



ST. CHARLES CWL NEWSLETTER

May 2024

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



May is when we celebrated Mothers on earth and our Heavenly Mother– Mary The Blessed Virgin. The entire month of May is set aside for Mary to honour the Mother of Jesus. This custom became widespread during the 19th century and remains in practice until today. We honour her by praying the Hail Mary, saying the Rosary and placing a crown of blossoms on her

statue as a reminder of her virtue and beauty.



As for the history of Mother's Day, it began as a women's movement to better lives in the U.S. in around the 1860's – 1870's . Activists who worked towards better health, welfare and peace. The creation of a national Mother's Day is primarily attributed to three women: Ann Reeves Jarvis, Julia Ward Howe, and Ann's daughter, Anna M. Jarvis – in 1907 Anna had organized a memorial for her mother and the following year a service was organized to honour every mother living or deceased. Thus, Mother's Day was born on the second Sunday of May.

Mother's Day in Canada was first celebrated in 1908, organized by Anne Webb Blaine in Ontario. It began an annual tradition and was officially recognized by the Canadian Parliament in 1914, inspired by Ann Jarvis' efforts. This celebration, the second Sunday in May and has become a popular tradition across the country and around the world. This day is to honour and celebrate the love, devotion and sacrifices of mothers and mother figures.



Our Mother Mary, pray for us and keep us strong in our Faith.

I pray you all had a Blessed Mother's Day!

If you need to get in touch with me, you can be reached **through text or email** at **780-916-9728** or kabtarras@gmail.com.

Katherine Tarras, President

Conversations of the Spirit for Synodal Consultations

On Tuesday April, 23rd I attended virtually the Conversations of the Spirit for Synodal consultations that follow a discernment model of encounter, active listening, shared silence, and collaboration of the Spirit in promoting wider participation, deeper communion and increased attention on the Gospel mission and the presence of the living God in all those who gather in the name of Christ.

I was joined by 8 other ladies from as far away as Ireland, New Jersey, Vancouver, Montreal and the East Coast who were invited to share insights about the role of women in the Church. Our discussion was led prayerfully with regards to how the Church can include women in existing roles and ministries, and in changing the structures of the church to incorporate new roles and ministries. There was honest sharing of members' roles in the Church with regards to their experiences as women who share their gifts and charisms in the ecclesial community. Most women have felt included in the church in Canada and welcomed to serve in various roles. Women are generally viewed as models of cooperation and compassion who are commonly in supportive roles in the church.

As a consensus, it was agreed upon that in order to grow, act and respond in the future of the Church, we need to include women in leadership positions such as Deacons, or at least more relatable, visible ministries for the well being of the Church. There was a mutual understanding and respect for the support of women in overcoming our lack of inner confidence and fears with regards to undervaluing our inherent gifts and talents. I would highly recommend this valuable Synodal experience to my fellow CWL members. It was validating, encouraging and uplifting for all who attended.

Teresa McGrath
Spiritual Convenor



Up to mid-May there was one funeral for 200 people as an evening vigil lunch. Lunch was served at 7 pm. The CWL ladies offered sweets, fruit and beverages. The family provided their own catered food. It was a bit more work for organizing as the steam tables had to be set up. We had 6 CWL members prepare the snacks and 5 Knights of Columbus on cleanup.

Thank you to all our Ministry contributors of food, time and energy. You are all so generous.

The Funeral Lunch Ministry will shut down for July and August as our team will be away on vacation. 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.

CWL Aprons Available for Purchase

There has been some interest from our members, particularly those helping with the funeral lunches, regarding the purchase of CWL aprons (see advertisement below). There was a discussion at the May General meeting that our Council should consider making a bulk purchase of aprons which will lower the cost of shipping. These aprons will be available for purchase by our members who will then be responsible for their own laundering, etc. If you are interested in purchasing an apron, please contact Katherine Tarras **by June 18th through text at 780-916-9728 or or email kabtarras@gmail.com.**

2025 ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION, TORONTO, ONTARIO



APRON FUNDRAISER

This handy apron, available in blue, is imprinted with the League crest. It is a one size fits most with a neck strap and waist ties to keep the apron in place. There are two spacious front bottom pockets to hold pens, paper pads, cell phones and other essentials. Great for those League functions.

**Price: \$20.00 each +
\$6.00 postage & shipping****

**** For orders of two or more please contact Lucia Vacca by email or telephone number provided for more shipping cost details.**

Make cheques payable to:

The Catholic Women's League of Canada

Send your order and payment to:

Lucia Vacca 187 Calverley Trail, Toronto, Ontario M1C 3Y4

For more information:

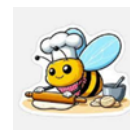
Email: lucia.vacca@sympatico.ca or Telephone: (416) 283-3536

Green Thumbs Needed

Our church needs some summer flower pots for the front entrance and some greenery for the large flower bed by the entrance of the church by the road. CWL has set aside \$200.00 for this project. If there are any members who enjoy working with plants and flowers and would like to take on this project of beautifying our church entrance, please contact Katherine Tarras **by June 18th through text at 780-916-9728 or or email kabtarras@gmail.com.**

Calling All Baking Bees....

Our yearly Bazaar is on it's way, which means we are looking for wonderful volunteers to assist with Cookie Baking to help make the Bazaar a success. The Cookie Baking Bee will be held on Wednesday, September 25th at 9:00 AM in the Parish kitchen. Come spend some fun time baking and chatting with awesome folks. Your help is most welcomed and much appreciated. Please call **Jerri Gajewski at (780) 953-7560.**



TICKETS NOW ON SALE... FOR OUR CWL YEAR-END SOCIAL ON JUNE 11TH: A MOD-HATTER EVENT



It's the most wonderful time of the year! Our year-end Social has been booked and promises to be a must-attend event.

We have 19 members receiving service awards this year, including both a 50 year and a 75 year service award/

Our theme is "Celebrating the Many Hats Women Wear" and we invite all guests (members and female guests/non-members) to design/wear a special hat celebrating their careers, interests or hobbies, or just simply your favorite hat. Note: This will be a Ladies Night Out event.

The evening will include a dinner, beverages, wine (toonie-bar) and door prizes, including a prize for THE BEST HAT, as voted by all who attend.

Tickets for members will be \$20. You are welcome to bring a female guest; non-member tickets are available for \$30 (payable by cash or cheque).

Tickets will be on sale after masses on June 1st. You can also call/email Bea to purchase tickets. Contact information is available under the Organization section of this newsletter.

*Final day to purchase a ticket for this event will be Sunday, June 2nd.**

This all takes place on Tuesday, June 11th, in the St. Charles Activity Centre, commencing at 5:30 pm.

**Co-Convenors
Irene Midgley & Bea Spatafora**

Social Justice

Winter Quilt Project

The CWL Winter Quilt Project began in October with the objective of providing quilts made by St Charles CWL to WINGS of Providence. The project is completed and we have made fourteen quilts to donate. Three members spearheaded the project: Yvette d'Entremont, Connie McBride, and Monika Murnane. These three ladies volunteered to quilt all quilt tops that were donated to the project. Some finished quilts were also donated to the project by members of the CWL and by other quilting friends. The fourteen quilts will be delivered to WINGS of Providence as soon as possible. We offer a huge Thank You to these three ladies for all this quilting. Thank you to the members of CWL and our friends who donated to this worthy cause. It was a difficult project but we are pleased with the results.



Submitted by Yvette d'Entremont

Winter Quilt Project Photos



CWL Donates to the Parish

At the May General meeting, our members voted to donate **\$5,000.00** to St. Charles Parish towards extra-ordinary maintenance expenses which are of high priority. The motion included a request for a report from the Maintenance Committee as to how the funds are spent. That information will be shared with the members once received.

A big thank you to our members who have been a part of our major fund raisers, the result of which enabled our Council to have excess funds to donate to the Parish.





Reminder - October 19, 2024.

The following ladies have graciously taken on convenor roles for this year's function:

Chair	Irene Midgley	780-984-9229	irenemidgley@yahoo.com
Advertising	Rose Hearn	780-435-0783	khearn@live.com
Online Advertising	Irene Midgley	780-984-9229	irenemidgley@yahoo.com
Vendors	Barb Roth	780-457-1241	barbroth@shaw.ca
Kitchen	Bev Jensen	780-457-1696	tagejen@shaw.ca
Kitchen	Rachelle Pouliot	780-475-6500	georgepouliot@gmail.ca
Bake Table	Jerika (Jeri) Gajewski	780-953-7560	jgaje@shaw.ca
Craft Table	Bea Spatafora	780-476-1051	bspat@shaw.ca
Multi-Raffle	Tina Casella	780-905-9547	Tinacasella59@gmail.com
Phoning	Kathy Martel	780-456-9181	kmartel780@gmail.com
Membership	Bea Spatafora	780-476-1051	bspat@shaw.ca
Treasurer	Crystal Cordeiro	780-966-9171	chejnar1@gmail.com

We are also looking for an additional member to join each group above (most notably the kitchen). If you have an interest in any of the areas above, or have any questions what it would entail please give the corresponding Convenor a call.

Please keep in mind, we welcome all donations and will be looking for the following items: - - -

- Homemade preserves, jams, jellies, pickles, salsa, etc.
- Crafts for our craft table – knitting, crocheted items, sewn items, kitchen towels, scrubbies, etc.
- Donations towards the multi raffle table
- Donations for the CWL Gourmet basket which will be raffled off (canned nuts, chocolates, specialty canned items, wine)
- Apples or other fruit for pies and crisps
- Baking of all kinds – bread, buns, loaves, cakes, pies, squares, cookies, fudge & other homemade treats

Our first Convenors meeting was held in May. An announcement will be made in the church bulletin the beginning of September with further details, baking bee dates, etc. In order to make this a successful event, as it is our largest fund raiser of the year, we will be requesting help from our members from time to time. Your help, time and generosity is greatly appreciated.

If you wish to offer your help as a convenor or have any questions, please feel free to **call Irene Midgley @ 780-984-9229 or email @irenemidgley@yahoo.com**

Organization

May's CWL general meeting started with the most fun 'make-your-own ice cream sundaes' as the snack during the social time, followed by a jam-packed evening full of information for the formal portion of the evening.

Some of the highlights included a substantial contribution to the church to help offset the extraordinary expenses (as outlined by Gerald Murnane at our April meeting), updates on our upcoming year-end social and October bazaar and a donation to support the Oblate Missions, in follow-up to the church visit on the weekend of May 18 & 19. To hear the news first hand and to have a say in who & how much we donate to various causes, please join us at our next General meeting.

Our next CWL get-together will be the social on June 11th at 5:30 pm in the St. Charles Activity centre. Tickets are now on sale – see "YEAR-END SOCIAL" for more information.



And Save-The-Date. Mark your calendar to attend our next General meeting on Tuesday, September 17th 6:45pm (social) & 7:15pm (meeting).**

I also like to congratulate our May door-prize winner:



- Kathleen Oswald (Tim Horton's Gift Card)

And finally, just a reminder that if you have not yet paid your 2023 &/OR 2024 dues (\$40/each year), it's not too late to purchase your membership and ensure your years-of-service remain intact. Please call or email me if you are unsure how to pay your dues.

Bea Spatafora
**Vice-President/
Organization Convenor**
Bspat@shaw.ca or 780-399-9459

Sharing the Words From Our National Sisterhood Map

INSPIRE

27 Catholic Women's League members' passion is to inspire women, to grow in faith, and to witness to the love of God through ministry and service. Need inspiration or have inspiration to share? We are excited to have you join us!

INTEGRITY

28 A hallmark of the Catholic Women's League is integrity. Members stand together in faithfulness, reliability, honesty and helping others. We are *Catholic and Living It!* Come stand with us.

Laughter is Good for the Soul

One Sunday our priest announced he was passing out miniature crosses made of palm leaves. "Put this cross in the room where your family argues most," he advised. "When you look at it, the cross will remind you that God is watching."



As I was leaving church, the woman in front of me walked up to the priest, shook his hand, and said, "I'll take five."

Important Dates

June 11	June Social
September 17	September General Meeting
September 22	Pumpkin Spice Membership Event
October 5	Fall Diocesan Meeting
October 19	Fall Bazaar
November 8th	Mass of Remembrance

Future Conventions

Provincial CWL Convention Ascension, Calgary	May 31 to June 2
104th National Convention Saskatoon, Saskatchewan Hilton Garden Inn Saskatoon Downtown 90 22nd Street East, Saskatoon, SK Visit https://www.cwl.ca/saskatoon-2024/ for more information.	August 11-14, 2024



QUICK LINKS

National Website: www.cwl.ca
Provincial Council Website: www.cwl.ab.ca
Diocesan Council: www.edmontoncwl.org

CWL Virtual BYOB Book Club

April reads will be published in the September newsletter.

NEXT BOOK CLUB MEETING: May 30 at 7 pm



ST. CHARLES CWL PRAYER LIST

May 2024

*Please pray for our CWL members and our Council
Prayers for peace in the Ukraine & the Middle East
Please pray for seminarian **Ben Wilkins** on his journey to respond to God's call*

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

Larry Belanger (husband of Norma Belanger)
Margaret Bernard
Father J.D. Carmichael
Jacqueline Cuerrier
Matt Klassen (Lynn Cristini's grandson)
Annet Maitwe and AIM school
Hope Maitwe & baby Ryder (Annet Maitwe's daughter)
Rafael Martel (Kathy Martel grandson)
Marie Phillips
Evelyn Radostits
Lyn Reynolds
Sharon Roshko
Liesse Saldanha
Agnes Sam
Marlene & George Schmidt
Bea Spatafora
Faye Tkachuk
Lily Webb
Mary Ziska
Celine deVries-Stadleer (Marie-Paul Petersen's daughter)
Stella Kachmar
Sandy Bergin
Ann Jubinville (Margaret Bernard's sister)
Olive Byer
Tricia Cisakowski (Kathy Martel's friend)
Bert Trompetter (Cora's husband)
David Meier (Shirley husband)
Melissa Cuerrier (daughter of Jacqueline Cuerrier)
Colleen O'Donnell (Maureen O'Donnell's sister)
Eileen Kavanagh (Monique Gauthier's daughter-in-law)
Myrla Fitzpatrick

For those who have died and all who mourn them:

Marie Strauss (Kathleen Oswald's sister)
Brian Black (Pat Black's husband)
Gene Kerns (Kathy Martel's brother)
Kathleen Leuwer (Deacon Joe's mother)

*Please contact **Kathy Martel** at 780-456-0760 or Kmartel780@gmail.com to add names.*

