

Summer Newsletter



Volume 2 | Issue 2 | Blessed Sacrament CWL Newsletter 2021

Message from our President

Welcome CWL members to our June newsletter! With the Easter season behind us, we re-enter Ordinary Time, but this month is anything but ordinary. Packed with special liturgical feasts, this month gives us much reason for hope, joy and celebration!

The Coronavirus has changed our world. This new normal has reshaped our ordinary lives. Hope emerges out of times of traumatic suffering, for example coronavirus. While waiting for the pandemic to be over, we must trust and hope in God, by keeping our hearts and minds focused on the truth of God's word, easing our anxiety and fear so we can trust and hope again.

When a train goes through a tunnel and it gets dark, you don't throw away the ticket and jump off. You sit and trust the engineer. Trust God, no matter how dark your situation. God will take you out of the darkness, just as daylight comes, just as a tiny seed grows into a tall tree, waiting so you can trust and hope once again.

If we fill our body with prayer, scripture and Communion, it is sure to ease our apprehension. June 6th is the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. The Holy Eucharist is the source and summit of Christian life. By consuming the Eucharist, it transmits sanctifying grace. This special grace, the Eucharist, gives us eternal love, strength, forgiveness, hope, light, trust and unity.

Once the pandemic is over and we are able to receive Communion once again, these gifts will be ours once again!

The Holy Eucharist is one of the most powerful ways for us to change our lives and conform ourselves to Christ.

*Your sister in the League,
Donna Guiney, President*

Coming this Fall: 2nd Virtual Silent Auction

As we look towards fundraising this year, we are considering another virtual Silent Auction in the fall. Please keep this in mind over the summer and put aside anything **new and/or unopened** that you would like to donate to the auction. Items will be collected in September, watch this newsletter for more information!

Update...

New date for Dr Leoni's talk on Medical Assistance in Dying - recent changes to the legislation. Among her many accomplishments, Dr Leonie is the Clinical Director of Palliative Care at Providence Care Hospital in Kingston.

DATE: Thursday, June 24, 2021

TIME: 12:00 - 1:00 pm

ZOOM LINK:

<https://zoom.us/j/7104363150?pwd=aTAvQXpQUFo0bGZOT3AxTmhHM3jlZz09>

MEETING ID: 710 436 3150

PASSCODE: 3UVqKp



President's Report



Crowning of the Statue of Blessed Virgin Mary took place on May 9, 2021 (Mother's Day) at Blessed Sacrament Church. The statue remained on the altar for the Month of May.

Pope Francis asked the Virgin Mary to turn her "*merciful eyes to us in this coronavirus pandemic and comfort those who are lost and weeping for their loved ones, sometimes buried in a way that wounds the soul. Mother of help, welcome us under your mantle and protect us, sustain us in the hour of trial, and ignite in our hearts the light of hope for the future.*" We must entrust in the hands of Blessed Virgin Mary during the pandemic, we turn to the Blessed Virgin Mary with all our sufferings and anxieties and "*we seek refuge under your protection. Support those who are anxious about sick people who, to prevent contagion, cannot be near*". (Pope Francis) "*Instill confidence in those who are anxious about the uncertain future and the consequences on the economy and work... O Mary, Comforter of the afflicted, embrace all your troubled children and obtain that God intervenes with his almighty hand to free us from this terrible epidemic, so that life can resume its normal course in serenity,*" he said.

Praying the rosary can bring peace of mind as one puts all his worries and intentions to God, it increases love for Jesus, unifies us with the Church, and allows us to understand the will of God, to just name a few of the reasons Sam Ellis listed in What happens when you pray the rosary.

When you pray Holy Mary Mother of God, pray for us sinners now..., the Blessed Mother comes instantly to your side to pray with you. And she does not come alone. She brings angels with her, a choir of angels. Set aside 15 minutes of your day to pray and meditate on the Holy Rosary to receive special graces from God.

Promises of the Rosary: <https://catholic-link.org/how-to-pray-the-rosary-rosary-infographics/>.

Submitted by Donna Guiney, President

Past President's Report

The Diocesan Annual Meeting, that was scheduled to be held on Saturday, May 1st at St. John the Evangelist Church in Gananoque, was cancelled because of government "Stay at Home" order and the death of Life Member Carol Richer. Carol was Diocesan president Nancy Richer's mother-in-law.

The meeting has been rescheduled for Wednesday, June 9th, 2021 from 7-9 p.m. As per National's bylaw/ suggestion as to how to hold meetings during this exceptional time, the meeting will be held at Nancy's residence and there will be two other members of her council in attendance. The Diocesan Executive Officers and the Presidents, or an Accredited Delegate, will attend via Zoom and/or teleconferencing, if internet is "spotty" or devices such as computer, tablet, smartphone are lacking.

The meeting will be dealing with financial updates and will include the instructed vote to raise the Diocesan's portion of membership fees by \$1.50. They have requested a raise in fees due to declining membership and cost of insurance – 50 cents per member. Our Council voted on this at our last in-person meeting in March 2020!

On another matter, Bernadette Burgess has been appointed as Life Member Liaison to the Diocesan Council.

Submitted by Mary Lou Hills, Past President

Special Thank You!

A special note of thanks to Father Shea for agreeing to live stream the Mass honouring the feast day of our patroness, Our Lady of Good Counsel, on April 26th. Thanks also go out to Danna Dobson for the technological assistance which made this possible.

Communications Report

"God speaks in the silence of the heart. Listening is the beginning of prayer."

(St. Teresa of Calcutta)

The Catholic Register is compiling an article to promote the League and help celebrate its centennial anniversary. Associate Editor Michael Swan has requested further information from members. He would like us to focus on other ideas which delve deep into the League's past and future, a future that portrays an organization that members would want to leave in the hands of their daughters and nieces. If you or someone you know have stories or ideas to share, please send the information to Doreen Gowans, National Chairperson of Communications. For more information: <https://cwl.ca/communique-20-communications/>.

Submitted by Shirley McDonald, Communications Chair

Keep current with our local CWL events:

Facebook Site:

Chat with members, keep updated on events

<https://www.facebook.com/cwlamherstview/>

Website:

Upcoming events, meeting minutes

http://www.blessedsacramentamherstview.org/bls_cwl.html

Membership Report

Blessed Sacrament CWL is very fortunate to have 64 members for 2021. This is an amazing number of amazing ladies given this difficult time. We have welcomed back Deborah McKee and we have a new member, Denise Ford, who has transferred to Blessed Sacrament from St. Francis de Sales, Ajax. Welcome ladies! We are looking forward to meeting you in person.

Submitted by Margaret Barker, Membership Convenor

Spiritual Development Report



The Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is a solemnity in the Roman Catholic Church and is celebrated nineteen days after Pentecost. Since Pentecost is always celebrated on Sunday, Feast of the Sacred Heart will be on a Friday. The Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is on June 11th, 2021. The Alliance of the Heart of Jesus and Mary is based on the joint devotions to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The Feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary is celebrated on the Saturday after the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. It falls on June 12th, 2021. Novena from June 2nd – June 10th.

**O United Hearts of Jesus and Mary,
You are all grace, all mercy, all love.
Let my heart be joined to Yours,
so that my every need is present in Your United
Hearts.**

**Most especially, shed Your grace upon this
particular need... (State your need here.)
Help me to recognize and accept
Your loving will in my life.
Holy and Sacred Wounds of the United Hearts
of Jesus and Mary, answer my prayer.
Amen.**

Submitted by Bernadette Veitch, Spiritual Development Chair

Legislation Report

“You may encounter many defeats, but you must not be defeated.” (Maya Angelou)

From the National Communique #14 Legislation [<https://cwl.ca/category/communiques/>]: Bill C-7 An Act to Amend the Criminal Code (medical assistance in dying) received royal assent on March 17th. The bill may have become law, but it did not change the League’s position.

There are presently **two significant bills** before the House of Commons that you are encouraged to focus on and follow the suggestion of Archbishop Richard Gagnon (Winnipeg). Both bills have presently had their first reading.

1. C-233 An Act to amend the Criminal Code (sex-selective abortion). Sponsored by the member of parliament from Yorkton—Melville (Saskatchewan).

Summary:

“This enactment amends the Criminal Code to make it an offence for a medical practitioner to perform an abortion knowing that the abortion is sought solely on the grounds of the child’s genetic sex. It also requires the Minister of Health, after consultation with representatives of the provincial governments responsible for health, to establish guidelines respecting information provided by a medical practitioner in relation to a request for an abortion.”

2. C-268 An Act to amend the Criminal Code (intimidation of health care professionals). Also known as the Protection of Freedom of Conscience Act. Sponsored by the member of parliament from Carlton Trail—Eagle Creek (Saskatchewan).

Summary:

“This enactment amends the Criminal Code to make it an offence to intimidate a medical practitioner, nurse practitioner, pharmacist or other health care professional for the

purpose of compelling them to take part, directly or indirectly, in the provision of medical assistance in dying. It also makes it an offence to dismiss from employment or to refuse to employ a medical practitioner, nurse practitioner, pharmacist or other health care professional for the reason only that they refuse to take part, directly or indirectly, in the provision of medical assistance in dying.”

In addition, Dying with Dignity Canada has information on its website discussing the change to scope and process. They also have a series of webinars where you can hear key messages from physicians, care givers, and Canadians and ask your own questions.

Submitted by Danna Dobson, Legislation Chair

Resolutions Report

Although we have not brought forth resolutions for considerations within our broader organization, we are advocating on several fronts by our actions. We have signed petitions and sent letters (against MAID and for Palliative care and long-term care reform), we continue to support Birthright and send Stop Pornography postcards; all are examples where we are connecting to the broader “Action Agenda” of the CWL. I hope seeing the dotted line will help us to continue to act – as a Council and as individuals-locally, in support of the mission and vision and advocacy plans of the CWL.

Below are the two resolutions that are in support of actions against Bill C-7 An Act to amend the Criminal Code (medical assistance in dying):

- 2018.03 Legislate Designation of Hospice/Palliative Care Services in Facilities to Exclude Medical Assistance in Dying Legislation
- 2017.04 Protection from Coercion of Conscience for Healthcare Professionals Legislation

Submitted by Danna Dobson, Resolutions Chair

Treasurer's Report

We are doing well financially because of the fantastic fundraising over the last few years that enabled us to build a bit of a contingency fund. 2020 and 2021 have surely qualified. Pandemics were things that happened in other countries. COVID-19 hit all of us hard. Hard enough to think more creatively and broadly on how we discuss community and to make our money work for the maximum number of people or for the unique niches that serve a few that fall between the cracks or are too few so are not in the spotlight.

In our 2021-22 budget we approved money to be donated to community organizations. Let's not wait until December to decide how to distribute the funds. There are organizations, big and small, that are serving residents of Amherstview, Loyalist Township, and KLF&A surrounds. Our money helps them help us, so we need to chat as a group and contribute ideas to the Community Life Committee as to how to allocate the funds.

Monthly discussions should not come from the Treasurer, I am one of the one that writes the cheques and balances the books. Our Committee Chairpersons are the ones that should speak to their accomplishments and, indirectly, I will track their spending and share the financial report.

As mentioned in the email blast last month, I like to spend the approved monies to support our annual action plan. However, we need to raise money to have money to spend. Let's review the fundraising ideas shared last year and keep up the good work raising money in our virtual world. Why not try something new? What do we have to lose? Look what we can learn! Always looking for things that have low effort to organize and execute and have a high return on fun, intrigue and income! These successes can continue to be considered as "usual" or normal, in the years to come.

Submitted by Danna Dobson, Treasurer

Today's Chuckle...

What did the reporter say to the ice cream cone?

Answer: What's the scoop?

What do you get from a pampered cow?

Answer: Spoiled milk!

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CWL WEBSITE:
http://www.blessedsacramentamherstview.org/bls_cwl.html

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https://www.facebook.com/groups/1849839285321782/?ref=br_rs

