



ST. CHARLES CWL NEWSLETTER

March 2023

Mission Statement

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

Faith

Service

Social
Justice

From The President's Desk

Hello ladies, this has been a very busy month for me as I have officially moved to my new home in St. Albert. I am still unpacking but can see the light. My Executive has been very supportive in keeping me on track with CWL.

Our Council has successfully reviewed our annual Budget and Policies and Procedures are now up-to-date. Both have been approved. Bea Spatafora and Kathy Martel have been hard at work with Membership. Thank you for following through with getting your memberships in.

I hope that your Lenten journey has been a spiritual renewal. We had a good turn out of members for the Stations of the Cross, and were very appreciative to have Rose Potter take the lead on this event. There are many opportunities to join in Webinars for Lenten renewal. Bev Jensen has been keeping us all well-informed through her role in the Communication Standing position. Recently she emailed the Webinar events offered to CWL. Hopefully you are able to join in on one of these webinars.

If you need to reach me, please call my cell phone at **(780) 916-2414**.

**Blessings,
Rita Pfefferle, President**

Faith

Stations of the Cross

Eleven men and ladies attended the CWL's evening for the Stations of the Cross on February 24, 2023. Many thanks to Rose Potter and Deacon Joseph for leading the participants.

Diocesan Quilt Project

The quilt is made up of twelve blocks, each block depicts a Woman Saint who made a mark on the Catholic World. The councils that have signed up to help make the quilt were given a chosen Saint, with a quilt pattern and fabric. Our Lady of Good Counsel was the Saint assigned to St Charles. Our assignment was to make the quilt block and write a very short story about her. The finished quilt will be presented at the Diocesan Convention in Red Deer in April.



Our Lady of Good Counsel

Catholics have a strong devotion to Mary and are inspired by her life, and the role she plays in our own lives. A number of churches have been built and devoted to Mary. Perhaps the most intriguing one is the church at Shkodra in Albania (also known as Scutari). In a small Italian village of Genazzano, some thirty miles from Rome, a woman named Petruccia de Genoa saw the need to repair, restore and beautify the church when it was in ruins. This was a church of special devotion and was protected through the intercession of Mary. The title of Our Lady of Good Counsel was given to the Blessed Virgin Mary after a painting said to be miraculous was found. The beautiful painting above the main altar drew large crowds. Word about a miraculous image began to spread. It was on St Mark's Day, April 25, 1467, that a portrait of the Blessed Virgin and the Christ Child was seen suspended on top of a wall. Pilgrims began coming and miracles were reported. Pope Paul II (1464-71) sent two bishops to investigate. Pope Urban VIII went on a pilgrimage to Genazzano in 1630 as did Pope Pius IX in 1864. It was in 1884 that Pope Leo XIII raised this church to a minor Basilica. In 1904 he inserted the invocation of Our Lady of Good Counsel in the Litany of the Blessed Virgin. The 1988 revision of Masses of the Blessed Virgin includes a Mass under Mother of Good Counsel.

Our Lady of Good Counsel became a symbol of lay involvement and responsibility due to Petruccia and her devotion to the restoration of the church in Genazzano. It was only natural that the World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations chose Our Lady of Good Counsel for their patroness when they formed in 1910. The Catholic Women's League of Canada was invited to join the World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations in 1920 and in 1923 took the same patroness. It was at the national convention in 1923, in Halifax, that a resolution was passed to adopt Our Lady of Good Counsel as the League's patroness. As our patroness, we look to her for wisdom and guidance as we face difficult decisions in life.

Funeral Lunches

On March 10th, 2023, the Funeral Lunch Committee catered their first funeral lunch since the service was re-instituted after shutting down due to Covid. There were 60 people in attendance. Four 4 volunteers looked after the preparation, serving and clean-up. Any members who are interested in becoming a volunteer for the Funeral Lunch Committee may contact Rose Hearn at 780-915-0166 or email her at khearn@live.com.

Visiting Our Elderly

Kathy Martel and Marie-Paul Peterson drove out to Barrhead to visit Vera Huber who is now 92 years young and living in a seniors facility there. Vera was a cheerful lady and was a very active member of our Council, helping out with many our activities, including funeral lunches and the bazaar, to name a few.



At the March General Meeting, it was decided that our Council will host a bake sale on **June 10th and 11th**, in conjunction with the sale of items from the Carmelite Nuns. Katherine Tarras has graciously volunteered to convene the bake sale but would like a co-convenor. If you can help, please contact Katherine at katarras@shaw.ca



Mark Your Calendar! June Social - June 20th

The theme for this year's social is "Victorian", based on the series "Downton Abbey".

Downton Abbey is based in 1920 England which was also the flapper years. So, dig out your pearls, your lace

dress or your flapper dress and join us for a catered supper, good company and a fun evening as a wrap-up of our CWL events before we break for the summer. Watch for more information in the upcoming months.

Yvette d'Entremont
June Social Convenor

CWL Diocesan Book Project

Thank you to Connie McBride for leading our Council in the selection of the books for the Diocesan Book Project. Connie and Rita Pfefferle delivered the books to St. Lucy's, St. Charles, Bishop Savaryn and Bishop Greschuk elementary schools on March 14th, 2023. The schools were presented with 2 books each. The books included a sticker (designed by Bea Spatafora) placed on the inside cover to indicate that the donation was from St. Charles Catholic Women's League. The staff of the schools were very grateful to receive the books.



Bishop Savaryn Principal Nicole Thomlinson



St. Lucy Principal Phebe Switzer



Bishop Greschuk Principal Leana Perri

St. Charles Secretary Mrs. Jackson





Membership

**Spring is almost Sprung
The Grass is still brown
And your CWL membership
Can be paid all year round!**

First off, a huge thank you to all our members who have renewed their CWL membership for 2023!! And welcome to some members who have returned after some time away, transferred from other councils or newly joined us!! We are so happy each and every one of you have chosen to be part of the St. Charles Catholic Women's League. We are proud to report we are 92 members strong this year and still growing!!

For those who haven't yet paid your 2023 membership (now \$40) it's not too late; we can accept membership payments for either the current year (2023) or prior year (2022-\$30) up until October 2023; just prior to starting next year's membership drive.

Fees can be paid by:

- Mailing Bea Spatafora Organization Convener
14407 130 St, Edmonton, AB T6V 1E2*
- Dropping envelope in the offertory basket at mass, or leaving at the parish office
- E-transferring \$ to Bea at bspat@shaw.ca
- Bringing cash/cheque to a general meeting

***Please do not send cash through the mail AND, be sure to include your name, address & phone # with your remittance.**

If you've had a chance to join us at our Tuesday night meetings or partake in a CWL event (CWL socials, family fun day, funeral lunches), you've already experienced the joy of re-connecting with our sisters in-person. If you haven't ventured out yet, please consider coming out to a meeting and reconnecting; feel free to bring a friend who is or may be considering becoming a member as well. There are so many positive reasons to join/return, including:

- We build friendships with other sisters of the League, feeling their support in our times of need and being there for others in theirs.
- We unite and celebrate our faith through the many social activities we partake in
- We have a comradery in our Faith
- We take on Social Justice issues
- We have ample opportunities to make our Parish, our community and our world a better place through the connections we've made.

For questions please contact Bea at 780-399-9459 OR contact Kathy Martel at 780-456-0760 or kathymartel780@yahoo.ca who is currently helping Bea out.

Sharing the Words From Our National Sisterhood Map

CHANGE

5

Are you ready to transform your spiritual life, serve others and act on social justice issues? This change is possible when you join the Catholic Women's League. It has all these values at the heart of its mission.

CHARITY

6

Catholic Women's League councils provide an opportunity for others to contribute monetary aid through fundraising activities that create awareness and community building. Be part of this organization that gives to others.

Laughter is Good for the Soul

Reginald was terribly overweight, so his doctor placed him on a strict diet.



"I want you to eat regularly for two days, then skip a day, and repeat this procedure for two weeks. The next time I see you, you'll have lost at least five pounds" his doctor assured him.

When Reginald returned he shocked his doctor by having lost almost twenty pounds.

"Why, that's amazing," the doctor said, greatly impressed, "You certainly must have followed my instructions."

Reginald nodded, "I'll tell you what though, I thought I was going to drop dead on the third day."

"Why, from hunger?" asked his doctor.

"No, from all that skipping."

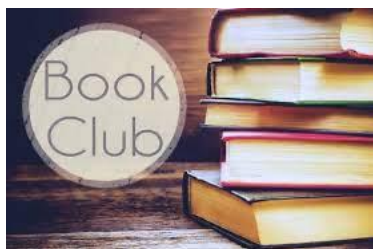


QUICK LINKS

National Website: www.cwl.ca

Provincial Council Website: www.cwl.ab.ca

Diocesan Council: www.edmontoncwl.org



CWL Virtual Book Club February Readings

1. ***The Lost Years*** – Mary Higgins Clark

Biblical scholar Jonathan Lyons is found murdered after he believes that he has found the rarest of parchments, a letter that may have been written by Jesus Christ to Joseph of Arimathea.

2. ***The Missing Informant*** – Anders de la Motte

David works in intelligence for the Stockholm police and has been involved in a car accident. He remembers nothing about the last two years but knows he has done something wrong.

3. ***The Cat's Table*** - Michael Ondaatje

An eleven-year-old boy in Colombo boards a subject bound for England. At mealtimes he is seated at the “cat’s table”, as far from the Captain’s Table as can be, with a ragtag group of insignificant adults and two other boys. The boys tumble from one adventure to another.

4. ***Spare*** – Prince Harry

Prince Harry’s memoir

5. ***Hallowe’en Party*** -Agatha Christie

A teenage murder witness is drowned in a tub of apples.

6. ***The Reading List*** – Sara Nisha Adams

A chance encounter with a list of library books helps forge an unlikely friendship between two very different people in a London suburb.

7. ***Rise and Shine Benedict Stone*** – Phaedra Patrick

Filled with colorful characters and irresistible charm, Rise and Shine, Benedict Stone is a luminous reminder of the unbreakable bonds of family, and shows that having someone to embrace life with is always better than standing on your own.

NEXT BOOK CLUB MEETING: Thursday, April 27th

Important Dates

April 18th

April 28th – 30th

May 16th

June 2nd – 3rd

June 10th & 11th

Tuesday, June 20th

Thursday, October 19th

Friday, October 20th

Saturday, October 21st

Tuesday, December 12

General Meeting

Edmonton Diocesan Convention (Red Deer)

General Meeting

Provincial Convention (Edmonton)

Bake Sale

June Social

Bazaar Prep & Set-up

Bazaar Prep & Set-up

Fall Tea & Bazaar

Christmas Social

ST. CHARLES CWL PRAYER LIST

February 2023

*Please pray for our CWL members and our Council
and for seminarian Ben Wilkins on his journey to respond to God's call*

*Prayers for peace in the Ukraine
Prayers for doctors, nurses, LPNs, and all health workers
Prayers for Pope Francis*

For those who are sick and all who look after them:

Georgie Alexander (sister of Kathy Martel)
Larry Belanger (husband of Norma Belanger)
Margaret Bernard
Noella Biollo (Evelyn Radostits' daughter)
Father J.D. Carmichael
Jacqueline Cuerrier
Melissa Cuerrier (daughter of Jacqueline Cuerrier)
Margaret, Mary & Peter Gartner (siblings of Rose Potter)
Matt Klassen (Lynn Cristini's grandson)
Annet Maitwe and AIM school
Hope Maitwe & baby Ryder (daughter of Annet Maitwe)
Rafael Martel (grandson of Kathy Martel)
Marie Phillips
Evelyn Radostits
Gemma Roque
Mark Pagtakham (Gemma's nephew)
Liesse Saldanha
Agnes Sam
Marlene Schmidt
Bea Spatafora
Marie Strauss (Kathleen Oswald's sister)
Faye Tkachuk
Lily Webb
Mary Ziska
Celine deVries-Stadler (Marie-Paul Petersen's daughter)
John Bucci (husband of Simone Bucci)
Bernard Bouma (brother of Katherine Tarras)

For those who have died and all who mourn them:

*Sister Tarcienne Meunier, fj (sister of Olive Byer)
Please contact **Kathy Martel** at 780-456-0760 or kathymartel780@yahoo.ca to add names.*

