



# ST. CHARLES CWL NEWSLETTER

April 2026

## 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

### Easter's Light - Guiding Us Thru Spring

Dear Sisters,

As we continue through this joyful Easter season, the light of the Resurrection invites us to walk with renewed hope and purpose. Our national theme, *Ignite Your Passion, Empower His Mission*, feels especially fitting in this season of new life. Easter reminds us that God rekindles the flame within us again and again, calling us to carry His love into the world with confidence and joy.

### Free Clothing Boutique (*His Mission in Action*)

As we live out this Easter hope, it's a gift to see that light taking shape in our parish through the work we share throughout the year. Coming up, a special thank you to everyone who has been gathering clothing for our May 2<sup>nd</sup> free clothing boutique; your generosity is inspiring. Together, we are creating a warm, dignified, no-cost shopping experience for families in our community. This is our theme in action: a spark becoming a flame!



### Celebrating Together

And just as our service reflects Christ's light, so does our joy. As a council, we spend much of our year serving, organizing, and supporting our parish community. These acts of service are the heart of our mission — but so is celebration. Taking time to rejoice doesn't take away from our work; it strengthens it.

Celebration also allows us to pause and recognize the blessings God has poured into our council, the friendships that sustain us, and the good work we have accomplished together. Joy renews our energy, deepens our unity, and reminds us that God is present not only in our efforts, but also in our laughter, our fellowship, and our shared moments of rest. It truly is another way of *Igniting Our Passion* and honouring the light of Christ alive in our community.



I hope each of you is able to grab a friend (including husbands) and come celebrate with us at our Year-End Social on June 9th.

## Important Dates in May (& June):

- **Tuesday, May 5** – Red Dress Day A day of remembrance and awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and Two Spirit People. Let us hold these families in prayer.
- **Sunday, May 10** – Mother’s Day. May God bless all mothers and grandmothers in our lives.
- **Thursday, May 14** – March for Life (Edmonton)
- **Tuesday, May 19** – CWL General Meeting at 6:45 p.m. We look forward to gathering again in fellowship, prayer, and planning as we continue our work together.
- **Sunday, May 24** – Pentecost. The birthday of the Church and a celebration of the Holy Spirit’s fire within us.
- **Tuesday, June 9** – Olé Amigas! CWL Year End Social (Celebrating Together)– buy your tickets & join us..

**Beatrice Spatafora, President**  
bspat@shaw.ca or 780-399-9459

## Organization (Memberships)

Thank you to everyone who came out to the April 21st General meeting.

A few highlights from the meeting:

- Our Lady of Good Counsel and Executive installations will be celebrated at the April 26th 9:00 am Mass.
- Yvette d’Entremont gave an excellent presentation on the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.
- The speaker for the May 19<sup>th</sup> General meeting will be Cody Parr from Our Lady of Victory Camp.
- We will need volunteers to help set up for the clothing donation on Friday, May 1st and to help work the Free Clothing Boutique on Saturday, May 2nd. If you are interested in helping either day, please contact **Crystal Cordeiro at 780-966-9171** or **Bea Spatafora at 780-399-9459**.
- Volunteers will be needed for the upcoming June social (selling tickets, etc. – dates to be determined). Please contact Lorette Bowers at [bowers5862@gmail.com](mailto:bowers5862@gmail.com).

We would like to thank Louise Despins and Carole Andrews who provided snacks for the evening.

We currently have 104 membership fees paid up for 2026 – thank you all! If you would like to purchase your 2026 CWL membership, the fee is still \$40. Payment can be made via cash, cheque or etransfer. To make your payment, please contact Lorette Bowers @ 780-975-9042 or [bowers5862@gmail.com](mailto:bowers5862@gmail.com).

Save the date – our next General meeting will be Tuesday May 19<sup>th</sup> @ 6:45 pm (first 15 minutes are social time followed by the official meeting commencing at 7 pm).

**Lorette Bowers**  
**Organization**

Faith

Happy Easter! Jesus has risen! There’s so much to be thankful for with the joy of Easter in our hearts.

It has been a busy month for Faith. I met with RCIA candidates to share with the ladies the exciting opportunities that CWL can offer them in their faith journey. They were really motivated to learn more and become active members in the League.

I also attended the Diocesan Conference at Holy Family in St Albert on Friday, April



17th. It was a day filled with fellowship, learning and growth with other sisters in the CWL. I attended the Mass in the evening led by Archbishop Hero and the Wine & Cheese hosted by the Knights of Columbus. The experience was an opportunity to remember how blessed we are to have the CWL in our parish and to work with great spiritual ladies from all around our area.

It was also great to lead our Spiritual Reflection at the April General meeting where we had a chance to get to know each other with an interactive faith activity. I enjoyed hearing all the shares around the room with laughter and smiles. I was really impressed with the biblical verses everyone connected to the objects they were given as a symbol of hope and faith.

I would like to invite everyone to come to our last regular meeting this May as a chance to see some familiar faces and maybe to meet some new ones too! Many Blessings,

**Teresa McGrath  
Faith**

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

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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82270928254?pwd=RDw8o3BLL7mlI7saBCvI2gBUPaqFS1.1>

Meeting ID: 822 7092 8254. Passcode: 972660

## **Alberta Mackenzie CWL Diocesan Convention**



Irene Midgley, Teresa McGrath, Rita Pfefferle  
(Connie McBride also attended)



## Service

### Funeral Lunch Committee



Funeral lunches were requested for 60 guests for March 13, 2026 and for 20 guests for April 8th. There has been one more funeral lunch request – April 30<sup>th</sup> for 50 guests.

Thank you to all the phoners, volunteers, donators and K of C volunteers who make this important service possible.

**Rachelle Pouliot & Bev Jensen**  
**Funeral Lunch Coordinators**

## Social Justice

### St. Vincent de Paul – Guest Speaker

Thank you to Yvette D’Entremont, President, St. Charles Conference of St. Vincent de Paul, who provided a very informative talk at our April 21<sup>st</sup> General meeting. St. Vincent de Paul serves those who are without the resources to establish a home for themselves and/or their families.

St. Vincent de Paul is always looking for donations of furniture (undamaged with no tears or stains or missing parts), household goods – pots, pans, dishes, cutlery, towels and bedding), small appliances (microwaves, coffee makers, toasters, etc. clean and in good working order) and vintage items or collectibles. Contact SSVP Help Line at 780-471-5577 or fill out the form online at [ssvpedmonton.ca/donations/material-donations](https://ssvpedmonton.ca/donations/material-donations)

Financial gifts are also welcome and can be dropped off at St. Charles Church (cheque payable to SSVP St. Charles).

### Laughter is Good for the Soul

A pastor wanted to skip church. They told their assistant they were sick. Then they drove to a golf course in another town where no one would see them.



They teed off at the first hole and a huge gust of wind came, pushing the ball across the green for a hole in one.

In Heaven, an angel asked God, “Why did you move the ball?” God smiled and replied, “Who’s he going to tell?”

### Important Dates

<b>May 2</b>	Clothing Boutique – Activity Centre
<b>May 5</b>	Red Dress Day
<b>May 10</b>	Mother’s Day
<b>May 14</b>	March for Life
<b>May 19</b>	General Meeting
<b>May 24</b>	Pentecost
<b>June 5 - 6</b>	Alberta MacKenzie Provincial 79 <sup>th</sup> Annual Convention St. Joseph’s Church, Whitecourt
<b>June 9</b>	June Social
<b>Aug. 9 - 12</b>	National Convention, Halifax, NS

# ST. CHARLES CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

## *Lenten & Spring* **CLOSET PURGE**

*Clean out your closet –  
make room for new beginnings!*



### **WE NEED YOUR CLOTHING**

*Clear out your closets this Lent & Spring.  
Then on May 1<sup>st</sup> donate those clothes  
(Men's, Women's Children's Babies) you  
gathered to our upcoming  
**FREE CLOTHING BOUTIQUE**  
On May 2<sup>nd</sup>!*

*That's right; we're hosting a fun, no-cost  
shopping experience for anyone who could  
use a little help this Spring.*

*Shopping boutique to take place at  
St. Charles Catholic Church on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 10-3*



### **HOW CAN YOU HELP**

- 1. CLEAN OUT YOUR CLOSETS**  
Wash and package your gently used clothing (all sizes) –  
\*\*Especially looking for baby & children's clothing\*\*
- 2. DROP OFF AT THE CHURCH FRIDAY, MAY 1**  
Bring your donations to St. Charles Church Activity Centre
- 3. MORE INFO TO COME**  
Re the FREE Clothing Boutique on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, St Charles Activity Centre



*Thank you for helping support our neighbours!*

**MAY 2<sup>ND</sup> - PLEASE JOIN US FOR A**



**DETAILS:**

**WHERE:** St. Charles Catholic Church  
in the Activity Centre  
(17511 112 Street NW)

**DATE:** Saturday, May 2, 2026

**TIME:** 10 AM – 3 PM

**COST:** "FREE \* "



*\* Note: We will be accepting donations of non-perishable food for St. Vincent de Paul in lieu of admission, if you are able \**



*Being hosted by members of St. Charles Church, including the Catholic Women's League*



# OLÉ AMIGAS!



## CWL YEAR-END SOCIAL

PLEASE JOIN US  
TUESDAY JUNE 9<sup>TH</sup>  
AS WE CRUISE TO MEXICO!!  
THIS ALL-INCLUSIVE EVENING  
INCLUDES MEAL,  
ENTERTAINMENT, PRIZES  
& NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES  
(WINE TOONIE BAR ALSO AVAILABLE)  
ALL FOR JUST \$20 – CWL MEMBER  
(\$25 NON-MEMBER)

MORE INFORMATION  
INCLUDING TICKET SALES  
COMING SOON...





## CWL Virtual BYOB Book Club March Reads

1. **The School of Mirrors**, *Eva Stachniak*. Beautiful and canny Veronique arrives at the school of mirrors and quickly becomes a favorite of the King. But when she discovers her lover's true identity, she is whisked away, sent to give birth to a daughter in secret, and then to marry a wealthy Breton merchant. There is no return to the School of Mirrors. This is also the story of the King's daughter by Veronique—Marie-Louise.
2. **The Little Prince**, *Antoine de Saint-Exupéry*. A pilot is stranded in the midst of the Sahara where he meets a tiny prince from another world travelling the universe in order to understand life.
3. **The Devil in the White City**, *Erik Larson*. Author Erik Larson imbues the incredible events surrounding the 1893 Chicago World's Fair with the stories of two men: Daniel H. Burnham, the architect responsible for the fair's construction, and H.H. Holmes, a serial killer masquerading as a charming doctor.
4. **Theo of Golden**, *Allen Levi*. One spring morning, a stranger arrives in the city of Golden. No one knows where he has come from ... or why. His name is Theo and he asks a lot more questions than he answers.
5. **The Spirit of Scatarie**, *Lesley Crewe*. A historical fiction set on Nova Scotia's remote Scatarie Island, following three friends whose lives are inextricably bound, and the spirit who guides them.
6. **Room on Rue Amelie**, *Kristin Harmel*. The tale of an American woman, a British RAF pilot, and a young Jewish teenager whose lives intersect in occupied Paris during WW II.
7. **Last Twilight in Paris**, *Pam Jenoff*. A Paris department store, a mysterious necklace and a woman's quest to unlock a decade-old mystery.
8. **One Good Thing**, *Georgia Hunter*. A remarkable tale of friendship, motherhood, and survival that follows one young woman's journey through war-torn Italy in 1940.

**NEXT BOOK CLUB: MAY 28. 7 PM**  
**NO BOOK CLUB IN APRIL**

### 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)  
Facebook Page: Catholic Women's League, St. Charles, Edmonton  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1017745547096618>

# **ST. CHARLES CWL PRAYER LIST**

***April 2026***

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  
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  
Lillian Wawzonek  
Richard Cloutier (brother of Cecile Dufresne)  
Suzanne Wowk  
Therese Swityk  
Anthony (Tony) Hauck (Katherine Tarras' brother-in-law)  
Michelle Armstrong  
Joann Limoges  
Frank Spatafora (Bea Spatafora's father-in-law)  
Faye Tkachuk  
Dulcie Webb (Lily Webb's daughter-in-law)

***For those who have died and all who mourn them:***

Shane Castiday (son of Genny Castiday and brother of Debbie Dixon)  
Elaine Young (Betty Storoschuk's sister)

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



# May 2026

## 1<sup>st</sup> Month of Mary



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3	4	5 Red Dress Day	6	7 <i>Spirit of Mary's Passion</i> ESTABLISHED 1876	8 1 Drop off Day Clothing Donations Jacqueline Cuerrier	9 2 Clothing Boutique @ St. Charles 10-3 Yvette d'Entremont
Phyllis da Costa	Hilda Daubner	Maria De Benedetto	Estrela De Sousa	Louise Despins	Betty Dixon	Debbie Dixon
10 National Family & Life Week 10-17	11	12	13	14 March for Life The Ascension of our Lord	15	16
Marjolaine Dubuc	Cecile Dufresne	Dora Dumont	Pat Duncan	Dianne Dyer	Rhoda Estoque	Odell Fahn
17	18 Victoria Day	19 CWL Meeting 6-6:30pm	20	21	22	23
Lorette Fairfield	Rose Febrowski	Tina Fernandes	Myrla Fitzpatrick	Marion Foster	Jerri Gajewski	Monique Gauthier
24 Pentecost Sunday	25	26	27	28	29	30
Theresa Girvin	Janice Grabow	Rita Haakensen	Celestina Hagan	Audrey Harris	Donna Hartnett	Rose Hearn
31 Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary						
Joan Hejnar						

## Notes

Print / Post this page on your fridge.

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

Each Wednesday 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



### April '26

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		

### June '26

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				