluck dinner. At this point we are able to sit back and bask in the glow of all the hard work that took place the previous month. The 2019 Christmas bazaar in November was a huge success, assuring us that we could give generously to those who are in need at Christmas. Donations were made to St. Vincent de Paul to help with their Christmas hampers and to the Inn of the Good Shepherd to assist with their work for those in need.

Throughout the year, we have given donations to a variety of charities and to the education of our children. Donations have been made to St. Patrick's High School for the Muskoka Woods Leadership Camp for grade seven and secondary school students; a scholarship for a graduating grade 12; and a donation to offset the cost of the Youth Ministry Program in the parish.

As a Catholic Women's League Council, we continuously strive to find ways to engage our members and the parish in projects and activities that are relevant, timely and doable. Our greatest achievement is to ask for prayers for those who are in need of spiritual nourishment, those who have passed and for those who have special petitions.

St. Joseph, Corunna

President: Susan Morphew

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Dan Vere

Number of members: 65

Life Members: 0

This year “*Shelter the Homeless*” took on a new significance for our council as Habitat for Humanity organized its first build in St. Clair Township. Our council supported a K of C work team with meals as well as a cash donation to the build fund. We also donated to the parish back-pack program aimed at homeless youth. More globally, we continued to sponsor families through the Save-a-Family organization and have seen them use this funding to improve their access to food, clean water, housing and education.

“*Clothe the Naked*” There are 400 pairs of warm feet in our school and area shelters after our parish donated socks for last year’s diocesan convention. As well our council donated two afghans to a homeless shelter in Sarnia.

“*Visit the Sick*” Our work of the last few years to maintain contact with inactive and elderly members continues as we expand our Christmas and Easter visits to the sick and those in nursing facilities. More frequent visits, cards and phone calls are being initiated to combat the loneliness and isolation experienced by members and parishioners. As well we donated funds to the Children’s Ward of our local hospital to provide crafts and other activities for young patients.

“*Bury the Dead*” When needed we continue to support families following the death of their family members with prayer, food and fellowship.

“*Ransom the Captives*” With prayer and awareness activities we continue to advocate for those who are victims of human trafficking or are in danger of being abused by the expanding laws allowing medical assistance in dying.

St Charles, Courtright

President: Nora Mullen Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Dan Vere

Number of Members: 27

Life Members: 0

St Charles CWL is a rural council established in 1921 (97/98 years in 2018). Our council has long focused on service to our community and supporting local initiatives. We look to the future with a willingness to change and adapt while keeping Christ at the centre of our motivations. Regarding the ***Seven Acts of Mercy*** our ladies put effort into being Christ-like. Feed the Hungry: our ladies make time and make financial donations to local soup kitchen (Inn of the Good Shepard), and the Corunna Food Bank. Give water to the thirsty: our members are on the Prayer Committee that prays 15 minutes each day for others, we make donations to Rebound, we lead a Recovery group. Clothe the naked: we raise funds and make financial and clothing donations to St Vincent De Paul, the Women’s Interval Home, participate in supporting migrant workers, and other similar activities. We serve on the St Vincent De Paul Committee. Shelter the homeless: we

contributed to a Habitat for Humanity Project in our area, on an individual level we support Christian Child Fund, World Vision, Chalice, Save the Children etc. Visit the sick: our ladies weekly visit the sick in hospital and in Hospice, and our ladies send cards and visit shut-ins, and we make donations to Pathways a facility for children and adults with special needs. Visit the imprisoned, or ransom the captive: on an individual level we make financial donations to international aid organizations. Bury the Dead: our ladies financially support memorial Masses; we service on the Cemetery Committee and we sing in the choir for Funeral Masses and we prepare and serve funeral lunches.

St. Christopher's, Forest

President: none

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Thomas Donohue

Number of Members: 45

Life Members: 0

No report and they are currently inactive

St. Philip's, Petrolia

President: Ann Selman

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Francis Tekkumkattil, C.S.T.

Number of Members: 77

Life Members: 0

On the Provincial theme of "Loneliness" we invited anyone to attend our Dinner & a Movie nights for a donation if they wished. We saw "Love Kennedy" and "90 Minutes in Heaven" both with such messages! We also fill up quite a few card party tables every other Friday night for anyone in our community who enjoys companionship! We feed the hungry and give drink to the thirsty by supporting Families for Children and Save a Family. We helped clothe the naked by collecting over 60 pairs of socks in our parish for the Convention. We had large Honour Guards for a few of our members who passed on this year. We have many members who visit the sick and bring Communion. We did 2 new unique things this year. One was several members met at "Onroute" in July to show our support with "Farmtown", an organization against Human Trafficking. We also put on our first Oktoberfest along with the Petrolia Legion that was enjoyed and supported by the Community!

Our Lady of Mercy, Sarnia

President: Phyllis Vanoverbeke

Spiritual Advisor: Deacon Lyle Lalonge

Number of Members: 38

Life Members: 0

February flowers were delivered to the shut-ins former CWL members who were overjoyed to receive them.

We participated in the world Day of Prayer in March

April- attended the Diocesan convention – collected socks that was delivered to the much-needed people

CWL held their annual spring tea in May. It was enjoyed by everyone. With the low membership, we got help from other sources. With the proceeds, we made donations to local charities

On Mother's Day weekend, we offered handmade flowers to any Mother or anyone desire to have one—we generally get a donation

We held an annual membership drive with CWL members at each church entrance the first weekend in November. Members could give information to anyone interested in CWL

Along with the K. of C. we are able hold a "Crafternoon tea" in which all proceeds went Canadian Catholic missions -who were so pleased to receive the donation – NOTE -we have contributed in 10 years over \$10,000

We hosted the reception for the feast of the Immaculate Conception for the Regional.

Queen of Peace, Sarnia

President: Joanna Kazanecki

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Zbigniew Rodzinka

Number of Members: 40

Life Members: 0

Monetary donation to St. Vincent de Paul and the Inn of the Good Shepherd.

Donation of clothes, diapers, books and toys to the Pregnancy Center.

Visit sick and older parishioners at their homes.

Pray the Rosary and have Masses for the sick.

Masses, prayers and Honour Guards for deceased members.

Monetary donation to St. Joseph's Hospice and the Ronald Mc Donald House.

Sacred Heart, Sarnia

Presidents:

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Matthew Bedard

Number of Members: 139

Life Members: 0

Sacred Heart CWL Sarnia has faced some challenges and continues to face more challenges in the 2019/2020 calendar year. To be specific, we are having difficulty filling some of our executive leadership positions and for now that appears to be the way of it. We, collectively, are not mourning the past but are determined to carve a new path in an old road for the future.

Being women of service we embrace our new challenges: face forward, move forward and do the best we can. Procedurally are we somewhat unconventional? Yes. But are we committed? Yes. And most importantly are we united in our concern and care for our regional, national and global communities? Yes. In all, we have not lost focus on our sense of duty and responsibility. Reflecting on The Corporal Works of Mercy I see the faces of the women in our league. I recall the lengthy round table discussions regarding the plight of the vulnerable here and abroad. I recall plans for action: what were we going to do? I recall wonderful acts of charity. I recall fatigue. I recall laughter. I recall tears. I recall love. Supporting food bank drives and breakfast programs, participating in utility bill payment programs, prioritizing the needs of our youth, visiting the sick, sending cards of support to those feeling alone, taking action to ensure clean water is accessible by all, standing proud as honour guard, we are there for it all. These women “step up”. These amazing women, my CWL sisters are “The Corporal Works of Mercy” in action.

St. Benedict's - Sarnia

President: Carol Hall

Spiritual Advisor: Deacon Lyle Lalonge

Number of Members: 198

Life Members: 0

St. Benedict's Catholic Women's League consists of a wonderful group of caring, hardworking women. We are supported in everything we do by our Spiritual Advisor, Deacon Lyle Lalonge. He even makes 500 spring rolls for our annual bazaar, which supports all our charitable activities. Many of our members volunteer at the local food bank. Any time we have excess donations, they are given to River City Men's Hostel. One of our members travels to Cuba yearly to stay with her adopted family. We send money, which she uses to purchase items for the poor in the area. In Sarnia, we have several initiatives to support the homeless and those young people trying to get back on their feet. At our Christmas potluck, we collected food and baby items for the St. Vincent de Paul Food Bank and we supported those with mental health issues by collecting items for the mental health inpatient unit at our local hospital. We also helped furnish an apartment in a new housing project for youth aged 18 to 25. We support The Hub, which gives help to homeless youth. Many of our members visit the sick and, at Christmas, we organize Christmas bags for the homebound who receive weekly communion.

St. Joseph's, Sarnia

President: Laura Hardy

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Stephen Savel

Number of Members: 40

Life Members: 0

During the past year the ladies of the St. Joseph's Catholic Women's League were busy with many initiatives that aligned with the seven-corporal works of mercy.

Many ladies visited and sent cards to the sick and homebound of our parish. Also, in February a Valentines/Birthday party was organized for ladies residing in Vision Nursing home in Sarnia. Our council also donated to the St. Vincent DePaul Society, St. Joseph's Hospice and Save a Family. Throughout the year luncheons and CWL honour guards were organized and provided for funerals. In addition, during the Christmas season, our council collected food and clothing for the Men's/Women's Home and helped pack Christmas food/toy hampers for needy families.

Our Lady Help of Christians, Watford

President: Joanne Rombouts

Spiritual Advisor: Deacon John Lammers

Number of Members: 133

Life Members: 0

No report

Holy Rosary, Wyoming

President: Joan Fournier

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Francis Thekkumka

Number of Members: 49

Life Members: 0

Holy Rosary CWL prepares and serves meals at the Inn of the Good Shepherd when there are 5 Saturdays in the month. We also make donations to St. Vincent de Paul and the food bank, sponsor a family in India, and support St. Joseph's Hospice. Our members take Communion to the sick, we attend Masses at the nursing homes, helping bring residents to Mass. We deliver Christmas and Easter cards to various members of our community who are sick, or going through a rough time. We deliver flowers to those who lost a loved one to let them know we are keeping them in our prayers and thinking of them. We send out cards to the sick, or lonely, or someone celebrating a special occasion. We have birthday celebrations for our seniors in their homes. If a need arises in our community, we try to help.

**Windsor Region
Caroline Ngui
Regional Chairperson**

12 Councils

I know our councils continue to be focused on many of the seven-corporal works of mercy throughout the year, through the London Diocesan theme of Educate, Engage and Empower.

Many Councils continue to Educate their members by inviting members of the community to come and speak at their meetings, e.g. Family Services and Homeless Outreach, House of Sophrosyne for women suffering for substance abuse, Ronald McDonald House, Our Lady of Guadalupe Home for women and their new born babies, and anti-human trafficking experts.

The members become engaged in the providing for the many needs of these charities and are able to help with monetary donations, - warm clothing, gift cards, distributing HUGS bags to the Homeless, friendly phone calls and visits to the lonely and elderly, and donations to food banks especially the local parish based Society of St Vincent de Paul food cupboards.

These opportunities then Empower the women to become more active politically through letter writing, signing petitions, demonstrating against human trafficking, and organizing Parish Giving Trees during Advent to support families in distress.

We congratulate the members of Our Lady of the Assumption CWL, which was organized and re-activated September 2019 after a period of inactivity for 23 years. Many of the members are participating in the parish "Assumption Cares" program which reaches out to the people in the West end of Windsor by providing ongoing free programs that are based on the needs of the community and supporting the community to combat loneliness and poverty.



St. Paul's, LaSalle

President: Louise Robinet

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Leo Walsh / Fr. Dwayne Adams/Fr. Ray Lawhead

Number of Members: 32

Life Members: 0

We tried to incorporate many of the Corporal Works of Mercy in our daily lives. We collected blankets for the homeless. We opened up our collection of socks to the parish and collected 107 pairs that were later donated to the homeless. We also helped collect food staples and other necessary products for the food bank. We sent Easter Cards and Christmas Cards to our members in nursing homes. Our Council also studied the Synod on Youth and co-ordinated with the Campus Minister of our local Catholic High School. Some of us attended the Funeral Mass for a long-time member and had a Mass for her said by the priest at the Catholic Missions in Canada. We collected H.U.G.S. bags and donated to St. Vincent de Paul Society for homeless and those now living in Shelters.

We have also chosen one Friday during Lent to serve soup for Soup and Stations.

Since we are now a part of the LaSalle River Canard Catholic Family of Parishes with St. Joseph and Sacred Heart, we are working to have them join us as neither one has a Catholic Women's League.

Our Council is also taking turns once a month to serve for Coffee Sunday.

Assumption, Windsor

President: Marilyn Morrison

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Maurice Restivo, C.S.B.

Number of Members:

Life Members: 0

This council worked on re-activate their council during this year but officially started 2020.

As the League celebrates its 100th Anniversary, it will step back in time and honor the fact that the formation of the League was Miss Bellelle Guerin's response to Bishop Emile Legal, OMI of Edmonton request to assist immigrants finding their way to western cities to provide protection and support to those women seeking work. As a result of Bishop Legal's invitation and Bellelle's response that the Catholic Women's League was formed with Miss Guerin elected the first National President.

The ladies of Our Lady of the Assumption took bold steps to respond to the needs of the Parish and the Community and organized a Catholic Women's League and on April 3, 1921, Charter No. L-083 was granted. The Council operated for 70 years of the over 250 years the parish has been in existence, however unfortunately and with a great deal of sadness, on May 17, 1993 the decision to disband was made.

Like Bishop Legal, who extended an invitation over 100 years ago, our Pastor and Spiritual Advisor asked me on October 20, 2017 “why doesn’t Our Lady of Assumption have a Catholic Women’s league?” I took this as my invitation to research the history, and with the assistance of our President, Rebecca McCarrell, other members of the Diocesan Executive, the steps to re-activate began, with a search of the archives, research, meetings etc., however all of our efforts bore fruit and the re-activation of Our Lady of the Assumption Parish became effective Jan. 1, 2020.

We stand on the shoulders of all those who went before us and are proud to resume the mission and mandate of the League honoring its original objectives to contribute to the understanding and growth of religious freedom, social justice, peace and understanding. Last September our parish launched an Outreach Program called “Assumption Cares.” This program whose objectives involve Social Justice concentrating on Windsor’s West end providing a variety of “free” services to the community as a whole such as Monday night dinners, hair cuts, a walking program, health initiatives etc., incorporates the objects of the League and allow our members to serve the needs of others sharing their gifts of time and talent volunteering.

Corpus Christi, Windsor

President: Debrah Parent

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. James Roche

Number of Members: 184

Life Members: 0

- Members sold lottery tickets making it possible to donate funds to fourteen local charities.
- Poverty was the main focus with participation in Poverty Eradication Day (October 17, 2019) and information on the “Petition of One Million”. Many members were involved in supplying one item and combining those items in pots of soup that was delivered to “Street Help” that day. Also delivering bread and butter to feed the homeless.
- Presentation by Colm Holmes from Windsor Essex Housing Connection Program brought an awareness of how the City is providing housing for the homeless. Members donated gift cards that are used to supplement this work.
- Members being aware of Human Trafficking volunteered at the Tilbury East Stop contributing to Project ONroute.

Holy Trinity, Windsor

President: Bertha Onuch

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Zbigniew Sawicki

Number of Members: 14

Life Members: 0

No report

Immaculate Heart, Windsor

President: Anna St Antoine

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Michael Dwyer

Number of Members: 34

Life Members: 0

In 2019, our council addressed the forgotten souls in our city. Those who have no homes, no family, and quite often have mental health issues. Many of our ladies donated hats, scarves and gloves that they had knitted or crocheted. We donated cases of water to various food banks and shelters. And as a group we focused on reaching out to members of our CWL and church who are homebound.

While we are a small group, we continue to help those in need, raise funds to donate charities and support one another in faith.

Most Precious Blood, Windsor

President: Joan Jakubo

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Greg Bonin

Number of Members: 138

Life Members: 0

Our council made monetary donations to two community food banks, Ronald McDonald House and Our Lady of Guadalupe Home. We supported shelters for those experiencing homelessness and abuse through donations of goods. Our mitt, hat and scarf campaign in November was shared with seven community partners. We joined with our sisters from OLOG at our Christmas potluck to support the clientele at Drouillard Place.

Members continue to serve others through volunteering at Hospice, Ronald McDonald House, and Cancer Clinic, and visiting our members who reside in care and nursing home facilities.

Our members assisted the coordinator of youth ministry with the sacramental formation programs for children and youth and led small group discussions for the alpha and bible study programs for our family of parishes.

We support families who have lost loved ones by funeral home visits, honour guard, resurrection choir, luncheons and prayers. Our friendly phone call campaign has been designed to address members who are experiencing loneliness.

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Windsor

President: Brigitte McFadden

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Dennis Wilhelm (deceased)

Number of Members: 63

Life Members: 0

Another year has gone by and great changes are taking place at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church. Our old hall has been taken down and a new hall will be ready by the Fall of 2020.

Being part of a Family of Parishes, we were able to take part in some very important projects. We helped the Knights of Columbus raise money and distribute "Coats for Kids" ALSO adding hats and

gloves to each coat. We helped with the November project to collect hats, gloves and socks for the homeless. Since members of our council have passed away, we offered support to the family by doing an honour guard at each funeral to show respect that each of these members deserve. Our members take part in the giving tree at Christmas and generously give to the food bank of our St. Vincent de Paul Society and "Street Help"/ Even though we were limited in the events that we could do, our council did accumulate 10, 083 hours of volunteering in the Parish and community.

We look forward to offering new projects that will continue to bring our Family of Parishes together and support the needs of our members spiritually, emotionally and physically.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Presidents: Diane Miller

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Anthony Del Ciancio

Number of Members: 44

Life Members: 0

Our council worked on the following corporal works of mercy this past year:

To feed the hungry: We gave a monetary donation to our Society of Saint Vincent de Paul conference and to Street Help

To clothe the naked: In May we donated Socks to the homeless.

To visit the sick: Last January we visited members that are homebound, hospitalize and in Nursing Homes.

Valentine, Easter and Christmas cards are sent to members that are homebound and in Nursing Homes as well sending get well cards to members who are sick or hospitalize.

To bury the dead: We served as Honour Guards for our Deceased members at mass.

Our Meetings are held on a Tuesday of each month and we have mass intentions for our deceased members.

Our past president, Sue Lozon whom was President of the CWL council for several years and also president of our Society of Saint Vincent de Paul conference passed away last May. Together the 2 groups donated a leaf for our memorial tree in her memory.

Our Lady of the Atonement, Windsor

President: Penny Craig

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Rob Rocheleau

Number of Members: 170

Life Members: 0

Working on the corporal works of mercy has provided a vast array of opportunities for various activities that have kept the members educated, engaged and interested. Moreover, many of the activities provided education regarding the many of the allied agency's engaged in assisting those in need. Several corporal works of mercy have been addressed in the following manner: **Sheltering**

the Homeless: Providing assistance in housing through support to Guadeloupe Home, Hiatus House and Maternity and Baby shower event. **Feeding the hungry** through financial support and helping in the gathering of food with the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul and **clothing the naked** through assisting with clothing drives at our local parish. We **visit the sick** members of our parish council and others as we become aware. **Bury the dead** through our honour Guard for our deceased members. we have **visited the sick** while our members and others we are aware of while they are in hospital. **Prison ministry** was conducted through collaboration with the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul through financial support to assist with their prison ministry program. **Loneliness** has been addressed through engaging community resources and education through our Windsor Essex Compassion Care Community guest speakers.

St. Alphonsus, Windsor

President: Marilyn Morrison/Kraith Bolton

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Nicholas Mauro-Iko, O.F.M.

Number of Members: 25

Life Members: 0

No report

St. Angela Merici Parish, Windsor

President: Lucia Truant

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Vincent J. Gennardo

Number of Members: 49

Life Members: 0

Over the past year, we sold carnations for Mother's Day, with the proceeds going to both Birth Right and Right to Life. We held two baked goods sales which provided us with sufficient funds to purchase requested food for St. Vincent de Paul totaling \$600.00. At Christmas, we had a hat/gloves/mitts/socks/stuffed animal drive and provided these to the Windsor-Essex Children's Aid Society.

Our Confirmation class and our First Communion recipients received a personalized bookmark and letter indicating that donations were made in their names to the Ronald McDonald House totaling \$400.00.

Our numbers are currently dwindling, with at present only having 44 members. We have had at least three members per year passing.

For the coming year, with God and Our Lady of Good Counsel's help, we hope to continue our works of charity and work toward a greener, cleaner environment and to help those suffering from loneliness in our community.

Our parish will be joining St. Alphonsus and Assumption Churches to form a Family of Parishes as of July 6, 2020.

St. John Vianney, Windsor

President: Helen Biales

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Rob Rocheleau

Number of Members: 90

Life Members: 0

St. John Vianney Council supports several local charities. Every second year we discuss and decide which charities we will fund. We had speakers from House of Sophrosyne, home for women substance abusers; Our Lady of Guadalupe Home, home for mothers with babies, and Birthright. Each of these groups received financial donations as well as needed items. Donations were also made to Madonna House and IRIS, a residence for people with mental health issues. They will be speaking to our group in 2020.

Part of our outreach in the community was to make up bags of toiletries to those in need. These were given to Leone Residence for Young Women, House of Sophrosyne and Guadalupe Home. Several of our members are involved with Aspen Lake, a nursing home. They assist with the monthly mass, say the rosary and deliver communion to the residents. As well several of us, are servers for funeral masses.

We try to keep in touch with our senior members who are unable to attend meetings.

A couple of times during the year we send them a card to let them know we are thinking of them.

St. Michael's, Windsor

President: Anne Their

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Zbigniew Sawicki

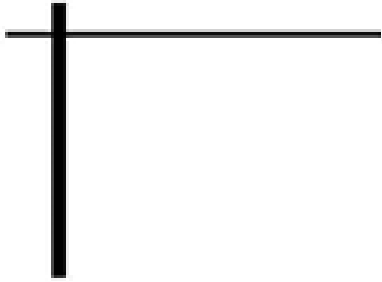
Number of Members: 29

Life Members: 0

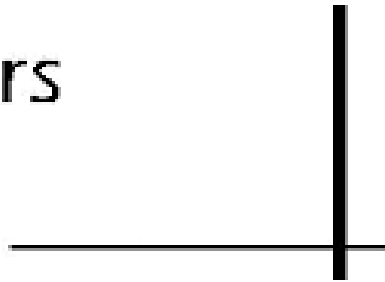
The St Michael's CWL Council is a small group of German women, most of whom are over 80 years of age, who have belonged to our German Church and the CWL for many years. We meet regularly at the church in the afternoon for Mass celebrated in German and we sing our German hymns.

After mass we gather for our meeting together where we learn about our faith, develop personal relationships with our Blessed Mother, Mary and pray for each other with German prayers and Hymns.

We want to continue to meet together as we have been doing for many years, but are not able to do the variety of charitable works we have done in the past. We will continue our traditions for as long as we are there for each other.



Life Members
Reports



Honorary Life Members:

Life Members: 10

Life Member Liaison's Activity Report

- Presently we have 10 life members in our diocese
- 2019 was not a very good year as illness hit many family members of the Life Members in the London Diocesan CWL
- You will note that we are all still very active in CWL and our parish communities
- We were able to get together for 1 potluck lunch socials at the home, of Marie Theresa Lamphier in May, in October we couldn't find a day that would work out for all of us.
- At this lunch we set the ball rolling to create a history booklet to commemorate our 100th Anniversary in the Diocese.
- We all enjoy the times we've spent working with CWL members in our parishes, the diocese, the province and across Canada
- Every project is more fun with the support of the friends we've made in the Catholic Women's League
- I think we can all agree that the Catholic Women's League has enhanced our lives with new friendships

Shirley George

- Attended the Diocesan Convention in Windsor
- Attended the Life Members Luncheon at the home of Marie Theresa Lamphier in May
- Attended our parish CWL meetings when possible
- Gave advice to local CWL councils on policy and procedure
- Presently I'm researching allergies that may be affecting my health
- Father Matt George, still battling a serious cold, hopefully not pneumonia

Muriel Murphy

- Attend meetings monthly at the Knights of Columbus hall
- Not much else – using my walker to get about
- My husband took a fall and requires extra time and attention
- Could not even attend Diocesan or Provincial Meetings
- Hope to attend the 100th Diocesan Convention, God Willing!!!

Mary Van Dyk

- I have retired from all volunteering at church because of family illness so I have not been involved with any CWL activities to report on for 2019.

Trucy Cornelis

- It has been a very difficult year for me. I could not attend many of the CWL functions due to ongoing vision problems. This includes conventions and regional meetings.
- Prayed every day for all our CWL members, most importantly the sick and home bound.
- May 7th, I participated in the Zurich CWL Fun Night.
- October peeled many apples for the pie making bee for our parish bazaar.
- I hope to get back to normal after my cataract surgery in January and February 2020.
- Hope you all have a great year.

Maria Odumodu

- Member Parish Advisory Board in charge of Fund raising
- Advice given as needed by President
- Attended London Diocesan, the Ingersoll Regional
- Acted as Parliamentarian
- Helped with bazaar
- As my community life work, I am board member of Ontario Association of Children's Societies and committee member of Truth & Reconciliation, One vision One Voice and Past President of my local CAS.
- Mentoring young people
- As part of work, we went to Japan and China
- Completed the 28th Christmas Pageant with 20 children
- Was recognized for 45 years membership in the League.

Bev Weiler

- was available for consultation-answering questions from 3 councils and diocesan executive members
- attended diocesan convention
- attended diocesan retreat
- answered questions for my home council as called upon

Patricia M Rivest

- Involved in my parish of St. Michael's Council in Leamington as much as possible
- Attended the London Diocesan Annual Retreat with executive and Life Members
- Attended the Fall Regional Day at Visitation Parish in Comber
- Am a member of the diocesan archive committee
- A member of the diocesan ad hoc committee for 2020 special project
- Attended diocesan and provincial conventions
- 2nd term as provincial treasurer came to an end in July at the convention in Kingston
- Because of the illness of my husband Vic, I chose not to let my name stand for the election to the Provincial Executive

- Attended anniversary celebrations for councils in the diocese
- Try to visit our families in Sudbury and Winnipeg as often as possible to hug, cuddle and spoil the grandchildren
- If I, as a Life Member, can be of any help to the members of this diocese, please do not hesitate to contact me
- Words cannot express our gratitude to everyone who has shown their love and support to us – thankful for the cards, telephone calls, visits, emails, etc.
- Thank you for your thoughts and prayers and ask for your continued prayers as we put our faith and trust in God, who will guide us

Lucy Hendrikx

- As Life Member Liaison, I sent out cards and forwarded prayer requests from Provincial Life Member Liaison Jeannie Coleman
- I forwarded National Communiques to our Life Members
- Was able to attend London Diocesan and host our Life Members Luncheon where we welcomed Shari Guinta, National 1st Vice President and Linda Squarzolo, Provincial 1st Vice President.
- May 7th, I participated in the Zurich CWL Fun Night.
- Held a Life Member lunch at the home of Marie Theresa Lamphier in May.
- Attended the provincial convention in Kingston.
- In July took part in the ON Route project demonstrating against Human Trafficking.
- A member of the Life Member committee for 2020 special project
- Attended Fall Regional Meeting in Wingham
- Mentoring members of our parish CWL council
- Am recording secretary for Sacred Heart CWL council
- Am head of fundraising for our parish CWL council
- Involved in ministries at my parish of Sacred Heart in Parkhill
- Actively involved on committees in our community
- My husband, Louis and I had a very enjoyable trip to Australia and New Zealand at the end of February.
- Still enjoying my time with the grandchildren, our oldest granddaughter got engaged just before Christmas
- Enjoying retirement

Mary Jean Horne

- Acted as Resolutions & Legislation chair for St. Ursula's council.
- Attended London Diocesan Convention in Windsor and was resources member for the Resolution workshop.
- Attended the Regional Fall Days in Comber

- Attended the Life Members and Past Presidents luncheon at Marie Theresa's new home in Windsor. Lucy was kind enough to pick me up.
- Mentored members of the CWL Councils across the Chatham Catholic Family of Parishes.
- Attended a meeting and advised St. Agnes Council as they voted to disband. It was very sad but also a time of growing for the members.
- Attended 2020 planning convention meetings as protocol chair.
- 2019 began with great sadness as did 2018. A nephew at the age of 55 passed away suddenly. February my sister-in law passed away after a short illness I really miss her.
- In October we attend our granddaughters wedding in Kitchener.
- We are still awaiting our little boy from South Korea. We hope the grandchild will get him this spring his name is Leo.
- January we were blessed with a new great granddaughter Ellie.
- I leave you with this hope. "May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another in accordance with Christ Jesus." *Romans 15:5*

Marie Theresa Lamphier

- In 2019, I transferred membership from Visitation Parish to our home parish in Windsor – St. John Vianney
- Continued to work as Provincial Communication Chair, updating the website, issuing the monthly Provincial ON-line newsletter and maintaining our Facebook page with timely articles and/or spiritual images/content.
- Attended Provincial Executive meetings in February and October in Toronto
- Attended the Diocesan Convention in Windsor, where the honour of Life Membership was conferred upon me.
- Attended the Provincial Convention in Kingston with my husband Larry where I was elected as the Ontario Provincial Treasurer.
- In July took part in the ON Route project demonstrating against Human Trafficking.
- Attended the National Convention in Calgary, where again I was able to partake in the ceremonies for new Life Members. My husband and I took advantage of the sights by travelling to Banff and seeing the countryside.
- I have been busy getting an understanding of the books for Provincial and transferring bank accounts etc. required with this new position.
- My husband and I celebrated our 50th Wedding Anniversary this year with our family and friends and topped it off with a very memorable two-week trip to the Holy Land. It supports the statement that once there and having visited the sites, the Gospel became alive for us.
- Attended the Christmas party at Visitation Parish, where I was witness to having the Bellelle Guerin award conferred upon Kathy Levesque.
- Attended the fashion show and Christmas party for Ste. Anne's Parish in Tecumseh.
- Also attended the St. John Vianney Christmas party.
- We are blessed to be able to spend time with our four grandchildren who range in age from 3 to 8 years old.

Past President's Report

- This past year, 2019 has been a busy one for me with my own parish council and diocesan council.
- In my own council I have mentored our new president upon the resignation of our former president in March. With a very small executive, and an inexperienced new president, we have had to look at how we do things and made a few changes.
- Early in the year I was privileged to bring greetings to the London Conference UCW annual meeting and the Middlesex Presbyterial UCW annual meeting. I always enjoy visiting with these ladies and will miss the invitation to these events.
- Throughout the year I attended and brought greetings to councils at their year-end pot-luck dinners and also at significant anniversary celebrations.
- Accompanied the London Regional Chair in offering support to a London council that was having some issues.
- Directives and League Lingo articles were written as required.
- The summer was a time to recharge my batteries at the Spiritual Retreat in Oxley, one of my favourite places.
- I also took part in the day for Human Trafficking at the OnRoute at West Lorne. It was well attended, and we were fortunate to have Fr. Matt George with us.
- Along with 3 of my friends, attended the Provincial Convention in Kingston. We traveled together and shared a room which kept the cost down for us all.
- The fall was busy with presenting a Nominations & Elections Workshop at the fall regional meetings and attending the London Region Advent Tea.
- Attended a meeting where a decision was made to dissolve London Central Committee. We will continue to do the events for the Bishop but will now have all 19 region councils to share the load.
- It was an honour to present the Bishop Sherlock Bursary to a deserving seminarian at the annual Ministries Mass at St Peter's Seminary.
- More recently I attended the funeral for Joan Lobsinger's mother. From my own experience I know how much the support of our CWL sisters means.
- Thanks to the assistance of Mary VanDyk, the elections packages were put together and mailed out.
- I thank everyone for your support over the past year and especially for the prayers and cards at the time of my husband's passing.

Recommendations

- Invite your Life Members to your meetings as guest speakers and mentors



Roll
Call



2019 Member Councils

Amherstburg	St. John the Baptist	Ridgetown	St. Michael
Aylmer	Our Lady of Sorrows	Sarnia	Our Lady of Mercy
Belle River	St. Simon & St. Jude		Queen of Peace
Bornish/Parkhill	Sacred Heart		Sacred Heart
Bright's Grove	St. Michael		St. Benedict
Chatham	Blessed Sacrament		St. Joseph
	St. Agnes	St. Joseph	St. Peter
	St. Joseph (City)	St. Mary's	Holy Name of Mary
	St. Joseph (Harwich)	St. Thomas	Holy Angels
	St. Ursula		St. Anne
Comber	Visitation	Stratford	Immaculate Conception
Corunna	St. Joseph		St. Joseph
Courtright	St. Charles	Strathroy	All Saints
Delaware	Sacred Heart	Tecumseh	Good Shepherd
Delhi	Our Lady Queen of Martyrs		St. Anne
Dresden	St. Michael	Thamesville	St. Paul North American
Dublin	St. Patrick	Martyrs	
Essex	Holy Name of Jesus	Tilbury	St. Francis Xavier
Exeter	Precious Blood	Tillsonburg	St. Mary
Forest	St. Christopher	Wallaceburg	Holy Family
Glencoe	St. Charles Garnier		Our Lady Help of Christians
Goderich	St. Peter	Wallacetown	St. Helen
Grand Bend	Immaculate Heart of Mary	Walsh	St. Michael
Harrow	St. Anthony of Padua	Waterford	St. Bernard of Clairvaux
Ingersoll	Sacred Heart	Watford	Our Lady Help of Christians
Kingsville	St. John de Brebeuf	Windsor	Corpus Christi
Kinkora	St. Patrick		Holy Trinity
Langton	Sacred Heart		Immaculate Heart
LaSalette	Our Lady of LaSalette		Most Precious Blood
LaSalle	St. Paul		Our Lady of Guadalupe
Leamington	St. Michael		Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Listowel	St. Joseph		Our Lady of the Atonement
London	Holy Cross		St. Alphonsus
	Holy Family		St. Angela Merici
	Mary Immaculate		St. John Vianney
	St. Andrew the Apostle		St. Michael
	St. George	Wingham	Sacred Hear
	St. John the Divine	Woodslee	St. John the Evangelist
	St. Justin	Woodstock	Holy Trinity
	St. Martin of Tours	Wyoming	Holy Rosary
	St. Michael	Zurich	St. Boniface
	St. Patrick		
	St. Peter's Cathedral		
Lucan	St. Patrick		
McGregor	St. Clement		
Merlin	St. Patrick		
Mitchell	St. Vincent de Paul		
Mount Carmel	Our Lady of Mount Carmel		
Norwich	St. Peter		
Petrolia	St. Philip		
Port Dover	St. Cecilia		
Port Lambton	Sacred Heart		
Princeton	Sacred Heart		