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



**Prayer to Our Lady
of Good Counsel**

*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 2018

MISSION STATEMENT

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

LEAGUE PRAYER

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



SERVICE – FAITH – JUSTICE



Dove

Holy Spirit—advocate, counselor, intercessor

Cloud & Light

Living, saving God of Glory

Fire

Transforming energy of Pentecost

Disciples

CWL Members, responding joyfully to God's call
in word and action

Cross, Anchor & Heart

Faith—lived, professed, witnessed and spread

Hope—strength to sustain and preserve us

Love—the first and greatest of all virtues



“**Homelessness**” is a theme that we will continue to support and promote with our sisters across Ontario in the coming months.

Warmth and Comfort will be the inspiration for our next project. We invite councils to collect **socks**—for children, women and men. Imagine the collective impact in our communities of the delivery of hundreds of pairs of warm and cozy socks for those that need a little comfort and warmth in their day. Will you respond to the call? Look for more information to follow regarding how we will bring this to fruition within our regions.

Begin collecting and or knitting some socks today!



**LOVE IS LIGHT, WARMTH
AND COMFORT.
UNDERSTANDING IS
JUST LIGHT.**

JUNE GOODFIELD

The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Sault Ste Marie Diocesan Council
"Rooted in Gospel Values"



Dear Sisters in the League,

BE HOPEFUL! BE READY!

Advent is one of those words we never hear as we watch television or listen to the radio. We do not read or see it on signs or in shopping malls. The media's message around this time of year is "hurry up, buy and spend." It is constantly reminding us how many shopping days there are until Christmas. This usually starts in July.

Everything is turned upside down by our materialistic culture. We are so caught up in the hectic pace we forget what the season of Advent is all about. However, the church reminds us that it is not a commercial time, but a sacred time.

Advent means "coming." It is a season of hope, peace, light and joyful preparation of our hearts for the birth of Jesus Christ. The mystery of God's coming among us also has us looking forward to the second coming of Christ when God's plan for salvation will be brought to fulfillment. This four-week season preceding Christmas is a time when we remember that Jesus came among us over 2000 years ago and is now in our hearts.

Now is the time to live our lives with love in our hearts, in our minds and in our words. Now is the time to return to God.

It is a time to live our lives joyfully as we wait for the birth of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Every time we speak in love and not in anger, we live the season of Advent. Every time we make a person feel welcome, we live the season of Advent. Every time we help a person in need, we live the season of Advent. Every time we forgive someone who has hurt us, we live the season of Advent.

Heavenly Father, open our eyes to see; touch our hearts to give us new inspiration to love you so that our lives may reflect the ways of your Son. Come let us walk in the light of the Lord. This time of grace can help us as we prepare for the birth of Jesus Christ so that we may love him and know him more and more.

BE JOYFUL! BE LOVE!

Fr. Trevor

President
Elizabeth (Betsy) Currier

Spiritual Advisor
Rev Trevor Scarfone



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

**"Inspired by the spirit, women respond
to God's call."**



My dear CWL sisters and Spiritual Advisors:

"Let us all remember this: one cannot proclaim the Gospel of Jesus without the tangible witness of one's life. Those who listen to us and observe us must be able to see in our actions what they hear from our lips, and so give glory to God! I am thinking now of some advice that Saint Francis of Assisi gave his brothers: preach the Gospel and, if necessary, use words. Preaching with your life, with your witness."

Pope Francis (4/14/13)

It was such an honour to represent you once again at the provincial and national conventions. The **provincial convention** in Toronto in July focused on issues around homelessness. Nineteen members from the Sault Ste. Marie diocese witnessed a very emotionally charged convention.... lots of reflection, sharing and generosity abounding. The response to the collection of Tim Horton's and McDonald's gift cards was overwhelming with \$12,044.50 in donations brought to convention for distribution in the Toronto area and an additional \$3,110.00 in gift cards was distributed locally by councils in their own communities.

There were a variety of breakout sessions from which to choose and all dealt on some level with our provincial theme of "homelessness". The keynote speakers from PEACH (Palliative Education and Care for the Homeless) left a lot to think about - how the homeless are left to die without dignity. Read the provincial website for more. The oral reports by the Diocesan Presidents and Provincial Officers were on homelessness and reflected on one of the titles of Mary. They were inspiring! You can read them on the provincial website, too.

At the banquet on Tuesday evening, everyone was ecstatic when Cardinal Thomas Collins presented the Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice medal to a very deserving Margaret Ann Jacobs, our then National President. The *Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice* (Latin: *For Church and Pope*) is also known as the "Decoration of Honour". It is currently conferred for distinguished service to the church by lay people and clergy.

The Sault Ste. Marie delegation had tee shirts made and we had a wonderful time and lots of laughs playing Diocesan Feud – we didn't win but had fun in typical CWL fashion. There is a report on the provincial website. Please take a couple of minutes to read the full convention details on the provincial website. In Winnipeg at the **national convention** in August, nine members from the Diocese of Sault Ste. Marie attended. I can't begin to describe the feeling of sisterhood that is shared and the sense of the might that we have in our resolutions process. It is amazing to see the procession of flags and the liturgical procession of bishops, archbishops and spiritual advisors from across Canada. It was especially nice to see the Ukrainian Orthodox Bishop in his colourful attire.

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President

Elizabeth (Betsy) Currier

Spiritual Advisor

Rev Trevor Scarfone

The keynote speaker on Tuesday afternoon was Most Reverend Murray Chatlain, Archbishop of Keewatin-Le Pas who did two presentations. In the first, he spoke every passionately about reconciliation with indigenous peoples. I won't go into detail about his presentation other than to comment on his opening remarks. The first step in reconciliation is freedom (vs. fear or entrapment) If we surrender the things we cannot control there is freedom. The three principles for reconciliation are: 1) we are all part of a common humanity, 2) we all have the capacity to evolve and change, and 3) we yearn for unity and peace.

His second presentation was entitled "Listen Slowly". Listen to God in a quiet place where Jesus tells you he loves you. Faith and doubt are part and parcel of our religion. Jesus' apostles were with him for three years yet they doubted. Doubt is part of our faith. Uncertainty keeps us praying, keeps us humble, and also gives us room to grow. Both presentations were enlightening and thought provoking. Please go to the national website and watch these presentations.

We, the members, spoke and national listened..... The report of the Strategic Planning Committee, including the results of the spring surveys, were presented at the 2018 national convention and next steps, which included a five-year plan, were announced. I circulated the 2018-2022 Strategic Plan to all council presidents to share with members. Presentations will be delivered this fall at each of the regional meetings scheduled in Sudbury for October 21, North Bay November 3 and Sault Ste. Marie November 10th. Hopefully you will be able to attend one to learn about what has been done to date and next steps.

Save the date! Our **diocesan convention** will be at the **Quattro Hotel and Convention Centre** in Sault Ste. Marie **April 26 to 28, 2019**. Convention planning has begun and we all are ready to offer you a wonderful experience. Please set money aside when you do your 2019 budget to send delegates to the convention. It is a wonderful way to *educate your members*.

Speaking of education, "*Find Your Voice!*" has been presented in all regions. If you aren't able to attend or have missed the fall presentations there will be more in the spring. This is a dynamite course aimed at helping you to be comfortable speaking to an audience. And it's so much fun...just ask someone who attended.

Our *Homelessness* focus continues. Directives from the provincial Community Chairperson, Joanna Sisk and Communications Chairperson, Marie-Theresa Lamphier introduced a program called "Warmth and Comfort", whereby we are asking the councils to collect socks for men, women and children and donate these to local organizations. We are hoping to collect 2,019 pairs of socks by January 1, 2019. Collect and donate those socks to any local organization and send pictures and numbers on to Marie-Theresa. I thank you all in advance for your spirit of generosity. I know this will be a success in our diocese. Our councils are always so giving. Please do not hesitate to contact any of the diocesan executive with questions or suggestions. Our goal continues to be *visible* and to *communicate*. We are here for you!

Blessings and Hugs,

Betsy

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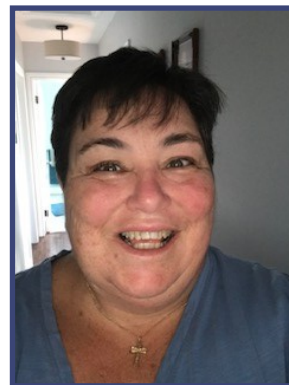
President
Elizabeth (Betsy) Currier

Spiritual Advisor
Rev Trevor Scarfone



**Cathy McKinney
President Elect
Organization Chairperson**

**“Inspired by the spirit, women respond
to God’s call.”**



Dear Ladies of the Catholic Women's League,

Hello and Happy Autumn to you all!

It is hard to believe this is my second year as the

Organization chairperson for our Diocese. So much has happened and we have done so much in my first year of service.

At the Annual National convention in August of 2018, the new strategic plan was unveiled. After much input from members across the country, a series of goals and critical issues will be worked on over the next five years. In year one, we will increase membership by increasing awareness about the League within the church through marketing.

We will also address the impediments to action and participation by increasing flexibility throughout the organization. We will do this by reducing the number of standing committees to three to align with the core values of faith, service and social justice. As these goals and objectives are met, further goals will be dealt with. Stay tuned for the roll out of how we will be accomplishing these two very important goals.

It is that time of year again when we need to consider annual reports. The new streamlined system should be user friendly and many of you have used the system in the past two years. It is a good idea to have a pizza party or a get together as an executive to do the annual reports all at once. More details about the annual reporting process will be forthcoming in the form of a directive from me when the information is available.

In 2020, The Diocese of Sault Ste. Marie Catholic Women’s League of Canada will be celebrating our 100th anniversary! In April of that year I will be your president and I look forward to celebrating with you this very important milestone.

Cathy McKinney

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President Elect, Organization Chairperson 8

Please let me know if there is something special you would like to see happen at our convention April 24-26, 2020. North Bay is looking forward to hosting, as they did 100 years ago!

I can tell you that I have a committee in place planning for exciting workshops, a sensational keynote speaker and some surprises in store for the delegates.

Two years is not that far away and I hope you mark the dates on your calendar and plan to attend.

The planning team for this momentous occasion is looking forward in service to help make our 100 anniversary celebrations a huge success. Linda Squarzolo, Life Member, Giselle Floyd, First Vice President and Community Life Chairperson and Lisa Henry, Second Vice president and Education and Health Chairperson and myself, Cathy McKinney, President Elect and Organization chairperson.

Cathy



In memory of Adele Beckerton CWL Council President St. Sebastien

This year, we bid farewell to a long serving and faithful CWL council president, member and friend.

Adele was born in St. Pierre de Montmagny, Quebec, on January 10, 1916 and was raised in Ontario. She lived on John Island, in Spragge, and in Spanish, Ontario. Adele raised 10 children equally divided between girls and boys.

She joined the CWL, in Spanish at the encouragement of her Aunt Anna (Cote) Beauchamp at 18 yrs. of age.



She thought the membership was around \$2.00 at the time. She had been a member of the CWL for over 80 years, and during that time she has been to Conventions in Sault Ste. Marie and Sudbury, Ontario. She was at the CWL Anniversary Celebration in Killarney Ontario and served as both Treasurer and President in the Spanish CWL. Other CWL memories are of assisting and supporting families in her home community when the need arose, caused by catastrophic life events such as a house fire or serious injury or illness. Another memory was the CWL purchasing 10 yards of flannelette to be presented to expectant mothers to be used for making diapers for their new babies.

St. Sebastien Parish in Spanish, started out as a chapel for the small community,



served by the Jesuit Priests who were residents at the Garnier Boys School. Although the Chapel congregation was mainly a French speaking population, everyone was welcome.

Due to declining membership, the CWL decided to 'twin' some groups in smaller communities. This resulted in the St. Sebastien CWL being twinned with St. Francis of Assisi in Walford .

Adele had a heart attack last year but besides arthritis in her knees making ambulation difficult and loss of hearing she was in relatively good health . After a short time in Hospital in Guelph with her two daughters at her side she passed away very peacefully on March 2, 2018.

Adapted from a memorial prayer service for departed members

In the world of today, as perhaps never before, the church needs an enlightened and faithful laity.

Dedicated members of The Catholic Women's League of Canada live their faith by serving others and thus discover Christ through relationships with others. The departed members we honour in prayer services openly made a solemn commitment to be witnesses of Christ, carrying out the mission of Christ at home, in the parish and in the whole community.

We recall now their service to others, and we pray that the God of all has joyously welcomed them into the fullness of life, where they rest in peace and love.

“Gracious God, to whom mercy and forgiveness belong, hear our prayers on behalf of Your faithful servants whom You have called into the light of Your presence.

May they be welcomed joyously into heaven.

We ask this through Christ, our Redeemer.

Amen

God is the glory and joy of each of our departed members whose memory we celebrate.

A rose, a symbol of life in Christ, is presented as a living memorial for each one of our departed members during this month of remembrance.



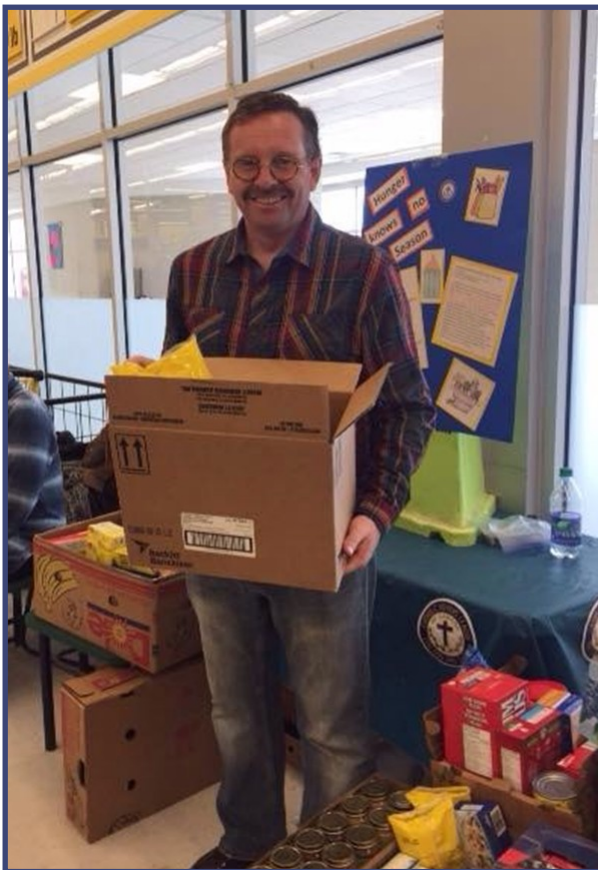
Hunger knows no season in our Diocese

Thank you to all who supported this initiative.



CWL members from across the Diocese of Sault Ste. Marie came together to help feed the hungry in our communities as part of a diocesan wide initiative in April 2018.

The outstanding efforts from members in all communities resulted in more than 11,252 lbs. of food being collected for local food banks and soup kitchens throughout the Diocese. Lead members from each Region Rita Laferrier- North Bay, Lucie Muscolino- Sudbury and Colleen Murphy- Sault Ste. Marie coordinated the efforts in each community.



Hunger knows no season in our Diocese
Thank you to all who supported this initiative.



Hunger knows no season in our Diocese

Our communities responded with great generosity!

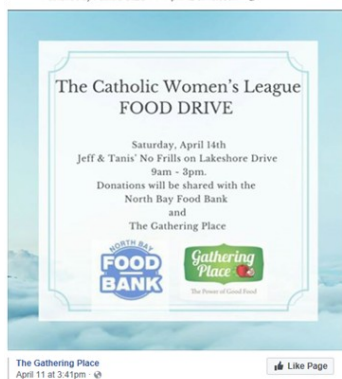
11,252 lbs of food and donations to local food banks and soup kitchens.



Women across the north are inspired to take action because hunger knows no season

Many women have been involved in collecting food, coordinating local parish drives, recruiting volunteers

BAYTODAY.CA



The Gathering Place
April 11 at 3:41pm · 🌐

Like Page

South Side Story
April 12 at 1:38pm · 🌐

The Catholic Women's League is hosting a food drive across the North. You can donate food or money by visiting Chris' Your Independent Grocers this Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m..



Catholic Women's League Hosting Food Drive Across North

Local members of the Catholic Women's League of Canada will be hosting a coordinated food drive in support of local food banks and soup kitchens...

SOUTHSIDESTORY.CA

Learn More



The Sault Star

April 10 at 10:56am · 🌐

Food drive runs Saturday, organized by Catholic Women's League of Canada. <http://www.saultstar.com/2018/04/10/food-drive-planned>



Food drive planned

Canned food and cash will be collected to feed the hungry on Saturday at Metro at Churchill Plaza.

SAULTSTAR.COM

The Sisterhood Project



Women who are travelling for medical care to Health Sciences North can request a visit from a CWL Member through the Chaplain. Thank you to the members who have signed up to provide fellowship, offer a prayer, or volunteer their time to visit.

For more information please contact:

Diane Pagan, dpagan@persona.ca

Sudbury is the health care centre for the north for trauma, cardiac, cancer, obstetrical and prenatal care. People from outside of Sudbury often feel isolated and alone when they come to Sudbury for health care. Sometimes they have had no chance to prepare for the transfer and sometimes they know ahead of time that they are coming here for care and are here for a lengthy stay.

Recognizing this problem the CWL councils in Sudbury set up a “Sisterhood Project” to provide emotional and spiritual support for their sisters in the League who request our help and support.

St. Patrick’s parish is only one block from Health Science North and the Cancer Treatment Centre. Their council will be the initial contact point and they will be sharing this project with other councils in the city. The request for our support must come from the patient or their family member.

Services we hope to provide include:

1. Placement of intentions on the Prayer Chain in our parishes.
2. Provide support to the family during critical care or surgery if requested.
3. Fellowship and a friendly visit to facilitate family respite.
4. Provide a sympathetic ear and encouragement during this stressful time. Whatever you feel we can help you with.



find
your
voice!



Thank you to Lisa,
Cathy and Giselle
for bringing this
workshop to regions
this fall.



North Bay Region participants September 2018



Sudbury Region participants October 2018



Sault Ste. Marie participants October 2018

**Convention is a wonderful opportunity
to pray, learn and share.**

Save the date and plan to attend!

**99th Annual SSM Diocesan
Convention**
April 26—28, 2019
Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario
[Check in regularly for updates here](#)



**72nd Annual Ontario
Provincial Convention**
July 6 – 10, 2019
Kingston, Ontario
[For more information click here](#)

National Annual Convention
August 18 - 21, 2019
Calgary, Alberta

To be notified when new information is added to this page, please [register](#) and select to receive updates on the 2019 National CWL Convention.





99th SSM Diocesan Convention *April 26-28, 2019*

in Sault Ste. Marie

is being convened by the dynamic duo
Jane Chaput and Marg Hammond.

They are already busily working with the presidents and councils in Sault Ste. Marie to welcome you in April 2019. Registrations packages are currently being developed and will be available in January.

Mark the calendar and plan to attend!





We've begun planning!

100th

Diocesan Convention

April 24—26, 2020

in North Bay

The 100th Annual Diocesan Convention is being convened by

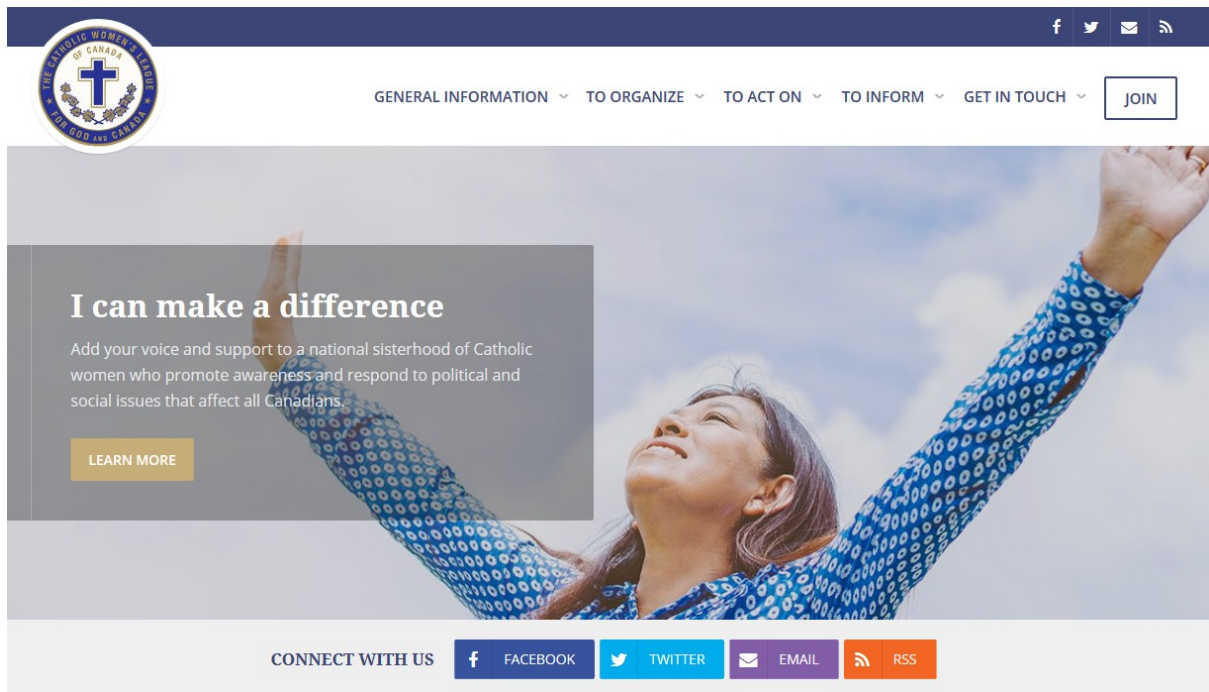
Lisa Henry.

Anniversary Convenors
are **Giselle Floyd** and **Linda Squarzolo.**

**A century of faith, service and sisterhood.
Plan ahead and bring a friend!**



Check out the newly updated National Council website cwl.ca



Visit cwl.on.ca for updates from Provincial Council



SSM Diocesan website www.ssmcwl.ca **under construction*



NORTH BAY REGION UPDATES

Shirlene Condie-McVeigh (left), President Elect, presented Lisa Henry, Past President (2013-2015) of the Pro-Cathedral CWL Council and current 2nd Vice President and Health and Education Chairperson of the Sault Ste. Marie Diocesan Council, with the Maple Leaf Service Pin during the June Dinner Meeting and Service Award Ceremony held by the Pro-Cathedral of the Assumption CWL Council. The Maple Leaf Service Pin was



introduced in 1971 for members who have served the League in an exceptional or meritorious manner. This pin must be ordered by a council as a presentation item. It is the responsibility of the council to determine criteria for the awarding of the pin. Suggested criteria: • be an active League member for a minimum length of service of seven to 10 years. • have performed specific outstanding League service on a one time basis or over several years.

Bursaries for youth

Every year, St. Peter's Catholic Women's League Council in North Bay presents two bursaries to deserving students from our parish. The bursaries have been sponsored by Gerry and Yvonne McCarthy and unfortunately this is the last year as the funds have run out. This year the winner of the Angeline McCarthy Memorial Bursary is Brady Fougere and the winner of the Agnes Dufaur Memorial Bursary is Vanessa Strang. Pictured here are Brady Fougere, Doreen Quevillon, Education and Health Chairperson, Vanessa Strang, and Ann Robb-Mathieu, presenting on behalf of the McCarthy Family.



SUDBURY REGION UPDATES



Celebrating member service milestones at St. Patrick.

During a June pinning ceremony and social at St. Patrick Church in Sudbury, 25 CWL members; including 5 new members, received their service pins. CWL Council President **Angelika Beauchamp** was honoured to receive a Maple Leaf Service Pin at the event. ***Shown here,*** Mrs. **Mildred Tina Kelly** received a 70 year service pin. Tina shared that she attended CWL Meetings at St. Mary's Parish in Victoria Harbour, Ontario, with her mother and joined the League in 1948 when she was 16 years of age.



St. Pius X CWL Council hosts a member appreciation event.

Shown here with CWL Council President **Kathy Smorhay**, guest presenter Joanne Leblanc guided members on how to pray the Rosary.

Below left, **Marg Marcolini** and **Sandra Hammond** receive a 50 year Service pin . ***Below right,*** **Cecelia Jamieson** receives a 25 year service pin.



Congratulations to Suzanne Quackenbush, St. John the Evangelist, Sudbury Regional Chairperson who was presented with a Maple Leaf Service Pin by her council.



Here's an
invitation from
Madame President
Betsy Currier!

Commit to memory the **new mission statement**:
**The Catholic Women's League of Canada calls its mem-
bers to grow in faith, and to witness to the love of God
through ministry and service.**

Commit to memory the **core values** of the organization:
Faith, Service, and Social Justice.

- Plan to attend a regional, diocesan, or provincial development day where the **strategic plan** is presented.
- Keep yourself updated as information comes to you. Seek out information on the **national website and social media**, and **share the joy that is the League with members.**
- **You are not alone!** There is always someone in the parish or diocesan council who can be of assistance. Seek help from others. No one has to do all the "heavy lifting".
- Plan to do something new this year to **challenge yourself** and your sister council members to grow in faith and bring about the kingdom of God on earth.
- Ask for **Our Lady of Good Counsel's intercession** when difficult decisions are imminent. She will never abandon you, and you will truly be inspired by the Spirit.

Diocesan Convention April 2018

**Here's a small selection of memories from the 98th annual
SSM Diocesan Convention.**

Additional photos are available -Shutterfly.

**Thank you to convention photographer
Danny Vettoretti; husband to Laura Vettoretti,
CWL member from Our Lady of Hope –Sudbury**



Diocesan Convention April 2018



Diocesan Convention April 2018



Diocesan Convention April 2018



Provincial Convention July 2018



Provincial Convention July 2018



Provincial Convention July 2018



National Convention August 2018



Representatives from the Catholic Women's League of the Diocese of Sault Ste. Marie attend the 98th Annual National Convention of the Catholic Women's League of Canada in Winnipeg, MB from August 12-15, 2018.



The framework for the CWL National Strategic Plan was presented at the 98th Annual National Convention of the Catholic Women's League of Canada which took place in Winnipeg, MB from August 12-15, 2018. Sub-committees composed of CWL members across Canada were instrumental in contributing to this effort. Our very own Cathy McKinney was a member of one such sub-committee. Congratulations Cathy and thank you for representing the league through this initiative!

Members of the sub-committee are: Front Row Centre: National President, Anne Gorman. Back Row: From Left to Right: Antigonish Diocese President-Elect and Chairperson of Organization, Janice MacDougall, Alexandria

Cornwall Diocese Life Member, Jeannie Coleman, Sault Ste Marie Diocese President-Elect and Chairperson of Organization, Cathy McKinney.

Next Steps in the National Strategic Plan

Congratulations to Lisa Henry, 2nd Vice President, Education and Health—SSM Diocesan Council, who has been chosen from applicants across Canada to be one of four members on a newly formed National Strategic Plan Implementation Team responsible for carrying out the strategic plan over the next five years.

The committee will include National President-Elect Fran Lucas, as the chairperson and National President Anne Marie Gorman and Executive Director Kim Scammell both in an ex officio capacity.

