

Saint Charles Catholic Women's League February 2017 Newsletter

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



The year 2017 marks the 50th anniversary of Development and Peace. For five decades, Development and Peace has been in solidarity with worldwide social movements in addressing injustice and creating change. The important work of development and Peace continues and it is important that we, as a Council, continue to support this cause. Together with Development and Peace, we can help women of Afghanistan, Haiti and Sierra Leone obtain the skills they need to become stronger voices in their communities. Solidarity teaches us that we are one human family and we work for peace and development of all nations. The Saint Charles CWL donates yearly to Development and Peace.

Black History Month

- February is Black History Month. Check out the face of the new \$10 bill, Viola Desmond. In 1946, Viola Desmond's stand at a segregated Nova Scotia movie theatre made her into a civil-rights icon for black Canadians. Viola Desmond was the first historical woman of color to be featured in one of Canada's *Heritage Minute* videos.
- Hundreds of African-Americans, fleeing escalating racial tension and segregation in the United States, settled in Alberta. One such community is the forgotten town of Amber Valley (100 km north of Edmonton). A documentary has been made to remember Amber Valley. Check the video ***Secret Alberta : The Former Life of Amber Valley***.

World Day of Prayer: March 3 at 7 pm

The World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical movement that brings Christians of many traditions together to observe a common day of prayer each year on the first Friday of March.

The 2017 World Day of Prayer Service for this area will be held on Friday, March 3 at 7:00 pm at Chalmers Castle Downs United Church (12315 – 132 Ave.)

The theme of this year's service is: "Am I being Unfair to You?" This year's service features the women of the Philippines. Join our neighbours in celebrating World Day of Prayer. Everyone welcome and bring a friend.

Challenge 150 for 150 - Happy Birthday Canada!

Volunteering creates a lasting legacy that transforms the lives of people who volunteer and the people that benefit. To celebrate the 150th Anniversary of Canada, all Canadians are invited to give 150 hours of their time during 2017 and give back to your community and your country.

The Saint Charles Catholic Women's League is ready for the challenge and we propose to do it as a group rather than individuals.

To all members of CWL, this is an easy challenge as you already do a fair number of volunteer hours. All you do for CWL, the Church and the community counts as volunteer hours: the sandwiches you make for a funeral lunch, helping at the Bistro, making telephone calls, etc... these are volunteer hours and we wish to acknowledge all that we do. With this challenge, we can acknowledge all CWL members who help in one way or another. Remember, little things mean a lot and we thank you for your dedication to the causes we support; so count yourself in!

All you have to do is either keep track of your volunteer hours (or estimate) the number and at the end of the year all these hours will be added up for an extremely impressive total. We will be asking you for that number.

Lenten Message from the President - Don't give up chocolate !

Lent will be upon us shortly. It is a holy time of introspection and penance in preparation for the passion, death, Resurrection, and Ascension of Jesus Christ.

Lent often brings about childhood memories. I remember one year my mother decided that we would say the rosary every night during Lent. So every night after supper we would gather in the living room with each a rosary, my parents and children aging from 5 to 15. The first week went extremely well. The sessions ended however when we began imagining our rosaries were lassos and swinging them over our heads.

The moral of this story is not the fact that we did not manage 40 days of the rosary, but that the intentions were good, and the days the rosary was completed were very devout moments, nor did this diminish our faith.

The holy season of Lent is an opportunity for each of us to take stock of our relationship with the Lord and especially with each other. So don't give up chocolate, do something nice for one another.

Yvette d'Entremont

100 Anniversary Lap Quilt Challenge: The Lap Quilt committee is asking CWL members for assistance with this project. They are looking for the following:

- Donations of 100% Cotton material
- Members and non-members to help in the sewing bee
- Praying for the people who will receive the quilts
- Write notes to go along with the quilts

For further information please contact the Lap Quilt committee.

Diocesan Survey: Please remember to complete and return your surveys to Yvette d'Entremont by March 2, 2017.

Thank you: to all those who helped in one way or another with the luncheon February 17 at the Oblate Feast Day and during Family Day.

Upcoming events :

- **Zone 9 Meeting:** Thursday, February 23rd at St. Alphonsus located at 11828-85 Street. Registration at 6:30 pm and Meeting at 7:00 pm.
- **World Day of Prayer -** March 3
- **Parish Mission –** March 6-8 (7 pm each evening)
Speaker: Mike Landry, Chaplain Evergreen Catholic Schools
- **CWL General Meeting –** March 21 at 7 pm
- **Stations of the Cross – March 24 at 7 pm.** CWL is leading the Stations of the Cross on March 24. All are invited.

