



Faith...Service...Social Justice

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

In the spirit of Truth and Reconciliation, we would like to acknowledge that Thunder Bay is built on the traditional territory of the Anishinabek, which includes the Ojibwa of Fort William First Nation, signatory to the Robinson-Superior Treaty of 1850. We also acknowledge the contributions of the Métis peoples. As settlers, immigrants and descendants, and as visitors, we honour and respect the many Indigenous peoples of this land and territory and hope for a more just future together as treaty people.

*"life is a journey, along different roads, different paths, which leave their mark on us."
- Pope Francis*

Our provincial president, Colleen in her message for September states: *"The Ontario Provincial Council is reading The Joy of the Gospel together. The first line of this encyclical states, "THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus." Then, the first section is titled, "A JOY EVER NEW, A JOY WHICH IS SHARED." I got so excited as I started to read, and each line spoke to my discernment of my theme. If each member of the League encounters Jesus in the other, how powerful it is!! Someone shared this graphic with me which shows the sunflower and bee themes together. I am suggesting we BEE the difference in drawing others closer to our light, the Son; like the sunflower turns toward its light, the sun....Holy Father Pope Francis shares examples inviting us to rejoice in*

his introduction to *The Joy of the Gospel*. "Rejoice!" is the angel's greeting to Mary (Lk 1:28). Mary's visit to Elizabeth makes John leap for joy in his mother's womb (cf. Lk 1:41). In her song of praise, Mary proclaims: "My spirit rejoices in God my saviour" (Lk 1:47). When Jesus begins his ministry, John cries out: "For this reason, my joy has been fulfilled" (Jn 3:29). Jesus himself "rejoiced in the Holy Spirit" (Lk 10:21). His message brings us joy: "I have said these things to you, so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete" (Jn 15:11). In the Acts of the Apostles, we read wherever the disciples went, "there was great joy" (8:8); even amid persecution they continued to be "filled with joy" (13:52). If we see the League as a safe space for women's ministry, we will develop deep relationships. The kind of relationship where we share "the inner workings of our heart-prayers, aspirations, insecurities, and places where God is challenging me or allowing me to struggle." [from joyful momentum, Elizabeth A. Tomlin]."

- Perhaps you would like to read *The Joy of the Gospel*...talk with your friends...a wonderful opportunity....

The Catholic Women's League of Canada is many things to many people:

- A sisterhood of support and understanding that is more than 63,000 members strong
- A way to act on important social justice issues by adding your voice to many
- An opportunity to be of service to your community, to the country and to God
- A chance to live your faith with those who share it

ANNUAL FEE IS \$35

We would love to be able to remember you in prayer on your birthday...if you have not provided us with the date and your email address please contact Joan...she will update our records...

Any questions about renewing your membership or joining please contact Joan Joubert: 622-4754 or joubertj@tbaytel.net

"Birthdays need to be celebrated. I think it is more important to celebrate a birthday than a successful exam, a promotion, or a victory. Because to celebrate a birthday means to say to someone: "Thank you for being you." Celebrating a birthday is exalting life and being glad for it. On a birthday we do not say: "Thanks for what you did, or said, or accomplished." No, we say: "Thank you for being born and being among us."

On birthdays we celebrate the present. We do not complain about what happened or speculate about what will happen, but we lift someone up and let everyone say: "We love you." Henry Nouwen

The following women will be celebrating birthdays in September: Melvina Herman, Presley Kuoppa-Aho, Evelyn Kushnier, Geraldine Luzzi, Serafina Mammoliti, Carmel Sajna, Monica Speer and Alyxandra Lyght. Remember each of these wonderful women in your prayers as they celebrate their birthdays and remember the following who celebrated birthdays in July and August: Joleene Kemp, Katie Kuoppa-Aho, Leah Salini, Linda Bukovy, Dorothy Grant, Elizabeth Kovacs, Fae Lyngstad, Ica Micsko, Helen Plouffe, and Mary Rabachuk.

From this month's ON-LINE comes the following:

Pages 3 and 4 have photos to go with the names of the New Ontario Provincial Council...what a great introduction for us to begin to get to know those who have stepped forward to share their gifts...let us remember them in our prayers as they begin this new journey

Faith Chairperson, Claudette Langdon has as her goal the following: *"to strengthen engagement by interacting regularly with the Faith Chairs at both Diocesan and Parish levels."*

Service Chairperson, Sue Lubowitz states: *"Over this term, we will work together to better understand how our work is needed more than ever. We must begin to think of all we do as beyond the very limited meaning of the word "charity" as it is usually thought of and used today. Charity should be used interchangeably with the word "love"; a sanctifying love that is God's own energy."*

Social Justice Chairperson, Hilarion Mitchell shared the following: "During the 77th Ontario Provincial Convention in July 2024 in Sudbury, the following resolutions gifted by Sault Ste Marie and Toronto dioceses were adopted.

- ON.24.01 Elimination of the Mature Minor Doctrine in Mental Health
- ON.24.02 National School Food Program for All

The first will be posted to the Ontario website and actioned by the provincial council. The second included a bridging clause to national council. It was not accepted due to the announcement by the federal government in its spring budget to fund a national school food program. The national social justice chair encouraged the Ontario president to ask members to monitor the implementation to see if it is realized and sustainable; and, if it is not, to consider another resolution at that time."

- Further information pertaining to the above two resolutions can be found on page 12 of this month's ON-LINE

Hopefully this taste of some of the items in the newsletter will tempt each of you to use the following link to go and read and see more: <https://cwl.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/ON-LINE-NEWSLETTER-SEPTEMBER-2024.pdf>

Msgr. Pat has also placed the link on our parish website.

UPCOMING EVENTS – MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

The Toronto Diocesan Council presents: Stewardship in the CWL – Elections

Presented by Past President Sue Lubowitz

Wednesday, September 18th... 7 PM

Topics to be covered: Member Engagement Dilemma, Being Proactive, When do we start?, and The joy of leadership

Deadline to register: September 17th

To register for this virtual event contact: **Andrea Tijoe** a_tjioe@yahoo.com

A Webinar on the National Communications Plan

You are welcome to attend a free webinar on **September 24th, 2024 at 6:00 PM CDT. (8 PM Thunder Bay time)**

To Register, click here: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/5234663151067613022>

Join National Secretary-Treasurer Dorothy Johansen as she discusses the new national communication plan and the steps the national board has taken to strengthen communications throughout the League.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Coming soon: Stay tuned for an upcoming event for our Indigenous peoples. Mark September 30, 2024 on your calendar...have your orange shirt ready to show support, details to follow...

Our Lady of the Rosary Webinar

Members are invited to the Our Lady of the Rosary Webinar, a time of prayer and reflection ushering in World Rosary Day on October 7th in preparation for the event of grace of Jubilee 2025 with:

- Shari Guinta, National President
- Bishop Wayne Lobsinger, National Spiritual Advisor
- Rolande Chernichan, National Chairperson of Faith

on Sunday, October 6, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. CDT. (4 PM Thunder Bay time)

Register for the webinar at:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4997692007285059414>

Continuing events:

- Divine Mercy Chaplet for Peace in Ukraine
The Chaplet will be prayed via zoom every morning at 8:00 am (EST) 7:00 am (CST)...

Open to anyone. Feel free to join any day until peace returns to Ukraine:
Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82848869346?pwd=WmJac2RXZTlhYWdzZlhmNjZBYytKdz09>

Important Dates

- **September 29...September Gathering...immediately following the 10:30 Mass...check the parish bulletin for details!!!!**

Keep checking the following websites to see what is happening in the CWL world there is something new almost every day:

Diocesan website is: www.cwlthunderbay.org

Provincial website is: www.cwl.on.ca

National website is: www.cwl.ca

Development and Peace website: www.devp.org

“Joy is essential to the spiritual life. Whatever we may think of or say about God, when we are not joyful, our thoughts and words cannot bear fruit. Jesus reveals to us God’s love so that his joy may become ours and that our joy may become complete. Joy is the experience of knowing that you are unconditionally loved and that nothing—sickness, failure, emotional distress, oppression, war, or even death—can take that love away.

Joy is not the same as happiness. We can be unhappy about many things, but joy can still be there because it comes from the knowledge of God’s love for us. . . . Joy does not simply happen to us. We have to choose joy and keep choosing it every day. It is a choice based on the knowledge that we belong to God and have found in God our refuge and our safety and that nothing, not even death, can take God away from us.”

Henri Nouwen

“Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.” - 1 Peter 1: 8, 9 (NIV)