

THE ST. MICHAEL'S LEAGUE

Issue 9

April 2022

Message from our President Dorothy Solomon



The National Catholic Women's League theme is "Catholic and Living It." Seems quite straightforward and causes me to stand proud of my faith. Standing proud is not enough, I must live it. This leads me to examine - what do I understand, believe,

and really know about being Catholic? Once I identify that I can live it more fully and consequently blessedly. Needless to say, one small article cannot begin to define this, but my first thought was regarding the sacraments. The Lent resource booklet, Living Faith, offers a brief quote by Monseigneur Stephen J. Rossetti:

There is a tendency to expect the divine intervention to be revealed in extraordinary ways. Elaborate rituals and ornate objects can evoke in our minds the mysterious presence of a distant, all-powerful god. So when Jesus, a poor carpenter began to preach, those from his own village rejected him. With the divine incarnation God now comes to us in the ordinary stuff of our daily lives. In the mass, Jesus comes to us in bread and wine. In baptism we receive the gift of life through flowing water. In confession the priest says a simple prayer to absolve our sins. As you go about your day look for God to be revealed in the ordinary. A friendly smile can remind us that we are loved. A brilliant sunset speaks of the glories of our Creator. A tasty meal reminds us that God provides. God is no longer distant. In Jesus, God is revealed in our ordinary lives.

Each of us identifies and grows in our awareness of what it means to be Catholic and what it means to live it. As women in the CWL, we are also guided by our principal call to faith, social justice and service. There is no shortage of opportunities to live out these aspects of our Catholic faith. Being Catholic means sensing God's presence and power sacramentally. We gradually come to know and understand that there is more to life than just what meets the eye or enters the ear. Catholics see sacraments as "close-ups" or clearly focused instances of God's presence and love. As Catholics we find ourselves challenged by the majority opinion of society. It takes time, prayer, patience and perseverance to grow into our identity as sacramental Catholics. We follow Jesus in his Way,

Truth and Life; his commands and example. As sisters in the League, we enter into solidarity with others who love deeply, live faithfully, and keep before them the call to grow ever closer to God through faith development, acts of social justice and service to neighbour.

The prayer developed for the theme, "Catholic and Living It" is printed on beautiful cards and can be found in the church library on the shelf labeled CWL, help yourself. Richest Easter Blessings. Dorothy

Our Mission

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.

Prayer Intentions

As we journey together, the need to continue to lift one another in prayer remains ever crucial during these challenging times. This is a call that the CWL takes to heart, so we are continuing to offer specific intentions monthly which we hope not only CWL members will hold close, but all of our parish community.

April: Keeping in mind the sacredness of life at every stage, let us pray for those health physicians who are legislated to perform euthanasia.

May: Let us pray for those in palliative care and nearing the end of their earthly pilgrimage; and for those who support them.



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Communications Gail Brown

The League Magazine

As noted in the Winter 2022 issue of *The Canadian League* magazine, the CWL can no longer afford the expense of printing and mailing paper copies three times per year. The Spring issue will now be available online only. This is a significant disappointment to many of our members, especially those of us who do not use computers or do not have Internet access for any reason. Your St. Michael's members and executive will do what we can to help. One possibility is to print a full copy of the issue which can then be borrowed from our shelf in the parish library. Some of us may print our own personal copy which we would be happy to share.

For online access, you can type "CWL magazine" in the search bar on your screen, and the link should pop up as the first or second item in the list. Or, to avoid having to search for it, you can ask our Organization Chairperson, Darlene Charette, to update your CWL membership profile so that you receive each new issue by email. Phone Darlene at 519-642-3758 or email dcharette8101@rogers.com to make this change. Our President, Dorothy, will also be sending out the link by email as each new issue appears.

If you have Internet access and need help navigating it to locate the magazine, feel free to ask one of your CWL sisters for assistance. It's usually not too hard to walk someone through the routine.

The Spring 2022 issue is now online at [2022.v98.n2-The-Canadian-League-final.pdf \(cwl.ca\)](https://d2y1pz2y630308.cloudfront.net/15495/documents/2022/3/Missio%20Feb2022.pdf)

Missio

Did you know that the Diocese of London publishes Missio, a bi-monthly newsletter distributed across the region? While it focuses mainly on the Synod, the January-February issue is especially interesting to us, as it also includes an article on the history of the Catholic Women's League in the London Diocese. In

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the early 1920s, Bishop Fallon was an enthusiastic supporter of the CWL, despite reluctance from some parish priests. Today, more than 100 years later, we are still going strong.

The article starts on page ten. Just type "dol missio" into your search bar, or access it here:

<https://d2y1pz2y630308.cloudfront.net/15495/documents/2022/3/Missio%20Feb2022.pdf>

Organization

 Darlene Charette

Service Pins

At our June 7 meeting, the CWL will be presenting pins to honour the years of service of some of our members. Recipients of these pins will be contacted prior to the meeting. We will also recognize the members who received pins in 2021 but were unable to receive their pins in person due to the lockdown. If that is you, we hope you will be able to attend.

If you prefer to keep only the most current service pin, you can return previously earned pins to the CWL to be reused for another member. This is one way to reduce our expenses so that money can be used elsewhere. These pins may be returned to Darlene Charrette or any member of the executive.

Updated Information

I have been updating the phone tree and email addresses so that we may ensure that all of our members are kept up to date. This is especially important now that we are back to meeting in person, providing funeral lunches and beginning to do fundraisers and other service events. If you have changed your phone number or email in the last couple of years, please contact me with your updated information. (Darlene – 519-642-3758 or drop a note in the collection basket at church.)

*Annual Spring Potluck Dinner - The St. Michael's CWL will hold our annual potluck dinner on **Tuesday, June 7, at 6:30 p.m.** in the parish hall. The evening will include brief business reports, the awarding of anniversary service pins, and special surprise entertainment.*

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Education and Health Marilyn Morgan

Members are encouraged to take courses and to apply for available CWL Bursary Funds:

NATIONAL BURSARY FUND - Applications to the National Bursary Fund (with supporting documentation – refer to the criteria) must be submitted to the national office and postmarked by **May 15th**. Applications must be completed on the official form (use this link): <https://cwl.ca/wpcontent/uploads/2021/06/552-National-Bursary-Application-Form-2021.pdf>

LONDON DIOCESAN SPIRITUAL ADVISOR BURSARY <http://www.cwllondon.ca/Forms.html>. This bursary is available to any League member only. It shall be used to finance education at any level: university, college, technical school, etc. Applications to the London Diocesan Spiritual Advisor Bursary (with supporting documentation – refer to the criteria) must be submitted to London Diocesan Catholic Women's League President ie. emailed or postmarked by **April 1st**. Applications must be completed on the official application form.

LONDON DIOCESAN J.L. HENNESSEY EDUCATION BURSARY <http://www.cwllondon.ca/Forms.html>. This bursary is available to any League member or her immediate family. It shall be used to finance education at any level: university, community colleges, technical school, etc. Applications to the London Diocesan J.L. Hennessey Education Bursary (with supporting documentation – refer to the criteria) must be submitted to London Diocesan Catholic Women's League President ie. emailed or postmarked by **April 1st**. Applications must be completed on the official application form.

2022 Diocesan Annual Members Meeting (AMM) Joan Lobsinger

The London Diocesan Annual Meeting of Members (AMM) will be held online on **Tuesday, April 26th**. It is probably the last opportunity you'll have to attend from the comfort of your own home, as the plans are to host a live convention once again in 2023.

At the meeting we will hear reports from officers and regional chairpersons; Colleen Martin our provincial president, and Shari Guinta the national representative will bring greetings; and there will be the instructed vote on the amendments to our

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constitution and bylaws, as well the proposed increase in per capita dues.

Dorothy, our president, will be our voting delegate and Marilyn Morgan is our accredited delegate.

As Diocesan Spiritual Development Chairperson, I have the privilege of planning the spiritual component of the AMM. Since April 26th is the feast day of Our Lady of Good Counsel, it will include A Litany of Our Lady of Good Counsel, the Crowning of Mary, and a memorial service for our deceased members.

Pre-registration is not required and Dorothy will email out the link to the AMM closer to the date. It would be great to have a good turnout from our council. I encourage you to join us.

At Long Last Gail Brown

The St. John Paul II Room was buzzing with excitement on Monday, April 4 as members reunited for an in-person meeting for the first time in more than two years. It was clear that there was a lot of catching up to do after such a long break – new grandchildren, new hairstyles, new hobbies – so much to share around the tables. Dorothy had prepared a display to highlight our activities from the last year.

Dorothy brought the meeting to order and welcomed members, including a few new faces. Following our spiritual reflection led by Stephanie McIntyre, the standing committee reports were presented efficiently and then it was on to the official social part of the evening.

The snacks were plentiful and the conversation lively as members mingled and chatted, lingering after the end of the meeting to continue the reunion. I'm sorry to say the photos did not turn out, but trust that there were many faces full of happiness to be re-connecting in our faith and friendship.

Homelessness In Our Midst: The Way Forward

With speaker Dr. Cheryl Forchuk, the Beryl and Richard Ivey Research Chair in Aging, Mental Health, Rehabilitation and Recovery. **Monday, May 2, 2022, 7:30 pm**. Via Zoom and in-person in St. Michael's Parish Hall. For Zoom invitation, please contact Dorothy Soloman at 519-204-2931 or dorothysolomon41@gmail.com.

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Featured Member **Mary Maxwell** Joan Lobsinger



The Catholic Women's League prides itself on its core values of faith, service and social justice, and this month we are proud to recognize Mary Maxwell as an excellent example of all three.

Mary was born and raised in Lucan and moved to London in 1973. She and her husband Ed Javornik have been married for 35 years. They have two children, Steven and Caralyn. Caralyn and her husband Kevin have blessed them with two grandchildren, Marshall and Marylyn.

Mary was a teacher with the London District Catholic School Board for 33 years and she taught at two of our parish schools, St. Mark's and St. Michael's. Mary retired from teaching in 2007, finishing her career at St. Michael's school where she was very involved with the breakfast school program. In her retirement, Mary joined a bowling league and continued her love of scrapbooking and traveling. Mary also became involved with the Retired Women Teachers of Ontario where she took on the roles of Treasurer and President and is currently Past President.

As a member of St. Michael's parish, Mary has served as a lector and Eucharistic Minister, and has participated in several sessions of Bible Studies. Mary has been a member of the Catholic Women's League for 28 years. She regularly attends our meetings and is always willing to lend a hand. She volunteers at funeral luncheons, bake sales and membership drives, and was our representative at the World Day of Prayer for many years. Mary joined St. Michael's

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executive as Education and Health Chairperson and then as Treasurer before taking on the role of President from 2007 to 2010. Mary then went on to be London Diocesan Regional Chairperson and two years later joined the diocesan executive as the Education and Health Chairperson, followed by another two-year term as Communications Chairperson. In recognition of Mary's dedication to the League, our council presented her with the Maple Leaf service pin. Indeed, as a dedicated CWL member, Mary enrolled her own daughter Caralyn as a member as soon as she was eligible at age 16.

Last year when our council was looking for someone to take over the role of treasurer, Mary once again stepped up to help where she was needed.

Thank you, Mary! We appreciate your faithful service and contributions.

St. Michael's Council CWL Spring 2022 Events

Wednesday, April 20th – Diocesan Fun Night

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/diocesan-cwl-fun-night-registration-308290624557>

Tuesday, April 26th – Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel and Diocesan Annual Members Meeting

Monday, May 2nd - Special Speaker Session "Homelessness in our Midst"

Tuesday, May 3rd – Crowning of Mary

Friday, May 6th – Prayer for Palliative Care

Saturday and Sunday, May 14th-15th – Baked Goods and Perennial Sale

Tuesday, June 7th – Annual Spring Potluck – Service Pins and Entertainment

Please check bulletins, website and emails for further details

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Palliative Care Week Marilyn Morgan

National Palliative Care Week is May 1-7, 2022. As a CWL initiative, members are being asked to participate in 12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care. It is more important than ever to pray that all Canadians have access to palliative care and for an increase in funding to support compassionate care of patients facing end-of-life situations. At St. Michael's we have chosen **Friday, May 6th** as our day to pray for this intention. Mass will be celebrated at 8am and we will have Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 8:30 until 3pm when there will be Benediction.

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During the day we will set aside times to pray the Rosary, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, the Magnificat and the Litany of Mary. We hope to have someone in the church throughout the day so there will be a sign-up sheet (in half hour increments), available on the welcome desk if you wish to set aside a specific time. Of course, for those who are unable to be at church, we hope you will join us in prayer at home on May 6th. We are also being encouraged to contact our Prime Minister, federal and provincial Ministers of Health and local Members of Parliament or Legislative Assembly to advocate for more accessible Palliative Care.



See more details and register to join at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/diocesan-cwl-fun-night-registration-308290624557>