



Timmins Diocesan Council
The Catholic Women's League
"Care for our Common Home"



DIOCESAN NOTES Issue #4

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"The pain of your loneliness may be rooted in your deepest vocation. You might find that your loneliness is linked to your call to live completely for God. Thus your loneliness may be revealed to you as the other side of your unique gift. Once you can experience in your innermost being the truth of this, you may find your loneliness not only tolerable but even fruitful. What seemed primarily painful may then become a feeling that, though painful, opens for you the way to an even deeper knowledge of God's love."

Henri Nouwen

The **Provincial Winter Meeting** was held in Toronto Jan. 30 – Feb. 1st. Fr. Paul Gaudet, filling in for Archbishop Prendergast, spoke to us on "Spiritual Loneliness" on Thursday evening. Our basic longing is to have others in our lives, to have God. In scripture, God says, "It is not good for man to be alone"; then there was separation between God and man. We were reminded of the importance of prayer; taking the time to give God a chance to fill the void within us. God is always there.

In keeping with the provincial theme of 'loneliness', OPC will be sending "Thinking of You" cards to anyone who has been at the provincial table, who might enjoy receiving one. Several names were put forth and I have submitted Past President Linda Watchorn's name; please keep her in your prayers.

CENTENARY PROJECT – Tree Planting events – We are being encouraged to plant a tree in our communities in a place of honour, to take a picture and send it to National Office by July 1st. See page 2 of the Winter League magazine for details.

Plans are in the works for the **government visit**, tentatively October 27/28th. Resolutions and other matters of concern to our members will be brought to the attention of MPPs and their staff.

SISTERHOOD PROJECT – Sault Ste Marie Diocesan CWL – Sudbury is a health care centre for the north and people from outside Sudbury often feel isolated and alone when they come for health care. CWL Councils in Sudbury have set up a "Sisterhood Project" to provide **emotional and spiritual support** for their sisters in the League who request their help and support. We have been given flyers to distribute to our League members and I am hoping that I will have an on-line version soon. The flyers will be available at the March meeting.

There are **4 resolutions** being prepared for presentation at provincial convention in July are:

- a) Milk & milk products – 2019 Canada Food Guide
- b) National strategy to address loneliness
- c) Promote holistic approach to parish theology of the body and procreation (I might have this worded wrong??)
- d) Prohibition of e-cigarettes with cannabis

Shirley Gravel and Colleen Landers attended the provincial workshop this month and learned about the changes coming to resolutions. The new resolutions supplement is online at cwl.ca.

Provincial Council received 4 applications for the **Bishop Pappin Memorial Fund** for 2020. Please consider contributing to this fund as the only monies are those received from parishes. A reminder to seminarians that you know would help promote this bursary.

In communiqué #10 from National Chairperson of Community Life, Marie Rackley explains that the League will partner with Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA) to support the **Pietra Bhaven (House of Mercy) Project**, with a need for a drinking water well. Full details are outlined in the communiqué. As this is the second year focus for *Care for Our Common Home*, all councils are encouraged to take part in the Pietra Bhaven Project by donating to this worthy cause. Please note the special instructions on how these donations can be made.

The **mass for Our Lady of Good Counsel** will be taped at Loretto Abbey in Toronto on April 6th at 5 pm. Any CWL member who would like to attend is welcome to do this. The mass will be aired on the feast day, April 26th.

The **73rd Provincial Convention** takes place July 4-8th at the Crowne Plaza in Kitchener. You will find more information and the registration forms on the website www.cwl.on.ca. Parish presidents and all members are encouraged to come and join with members across Ontario for education, faith enrichment, and fun as we celebrate together. Councils should be setting aside funds to send their presidents to this convention! Ride-sharing and sharing rooms with others in the diocese will help lower costs.

100 YEARS – **National Convention** takes place August 9-12 in Montreal. Le Centre Sheraton Hotel is quite expensive and only allowing 2 persons per room. Other accommodations may be available; visit cwlqcca.wordpress.com. Check out the www.cwl.ca website for more information on the convention.

Your Sister in Christ
Annette Kelly, Timmins Diocesan President