

**The Catholic Women's League of Canada  
Winnipeg Diocesan Council  
99<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention**



**April 17 & 18, 2020**

**St. John Brebeuf  
Winnipeg, Manitoba**

**Our Grateful Appreciation to our Host Council  
St. John Brebeuf - Winnipeg, Manitoba**



**Members of Convention Committee**

**President** – Suzanne Thille

**Spiritual Adviser:** Fr. Wayne Morrissey

**Convention Contact** – Jeanette Ali      **Alternate:** Janice Dobson

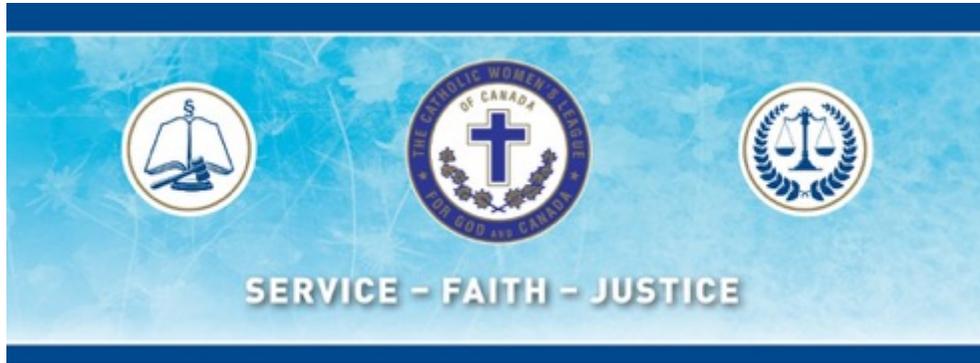
**Liturgy** – Leann Smith

**Treasurer** – Teresa Thille

**Registration/Credentials** – Teresa Thille

## **Table of Contents**

<b>Prayers.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Greetings.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Spiritual Advisors.....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Presidents.....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Life Members/Bellelle Guerin.....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Deceased Members.....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Agenda.....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Minutes 99<sup>th</sup> Convention.....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Winnipeg Diocesan Executive.....</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>Parish Council List.....</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>Winnipeg Diocesan Executive Reports.....</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>Financial report.....</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>Parish Council Highlights.....</b>	<b>68</b>
<b>Treaty Acknowledgement.....</b>	<b>80</b>
<b>Standing Rules.....</b>	<b>81</b>
<b>Robert's Rules of Order.....</b>	<b>82</b>
<b>Notes.....</b>	<b>83</b>
<b>Acknowledgments.....</b>	<b>84</b>



## 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.”**

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## CWL PRAYER FOR RENEWAL

*God of new beginnings, ever faithful God,  
We thank you for your constant care for the women of  
The Catholic Women’s League of Canada.*

*We have sought to serve You in faith  
by service to your people.*

*Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and  
With the help of Our Lady of Good Counsel,  
We continue to discern Your call to seek justice  
And build Your Kingdom on earth each day.*

*We ask Your guidance as we plan the evolution of  
The Catholic Women’s League of Canada.*

*Grant us wisdom, the grace of discernment, and strength.*

*May each of us open her heart and mind to  
Your will and welcome the new life You bring to the League.*

*We ask this through Jesus, your beloved Son  
and Our Lord, who lives and reigns with You  
and the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever.*

*Amen*

*(Sr. Susan Scott, CAF)*

## Catholic Women's League National Theme

*Lord, season after season  
You continue to renew the face of the earth,  
"For from the greatness and beauty of created things  
Comes a corresponding perception of their Creator."  
Teach us, Lord,  
As members of the Catholic Women's League of Canada,  
To become attuned to our need to protect  
The beauty of our common home.  
May our efforts lead us to sustain its natural order,  
So that, in the words of Pope Francis,  
our heritage is never "deprived of physical contact with nature."*

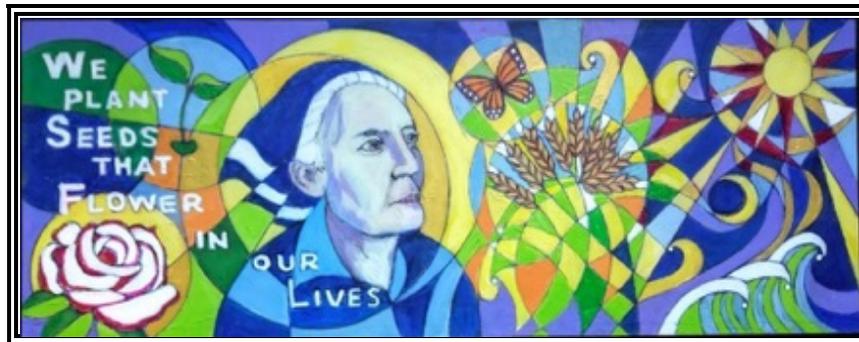
*Amen*

*(Mary Ryan, Past President St. Dunstan Parish Council, Fredericton, N.B.)*



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## Manitoba Provincial Theme "The Seed That Flowers"



*"We are all seeds in *Our Common Home* that, with nurturing and encouragement, will bring forth flowers and eventually bear fruit. We are entrusted to nurture and support all CWL members to flower.*

*By offering our struggling members and councils life-giving water and encouragement, we hope our councils will grow strong and rejuvenate with new, younger members into the future."*

*(Janet Brunger, Manitoba Provincial President)*



### **LEAGUE PRAYER**

*We humbly pray You, God our Father, to bless  
The Catholic Women's League of Canada.  
Bless our beloved country, our homes and families.  
Send Your Holy Spirit upon us  
to give light to our minds and strength to our wills  
that we may know and fulfill Your great law of charity.  
Teach us to share with others at home and abroad,  
the good things You have given us.  
This we ask through our Lord Jesus Christ  
and the intercession of our patroness,  
Our Lady of Good Counsel. Amen*

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### **OPENING PRAYER**

*Father, we thank you for the opportunity to gather here today.  
May everything, we do, begin with Your inspiration  
and continue with Your help.  
We ask for Your blessing and guidance  
throughout this convention, that all our thoughts and actions  
would reflect Your holy will, and that You would grant us the grace  
to love You and care for one another.  
We pray in Jesus' name. Amen*

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### **CLOSING PRAYER**

*Thank you, Lord, for Your presence with us at this convention.  
As we part now, we ask you to bless us  
throughout the remainder of the day and guide us safely home.  
Do not let the learning, caring and conversations of this Convention  
be forgotten, instead, may they continue to reflect within us  
and bear fruit through the year.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus  
and in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen*



**Archdiocese of Winnipeg**  
*Office of the Archbishop*

1495 Pembina Highway, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3T 2C6 • Tel: 204-452-2227 • Fax: 204-475-4409 • Web: [www.archwinnipeg.ca](http://www.archwinnipeg.ca)

Dear Members of the Winnipeg Diocesan Council of the Catholic Women's League of Canada,

I bring you greetings from the Archdiocese of Winnipeg as you gather for your 99<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention at St. John Brebeuf Parish in Winnipeg. It is a great joy for me to be with you once again as you gather with women from our parish councils to celebrate our faith and to implore God's blessings on the work of the Catholic Women's League during 2020/21! You have chosen the theme, "*Care of our Common Home*" as your theme for this year's convention. This theme, taken from the encyclical of Pope Francis entitled, "*Laudato Si*", has been very well received by everyone as it deals with a thorough explanation of Catholic teaching on the environment as well as the necessary personal conversion required in our lifestyles. This includes an analysis of the linkage between environmental problems with problems between people and how we treat others. The notion of wasting natural resources and the destruction of ecosystems is directly related to the lack of reverence for human life at all stages of development. The Catholic Women's League has been in the forefront of advocating the principles enunciated by Pope Francis in his encyclical and we as an archdiocese are grateful for your dedication to the advancement of responsibility for our environment and of social justice between peoples.

I pray that during this 99<sup>th</sup> Convention and into the coming year, God will truly bring good fruit through the efforts of the Catholic Women's League to witness to the truths of the Gospel in our contemporary world. May this convention also be a time for building bridges and friendships within our Local Church community.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard Gagnon".

✠Richard Gagnon  
Archbishop of Winnipeg



## The Catholic Women's League of Canada

Greetings to my dear sisters in the Winnipeg Diocesan Council!

Congratulations on 99 years of service for God and Canada! Another convention is upon you which presents several opportunities through your reports and programs to reflect on all the good things your membership has accomplished in the past year.

The parts of the world we call home in Canada are blessed with diversity in cultures, climate, numbers, and topography. While each of us shares the common bond of suffering, we have generally been blessed with peace and some prosperity. Having said this, it comes with a great responsibility.

Many councils have been focusing attention on the disadvantaged, the homeless, migrants and refugees, who have fallen prey to situations that in many cases are beyond their control. It is our duty and responsibility to "feed" those among us in whatever way we can. His Holiness, Pope Francis, in his address on the anniversary of World Day of Migrants and Refugees, in January, 2018, said it is our duty "to welcome, to protect, to promote, and to integrate" all who need care. While His Holiness spoke directly of migrants and refugees, this applies as well to those among us who are vulnerable in so many ways. "Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him?" (James 2:5).

As members of your diocesan community, you have attempted to emulate what Jesus did. "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour" (Luke 4:18-19).

When I reflect on the scripture passages, it connects me to the commands that are directed to each of us as Christian Catholic women. I am confident that as members of The Catholic Women's League of Canada, each woman in this diocese does her utmost to support the least among us.

God bless all your efforts in the past year to make your community a place of welcome and sustainability.

You deserve to take time to reflect upon your accomplishments as you meet in convention. A well-deserved pat on the back is something you can give each other while together and once you return to your parishes.

We have many challenges ahead, but with the intercession of the Holy Spirit and Our Lady of Good Counsel, there is so much reason to continue to be hopeful women of faith in service to God and Canada. "Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and will be repaid in full (Prov. 19:17).

Your sister in the League,

Anne-Marie Gorman  
National President



## *Manitoba Provincial Council*

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Congratulations on your 99<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention!

Looking over your annual reports, I never fail to be awed and inspired by the depth and breadth of the works you do.

You are active in your respective parishes, you visit the sick and shut-ins, you feed the hungry, you sew, knit and donate clothing, mitts, toques, coats, socks, footwear and blankets to those in need, you throw baby showers for organizations that support young mothers, the list goes on. You work together to create successful fundraisers, which in turn support many and varied charities not only within your communities, our country, but also globally. All of this fits in beautifully with our Provincial Theme, **“The Seed that Flowers”**. The purpose behind this particular theme, is to encourage our members to go out of their way to do something kind for someone else, not expecting payment or recognition, because we never know how the ripple effect of one good deed will generate immeasurable rewards at some time in the future. These deeds can be as simple as a phone call to check in with a shut-in, or an offer to drive someone to an appointment, or a gift card for groceries to someone struggling financially - there are many and varied ways to help out.

Our National Theme, **“Care for our Common Home”**, has been widely embraced in this province. We are hearing and reading much in the media about the consequences of our past careless actions on our environment. We are strongly encouraged to “Reduce, Re-use, Recycle, and we are further being urged to eliminate single-use plastics from our daily lives. Many large retailers are no longer offering plastic bags, most restaurants have eliminated plastic straws, and we are all being asked to do our part. In keeping with all of this, our ladies have responded! From participating in “Adopt-a-Highway”, to riverbank clean-up days, to utilizing travel mugs and re-usable water bottles, to having the self-discipline to ensure we always have our re-usable grocery and produce bags. To this end, I am humbled that collectively, we diverted from the landfills and donated 32,100 plastic bags in 2019 to two schools in support of “Bag Up Manitoba”! That, ladies, is no small accomplishment! Another item worth mentioning is the resurgence of second-time around stores – people are getting the message! Now, if only we could figure out how to economically repair that gently used toaster instead of tossing it into the landfill!

In closing, I would like to say that I am proud of all of you and of all of your efforts, I am humbled to represent you at the National level, and I believe the future of the Catholic Women’s League is bright! May Our Lady of Good Counsel be always by your side!

*Janet Brunger*

President  
Catholic Women’s League  
Manitoba Provincial Council



## **Diocesan Spiritual Advisor**

### **Fr. Diosdado Parrenas**

Office: 365 Burnell Street, Winnipeg, MB, R3G 2B1  
Phone: 204-772-8140; Email: [alpastor@mymts.net](mailto:alpastor@mymts.net)

### **The Catholic Women's League of Canada**

#### **Winnipeg Diocesan Council**

Dear Sisters of the Catholic Women's League:

I am very grateful for this honour to be with you during this our 99th Annual Convention. Together let us ask God to bless our work of caring for our common home. Most of all let us thank the Lord for creating us and our planet, echoing the canticle of St. Francis of Assisi [1181-1226], *"Praise be to you, my Lord, through our Sister, Mother Earth, who sustains and governs us, and who produces various fruit with coloured flowers and herbs."*

On 18 June 2015 Pope Francis gave us the Ecology Encyclical, *"Laudato Si"*, proclaiming as if from our churches' bell towers the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor. His challenge for ecological conversion is for all.

I also thank the Holy Father Francis for his ecumenical and interfaith approach to have a loving relationship with people, with the earth, and with God. Indeed, we can discover God in all things. The Bible and the Church's teachings on creation gave us a rock foundation to save the environment, not to waste nor to destroy it.

With great respect, the pope in his encyclical *"Laudato Si,"* or *"Praise be to you"*, quoted a Muslim Sufi mystic, Ali al-Khawas, *"There is a subtle mystery in each of the movements and sounds of this world. The initiate will capture what is being said when the wind blows, the trees sway, water flows, flies buzz, doors creak, birds sing, or in the sound of strings or flutes, the sighs of the sick, the groans of the afflicted."*

My prayer for the CWL members and officers is that may we cherish always God's presence in our world, for as Pope Francis said, *"there is a mystical meaning to be found in a leaf, in a mountain trail, in a dewdrop, in a poor person's face."*

Our Lady of Good Counsel, St. Joseph, and St. John Brebeuf, pray for us.

**Fr. Dado Parrenas,**  
**Spiritual Advisor**



# Winnipeg Diocesan Council Spiritual Advisors



1921-23	Fr. William Heffron
1923-26	Fr. Thomas W. Morton
1926-28	Fr. William Heffron
1928-30	Fr. Joseph A. Webb
1932-34	Fr. Cornelius B. Collins
1938-39	Fr. Auguste Dorion Rheaume
1939-40	Fr. Frank Ryder Wood
1940-44	Fr. Gaston J. St. Jacques
1944-46	Fr. Charles J. Kelly, S.J.
1946-48	Fr. Christopher Keenen, S.J.
1949-55	Fr. Joseph E. Campbell
1955-63	Msgr. Ignatius Edward Zielonka
1963-70	Fr. Eugene Ludwig Oroskovits
1970-75	Fr. Arthur F. Seaman
1975-77	Fr. Alois Justen, S.A.C.
1977-82	Fr. Christian H. Soeterbock
1982-87	Fr. Louis J. McCloskey
1987-92	Fr. Stanislaus A. Jaworski
1992-97	Fr. Leo M. Fernandes
1997-98	Fr. Samuel N. Argenziano
1998-03	Fr. Terance P. McGrath
2003-13	Fr. Barry D. Schoonbaert
2013-17	Fr. Michael M. Wollbaum
2017-	Fr. Diosdado Parrenas

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## **PRAYER FOR OUR PRIESTS**

*Heavenly Father, hear my prayer for our pastor,  
Father.....He loves You Lord, and desires with all his heart  
to serve You and your people. Lord, he is beset by many trials.  
When he is tempted to sin, to discouragement, to despair,  
set your shield around him. Clothe him in the  
armour of your love, your light, your strength, your peace.  
Send people to him to strengthen and encourage him  
in his vocation. Thank you, Lord. Mary, Mother of priests,  
intercede for Father...., that he may remain faithful to his vocation.  
Jesus, I trust in You! Amen*

# Winnipeg Diocesan Council Presidents

1921-22	Mrs. M. G. McNeill	1967-69	Mrs. Viola Specht
1923	Mrs. C.E. Kennedy	1969-71	Mrs. Kathleen Williams
1924	Mrs. Donald McKenty	1971-73	Mrs. Bernadette Russell
1925	Mrs. Martin Murphy-Acting Pres	1973-75	Mrs. Katherine Komatich
1926-27	Mrs. Janet Philley	1975-77	Mrs. Elsie Litwin
1928	Mrs. Katharine McPike - Wpg. Dst. Sub Div	1977-79	Mrs. Jean Keating
1926-28	Mrs. J. Hughes-Wpg. Dst. Sub Div	1979-81	Mrs. Inge Rau
1928-29	Mrs. T.J. Rice	1981-83	Mrs. Mary Bennett
1929-32	Mrs. Annie H. Murphy	1983-85	Mrs. Helen Bembenek
1932	Jennie Rice	1985-87	Mrs. Betty David
Oct 1932-34	Mrs. Harry Walsh	1987-89	Mrs. Linda Parker
1934-35	Mrs. E. McPike	1989-91	Mrs. Rita O'Neill
1935-37	Mrs. McMahan	1991-93	Mrs. Yvonne Lewandoski
1937-39	Mrs. D. O'Meara	1993-95	Dr. Rayleen DeLuca
Jan 39-Mar 39	Mrs. J. O. Latremouille	1995-97	Mrs. Suzanne Kiazzyk
Mar 39-Jan 41	Mrs. B. M. Mooney	1997-99	Mrs. Bernice Mandzik
Jan 41-Oct 42	Mrs. Mulvaney	1999-01	Mrs. Delores Blanchard
1942-44	Mrs. Florence Fabris	2001-03	Mrs. Jeanne Tinsley
1944-46	Mrs. W. A. Sullivan	2003-05	Miss Melba Rous
1946-48	Mrs. W. E. Reade	2005-07	Mrs. Dina Auriti
1948-50	Mrs. Margaret Kelly	2007-09	Mrs. Albertine Moran
1950-52	Mrs. Mary Panaro	2009-11	Mrs. Mary-Margaret Patterson
1952-54	Miss Margaret Delaney	2011-13	Mrs. Janet Brunger
1954-55	Miss Rhoda Tucker	2013-15	Mrs. Lea Colbeck
1956-58	Miss Mary C. Geraghty	2015-17	Mrs. Con Marks
1958-60	Mrs. Evelyn Pound	2017-19	Mrs. Rose Anne Seymour
1960-62	Miss Ethel MacDonald	2019-	Mrs. Pat Ward
1962-64	Mrs. Mary Pungente		
1964-66	Mrs. Patricia Johnston		
1966-67	Mrs. Ethel Barker		




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*“But among you it will be different.  
Whoever wants to be a leader among you must be your servant.”  
Matthew 20:26*

## Life Members



Faith Anderson	St. Boniface
Susan Bernier	St. Boniface
Dolores Blanchard	Winnipeg
Monica Brechka	St. Boniface
Rolande Chernichan	St. Boniface
Rayleen De Luca	Winnipeg
Beatrice Gross	Winnipeg
Suzanne Kiazzyk	Winnipeg
Albertine Moran	Winnipeg
Ella Nogier	Keewatin-Le Pas
Jacqueline Nogier	Keewatin-Le Pas
Linda Parker	Winnipeg
Mary-Margaret Patterson	Winnipeg
† Shirley Scaletta	St. Boniface
Terri Scott	Winnipeg
Margaret Silverthorne	St. Boniface
Jeanne Tinsley	Winnipeg
Barbara Thuen	Military Ordinate

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## Bellelle Guerin Award Recipients

Dina Auriti  
Alice Belanger  
Donna Candelaria  
Georgina Cielen  
Jacqueline DeCorby  
Joyce Ewatski  
Barbara Hamm  
Yvonne Levandoski  
Bernice Mandzik  
Inge Rau



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*“Standing in wonder and awe of the Lord  
Is the beginning of wisdom.” Psalm 111*

## Deceased Members in 2019

Remember them in your prayers

Florence Albi  
Frances Bierbaum  
Marie Bombek  
Laurette Bonner  
Madge Broty  
Josephine Buckley  
Sally Budolowski  
Jacqueline Camier  
Dorothy Cameron  
Helen Czarnecki  
Alexandra Radzyminski  
Sandra Dupont  
Nellie Hagenars  
Magdalene Handkamer  
Laura Hanna  
Olga Herdy  
Madeline Schoonbaert  
Marge Herve  
M. Emilie Jaffray  
Jacqueline Kelly  
Lucy Kruk  
Lena Kunz  
Anastazja Leckay



Lorranine LeFlour  
Isabelle Medvedew  
Emily Mikolajewski  
Stella Mrozek  
Joyce Mushumanski  
Elizabeth (Libby) O'Driscoll  
Ann Paley  
Jozefa Pietkiewicz  
Pauline Prawdzik  
Ellen Donohoe  
Marie Rapchuk  
Janina Reynolds  
Eileen Rieger  
Olga Rossnagel  
Shirley Scaletta  
Gloria Hering  
Rita Smith  
Hilda Teetaert  
Marie Tomala  
Eleanor Ulasz  
Rita Van Aert  
Val Vandenberghe  
Toni Vosters

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*Loving God, you promised fullness of joy to those who seek your face.  
Trusting in your Word, we pray to you for our sisters who sought to further your reign on  
Earth by their service in the Catholic Women's League for God and Canada.  
Though we are saddened that they are no longer with us, we entrust them to you with  
Confidence. May they now live in peace, joy and happiness.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus who is God. Amen*

**CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA  
WINNIPEG DIOCESAN COUNCIL  
99<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONVENTION  
APRIL 17<sup>TH</sup> AND 18<sup>TH</sup>, 2020**

**AGENDA**

***FRIDAY, APRIL 17<sup>TH</sup>***

- |                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| 11:30 am - 1:00 pm | Registration  |
| 1:00 pm - 4:15 pm  | Opening Ceremonies                                    |
|                    | Procession of Flags and Banners                       |
|                    | Welcome   |
|                    | Treaty Acknowledgement                                |
|                    | Housekeeping  |
|                    | Spiritual Program                                     |
|                    | Roll Call   |
|                    | Accreditation Report                                  |
|                    | Adoption of:  |
|                    | • Agenda  |
|                    | • Robert's Rules of Parliamentary Procedure           |
|                    | • Standing Rules of Convention                        |
|                    | Approval of Convention Minutes of April 27 – 28, 2019 |
|                    | Greetings   |
|                    | Spiritual Advisor's Remarks                           |
|                    | Adoption: Mass collection for Charity of Choice       |
|                    | Stretch Break   |
|                    | Parish Presidents' Reports                            |
|                    | Treasurer's Report                                    |
|                    | Correspondence Report                                 |
| 5:00 pm            | Opening Mass at St. John Brebeuf Parish               |
|                    | – Archbishop Richard Gagnon presiding                 |
| 6:30 pm            | Gathering and Banquet in St John Brebeuf Parish Hall  |

**SATURDAY, APRIL 18<sup>th</sup>**

8:00 am - 9:00 am	Registration
9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Business Resumes
	Welcome
	Treaty Acknowledgement
	Housekeeping
	Spiritual Program
	Roll Call
	Credentials Report
	Greetings ( <i>if anyone missed</i> )
	Parish Presidents' Reports
	Health Break
	Diocesan Executive Reports
	Mass Collection Donation to Charity
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	Lunch
1:00 pm - 1:05 pm	Registration Report
1:05 pm - 2:00 pm	Business resumes
2:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Speaker – Jacqueline Bouvier – Jocelyn House “Palliative Care”
3:00 pm - 3:15 pm	Stretch Break
3:15 pm - 4:15 pm	Strategic Plan Presentation –
	Janet Brunger MB Provincial President
4:15 pm - 4:30 pm	Closing Remarks, Closing Prayer
4:30 pm	Adjournment, Lowering of Flags
5:00 pm	Mass followed by Reaffirmation of New Officers

**AGENDA IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE**



**FOR APPROVAL**

**MINUTES OF WINNIPEG DIOCESAN 98<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONVENTION  
THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA  
APRIL 26, 2019  
ST. JAMES ASSINIBOIA COUNCIL  
WINNIPEG, MB**

The minutes have been removed as they are only pertinent to Winnipeg Diocesan Council. The minutes are available upon request. Should you personally wish to receive the minutes, please contact the Winnipeg Diocesan Council President.

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**MINUTES OF WINNIPEG DIOCESAN 98<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONVENTION  
THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA  
APRIL 26, 2019  
ST. JAMES ASSINIBOIA COUNCIL  
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Winnipeg Diocesan Council  
Diocesan Executive  
2019-2021

Spiritual Advisor	Rev. Diosdado Parrenas
President	Pat Ward
President Elect	Chris Carlyle
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	vacant
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Carol MacKenzie-Gruber
Treasurer	Bev Struch
Recording Secretary	Jo-Anne Souyri
Corresponding Secretary	Jo-Anne Souyri
Past President	Rose Anne Seymour

Chairpersons of Standing Committees

Spiritual Development	Angela Zalevich
Organization	Chris Carlyle
Christian Family Life	Carol MacKenzie-Gruber
Community Life	Donna Huck
Education & Health	Claudette Peters
Communications	Eva Arsenault
Resolutions	Colleen Zaluski
Legislation	Arlene Elves

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**PRAYER TO OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL**

*Patroness of The Catholic Women's League of Canada,  
Mary, Our Lady of Good Counsel: filled with the Holy Spirit,  
you were a faithful disciple of Jesus, your son.*

*Intercede with your son for us that we may be faithful to our baptism,  
fervent in prayer, and generous in the service we give to our sisters and brothers.*

*May the spirit of the living God, who graced you with the gift of counsel,  
lead us in the way of truth and love.*

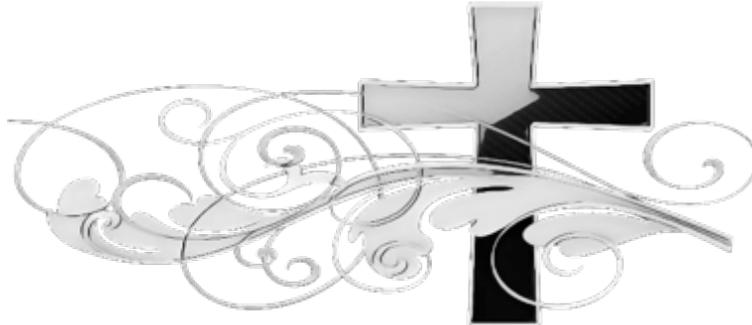
*With the help of your prayers, may we come to rejoice forever with you and  
the great company of saints in the kingdom of heaven. Amen*

## Winnipeg Diocesan Councils 2019

W1	Sacred Heart - <i>prayer council</i>	Melita
W3	Holy Ghost	Winnipeg
W7	Our Lady of Perpetual Help	Winnipeg
W9	Our Lady of Victory - <i>prayer council</i>	Winnipeg
W10	Notre Dame	Selkirk
W11	Sacred Heart	Virden
W13	St. Antoninus - <i>prayer council</i>	Deloraine
W14	St. Anthony of Padua	Winnipeg
W15	St. Augustine of Canterbury	Brandon
W16	Our Lady of Lourdes	Winnipeg
W17	St. Columba	Swan River
W18	St. Edward the Confessor	Winnipeg
W19	St. James-Assiniboia	Winnipeg
W23	St. John Brebeuf	Winnipeg
W24	St. John Cantius	Winnipeg
W28	St. Mary's Cathedral	Winnipeg
W29	St. Joseph's	Winnipeg
W30	St. Joseph the Worker	Russell
W32	St. Theresa's - <i>prayer council</i>	Middlechurch
W33	St. Michael's - <i>prayer council</i>	Gimli
W34	St. Peter's	Winnipeg
W35	St. Vital	Winnipeg
W38	St. Viator's	Dauphin
W41	St. Dominic's	Neepawa
W42	Good Shepherd	Portage la Prairie
W43	Sacred Heart - <i>prayer council</i>	Roblin
W44	St. Gianna Beretta Molla - <i>prayer council</i>	Winnipeg



# Winnipeg Diocesan Executive Reports



**Pat Ward -**

**Winnipeg Diocesan President**

Number of councils reporting 19 out of 27 = 70%

## **INFORM THE MEMBERSHIP**

This report is taken from information provided by the national summary of presidents' annual reports. Thank you for your time and dedication to The League.

Getting information and keeping informed, the Canadian League Magazine (84%) still remains the highest source of information for council presidents. The survey indicates that national communiques, diocesan newsletters, parish bulletins and the Provincial website give the percentage information of 79%, 58%, 53%, 53% respectively. It was also noted, in the survey, that some councils refer to a Life Member for information on League matters.

The top three national priorities that have been acted upon are: Care for Our Common Home (79%); removing Canada Summer Jobs program attestation (58%); and, excluding medical assistance in dying from palliative care/hospice facilities (58%). The method used for introducing these topics were mainly discussed at meetings which led to in some councils arranging a speaker on the topic.

## **FOSTER OPEN COMMUNICATION**

The majority of councils meet monthly with their spiritual advisor and there are some that rarely or never meet with their spiritual advisor. Many councils (as high as 95%) say their spiritual advisors are supportive of the CWL. Reasons for the lack of support of some spiritual advisors are, duties outside the parish and the lack of tradition of having the advisor at meetings. Communication with our spiritual advisor helps to facilitate the process of sharing information and knowledge, but also helps to develop relationships and a better understanding of the CWL.

## **PRESIDE AT MEETINGS**

The top resources chosen by presidents are the council policy and procedures manual along with the Constitution & Bylaws and the Executive Handbook. Some councils refer to the National Manual of Policy and Procedures, as well as Robert's Rules of Order & Parliamentary Procedure. The presidents' own knowledge of the CWL from attending many conventions and having served for many years provides additional input.

## **SIGNING AUTHORITY**

Official documents signed by presidents on behalf of their councils are cheques, banking documents, letters directed within & outside of the CWL, and petitions.

## **PROVIDE ACTIVE LEADERSHIP**

There are many ways that presidents represented their councils at events. The higher representations by percentage were related to church functions, diocesan meetings, sacramental events, provincial meetings, conventions, World Day of Prayer and special masses.

## **INITIATE POLICY**

Developing new policies for 2019: eight presidents reported no and three reported new policies were developed. New policies added were: years of service awards; money amounts for a council gift when visiting a member who has been ill/shut in, and who should be aware of the visit; and some monetary amounts increased.

## **KEEP INFORMED**

Presidents have read the Executive Handbook and according to the survey 84% found it helpful in understanding the duties of the executive team. The handbook was thought to be instrumental in overseeing operations of the councils.

An average of 58% of presidents provide an annual summary of the council's activities to all members; while 42% did not. The main methods used are e-mail, newsletter, oral report, written report and a minimal number using the parish bulletin.

## **ADVISORY CAPACITY**

Other committees that councils have, besides their standing committees are, funeral lunches, visitation, scholarship or bursary, annual events such as teas, bazaars, fundraising, social events and catering.

## **OFFICIAL SPOKESPERSON**

Some of the presidents, act as the official spokesperson at Mass, encouraging the opportunity of membership within the CWL and the benefits of being a League member. Other council presidents addressed "Care for our Common Home" initiatives whenever possible, concerns regarding the environmental impact, getting youth involved in the church, pornography issues, world day of prayer, and many more.

A percentage of 74% use the League letterhead when corresponding.

A survey question asked was, "Who provided the greatest assistance to you when you assumed the role of president? The key helpers were former past presidents, secretaries, treasurer and immediate past president. A reminder that a Life Member is

truthfully an invaluable resource and is there to assist you. Life members represent 16% of total membership.

Greatest challenges faced transitioning into the role of president were keeping members interested, followed by the amount of paperwork involved and not having a full slate of officers. The next challenges were finding the time, technology and recruiting of new members.

*Here are some of the actual quotes received form the questions highlighted.*

**What makes you most proud of your council?**

- My council is made of excellent women who get along and all work toward our common goals. They are very committed and I appreciate them.
- Honored and blessed to know the women in our prayer council.
- Our council has a number of dedicated, hard-working ladies. They are easy to get along with and very helpful with suggestions from their own past experiences. Our membership is very generous and willing to donate to assist our council in fundraising opportunities such as donating to bake sales, baking for funerals and monetary or the purchase of donations towards our council's various activities.
- Pride is not the first word that would come to mind. I'm honored and blessed to know the women in our prayer council.

**What was your biggest challenge as president?**

- The biggest challenge is trying to boost our membership with new members.
- Sisterhood in the league, and how do I make our members feel part of the CWL and become engaged and know that they are appreciated and that we are interested.
- Lack of people willing to take on leadership roles.
- Lack of immigrant members that does not reflect the reality of the church parish. Made a Multicultural cookbook hoping that food might be a bridge between cultures.
- Getting new and younger members.

**What was the greatest challenge in completing this survey?**

- Logging in. It would not accept our council code. I tried several times before it accepted. Some questions are not applicable to our council as we are small rural parish and there is no way to bypass the question.
- Getting into the system! Very difficult! I could not print out my answers. Had to consult with a computer business and with other members to even get in to the system.
- Actually, the on-line reporting system works very well. I had no challenges in completing the survey.
- If I could have read the survey ahead of completing it, it would have let me know what was being asked.

This concludes my report,

Pat Ward - President



**Bev Struch –  
Treasurer**

**WINNIPEG CWL DIOCESAN COUNCIL FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

**JANUARY 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019 to DECEMBER 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019**

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## **Angela Zalevich - Spiritual Development Standing Committee**

Number of Councils reporting 16 out of 27 (59%)

### **SPIRITUAL GROWTH OF MEMBERS**

56% of the councils studied the theme, *Care of Our Common Home*. Some invited a guest speaker, had a prayer service, studied Laudato Si and hosted a workshop. Five councils reported they spent one third of meeting time in spiritual growth activities of membership. Many councils organized various liturgical programs for their council such as Stations of the Cross and Living Rosaries. Large numbers participated in funeral honour guards, deceased members services, Mass intentions and prayers at meetings. Only 8 councils reported celebrating the Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel in some way. Nine councils are privileged to have their Spiritual Advisor attending meetings and 12 are able to attend Mass before their meetings.

### **STUDY OF THE CATHOLIC TEACHINGS**

Some of the resources used for Spiritual Development were Living with Christ missal, Lecto Divina, Vatican website, Word on Fire with Bishop Barron. Councils used the Peace and Development prayers, CWL Prays, articles from The Word Among Us and lay formation programs. Some of the programs used were The Eucharist in Scripture, The Synod, the Summons, CWL workshops and private retreats.

### **ROLE OF WOMEN IN THE CHURCH**

Only one council studied women in scripture and five promoted an awareness of women's place in church society found in scripture. Many of our members are involved in their parishes in leadership roles such as parish pastoral councils, parish committee chairpersons, finance and diocesan council/committees, and trustees. Only two reported joining the liturgy committee.

### **EVANGULIZATION AND MISSION ASSISTANCE**

Five councils worked with their Knights of Columbus in the Keep Christ in Christmas campaign. Five councils contacted Catholic Missions and offered assistance by way of monetary donations and clothing drives. Eleven councils have a subscription to the Catholic Missions of Canada magazine. Ten councils support other Canadian Missions, Kee-Pas, Esk-Omi, and St. Francis Xavier Mission.

## **LAY MINISTERIES**

Many Spiritual Development chairs participate in lay ministries in their parish and many members participate as well. 80% of our membership are leaders of ministries such as Eucharistic Ministers, lectors, choir, catechist, ushers, greeters, etc.

## **ECUMENISM AND INTERFAITH ENDEAVOURS**

Some councils reached out to women of other denominations of faith, but many participated in and promoted, Fellowship of Least Coin, Prayer for Christian Unity Week, Women's Inter-Church Council, World Day of Prayer and one also promoted WUCWO Day.

## **SUMMARY AND FINAL THOUGHTS**

One council reported that the ladies lead the Stations of the Cross during Lent, and also lead the rosary before Mass every Sunday all year round.

## **PERSONAL NOTE**

Many councils reported that our ladies are aging and 40% have been members for 25 years. It is encouraging to see how involved members are in their parishes and ministries. May our Lady of Good Counsel keep and guide them with a deep faith and light to do God's work for His people.

This concludes my report,

Angela Zalevich – Spiritual Development Chair





**Jo-Anne Souyri –**

## **Recording and Corresponding Secretary**

Council Reports: 16 Councils out of 27 (59%)

The Winnipeg Diocesan Council has 27 parish councils. Of these, 14 are within the City of Winnipeg and 13 are outside of Winnipeg. Sixteen parish councils completed the secretary survey. Of these councils reporting eight have a recording secretary and eight hold both positions of recording and correspondence secretary.

### **RECORDING SECRETARY:**

All 16 reporting councils have a recording secretary. One council reported that position of recording secretary was held for 5 years. Thirteen attend the executive and general meetings. Four distribute copies of the agenda. Roll call at meetings is taken by twelve secretaries. Twelve reported that they bring minute books to all meetings. Thirteen take the minutes at the meetings and most transcribe and distribute minutes of previous meeting for approval. Nine are signing officers. Eight assist the President with compilation of the annual report. Nine know where the council charter is located and eleven report that they maintain a list of the executive with their contact information. With regards to the motion book, ten report that they do not have a motion book. Regarding receiving written reports from the executive, most reported that they do not receive the reports. All reported that 5 years of council minutes are kept in the minute book before being turned over for archives. Twelve reporting councils have the “*Handbook for Secretaries*” from National and four reported they do not.

This concludes my report

Jo-Anne Souyri -Recording Secretary

### **CORRESPONDENCE SECRETARY:**

There are eight out of sixteen reporting councils who have a Correspondence Secretary. One Correspondence Secretary has held this position for 7 years. Six of eight say that they notify members of upcoming meetings and events. Methods used to advise members of upcoming meetings and events – four telephone, six e-mail, five use the parish bulletin, two use the parish bulletin board. In regards to sending out occasion cards, three said they send the cards. Eleven councils have a copy of the CWL Personal Letter Writing Guide from National.

Some challenges in 2019 for some of the councils are that some have computer issues with a computer program and others have no computer. Another council reported that

they are trying to go paperless so the minutes are on a flash drive and the flash drive will be passed on to the next secretary.

This concludes my report

Jo-Anne Souyri – Correspondence Secretary



**Chris Carlyle –  
Organization Standing Committee**

Parish Council Reports: 15 out of 27 councils reported (55%)

**RECRUIT MEMBERS AND MAINTAIN MEMBERSHIP**

Our membership continues to slowly decline year to year. Since 2018 we have had a decrease of 106 memberships in the Archdioceses of Winnipeg. The reasons for the decline are reported as, advanced age, death, and “not having time”. This is not surprising with close to 75% of our membership over the age of 65 years. Our goal to increasing membership is critical. We need new and younger members to be mentored by our experienced sisters and to grow into leadership roles.

Do our councils reflect the cultural diversity of our parishes? Many councils are trying to do just that by promoting cultural events and projects like a “Multi-Cultural Cookbook” or featuring a new member’s experience as a refugee coming to Canada. We can encourage these members by listening to their stories and honoring them.

Councils continue to recognize hard-working members by presenting Certificates of Recognition, long service pins, Maple Leaf pins and cards for special occasions.

The most successful recruitment strategies are by personal invitation and promoting the League in church bulletins, presentations at mass, social events, promotional displays

and never underestimate the importance of your Spiritual Advisor's support. New members are welcomed with "new member kits" and invitations to social events. Councils find it is a challenge to maintain contact with former members that find themselves unable to continue membership. The personal contact is the most used and successful strategy.

General meetings are held on a regular basis. It is reported members enjoy the comradery, sense of community, socializing, spiritual growth, and working toward common goals. The Catholic Women's League is a commitment to each other and our communities through faith, service and social justice.

Approximately 30% of annual membership submissions to National Office are done in writing. Most councils are using the online process. Good job!

### **LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**

Councils are encouraged to strive to accommodate the 90-minute meeting protocol of one third faith, fun and fulfilment. More than half of councils follow this guideline.

Leadership development days are attended by less than 25% of members. This could be due to distance in our largely rural archdiocese. There are opportunities to participate in leadership training/mentorship at presentations, diocesan conventions, fall workshops, strategic planning presentations and the National Convention, etc. We learn from each other, have fun together and experience the support of the League sisters. Of the councils reporting, many say the leaders of the councils have gone on to serve at diocesan and provincial levels.

The question was asked if councils are aware of the Catholic Women's Leadership Foundation? Most councils are familiar with the Foundation but have not promoted applications.

The Strategic Plan Presentation is available to be presented to all councils. Our future is exciting. Be part of it.

### **LEAGUE RESOURCE MATERIAL**

Many different resource materials are being utilized in the parish councils. Most councils access the Constitution and Bylaws, The Canadian League magazine, manuals, handbooks, National Policy and Procedures and many other online resources found on the CWL website. Promotional material and service pins can also be purchased through the National office.

### **ANNUAL REPORTS**

As we become more familiar with the online reporting, generally, more councils are participating. The reports have been often completed in a group setting or collaborating with other executive members using minutes, calendars and other records. The average participation rate in our diocese increased from 47% in 2018 to 57% in 2019. Way to go!!

### **LIFE MEMBERSHIP**

There are several criteria to be met before one can become a life member. One such criteria is "The nominee must have demonstrated her love of the League, her encouragement of others and her ability to participate in study, research, presentations, workshops, etc." Do you know someone who could be considered for nomination? Life

members have a great love of the League and bring years of knowledge and experience to our councils. They can participate at many levels of the league. Councils are encouraged to refer to Life Members for advice and mentorship. They have much to offer.

### **SUMMARY**

A frequently reported concern about the Organization report was questions related to age demographics of membership. Councils do not collect this information (birth year) so find they are generalizing and guessing at the age of members.

Of the 15 councils, 13 Organization Chairs were filled and 2 were vacant. 13 councils elected to the position and 7 were appointed.

Often, it seems, the Organization chair does not accept the secondary role of President-Elect. This is the natural step to the president position. Two years in the Organization role is the preparation to act as President in your council. Don't be afraid to take the step. None of us works alone. A wise person said, "No CWL member is an island."

In order for the League to grow, we support each other and take on new roles, learning as we go. We have a very bright future with the Strategic Plan being designed and rolled out in the near future. Let us all be a part of the future in faith and service as we are rooted and grounded in the love of Christ.

Thank you to all who participated in the annual report surveys this year. Valuable information was provided, as The Catholic Women's League leaders plan for the next 100 years

This concludes my report

Chris Carlyle – Organization

When  
we put *God* first,  
all other things  
fall into their *proper place.*



**Carol MacKenzie-Gruber –**

## **Christian Family Life Standing Committee**

Number of councils reporting 13 out of 27= 48%

**MARRIAGE AND FAMILY:** “The family is the basic cell of society. It is the cradle of life and love, the place in which the individual is ‘born’ and ‘grows’” (Christifideles Laici).

Family enrichment programs promoted or supported by councils included marriage preparation (1) and natural family planning (1). Three councils supported people suffering from domestic abuse through support of the S. V. Crisis Centre, Alpha House, Nova House, Willow House, and donated HUG items at the Provincial Council’s Day of Celebration and the Provincial Convention. One council attended a seminar or workshop on family life. Four councils celebrated or organized events for National Family Week, four celebrated Mother’s Day and special anniversaries, and two celebrated Father’s Day.

**SANCTITY OF LIFE:** The Catholic Women's League of Canada believes in life from its beginning to its natural end.

Seven out of 13 councils hold membership in a local pro-life organization. Councils attended the following Pro-Life events: 40 Days for Life (4), Life Chain (5), March for Life (7), National Week for Life and Family events (3), Pro-life Dinners (6), Pro-life masses (4), Pro-life Walks (5), Pro-life Vigils (1). Two councils out of 13 reporting councils attended or sponsored a presentation on St. Pope John Paul II’s ‘Theology of the Body’. Several councils donated money or gifts to the following organizations that advocate for sanctity of life: Campaign Life Coalition (2), Euthanasia Prevention Coalition (8), Life Canada (1), Pregnancy and Family Support Services, {THRIVE} (7), Priests for Life (1), local Pro-life organizations (5). Two councils have ensured that their members have a copy of The League’s current pro-life brochure and also made them available for other parishioners. No reporting councils have met with pro-life legislators, seven councils have written to legislators to advise them of The League’s resolutions on abortion and euthanasia, and seven councils pray regularly for the protection of life. Regarding National Council’s 2019 resolution that ‘Canada Honour Its Commitment to the United Nations *Convention on The Rights of the Child*,’ two councils addressed the part of the action plan *to educate members on the importance of legal protection for the unborn child*.

### **MINISTRY TO:**

**YOUTH:** Young people are the church, the people of God. Youth today have much to share; an exchange of ideas between generations is a source of growth and renewal for all.

Three of seven councils responded that they participated in programs for young people in their parishes.

Several councils encouraged young people to share their gifts in ministry: lectors (1), ushers (1), choir (1), catechists (1), serving at events (4), cleaning (2), other (3). Councils sponsored youth events: Catholic Christian Outreach (1), NET (1), summer camp (1), Sunday school (3), Youth conference (1), other (2). One council purchased subscriptions to Catholic magazine, books, or videos for use in the community, parish or school.

**DISABLED: The aim of each council is to create an attitude that regards disabled individuals not only as people to be loved and served, but as responsible partners in the church's mission.**

One council invited disabled persons to participate in liturgical celebrations. One council organized or participated in support groups and respite for caregivers. One council urged their community to make churches and other public buildings more accessible for wheelchair users. Three councils arranged for a special designated space with ease of access for wheelchair users in their church. Four councils supported shelters and programs designed to assist the disabled. Twelve of thirteen reporting councils have reached out to the disabled: brought communion (11), gave gifts for special occasions (1), sent cards (5), organized special events (2), prayed (8), visited or called (8), provided transportation (7).

**SENIORS: Seniors provide a gift to society of tradition and heritage acquired through a lifetime of experience.**

Our councils are very good at ministering to our seniors: brought communion (12), gifted them with membership (8), invited newly retired women to join (3), involved them in CWL events (11), organized social events (3), prayed with them (6), provided transportation (10), sent cards of encouragement (4), shared a meal (3), called (9), visited (10).

**WIDOWED: By the sharing of their gifts in church and society, the widowed may find their personal fulfillment in reaching out to others.**

All thirteen reporting councils provided outreach to the widows and widowers of their communities: arranged memorial services/funeral lunches (6), encouraged participation in parish programs (2), ensured there is a bereavement program in the parish (2), gifted them with prayer shawls (3), included them in family outings (1), invited them to attend community events (2), invited widows to attend CWL meetings and events (4), provided prayer and support after the death of a spouse (6), sent condolence cards (11), visited (9), called (9).

**SEPARATED AND DIVORCED: Many single and divorced people face the responsibility of raising children alone. The need to express the message of hope by offering assistance can be very beneficial.**

This area was not well addressed by the reporting councils. Two councils provided some support to their separated and divorced sisters or brothers: one council invited them to a group outing, and one offered time, if they needed a confidant. Some initiatives that perhaps could be undertaken is to provide the parish with copies of the new brochure "Annulments Today-Merciful and Just", available from the National Office. This brochure provides good advice for people that need it, but may not know where or how to get help. Another idea, taken from the survey, is to have a speaker in to talk about the annulment

process, so that if the occasion arises, members would be more confident in speaking about the annulment process to their separated or divorced friends.

**VOCATIONS: Religious vocations "are a gift from God" and "they are born in communities of faith..." (Ecclesia in America).**

All thirteen reporting councils actively promoted vocations to the priesthood or religious life this past year: adopted or supported a seminarian (7), encouraged families to invite priests and religious to their homes (3), hosted luncheons for priests and religious (3), offered masses for vocations (5), participated in prayers for vocations (9), sent spiritual bouquets (7), supported the priestly retirement fund (1), supported Serra (5), supported the travelling chalice/crucifix programs (1), other (1)-donated to the Diocesan Council's seminarian fund, and offered the Prayer for Priests and Prayer for Vocations at their meetings. One council read and shared Pope Francis' prayer for the 2019 World Day of Prayer for Vocations.

Councils were asked if they wanted to share on something they had done, or wanted to do. From the four councils that shared their ideas, they all focused in some way on family life or the sanctity of life: a baby bassinet was placed in the church in May, and items donated were given to the first baby born in May. The Family Conference held in May 2019 was promoted by the three archdioceses, the Catholic Women's League, Knights of Columbus, and local churches. A council started holding family nights to promote Advent and Lent and another council said its focus was always on some pro-life event, and some members participated in the 'Walk for Peace and Hope' during which they prayed the rosary in their first language, French.

Thank you to all councils who filled out this survey. God bless you for the good work you do 'For God and Canada.'

This concludes my report

Carol MacKenzie-Gruber – Christian Family Life

*Be still*  
and know  
that I am  
*God*  
-PSALM 46:10



**Eva Arsenault –**

## **Communications Standing Committee**

Number of councils reporting 13 out of 27 = 49 %

### **THE CANADIAN LEAGUE MAGAZINE**

The usefulness of the Canadian League magazine was rated as very good and excellent by 100% of the councils responding to the survey. The vast majority rated it very good as an educational tool, a resource for advocacy/action and a spiritual resource. Many thought the magazine was an asset for learning new ideas.

**MEDIA:** (definition - a means of mass communication including broadcasting, publishing and the internet)

### **FOR EVANGELIZATION**

In resolution 1978.03 Catholic Press encouraged members to subscribe to and promote Catholic newspapers, periodicals and magazines. When asked what media you supported financially or through subscription, only one council answered Mass for shut-Ins and Vision TV.

### **TO PROMOTE THE LEAGUE**

Our councils use many methods to promote their activities and events. The most commonly used by 100% of the councils is the church bulletin followed by the church bulletin board. The majority of members use personal contact by email and the telephone. Newsletters are prepared in 31% of councils. Other ways used to promote the League are parish websites, community websites and local radio stations. Over half of the councils encourage their members to visit CWL on Facebook and Twitter and 85% encourage members to use [cwl.ca](http://cwl.ca) for current information.

### **THE EVALUATION AND PROMOTION OF GOOD CONTENT**

39% of councils encouraged their members to monitor media content. However, in 2019 there were no instances of any councils speaking out about inappropriate content.

### **MEDIA RELATIONS**

69% of our councils have used local media to advertise their activities and events but only 31% have prepared news releases for the council. When asked if there is a budget set aside for publicity 100% of councils answered no.

### **PORNOGRAPHY**

Some members attended a seminar/conference on the topic of pornography while others read newspaper articles on the subject. The League's Pornography Hurts postcards were distributed throughout the year.

Some councils promoted the films **Over 18** and **Red Light Green Light** followed by information sessions. 31% of councils made their members aware of the lack of age verification controls on adult websites. Many councils encourage members to educate themselves and their families on safe, wise and responsible internet use.

This concludes my report

Eva Arsenault - Communication



**Donna Huck-**

**Community Life Standing Committee**

Council Reports: 13 Councils out of 27 (48%)

Thank you to everyone who took the time to do their reports. Your voice and your activities are important to CWL and we really want to hear about all the things you have done. We have 27 councils in our diocese. Of these 7 are prayer councils. Of

the 13 that reported 4 do not have a Community Life Committee Chairperson. Our reports this year had 5 main areas of activity:

### **DIGNITY AND RIGHTS OF PERSON**

The councils who reported have been generous with their funds donating in 6 areas such as: domestic violence, homelessness, human trafficking, poverty, racism, bullying and for those incarcerated. Members have also volunteered in most of these areas. Some councils had guest speakers and workshops to highlight these concerns.

Some of the items brought forth in the reports could use a little more attention:

- **United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights** – most councils were aware of it. It is a document that was signed by many countries in 1948 – we still seem to be a long way from full implementation. It is worth having some discussion and awareness on this.
- **Bill C-262: UN Declaration on Rights of Indigenous Persons** – only one council reported discussing this Bill.
- Discussion on the **works of KAIROS** – no councils discussed this subject.

- “Anglicans and Catholics Together for the Love of the Community” from the League magazine Spring 2019. One council discussed this article.
- **Resolution 2017.01** “Full Implementation of the Supreme Court Decision in R. V. Gladue for Indigenous Offenders” was discussed by some councils and letters were sent.

## **SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE**

As councils we support a number of initiatives that promote justice through our donations, prayers and volunteer hours. We donated to 14 of these causes, prayed for 10 and volunteered in 9 of these areas. Some of these include: affordable housing, anti-poverty, school programs, clothing drives, shelters (homeless and abuse), drop-in centers, food banks/hampers/soup kitchens, restorative justice and resources for single parents. A couple of areas that could be looked at more closely were **Restorative Justice programs** – what they are and how they work, as well as **CNEWA – the Catholic Near East Welfare Association**. Some councils donate to CNEWA to support the Leagues partnership with this organization.

## **REFUGEES, IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP**

Most councils are not familiar with Canada’s Immigration policies. We do have a better understanding of the needs of immigrants in our own communities including: employment services, English language courses, financial assistance (rent and food), and number of immigrants in our communities and their country of origin.

Of those who reported 6 understand the difference between immigrants, temporary foreign workers and refugees. Most have not participated in Citizenship ceremonies but most do attend Remembrance Day services and wear poppies. Only 4 councils wear red on Fridays to support our troops.

We could pay more attention to **Resolution 2016.01 re: Equal Access to Permanent Residence Status, An Amendment to the Immigrant and Refugee Protection Act**.

Only one council wrote letters, and 2 have monitored the government response. No councils created outreach programs or hosted guest speakers.

## **CANADIAN CATHOLIC ORGANIZATION FOR DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE (CCODP)**

While this is a reporting header there were no questions on the reports regarding CCODP and no direction has been given at this time regarding the 1% campaign.

## **DEVELOPING COUNTRIES**

This area calls us to look beyond our communities and our borders to see what is happening in the rest of the world. We are asked to consider child labour in other countries, trade laws and global practices, economic difficulties of developing countries, and structures that put profits before people. A few councils are aware of these issues, some are “somewhat aware”, but most are not aware.

We have donated to a number of organizations that work in developing countries including: Canadian Food for Children, Red Cross, Malaria Nets, Chalice, Save a Family Plan, Operation Christmas Child, Pennies for the Poor and the Holy Childhood Association.

One council signed the Petition of One Million – a Pro-Life petition started in 1975 with over a million signatures which was presented to Pierre Trudeau and was resurrected in 2019 to be sent to Justin Trudeau.

**COUNCILS ALSO HAVE SOME CONCERNS:**

- This is a very large area of responsibility and it is difficult to be effective in all these areas. Most councils tend to focus on smaller more local concerns that they feel they can make a difference in.
- Struggles with computer usage and the reporting process
- Lack of members to take on areas of concern – one person cannot do it all.

This concludes my report

Donna Huck – Community Life.

*“We can do no great things, only small things with great love”  
Mother Teresa*



**Claudette Peters-  
Education and Health Standing Committee**

Number of councils reporting 15 out of 27 = 55%

**CATHOLIC EDUCATION**

**Catholic Schools and Catechesis:**

Catholic schools and religious instruction in parishes strive to develop the spirituality of our young people. Of the councils reporting, approximately three quarters of councils have engaged in supporting programs. In becoming involved with the education programs, councils are better able to assess the quality of these programs. About half of the councils have encouraged parents to participate in their children’s religious education. There are a few Catholic schools in the Archdiocese with most located within city limits. As a result, few councils are aware of family life programs in the Catholic schools or have investigated the needs in the schools that could be met by councils.

**Rites of Christian Initiation:**

When asked if they have become involved with Rites of Christian Initiation in the parish, all councils reporting said “no”.

**LITERACY AND CONTINUING EDUCATION**

Approximated half of councils have encouraged members to assist in literacy programs.

**SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES**

There are many opportunities to participate in scholarships and bursaries. Of the reporting councils approximately 20% have identified financial support needs within the Catholic schools. Contributions are made through bursary and scholarship funds for both elementary aged children and high school students plus assisting with field trips, extracurricular activities and reading programs. Half of the councils are aware of scholarships and bursaries available for Catholic women to further their education. Two councils contributed to a scholarship to assist these women. One council is establishing a “Community Service Award” for an elementary student at their local Catholic school. Internationally, three quarters of reporting councils donated to Coady International Institute and many promoted the National Bursary Fund.

**WELLNESS AND SICKNESS**

Councils actively promote and support national organizations that focus on health and wellness. Some of these organizations are MaterCare International, Canadian Cancer Society, Heart & Stroke Foundation, Relay for Life, etc. Few councils promoted in the Mental Health postcard campaign but palliative care was an important topic. Many councils recognized palliative care by arranging prayer services, supplying brochures, held discussion evenings, wrote letters to government officials, and held special services during Palliative Care Week.

Approximately half of the participating councils had members who donated blood through the Canadian Blood Services Partners for Life Program.

**ENVIRONMENT**

Although few councils participated in the CWL Water Pledge Challenge or the United Nations World Water Day, many did hold discussions on water conservation, use of plastic straws and encouraged reusable water bottles. One council hosted speakers on river clean-up and water treatment to city water supplies. Also discussed was preservation of wetlands, marshes and river systems. There was little action taken for Earth Action Initiative or Earth Day but councils did promote water conservation, planting gardens, reduction in use of chemical and car pooling to reduce fuel consumption. We are attempting to reduce use of styrofoam containers, encourage recycling, use of reusable water bottles, reduce paper and collect green waste for composting.

**GENETICS**

Most councils report a fair to good knowledge of technology in genetics within Catholic teaching. Some would like to research more on the topic. Some plan to subscribe to Canadian Bioethics magazine to improve their knowledge.

## **SUMMARY**

Approximately half of the councils participated in the online survey. With practise and encouragement this will improve. Councils reported supporting other areas in Education and Health like learning about ALS, residential school experiences and effect on families, and mental health awareness.

Only a third of the councils reported this committee as vacant. Members are interested in education and health issues particularly as we age.

Congratulations on good work.

This concludes my report

Claudette Peters – Education & Health



### **Arlene Elves- Legislation Standing Committee**

Council Reports: 12 Councils out of 27 (47%)

Again, this year there were 12 councils responding to the legislation survey. Six councils had a legislation chairperson, and 6 did not. Of the six councils who did not have a legislation chairperson, an attempt was made to fill out the survey, especially the areas concerning government bills. This is much appreciated!

All respondents were aware of their government representatives at all levels. Most felt they were fairly well informed in government issues, particularly at the federal level. Interestingly, only 33% accessed Hansard. There were no provincial bills monitored or acted upon. One person raised the concern about the state of health care in Manitoba—long wait times for replacement surgery, ER closures, working conditions. Letters to the federal government were sent in support of *Resolution 2018.01: “Setting a Standard for Products Marketed as Flushable”*, for *Resolution 2019.02: “Canadian Support for the United Nations “Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons”*, and *Resolution 2018.03: “Legislate Designation of Hospice /Palliative Care Services in*



## **AT PROVINCIAL AND NATIONAL LEVELS, PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS TO GOVERNMENT**

Two councils signed petitions and 2 wrote letters to provincial and federal governments. Three made members aware of resolutions through meetings, emails and/or newsletters. One council arranged for a guest speaker.

### **SUMMARY AND FINAL THOUGHTS**

Of the councils reporting, eight said that the position is vacant. Thoughts shared at the end of the survey include: Biggest challenges were finding a pertinent topic to write a resolution, keeping on top of past resolutions and getting members interested in doing a resolution.

This concludes my report

Colleen Zaluski - Resolutions



### **Rose Anne Seymour- Past President**

Number of councils reporting 16 out of 27 = 59%

#### **SERVE IN A CONSULTATIVE CAPACITY**

The majority of past presidents have attended all scheduled meetings and events including executive and general meetings. About half have attended social events that were CWL related while less than half have attended CWL spiritual events. When called upon for advice, only 36% were called upon less than once a month and even less monthly or once a week. The majority of past presidents said their presidents felt supported and encouraged by their help. It seems that past presidents are still ready and available to support their presidents when called upon.

#### **RESPONSIBLE FOR ARCHIVES AND HISTORY**

The past presidents are mostly responsible for their council's archives. These archives are stored mostly in the CWL room, cupboard or filing cabinet at the church. A lesser majority store them in the church hall or office. An overwhelming majority know the

whereabouts of their council charter. As mentioned before, filing cabinets are the main method of storage with about 50% of the councils keeping annual reports indefinitely. A strong majority of councils keep their Book of Life indefinitely and also their deceased members histories. On average financial information is kept for 5 to 8 years. Lists of past executives are kept by the majority of councils indefinitely. Membership renewal data is kept indefinitely by half of the councils. Over half of the councils keep minutes of executive meetings indefinitely with 6% not keeping any of the minutes. General meeting minutes and records of pin and award recipients are kept indefinitely by only 56% of the councils. Written reports of executive members are kept indefinitely by less than half of the councils. The percentage is much higher for records of years of service of members being kept indefinitely. It is surprising to note that council archives are reviewed as needed by a large number of councils and most of these councils maintain a history book and photo album.

### **FACILITATE THE STUDY AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS**

Almost all councils have a copy of the Constitution and Bylaws and about half rarely use it while a smaller number use it multiple times a year. About  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the councils have a copy of the National Manual of Policy and Procedure but the majority of councils rarely if ever use it. As for the councils' own Policy and Procedure manual, 63% say they have one and 60% update it whenever a policy is changed while 40% do it every two years. A small majority of councils have never sought advice from the diocesan executive while half have never or rarely sought advice from the provincial executive and or the national executive. The national office was rarely sought out for advice by half of the councils with small percentages of councils either contacting National quarterly or annually. The same went for seeking advice from their spiritual advisor. Almost  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the councils never sought advice from their bishop. Seeking advice from life members was just as bad with half never calling on them and  $\frac{1}{4}$  rarely seeking their advice.

### **FACILITATE THE STUDY AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MANUAL OF POLICY AND PROCEDURE (national and provincial)**

### **OTHER DUTIES AS ASSIGNED BY THE PRESIDENT**

There were many other duties undertaken at the request of the council's president. Some of the top ones were promoting the council in the parish and community, checking the national and provincial websites for information to share, filling the role of a vacant position, organizing a fundraiser or a charity or social event. Past presidents were also asked to represent their council at conventions. About  $\frac{1}{3}$  were asked to chair a nominations and elections committee or organize a spiritual event. There were many other duties and it was nice to see the past presidents taking an active role in helping in their councils when called upon by the presidents.

At the end of the survey, past presidents were asked a few questions about their term as past president. I have highlighted a few to show the extent that past presidents are alive and active in their councils.

In reflecting on the past presidents' terms as presidents, a question was asked on how they could make their successor's experience more enjoyable and fulfilling and the majority of comments centered on being there for her as a consultant, supporter and

encourager. Computer skills were also being put to the test. There was great support for the implementation of the envisioned future of the League through Planning Strategically 2018-2020. Most councils were eager to see the implementation in place. They have studied and become informed of the new initiatives through presentations and meetings. Some of the final questions dealt with sharing of greatest successes (new ideas, projects and workshops), greatest challenges in council work, greatest challenges completing this survey and sharing any other council activities not reported yet. Councils listed many new projects and ideas which included rummage sales, lap quilts, fundraisers and being more visible in the community and supporting the community as well. The majority of councils stressed the need for new active members when it came to challenges in council work. Almost all the councils have issues getting new members and keeping the ones they have. As for the challenges completing this survey, most councils had computer related issues from being computer illiterate to not being able to access the survey for awhile. The last question on sharing other council activities had the councils list projects that they wanted to share and this ranged from hosting the 2020 Provincial convention to collecting tabs for wheelchairs and collecting used stamps. The councils are busy with many projects in their parishes and the community. Half of the responding councils were from rural areas. Almost 90% of the councils had past presidents with 1/3 of the past presidents being members for more than 25 years. A lot of the past presidents have held this position previously and were in the 55 to 64 age group. It was an honour and pleasure to read the past presidents' surveys and to see the wonderful work that they have been doing and continue to do for God and Canada in the Catholic Women's League of Canada.

This concludes my report

Rose Anne Seymour  
CWL Winnipeg Diocesan Past President



## Parish Council Highlights 2019



*“Christ has no body now but yours  
No hands, no feet on earth but yours.  
Yours are the eyes through which He looks  
Compassion on this world  
Yours are the feet with which He walks to do good  
Yours are the hands with which He blesses all the world  
Yours are the hands, Yours are the feet  
Yours are the eyes, You are His body  
Christ has no body now on earth but yours”*

*St Teresa of Avila*

**W1 SACRED HEART – Prayer Council****MELITA****Contact: Loretta Fewings****Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Darius Biliran****Members: 11 Life Members: 0 Bellelle Guerin Award: 0**

- Penny Parade Bazaar Tea
- Participation in Ecumenical Children’s “Vacation Bible School”
- Extra support through our CWL to help maintain our parish.

**W3 HOLY GHOST****WINNIPEG****President: Teresa Driskell****Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Jacek Nosowicz, OMI****Members: 54 Life Members: 0 Bellelle Guerin Award: 0**

- Our parish hosted a Time and Talent display. The CWL displayed an information sheet on council activities, photo album and Book of Life showing parishioners the variety of ways they can use their time and talent within the CWL to contribute to parish life.
- 12 Hours of Prayer for palliative care started and ended with Mass. Many groups and parishioners participated in prayer throughout the day.
- We sold perogies and cabbage rolls at the Stewardship Fair. Funds raised were donated to charities such as Life’s Vision, Sisters of Charity and parish needs. We showed the parish how we work together to accomplish great things and have fun doing it.

**W7 OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP****WINNIPEG****President: (Acting) Stella Ross****Spiritual Advisor: Msgr. Maurice Comeault****Members: 130 Life Members: 2 Bellelle Guerin Award: 0**

- Continued our commitment with Catholic Missions of Canada to create a \$10,000 endowment from our CWL council.
- Organized and held four “Coffee Klatches” whereby parishioners could socialize over a cup of coffee and light refreshments after Sunday Masses in order to get to know

one another better. Activities for children were available to encourage parents with young children to attend.

- Held a lighthearted informal evening for prospective and current CWL ladies entitled “Birds of a Feather”. Ladies were encouraged to reflect on their unique personality traits and decide which bird they most closely related with. It was an amusing way to identify each person’s natural strengths and offered possibilities to learn opportunities for growth

**W9 OUR LADY OF VICTORY- Prayer Council**

**WINNIPEG**

**Contact: Florence Bevel**

**Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Eric Zadji**

**Members: 30 Life Members: 0 Bellelle Guerin Award: 0**

- We recite the rosary before meetings and before Sunday Mass.
- Our bake sake continues to be a highlight at our parish which we are proud to put on each year.
- As a prayer council, we are available for funeral wakes when required. Our parish priest gives us good support by announcing CWL news.

**W10 NOTRE DAME**

**SELKIRK**

**President: Alane Cason**

**Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Stan Gacek**

**Members: 78 Life Members: 1 Bellelle Guerin Award: 1**

- Our council hosted the 2019 Fall Meeting and Workshop October 5. In keeping with the theme of Care of Our Common Home, our guest speaker spoke of the Red River Operation Clean-up and Saving Our Water-ways.
- In November Dan McDermid, Director of Operations with the City of Selkirk spoke to us about the water treatment systems and related it to the resolution 2018.02: Setting a Standard for Products Marketed as Flushable. After the meeting ladies signed letters to be sent to government officials.
- Project ECHO- In June we donated \$1000 to the Rotary Club toward the planned purchase of an Echocardiography machine for the health region.

**W11 SACRED HEART****VIRDEN****President: Bev Eilers****Spiritual Advisor: Reverend Leo Fernandes****Members: 58 Life Members: 0 Bellelle Guerin Award: 0**

- Pillow cases and receiving blankets were made and donated to Pregnancy Crisis Centre along with large layettes of clothing.
- Our members and parishioners took part in the Baby Bottle Fundraiser for Pregnancy Support Centre of Westman.
- Members attended World Day of Prayer at the Victory Church in Virden while another group attended the service at Oakview Seniors Residence in Oak Lake.

**W13 ST. ANTONINUS- Prayer Council****DELORAINÉ****Contact: Dolores Howden****Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Darius Biliran****Members: 34 Life Members: 0 Bellelle Guerin Award: 0**

- Hosted a St Patrick's Day Tea attended by 78 people.
- Catered to a 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.
- Held our annual Fall Supper in the community's new complex serving over 400 people.

**W14 ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA (WK)****WINNIPEG****President: Anna Sanduliak****Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Dominic Yuen****Members: 97 Life Members: 0 Bellelle Guerin Award: 0**

- Volunteers from our council served a hearty lunch at Immaculate Conception Drop-In Centre to approximately 150 people. We ordered pre-made stew from Salisbury House Restaurant and served it with mashed potatoes and buns.
- We hosted a fall fashion show and lunch, accompanied with rainbow auction. This event has proven to be one of our more popular fundraisers. The clothes featured were from Great Finds and Lee River boutique.
- We held our first Winter Craft and Bake sale at the parish. We rented 25 tables to a variety of crafters and vendors. The baking was all donated by our council members.

**W15 ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY****BRANDON****President: Linda D. Seitz****Spiritual Advisor: Fr. John Okosun****Members: 122 Life Members: 4 Bellelle Guerin Award: 4**

- Fall Supper- This year our CWL made a bold move and said “Yes” when the Knights of Columbus asked us to partner with them in putting on the Fall Supper feeding more than 600 people. The profits went back to the Knights toward purchasing a new dishwasher. The best part of the experience was seeing the joint efforts working together making our church family more of a community.
- Multicultural Cookbook – Food is the bridge between cultures and our parish reflects the ethnic diversity of many countries and peoples. Our CWL does not reflect this diversity. A Multicultural Cookbook was our way to engage ethnic diversity and feature 29 different cultures. It has been a big success selling 300 copies with profits going toward kitchen renovation.
- Community Involvement- Members volunteer for the Salvation Army Christmas Kettle, wrap gifts in the Mall for CNIB, knit mitts for the Bear Clan, lay wreaths at Remembrance Day ceremonies, deliver Meals on Wheels and participate in World Day of Prayer.

**W16 OUR LADY OF LOURDES****WINNIPEG****President: Vera (Vladka) Mohoric****Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Diosdado Parrenas****Members: 43 Life Members: 0 Bellelle Guerin Award: 0**

- World Day of Prayer was attended by 5 different faith-based churches. The program was written by the women of Slovenia. We are an ethnic Slovenian Parish and welcomed the invitation to participate. We showcased our food, and cultural artifacts.
- A donation of \$500 was presented to Sr. Dorica Sever, who ministers at the mission in Bakers Lake, Nunavut. Money was raised through donations from Sunday coffee.
- We donated \$353.00 toward seven new albs for the altar servers. We also support a foster child through Chalice Canada.

**W17 ST. COLUMBA****SWAN RIVER****President: Shari Eggie****Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Norberto Monton****Members: 20 Life Members: 0 Bellelle Guerin Award: 1**

- Pilgrimage/visit to Our Lady of Seven Sorrows Church in Camperville. CWL members and parishioners of St Columba Parish participated in Mass celebrated by Fr. John and Fr. Nor.
- One member sewed 8 bags that were presented to the chemo department in our local hospital. These are for patient's personal items.
- We enjoyed a Mrs. Magoo presentation by Linda Seitz.

**W18 ST. EDWARD THE CONFESSOR****WINNIPEG****President: Molet Mejos****Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Abel****Members: 42 Life Members: 0 Bellelle Guerin Award:**

- Our council donated a large Christmas tree with some decorations to St Joseph's Residence along with a \$100.00 cheque.
- There are 3 residents that have no visitor's year- round so we played Secret Santa and gifted them with warm blankets.
- We collected and filled 12 purses with items such as socks, scarves, gloves, toothpaste, toothbrushes, etc donating them to Sisters of Charity along with a \$100.00 cheque.

**W19 ST. JAMES ASSINIBOIA****WINNIPEG****President: Janice Butler****Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Michael Wollbaum****Members: 148 Life Members: 1 Bellelle Guerin Award: 0**

- We hosted the Annual Diocesan Convention attended by 100 sisters of the League. This gave us the opportunity to reach out to the Indigenous community of Ebb and Flow and in the spirit of reconciliation we donated \$1300.00 toward rebuilding their church.
- In support of Catholic education, we are building a relationship with St Charles School by establishing a Student Award to be presented in June. We also supported the Christmas Market by attending, donating baking and providing Mrs. Claus.

- We launched our centenary project in November. Partnering with End Homelessness Winnipeg we are sewing 1000 fabric tote bags to be filled with 1000 combs/brushes, socks and water bottles.

<b>W23 ST. JOHN BREBEUF</b>	<b>WINNIPEG</b>
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**Presidents: Suzanne Thille**

**Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Wayne Morrissey**

**Members: 64 Life Members: 0 Bellelle Guerin Award: 0**

- We held a potluck in support of the Holy Land through the Associates of the Child Jesus.
- We gave support to Chez Nous by hosting a reception for a benefit concert provided by the Joie de Vivre Choir. Members volunteer at Chez Nous weekly and collect clothes and food at the back of the church.
- We provided an Honor Guard for the funeral of two active members who passed away this year.

<b>W24 ST. JOHN CANTIUS</b>	<b>WINNIPEG</b>
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**President: Nancy Lysack**

**Spiritual Advisor: Fr Yolando Gamallo**

**Members: 50 Life Members: 0 Bellelle Guerin Award: 1**

- We collected 42 packages for HUG at our summer wind-up. 19 packages were given to North End Women's Resource Centre, 12 to Ndinawe Safe House for youth at risk, 11 to Elizabeth Fry Society of Manitoba. Information for each organization was presented at the September meeting.
- We held a Living Rosary on October 12 with over 30 people attending. Each decade was led by a different group from church.
- We have started doing the Lectio Divina at regular meetings. This is done during our Spiritual report with most members reading the Gospel and several giving their thoughts or ideas on personal application.

**W28 ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL****WINNIPEG****President: Shirley Nolan****Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Geoffrey Angeles****Members: 17 Life Members: 0 Bellelle Guerin Award: 0**

- Several members walked and prayed with Life Chain at Health Science Center Hospital in October.
- The council sponsored 2 young people to attend Life's Vision Banquet and presentation on Bioethics.
- We held our annual Advent donations event, the "Fill the Crib for Villa Rosa". Donations of articles are for babies and mothers who receive the services of Villa Rosa.

**W29 ST. JOSEPH****WINNIPEG****President: Kathleen Darlington****Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Boguslaw Wardzinski****Members: 24 Life Members: 0 Bellelle Guerin Award: 0**

- Our Council held two Communion Breakfasts. We were very pleased with the high number in attendance.
- We cooked and served dinner for a Deanery Meeting that was held at our church.
- We had our Christmas dinner for members.

**W30 ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER****RUSSELL****President: Margaret Mushumanski****Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Paul Bisson****Members: 19 Life Members: 0 Bellelle Guerin Award: 0**

- We lead the Rosary before Mass every Sunday during the month of May and October.
- We entertain and serve lunch at the Personal Care Home twice a year.
- We serve funeral lunches in our parish whenever needed plus host a Christmas Party for all our ladies in the parish which is very well attended.

**W32 ST. THERESA'S - Prayer Council****MIDDLECHURCH****President: Joan Shaw, Joan Sobieski (Contacts)****Spiritual Advisor: Fr. David Kowalski****Members: 63 Life Members: 0 Bellelle Guerin Award:**

- Our Prayer Council presented a 3-part Pro-life Awareness Campaign open to invited guests from surrounding parishes and all parishioners. Part 1 – movie “Unplanned” Part 2 – movie “Fatal Flaws” Part 3 – Dr. Larry Rados presenting on Abortion and Euthanasia.
- Proceeds from a successful Bake and Craft Sale will help meet our charitable obligations to Provincial and Diocesan Councils and charities of choice.
- Thanks to the perogy fundraiser a \$500 donation was made for our church Capital Fund Raising Project for the parking lot.

**W33 ST. MICHAEL'S - Prayer Council****GIMLI****President: Mary Desveaux or Marilee Patteson****Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Marcelino****Members: 32 Life Members: 0 Bellelle Guerin Award: 0**

- Our CWL is supporting the new parking lot purchased for St. Michael's Parish last year. We have contributed \$1000 toward cost by making cabbage rolls, perogies, baking and silent auction.
- Purchased new vestments for Fr. Michael Nwosu with proceeds of our Convention held 2018.
- We continue to support our community twice annually by hosting bingo at Betel Care Home, providing home “goodies” and helping the seniors with their bingo cards. We do this on Valentine's Day and on Halloween, where some of our members dress up to make it more festive.

**W34 ST. PETER'S****WINNIPEG****President: Donna Candelaria****Spiritual Advisors: Msgr. Enrique M. Samson Jr.****Rev. Napolian Suvakin (Jan-Aug)****Rev. Efoe (Emmanuel) Anani (Sept-Dec)****Members: 51 Life Members: 0 Bellelle Guerin Award: 1**

- We continued to support the HUG campaign by donating 151 packages valued at \$10,688. A binder was displayed a National Convention in Calgary detailing the project.
- We held a prayer service prior to our morning meetings. We discussed water conservation issues and kept our members updated on our shut-ins and nursing home residents.
- Our perogy fundraiser allowed us to subsidize our member's per capita dues and subsidized attending CWL events like conventions and workshops and helped meet our charitable commitments. We also supported our Save a Family, family.

<b>W35 ST. VITAL</b>	<b>WINNIPEG</b>
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**President: Heather Gusnowsky**

**Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Mark A. Tarrant**

**Members: 40 Life Members: 0 Bellelle Guerin: 0**

- Speaker from Willow Place. We collected and donated items needed.
- We have a CWL Corner in our Parish Bulletin to keep the parishioners informed about CWL events and activities.
- We had a Bake Sale and sold Memory Angels. A monetary donation was given to Micah House which is run through the Catholic Center for Social Justice of the Archdiocese of Winnipeg.

<b>W38 ST. VIATOR'S</b>	<b>DAUPHIN</b>
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**President: Marian Garlinski**

**Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Michael Nault**

**Members: 75 Life Members: 0 Bellelle Guerin Award: 0**

- Catch the Fire Workshop held in March was attended by over 20 ladies from our council and beyond. Excellent presenters from Provincial and Diocesan Councils lead us. We were able to facilitate the event with financial support from the National Development Fund.
- Many attended the movie "Unplanned" at our local theater finding it an eye opening, shocking movie. It was sponsored by our local Pro-Life Group (Parkland League for Life) which we support financially.
- Annual Rummage Sale in September is a CWL event where the parish at large joins us to socialize and work to offer our community a way to recycle and reuse clothing and other items. We also have the opportunity to interact with community. The

remaining clothing is donated to a local charity for those in need and they in turn send the items to Northern communities.

**W41 ST. DOMINIC'S**

**NEEPAWA**

**Presidents: Mary Platt**

**Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Mark Filips**

**Members: 44 Life Members: 0 Bellelle Guerin Award: 0**

- We continue to visit our sick and shut-ins and sending cards to those that are ill. In May we honored members with service pins and roses.
- Our Spring Soup and Sandwich Luncheon and Parish Bake Sale was a great success as were the First Communion and Confirmation lunches.
- We held our Christmas Craft Sale with our members making 100's of dozens of cookies, perogies and spring rolls. We had several craft tables and served a hot lunch

**W42 GOOD SHEPHERD - Prayer Council**

**PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE**

**President: Bernadette LeLieve/Kerry McGown**

**Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Gerald Langevin**

**Members: 15 Life Members: 0 Bellelle Guerin Award: 0**

- We continue to support the parish in various ministries and activities.
- Funeral lunches & raffle to raise funds for student bursary, office furniture, and other charitable commitments in excess of \$6000 per year.
- We contributed to a new Adult Faith Formation Bursary initiated by the parish.

**W43 SACRED HEART - Prayer Council**

**ROBLIN**

**President/Contact: Jeannine Landry**

**Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Bastin Gna Arockiyam**

**Members: 10 Life Members: 0 Bellelle Guerin Award: 0**

- We lead the Rosary as a council before Sunday Mass during the month of May using the Pro-Life intentions. Then in the fall we once again lead the Rosary before Mass during 40 Days for Life using the pro-Life intentions.

- In December we spearhead the Christmas decorating the public areas in the Personal Care Home. We are joined by parishioners and community members, followed by a social gathering sharing Christmas baking with the staff.
- We are involved with Project Christmas Dinner helping organize, pack, and deliver hampers for needy families in our area.

**W44 ST. GIANNA BERETTA MOLLA – Prayer Council**

**WINNIPEG**

**President: Rebecca Skinner (Acting)**

**Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Darren Gurr**

**Members: 7 Life Members: 0 Bellelle Guerin Award: 0**

- CWL members participate in Perpetual Adoration Chapel Prayer Ministry by devoting 1 hour per member each week in prayer.
- We read the biography of St. Gianna Molla learning about her charisms. We are following her example, to be more faithful disciples of Christ.
- Our 7 CWL members are part of a larger Women's Faith Group of 30 women who meet every couple months. The theme of our meetings follows the Liturgical Year studying The Word of God with discussion points and meditation.



*"I pray that you being rooted and firmly established in love,  
 May be able to comprehend with all of the Saints,  
 What is the length and width, height and depth  
 Of God's Love."*

*Ephesians 3: 17-18*

## TREATY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I would like to acknowledging that we are in Treaty 1 territory, and that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of Asishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota and Dene People's, and on the homeland of the Metis Nation.



# **WINNIPEG DIOCESAN COUNCIL**

## **STANDING RULES OF 99th ANNUAL**

### **CONVENTION**

Each convention sets its own standing rules in accordance with *Robert's Rules of Order*. They are applicable for the duration of the convention in session only. Even though the standard rules may be the same from one year to the next, the rules must be adopted by each new convention.

At the beginning of the business session of a convention, the rules are read and a motion is proposed, discussed and voted on to adopt the standing rules of the convention. The motion to adopt the standing rules requires a two-thirds majority vote; a motion to rescind or amend the rules once they have been adopted required a two-thirds majority vote; and a motion to suspend a rule requires a majority vote.

1. Each person attending the convention shall register at the convention registration desk and shall be required to wear the official convention badge for admission to all meetings.
2. Voting cards shall be issued to the voting members (of the Winnipeg Diocese) and these cards must be exhibited when a member votes.
3. Voting delegates shall sit within the areas designated for them at all business sessions of the convention unless prior arrangement has been made with the Chair.
4. No member shall speak more than once or longer than two minutes on the same motion or issue without permission of the Chair, but the mover may reply before the vote is taken.
5. Only resolutions submitted to the Resolutions Standing Committee in advance of this convention shall be considered for presentation to the convention.
6. No goods shall be distributed, displayed or sold at this convention without the prior approval of the Chair



# **ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER**

The League follows Robert's Rules of Order. A booklet titled 'Parliamentary Procedure at a Glance' by O. Garfield Jones based on Robert's Rules of Order is available from the CWL National Office. (Item No. 53)

**Section 1** – The chair shall (a) state all questions, motions and resolutions to the meeting before they are open to discussion; and (b) put all questions, motions and resolutions to the meeting before the vote is taken thereon.

**Section 2** – All motions shall be submitted in writing before they are presented to the meeting except

- a) to postpone the reading of the minutes;
- b) to suspend the order of business;
- c) to lay on the table;
- d) to postpone a discussion;
- e) to call the previous question;
- f) for a vote of thanks;
- g) to adjourn;
- h) to nominate.

**Section 3** – Every motion shall have a seconder except a motion to nominate. A motion that is not seconded shall not be put to the meeting and shall not be recorded in the minutes.

**Section 4** – Members, when speaking, shall stand, address the Chair, and endeavor to be terse and audible.

**Section 5** – The mover shall have the privilege of speaking first to a motion and the seconder next.

**Section 6** – When two or more members stand at the same time to speak, the Chair shall determine the order in which those members shall speak.

**Section 7** – During the discussion of a question, each speaker shall be limited to three minutes.

**Section 8** – A member may request that the question or motion be repeated or re-read but must not interrupt a speaker.

**Section 9** – No member shall speak more than once to the same question or motion without the consent of the Chair, but the mover may reply before the vote is taken.

**Section 10** – No member shall speak to a question or motion after the Chair has asked for the yeas and nays.

**Section 11** – Only one amendment to the amendment shall be allowed, but when an amendment to the amendment has been disposed of, another amendment may be proposed. An amendment to the amendment shall be voted on first, the amendment next, and the motion last.

**Section 12** – When a question has been decided, any member who has voted in the majority may move for a reconsideration of the question at the same meeting or, subject to previous notice being given, at the next regular meeting. No discussion of the main question shall be allowed unless the motion for reconsideration has been carried by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at the meeting.

**Notes**

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## Acknowledgements

The compilation of the 99<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention Book was made possible only with the assistance, support and encouragement of the convention book committee – Colleen Zaluski, Pat Ward and myself, Chris Carlyle.

To fit into the convention book, some reports have been re-formatted and edited by the Convention Book Committee.



*“The fruit of silence is prayer  
The fruit of prayer is faith.  
The fruit of faith is love.  
The fruit of love is service.  
The fruit of service is peace.”*

*Mother Teresa*