



# ST. CHARLES CWL NEWSLETTER

January 2025

## 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.



## From The President's Desk

Hello Ladies, We are now into Ordinary Time as we have left the Christmas Season, I hope you had a relaxing time with your families and friends.

We hear in the second reading of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time of the manifestation of the Holy Spirit for the common good. Through the Holy Spirit we are all given special gifts, please look deep inside to find your special gift. The Executive is looking for a Secretary and someone to take on the Social Justice Chair. Both positions are vacant and the work that is involved is the amount of time you can give. We don't have to do everything under the position for Social Justice. And just think, you only have one year to fill in, next January we will be looking for a new executive. (Of course, you can stay longer if you like it.) 😊



If you would like more information, please contact myself, Katherine Tarras at [kabtarras@gmail.com](mailto:kabtarras@gmail.com), I can only be reached by email until April or Bea Spatafora [bspat@shaw.ca](mailto:bspat@shaw.ca)

Thak you for your consideration, God Bless,

**Katherine Tarras, President**

Faith

## Stories of Women Saints

As we start off the New Year in 2025, I would like to offer a reflection on the Mother of Mary, St. Anne who has been venerated in many Christian churches around the world. She was married to Joachim as noted by Non-biblical sources and they claim that Anne and Joachim were childless for many years of their marriage. The Angel Gabriel appeared to them separately and declared that they would in fact bear a child who must be dedicated to God. Hence, Anne became the mother of our Blessed Virgin Mary. St. Anne lived until Jesus was 8 years old, passing away at 56 years in the arms of her beloved daughter immaculate Mary. Jesus, Mary and Joseph assisted at her death. The Spirit of St. Anne's has come from a basic love of children for their own sake as she is the patroness of women, pregnant, grandmothers, mothers, and educators. Her Feast Day is celebrated by the Catholic Church on July 26th and is a reminder of the power of prayer.

Our next Saint who is featured on the CWL quilt is St Marie of the Incarnation who was born in 1599 in Touraine, France but lived in Quebec from 1639 till her death in 1672. Born as Marie Guyart, she is considered a mystic of the Church through her extraordinary encounters with our Lord and Lady. In 1629, she joined the Ursulines at Tours, taking the name Marie of the Incarnation. When she was sent to Canada, Marie laid the cornerstone of the first Ursuline convent, in Quebec in 1641 and she rebuilt it when it was destroyed by fire in 1650. St Marie compiled dictionaries in Algonquin and Iroquois, taught the indigenous peoples, the Francophone for the remainder of her life. She was a prolific writer, penning over 20 000 letters in her lifetime. In Quebec, you can find a major shrine at the Centre Marie-de-l'Incarnation celebrating her closeness to Jesus and Mary. Let us ask St. Marie to assist us in detaching from things of this world and to serve with zeal to fulfill God's plans for our lives.

**Teresa McGrath**  
**Spiritual Convenor**

## **Alberta Mackenzie Prays the Rosary- Weekly**

Members are invited to pray the Rosary weekly on Thursdays @ 7:00 pm (MST). Log in information is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82633854455?pwd=ji0lnkdfZFQR27Ly7r4bFwF23Ue5Gc.1>  
Meeting ID 839 6587 9451 Passcode 963178

## **Year of the Jubilee**



On Thursday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025, all Parishioners are invited to attend Mass at 6:30 pm. followed by a presentation by Dr. Matthew Hoven at 7:00 pm. Our Council will be providing coffee/tea and goodies following the presentation. If you are able to co-ordinate the hospitality or can volunteer to help, please contact **Bea Spatafora at 780-399-9459.**

Service

## **Funeral Committee**

There was 1 request for a funeral lunch during the month of January (January 30<sup>th</sup>) for 130 people. Thank you to our members and the Knights of Columbus who help to provide this service.



## **Prayer Shawl Ministry**



We are looking for a Co-ordinator and knitters for the Prayer Shawl Ministry. An information is available for guidance. If you are interested and would like more information, please contact Rita Pfefferle at [ritapfefferle@gmail.com](mailto:ritapfefferle@gmail.com) or call her at 780-916-2414

## ORGANIZATION (MEMBERSHIPS)

Thank you to everyone who was able to attend our January general meeting. It was wonderful seeing so many faces. Apologies we did not finish our discussion on the Pastoral letter; we will continue this important discussion at February's meeting and move it up in the agenda to ensure we have more time to discuss.

Part of the reason we were unable to finish our discussions is we had a lot of business we attended to in January. Some of the highlights:

- 1) A beautiful spiritual reflection lead by our Spiritual Advisor, Deacon Joe.
- 2) We reviewed, amended and passed the 2025 budget
- 3) We discussed the 2024 CWL Christmas social and voted on capping the cost for CWL Members to attend our 2 annual socials at \$20 moving forward. We hope this will entice more of our members to come out and celebrate.
- 4) We heard notes of thanks from some of the schools we supported with our Christmas Fund-raiser, and a word of thanks from our School Board Trustee Sandra Palazzo (who was in attendance) on just how impactful our gifts were to our school communities. We then voted to keep our Annual Christmas Fund-raiser "our St. Charles Feeder Schools" for the next 5 years (to be reviewed at that time).
- 5) Congratulations to our Door Prize Winner for January, Bev Jensen. We hope you have some free time to sit & enjoy a nice warm beverage & snack from Tim Hortons



**SAVE-THE-DATE:** All ladies of St. Charles are invited to attend our monthly general meetings; note only active members can vote on our motions. **Save-The-Date for our next general meeting, February 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:45pm** (First 15 minutes are social time, followed by our official meeting commencing at 7pm).

**Active Members:** To clarify this includes all ladies who have paid their fees for the current fiscal year (which began Nov'24). For those who still need to renew, **our fees remain unchanged at \$40.** Please give me a call (780)399-9459 or drop me an email at bspat@shaw.ca if you have any questions on how to renew.

**CWL Directory** Just a reminder there was a new CWL directory distributed at our Bazaar last October. It was also emailed out to members. Copies have been available at our general meetings, but if you are unable to attend & wish to have a printed copy, let me know & I can leave a copy in our CWL mailbox at church for you to pick up.

### **PRAYER CALENDAR**

Your February Prayer Calendar is included with this newsletter. Please print off a copy & post up in a location you'll see it daily (Fridge, mirror). Each day one of your CWL sisters is highlighted; please include them in your daily prayers.

And have a wonderful month!!



**Blessings,  
Bea Spatafora  
Organization Convener**



**Ladies of St. Charles CWL**, we need your help. We have a few positions we need to fill, to ensure we can carry on our tradition of exceptional service to God and our community. We ask you to pray about these roles and consider stepping up; the time commitment is not excessive, and the camaraderie between our sisters, who you'll volunteer with, will fill your soul with even more of God's strength and love. Below are a few of the roles we need to fill as soon as possible:

- 1) **2025 CWL Bazaar Convenor** – this position overlooks the various convenorships at our annual Bazaar (October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025). Convenor positions required under this lead:
  - a. **Bake Table**-Responsible to run the bake table including pricing (pricing guidelines already set)
  - b. **Kitchen (2)**-Responsible for the purchasing and prep of the lunch for the event
  - c. **Craft Table**-Responsible to run the craft table including pricing
  - d. **Multi-Raffle**-Responsible to acquire prizes, make the baskets, print tickets & run the table
  - e. **Vendor**-Responsible to secure vendors for the event
  - f. **Advertising**-Responsible for advertising for the event
  - g. **Phoning**-Responsible to call members to secure volunteers to help with the above.

If you have helped with any of the above positions and wish to let your name stand, please still let us know, as we'll have a new convenor for this event.

- 2) **2025 CWL Social Convenors (2)** – this position will plan our CWL June and December socials (June 10<sup>th</sup> 2025 & December 9<sup>th</sup> 2025). One person 'can' manage this, but it's more fun and easier with 2 members. You get to pick the theme, plan the menu/caterer, and handle the activities of hosting a social event.
- 3) **2024-2026 Secretary** – as noted in "From the President's Desk"
- 4) **2024-2026 Social Justice Convenor** – as noted in "From the President's Desk"

Please email Katherine Tarras (katarras@shaw.ca) or Bea Spatafora (bspat@shaw.ca) if you have questions or to understand details for any of the above positions &/or to volunteer for the position. We thank you in advance for your help in filling these important roles for 2025.

## **ST. CHARLES TRIVIA NIGHT – FEBRUARY 14th**



Our St. Charles CWL have been asked to help support this parish Fund-raiser for Our Lady of Victory Camp. At our January meeting, we voted to donate \$100 to St. Charles, to purchase gift cards or prizes for the prize table.



However, you can also make a donation personally if interested. As noted above, they are looking for gift cards, small value prizes (new items only) &/or baking\* (packaged up for winners to take home). If interested in donating, you can take your items to the church,

attention Sean Cote.

***\*Baking should be brought the day of the event, other items can be brought in sooner.***

# Family Day 2025

Thank you to Rachelle Pouliot who has volunteered to head up the 2025 Family Day event in conjunction with the Knights of Columbus. The event is scheduled for **Monday, February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025 from 11:00 am. To 3:00 pm.** Details are in the attached poster. If you are able to help with preparation and serving of the hotdogs, hot chocolate, etc. please contact **Rachelle at (780) 475-6500.**



## Social Justice

### Christmas Gift Card Donations to Area Schools



## Sharing the Words From Our National Sisterhood Map

### *RESPECT*

- 39** We are all God's children, created in God's loving image and deserving of compassion and respect. The Catholic Women's League's core values go beyond this, caring for all of God's creation. Join us and experience the joy of love and respect.

### *SERVICE*

- 40** Baptism calls us to witness to God's love – especially for the outcast and vulnerable in this world – be they human or other. Catholic Women's League members witness this service in many ways. Come be a part of this compassionate service.

## Laughter is Good for the Soul

A priest and a bus driver both died and went to Heaven at the same time. They get to the pearly gates where Pope St. Peter greets them. He motions to the priest, and they both hop in a jeep and go out the back door. There are about 50 acres of rolling hills with a little cottage on the knoll.



St. Peter turns to the priest and says "This will be yours for eternity. A perfect little cottage, right next to lovely pond, a lush little garden, and a library full of books."

The priest says, "Thank you so much. This I shall enjoy!" St. Peter drops off the priest, goes back to the pearly gates and motions to the bus driver.

They hop in a stretch limo and go out the front door. There are about 500 acres of land, with mountains and lakes and rivers. There is a huge 200-room castle on one of the mountains, and a wishing well that makes wishes come true. St. Peter says "This will be yours for eternity. You can live in that castle with servants to wait on you hand and foot, and you can have everything you want."

The bus driver looks at St. Peter and says "Well, now, don't think I'm not grateful, but why am I getting so much more than the priest?"

St. Peter just laughs and says "You brought more souls to Heaven! When the priest preached, everyone fell asleep. When you drove your bus, people prayed!"



## QUICK LINKS

National Website: [www.cwl.ca](http://www.cwl.ca)

Provincial Council Website: [www.cwl.ab.ca](http://www.cwl.ab.ca)

Diocesan Council: [www.edmontoncwl.org](http://www.edmontoncwl.org)



## CWL Virtual BYOB Book Club

No Meeting in January

**NEXT BOOK CLUB MEETING:**  
February 27th at 7 pm

### Important Dates

**February 18**  
**February 22**  
**March 13<sup>th</sup>**

General Meeting  
Virtual Book Club  
Year of the Jubilee (Mass @ 6:30)  
Presentation by Dr. Matthew Hoven @ 7:00 pm



### 2025 Family Day Celebration

Monday February 17, 2025

11:00 AM to 3:00 PM

**St. Charles Activity Centre**

**Free Admission!**

***Bouncy Castle with Slide, Mega Wire, Pirate  
Treasure, 3 Course Mini Golf, Basketball, Crafts  
Table***

***Hot Dogs, Ice Cream, Hot Chocolate and  
Popcorn***

Hosted by the Catholic Women's League and Knights of Columbus

Donations will be accepted



# February 2025



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Mid-Winter Mtg Debbie Dixon
2	3 Marjolaine Dubuc Cecile Dufresne	4 Dora Dumont	5 Pat Duncan	6 Dianne Dyer	7 Rhoda Estoque	8 Odell Fahn
9	10 Lorette Fairfield Rose Febrowski	11 Tina Fernandes	12 Myrla Fitzpatrick	13 Marion Foster	14 St. Charles Trivia Night Jerika (Jerri) Gajewski	15 Monique Gauthier
16	17 FAMILY DAY AT ST. CHARLES* *Volunteers needed*	18 Rita Haakensen	19 Celestina Hagan	20 Audrey Harris	21 Rose Hearn	22 Joan Hejnar
23	24 Stella Hoekstra Judy Horban	25 Angela Hunt	26 Beverley Jensen	27 Elsie Johnson	28 Gincy Joseph	

## Notes

Print / Post this page on your fridge.

Pray for your CWL Sisters on the day they are tagged.

Each Thursday you can pray the Rosary online. The link changes every 3 months. To ensure you have the most updated link, please visit our Provincial website: <https://www.cwlabmk.ca/>. Scroll down the home page for the newest link to this week's rosary. Site opens 7 pm & the Rosary starts at 7:30 pm



January '25						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

March '25						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					



# ST. CHARLES CWL PRAYER LIST

## *January 2025*

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  
Jacqueline Cuerrier  
Annet Maitwe and AIM school  
Hope Maitwe (Annet Maitwe's daughter)  
Rafael Martel (Kathy Martel's grandson)  
Evelyn Radostits  
Sharon Roshko  
Marlene & George Schmidt  
Bea Spatafora  
Lily Webb  
Mary Ziska  
Celine deVries-Stadler (Marie-Paul Petersen's daughter)  
Stella Kachmar  
Ann Jubinville (Irene Midgley's mother)  
Bert Trompetter (Cora's husband)  
David Meier (Shirley's husband)  
Melissa Cuerrier (daughter of Jacqueline Cuerrier)  
Colleen O'Donnell (Maureen O'Donnell's sister)  
Eileen Kavanagh (Monique Gauthier's daughter-in-law)  
Sybil Ledi  
Marie-Paul Petersen  
Father Marc Cramer  
Audrey Waseylenko  
Bev (friend of Janice Lakusta)  
Jeanne Richelhoff (Louise Despins' sister)

Please contact **Kathy Martel** at 780-456-0760 or [Kmartel780@gmail.com](mailto:Kmartel780@gmail.com) to add names.

