

DIOCESAN NOTES



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



Issue #2

OCTOBER 2019

"Our life is a short opportunity to say yes to God's love." Henri Nouwen

CONGRATULATIONS to the following members Our Mother of Perpetual Help Council, New Liskeard, who received 2019 Ontario Volunteer Service Awards for volunteering with Girl Guides of Canada:

Angela Briand 10-year award, Silvia Aird-Verheijden 20-year award and Audrey Shelton 20-year award

Each received Certificates from MPP John Vanthof and from The Honourable Lisa MacLeod, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport signed by Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario.

REPORT FROM OPC MEETING, TORONTO, OCT. 1-3

On Thursday evening, Archbishop Prendergast spoke on the **CCCB document "Protection of Minors"**. Every diocese is working on this issue, priests and lay people, etc. Bishops are encouraging priests to meet with other priests for fellowship and support since most priests are alone in a parish. This is being addressed in the seminary. Apparently *National Council will be sending an action plan* on the document.

Strategic Planning brochure and memory stick were given to each diocesan president. These are for the Organization Chair (President-Elect) to present to the parish councils. **Book your presentation with Shirley Gravel, Organization.**

Some comments from different **dioceses**:

Hearst – travelling to Moosonee; possibility of a CWL Council forming

- Financial support needed for flights to Moosonee and for women to come from Moosonee

London – dealing with Human Trafficking

- Interaction with Diocese of Detroit
- Conducting a survey of visitation in home/institutions

Ottawa – amalgamated with Alexandria-Cornwall

Pembroke – holds Spiritual Retreat for elected officers

Peterborough – sign at entrance of town /c CWL logo

Thunder Bay and Sault Ste. Marie – sisterhood project

St. Catharines – presented a Spiritual Advisors Workshop

- Pairing with northern schools; might consider parishes also

Some comments from **Committee chairs**:

Spiritual Development – asked us to pray for members of a particular diocese each month

- Once a month, pray the rosary

Organization – check membership lists to ensure these are indeed real people

- Annual Reports are available as of Sept. 30th
- Restructuring

Education & Health – Karen will investigate changes to OHIP – delisting things like sinus exam and other procedures

Communications – online newsletter

- Check Toronto website

Resolutions – whereas clauses are being eliminated at national level

- New resolution supplement coming Nov. 10th

Archbishop Prendergast spoke of

- The youth participation in the Synod gathering.
- Indigenous peoples, especially in the north, are being twinned with southern dioceses. Reconciliation with indigenous people is being worked on. A meeting with the Pope is being proposed for Indigenous peoples and some Bishops.
- Development and Peace – issues are not yet resolved. There is a meeting coming up with D&P in November
- CCCB is looking at fire safety in all parishes. Insurance costs for earthquake protection are prohibitive so will not be insuring for that.
- Archbishop asks that if we are having a speaker come in from outside the diocese, that *we should perhaps run it by the diocese first*

Other Business:

- Registration fees for provincial convention are going up to \$50 from \$30.
- Resolution Chairs are asked to introduce themselves to their local MPP(s) and send them the 3 resolutions from Ontario.
- 13 Presidents met with Colleen Perry to discuss any issues at diocesan level
- Advised to check new national criteria for funding, even for conventions.
- It was noted that there are 6 conventions on the first weekend in May.
**Would we consider pushing ours back one week (in 2021 in Timmins)?
Easter is Apr. 4th that year.**
- Some discussion on holding provincial convention in June at some time in the future, possibly a Friday-Sunday rather than Monday-Wednesday. *A survey will be put online asking, "Would you prefer weekends?" "Would you prefer June?"*
- National will have new resolutions supplement on Nov. 10th
- Provincial is considering a Resolutions Workshop for all diocesan resolutions chairs to come together in Toronto, plus one more member

Loneliness discussion – Several ideas put forward. We are asked to come up with **20 ideas for 2020**

Annette Kelly, Timmins Diocesan President