

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



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## **Fall Newsletter 2017**

## 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



## THEME PRAYER

Spirit of the Living God open our hearts and minds to experience the unconditional love of God.

Empower us with the gifts of your Spirit so that we may respond to God's call in joyful service.

Inspire and bless members of the Catholic Women's League so that the fruits of your Spirit may be evidenced in all that we say and do.

Amen.

## Homelessness

Provincially, our 2017-2018 Project is a focus on *Homelessness*.

Brainstorming with your councils as to how to address the topic will result in many ideas. When considered, there are a number of ways councils and members are already supporting this important issue. You may consider a prayer to open and close your meetings with an invitation to members to include in their daily prayers.



Since 2010, World Homeless Day has been celebrated annually on the tenth day of the tenth month. The intention is to educate people about homelessness, to celebrate and support local good works and to highlight local issues.

[www.worldhomelessday.org/](http://www.worldhomelessday.org/)

**On the 10th of October 2017, people around the world will mark WORLD HOMELESS DAY in many varied ways and change the lives of homeless people in their local community.**

### ***PRAYER FOR HOMELESS PEOPLE***

*Hear our prayer today for all women, men, boys and girls who are homeless this day.*

*For those sleeping under bridges, on park benches, in doorways or bus stations.*

*For those who can only find shelter for the night but must wander in the daytime.*

*For families broken because they could not afford to pay the rent.*

*For those who have no relatives or friends who can take them in.*

*For those who have no place to keep possessions that remind them who they are.*

*For those who are afraid and hopeless.*

*For those who have been betrayed by our social safety net.*

*For all these people, we pray that you will provide shelter, security and hope.*

*We pray for those of us with warm houses and comfortable beds that we not be lulled into complacency and forgetfulness.*

*Jesus, help us to see your face in the eyes of every homeless person we meet so that we may be empowered through word and deed, and through the political means we have, to bring justice and peace to those who are homeless.*

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# The Catholic Women's League of Canada

## Sault Ste Marie Diocesan Council



"Rooted in Gospel Values"



Dear Sisters in the League,

*"If anyone loves me, they will obey me. Then my Father will love them and we will come to live with them. However, anyone who does not love me, will not obey me. What they have heard me say does not really come from me, but from the Father who sent me. I have told you these things while I am still with you. However, the Holy Spirit will come to help you because the Father will send the Holy Spirit to take my place. The Spirit will teach you everything and will remind you what I said while I was with you."*

(John 14.:23-26)

How many times has someone told you, "I do not want to be interrupted! I have things I have to get finished!" Of course, when we tell people we do not want to be disturbed, they come to see how we are doing. We may close the door, but someone always seems to knock.

We do not like when this happens because we like to get what we started, finished. We may have a good thing going. We may be on a roll. Sometimes we get so involved in what we are doing that knock or someone speaking to us may cause us to jump.

The past few months, July , August and maybe even September, were the interruption, although, a very good one. We come back in the fall meeting again. We re refreshed and invigorated about the year ahead. When we look back on what we did the year before, we may see what did not work. We can grow from our failed attempts. We should not see them as negative experiences, but as learning ones.

When we are interrupted, and go back to what we were doing, we may see it in a different light. We examine what we have done and sometime changes have to be made. We may even start all over because we do not like what or how we did it. Change is good. We have to accept it if we are to grow.

Sincerely,  
Fr. Trevor Scarfone

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**President**  
Elizabeth (Betsy) Currier

**Spiritual Advisor**  
Rev Trevor Scarfone

# The Catholic Women's League of Canada

## Sault Ste Marie Diocesan Council



"Rooted in Gospel Values"



My dear CWL sisters and Spiritual Advisors:

Summer has ended and we're deep into Fall.

That means it's time to dig up our gardens, dig in our heels and get back to work. Summer has given us time to recharge our batteries. It's time to bring our passion for the League to all our meetings and events. We journey together down our future paths filled with faith, hope and love. Continue to demonstrate compassion, forgiveness and healing. How do we use our gifts to bring unity within our councils?

**"May they all be one Father, just as you are in me and I am in you...."**  
**John 17:21**

I was very privileged to represent you in July in Thunder Bay. Though it was my fourth **provincial convention**, it was my first as your diocesan president and voting delegate. It was an exciting and emotional whirlwind. The focus was on indigenous issues. The delegates from the Sault Ste. Marie Diocese were witness to three very emotional events. As part of a prayer service our quilts were lovingly placed over the shoulders of native "Grandmothers". We replaced names of missing/murdered aboriginal women from a tree with one earring (from a pair missing one). We brought water from our home cities and, during a traditional drumming and smudging ceremony, poured the water into large vessels that were taken and poured into the waters where, just the week before, seven young aboriginal people had ended their lives by jumping into the "headwaters". As this was happening it began to rain....tears from heaven for those beautiful children who were hurting so much they gave up on life.

In Charlottetown at the **national convention** in August, 7 members from the Diocese of Sault Ste. Marie attended. The eucharistic celebrations were held in spectacular St. Dunstan's Basilica. The procession of the many bishops and priests, and the flags of ten provinces, the League and Canada at the beginning of the celebration was truly a moving sight – once seen, never forgotten.

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**President**

Elizabeth (Betsy) Currier

**Spiritual Advisor**

Rev Trevor Scarfone

## **President**

In his homily, Archbishop Richard Gagnon from Winnipeg spoke of the importance of not only listening to the Spirit's call, but of working constantly to respond to that call. Keynote speaker Ken Yasinski from Saskatoon gave two talks.

The first was on becoming a 'Living Thank You'. He reminded us that gratitude is a Virtue. We should be grateful for all that God has given and to live with an 'attitude of gratitude'. His second talk relayed the message that we are called to be a missionary disciple. Our entertainment emphasized 'Canada, Our Dear Home!' The P.E.I. Pops, with talented musicians conducted by an animated Leo Marchildon, filled the room with music. In between, comic Patrick Ledwell made our cheeks sore from laughter.

On Tuesday, Archbishop Albert LeGatt highlighted the need for humility, discernment and the importance of sharing the Word and our faith experiences with others. Dr. Reginald Bibby, sociologist from Lethbridge, AB, an expert on religious and social trends, challenged the League to reach out to people saying 'you have much to bring, you need to bring it'. Donna French Dunn facilitated our national town hall meeting with those in the room and councils all over Canada streaming the event. Many of you were online and participated in this most exciting event. It truly was inspiring to see your concerns and ideas unfold right in front of our eyes during this electronic brainstorming session. ....welcome to the digital age!

The presentation and debating of four resolutions was interesting and very animated. I wish that all of you could have been there to see the League in action. Please check the national website and read the great resolutions gifted to the League from members like you.

At our closing Mass, Bishop McGrattan urged women of the League to be women of faith who seek the Lord and encounter Him. For me the homilies were inspirational and I truly felt the Spirit speaking.

Both the provincial and national conventions were wonderful experiences. I feel truly blessed that I was able to attend as your representative.

## President

And, speaking of conventions... mark your calendar! Our **diocesan convention** will be at the **Holiday Inn** in Sudbury **April 27 to 29, 2018**. Our convention co-convenors, Ann Koivu and Cathy Burns are going to do a great job planning this convention so that we all really have fun, learn, and have wonderfully enriching spiritual experiences.

By now most councils have already had their first fall meeting (and perhaps their second) and have begun to focus on plans for the coming months. Fall means **Membership Drives**. Catch the snowbirds before they head south for the winter months. Consider offering an incentive for those who purchase their membership before the December meeting and draw the winner then. Perhaps the prize could be reimbursement of the price of their CWL membership!

Another project to plan for comes from our Provincial President Anne Madden. She has presented us with a challenge: **Homelessness**. This is "hands on", something we can really "sink our teeth into". We do so much now regarding this issue but there is much more we can do. Let's pick one new project we can work on to help our homeless brothers and sisters this year.

Remember....as you draft your budget and plan your fund raising events for the coming year.... to set money aside to **educate your members**. There are many opportunities offered including *Catch the Fire!* and *Find Your Voice!* If you would like another workshop please ask for it. The best way to educate members, though, is to send them to diocesan, provincial and national conventions. Set aside funds for voting and accredited delegates and other members to attend.

We are continuing past president Karen McDonald's goal: to be **visible** and to **communicate**. Please do not hesitate to contact any of the diocesan executive with questions, suggestions or just to say Hi! We love to hear from you.

Blessings and Hugs,

Betsy





## President-Elect and Organization

Cathy McKinney

*“What does the Lord require of you but to do justice,  
and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your  
God.”*

Micah 6:8



My Dear Sisters;

Fall blessings to you! It is my hope that members in each region are renewed and rejuvenated after our summer break.

Inspired by the Spirit, Women respond to God's Call.  
We are called to service as part of our Baptismal promise.

I am looking for members that are interested in working with teenage women from 15-18 years old. Under the instruction of the host league, I would like to see the Catholic high school in each region sponsor a mini Catholic Women's League to aid us in building our membership.

The focus would be on social justice works and the resolution process to affect change. If you know of anyone who would like to work with teens, social justice and affecting change at home, please do not hesitate to call me.

By fostering the volunteering spirit of our youth I hope that the young members learn to love the Catholic Women's League as we do. It is in reaching out that we will strengthen the Catholic Women's League in the Diocese of Sault Ste. Marie!

Thank you for all of your hard work and your dedication to the Catholic Women's League of Canada.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Cathy McKinney".

Cathy McKinney

## Treasurer

**Beverley Michaud**

***“The woman who has confidence in herself gains the confidence of others.”***

Hillary Clinton



This time of year is very hard for the “glass half-empty” kind of people as they contemplate the end of summer and winter approaching. On the other hand, the “half-full” folk are looking forward to the beautiful fall colours and lov decorating for Christmas. Hope you are like me in the second category.

As mentioned in previous directives and newsletters, t his is the time of year that we want to review all the items on our “monthly task liss” to ensure we have remitted all the funds required. I hope everyone has made good use of the “cheat Sheet” I sent to all treasurers last year. If it is up-to-date, then your Annual Report is already done for you. This was easy wasn’t it!!

When preparing your annual budget try to set aside some funds to assist members to attend our Diocesan convention Next year, it will be held in Sudbury in a new location and we look forward to record numbers attending.

The office of Treasurer is the only office that an individual may fulfill two consecutive terms. This will be my second term and I encourage all parish treasurers to consider letting their name stand for next elections. This is the perfect time to start thinking about this so you are ready when someone asks you if you will serve. What better way for us to stand up to Margaret Ann Jacobs’ National Theme Inspired by the Spirit Women Respond to God’s Call.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Bev".

**Bev Michaud**

## Recording Secretary

**Diane Carmichael**



Blessings to all my Sisters in the League!!

I'm not going to lie. Writing this newsletter has been difficult. I've contemplated, started, and stopped so many times.

I was just perusing some photos from the last Diocesan Convention for inspiration. I had forgotten a lot of what we did that weekend but those photos and words brought it all back to me.

As your new Diocesan Recording Secretary it is my job to preserve the written word of what the Diocesan Catholic Women's League achieves. I was Recording Secretary at the Parish level for the Pro-Cathedral of the Assumption in North Bay. I understand the importance of recording what we discuss and accomplish for the future members to look back on.

In this digital age I am trying to keep everything on a USB. So much more tidy and easier to carry! I've cleaned out more files and papers that my predecessor began. I will do my utmost to follow in her footsteps and everyone before her. If I fail in the slightest please bring it to my attention. I want to fulfill this position to best of my ability and beyond.

I will be relying on you, my Sisters, to help me in this endeavour.

Until next we meet...may our Lord Jesus Christ wrap His arms around you.

*Diane*

**Diane Carmichael**

## Corresponding Secretary

Marlene Sawko



***“WHEN YOU FEEL YOU’RE DROWNING IN LIFE, DON’T WORRY –  
YOUR LIFEGUARD WALKS ON WATER.”***

***FROM QUOTAGS.NET***

This quote is speaking to me at the moment. I’m having a very full life presently but things are falling into place with God’s help.

I hope everyone has had a restful summer and is gearing up for a busy and fulfilling year with your council.

I have heard from Stephanie Spinelli, who although called Administrative Assistant is our contact at the Provincial Level. She recommends league publications like the *Handbook for Secretaries* and *Guidelines for Business Correspondence*. She shares a prayer for the Homeless, our project this year and recommends brainstorming ideas with your council to address the issue in your area. Her communiqué can be found on the provincial website [www.cwl.on.ca](http://www.cwl.on.ca).

I will be gathering the contact information of council executive members so they may be contacted by their counterpart on the Diocesan Council. This is something we have done in the past and found it to be an invaluable tool to keep in touch.

Finally, just a reminder that our websites are great resources and a great way to keep in touch with what is going on in the League at so many levels. Please review them regularly.

Please do not hesitate to contact me, I’m always happy to help.

God Bless!

*Marlene Sawko*

Marlene Sawko

## Past-President/Historian

**Karen McDonald**

It is exciting to have stepped into the role as past president of our diocesan *team*. The transition from receiving the gavel to passing it on to Betsy was fairly quick ... two years seemed to pass in the blink of an eye.



My journey as diocesan president was amazing and I have many wonderful memories that I will cherish forever, thanks to my executive *team*, our presidents with whom I worked closely, and all members across this great diocese, many of whom are now past presidents.

In July, I was blessed to be elected to the Ontario Provincial Council and I was gifted with the **legislation standing committee**. The decision to let my name stand for nomination at the provincial level was simple. I took the advice that I give to our members, "*The League needs you to step up to the plate*". If we want to see the League grow (and we do) we need to, "*Get a mitt and get in the game*"!

With the Fall season upon us (my absolute favourite time of the year), members are gearing up for League activities. As past presidents, we are still in the game .... we are "past", not "passed" ... we have a vital role to play in our councils. Members rely upon our experience as mentors ... we have '*been there, done that*'.

### ***Did you know?***

*"The role of the past president is consultative and advisory.  
Others will draw on her experience when trying  
to make the best decisions for the council."*

*(Executive Handbook, May 2014)*

### ***Did you know?***

*The past president shall:*

- *serve the council and president in a consultative capacity*
- *be responsible for the archives and history of the council*
- *facilitate and encourage the study and implementation  
of the Constitution & Bylaws*

*(Executive Handbook, May 2014)*

## Past-President/Historian

I wish to share this beautiful prayer that I read after assuming my new role:

### *Chairperson's Prayer*

*"Dear Lord, make me appreciative of the dignity  
of my standing committee and its many responsibilities.  
Never permit me to disgrace it by giving way to coldness,  
unkindness or impatience.  
Please bear with my faults, looking only to my intention,  
which is to serve you in the person of each member  
of the Catholic Women's League.  
Increase my faith, bless my efforts and work  
'For God and Canada'."*

*(Handbook for Past Presidents, 2004)*

**Did you know?** ... there is an Executive Handbook and Past President Handbook. These may be downloaded from the national website (**Resources** and **Manuals**).

As past presidents, we are to be **accessible** to our members and provide advice. We should remain **open** to new ideas offered by those we are mentoring. Change is challenging ... but it can be good. We must continue to help our councils grow.

Speaking of growth ... in August, I attended the national convention in beautiful Charlottetown, PEI and I participated in the main event which was a town hall session with live feed called, "*Building on Foundation, the League of the Future.*" Delegates and members from across Canada enthusiastically joined online, working together on a strategy for change ... the future of the League is bright!

As our journey begins, keep in mind these lyrics from one of my favourite hymns:

*Bread of life and cup of hope, we come as gift to you.  
Change our hearts; fill us with peace. Transform our lives anew.  
Open our eyes so that we might see your presence in one another.  
Your life, poured out in love today, unites us all in you.*

*Loving Lord, Creator God, open our eyes to see  
the good that lives in each of us, that called the world to be.  
And when we fail to see the good, when friendships falter and crumble,  
give us the courage to forgive that we may live in peace.*  
*(Bread of Life by Bobby Fisher)*

Lots of love,

*Karen*

**Karen McDonald**

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## Spiritual Development

**Marcelle Beaulieu**

*The love of God has been poured out into our hearts  
through the Holy Spirit*

We look to the Holy Spirit for direction in our daily lives. First, the Holy Spirit teaches us to pray and helps us keep in mind what Jesus has done for us. Like a devoted mentor, He walks beside us and guides us in how to live. The Spirit also helps us in our weaknesses. He helps us grasp the truth of Scripture and gives us the grace to live it out, especially when we feel weak or inadequate. The Spirit loves us. He fills us with love so that we can bear fruit by loving one another.



### **The Enduring Message of Fatima**

At Fatima, Our Lady asked us to recite at least five Decades of the Rosary every day, to wear the brown scapular, to offer our daily Duty as an act of sacrifice, and to make the five First Saturdays of Reparation to her Immaculate Heart. The general Message of Fatima is not complicated. Its requests are for prayer, reparation, repentance and sacrifice, and the abandonment of sin. Another principal part of the Message is devotion to Our Lady's Immaculate Heart, which is terribly outraged and offended by the sins of humanity. We must pray, especially the Rosary. By this frequent prayer, we will get the graces we need to overcome sin.

### **Remembering our Deceased Members**

November is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate and remember our deceased Sisters in the League. In your Ceremonies booklet, you will find the Memorial Service for Deceased Members. It is a beautiful ceremony and is already prepared for you. A reminder for all spiritual development chairpersons - send in your deceased member forms to National (can be found on the national website, [www.cwl.ca](http://www.cwl.ca) under "forms"). Also please send me a quick e-mail for reporting at the Diocesan level.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel continue to bless the work you do.

Respectfully,

*Marcelle*

**Marcelle Beaulieu**

## Christian Family Life

Kathleen Niro

*“In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.*

*And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.”*

**Luke 1:39-45**



The winds of fall are upon us as we continue to serve our communities with the guidance of the Holy Spirit focused on the Gospel. Christian Family Life is rooted in the Gospel, and as Elizabeth says, “the child in my womb leaped for joy.” Jesus comes to each of us in the Sacraments. With joy, let us go forth and become sacrament to all whom we encounter.

### **DUTIES of the CHAIRPERSON**

- marriage and family
- sanctity of life
- ministry to: youth, widowed, disabled, separated, seniors, divorced, and single persons
- vocations

Review the Executive Handbook pages CFL43 – CFL46 to support you on this standing committee.

By the time you receive this newsletter, the Life Chain will have taken place in your nearby community. I hope that you were able to participate in this event.

**The Sanctity of Life** is an important part of our Christian Family Life standing committee, especially in these times. National Communique #5 shared news that requires our prayers and actions. “The United Nations Human Rights Committee is considering excluding the unborn child from the right-to-life clause of an important United Nations human rights treaty. If passed, access to abortion would be an international human right. A petition to oppose this consideration is being circulated and is sponsored by the Center for Family and Human Rights in Washington, DC. The petition will be presented on October 6th at the United Nations headquarters and is available at [c-fam.org/right-life-international](http://c-fam.org/right-life-international).”



## Christian Family Life

**Kathleen Niro**

AND

“LifeCanada and host group Action Life Ottawa are excited to be sponsoring the 2017 National Pro-Life Conference in Ottawa, Ontario, November 3-4, 2017. Entitled True North Strong for Life, guest speakers include Senator Betty Unger and Jonathon VanMaren, communications director for the Canadian Centre for Bio-Ethical Reform. Visit [lifecollective.io/lifecanada/events](http://lifecollective.io/lifecanada/events) for more information.”

**Ministry to Youth** is a challenge and needs to provide opportunities for youth to become involved in their faith. The Vatican released an online anonymous questionnaire open to youth aged 16-29 years of age regardless of faith or religion, to better understand their lives, attitudes and concerns. Encourage the youth of your parish and their friends to respond to this valuable survey. Information provided will be the basis for drafting a working document for the Synod of Bishops in 2018. The questionnaire can be found at: [youth.synod2018.va/content/synod2018/it.html](http://youth.synod2018.va/content/synod2018/it.html).

**Vocations, vocations, vocations!** Please remember to pray for our own seminarian Chad from Sault Ste Marie. The discernment process never ends and our support is needed continuously. Pray the prayer for vocations at your meetings; contribute to the Bishop Pappin Memorial Fund annually. A good gift for some one might be a document “The Gift of the Priestly Vocation”, a resource for those discerning to become a priest published by The Congregation for the Clergy.

Check out an inspirational story of following God’s call to become a religious sister. Go to [cbc.ca/news/canada/prince-edward-island/libby-osgood-from-nasa-to-nun-1.4226188](http://cbc.ca/news/canada/prince-edward-island/libby-osgood-from-nasa-to-nun-1.4226188).

There has not been a resolution for Christian Family standing committee since 2011. This might be an opportunity to use your creativity for the greater good. Review past resolution on the National website, [cwl.ca](http://cwl.ca). All resolutions can be acted upon at any time.

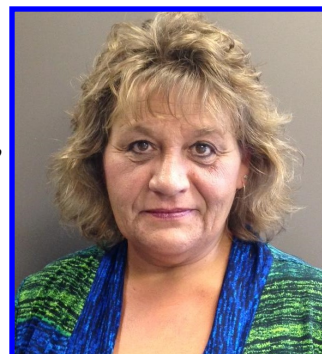
Yours in Christ,

*Kathleen*

## 1st Vice President & Community Life

Giselle Floyd

*“Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God,  
serve one another  
with whatever gift each of you has received.”  
1 Peter 4:10*



Warm greetings to all Community Life Standing Committee Chairpersons. Fall is here and it is time to gather back into our Councils to continue our good works for God and Canada.

### **DUTIES of the CHAIRPERSON**

- dignity and rights of persons
  - social and economic justice
  - refugees, immigration and citizenship
  - Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace (CCODP)
  - developing countries
- Please refer to the Executive Handbook, pages CL48 – CL51

### **RESOLUTIONS FROM COMMUNITY LIFE STANDING COMMITTEE 2017**

At the Ontario Provincial Convention held in Thunder Bay, July 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>, a resolution for this standing committee was presented and brought forward to National and adapted at the National Convention held in P.E.I. in August.

**ON.17.01** Full implementation of the Supreme Court's Gladue Decision (1999) for Indigenous Women Offenders. You may view this Resolution on the National website;  
<https://www.cwl.ca/>

### **BILL C-16 – AN ACT TO AMEND THE CANADIAN HUMAN RIGHTS ACT AND THE CRIMINAL CODE**

On June 19, 2017 Bill C-16 received Royal Assent in Parliament, and immediately came into effect.

The bill adds [gender expression](#) and [identity](#) as a protected ground to the [Canadian Human Rights Act](#), and also to the [Criminal Code](#) provisions dealing with hate propaganda, incitement to genocide, and aggravating factors in sentencing.

## 1st Vice-President & Community Life

**Giselle Floyd**

National President Margaret Ann Jacobs has sent a letter to the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCCB) expressing support of its statement on the passage of Bill C-16 An Act to amend the Canadian Human Rights Act and the Criminal Code.

*“The Catholic Church sees all people, regardless of how they identify themselves or the manner in which they choose to live their lives, as possessing equally an inherent dignity bestowed on them by God our Creator. For this reason, unjust discrimination or violence against a person or community or class of persons is always morally wrong. From the moment of conception onward, every human being has the innate dignity of bearing the image of God. All persons, including those who identify as ‘transgender,’ must always be treated with compassion, respect, and love.”*

**(Most Rev.) Douglas Crosby, OMI**, Bishop of Hamilton

President of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, July 7, 2017

A letter has also been sent a letter to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, expressing deep concern that Bill C-16 fails to respect the fundamental rights of freedom of religion and speech of those having different views concerning transgenderism and requesting a meeting with him on this issue.

*“Members of The Catholic Women’s League of Canada are concerned that the passage of Bill C-16 will not allow Canadian citizens, a proportionately large segment of which are Catholic, to live out their faith and peaceably disagree with current gender theory without fear of reprisal. The League will always stand in support of any and all efforts to support and uphold the inherent dignity of persons, their right to live in peaceful co-existence with others, and the right of all persons to speak their own truth in love. Respectfully, we request a face-to-face meeting with you and with the minister of justice to discuss the passage of this bill and the fears that Catholic lay faithful have in regard to its enforcement.”*

Excerpt from National President Margaret Ann Jacobs’ letter to Right Hon., Justin Trudeau (Aug 16, 2017)

In closing, I ask that you educate yourselves on these sensitive issues. We will have many topics to address in the next two years and I look forward to working with all of you and having you share your knowledge, dedication and spirituality.

Blessings,

*Giselle*

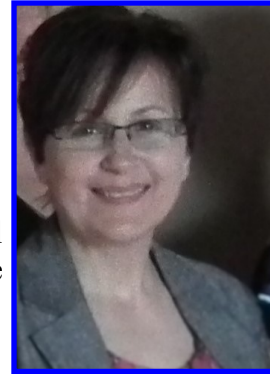
**Giselle Floyd**

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## 2nd Vice-President & Education and Health

**Lisa Henry**

*The student is not above the teacher, but everyone who is fully trained will be like their teacher (Luke 6:40)*



Warm Greetings! I hope each of you had a wonderful summer filled with warm, sunny days and spending time with your loved ones.

It's that wonderful time of year again. The first tints of red and yellow are showing on the trees, the air is crisp and we see the bountiful farmers' harvest at all the local markets. I have always felt autumn is a season of renewal and rejuvenation.

It is with this renewed spirit that I embrace this new committee of Education and Health. It is an incredibly robust portfolio filled with promise and anticipation at the prospects of all we can accomplish together.

While this committee is so broad, it's easy to feel intimidated and perhaps even overwhelmed. I have always adopted a philosophy of it's more important to focus on quality not quantity. In that spirit, choose what inspires you and your council and don't beat yourself up if you can't "fit it all in". There's an incredible amount of subject matter we could share but that's the wonderful thing about the CWL; there are many, many women involved in this committee and we are all "doing our part" to get the information out there to our members. Your time and effort will make a difference.

### Helpful Hints:

- If yours is a council without an education and health chair or a chair that feels like she is drowning, take one education topic and one health topic that speaks to you and your membership and give them a try.
- Also, enlist some sub-committee chairpersons with each member adopting a subject, researching it and reporting back to the chairperson who then uses it as appropriate – in a report or newsletter article. You would be surprised at how many people are passionate about the subjects of education and health. Collectively, you can share ideas and really take your committee places!
- Researching topics/issues pertaining to Catholic schools, catechesis and RCIA and sharing it with your council is a fundamental part of keeping our councils educated and informed.



**Lisa Henry**

**Page 1 of 2**

## 2nd Vice-President & Education and Health

- Educating your councils on Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) is worthwhile. Many facets of this controversial topic have emerged since the federal government passed legislation in 2016 allowing eligible Canadian adults to request medical assistance in dying. As stated by National CWL President Margaret Ann Jacobs in May 2017:

### What Steps Can You Take?

Dialogue with parish and diocesan spiritual advisors and local bishops is essential in coming to decisions regarding MAiD which affect League members and their families, the charitable activities of the councils and their volunteer activities. The Catholic Women's League of Canada recommends the following:

1. Take the initiative to ascertain the policy of your local hospice facility and voice your concerns.
2. Pray that hospice facilities do not make medical assistance in dying available.
3. Continue to pray for quality palliative care.

Watch for resolutions relating to Education & Health.

Monitor and report them to your membership.

Member Development - "Find Your Voice" was presented in all 3 regions in our diocese and will be presented again soon. Members reported it was a warm, supportive and fun experience for all who attended. It helped members develop their communication skills and increase their self-confidence. Stay tuned for information on new dates and locations!



I could go on indefinitely at the possibilities for this committee. I would love to hear from you and all the innovative ways you are expanding on your role. Please email me about how you are doing with your committee whether it be great ideas, accomplishments, struggles, etc. I would sincerely love to hear from you. ***We are stronger when we work together.***

*Ask Jesus what he wants from you and be brave! (Pope Francis)*

Respectfully submitted,

*Lisa*

**Lisa Henry**

**Page 2 of 2**

## Communications

Patricia Clizia

**“In many ways, effective communication begins with mutual respect, communication that inspires, encourages others to do their best.”**

**Zig Ziglar**

Communication is vital to our mission of engaging members in holiness through service to the people of God.



As communication chairperson, my role is to engage in various methods of communication to evangelize, to promote the League, to evaluate and to share appropriate content including newsletters, bulletins and social media. In an age where communication technology is rapidly changing, we must remain vigilant in our promotion of good content. How we communicate is as important as what we communicate. Body language, verbal tone and attitude affect how people perceive the information we are sharing.

Let's put our best faith foot forward!

Are we monitoring media content in our homes? Do we make our *personal* opinions known to producers, networks, advertisers and the Canadian Broadcast Standards Council? Freedom of speech comes with responsibility.



**Pornography hurts campaigns** continue in parishes throughout the League. In our diocese, these typically occur in the fall months. Consider hosting a post-card signing table before and after weekend masses, distribute cards to member, post on bulletin boards or engage in a letter writing campaign as part of an upcoming membership meeting or membership drive. Our voice matters, and counts in large numbers when we consider the national impact of members across Canada sending a postcard, or a personal letter to government.

Recently, it has been reported in the media that internet accounts at local libraries are not monitored for content. Consider visiting your local library to inquire about their policy for content and internet use. Voice your personal concern over accessibility of pornographic content in public places, and unrestricted access for children using library internet services.

Patricia Clizia

Page 1 of 2

## Communications

Patricia Clizia

The **Canadian League Magazine** is a publication which is a **MUST read!**

Don't be afraid to share your copy with a sister in the pew, or re-share your copy in the waiting room at your next doctor visit.  
A good read.....and a **MUST share!**

Also available on-line [www.cwl.ca](http://www.cwl.ca) you may share the link with a friend on email! In case you missed the Spring edition <https://www.cwl.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/CWL-Mgz-Spring-2017-web.pdf>  
Look for the Fall edition coming soon!

Don't forget to sign up to receive the electronic newsletter. [www.cwl.on.ca](http://www.cwl.on.ca)  
The **Ontario Provincial on-line newsletter** is published monthly, with a different diocese in Ontario featured each month. The **SSM Diocese** is featured in **November of 2018**. More information will closer to our feature month.

Don't despair!

We will have opportunities to share information on members who receive volunteer awards, Life Member Awards, Maple Leaf Awards etc. Please send those along to my attention with an accompanying photo and a short 100 word article including the Council title and location. Let's share some of the wonderful celebrations occurring in our councils.

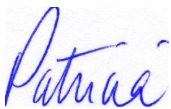
In all that we speak and hear;  
In all that we read;  
In all that we communicate,  
May we be mindful of our words,  
loving with the thoughts of our hearts  
and diligent in our interpretation and actions  
as we seek Jesus in others,  
and live the life that God has called us to journey together.

LET THE  
*Words of my Mouth,*  
AND THE  
*Meditation of my Heart,*  
BE ACCEPTABLE IN THY SIGHT, O LORD,  
*My Strength, and My Redeemer.*  
Psalms 19:14

***“Kindness is a language which the deaf can hear, and the blind can see.”***  
**Mark Twain**

My first endeavour in publishing a diocesan newsletter has come together with a little help from my friends, and ALOT of prayer!

Enjoy the read....and don't forget to share!



Patricia Clizia

## Resolutions

Susan Godin



*“Policies are established, programs are planned, or concerns and views are expressed through resolutions.”*

**Catholic Women’s League of Canada – Executive Handbook**

*“Resolutions ..... are presented to their respective levels of government. This is how we “move mountains” and bring the concerns of one council to the attention of the leaders of our country.”*

**Leading the League**

My Dear Sisters in the League,

The summer is coming to an end and the weather has been a roller coaster of rain and sunshine. We have been promised two weeks of beautiful weather and so I am taking this time to work in the flower garden. Our past two summers we have had many ups and downs with health issues. I remain so grateful for the dedication and good care from our doctors here in Sudbury.

During the recent national conference four resolutions were adopted. The national website ([cwl.ca](http://cwl.ca) resolutions) list them in full.

It is of upmost importance that each council takes actions which are suggested at the end of the resolutions, our resolutions handbook states that without action, resolutions are but paper and words.

Why not take one resolution adopted this year and review it with some members. Decide on what action you could implement with your council’s support. Actions are suggested on the last page of each resolution.

Let’s stand behind our resolutions and continue the good work for God and Country. God Bless you all, may Our Lady of Good Council guide you.

Your Sister in Christ

*Susan Godin*

**Susan Godin**



## Legislation

**Rhonda DeGraw**

Legislation is the act or process of making or enacting laws. Our Legislators are elected to serve and protect the common good, human dignity, and the rights of human persons. As Catholics we should have a clear understanding of the principles of Catholic moral and social teaching. Pope Francis tells us that “a good Catholic meddles in politics”, and the Catechism of the Catholic Church makes it clear that we have a duty to take part in public life.



As legislation chairpersons we are to monitor and study legislation at all levels of Government, and keep informed about CWL resolutions and briefs presented to government.

These are the four Resolutions that were adopted at the 97<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention in Prince Edward Island and the action plans that we can work on. (Full Resolutions can be found on both National and Provincial websites.)

***2017.01 Full Implementation of the Supreme Court Decision in R vs Gladue for Indigenous Offenders***

***2017.02 Mandatory Age Verification Mechanisms for Adult Pornographic Websites***

***2017.03 Zero Rated Status under the Goods and Services Tax Provisions of the Excise Tax act for Child safety Products***

***2017.04 Protection from Coercion of Conscience for Healthcare Professionals***

Our National President, Margaret Ann Jacobs, has written the Prime Minister on our behalf concerning **Bill C-16 *An Act to Amend the Canadian Human Rights act and the Criminal Code***. She has requested a face to face meeting with Prime Minister Trudeau as well as the Minister of Justice. The full letter can be read on -line at [cwl.ca](http://cwl.ca)

May Our Lady of Good Counsel continue to bless us,

*Rhonda*

**Rhonda DeGraw**

## Sault Ste. Marie Regional Chairperson

Christina Bot

*"Let us not grow tired of doing good, for in due time we shall reap our harvest, if we do not give up." Galatians 6:9*



Autumn is upon us and our summer interlude has come to an end. Instead of thinking of this as the time to resume our busy Fall and Winter schedules, think of it as the hospitality and welcoming time in our CWL year. A time to reconnect with our sisters in the League. A time to start inviting members who may not have attended meetings in the past to come out and join us.

Think of ways to create fellowship within our councils; a simple phone call to a member who hasn't been seen in awhile and ask how they are, a phone call asking for help with a bake sale or tea, a call to join a craft group or a call to start a coffee group. There are many members out there standing on the outside looking in wondering if they would be welcome. Sometimes that call can be that nudge that they need.

Fall is also the time of year we set our sights on renewing memberships and recruiting new ones, submitting annual reports and holding elections.

Membership drives are so important to the viability of our council and League. A growing membership allows our voice to be stronger. Try to have different roles for each of the members; everyone's contributions are important. Encourage everyone to help in some way, rather than just those who attend meetings. A way to keep the membership up to date is to promote Web Wednesdays. Every Wednesday the Provincial ([www.cwl.on.ca](http://www.cwl.on.ca)) the National ([www.cwl.ca](http://www.cwl.ca)) and the Diocesan ([www.ssmcwl.ca](http://www.ssmcwl.ca)) are updated. It is an invaluable tool for executive and members alike.

Annual reports will be due in mid November. These reports are important as they provide a snapshot of your council's activities.

Elections have become a challenging time for many councils as few who are called to serve say "Yes". Please encourage your members to be open to the summons to serve their council and their League so that they respond "yes" "yes I can".

Christina Bot

Page 1 of 2

## **Sault Ste. Marie Regional Chairperson**

**Christina Bot**

### **Regional News and Important Dates in Sault Ste. Marie Region:**

**Congratulations** to St. Jerome Council on their 60th Anniversary. A well attended gala dinner was held on Friday September 15. The council was blessed to have three charter members attending. Two women received their 60 year pins.

**Wednesday October 11, 2017**

**Regional Spiritual Reflection. Taize at St. Jerome**

**7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**

**Saturday October 14, 2017**

**Presidents' Meeting at St. Jerome Sault Ste. Marie**

**11:00 am**

**Saturday November 18, 2017**

**Regional Luncheon Meeting at The Grand Gardens North**

**12:00 pm NOON**

**Saturday November 4, 2017 at Precious Blood**

**Annual Snowflake Bazaar**

**12 Noon to 6:00 p.m.**

**Saturday November 25, 2017 at St. Gregory**

**Bake and Craft Sale**

**1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

**Sunday November 26, 2017 at St Gregory**

**Bake and Craft Sale**

**10:00 a.m. to 12 Noon**

**Wednesday December 6, 2017 St. Ambrose Thessalon**

**A Christmas Tea**

I look forward to serving you as Regional Chair for the next two years. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

***"One woman can change anything. Many women can change everything."***

**Christine Karumba**

Respectfully,

*Christina*

**Christina Bot**

**Page 1 of 2**

## **Sudbury Regional Chairperson**

**Sue Quackenbush**



Greetings Sisters in the League,

Well, another summer has come and gone. Hope everyone had the chance to enjoy some of the nice weather.

On August 8, 2017, the CWL National Convention held a Town Hall meeting broadcast live from Charlottetown PEI. The purpose of this meeting was about the future of the League. It gave members an opportunity to voice their ideas and input.

We had seventeen members participate from five different councils. A great thank you to Holy Redeemer and St. Patrick for hosting this for us.

We embark on another year refreshed and full of energy. The President's meeting will be held on October 22nd at St. John the Evangelist in Garson at 1:00 pm. It is important that each president or a representative attend to be able to keep their council updated.

November being such a busy month with teas and other activities, the Regional Meeting will be held on Sunday, November 26th at St. Alexander in Chelmsford at 1:00 pm.

Looking forward to working with you.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "S. Quackenbush".

**Sue Quackenbush**

## North Bay Regional Chairperson

**Mary-Lynn Truchon**

With a happy heart and enthusiasm, I wish to express my thanks for the opportunity to be the link between our Diocesan Executive and the Presidents of the North Bay Region Parish Councils. I pledge to do my very best.



As the summer holidays come to a close, we approach our CWL duties and commitments with renewed energy. Summer vacation is over, or is it really? After such mediocre summer weather this year, we are beginning to enjoy the majestic colours of autumn that only God could create, coupled with warm, lingering summer like sunshine. September is like a “second New Year” to me, and I often find myself doing some reflecting and self-analysis at this time of year. This led me to think about a conversation with a group of friends over the summer. We wrapped up our conversation with one friend making the common statement “never assume anything, things are not always as they appear” or similar words. All were in agreement that this is a phrase we hear very often.

This in turn, reminded me of an incident that I was involved in some months before. Having arrived early for Mass one Sunday morning, I approached a dear friend to ask her a “CWL question”. As I approached her pew, I noticed she was using her cell phone. Hmmm, I thought, and made a joking comment (we are good friends!). Things were not as they appeared! She was saying the rosary! The mysteries of the rosary were on her cell phone!!! Lesson learned, point well taken. I thought about this a lot, but really don’t have a good segue into the next thoughts. Thirty-three years ago, when I joined the CWL, I was somewhat apprehensive about the work these ladies did and only knew about the teas, bake sales, etc. It didn’t take long to realize that their work was not as it appeared! Yes, we have meetings; yes, we have conventions; yes we plan bazaars, teas and other events. Learning what the Standing Committees were all about and much, much more was most enlightening. What a strong voice we are! We have never ending opportunity to grow in our spiritual lives. We have fun together as sisters in the League and many cherished friendships are developed. What is as it appears, is that we work for God and Canada. May our Lady of Good Counsel bless us with health, happiness and fulfillment.

*Mary-Lynn*

**Mary-Lynn Truchon**

## WELCOMING NEW DIOCESAN EXECUTIVE MEMBERS



### **Kathleen Niro Christian Family Life**

In a blizzard of 1967, Kathleen was welcomed into this world by her parents, sister and grandparents. She was baptized at Old St. Paul's Anglican Church



that spring. Her family moved to Sudbury in 1968, where she was raised and attended college. In 1986 she met her future husband and has now celebrated 28 years of marriage. She has 2 young adult children. While she was a stay at home mum, she cared for many children and eventually worked in daycare until 2015 as a ministry approved educator. Kathleen has graduated from St. Francis Xavier University with a Diploma in

Ministry, Certificate in Liturgy and Certificate in Spirituality. Her practicum was centered on the merging of her

parish Our Lady of Perpetual Help with St. Clement Parish, now Our Lady of Hope. As president of the Ladies Auxiliary, she was educated in the League's policies and procedures in order to lead the Ladies of the auxiliary to determine their future, now the CWL council of Our Lady of Hope. She has received a Certificate of Merit for this work along side the CWL President of the time.

Kathleen has been a member since 2002. She has held the position of 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Spiritual Development, Communications, Christian Family Life and President. She has also convened the annual Valentine Tea for more than 5 years. She has also served on the Sudbury Regional committee as Recording Secretary. She continues to learn about the League by attending regional workshops and days of reflection, as well as diocesan and provincial conventions. Kathleen enjoys learning and passing on what she has gleaned. Her parish involvement includes leader in the sacraments since 1998, Liturgy of the Word for Children for 21 years, ARISE team, liturgy team, Mass for children at Christmas and Good Friday service, New Evangelization Team and funeral choir. At the diocesan level she has lead and assisted in Ark of the Covenant Mass, NET Ministries of Canada – host home for 15 years and co-ordinator Sudbury for 5 years, Ontario Liturgical Music School in 2006. She has completed the Lay Apostolate Formation and has assisted at the year end retreat for 2 years. She has served as parish secretary at Our Lady of Hope, Holy Trinity, St. Anthony, Sveti Marko Croatian Church and Christ the King Church.

Always up for an adventure, Kathleen looks forward to her journey on the Diocesan Executive for the next 2 years.

*(Spotlight Feature continued on next page)*



## WELCOMING NEW DIOCESAN EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

### **Sue Quackenbush** **Sudbury Regional Chairperson**

Sue was born in Sudbury and raised in Levesque subdivision. She has been married to Harvey for 51 years and they have a son and daughter and two grandchildren. Sue has been retired from CIBC for 17 years, and does some volunteer work for the house of Kin. She is also a collection counter for her parish.

Sue has been a member of the League for 10 years and has held the following positions: Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer for three terms, President Elect, President and is now Past President of the St. John the Evangelist Council in Garson.

In the summer, she enjoys going to camp and in the winter, spends time reading and knitting.



### **Susan Godin** **Resolutions**

My name is Susan, I am the youngest of five children. I have been married to my husband Andy fifty years this coming February. We have been blessed with a son and daughter and four wonderful grandchildren. I enjoy taking pictures and creating history journaling them through scrapbooking. Reading spiritual writers like Richard Rohr's are a part of my morning prayer.

Gardening, sewing, knitting claim some of my time. I have tried my hand at quilting, but my days seem too short to do all I would love to do. I enjoy getting together with family, my sisters in the league and associate friends sharing a meal, movies or a simple coffee.

This past summer we celebrated Canada Day with televised testimonies of this beautiful country. I saw God's Love in the beauty of creation being televised and heard God's Love in the sharing of his people's stories. I feel grateful and very blessed to be a member of the Catholic Women's League and to live in this wonderful country of Canada.

*(Spotlight Feature continued on next page)*

## WELCOMING NEW DIOCESAN EXECUTIVE MEMBERS



### **Marcelle Beaulieu**

#### **Spiritual Development**

Marcelle and husband Rheal have been married for 51 years. They have three children, Mike, Monique and Nicole. They are also the proud grandparents of three boys and one girl.

Marcelle joined the Catholic Women's League of Saint Peter the Apostle in North Bay in 2002. She has spent two years as Spiritual Chairperson for the North Bay Region as well as her Parish. She also spent two years as Corresponding Secretary. After six years as President, she is finally assuming her role as Past President but also is taken on Legislation and Resolution in her council. She wears multiple hats! Marcelle is well known for her gardening skills as she maintains the flower beds at St. Peter's Church. She is also recognized for her sewing and knitting. She has made numerous quilts, table runners, Christmas stockings, pot holders and many more items. Just check out our Knit and Sew table at our annual Harvest Tea and Bazaar. Her pickled beets and cucumber relish are always a favourite at the bake table.

Marcelle is a dedicated member of the CWL at Saint Peter's Parish. She feels blessed to be involved with so many dedicated women as we move forward, Inspired by the Spirit, We Respond to God's Call!

### **Christina Bot**

#### **Sault Ste. Marie Regional Chairperson**

Christina Bot's home parish is St. Jerome Parish in Sault Ste. Marie. She has been a CWL member since 2004 and has served her CWL at the parish level as Recording Secretary, President and Past President. She was also the convenor for the funeral lunches and several teas. She is presently a Eucharist Minister and served in the past on the Hospitality Committee and worked with the decorating committee. She is also on the executive of the F.J. Davey Home Family Council. Christina is not originally from Sault Ste. Marie. She moved to "The Soo" 38 years ago when she married her husband, Romano. She still thinks of Webbwood as her home town. She and Romano have two children, a daughter who is married and a son.

Christina is a former teacher who spent her teaching years in Sudbury. She attended Laurentian University where she obtained her B.A. (1974) and Nipissing for her B. Ed. (1975) Her love of knitting, doing crafts, reading, genealogy research and gardening keep her very busy.



*(Spotlight Feature continued on next page)*



## WELCOMING NEW DIOCESAN EXECUTIVE MEMBERS



### **Mary-Lynn Truchon** **North Bay Chairperson**

Mary-Lynn is a lifelong resident of North Bay and a graduate of St. Joseph's College and St. Mary's Commercial Academy. She is a retired administrative professional, having served forty plus years in the profession she loved. This was demonstrated when serving as charter vice-president and subsequently, treasurer and president of the North Bay Chapter of the International

Association of Administrative Professionals. She is a lifelong parishioner of the Pro-Cathedral of the Assumption Parish and has used the phrase, I belonged to the Pro-Cathedral Parish even before I was born (because her adoption at birth was arranged through the Parish Priest at the time).

She has been a CWL member for thirty-three years serving on the executive in the 80's for several years and then taking a break due to family serious health issues. She also served several years on Parish Council and helped with various annual Bazaar committees as well as co-convening the Bazaar.

Retirement allowed time to be more deeply involved and this has included chairing the knitting table for the annual bazaar for over 10 years, volunteering on a Parish funeral luncheon team, now as captain. Executive positions have included Resolutions and Legislation, Recording Secretary, Membership and Organization, then President (3 years) and Past President. She received the Maple Leaf Service Pin in June 2015. At the Regional level, she served as Secretary/Treasurer, Secretary and is now looking forward to her new role as North Bay Regional Chairperson.

Mary-Lynn has been married to Ron Truchon for sixteen years, and Ron has five adult children and six grandchildren residing in Ottawa and Toronto.

Her daughter and husband live in Sudbury and she has 3 adult grandchildren also in Sudbury who she is extremely proud of! She loves reading, cooking and puts a great value on her family and wonderful circle of friends.....many are CWL sisters. She feels the CWL has brought many blessings into her life.

*(Spotlight Feature continued on next page)*

## WELCOMING NEW DIOCESAN EXECUTIVE MEMBERS



**Diane Carmichael**

### **Recording Secretary**

Diane is 55 years old and has been married for 24 years. She and her husband, Brian have 2 children, a 21 year old son and a 23 year old daughter. Brian also has a 30 year old son.

Diane is so excited to be a part of the Diocesan Executive. She has been Recording Secretary at the Parish level as well as Membership/Organization Chairperson. Her last position was the President of

the Oro-Cathedral of the Assumption CWL which she enjoyed greatly.

Diane is basically laid back in her approach and that followed in the CWL meetings. With the help of the wonderful CWL Ladies, they added a few new things to their rotation. A couple of new items: They are participating in Relay for Life and have a tea in support of women in crisis. Diane loves putting new ideas to work and getting the CWL out into the community more.

Diane tried s to get out of her box as often as she can. Her philosophy is: “if we don’t challenge ourselves, we don’t grow and change. The Lord wants us to grow closer to him daily.” When she was asked to let her name stand for the last election, she was nervous and she almost said no. But as when she was asked to be President, she had a feeling nudging her to say yes. She was invited to participate in the “Following Christ” series as a facilitator. A new faith program in the North Bay Region. Again, nerves. Again, that nudge. Her relationship with Jesus has improved. She’s constantly in conversation with Him. She sees Him in this world. Her prayer life has changed as well. Right now, she’s reading through the Bible in one year using a study book. She has met some wonderful people who inspire her to be better.

She’s met some wonderful women of the Diocesan Executive through conventions. They all have welcomed her at each occasion with such open arms and open hearts. They made her feel loved and part of a dynamic group! Our country is turning 150 years old this year. Our CWL is 97 years old! Each will continue to grow. Each will provide for the other. There are many new resolutions presented to the government to be passed into law. It’s a great feeling to know that a few of those resolutions have come from the CWL. To preserve our Catholic values. For God and Canada. Diane is looking forward to this term as Recording Secretary. She wonders what will she learn? What will challenge her?

Diane’s prayer: “Heavenly Father, thank you for this opportunity to serve you. Grant me the knowledge and courage to perform at my best. Remind me of our love and patience. Guide me to show Your love and patience to others. Through our Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.”

*(Spotlight Feature continued on next page)*

***NEXT ISSUE: We will be  
spotlighting Parish Council  
CWL Presidents!***



*Special thank you to members of an ad hoc committee comprised of Karen McDonald, Lisa Henry, Ann Koivu and Colleen Murphy who have reviewed the Diocesan website and made recommendations to refresh the site. Stay tuned for updates coming soon!*



*Don't forget web Wednesdays!  
A great day to visit the websites  
and stay informed!*

*Diocesan [ssmcwl.ca](http://ssmcwl.ca)  
Provincial [cwl.on.ca](http://cwl.on.ca)  
National [cwl.ca](http://cwl.ca)*

*Like us on Facebook and follow us for the latest updates!*

- *@SSMCWL*
- *Ontario Provincial Council of the Catholic Women's League of Canada*



***97th Annual SSM Diocesan CWL Convention  
April 28-30, 2017 North Bay Ontario***

**Elections were held at this year's Diocesan Convention.  
Prayer filled thanks to Anna Tremblay, Ann Koivu, Nancy Shank, Doris  
Labelle and Laurette Woodliffe for their faithful service on the executive  
as they leave their offices/chairpersons role.**

**The 2017-2019 SSM Diocesan Executive under spiritual guidance of Fr.  
Trevor Scarfone and the leadership of Diocesan President Elizabeth  
(Betsy) Currier welcomes new members as a result of this year's elections:**

Diane Carmichael	Recording Secretary
Kathleen Niro	Christian Family Life Chairperson
Susan Godin	Resolutions Chairperson
Marcelle Beaulieu	Spiritual Development Chairperson
Christine Bot	Regional Chairperson-Sault Ste. Marie
Mary-Lynn Truchon	Regional Chairperson-North Bay
Sue Quackenbush	Regional Chairperson-Sudbury

*and returning members*

Karen McDonald	Past President/Historian
Cathy McKinney	President Elect
Giselle Floyd	1st Vice-President-Community Life
Lisa Henry	2nd Vice-President—Education & Health
Bev Michaud	Treasurer
Rhonda DeGraw	Legislation Chairperson
Marlene Sawko	Corresponding Secretary Chairperson
Patricia Clizia	Communications Chairperson



Absent from photo: Kathleen Niro, Mary-Lynn Truchon, Chris Bot,  
Sue Quackenbush.



*97th SSM Diocesan  
Convention Memories*



*97th SSM Diocesan  
Convention Memories*



**To see additional photos,  
visit the Diocesan Council  
CWL Website today!**

[ssmcwl.ca](http://ssmcwl.ca)





## Ontario Provincial CWL Convention July 2017 Thunder Bay, Ontario

Feeling very patriotic in Canada's 150th year, the Dioceses of Sault Ste. Marie was well represented at this year's Ontario Provincial CWL Convention held in Thunder Bay, Ontario.



SSM Diocesan President Betsy Currier with 2nd Vice-President Giselle Floyd assist in the crowning of Mary on the first day of convention in Thunder Bay.

Newly elected to Ontario Provincial Council, Karen accepts the flame from President Ann Madden During the installation of officers at the closing Mass of the 2017 OPC CWL Convention.



**Congratulations!**  
**May God continue to bless your leadership in the**  
**League and Mary our Lady of Good Counsel continue**  
**to guide your works as you serve as a member of the**  
**Ontario Provincial CWL Executive.**

Linda Squarzolo	1st Vice-President & Christian Family Life
Anna Tremblay	Spiritual Development Chairperson
Karen McDonald	Legislation Chairperson
Betsy Currier	President—SSM Diocesan Council



Delegates from the SSM Diocese attend the 70th annual OPC CWL Convention. Missing from photo: Rhonda DeGraw. From left: Betsy Currier, Anna Tremblay, Theresa McGuire, Cathy McKinney, Linda Squarzolo, Giselle Floyd, Kathleen Niro, Karen McDonald, Lisa Henry.

*OPC Convention 2017 Thunder Bay*



**Mark your  
calendar, call a  
friend and plan to  
attend in 2018!**

The 71st Annual Ontario Provincial CWL Convention will be held July 7—11, 2018 .



**National CWL Convention August 2017  
Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island**

*Mary is beautiful!*



*The lobster was delicious...and  
plentiful !*

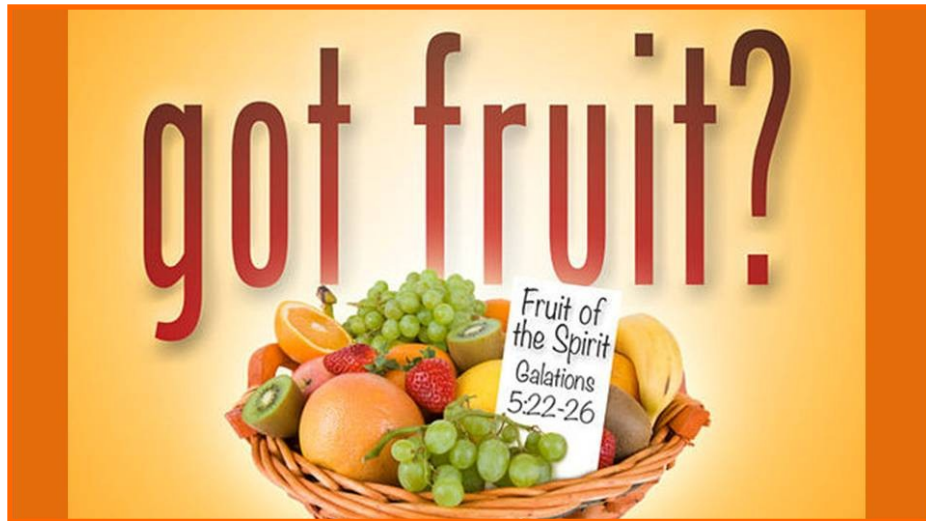
*And ....  
the delegates from the SSM  
Diocese and friends  
had a wonderful time....  
Ted joined us too!*



*Missed National this  
year?*

*Travel by train to  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
for the 98th Annual  
National CWL  
Convention*


*August 11—15, 2018*



*We have comprised an ad-hoc newsletter committee which includes members of the Diocesan Executive and the three Regional Chairpersons.*

*In the **Spring 2018** Issue of the SSM Diocesan Newsletter, we will be introducing the Parish Council Presidents and including highlight information from the three regions that comprise the SSM Diocesan CWL Council.*

*Let's fill our fruit baskets! We look forward to hearing from you all and including pictures from pin services, council anniversaries, parish CWL council events, special presentations and your teams harvesting a bounty of fruit!*

  
 The fruit of the Spirit is Love.  
 Love smiling is joy. Love resting is peace.  
 Love waiting is patience. Love yielding is gentleness.  
 Love proving constant is faithfulness. Love  
 tolerating and sacrificing is goodness. Love  
 triumphing over selfishness is self-control.  
 Love showing sensitivity to others'  
 feelings is kindness.