



ST. CHARLES CWL NEWSLETTER

October 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.

Faith

Service

Social
Justice

From The President's Desk



October – The month we celebrate The Holy Rosary with the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary on the 7th of October. “The rosary is not only a prayer of words; it is a prayer of love, a weapon of peace, and a doorway into the mysteries of Christ’s life.

The Rosary is strength and serenity, when you hold your rosary — you hold the story of salvation in your hands.”

During the two weeks we were on our Pilgrimage this month; we prayed the Rosary and the Divine Mercy together every day finding ourselves safe, comforted and at spiritual peace.

It was a beautiful and rewarding time spent with old and new friends; the journey to the incredibly old churches, praying at the Blue Cross at the foot of Apparition Hill, climbing to the Mount of the Cross in Medjugorje. Feeling the presence of the people walking with you at the entrance of Auschwitz as their names being called out. Then on to the Divine Mercy Shrine and visiting the tomb of St. Faustyna to find peace and tranquility. We took in the Salt Mines of Wieliczka – a 3 mile long walk through underground chambers, magnificent chapels and statues sculpted from salt. On to visit the Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa also known as the “Black Madonna.” An important place of worship among Christians since the 14th century. Then on to Prague to have Mass at Our Lady of Victory and see the renowned Infant Jesus of Prague. In between these places there were many miles driven, churches, castles explored and many sites to be seen. Our final night was in Vienna and the flight home was smooth. We had many Blessings on our journey with Father Paul and Deacon Bong.



Please contact **Katherine Tarras** at (text) 780-916-9728 (res) 780-488-5521 or email kabtarras@gmail.com

Katherine Tarras, President



Message from the Past President

Remembering a Deceased Member – Louise Wilk

When our Year 2000 time capsule was opened at our September General meeting, we were surprised to find a handwritten note and a \$100.00 bill left by Louise Wilk (deceased 2016). Louise was a very good supporter of our Council's activities and was known to slip often some cash to the convenor of a bake sale or cooking bee when she was no longer able to physically help out.

Louise wrote in her note to us that she would like the funds to be used for a "tea party" for our members. As a result, "high tea" was featured for our snack at our October General meeting.

Thanks to Bev Jensen and Rachelle Pouliot who organized the extra special snack for approximately 20 members who attended the meeting.

Rita Pfefferle- Past President



Organization (Memberships)

Autumn Blessings to You All

October has been a busy month, filled with meaningful moments and many blessings. One of the most touching began when our 2000 time capsule was opened last month, revealing a \$100 bill tucked inside by our late member **Louise Wilks**, along with a note encouraging us to "have a party with it." So—with huge thank-yous to **Bev Jensen and Rachel Pouliot** for putting it all together—we did just that! Bev and Rachelle created a stunning **High Tea spread in Louise's honour** to begin our October 21st general meeting. It was a heartfelt tribute, and we're so grateful to everyone who came out to celebrate with us.

If you weren't able to attend October's meeting, please know you're always welcome at future gatherings. Your presence and participation truly enrich our meetings—and we hope the experience does the same for you.

Save the Date – November General Meeting - Tuesday, November 18th

- 6:45 PM – Social
- 7:00 PM – Meeting

Note: The social is both before and after our meeting, giving everyone a chance to visit with as many members as possible while you're out for the evening.



October Door Prize Winner at the general meeting:

- **Mary Leuwer** — winner of a Tim Horton's Gift Card. Congratulations!!



✦ CWL Fall Bazaar & Membership Renewal

Our CWL Bazaar on October 25th was one of the busiest in recent memory—at least for me! What a fabulous day it turned out to be, with the community coming out in droves.

The bazaar also marked the **official start of our 2026 membership drive**, and just like the event itself, it was the busiest launch I've experienced in my time convening this position.

I'm thrilled to share that **79 members purchased CWL memberships during the Fall Bazaar weekend**—what an incredible show of support!

Of those, **7 are returning members** rejoining after a hiatus (welcome back!!), and **3 are brand new** to the Catholic Women's League. Please join me in extending a warm welcome to:

- **Estrela De Sousa**
- **Patsy Hwang**
- **Linda Platzner**

We're so pleased you've joined our CWL family!

All 79 members—whether you paid in person at the bazaar, via eTransfer, or by dropping your payment in the offertory basket—will be entered into our **gift card draw**, which will take place at our next executive meeting on **November 4th**. Good luck, everyone!

If you haven't had a chance to renew your CWL membership for 2026 yet, there's still plenty of time. If you're unsure how to pay your dues, feel free to call or email me.



November Prayer Calendar

Please remember to print off a copy of the **November prayer calendar**, attached with this newsletter.

Continue to include our members on their special day in your regular prayer intentions. Several ladies have shared how touched they felt to be remembered—thank you all for continuing to lift up our CWL sisters in prayer.

Blessings,
Bea Spatafora
Organization Convenor
 bspat@shaw.ca or 780-399-9459

Faith

Reminder - Mass of Remembrance - November 7th, 2025

Our Council will be providing the hospitality following the Mass of Remembrance which is scheduled for **Friday, November 7th, 2025**.

Thank you to Rachelle Pouliot, Lorette Bowers and Estrela De Sousa who volunteered to coordinate the refreshments.

Teresa McGrath
Spiritual Convenor

Alberta Mackenzie Prays the Rosary- Weekly

Members are invited to pray the Rosary weekly on Wednesday @ 7:00 pm (MST) (visiting) and 7:30 pm (Rosary). Log in information is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89633721663?pwd=Z9wPaKGjbTFRy9JrKptPLYsXpYHeY5.1>

Meeting ID: 896 3372 1663

Passcode: 064710

Service

Diocesan Book Project

Thank you to Tina Casella who looked our Council's participation in the Diocesan Book Project. Tina visited our four schools – St. Charles, St. Lucy, Bishop Savaryon and Bishop Greschuk to present each of them with books entitled "I Hope" and "The Invisible String" for their respective libraries.



Funeral Lunch Committee



On September 25th, we prepared a lunch for a funeral for 150 guests. The family was very appreciative of the lunch. There is also a lunch scheduled for November 7th for 100 people. Thank you to our phoners, all our volunteers and the Knights of Columbus who came out to help.

Rachelle Pouliot & Bev Jensen
Funeral Lunch Coordinators

Bill C-218: An Act to Amend the Criminal Code (medical assistance in dying)

In June, 2025, the member of parliament (MP) for Cloverdale – Langley City introduced Bill C-219 to add the following exclusion:

(2.1) For the purposes of subsection (2), a mental disorder is not a grievous and irremediable medical condition.

This important bill in the ongoing efforts to protect vulnerable populations from choosing to die because Canada does not have adequate resources to treat mental illness. It is scheduled for second reading in the House of Commons on December 5th which is a crucial step in the process, as if the vote is unsuccessful, it dies there. Please contact your MP to ask them to support Bill C-218. Letters, emails and telephone calls are important.

Christmas Social – December 9, 2025

Although many of our members are willing to help out, we are still needing one or two ladies to take the lead to organize our Christmas social.

If you like planning parties, this could be your chance to bring your talents forward. If you are interested, please contact Katherine Tarras at (text) 780-916-9728 (res) 780-488-5521 or email kabtarras@gmail.com by November 4th.

Purdy's Chocolate Christmas Campaign



It's not too late to support our Council's Purdy's Chocolate fundraiser for Christmas. Orders will be accepted until November 12th.

If you require more information, please contact Katherine Tarras at (text) 780-916-9728 (res) 780-488-5521 or email kabtarras@gmail.com

Fall Bazaar – October 25th, 2025



Grateful for all the volunteers and attendees who made our 2025 CWL Bazaar a great success! Team work makes the dream work! Please join us at the next CWL meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 18th for a final debriefing and to start planning next year's event! God bless!

Mary Leuwer
2025 Bazaar Chairperson

Bazaar Snaps





Sharing the Words

VOICE

- 51** If you only knew... the Catholic Women's League has a 'voice' to create change! Backed by thousands of Canadian Catholic women - it meets with government and influences laws, stands up for social justice and speaks up for those who do not have a voice. Is there a cause or issue you would like to see brought to the attention of government? Your voice matters – we can help!

WELCOME

- 52** My Catholic Women's League is a place of comfort as I share a seat with like minded women of faith and purpose. With councils across Canada – I am confident of a warm welcome no matter where I visit. Our sisterhood spans the nation. Come be a part of our family!

Laughter is Good for the Soul

A little boy was afraid of the dark. One night his mother told him to go out to the back porch and bring her the broom. The little boy turned to his mother and said, "Mama, I don't want to go out there. It's dark."



The mother smiled reassuringly at her son. "You don't have to be afraid of the dark," she explained. "Jesus is out there. He'll look after you and protect you."

The little boy looked at his mother real hard and asked, "Are you sure he's out there?" "Yes, I'm sure. He is everywhere, and he is always ready to help you when you need him," she said.

The little boy thought about that for a minute and then went to the back door and cracked it a little. Peering out into the darkness, he called, "Jesus? If you're out there, would you please hand me the broom?"

Carmelite Nuns Craft Sale

Our Council will be selling crafts made by the Carmelite Nuns after the 4:30, 9:00 and 11:00 o'clock Masses on December 6th and 7th. Please stop by the table which will be set up on the foyer. Your support is needed and greatly appreciated by the Carmelites.

Thank you to Katherine Tarras for coordinating this craft sale.

Important Dates

November 7	Mass of Remembrance @ 7:00 pm
November 11	Remembrance Day
November 18	General Meeting @ 6:45 pm
November 27	Virtual Book Club
November 30	First Sunday of Advent
December 6 & 7	Carmelite Craft Sale in the Lobby after Masses
December 9	Christmas Social (no General Meeting)

Quick Links



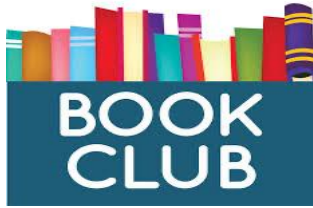
National Website:	www.cwl.ca
Provincial Council Website:	www.cwl.ab.ca
Diocesan Council:	www.edmontoncwl.org
Facebook Page:	Catholic Women's League, St. Charles, Edmonton https://www.facebook.com/groups/1017745547096618

Remembrance Day: Honouring Sacrifice on November 11th



CWL Virtual BYOB Book Club

October Reads



1. ***Falling Backwards: A Memoir***, Jann Arden. Jann reveals her childhood, her bond with family, her struggle in the formative years and what keeps her so grounded in the whirlwind entertainment industry.
2. ***Dial A for Aunties***, Jesse Sutanto. What happens when you mix 1 (accidental) murder with 2 thousand wedding guests, and then toss in a possible curse on 3 generations of an immigrant Chinese-Indonesian family? You get 4 meddling Asian aunties coming to the rescue!
3. ***Vera Wong's Unsolicited Advice for Murderers***, Jesse Sutanto. A lonely shopkeeper takes it upon herself to solve a murder in the most peculiar way.
4. ***Lady Tan's Circle of Women***, Lisa See. An immersive historical novel inspired by the true story of a woman physician in 15th-century China.
5. ***The Emperor of Gladness***, Ocean Vuong. A novel about chosen family, unexpected friendship, and the stories we tell ourselves in order to survive.
6. ***Her Last Goodbye***, Rick Mofina. Jennifer did not come home from her book club. Where is she?
7. ***Atmosphere***, Taylor Jenkins Reid. Joan wants to be part of the first women scientists to join NASA's space shuttle program.
8. ***An Accidental Villain: A Soldier's Tale of War, Deceit and Exile***. Linden MacIntyre. Exploration of the little-known life of Sir Hugh Tudor. Appointed by his friend Winston Churchill to lead the police in Ireland during the Irish War of Independence, Tudor met civil strife and domestic terrorism with indiscriminate state-sanctioned murder—changing the course of Irish history.
9. ***Haven***, Emma Donoghue. In seventh-century Ireland, a scholar and priest called Artt has a dream telling him to leave the sinful world behind. Taking two monks—young Trian and old Cormac—he rows down the River Shannon in search of an isolated spot on which to found a monastery.
10. ***The Hatbox Letters***, Beth Powning. When Kate's sister drops off nine antique hatboxes of papers recovered from Shepton, their grandparents' eighteenth-century home in Connecticut, Kate isn't sure she is ready to face the remnants of her family's past.
11. ***Invisible Girl***, Lisa Jewell. An intricate thriller about a young woman's disappearance and a group of strangers whose lives intersect in its wake.
12. ***Peace by Chocolate: The Hadhad Family's Remarkable Journey from Syria to Canada***. Jon Tattrie. This remarkable book tells the extraordinary story of the Hadhad family and the founding of the chocolatier, Peace by Chocolate. From the devastation of the Syrian civil war, through their life as refugees in Lebanon, to their arrival in a small town in Atlantic Canada, *Peace by Chocolate* is the story of one family. It is also the story of the people of Antigonish, Nova Scotia, and so many towns across Canada, who welcomed strangers and helped them face the challenges of settling in an unfamiliar land.

NEXT BOOK CLUB: November 27

ST. CHARLES CWL PRAYER LIST

October 2025

Please pray for our CWL members and our Council. Prayers for peace in the Ukraine & the Middle East
Please pray for seminarian Matthew Gensorek 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
Rafael Martel (Kathy Martel's grandson)
Evelyn Radostits
Sharon Roshko
Bea and Joe Spatafora
Lily Webb
Mary Ziska
Celine deVries-Stadleer (Marie-Paul Petersen's daughter)
Stella Kachmar
Bert Trompetter (Cora's husband)
David Meier (Shirley's husband)
Melissa Cuerrier (daughter of Jacqueline Cuerrier)
Eileen Kavanagh (Monique Gauthier's daughter-in-law)
Sybil Ledi
Marie-Paul Petersen
Father Marc Cramer
Jeanne Richelhoff (Louise Despins' sister)
Marie Phillips
Theresa Amuzu
Myrla Fitzpatrick
Rita Oplanich (Tina Casella's mother)
Sheila Wright (friend of Hilda Daubner)
Dianne Dyer
Shane Castiday (son of Genny Castiday)
Lillian Wawzonek
Richard Cloutier (brother of Cecile Dufresne)

For those who have died and all who mourn them:

Francis Huber (son of Vera Huber)
Steve Wawzonek (Lillian Wawzonek's husband)
Ann Jubinville (Margaret Bernard's sister)
Berto Oplanich (Tina Casella's mother)
Vera Huber
Mary Miller (Irene Midgley's mother)
Linda Holsted (Teresa McGrath's mother)
Rick Hoekstra (Stella Hoekstra's husband)

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



November 2025



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Beverley Jensen	Elsie Johnson	Gincy Joseph	Claire Kawulok	Marianne Konanz	Janice Lakusta	Sybil Ledi
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Laura Lemay	Mary Leuwer	Sharon MacCormac	Kathy Martel	Connie McBride	Teresa McGrath	Shirley Meier
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Catherine Michael	Evelyn Michaels	Irene Midgley	Monika Murnane	Corey Nahayowski	Gayle Nicholson	Dianne Nolette
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Cecylia Novak	Kathleen Oswald	Sandra Palazzo	Anne-Marie Paquin	Marie-Paul Petersen	Rita Pfefferle	Marie Phillips
30						
Linda Platzner						

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



October '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		

December '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		