
THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA
SAULT STE. MARIE DIOCESAN COUNCIL



Prayer to Our Lady
of Good Council

*Patroness of The Catholic Women's
League of Canada.*

Mary, Our Lady of Good Counsel:
filled with the Holy Spirit,
you were a faithful disciple
of Jesus, your Son.

Intercede with your son
for us that we may be faithful to our
baptism, fervent in prayer, and
generous in the service we give to
our sisters and brothers.

May the spirit of the living God,
who graced you with the gift of
counsel, lead us in the way
of truth and love.

With the help of your prayers, may
we come to rejoice forever with you
and the great company of saints in
the kingdom of heaven.

Amen

Fall Newsletter 2020

MISSION STATEMENT

The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Calls its members to grow in faith,
and to witness to the love of God
through ministry and service.

LEAGUE PRAYER

We humbly pray you, O god our Father to bless
The Catholic Women's League of Canada.
Bless our beloved country, our homes and families.
Send your Holy Spirit upon us to give light to our minds
and strength to our wills that we may know
and fulfill your great law of charity.
Teach us to share with others at home and abroad,
the good things you have given us.
This we ask through our Lord Jesus Christ
and the intercession our patroness
Our Lady of Good Counsel
Amen

Pope Francis's Prayer to Mary during Coronavirus Pandemic

O Mary, you always shine on our path as a sign of salvation and of hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping your faith firm.

You, Salvation of Your People, know what we need, and we are sure you will provide so that, as in Cana of Galilee, we may return to joy and to feasting after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who has taken upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows to lead us, through the cross, to the joy of the resurrection. Amen.

Under your protection, we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God. Do not disdain the entreaties of we who are in trial, but deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.

(Adapted from [Vatican News](#).)





Care for our **Common Home**



SERVICE – FAITH – JUSTICE



**The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Sault Ste. Marie Diocesan Council**

**Rev. Rex Lumine
Diocesan Spiritual Advisor**



Dear Sisters in Christ,

It is my pleasure to reach you through this Fall News Letter. Our CWL Diocesan President Cathy, has shared with me that some of our families are struggling at this time with sickness and loneliness among other issues. Please know my prayers are with all of you. May the Good Lord send the Spirit upon those afflicted to heal their bodies and souls. At this point I would like to share with you some inspirations for our personal reflection.

Todd Henry in his book "Die Empty" writes:

If you have an idea, perform it.

If you have knowledge, share, it.

If you have a goal, achieve it.

Love, share and distribute, do not keep it inside.

While winter looks to be black and white, the fall remains the multi-color face of Canada. Fall is a call to die empty. The falling of the leaves, reveal a truth that the trees have achieved their goal of producing their harvest. They too have the pandemic of cyclones, drought, heavy rains, etc., but they never stop bringing forth their fruit.

Christian attitude may be revealed, not in the closing, but in the beginning. Since we participate in the infinite love of God, there is no end for the faithful. The transformative quality of Christianity inspires everyone to live by design and not by default. Today's pandemic may challenge the economic and employment status of the people but one should see its unique way of triggering the meaning in life.

Fall is not an end for the trees, it but closes one window and opens another. In other words, the leaves fall in order to coat themselves with the bright snow. Let us once again coat ourselves with love and justice.

Our members may try the following strategies in order to witness Christ by *dying empty* in daily life.

E.M.P.T.Y. - Daily checkpoint

E - Focus on your code of **Ethics**; review everything you say and do. How do you apply your ethics? What are the potential pitfalls?

M - Focus on the **Mission**; How will you know you have succeeded? What do you want to do that you're not doing now? What needs to be eliminated?

P - Focus on **People**; Look at the people you interact with and how you will enhance that relationship.

T - Focus on the **Tasks**; What absolutely must get done? Schedule it on your calendars.

Y - Focus on **You**; How are you developing yourself?

By dying empty, we can change how we face the challenges of the pandemic and in turn, grow in faith and the love of Christ.

Blessings,

Father Rex





The Catholic Women's League of Canada

Sault Ste Marie Diocesan Council

Care For our Common Home

November 14, 2020

My Dear Sisters in the League;

Even in times of this pandemic, the Catholic Women's League of Canada is continuing its work for God and Canada. Our autumn is leaving us and soon winter will be here! With it comes the great season of Advent. We wait in joyful anticipation for the birth of our savior, Jesus.

Although we cannot meet at this time, many councils are continuing to reach out to their members in many innovative ways. Please continue to communicate with your sisters and to pray for one another. It is also very important to make sure your members are paying their membership for 2021. I hope that they feel the value of membership even in these trying times.

I hope that you read through this newsletter and know that the work of the League never stops. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me by phone or by email if you have any questions or concerns regarding this newsletter or any of the League's initiatives.

Cathy McKinney
Sault Ste. Marie Diocesan President

President

Cathy McKinney
111 Laura Street
Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6C 2G5
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Spiritual Advisor

Rev. Rex Lumine
Pro Cathedral
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North Bay, ON P1B 2Z4
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2020 Centenary Project

On Friday, July 3, 2020, Sault Ste Marie CWL Diocesan President, Cathy McKinney (centre), CWL Diocesan Spiritual Advisor, Rev. Rex Lumine (right) and Pro-Cathedral Rector and Council Spiritual Advisor, Rev. Monsignor Dave Tramontini (left), planted a Red Oak tree on the grounds of the Pro-Cathedral of the Assumption Parish.



The tree planting is part of a 2020 centenary project to commemorate the Catholic Women's League of Canada 100th anniversary and it is also in keeping with the National theme, "Care for Our Common Home". As part of this project, it was suggested that every Diocesan Council plant a tree in a place of honour to help the environment and to be enjoyed by the community.

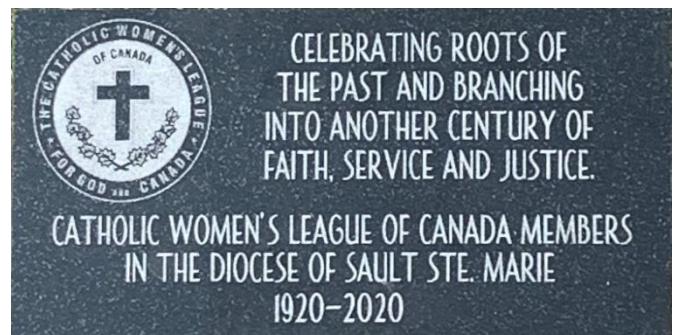
This tree planting was an incredibly special occasion for many reasons. The Sault Ste. Anniversaries this year. Also celebrating its 100th Anniversary, is the Pro-Cathedral of the Assumption CWL Council and was the host site for the very first Diocesan Convention which is why Cathy chose this location for the tree planting. Marie Diocesan Council of the Catholic Women's League of Canada is celebrating its 100th



Mother Nature provided a beautiful, sunny day for Msgr. Dave Tramontini and Fr. Rex Lumine to deliver a special blessing upon the tree before it was planted near the Mary Garden on the grounds.



Local CWL council Presidents were on hand to witness the tree planting, in a safely distanced manner, of course!

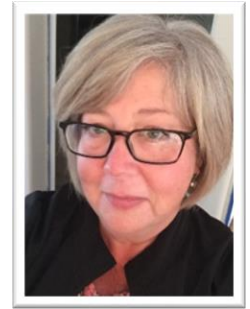


Tree dedication – plaque inscription

Photo credits – Lisa Henry



Patricia Clizia
Spiritual Development Chairperson



"We are all just walking each other home. "Richard Alpert

My dear sisters in the League,

Much has happened since spring - and much more has not!

We found ourselves faced with the reality of living in a pandemic environment. Spring arrived, cancellations abounded and yet Easter came! Covid stayed.

Summer unfolded and hope renewed as restrictions lifted and we came together cautiously-yet grateful for the reunification of our family circles, social networks and faith communities-a human connectedness we all yearned for and embraced-with a 2nd wave looming on the horizon.

Daily life now includes wearing a mask, washing our hands relentlessly and keeping our distance. We are living in the shadow of increasing rates of transmission and further lockdowns. We stay home, watch for symptoms, get tested and are learning to adapt and 'pivot' in a new technological age that minimizes our need for physical contact. It's not for the faint of heart.

Perhaps our new lived reality is also a unique opportunity to live a more purposeful life. We have all let things go this year- hair colour, shopping trips, restaurant dining, vacation trips abroad.

Yet there are things we are also embracing-a slower lifestyle, conscious living, reconciliation with family members, a much needed pause. Whatever our circumstance, is there more we can do to improve our social relationships -with the earth, the marginalized and with each other?

In his newest encyclical 'Fratelli Tutti'

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2020-10/fratelli-tutti-pope-fraternity-social-friendship-short-summary.html>

Pope Francis invites us into the parable of the Good Samaritan; in our own personal moment of truth. Will we reach down to touch, and connect and heal the wounds of each other? Aren't we all brothers...and sisters?

How are we pivoting in a Covid impacted family, social network, neighbourhood, faith community? Let's keep the lamps on and be ready!

"Be dressed for service and keep your lamps burning, as though you were waiting for your master to return from the wedding feast. Then you will be ready to open the door and let Him in the moment He arrives and knocks.

The servants who are ready and waiting for His return will be rewarded...He may come in the middle of the night or just before dawn. But whenever He comes, He will reward the servants who are ready." (Luke 12:35-38)

As we begin the journey to Christ's birth and light for our world this year, I invite you to explore the longing in your heart. There is a beautiful song of that same title-by Anne Quigley; have a listen! <https://youtu.be/ygDMBgaTJQ0>

Consider adding a new prayer or tradition or purposeful "to do".

Perhaps this year you will include an advent wreath with your Christmas decor - and reacquaint with this tradition.

You may consider registering to attend the virtual advent retreat hosted by the CWL "This is a Time to go Slow...a Time to Pause on the Advent Journey in a Time of Uncertainty" facilitated by Fr. Cornelius (Con) O'Mahony, EV, Vicar of Education for the Diocese of Hamilton and Pastor of St. Andrew's Parish (Oakville). Register today! <https://cwl.ca/advent-retreat-with-fr-con-omahony-registration-now-open/>

Volunteer service at food banks, homeless shelters, pen pal programs with seniors, and virtual friendly visiting programs are all good opportunities for a personal encounter with each other - and Jesus. Don't be alarmed if you also find a change of heart!

I will pray differently this Advent season-and like many-will have changes to family celebrations and Christmas traditions.

Covid stays ... and Christmas comes! And with it, comes a light that is so needed for our tired, dark world and perhaps a renewed heart that welcomes Jesus and sees and embraces Jesus in each other.

Peace to you ... and love!

Patricia Clizia
First Vice President
Spiritual Development Chairperson
SSM Diocesan Council



Kelly Langevin Communications Chairperson



"Prayer is a conversation between you and God. Don't be afraid to talk to him. Don't worry about what you will say. Speak from your heart." Nicky Gumbel

Fall greetings to all my sisters in the League.

COVID 19 has disrupted so many of our plans for 2020. We have all found it difficult, some of us more than others. Technology is a wonderful tool for those who have embraced it, but many of our members may not use computers, tablets or cell phones to stay in touch with family and friends and rely solely on a phone call or face to face visits to stay in touch. During this season of Advent, let us think about our sisters who are lonely and in need of a hug, but due to this pandemic are unable to have close contact with people outside their bubble. We can give them a phone call, plan a physically distant visit, send a thinking of you card or offer to run an errand for them. There are many ways to stay connected.

Before writing this article for the newsletter, I visited the National and Provincial CWL websites for ideas from our Communication Chairpersons.

The Canadian League Magazine: The fall edition, themed the League's 100 years of dedication and sisterhood, was delivered near the end of October. Please be sure to read and enjoy this special issue.



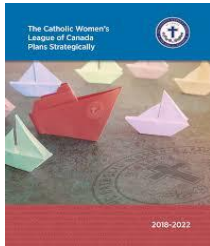
The Ontario Provincial Council On-Line Newsletter:



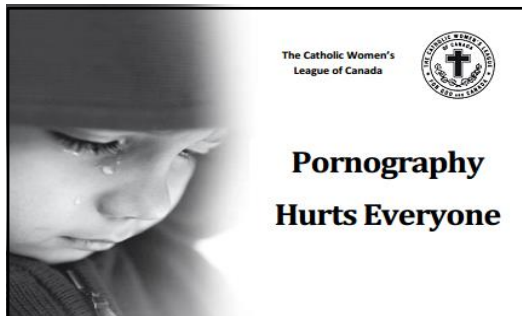
Check out the November issue featuring our Sault Ste. Marie Diocese. Thank you to all who helped me with the content for this issue.

The Summer Speaker Series Webinar: Members were not able to attend the national convention due to the pandemic this past August. Thank you to modern technology they were able to listen to the speakers and stay informed. The series may be accessed on our National Website at www.cwl.ca by searching for the Summer Speaker Series.

Implementation Committee:



We are encouraged to watch the new Welcome Program Video which can be found on the national website. This committee will be reaching out for volunteers in February 2021 to form new working groups in April 2021. Consider saying 'Yes' to year three work.



Pornography Hurts Campaign:

Child pornography is on the rise. If your council still has postcards from previous years, please put them out for parishioners to take. Encourage them to express their views and concerns to the government by sending them to your local M.P. office.

The following are resolutions dealing with pornography and related issues:

- 2017.02 Mandatory Age Verification Mechanisms for Adult Pornographic Websites
- 2004.11 Link Between Violent, Graphic Imagery and Aggressive Behaviour and the Mechanics of Killing
- 2002.11 Responsible Internet Use for Children
- 2000.06 Violence in Music Lyrics
- 2000.05 Violence on Television as It Relates to Children
- 1998.02 Deviant Sex Establishments/Business

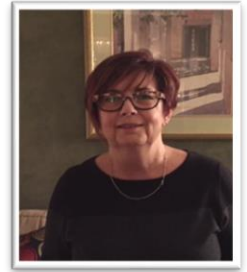
Encourage members to act by hosting a letter writing campaign on one or more of the items above.

Blessings,
Kelly Langevin



Sault Ste. Marie Diocesan Council

COMMUNITY LIFE STANDING COMMITTEE



"In times of great stress or adversity, it's always best to keep busy, to plow your anger and your energy into something positive." Lee Lacocca

I'm sure many of us during this COVID-19 pandemic are experience some forms of stress and uncertainty. I have found that reaching out to others with a simple phone call can be very rewarding not just for the person you call but also for yourself.

I encourage that we refer back to the **C.A.R.E.** Connection Project.

C - Communicate – Reach out to someone. It starts with a simple Hello

A – Act – Do something! Don't just think about doing it or don't wait. Just do it!

R – Respect - Respect people's situation. Don't judge. Be aware of their boundaries.

E – Engage – you just need to take that first step to make a world of difference to someone.

I encourage you to go on the Ontario Provincial website under Community Life Communique #3 from Mary Capobianco and read how the COVID has impacted the marginalized in our society and the small ways we can all help.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| ❖ The Aged | ❖ People in Housing Need |
| ❖ Those in Nursing Homes | ❖ People Facing Food Insecurities |
| ❖ Single Parents | ❖ People with Disabilities |
| ❖ Women and Children Fleeing Violence | ❖ Indigenous Peoples |
| | ❖ Migrant Workers |

The above lists just a few of the groups impacted by COVID 19.

I am pleased to pass on that the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops and Development and Peace have reached an agreement. The League can now reinstate its 1% Program. Parish councils can now collect and submit revenue earned to the national voluntary fund for CCODP.

In closing, I would like to share this quote from Mother Teresa, "At this Christmas when Christ comes, will he find a warm heart? Mark the season of Advent by loving and serving the others with God's own love and concern."

Blessings, Stay safe.
Debbie Mattiazzi



Colleen Murphy
Education and Health Chairperson



I pray all members in our Diocese are managing well during this upheaval of much that was normal! I pray for everyone that is suffering in any way, medically, financially, socially and mentally, and that you are able to find support to help you through these challenges.

Scholarships and Bursaries

As our National Education and Health Chair, Faith Anderson, noted, the **National Bursary Fund** provides financial assistance to members to pursue studies, courses, seminars, conferences, workshops and diploma/degree programs in areas of spiritual growth, adult faith formation, youth ministry, ministry to patients in palliative care, ministry to shut-ins, parliamentary procedure, and literacy tutoring. Further information is found on the national website at <https://cwl.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/312-National-Bursary-Fund-Brochure-2019.pdf>

Medical Assistance in Dying

Bill C-7 is again before Parliament to expand the eligibility of assisted death.

This bill removes the requirement to have 2 independent witnesses approve the procedure, the requirement of a 10-day reflection period, and the requirement that a person must give consent immediately before the life-ending procedure is performed.

Please contact your Member of Parliament, asking them to oppose Bill C-7

<https://www.ourcommons.ca/Members/en/search> An online petition opposing this bill can be signed at: https://www.garnettgenuismp.ca/no_same_day_death

The Euthanasia Prevention Coalition reports Canada's health care savings of \$86.9 million with the death of approximately 19,000 people by euthanasia since June 17, 2016. Sadly, some people will point to the cost savings as a positive reason to promote euthanasia!

Personally, my husband joined me in retirement in early March, so we are enjoying our beautiful spot in Canada. We have found a whole community of people that love hiking, paddling, biking and (soon) snowshoeing. May you all find ways to visit others during these colder months. Bundle up, breathe that fresh air, move about if you're able, and enjoy each other's company!



May the blessings of each day be the blessings you need most!

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen Murphy



Colleen Murphy Sault Ste. Marie Regional Report



As with most community events, our Spring and Fall Luncheons, as well as our Fall Presidents meeting were cancelled for this year.

Our region wasn't able to accomplish the planting of an oak tree as requested by our Diocesan President, Cathy. We will pursue this again next spring.

Daily Rosary at The Grotto of Our Lady of Fatima and Oasis of Peace in Sault Ste. Marie

A Good News story:

In April, with the closing of our churches, a group of parishioners, largely from Our Lady of Good Counsel, began leading a daily rosary in the parking lot near their Grotto of Our Lady of Fatima. A loudspeaker broadcasted the recited rosary, while attendees stayed in their vehicles. It was very well attended in the warmer weather, with prayer rallies and novenas also. They now use a radio transmitter so attendees can keep their windows closed.



The rosary continues, sometimes being held at the Oasis of Peace near St. Basil's Elementary School. And more good news: our community also rallied to spruce up the grounds of the Oasis and Cross, which had suffered neglect after the passing of a dedicated groundskeeper, Gerry Ouellette in 2016. A huge thanks to CWL members involved in both efforts! God Bless!



*Let your heart be glad for the harvest done
And may your winter be warm the whole season long.*

*Respectfully submitted,
Colleen Murphy*

Congratulations



Ontario Life Member – Karen MacDonald

Congratulations Karen on being awarded the Ontario Life Member Pin. Karen is a member of Lady of Hope Council in Sudbury and she currently sits on the Ontario Provincial Council as the Education and Health Chairperson.



Anniversaries

Congratulations to the following Councils who celebrated special anniversaries recently:

2020

Pro Cathedral of the Assumption, North Bay – 100 Years
St. Bartholomew, Levack – 65 Years
St. Peter the Apostle, North Bay – 65 Years
St. Ambrose, Thesalon – 60 Years
St. Alexander, Chelmsford – 60 Years
Our Lady of Good Counsel, Sault Ste. Marie – 55 Years
St. Gregory, Sault Ste. Marie – 55 Years
St. Pius X, Lively – 55 Years
St. Gerard Majella, Sault Ste. Marie – 50 Years

2019

Christ the King (combined with Holy Trinity), Sudbury – 95 Years
Holy Redeemer (formerly All Sainte), Sudbury – 80 Years
Lady of Our Sorrows, Sturgeon Falls – 70 Years
Holy Name of Jesus, North Bay – 65 Years
Our Lady of Hope (formerly St. Clement), Sudbury – 60 Years
Holy Family (formerly St. Joseph the Worker, Sault Ste. Marie – 55 Years
St. Kevin, Val Therse – 55 Years



St. Kevins' CWL Hanmer

Celebrated their 55th Anniversary in February of 2019.

Standing are Line Vidal, Liz Mantler, Micheline Kolppanen, Dina Farinon, Darlene Ranger, Aline Radey seated are Sue Godin, Father Jackson and Pat Hinds.

Absent: Mary Catherine Tremblay

St. Pius X CWL Lively

Celebrated their 55th Anniversary in October of 2020. Pictured here at their 2019 Snowflake Tea are many of their current executive

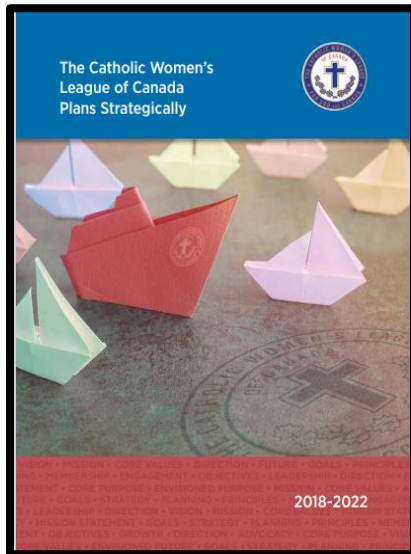


St. Alexander's CWL Chelmsford / Azilda

Celebrated their 60th anniversary in September of 2020.

Pictured from left to right: Cathy Desjardins, Emily Vinski, Kelly Langevin, Marylen McKenzie, Marina Lamoureux, Sue Botts & Jackie Ledrew





Bringing the Strategic Plan to Life – How Sault Ste Marie Diocesan Members Answered the Call

Here we are, approaching year three of implementing the strategic plan for the Catholic Women's League of Canada and as we look forward, it is important to look back and see who a vital part of embarking on this monumental endeavour has been.

The road to the League's envisioned future started with a large group of dedicated CWL members willing to support the steering committee in the strategic planning process. Within this large group were members from the diocese of Sault Ste Marie providing leadership, feedback and support in many areas.

On pages 18 & 19 of the publication *The Catholic Women's League of Canada Plans Strategically* <https://cwl.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/CWL-Strategy-Report-draft-5.pdf> you will see the names of these women:

- ❖ Angelika Beauchamp
- ❖ Marcelle Beaulieu
- ❖ Debbie Mattiazzi
- ❖ Cathy McKinney
- ❖ Mae Steck

Following the development of the strategic plan, came the call and application process for volunteers to be a part of the Implementation Committee responsible for implementing the strategies. Lisa Henry was selected as one of the four women who would help lead this process.

As the Implementation Committee began its work, it needed CWL members who would share their time and talent to be a part of working groups for each strategy. Our very own Sault Ste Marie CWL member and Ontario Provincial Organization Chairperson and President-Elect, Linda Squarzolo, and Diocesan President, Cathy McKinney answered the call. Linda was the Lead of the Reorganization Sub-Committee responsible for "reducing the number of standing committees to three to align with the core values of faith, service and social justice". The work from this group has been submitted to the National Board for review. Cathy is part of the Marketing Working Group, which is a 5-year commitment, and is responsible for: "increasing awareness about the League through marketing", and "transform name, brand and image to reflect current trends and the envisioned future".

We are tremendously proud of these women who offered to serve in this capacity and bring the League into the next century.

The Implementation Committee is always looking for working group members from across Canada. Watch the National Website and Facebook page in the new year calling for working group members for year three.

Article submitted by Lisa Henry



The Christmas
before the 100th convention, here
are some things that we thought we should mention.

There are stockings to fill, shut-in gifts to prepare and gifts of
gratitude too, your regional chairperson has gift giving solutions for you.

Being generous in our thoughtfulness, service, and care for one another, we have
a stock of gift solutions for your family in Christ, sisters or mothers, fathers, or brothers.

Our cell phone is used for long hours on Zoom, virtual classes and webinars, to rest your tired
hand, it would be great if in a stocking a phone stand did land! We all know someone whose life
resembles this; you can get a phone stand and cross them off your list! Volunteers who support
our events make them look a part of the team. Get a CWL T-shirt for that student, CWL member
friend, just watch them beam. We have some in stock and the orders are quick, 2 week delivery
and off the list you can tick. The keeper of notes and task list to do, hmm is this person someone
you know or is it you? The hardcover notebook fits in your bag and it comes complete with pen,
sticky notes and tags. Think of your Spiritual Advisor, executive, parish secretary or member, to
keep thoughts organized and on track. Hurray! You check it off the list, there is no looking back.
Does your council deliver gifts or baking to those who are shut-in, the CWL blue re-useable bag
is ideal for both women and men. You can fit some cream, slippers, and a book, add a small tin
of cookies, this is worth a look. The convention committee thought about our councils'
and personal needs, at Christmas, a time of giving, let us join in the spirit without
greed. In addition to the kindness of giving, your purchases support the
100th Convention. May the only spirits you chance to meet be the
spirit of love and warm friends sweet. These are our
Christmas wishes for you. And may God bless
you in all you do.



Sudbury Region

Books	4
Bags	39
Phone stands	19
T-shirts medium	2

Kathleen Niro
705-522-3259
ktniro@personainternet.com

Sault Ste Marie Region

Books	21
Bags	54
Phone stands	31
T-shirts medium	1
Large	2

Colleen Murphy
705-759-6086
murphyckelly@gmail.com

North Bay Region

Books	43
Bags	39
Phone stands	1
T-shirts medium	10

Diane Carmichael
705-471-5096
dianecarmichael@hotmail.ca

CWL Prayer for Renewal

God of new beginnings, ever faithful God,
we thank You for your constant care for the women of
The Catholic Women's League of Canada.

We have sought to serve You in faith by
service to your people.

Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and with the
help of Our Lady of Good Counsel,
we continue to discern Your call to seek justice
and build Your Kingdom on earth each day.
We ask your guidance as we plan the evolution of
The Catholic Women's League of Canada.
Grant us wisdom, the grace of discernment, and strength.
May each of us open her heart and mind to
Your will and welcome the new life
You bring to the League.

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

AMEN

Sr. Susan Scott, CAF