



CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish Council June 2019

Happy Springtime to all of my CWL Sisters!

I believe we have turned the page on winter, and are more than ready to welcome spring. Although the nights are still quite cool, it seems to warm up nicely during the day. Personally, I'm thinking flowers and garden, even though I've neither in the ground yet.

Since our last Newsletter in early February, we've hosted Spaghetti Night on March 8th then almost immediately we swung into Convention Season as soon as Easter was behind us. Winnipeg Diocesan Convention was very good, but unfortunately was right in the middle of Confirmation, preparations for 1st Communion, and the Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel along with our Spring Brunch, so several of us were running! Congratulations to all ladies who received their Years of Service pins! May you be richly blessed for your dedicated service to the League!

The March for Life was held on May 9th, despite a strong wind, we enjoyed a good turnout, and spirits were high, followed by National Week for Life & the Family from May 12th to 18th. More on this later in this newsletter.

Our Manitoba Provincial Convention will be held next week-end, hosted by St. Lawrence Council in Thompson. It is election year and our own Janet Brunger will be assuming the role of Provincial President – please keep her in your prayers as she begins her work “For God and Canada”.

Our June Wind-up will be held on June 10th, at Boston Pizza, 2517 Portage Ave, just east of Moray. We hope to see all of you there! This will be our time to kick back and socialize and enjoy each other's company.

Attached to this newsletter is our CWL calendar for the coming year, for your use.

Also attached is our CWL Birthday Calendar. You are encouraged to keep it somewhere visible, and to offer up a prayer for our CWL Sister on the day of her birthday. This way, each member will have potentially 130 prayers offered for her on her special day – how marvelous is that? Note that we have also included our beloved Spiritual Advisor, Msgr. Comeault, in our Birthday Calendar.

And the final attachment is a short survey, asking for your input for our CWL Council. We would appreciate it if you could e-mail your responses to janetbrunger@icloud.com. If we don't receive your response by June 16th, someone from our Executive will be contacting you to obtain your responses by telephone. Please be understanding as we work through potential changes in an effort to make a more vibrant, connected CWL.

This summer, remember to always Pray for our Sisters in the League. We never know what health issues or personal challenges are in another's life, and a prayer at a timely moment can make all the difference in the world.

Wherever your travels take you this summer, and whatever paths you take, may Our Lady of Good Counsel be always at your side, guiding and protecting you and your families. Have a great summer!

Your CWL Acting President

Spiritual Advisor

Msgr. Maurice
Comeault

2018-2019 Executive

President

Past President

Mary Bibik

Secretary/Treasurer

Connie Mozdzen

Spiritual Development

Chris Brezden/Maria
Poworoznik

Organization

Stella Ross

Christian Family Life

Pro Life - Joan

Armstrong

Community Life

Education & Health

Belinda Walker

Communications

Carol-Lynne Neitzke

Resolutions

Legislation

Funeral Committee

Joan Armstrong/Judy
Albiani/Monika
Bingham/Marilyn
Halliday

A Message from our Spiritual Advisor Msgr. Maurice Comeault

A word of encouragement and gratitude to all who are reading these lines. The League has been manifesting important results in the life of the Church and Nation. We have to acknowledge the dedication of those who are working on the front lines and those who support with faith and prayer from the confines of limitations of all kinds. May the Peace and Joy of the Easter celebrations be a real experience of God's love for all humanity. MCV

Organization – Stella Ross

As of June we currently have 129 members in the Catholic Women's League in our parish.

Our Annual Spring Brunch was held on April 28. Thank you to all CWL ladies, and some gentlemen, who attended for a wonderful afternoon of food and hospitality. Provincial President Rolande Chernichan and newly elected Diocesan President Pat Ward were able to join us and bring greetings. Our guest speaker for the afternoon was Hannah Connelly. Hannah gave us an interesting presentation on her Catholic Christian Outreach mission to Mexico in February. We later heard from Talitha Lemoine who spoke at greater length about the Catholic Christian Outreach missionary organization that is present at several Canadian Universities and seeks to help students live in the Catholic faith. Thank you to all who helped out in so many ways to make this event such a success.

Years of Service Awards were presented to 13 ladies this year. Thank you ladies for your dedication and commitment to the Catholic Women's League. Unfortunately, I was unable to present Toni Vosters with her 35 Year Pin before she passed away on May 14. We send our condolences to her family and friends.

 <p><u>65 Years</u> Claire Hughes</p> <p><u>50 Years</u> Florence Marcino</p> <p><u>45 Years</u> Lorraine Taraska</p>	<p><u>35 Years</u> Diana Freeman Judy Kaczmarz Phyllis Hiebert Sheila Tunny Toni Vosters</p> <p><u>25 Years</u> Janet Brunger Carolyn Giesbrecht Carol Huminicki Myra Logan</p> <p><u>10 Years</u> Belinda Walker</p>
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May you all have a safe and happy summer.

Spiritual Development – Chris Brezden/Maria Poworoznik

Hebrews 10:24-25

"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching."

How time flies! It seems only a couple of weeks since our last newsletter submissions and here we are approaching June with our CWL Windup just around the corner! The new year brought opportunities for growth, learning, teamwork and fellowship!

In March I attended an orientation for the *World Day of Prayer 2019 Slovenia* service. The World Day of Prayer is an initiative of the Women's Inter-Church Council whose mission is to empower Christians to pursue justice, peace and reconciliation by standing together in prayer and action. The service was held at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church and the theme this year was "Come - Everything is Ready!" written by Slovenian women. It was a beautiful and empowering service!

As a team, both Chris and I help our league and parish where we see a need. In the past couple of months some of the events/activities where we used our talents included kitchen work for funeral receptions, our annual Spaghetti Night, Immaculate Conception Shepherd's pie meal, Easter Vigil reception; as well as coordinating the Confirmation reception, and serving cake and ice cream for children receiving their First Communion. We also helped with the video presentation "Over 18" and helped to coordinate scheduling for Our Lady of Good Counsel weekend. The Coffee Klatch also continued throughout the year but needs extra help for it to be sustained and have lasting success!

Chris and I attended Stations of the Cross in coordination with Share Lent 2019, Development and Peace. They also hosted a "Soup and Bun" evening followed by a video as part of their "Share the Journey" campaign. The soups were delicious and video was eye-opening!

So after a few hectic months, Chris enjoyed a trip to Ireland and I will be enjoying a bit of time to myself and looking forward to our CWL Wind-up!

Spiritual Reflections 2018-19 Include:

September:	"Pope Francis, First Five Years: A Different Kind of Church."
October:	Prayer and ACTS (Adoration, Contrition, Thanksgiving and Supplication, 4 ways of praying.
November:	Advent reflection
January:	Bird of a Feather
February:	Road Trip through Life
March:	25 Ways to Honour Lent
April:	Jesus' Darkest hour & How Do We Deal With Our Darkest hour
May:	Jesus and Respect

May God Bless us and keep us safe over our summer travels!

A Message from Communications – Carol-Lynne Neitzke

Another year has come and gone. It has been a year of joys and sorrows. It has been an honour to sit on the CWL Executive for the 2018-2019 year. I unfortunately will not be returning this coming year due to work commitments. Please do prayerfully consider stepping forward to sit on the Executive committee.

A Message from Christian Family Life

The 2019 Welcome Baby Bags Drive has wound down; we are very grateful to Pat Caron for all of her hard work to collect needed items for the Baby Bags and to assemble them, as well as items for Mom's Gifts. Grateful thanks to all who donated items and money for this very worthwhile cause! Through your generosity, we ended up with 30 Welcome Baby Bags, and many more Mom's gifts.

A Message from Subcommittee – Pro-life – Joan Armstrong - jrsarmstrong@shaw.ca

The CWL of OLPH council promoted the signing of the petition concerning the **Private Members Bill C-418** introduced by David Anderson, MP for Cypress Hills-Grasslands, Saskatchewan. Doctors and health-care professionals across Canada are being coerced and intimidated to violate their consciences with respect to euthanasia. This has already led some to quit their practice/job, and others to move out of the country.

Bill C-418 amends the Criminal Code to make it an offence to intimidate a medical practitioner, nurse practitioner, pharmacist or any other health-care professional for compelling them to take part, directly or indirectly, in the provision of euthanasia. It also makes it an offence to dismiss from employment or refuse to employ a medical practitioner, nurse practitioner, pharmacist or any other health-care professional for the reason only that they refuse to take part, directly or indirectly, in the provision of assisted suicide or euthanasia. I delivered the petition with 311 signatures to the office of Doug Eyolfson's, MP for Charleswood, St. James-Assiniboia, Headingley. Also a copy of the petition was sent to David Anderson's office.

The March for Life was held on Thursday, May 9th at noon beginning from the Legislative grounds. A mass, celebrated by Archbishop Gagnon, preceded the march at St. Mary's Cathedral at 10:30 am. Approximately 525 people walked peacefully and joyfully, many of whom carried signs with positive, factual messages such as "The Right to Life is the First Among Human Rights", "Conscience Rights Matter", "Adoption is a Loving Option", "There Are No Abortion Laws in Canada". The opening prayer for the march was given by Archbishop Gagnon, and MLA James Teitsma spoke to the crowd about the importance of speaking up for Life at all stages. A testimony was given by Tasha Deschambault from Crystal City House of Prayer. The closing prayer was by Archbishop LeGatt.

"Unplanned" The Movie is a powerful new blockbuster film that chronicles the life of Abby Johnson, a former abortion clinic director whose life and career were turned upside-down by what she saw one day in her clinic. "Unplanned" has actively moved individuals to the pro-life perspective. It was released in the US on March 29th, 2019. However, "Unplanned" has not been allowed in Canada thus far. There are no public screenings across Canada. Watch the trailer here:

<http://bit.ly/unplannedTrailer> For further information on bringing "Unplanned" to Canada go to www.canadawantsunplanned.com

The Missing Project

2019 marks 50 years since abortion was decriminalized in Canada. This project is marking the many lives that have been lost to abortion – over 4 million in Canada since 1969. It is exploring the effects of abortion on Canadians across the country. 50 testimonies have been filmed and are being released daily. These testimonies are from Canadians who have been impacted by abortion in some way; Women, Men, Mothers, Fathers, Siblings, Young, Old, Survivors and Practitioners. This project involves several groups – Life Canada, Thunder and Light Studios, Crossroads Christian Communications and others. Watch for more information on this project in future newsletters or bulletin notices.

Respect Life handouts included with the bulletin May 18/19. These handouts are requesting donations to continue the work of Life's Vision (Pro-Life Educational Organization) to educate on Life issues. Today there are many threats to human life. Euthanasia, chemical abortions, reproductive technologies, fetal experimentation, infanticide of newborn and handicapped infants threaten the dignity and life of the most vulnerable members of the human family. Life's Vision is committed to raising public awareness and speaking out on behalf of those who cannot speak for themselves. Please consider making a donation to Life's Vision, if you haven't done so already. Donations can be made by using the envelopes provided at church or by mailing a cheque to Life's Vision 618 Muriel St. Winnipeg, MB R2Y 0Y2. Credit card donations can be made by calling the office at 204 233-8047.

The following poem was written by a young mother.

Proud Canadian?

By Breeanna L. Sieklicki

They started killing babies in 1969,
Then in 2016 they decided the sick and elderly didn't have much time.
Their CPP and health care were costing quite a lot,
So, they came up with a solution that we really should have fought.
They try to convince the vulnerable and weak that their time is coming near,
Then they show them a way out and tell them not to fear.
They tell them they're a burden or their sickness has no cure,
They seldom give them hope or try and convince them to endure.
They tell them that it's painless, but death seldom is,
The victims can not tell us though if it truly is.
So here we are in Canada where terminating life is supported,
As long as the victim is someone weak like a baby who has been aborted.
Before you think your life is safe just remember this one thing,
50 years ago, we supported all life especially our offspring.
So now it's up to us to try and make a change,
Protect all life again before it gets rearranged.
For if we refuse to be the voices for those who do not have one,
Who will be there for us when our life starts to come undone?

Message from Education & Health – Belinda Walker – Chair

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a safe and healthy summer. Summer is a great time to admire all the beautiful gifts in nature God has given us. When you think God may not be listening to your prayer remember this poem.

"Whispers

The man whispered, "God, speak to me" and a meadowlark sang.

But, the man did not hear.

So the man yelled, "God, speak to me" and the thunder rolled across the sky.

But, the man did not listen.

The man looked around and said, "God let me see you." And a star shined brightly..

But the man did not see.

And, the man shouted, "God show me a miracle." And, a life was born.

But, the man did not notice.

So, the man cried out in despair, "Touch me God, and let me know you are here."

Whereupon, God reached down and touched the man. But, the man brushed the butterfly away .

and walked on."

Message from Community Life

Through the collective efforts of CWL members and parishioners, a very successful Immaculate Conception Drop-In Centre Meal was served on March 17th. The toques, mitts and socks that were handed out were greatly appreciated. Many, many thanks to all who helped out or donated items – it is all noted with grateful thanks!!

Message from Resolutions

We are thrilled to announce that our resolution, entitled: **Call for a Moratorium on Hydraulic Fracking in Canada**, was adopted without changes at the Winnipeg Diocesan Convention on April 27th. It has now been forwarded to Manitoba Provincial Council for consideration at their annual convention on June 9th. This one is targeted towards our Federal Government, so stay tuned to hear how it does at Provincial Convention!

Legislation

With both a Federal and a Provincial election coming up this Fall, we encourage you to take the time to inform yourselves on your MP and MLA's position on various key items that are important to the CWL and to the Catholic Church. Don't be afraid to raise these issues when your candidate comes to your door. Remember to always be respectful!!

Funeral Lunch Reception

Funeral lunch receptions have been prepared and served at our parish by this group since 2003. We are thankful for our many volunteers who give of their time to shop, phone, prepare, serve, clean-up and bake for the funeral lunch receptions. All profits go to support our CWL charities. Thank you to all our past and current volunteers who have helped and continue to help make this service possible. New volunteers are most welcome to join us as their schedule permits. Please phone or email one of the committee members to offer your services or for more information.

Funeral Lunch Reception Service Committee

Judy A. 204 896-5320 jalbiani@shaw.ca Joan 204 895-7595 jrsarmstrong@shaw.ca

Monika 204 896-9157 ambingham@shaw.ca

Past President – Mary Bibik

We are finally in the season of spring and busy with yard work, planting our vegetable and flower gardens, and enjoying the fresh air while out for a walk, bike riding, running or just sitting in the sunshine listening to the beautiful sounds of nature.

It is a time of newness, a time of change, a time for the buds to open up and flourish.

For our CWL council here at OLPH it is also a time of looking forward to change and new ideas. Starting near end of September, into October we will each be receiving personal letters with nomination forms. We will be asked to nominate paid up CWL members (please approach them personally to let them know you believe they are very capable of taking a position on our executive and would they let their names stand for a position). We will need to fill the position of president, and various chairpersons such as organization, spiritual development, Christian Family Life, Community Life, Education & Health, Communications, Resolutions and Legislation.

OUR EXECUTIVE FOR 2018-2019 HAS BEEN WORKING DILIGENTLY TO KEEP OUR COUNCIL ACTIVE (EVEN WITH SOME EMPTY POSITIONS) AND FOR THIS WE OWE THEM A BIG THANK YOU AND A HUG). As many of you may know Janet will be installed as provincial president at Provincial Convention on June 8-9, 2019 in Thompson, MB). Janet has already held the position of Winnipeg Diocesan president.

I, as past president for the last 2 terms, will not hold a position on our executive. Rest assured I will always try to attend the General meetings and make myself available to help in any capacity where there is a need. Instead I will continue on for another 2 years as part of Winnipeg Diocesan Council, hopefully as, community chairperson, but that remains to be seen.

So ladies we will need fresh faces and new ideas to continue to keep our council at OLPH active. We are one of the largest and most active councils in the diocese. Let us continue to do good works.

Therefore please prayerfully consider taking on a position on the executive.

Thank you to Msgr. Comeault as our Spiritual Advisor and giving us words of encouragement and offering prayers for us.

Our Lady of Good Council intercedes for us that we may receive guidance from the Holy Spirit to lead us on the right path of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, to do His will.

I wish you all a wonderful, safe, healthy summer.

MARY BIBIK - PAST PRESIDENT

A Very special Birthday wish for

Jeannine Ferbers

Who turns 90 Years young on June 12th.

Wishing you health and happiness.



Your Sisters in the CWL

If you have any items you would like considered for inclusion in the CWL Newsletter, please forward them to the parish office for forwarding

Upcoming Events.....

- Coffee Klatch, June 2nd after both Masses
- CWL Manitoba Provincial Convention, St. Lawrence, Thompson, June 8th – 9th
- CWL OLPH Wind-Up, Boston Pizza, 2517 Portage Avenue, June 10th, 6:00 p.m.
- CWL National Convention, Calgary, August 18th – 21st
- CWL Winnipeg Diocesan Fall Meeting & Workshop, Notre Dame, Selkirk, Oct 5th

June 1, 2019

Dear Sister in the CWL,

We are reaching out to you, our valued members, in an effort to solve a problem that has arisen.

For many and varied reasons, we are seeing a marked decline in available volunteers, which is forcing a greater commitment from our executive to do the work of the League.

We, on the executive, have been working hard to raise visibility within our Parish Community, as well as attract more members. In addition to maintaining what we already do, we have also implemented the Coffee Klatches, held after Sunday Mass at targeted times during the year, with activities for kids, to try to attract young families, grandparents, etc. Earlier this year we also made cookies and distributed them to every woman aged 16 and up, along with an invitation to join us for a meeting to see what we're all about.

In regards to communicating with our members, we have several questions that we would appreciate feedback on:

1. Would you like regular communication via a "CWL phone sister"?
2. Would you like information, such as an upcoming honour guard, to come to you by phone or email?
3. Do you feel that 3 newsletters per year is adequate?
4. Do you read your newsletter? Do you read the CWL Bulletin Inserts?
5. Do you receive your newsletter by hard copy or by email?
6. If you receive your newsletter by hard copy, do you want it handed to you and/or hand delivered to your home, or would you be okay to pick it up from the CWL mailbox?

In an effort to ease some of the load on our executive, would you be willing to consider a contribution of either time (1 – 2 hours per year) or "goods in kind"? This could involve many things, such as being on the phoning committee, organizing (or helping to organize) a Coffee Klatch, providing muffins, loaves or bread for said Coffee Klatch, selling tickets for Rainbow Auction or lunch at our Craft & Bake Sale, sitting at the table accepting money at Spaghetti Night or Coffee Klatch, set up or clean up for any of the events we hold or participate in, providing soup, baking, new Rainbow Auction items and gently used items for the 2nd Time Around table at our Craft & Bake Sale, making posters and sign-up sheets for various events, the list goes on.

Thank you in advance for your feedback – it's greatly appreciated! We will be reaching out to you during the month of June to gauge your response. Any information/feedback you can provide will be most welcome!

Your CWL Executive



Interview with Florence Marcino

Congratulations to Florence for 50 years with the Catholic Women's League! She will be receiving her pin April 28, 2019 at our Spring Brunch.

Florence was born in Erickson, MB on October 31st, Happy Halloween! She has five siblings and one older brother who has passed away. She has four children; two who reside in Winnipeg and two in Vancouver. Her husband passed away August 2018. She has since down sized to a smaller home in Charleswood and enjoys the company of her two dogs Buffy and Roxy and a cat that was being elusive at the time of the interview! Florence also enjoys volunteering at Home Instead Senior Care, Rossbrook House and visiting the sick.

Florence originally joined the CWL 52 years ago at Christ the King Church in Stonewall. She served on the Executive as Secretary, Treasurer and President and also taught Catechism. She still remembers her first meeting where the CWL members were very warm and welcoming!

Florence and her husband moved to Winnipeg 34 years ago and they chose Our Lady of Perpetual Help as their family parish. Florence did not waste any time in seeking out the CWL at the church! She served on the Community Life and Christian Family Life Standing Committees. She is astonished to see that her idea of serving Shepherd's Pie for the Immaculate Conception meal is still continuing to this day! At that time she thought it was affordable and contained all the food groups! Florence also served as reader, usher and substitute Catechism teacher. She said that since her first CWL meeting in Stonewall till now, her experience with the League has been rewarding, fulfilling and supportive! Thank you Florence for all your years with the Catholic Women's League!