

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



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Fall Newsletter 2016

MISSION STATEMENT

The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Is a national organization
Rooted in gospel values
Calling its members to holiness
Through service to the
people of God

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



Lucille Cullen



1924—2016

A tireless volunteer, Lucille was National President of The Catholic Women's League of Canada from 1990 to 1992. During this time, she represented the League at the Canonization of St. Marguerite D'Youville and was honoured to attend an audience with St. Pope John Paul II at The Vatican.

In addition to serving as National President, she was Ontario Provincial President, Sault Ste. Marie Diocesan President and was an Honorary Life Member.

She most recently received the Pro Ecclesia et Pontific medal also known as the Cross of Honour Medal, an award conferred by Pope Francis for distinguished service to the Roman Catholic Church.

Heaven's Light

The sun shines down upon us and gives us warmth and light.
Then when the day has ended it disappears from sight

So it is when one we love comes to their end of days.
They just go to the other side to shine their loving rays.

That's why heaven is a place that glows beyond compare.
The lights of those who've left us are all brightly shining there.

(By: Ron Tranmer)



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



“Rooted in Gospel Values”



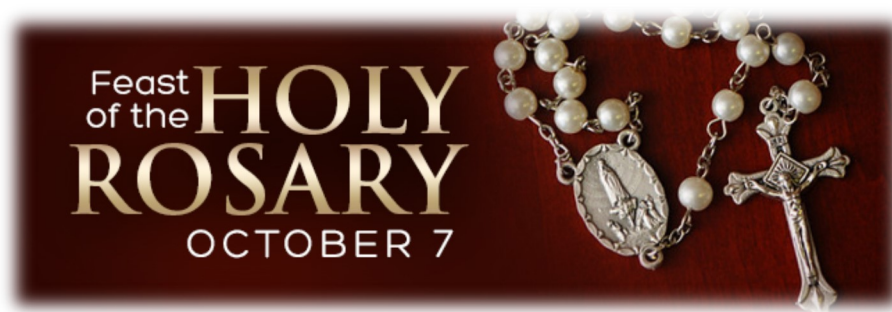
Dear Sisters in the League,

When we look at the rosary, it does not seem that impressive. All it really is, is a string of coloured beads, one bead in the middle of five groups of ten with a crucifix and a medallion. We have our own experiences with the rosary, those images of silently moving lips of women fingering the beads and the ones we see dangling from rear view mirrors. Though rosaries come in many different shapes, sizes and colours, they all amount to the same thing, a prayer to Mary.

On October 7, we celebrate the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. The rosary is a story of the New Testament. The rosary sheds light on those important events in the lives of Jesus and Mary. The rosary enriches us as these particular beads give us more of an intimate and richer understanding of Mary and Jesus.

We meditate on the life of Jesus from the moment of his conception by the Holy Spirit, through his childhood to his cruel death on the cross to the joy of his resurrection and ascension into the glory of heaven. Through the beads we follow Mary from the day the archangel Gabriel appeared to her and asked her to be the mother of Jesus to the day she was crowned Queen of heaven.

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President
Karen McDonald

Spiritual Advisor
Rev Trevor Scarfone

Spiritual Advisor

When we pray the rosary and think of the stories which are hidden in the beads, we see Mary as our mother, as she reveals her Son, our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, and as our model, as she teaches us mercy, peace and justice. The essence of the rosary is not the repetition of prayers but the meditation, the reflection on the mysteries, those events and scenes from the life of Mary and Jesus

We all consider the rosary to be our faithful companion as we carry it in our pockets and purses. The rosary can bring us many blessings. It can be that powerful chain to assist us in our daily lives. St. John Paul II stated, "Make the rosary that gentle chain linking us to heaven through Mary."

Many books have been written to assist us in praying the rosary. We need to be silent as we allow the words of the fifty-three Hail Mary's speak to us in prayer. Through praying, meditating and reflecting on the rosary, we can remember Mary everyday of our lives. Then, it does not just become a string of coloured beads.



Fr. Trevor

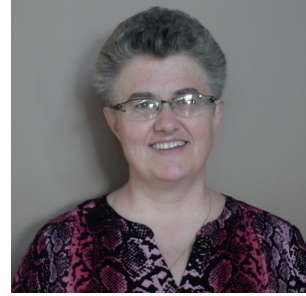
Fr. Trevor
Fall Newsletter 2016

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



"Rooted in Gospel Values"



***"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith."
(2, Timothy)***

This quotation appeared on the prayer card for the late Mary "Lucille" Cullen ... God called our Honorary Life Member home to her eternal reward on July 26, 2016 ... over 30 members, including then National President-Elect Margaret Ann Jacobs, attended prayers at the wake. It was a blessing to join with my League sisters in an honour guard at her funeral at St. Andrew the Apostle Church.

At the National Convention, Honorary Life Member Betty Anne Brown Davidson remembered Lucille as a "whirling wind with enthusiasm for the League in every breath she took". When I returned from Halifax in August, I re-read the papers Lucille gifted to me and I came across her letter to delegates at the 71st National Convention in Halifax in 1991, her first as National President (over 120,000 members!). Lucille was an accomplished writer, having authored several League articles / publications including *CWL Jeopardy*, and an archivist extraordinaire! Lucille served as Charter President of St. Andrew the Apostle CWL, Sault Ste. Marie Diocesan President (1976-78), Diocesan Archivist, Provincial President (1983-85), National President (1990-1992), Honorary Life Member. The theme in her term as National President was, *"Parish - A Family of the Local Church"*. One of her highlights was being mandated to handle details for the introduction of the CWL flag, which she carried for the first time as National President in the recessional of the 70th National Convention (Montreal) following her installation.

One of the last things that Lucille gave to me was Archbishop Romero's prayer:

*"It helps, now and then, to step back and take a long view ...
we accomplish in our lifetime only a tiny fraction of the magnificent enterprise
that is God's work ... we cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation
in realizing that. This enables us to do something, and to do it well."*

Lucille was a treasure ... I will miss our visits ... may she rest in peace ... Amen!

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President

Karen McDonald

Spiritual Advisor

Rev Trevor Scarfone

President

Regional Meetings

In April, members were treated to wonderful presentations by Sister Linda MacIsaac on "*Living from Within*" (North Bay), Palliative Care Nurse Lynne Hertz on palliative care (Sault Ste. Marie), Health Sciences North Associate Vice President Maureen McLelland on community mental health services (Sudbury).

96th Diocesan Convention

Quattro Hotel in Sault Ste. Marie was buzzing as 163 delegates/guests attended, including 12 first time attendees. At the Opening Mass at St. Gerard Majella, Linda Squarzolo was presented a Life Membership and Lorraine Atchison the Bellelle Guerin Award. Bishop Dampousse's videotaped greetings welcomed delegates. Provincial President Pauline Krupa's interactive workshop, "*Impressions Count*", with National President-Elect Margaret Ann Jacobs co-presenting, was a hit! Members learned about the League by playing "*CWL Jeopardy*". Jennifer Osesky (ARCH) spoke on expansion and accepted \$1,067.80 collected from delegates. "*The Cross*" workshop by Fr. Trevor was inspiring as was a prayer service to Blessed Giovannina Franchi and Chaplet of Divine Mercy. Gifts of appreciation for 10 years of service were presented to Sister Linda and Sister Roberta. Diocesan executive was reaffirmed at St. Veronica's Church during their Sunday Mass, after which the congregation acknowledged Seminarian, Chad Franklin. It was a wonderful weekend of sisterhood ... kudos to the convention planning committee led by Colleen Murphy. Next year's convention is in North Bay (April 28 - 30, 2017) at Best Western ... book it now!

Special Highlight

On May 20, 2016, our diocese celebrated the ordination of Rev. Daniele Muscolino (of Sudbury) to the Holy Priesthood. Please pray for our new priest!

Anniversaries

In May, St. Bonaventure council (Killarney) celebrated its 90th anniversary. In June, Precious Blood council (Sault Ste. Marie) celebrated its 95th anniversary; St. Veronica's council celebrated the 5th anniversary of their re-activation (Sault Ste. Marie); and St. Patrick's council (Sudbury) awarded service pins at a special Mass.

New National Theme (2017 to 2019) effective January 1, 2017

"Inspired by the Spirit, Women Respond to God's Call".

With the arrival of Fall... my favourite season... councils will be holding elections. I pray that members will be *inspired by the spirit* to *respond* and say 'yes' to serve. As Catholic women, we are the voice for those less fortunate ... the League needs you ... when you are asked to let your name stand ... let your voice be heard!

Karen



Karen McDonald
Fall Newsletter 2016

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President-Elect and Organization

Betsy Currier



Extra, Extra, Read all About It!
There's lots of new stuff happening in our League.....

NEW ANNUAL REPORTING PROCESS

"Reports are an important means of communicating with others in the parish, community and the world at large. It is a means of communication by which the CWL organization is created." (Handbook for Organization Chairpersons)

You may not be aware, but the process for annual reporting is about to change this year. At the pre-convention meeting of the national convention in Halifax in August, the national executive voted on a new process aimed at simplifying the completion of annual reports. Cathy McKinney and I attended a workshop in Toronto on September 16 and 17th sponsored by the Ontario provincial council and now we are charged with introducing the new process to you. You will be hearing more about this as we finalize the details of our presentations across the diocese.

FIND YOUR VOICE!

"In order to stimulate growth and develop skills, talents and personal potential of all members, it is important to provide opportunities for personal growth." (Handbook for Organization Chairpersons)

"Find Your Voice" is a new and dynamic public speaking course coming soon. It will be a warm, supportive and fun experience for all who attend. It will help members develop their communication skills and increase their self-confidence. Members will learn how to chair a meeting, make a motion, introduce and thank a speaker, give a report, present a gift or award, introduce ahead table and much, much more. Coming to a venue near you this fall or in the spring.

DID YOU KNOW?

Provincial Convention – Stratford, ON July 2016

Nineteen members from across our diocese attended the provincial convention in Stratford in July. We were reminded by National Spiritual Advisor, Bishop William McGrattan, that Pope Francis says, "An evangelizer must never look like someone who has just come from a funeral". Further he said, "the CWL is the face of joy and this becomes infectious". He challenged us with these thoughts related to the CWL and the Year of Mercy:

President-Elect and Organization

- 1) Be authentic - be who you are
- 2) Authority comes from the power of service
- 3) Give priority to inner conversion – it's time to heal longstanding hurts and distracts
- 4) Focus on mission
- 5) Prioritize – put first things first – evangelize
- 6) What to lead with? Lead with Jesus Christ
- 7) Wake up the world with your witness

Anne Shore, motivational speaker, said our call is to be a sign, an instrument, a presence of God's mercy. God's comforting arms around us often look like a casserole, a ride to the doctor, a card or a shoulder to lean on, or someone to talk to. She challenged us to leap into the harder stuff ... what hurts? Who is difficult? Recognize the grudges and resentments and let them go.

National Convention – Halifax, NS August 2016

Five members from Sault Ste. Marie diocese attended national convention in beautiful Halifax. Keynote speaker, Father James Mallon, challenged us to rethink how we do our business since the world is changing. He said, "As you seek to fulfill your mission, are you more committed to your mission or your model? If you love your model more than your mission you will die." He reminded us that the HOW should not overshadow the WHY.

Our spiritual advisors suggested that we focus on the Objects of the League. That we need to discern change with prudence, in prayer and spirituality, being open to the Holy Spirit.

Speaking of the Holy Spirit, our new National President Margaret Ann Jacobs introduced her theme for the next two years – *Inspired by the Spirit Women Respond to God's Call*.

Our diocese welcomed a new Life Member, Linda Squarzolo, who was "commissioned" along with 18 other women from across Canada as a Life Member at a beautiful ceremony at the national convention.

Called Home to God

The League and our diocese mourns the loss of Honorary Life Member Lucille Cullen (Sudbury) on July 26, 2016. Lucille was a devoted CWL member. She was Sault Ste. Marie Diocesan President from 1976 to 1978, Ontario Provincial President from 1983 to 1985, and National President of The Catholic Women's League of Canada from 1990 to 1992. During this time, she visited the Vatican and she attended an audience with St. Pope John Paul II. She most recently received the Pro Ecclesia et Pontific medal also known as the Cross of Honour Medal, an award conferred by Pope Francis for distinguished service to the Roman Catholic Church. We thank the Lord for Lucille and the gift she was to us....rest in peace!

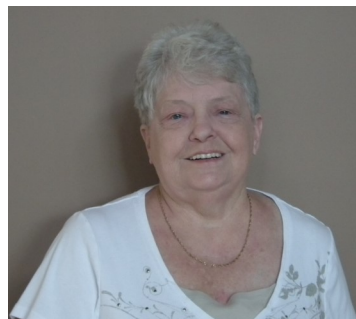


Betsey Currier
Fall Newsletter 2016

Treasurer
Beverley Michaud

***“If you see someone without a smile
- give them one of yours.”***

(Dolly Parton)



Summer is almost over – my flowers are dying and my tomatoes are ripening. I hope everyone had a wonderful and safe summer. I had a hard time getting off my swing on the back deck to get inside and work on this newsletter.

This is the time of year that we want to review all the items on our “monthly task lists” to ensure we have remitted all the funds as required. Sometimes it is easy to overlook a payment when you are busy. This way you can find and correct it before year end. It is much easier making your next year’s budget when you have all your annual expenses on file. When you are presenting your budget, anticipate any questions (especially if amounts are different from last year) and try to have answers ready. Also, please note that there is a new “National Voluntary Fund Remittance Form” available on the website “cwl.ca”.



As previously suggested, it is a good idea to set aside some funds in your budget to assist members to attend our Diocesan convention. Next year it will be held in North Bay and we look forward to record numbers attending.

At the National Convention this August, Janet McLean was elected as the new Secretary-Treasurer. I welcome all new Treasurers that were elected this year in our Diocese and encourage everyone to contact me if I can be of any help with your committee.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bev".

Bev Michaud
Fall Newsletter 2016

Recording Secretary

Marlene Sawko



Be careful how you live; you will be the only Bible some people ever read."

(William J. Toms)

It's fall already! We had incredible summer weather! The hottest July on record! If this becomes the norm, air conditioning will be a basic human right!

As Diocesan Recording Secretary, I had set a few goals for myself involving the review and upkeep of some of my binders, particularly motions and directives. I'm happy to say I did make some headway with them making it so much easier to locate information as required. As recording secretary, have you reviewed and updated your council's records lately?

Our spring convention minutes took up much of my summer but are now almost ready for executive review. The two members of the Minutes Review Committee who took notes and helped me with these minutes are invaluable. Getting everything down accurately is a monumental task that I wouldn't have wanted to do on my own. Thank you Rose Linklater, St. Veronica Parish Sault Ste. Marie and Sharon Fenos, St Gerard Majella Parish Sault Ste. Marie your assistance was invaluable.

We have a new National Secretary-Treasurer! Janet McLean! More information to follow when her first communiqué is available!

I'm looking forward to welcoming a new grandson in November! I wish you all well as we become involved in our fall League business.

God Bless!

Marlene

Marlene Sawko

Fall Newsletter 2016

Corresponding Secretary

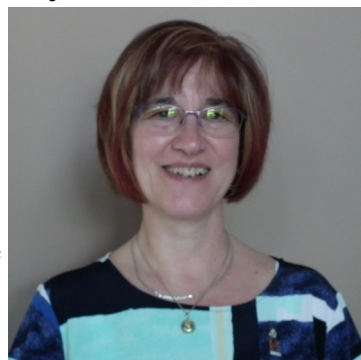
Ann Koivu



BULLETIN BLOOPER ..

The “Over 60's Choir” will be disbanded for the summer with the thanks of the entire congregation!

As corresponding secretaries, we are in the business of ‘communication’. Sometimes what we meant to say, and what our words actually communicate, might not be the same. In preparing reports or written articles, a second set of eyes or having a proofreading buddy as it were, is an invaluable gift.



Asking and welcoming another member to assist you provides opportunity for mentorship and education about your duties. It could even prepare a member to be the next corresponding secretary in your council come election time!

- Many cards of *Sympathy, Get Well, Thinking of You* and *Congratulations* have been sent this spring and summer, to our Life Members, Spiritual Advisors, Presidents and current and past Diocesan Officers.

Of particular note were cards of acknowledgment sent to Bishop Marcel Damphousse as he celebrated his 25th Anniversary to the Priesthood on June 28 and to Msgr. Jim Hutton who celebrated 50 years as Priest on May 12!

Sadly, we said goodbye to Honorary Life Member Lucille Cullen who passed away on July 26. She served as our National President from 1990 to 1992.

- Earlier this year we asked council presidents to provide the diocesan council with contact information for all members serving on their executive. By sharing this information with their counterpart on the diocesan executive team, we hope to facilitate opportunities for personal interaction, one-on-one discussion about the League and increase communication across the diocese. Work on this project has begun and will continue into the fall with a view to its benefits and uses. *Thank you to all councils who responded.*

Blessings on your Advent and Christmas Season!

Ann

Ann Koivu
Fall Newsletter 2016

Past-President/Historian

Anna Tremblay



It seems that when the time comes to write an article for our diocesan newsletter, I am blessed to be at our cottage enjoying the peace and tranquility of nature. That is the case again today. The water is calm and still. The flags barely move in the gentle breeze. The only sounds are those of birds and chipmunks. The foliage is lush and green. It is inevitable that my thoughts turn to the beauty and care of God's creation.

In August I had the privilege of attending the national convention in Halifax (thanks to some financial assistance from my home parish of St Peter the Apostle in North Bay). This was an extra special convention as it coincided with the World Union of Catholic Women's Organization (WUCWO) conference and was integrated with the CWL national convention. On the Monday, delegates had an opportunity to attend a "Meet the WUCWO Officers Luncheon" and hear WUCWO member Rita Janes speak on Pope Francis's encyclical *Laudato Si: On Care for Our Common Home*. The encyclical calls for a change of heart, an ecological conversion and sends an urgent message that the most affected by indifference to our earth are the poor. We are responsible as we are called to TILL AND CARE for the earth.

We have heard a fair bit in the news about this ground-breaking encyclical on ecology and care for God's creation since it was released in April 2015. It is ground breaking for two reasons. First it is a systematic overview of the crisis from a religious point of view. Until now, the environmental dialogue has been framed mainly with political, scientific and economic language. With this new encyclical, the language of faith enters the discussion. Secondly, the encyclical is addressed "to Christians and other believers", to "every person living on this planet". Pope Francis is not just addressing the world's 1.2 billion Catholics. He's tagging God into the global conversation on climate change.



Past-President/Historian

I have to admit that, while I agree, we need to do more to preserve our planet, I wasn't sure what I, as an individual, could do to effect change. So, I began to do some research and discovered five concrete actions each person can do to respond to this call. They are:

1. Become more aware of our connectedness. Care for one another and creation includes understanding that everything is connected and that the economy, politics, community involvement, and technology all affect the future of the planet and humankind.
2. Changes to lifestyle and consumption habits can make a big difference. For example, get a re-usable water bottle, take shorter showers, walk, bike or take public transportation instead of driving, recycle compost food waste and buy energy-efficient appliances.
3. Make changes institutionally at your parish, school, or workplace. For example, start recycling and composting, use washable dinnerware in cafeterias, share electronically instead of printing, do an energy audit and install solar panels.
4. Support local efforts to solve environmental problems. Community groups around the country are working to make city-, country-, and province-wide changes that can make a big difference. Find out what is going on locally and get involved.
5. Contact your members of provincial and federal parliament to share Pope Francis' message and urge action to address climate change.

Adapted from www.usccb.com

There is no denying the document is complex and often difficult to read and understand. Your council might consider inviting someone to speak on this Laudato Si to your members. Perhaps consider opening it up to all parishioners and/or invite other councils to join you. Consider exploring some plan of action in response to this encyclical. There are several main themes to this document, all of which are worth exploring and I encourage you to do so.



Anna

**Anna Tremblay
Fall Newsletter 2016**

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Spiritual Development

Cathy McKinney



*A joyful heart is the inevitable result of a heart
burning with love
St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta*

At the time of this writing, we are celebrating the Canonization of Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta. She has now found her rightful place among the Saints. This quote really spoke to me as a symbol of our work for The Catholic Women's League of Canada. We are women of passion, and with that passion, comes change. It has been said; be the change you would like to see in the world. The Catch the Fire program has lit our hearts on fire with the love of Christ and our mission to live our Baptismal promise. I challenge all of you to light the fire of all of your members to continue the work they do For God and Canada.

Thank you to all councils who were able to participate in the "scroll project" presented at our provincial convention. Here is a partial list of the activities our sisters are participating in throughout our Diocese (the number in brackets is the number of parishes involved): provide funeral luncheons (14), communion to the sick (10), caregivers to family members (7), help with school breakfast program (2), St. Vincent De Paul society for homeless (9), food bank (14), sponsor foster child (5), host coffee hour (7), visit sick in long term care facility (8), give to many local and national organizations that the Catholic Women's League supports (14), bursaries to Grade 12 students (7), gifts for first communion/confirmation (6), many roles in the church helping provide support for the Liturgy (11), assist people needing transportation (4), recitation of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy (2), recitation of the rosary (6), visit people in hospice (7), visit former prisoners (2), work with Right to Life (7).

This fall we are wrapping up the Extraordinary Year of Mercy and the celebration of our Diocesan Blessed, Giovannina Franchi. As we conclude this year, we need to continue to show mercy to all we meet and go forth with the flame of the Holy Spirit in our hearts. As we live our lives as merciful people, we can see the face of Jesus in all people we meet.

Spiritual Development

As a reminder, I have included the Works of Mercy that we have used as a guide:

Corporal Works of Mercy

To feed the hungry
To give drink to the thirsty
To clothe the naked
To shelter the homeless
To visit the sick
To visit the imprisoned
To bury the dead

Spiritual Works of Mercy

To instruct the ignorant
To counsel the doubtful
To admonish sinners
To bear wrongs patiently
To forgive offences willingly
To comfort the afflicted
To pray for the living and the dead

Please continue to keep your general meetings one third Prayer, one third business and one third social! Remember it is our prayer time that sets us apart from other organizations. If you are in need of any prayers, prayer services or would like a workshop done at your parish, do not hesitate to call me.

A reminder for all to send in your deceased member forms to national office and a quick e-mail/or a mailed copy of the form is all that I require for reporting at the Diocesan level.

I challenge each of my fellow sisters to be God's hands and feet as we live out our theme, One Heart, One Voice, One Mission.

May our Lady of Good Counsel continue to bless the work you do For God and Canada.



Respectfully,

Cathy McKinney

Cathy McKinney
Fall Newsletter 2016

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Christian Family Life

Rhonda DeGraw



“Let us not underestimate the power of so many voices united in prayer.” – Pope Francis

Greetings Sisters,

I hope you have enjoyed your Summer vacations and are returning well rested for all the upcoming Fall Teas and Bazaars. I hope everyone has had a chance to peruse our CWL web sites at www.cwl.on.ca and www.cwl.ca You will find many interesting articles for each committee.

Sanctity of Life

Did you know that Barb Dowding, then National President gave a speech at the Euthanasia Rally on June 1st, on Parliament Hill? Here are a couple of snippets of that speech. “We believe that life is a precious gift, to be cherished from the moment of conception to natural death and that any action intended to end human life is morally and ethically wrong.” “Palliative and hospice care are more than a human right, they are a human need.” The full speech can be read on the National CWL web page.

National Council as well as B.C and Yukon Councils have a Resolution 2016.04—Amend the Canada Health Act to Identify Palliative Care as an Insured Health Service

Ontario Provincial Council also has a Resolution 2016.05—Amend the Canada Health Act to Include Home Care as an Insured Health Service.

Vocations

Pope Francis has appointed 12 to a commission to study the issue of women deacons, at the request of the International Union of Superiors General, the organization for the leaders of women’s religious orders around the world. In a study on the diaconate twenty years ago the International Theological Commission considered the question of women deacons. While its report did not offer recommendations for the future, it concluded that biblical deaconesses were not ordained male deacons. Pope Francis stated “it would be useful for the Church to clarify this question.”

Rhonda

**Rhonda DeGraw
Fall Newsletter 2016**

Community Life

Laurette Woodliffe



One Heart, One Voice, One Mission

The summer is over and we must all get back to writing reports and attending meetings ... gone are my early morning walks with my neighbour. It seems that all I did this summer was visit funeral homes to console the grieving and attend funerals. We lost two very special people this summer: Honorary Life Member Lucille Cullen and our beloved Rev. Myles James Sharpe, a priest of our diocese for 61 years.

When speaking with CWL members who attended the provincial convention in July and national convention in August, it was an amazing time filled with thought provoking and spiritual speakers and wonderful fellowship with our League sisters from across the country.

At the national convention in Halifax, Betty Colaneri from Ontario was elected to the national council and was appointed as National Chairperson of Community Life. Our love and prayerful support go out to Betty as she assumes this position. Also at national convention, a motion was passed to establish a **permanent voluntary fund** for the Catholic Near East Welfare Association which helps fund a Shepherd's field hospital and a youth project. Melody Gabriel thanked the League for the support received for '*Velma's Dream*' and shared that Velma Harasen, Honorary Life Member, was deeply moved by this designation.

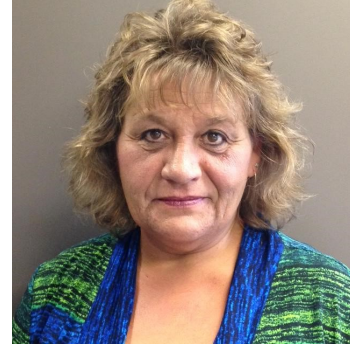
Doreen Gowans, Past National Chairperson of Community Life, reported that her challenge to councils in 2015 to increase donations to the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace by 10%, was not quite realized. We encourage all members to donate their 1% or more during the year. One suggestion is to have a collection jar at each meeting.

The year 2017 will mark the 50th Anniversary of Development and Peace! The theme will be "***Heart of the Action***". The campaign has begun. Members of the French Council, Bill O'Donnell and Rosemarie Valade, have met with Bishop Damphousse to discuss the fall campaign, a quilt pilgrimage Mass, convention and other matters related to improved communication. The quilt pilgrimage Mass will take place November 6th at Ste. Anne de Pins. Procession planning and a video presentation are in the works!

Laurette

Laurette Woodliffe
Fall Newsletter 2016

2nd Vice-President & Education and Health Giselle Floyd



*“Faith in action is love.
And love in action is service.”
- Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta*

Welcome back from a beautiful summer. We are coming to the end of the Jubilee Year of Mercy. I ask all of you to reflect upon this past year. How have we as Christian women fulfilled our call to perform Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy? We have been asked to show compassion, kindness, forgiveness and love. Let us continue on that path in the work that we do for The Catholic Women’s League of Canada.

Bill C-14

On June 20, 2016, Bill C-14 was passed. Cardinal Collins has given us an action plan. He asked that we do three things:

Make available for all Canadians real medical assistance in dying: provide palliative care, where people who are dying are surrounded with love, and any pain they experience is treated with the most advanced medical care available.

We need to speak with honesty and use language that describes exactly what is happening. The accepted term “Medical Assistance in Dying” does not describe medical assistance in dying; it describes the ending or taking of a life. All life is sacred.

We need to assure that those individuals who have dedicated their lives to healing will not be forced into causing the death of their patients, or into arranging for this to happen. Even though the law is passed, we must make our views known to our legislators.



2nd Vice-President & Education and Health

Hospice and Palliative Care

The Catholic Women's League of Canada is doing everything it can to **support** and **promote** hospice and palliative care. Nancy Simms, (past National Chairperson for Education and Health) provided the following suggestions;

- if you are an avid reader, sit and read to someone needing comfort;
- give a financial donation;
- if you have a local hospice home, enquire what items they are in need of and get your council involved;
- if you do not have a local hospice home, form a committee to get one started; and we can all offer our daily prayers.

Hospice and palliative care pledge cards are available on the national website cwl.ca/extraordinary-jubilee-of-mercy-brochure-and-pledge-card. **All members are encouraged to fill one out and send it to national office by October 31st.**

Early Intervention for Children and Youth Mental Health

In 2015, a resolution was adopted urging both the federal and provincial governments to increase access to early intervention for children and youth mental health. I ask each council to be proactive and have their members mail in their postcards. These pledge cards are available on the National website.

Catholic education

Wikipedia reminds us that the existence of Catholic schools in Canada can be traced back to 1620 when the first school was founded by the Catholic Recollect Order in Quebec. The first school in Alberta was also Catholic and located in Lac Ste. Anne in 1842. As a general rule, all schools in Canada were operated under the auspices of one Christian body or another until the 19th century.

Please support our Catholic schools.

Scholarships and bursaries

National Bursary Fund applications are now reviewed biannually. The next submissions must be postmarked by November 30th for review in December. cwl.ca/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/National-Bursary-Application-Form-November-2015.

Respectfully,

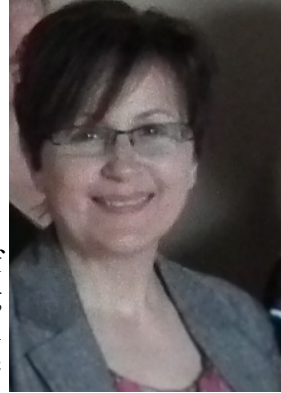
Giselle

**Giselle Floyd
Fall Newsletter 2016**

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Communications

Lisa Henry



Greetings and Happy Fall!

In this era of social media, internet and modern forms of communication (smartphones, tablets, etc.), it is interesting to note that we are moving away from interpersonal communication and relying more on electronic communication to connect with others. The paradox is that with all the technology available at our fingertips, we are more connected than ever before and potentially more *disconnected* than ever before.

How do we find that delicate balance of using the electronic resources available to us to reach our membership but still provide that personal contact to engage one another in a meaningful way? Here are a few ideas that might help:

Never lose sight of personal communication and relationships.

Set aside a certain day of the week for your internet/social media communications. Both for posting and monitoring. For instance, if you visit the Ontario Provincial CWL Facebook Page, you'll see this posting on Wednesdays: *"It's WEB WEDNESDAY! Don't forget to check the provincial (cwl.on.ca) and national (cwl.ca) websites for the latest news and updates"*

When spreading the news of all the wonderful things your council is doing, **incorporate some "face-to-face"** in accomplishing your objective. For example:

- If, as Communications Chairperson you do a newsletter for your council, put on your "reporter" hat and get to know the people your covering. You will be amazed at how much you learn about people just by spending 30 minutes with them getting the story for your newsletter.
- If there is an event you want to share with your CWL members or your parish, ask your parish priest if you can make an announcement at mass. Put a face to the CWL. People can read announcements in the bulletin, but this personalizes things that tiny bit more.

The one thing you can do to ensure success every time is: be interested, be genuine, be thoughtful, be yourself.

Lisa

Lisa Henry
2016 Fall Newsletter

Resolutions

Doris Labelle



My Dear Sisters in the League,

This is my second newsletter for 2016. I attended the diocesan executive meeting in the spring and I look forward to attending our September executive meeting. With my physiotherapist I am getting more movement in my left arm and left leg since my stroke last year.

I moved to the Elizabeth Centre this past March. The move brought me closer to St. Kevin's parish which I have been part of since its beginning in 1964. I am able to attend mass on Sundays and Wednesday's crafts with my parish ladies. I will attend our general meetings every second Tuesday of the month supporting and participating with my sisters. Sometimes we can not change what life hands us but we can make the best of a situation with the choices we make.

This year, four resolutions were adopted at our July Provincial Convention. They can be found on the Ontario website - cwl.on.ca

Resolution ON.16.01 - Enhance the Canada Health Act to Include Home Care (Education and Health)

Resolution ON.16.02 - Equal Access for Permanent Residence, an Amendment to the Immigration Act (Community Life)

Resolution ON.16.03 - Expand the Nutrition North Canada Program to Include All Communities Accessible Only by Air (Education and Health)

Resolution ON.16.04 - Training for the Safe Operation of All-Terrain Vehicles by Youth under the Age of 16 (Legislation)

Let's make a decision to take action!

1. Let's write letters and share contents and briefs of the resolutions.
2. Create outreach programs.
3. Invite guest speakers pertaining to the issue addressed by the resolution.
4. Educate members on the resolution issues.
5. Monitor Federal and Provincial government responses to requests contained in the resolutions.
6. Support the resolution by donating as a council or by volunteering.
7. Initiate a petition among your council members supporting a resolution.

Resolutions

Five resolutions were adopted at our National Convention this August. They can be found on the national website cwl.ca

Resolution 2016.01 Equal Access to Permanent Resident Status, an Amendment to the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act* (Community Life - Ontario Provincial Council)

Resolution 2016.02 *Eating Well with Canada's Food Guide* (Education and Health - Manitoba Provincial Council)

Resolution 2016.03 Warning Labels on Food and Drug Products for all Inactive Substances and Additives (Education and Health - Newfoundland and Labrador Provincial Council)

Resolution 2016.04 Amend the *Canada Health Act* to Identify Palliative Care as an Insured Health Service (Legislation - National Council and B.C. & Yukon Provincial Council)

Resolution 2016.05 Amend the *Canada Health Act* to Include Home Care as an Insured Health Service (Legislation - Ontario Provincial Council)

The resolution on palliative care is the third one adopted by our National Council. Each one addressing needs in the times in which they were written.

Both of the resolutions on palliative care and home care are very important to take action on. Having home care as an insured health service can reduce some strain families feel as well as provide better care. Palliative care can help people live with dignity as they approach the end of the lives. This is a much needed service for people, considering the end of life legislation passed this past year by our government.

Resolutions are tools that make our community, our province, our country and our world better. They are all worthy to be followed up on by action from our councils and its members.

Future success in all your endeavors this fall, continue the good work For God and Country.

God Bless you all, may Our Lady of Good Counsel guide you.

Your Sister in Christ,

Doris

Doris Labelle
Fall Newsletter 2016

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Legislation Nancy Shank



My Dear Sisters in the League,

Well wasn't that a summer! Remember last February when we were so looking forward to summer and praying for a good one. I guess we did get what we prayed for. Now it's time to get back to work.

For me the highlight of my summer was attending the Provincial Convention in Stratford. It was a real experience and a learning one at that. My Council subsidized my attendance and sent me as a Parish Accredited Delegate. This gave me a seat at the voting table and I really felt like I was participating.

I also attended the Resolutions Dialogue the day before the resolutions were to be presented and discussed. I felt that I was really involved in the process and found it so interesting. As a voting delegate you have the opportunity to go to the microphone to comment either for or against the resolution being discussed. You feel that you are a participant rather than an observer.

I thank my council for facilitating this experience and encourage other councils to consider sending a delegate when geography permits.

I received an email from my MPP advising me of a program that exists and I want to pass it along to you. The program is called the ***EyeSee...EyeLearn***. Through this program any child born in 2012 is entitled to a free eye exam by a doctor of Optometry and is eligible for free eye glasses. Please find out more about this program at www.EyeSeeEyeLearn.ca and make your parish aware of it.

Once again I encourage my sisters to consider the role of Legislation Chairperson as a role you might like to fill. The amount of work involved is really up to you but what you learn about your community and the world at large is amazing. It is a wonderful way to find out how to "be of service to the people of God".

I hope to be of real service to you, my Sisters in the League, in the coming year and welcome any input from you. The best way to serve you is to find out what you think and what is important to you. Please contact me any time with your ideas so we can work together to make our world a better place for us all.

Your Sister in Christ,

Nancy

Nancy Shank
Fall Newsletter 2016

Sault Ste. Marie Regional Chairperson

Rhonda DeGraw



“Our goal is not to form islands of peace in the midst of a disintegrated society but to educate people with the ability to transform this society.”

– Pope Francis

Greetings Sisters,

Summer has passed so quickly, I hope you all had time to enjoy it. I spent many an evening in my gazebo listening to the buzz of the bees and the chirp of the birds. Fall is here now and it is back to being busy, as many councils will be preparing for teas, bazaars, bake sales and soirées.



Our next presidents' meeting is Saturday, October 15th at St. James the Greater Church in Blind River. If a president is unable to attend, please send someone in your place as a lot of information is shared at these meetings that must be passed on to the members of your council.

Our next regional luncheon will be November 12th, in Sault Ste. Marie, location to be determined. This would be a wonderful opportunity to introduce a friend to the League.



I look forward to seeing all of you again.

Rhonda

**Rhonda DeGraw
Fall Newsletter 2016**

Sudbury Regional Chairperson

Patricia Clizia



***“Find your own Calcutta.
Find the sick, the suffering and the lonely right
there where you are - in your own homes and in
your own families, in your workplaces and in
your schools...You can find Calcutta all over the
world, if you have the eyes to see.”***

Saint Teresa

Pope Francis recently declared Mother Teresa of Calcutta a saint of the Catholic Church, canonizing Saint Teresa as a saint for our times journeying with us through this Jubilee Year of Mercy. She set up homes for marginalized women, orphanages for poor children, and homes for those suffering from Aids. She fiercely defended the lives of the unborn. Sound familiar?

Her call for Calcutta can be heard in the quiet actions of our sisters in the League across our region, diocese, province and country. As women of faith, with *One Heart, One Voice, One Mission*, we seek to make a difference in our own homes, within our own families and across our communities. We do what we can in whatever way we can.

Pilgrimages to Holy Doors, Year of Divine Mercy days of reflection, visitation to the sick and suffering, service to those in need of food, clothing and spiritual renewal has continued during the spring and summer months. The call for mercy does not take a vacation, with members answering the call by hosting birthright showers, food and clothing drives, forming evangelization teams, serving at the soup kitchen, and continuing with lay ministry, during the glorious days of summer.

As our summer vacation comes to a close, we are reminded that Jesus also saw value in taking a vacation. He sought time with friends like Mary, Martha and Lazarus, he spent time with God in the quiet while getting away from the crowds, and he had a chance to rest himself to be better prepared to continue on with his life and ministry. We, too, have taken advantage of the rest period but have not taken a vacation from who we are, or taken a break from our faith. We are returning refreshed, renewed and ready to go!

Sudbury Regional Chairperson

We are in a time of great hope and joy in our diocese. Fr. Daniele Muscolino was ordained to the priesthood in May at a Mass at Christ the King Parish in Sudbury. We are truly blessed that he has answered Christ's call to be a shepherd among us.

Many of us met Chad Franklin at the Diocesan Convention in May in Sault Ste Marie. Chad is attending St. Peter's Seminary in London, Ontario. May our prayers continue fervently for vocations and for active ministry and evangelization in our parishes.

We welcome Ruth-Anne Ingram as Regional Spiritual Advisor for the Sudbury region. Ruth-Anne is an Associate with the Sisters of St. Joseph, a member of St. Patrick's Church and a CWL past president. We are grateful to be able to continue our affiliation with the Sisters of St. Joseph.

Important Fall Dates in Sudbury region:

Sunday, October 16, 2016 - President's Meeting at 1:30 pm at St. Pius X – Lively

Saturday, October 22, 2016 - Day of Reflection from 9:00 to 3:00 pm at Holy Redeemer - Sudbury. The theme is "Year of Divine Mercy". Facilitated by Fr. Alex Saurianthadathil. Hosted by Holy Redeemer Parish Catholic Women's League.

Sunday, October 30, 2016 - Regional Meeting at 1:30 pm at Our Lady of Hope - Sudbury

Many of our councils will undertake elections this year, seeking sisters who are willing to answer the call to serve, to learn, to grow and to keep the spirit of the League alive in our parishes. Let us continue to be examples of joyful service in our communities.

I wish you God's love, Christ's peace and Mary's guidance as we continue in this journey of Mercy, with one voice, in one heart, on one mission.

*"I slept and I dreamed that life is all joy.
I woke and I saw that life is all service.
I served and I saw that service is joy."*

Kahlil Gibran



**Patricia Clizia
Fall Newsletter 2016**

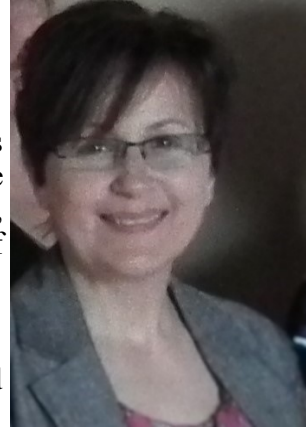
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North Bay Regional Chairperson

Lisa Henry



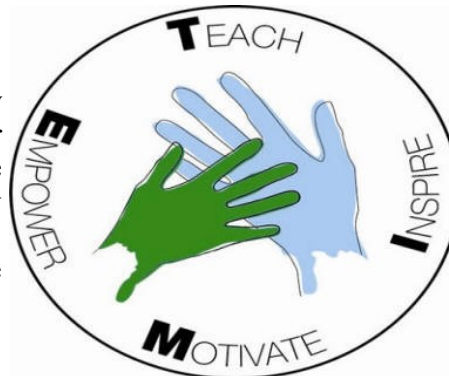
There are always mixed feelings when September arrives. There is the realization that summer is almost over, but then there is the anticipation of what fall might have in store.



I hope everyone had a good summer full of sunshine and is looking forward to meeting again with our CWL sisters. There will be the meetings that will resume, fun in planning and hosting bazaars and teas, 2017 will bring elections for many councils as well as North Bay hosting the 97th Annual Diocesan Convention.

We can enjoy social time with our sisters at meetings and maybe make a new friend. By taking part in CWL activities as much as we can, we become stronger as a faith community.

Encourage members to be involved in whatever capacity they can. There are plenty of options to serve. As councils prepare for elections, it is a perfect opportunity to invite new people to join the executive to bring new ideas and fresh approaches to our League. There are so many wonderful mentors to pave the way.



We are called to create an atmosphere of learning and finding our strengths as we journey through life with ***One Heart, One Voice, One Mission.***

May our Lady of Good Counsel bless each and every one of you with health, happiness and fond memories!

Lisa

Lisa Henry
Fall Newsletter 2016

SPOTLIGHT ON DIOCESAN CHAIRPERSONS



Betsy Currier President-Elect & Organization



My legal birth name is Elizabeth, but I was always called by my nickname “Betsy” since I was a toddler.

I am a retired registered nurse and was blessed with a wonderful career at the bedside, in teaching and in management. My husband and I have a blended family of three adult children (two boys and one girl), nine beautiful grandchildren ranging in age from nine to thirty and one great-grandson this past May.

I love nature and camping in the RV all summer at the lake, and travelling for a few weeks in the winter months. I am also an avid motorcyclist.

I joined the League with my mother’s encouragement in 1990 and have worked, prayed and played with many wonderful ladies who I feel privileged to call “friends and sisters”. I’ve held several executive positions in my home council at St. Jerome Parish in Sault Ste. Marie and in 2012 was awarded the Maple Leaf Service pin. In 2011 I was appointed to the diocesan council and have served terms as Recording Secretary, First Vice President / Sault Ste. Marie Regional Chairperson and President-Elect / Chairperson of Organization.

I co-chaired the 93rd Annual Diocesan Convention held in Sault Ste. Marie in 2013 and have presented workshops on the Objects of the League, Health Care Ethics (Informed Consent, Substitute Decision Making, Privacy, Catch the Fire! and an introduction to the “S’Mores” program – a “discernment” workshop.

(Spotlight Feature continued on next page)

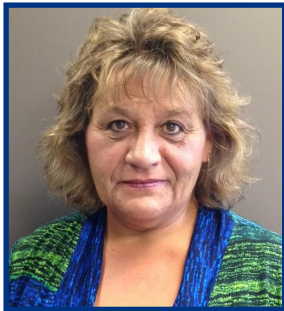
SPOTLIGHT ON DIOCESAN CHAIRPERSONS

Cathy McKinney **Spiritual Development**

I am a third generation Catholic Women's League Member serving God and Canada for 36 years. As a member of St. Gregory's Parish I served as the President for two terms with the guidance of some amazing mentors. While serving as the Past-President I was also active in the Regional Council as the Spiritual Chairperson for Sault Ste. Marie. One of the highlights of my League journey has been chairing the Diocesan Convention held in Sault Ste. Marie in 2010.



I have been blessed with a great husband of 26 years as well as 2 beautiful healthy daughters who are both beginning their careers. I am a full-time Regulated Pharmacy Technician for a large retailer in Sault Ste. Marie and I love spending my leisure time with my husband Ted. My work for the Catholic Women's League of Canada has made me a better wife, daughter, mother, sister and friend.



Giselle Floyd **2nd Vice-President & Education and Health**

I was born and raised in Mattawa, Ontario, and moved to North Bay when I started college. Since that time I have remained in North Bay. I am currently employed full time as a Registered Insurance Broker.

Doug and I have been married for 30 years and have been blessed with two wonderful sons, Evan and Mathew. When my sons were younger, I maintained an active role in their school serving as Secretary and Chairperson of the PTA and Secretary of the Catholic School Advisory Council. Volunteering in our Parish, Holy Name of Jesus, has kept our family busy over the years. Both sons carried out duties as Altar Servers, and Doug has been an executive member of the Knights of Columbus Council for several years.

I joined the Catholic Women's League of Canada in 2002. I have served at the Parish Level as Secretary and two terms as President, Convention Chairperson in 2011, Regional Chairperson from 2011 to 2013, Diocesan Corresponding Secretary for 2013 – 2015 and I currently serve as Diocesan Second Vice President/Education and Health Standing Committee Chairperson.

Involvement in the Catholic Women's League of Canada has been a life changing experience. It has enhanced my spiritual development while giving me the opportunity to meet new people and make lifelong friendships. Working with women who share faith and mutual interests has been extremely rewarding.

(Spotlight Feature continued on next page)

SPOTLIGHT ON DIOCESAN CHAIRPERSONS



Anna Tremblay
Past-President

My husband John and I were married in 1971 and have raised three adopted children, now in their late thirties/early forties. I was a medical secretary before leaving the work force to raise my family. After the children were in school, I became Parish Secretary, a position I held for 20 years until my retirement in 2006. Both John and I are now retired and our best days are spent visiting our 5 year old granddaughter in London ON.

A member since 1967, I did not become active until 1981 when I was invited to become Communications Chairperson in my home parish of St Peter the Apostle. I served in several positions on the Sault Ste Marie Diocesan Council and thoroughly enjoyed “birthing” Catch the Fire! in our diocese before assuming the role of Diocesan President.

When not busy fulfilling my League duties, I like to knit, and make chocolates. I was thrilled to be elected to the Ontario Provincial Council and am enjoying the work as Communications Standing Committee Chairperson.

Nancy Shank
Legislation

I am a charter member of St. Kevin’s council in Val Therese and have served as President of that council. I have served on the Diocesan Council as Spiritual Development Chairperson, Education and Health Chairperson, Regional Chairperson and currently sits as Legislation Chairperson.



I have been married for fifty four years and have four daughters, six grandchildren, two great grandsons, numerous grand dogs and a cat named Felix. My interests are centered around family and include sewing, quilting, cooking, gardening, tatting, and all other needle crafts. Nothing is more fun than gathering family and friends together and cooking for them.

I have come to see the Catholic Women’s League as not only a community of friends I have gathered over the years, but a group who accomplishes things I cannot do on my own. *“I am more than a single membership. I am one of many making a single voice much louder”.*

I really enjoy my membership in the League, and say “When I find something good I like to share it with my friends”.

(Spotlight Feature continued on next page)

SPOTLIGHT ON DIOCESAN CHAIRPERSONS



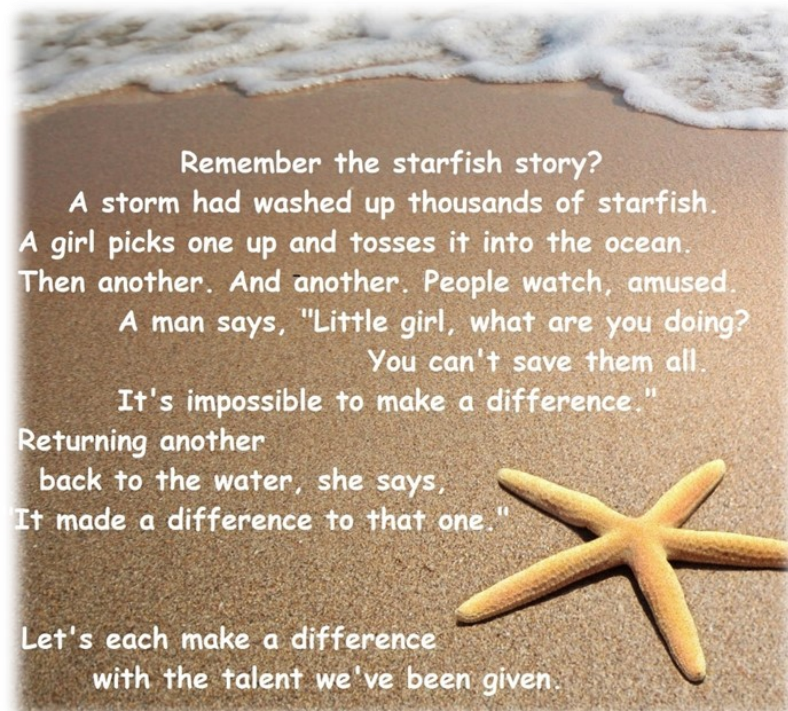
Laurette Woodliffe
Community Life

I continue to be honoured to serve as your Diocesan Community Life Chairperson. It has been a new challenge for me and I have spent time reviewing materials provided, on paper and on the websites, and can honestly say that I've learned more about the League than I ever knew before!

I endeavour to attend development days, diocesan workshops and as many conventions as I can. In addition to spending time with my family, I love to relax with quilting, knitting, and cross stitching. One of my favorite outdoor activities involves taking long nature walks on long country roads. I will miss my early morning walks with my summertime neighbour as we return to our city apartment and our Fall time responsibilities.

I am a woman of strong faith and continue to serve our parish community of Christ the King as Eucharistic Minister and Lector. I am looking forward to the coming year and pray for the graces necessary, through the intercession of our blessed Mother, Our Lady of Good Counsel, to fulfill my duty to the League.

Thank you for sharing your God given talents with us!



Doris Labelle Receives Medal Of Service For Her Contributions During The Second World War

(Portions of article sourced from: Jonathan Migneault, Sudbury.com)

After 71 years, our very own Sault Ste. Marie Diocesan Resolutions Chairperson Doris Labelle, a Second World War veteran, finally received a medal of service she had been owed since the end of the war.

On July 30th, Doris was presented with the War Medal 1939-1945 at the Lockerby Legion in Sudbury.



Doris Labelle (nee. Turner) . (Supplied Photo)

Doris volunteered with the British Royal Air Force in 1944 and became the secretary for the quartermaster in Northhallerton, a town in Northern England located near a Royal Canadian Air Force base where bombers were dispatched and a hospital that treated servicemen.



Doris married Albert Labelle, of Sudbury, in 1945 after the Second World War ended. (Supplied Photo)

Doris' had many duties some of which included correspondence and notifications to families regarding patients' conditions. In case of death, she would send personal effects to the station where it was forwarded to their families.

While stationed in Northhallerton, she met Albert Labelle, a young man from Sudbury who served with the Canadian Air Force.

When Albert's date for a local dance had to go home for the weekend he ended up taking Doris instead. After the war ended they got married and moved to Coniston.

(Continued on next page)

The move to Canada may have been why she never received her medal of service on time.

Doris and Albert later moved to Sudbury's west end, and built a home in Val Thérèse in 1960, where they raised four children. Doris fell in love with Canada, and has lived a good life in Sudbury. She returned to school in her 40s and graduated from teacher's college in 1971.

As for her service medal, Doris said she was surprised at all the fuss in her honour. Doris was presented her medal by Colonel Henrik Smith, 22 Wing Commander and Chief Warrant Officer Short, 22 Wing Chief Warrant Officer and Lieutenant-Colonel Kenneth McClure, Commander, Irish Regiment of Canada.



*Medal of Service
(Photo Credit: Jonathan Migneault)*

Doris' son Paul contacted the UK Ministry of Defence, who found her records, and got in touch with Lieutenant-Colonel Kenneth McClure in Sudbury, to help organize a local ceremony.



*Back Row, From left to right: Anna Tremblay, Past-President, Theresa McGuire, Life Member and Karen McDonald, President. Front: Doris Labelle.
(Photo Credit Anna Tremblay)*

Also in attendance, representing the Catholic Women's League, Sault Ste. Marie Diocesan President, Karen McDonald, Past-President, Anna Tremblay and Life Member, Theresa McGuire.

The War Medal 1939–1945 is a campaign medal which was instituted by the United Kingdom on 16 August 1945, for award to subjects of the British Commonwealth who had served full-time in the Armed Forces or the Merchant Navy for at least 28 days between September 3rd, 1939 and September 2nd, 1945

Congratulations Doris!



Doris presented with her service medal. (Photo Credit Anna Tremblay)

***On behalf of the Sault Ste. Marie Diocesan
Executive Council, we extend our heartfelt
congratulations and thanks to Doris for her
service to God and Country!***

See the presentation in this clip from CTV news!
<http://northernontario.ctvnews.ca/mobile/video?clipId=921967>