ST. CHARLES CWL NEWSLETTER

October 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

October – Igniting Your Passion

Dear Sisters,

As we close the door on October, Thanksgiving, and the Month of the Holy Rosary, I'm filled with both gratitude and joy as I reflect on the many activities that have enriched the start of our Fall season. It's hard to believe how much we fit into the past two months, but through it all, I have witnessed our members living our National Theme, *Ignite Your Passion, Empower His Mission* in so many beautiful ways.

We have always been a Council others can depend on within our parish and community. But what I'm noticing is that our spark is growing brighter. There's a renewed excitement among the women of our parish who are taking notice of your passion and wanting to be a part of this momentum! This tells me that now is not the time to sit back and appreciate our accomplishments, but rather to forge ahead and encourage others to join us.

The beauty of our mission is that the more we give, the more God works within us; the impact of what we do reaches far beyond the moment itself. Every prayer offered, every helping hand extended, and every act of kindness shared helps spread Christ's love while also strengthening our own faith.

As we continue through the fall months, I'm asking you to listen to the Holy Spirit and see where God is guiding you. We absolutely have some incredibly talented ladies who seem able to do it all, but this is about *igniting YOUR passion*! Plus we all know that many hands make light work, meaning with more hands, we can expand our witness even further. Perhaps God is asking you to find a new way to *Ignite Your Passion*. Some opportunities before us include:

- Revitalizing our Prayer Shawl Ministry
- Volunteering at our Mass of Remembrance on November 20
- Helping coordinate Hospitality Sundays *We particularly need help on November 22nd.
- Assisting with coordinating our 2027 Spring Clothing Drive
- Helping with or simply committing to come out (& bring a friend) to our Christmas Social as we celebrate the season together. ***A special Thank You to our Sister Yvette d'Entremont for stepping up to convene our Christmas Social this year.***
- Or perhaps God is calling you to bring forward an entirely new idea.



In closing, I simply want to say thank you. Your passion inspires me every day and reminds me that, together, we can achieve great things in God's name. May we all remain open to where the Holy Spirit is leading us in the months ahead, trusting that even our smallest actions can inspire others and help *Empower His Mission*.

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

Past President's Message



The 2026 National Poppy Campaign Began on the 24th of October, from October 24 to November 11, millions of Canadians will proudly wear a Poppy — a powerful symbol of Remembrance and a promise that those who made the ultimate sacrifice will never be forgotten.

The explanation of the poppy: wear the poppy on the left side; the red represents the blood of all those who gave their lives, the black represents the mourning of those who didn't have their loved ones return home, and the green leaf represents the grass and crops growing and future prosperity after the war destroyed so much. The leaf should be positioned at 11 o'clock to represent the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month, the time that World War One formally ended.



God's Blessings to All,
Katherine Tarras
Past-President

Organization (Memberships)

Welcome to Autumn! The leaves have changed and the air is definitely getting crisper! This is the perfect time to connect with members and join us at our regular General Meetings held the 3rd Tuesday of the Month.
If you were not able to attend October's meeting, please know that you are always welcome to all future meetings. Our gatherings are enriched by the participation and presence of our members.

Save the Date – November General Meeting - Tuesday, November 17th
- 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.

Our speaker for the October meeting was our seminarian Marc Berube. It was enlightening to hear of his journey to the Seminary. In November, Deacon Bong and Rhoda Estoque will be sharing the Advent devotion of Simbang Gabi with us.



Our door prize winner for the October General Meeting was Irene Midgley.

CWL Fall Bazaar and Membership Renewal

Our CWL Bazaar on October 24th was a fabulous day! The bazaar also marked the official start of our 2027 membership drive.

I'm thrilled to share that 72 members purchased CWL memberships during the Fall Bazaar weekend. That is 69% of the membership. What an incredible show of support! We also had 5 new ladies join our Catholic Women's League. Please join me in extending a warm welcome to:

- **Mirian Avalos**
- **Estela Elvin**
- **Rose Gushue**
- **Nkeng Tets**
- **Suzanne Wowk**



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

All 77 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 3rd. Good luck, everyone!

If you haven't had a chance to renew your CWL membership for 2026 yet, there's still plenty of time. You can pay the $40.00 membership fee by cash, cheque or etransfer. You can drop an envelope (with cash or a cheque made payable to St. Charles CWL) in the collection basket marked **CWL ATTN: Lorette Bowers.** You can also etransfer me the funds to bowers5862@gmail.com.

Please feel free to call me at 780-975-9042 if you have any questions or concerns.

Lorette Bowers
Organization

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=RDw8o3BLL7mlJ7saBCvI2gBUPaqFS1.1

Meeting ID: 879 9357 3506 **Passcode: 756123**

Service

St. Charles To Host Diocesan Mid-Winter Meeting

I'm excited to let you know that our council has been asked to host one of the Diocesan Mid-Winter Meetings on **Saturday, February 6th**. Since the Activity Centre was already booked for another event, it was felt that our Columbian Room would be large enough to comfortably host approximately 40 ladies, so we were honoured to accept the invitation.

Hosting the meeting includes providing refreshments and lunch for the day. As always, the success of events like this depends on many willing hands. If our members are interested in organizing the lunch, there will be opportunities to help in a variety of ways. Catering is also an option should that better suit our needs.

I look forward to discussing the possibilities with you all at our November General Meeting on November 17th.

Bea Spataforra
President

Hospitality Sunday Continues to Grow!

This fall, the CWL launched a pilot Hospitality Sunday initiative of drinks & donuts on the fourth Sunday of each month this Fall, following the 9:00 and 11:00AM Masses.

The response from parishioners has been overwhelmingly positive. Over the past two months, participation has steadily increased. In September, we had a small surplus of donuts and coffee; by October, we completely ran out of 10 dozen donuts, 80 cups of coffee, and 7 jugs of juice!

Financially, the program is proving to be sustainable. While September resulted in a small loss, October generated a modest profit, leaving us less than $30 away from fully covering our costs for the season so far.

Thank you to everyone who has joined us for fellowship and supported this initiative. Most importantly, we're delighted to see parishioners staying after Mass, connecting with one another, and strengthening our parish community. We are especially grateful to the volunteers who help make Hospitality Sunday possible.

As attendance continues to grow, we are looking for a few additional volunteers, particularly for the 9 and 11AM Mass on November 22. If you are able to help, please contact Bea at 780-399-9459 or sign up at our November General Meeting on November 17.



Funeral Lunch Committee



There were no funeral lunches provided since August 15th.
The Funeral Lunch Committee was unavailable for the weeks of October 19th and 26th due to the Fall Bazaar luncheon preparations. Our lunch services will recommence on November 1st.

Rachelle Pouliot & Bev Jensen
Funeral Lunch Coordinators

Social Justice

Gift Card Collection for Christmas

Again this year, we will be collecting Superstore and Walmart gift cards at our Christmas social for the needy families from our local schools. When you are out shopping, please considering picking up a gift certificate (or two) for this important project. Stay tuned for more information to follow.



A Not-So-Bizarre, Heartfelt Bazaar Thank You

A huge thank you to everyone who helped make this year's CWL Bazaar such a success. The day was a wonderful example of what can be accomplished when people come together in a spirit of service, fellowship, and community.

Special thanks to our overall Bazaar Convenor, Mary Leuwer. Without her willingness to take on this role, our Bazaar would not have been possible.

Thank you as well to our area convenors and coordinators: Mary Leuwer and Rose Hearn (Advertising); Jerri Gajewski and Chrystal Cordeiro (Bake Table); Rachelle (& George) Pouliot and Bev (& Tage) Jensen (Kitchen); Joan Hejnar (Crafts); Tina (& Frank) Casella (Raffle Table); Kathy Martel (Volunteer Coordinator); Rita Pfefferle (Youth Volunteer Coordinator); Lorette Bowers (Membership Table); and Monika Murnane, whose quilt was once again a highlight of the raffle prizes. A shout-out as well to our seminarian, Marc Berube, for manning the photo booth.

Thank you to the many parishioners, members, families, friends, and local businesses who donated baskets and prizes for the raffle table. Special thanks to Lorraine T., Rita P., Agnes M., Lois R., Carol P., Chrystal C., Jim S., Judy B., Mary L., Monika M., and our CWL members for their generous contributions.

A special thank you to our student volunteers who came from Archbishop O'Leary, Archbishop MacDonald and St. Albert high schools who were amazing as they worked in their assigned areas during the Bazaar. Many compliments were received from our guests regarding their outstanding performance.

And finally, thank you as well to everyone who volunteered, worked behind the scenes, donated, baked, crafted, set up, cleaned up, or supported the event in any way. Together, you made the day a success.

While it may seem bizarre to some that an event of this size can come together through the efforts of volunteers, our council has a long history of members stepping forward whenever and wherever they are needed. Your generosity of time, talent, and spirit helped build community, ignite hope, and remind us of the amazing things we can accomplish together.

If you'd like to hear exactly how we did (which wasn't quite finalized by newsletter deadline), please plan to attend our November General Meeting.

As we reflect on this year's Bazaar, we are reminded how fortunate we are to be part of St. Charles Parish. The Bazaar may be over for another year, but the friendships strengthened, memories created, and sense of community fostered will remain long after the tables have been packed

With Gratitude,
Your St. Charles CWL Executive



Message from Our Bazaar Convenor

Another great Fall Bazaar! Thank you to everyone who came out to shop, partake of lunch, and get their picture taken at our newest feature, the Saints Alive Photo Booth!

Special thanks to all who contributed to our multi raffle, to Monika for another spectacular quilt, and to all who supplied baking and crafts and volunteered in various ways!

And a huge thank you to our wonderful bazaar convenors:

*Bev Jensen and Rachelle Pouliot for the Bistro Lunch
*Jerry Gajewski and Crystal Cordeiro at the Bake Table
*Joan Hejnar and Yvette D'Entremont at CWL Crafts
*Tina Casella at Multi Raffle
*Irene Midgley for organizing the Vendors
*Rita Pfefferle for organizing Student Volunteers
*Rose Hearn for signs throughout the neighbourhood
*Kathy Martel for phoning volunteers
*Laurette Bowers for membership drive



And a HUGE THANK YOU to our amazing president, Bea Spatafora, for selling quilt tickets and calling out door prizes! See you next year! God Bless!

Mary Leuwer
Fall Bazaar Convenor










RAFFLE




AED


The Catholic Women's League
Our Mission
MINISTRY
OPPORTUNITIES
ST. CHARLES


CWL
CRAFT SALE


Win Me!
$2/Tix or
$5/3tix
QUILT by
Monika Morrison
C.W.L.


SALES
GIFTS





CWL 2026 Christmas Social

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

Tuesday, December 8

Christmas is closer than you think and so is the CWL 2026 Christmas Social.

THE EVENING INCLUDES A CHRISTMAS DINNER, ENTERTAINMENT, PRIZES, NON- ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES & A WINE TOONIE BAR

THEME: A RED and WHITE CHRISTMAS!!

DATE: Tuesday, Dec. 8

WHERE: St. Charles Church Activity Centre

COCKTAILS: 5:30

DINNER: 6:00

TICKETS: $20.00 (Members)/ $25.00 (Guests)

Tickets are available for sale (tickets must be purchased before the event):

* at the November CWL General Meeting (Tuesday, November 17)

* before and after every weekend mass (even the 7 p.m. Sunday mass)

*Saturday, November 21 & Sunday, November 22

* Saturday, November 27 & Sunday, November 28



O Holy Night

With grateful hearts, we thank CWL Sister Shirley Meier and her husband David for sharing their beloved Nativity Set with our parish community.

Now proudly showcased in the church lobby, this beautiful gift will be enjoyed and appreciated by parishioners and visitors alike for many years to come.



Laughter is Good for the Soul

A teacher was giving a lesson on the Old Testament and asked one of her students, "Tommy, who knocked down the walls of Jericho?"

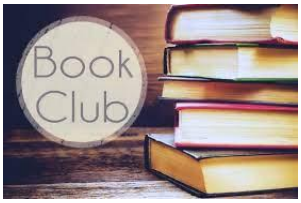
Tommy answered, "Well, it wasn't me."

Worried about this lack of Bible knowledge, the teacher called Tommy's mother.

His mother said, "Look, my son's a good kid. If he says he didn't knock the wall down, he didn't knock the wall down."

More worried, the teacher called Tommy's father. He listened to her story and said, "Well, look, I don't want any trouble. Just tell me how much this wall costs, and I'll take care of it."

CWL Virtual BYOB Book Club



October Reads Will be Published in The November Newsletter

Important Dates

November 17	CWL General Meeting
November 20	Mass of Remembrance
November 22	Hospitality Sunday - Twoonie Donut Day
December 8	CWL Christmas Social
January 19	CWL General Meeting
February 6	Diocesan Mid Winter Meeting at St. Charles
April 24 & 25	Diocesan Convention, Fort Saskatchewan
June 4 – 6	Provincial Convention, Yellowknife

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

ST. CHARLES CWL PRAYER LIST
October 2026

Please pray for our CWL members and our Council. Prayers for peace in the Ukraine & the Middle East
Please pray for seminarian Marc Berube 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
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
Father Marc Cramer
Jeanne Richelhoff (Louise Despins' sister)
Marie Phillips
Theresa Amuzu
Myrla Fitzpatrick
Rita Oplanich (Tina Casella's mother)
Dianne Dyer
Lillian Wawzonek
Anthony (Tony) Hauck (Katherine Tarras' brother-in-law)
Michelle Armstrong
Joann Limoges
Faye Tkachuk
Dulcie Webb (Lily Webb's daughter-in-law)
Kathleen Oswald
Linda & David Platzner

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)
Frank Spatafora (Bea Spatafora's father-in-law)
Marie-Paul Petersen (CWL member)
Filomena St. Jean (Estrela De Sousa's sister)
Heather Jeffries (former custodian of St. Charles Parish)
Colette Cramer (Father Marc's mother)
Richard Cloutier (Cecile Dufresne's brother)
Mary Malloy (V.P. of the Alberta/Mackenzie Provincial CWL)
Georgie Alexander (Kathy Martel's sister)
Merv Swityk (Therese's husband)
Guy Johnston (Rose Frebrowski's son-in-law)

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



November 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 All Saints Day Therese Swityk	2 All Souls Day Katherine Tarras	3 Faye Tkachuk	4 PRAY THE ROSARY Cora Trompetter	5 Lorraine Trudel	6 Juliette Vizza	7 Audrey Waseylenko
8 Lillian Wawzonek	9 Mary Lily Webb	10 Cecilia Zdunich	11 PRAY THE ROSARY Remembrance Day Denise Zubic	12 Judy Acker	13 Janice Albiston	14 Theresa Amuzu
15 Carol Andrews	16 Norma Belanger	17 CWL Meeting 6:45pm Remembering our Members Margaret Bernard	18 PRAY THE ROSARY Judy Biller	19 Patricia Black	20 Mass of Remembrance Linda Boire	21 Lorette Bowers
22 Hospitality Sunday Following 9&11 AM Mass Linda Bramhill	23 Paula Braumberger	24 Janice Brecht	25 PRAY THE ROSARY Simone Bucci	26 Lidia Buske	27 Natalie Carley	28 Teresa Cartmell
29 Tina Casella	30 Genevieve Castiday	Ignite Your Passion Empower His Mission				

Notes

Print / Post this page on your fridge.



Pray for your CWL Sisters on the day they are tagg…ths.

Each Thursday you can pray the Rosary online. The link changes every 3 …ths. 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 '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	31

December '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	31		