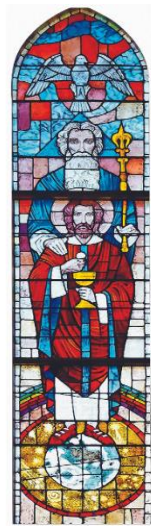


**The Catholic Women's League of Canada
London Diocesan Annual Report Book
January to December 2022
Annual Membership Meeting and Convention
April 24 -26, 2023**



CATHOLIC
and **LIVING IT!**

**We remember with great fondness our deceased members of
The Catholic Women's League of Canada
whose lives are a tribute to womanhood
in their devotion to the Lord Jesus Christ
and to Our Lady Good Counsel whom they loved and served
and in whose presence they now rejoice.**

We call to mind our sister Mary Jean Horne, a Past President of London Diocese CWL and a cherished Life Member.



It is with heavy hearts that the family of Mary Jean Horne announces the passing of our much loved Wife, Mother, Grandma and Gigi. Mary Jean is survived by her loving husband and best friend Wilbert of nearly 62 years. Her children, Cathy (Marty), Karen (dear friend, Paul), Joyce, and Dennis (Jody) all of Chatham-Kent. Her 8 grandchildren and 10 great- grandchildren. Mary Jean was the daughter of the late Lloyd and Claire Dynes/Case (nee Cookson) and step-daughter of the late Don Case. She is survived by her brothers Russell Dynes (Bonnie), Michael Dynes (Laurel), Lloyd Dynes and step-brother John Case. She was predeceased by her sister Frances Anne Nagy (John) and brother-in-law Bill Carley Sr. She is fondly remembered by many nieces and nephews. She is also survived by her brothers-in-law, Walter Horne (Joanne) and Robert Horne (Theresa) and predeceased by her brothers-in-law, Joseph Horne and James Horne and her sisters-in-law, Sr. Mary Catherine Horne, Nancy Horne and Janet Horne.

Tribute to Mary Jean Horne – Life Member 2016

On October 24, 2022, our dear friend and beloved sister, Mary Jean Horne passed away from this life to her heavenly home. She was a proud member of the League, her council, her parish and her community. Mary Jean was a dedicated member for 62 years. She was a faithful and faith-filled woman who shared her faith with everyone.

Mary Jean held many positions in her council, then on diocesan executive and Diocesan President. She loved and enriched every position she held. Her love for the League was contagious and she made so many friendships over the years because of The Catholic Women's League of Canada.

Her first love was Wilbert and her family. Mary Jean's eyes lit up with joy whenever she spoke of her children and her grandchildren. She always said, "Family first". At Mary Jean's celebration of Life, one of her grandchildren read this poem,

"Family Comes Together"

"Family comes together, for always and forever, in sickness and health, in poverty and wealth, family comes first for always and forever.

Without any reason, anytime and any season, family comes together for always and forever.

In death or in life, in happiness and strife, family comes together for always and forever.

Whether all seeing or in blindness, family comes together for always and forever.

Whether for work or for play, they somehow find a way for family to come together for families are forever."

(poem submitted by the Horne family)

This poem is a true reflection of a life well lived and how much she will be missed. Mary Jean believed in Jesus' commandment, that you love one another, to be true and she practiced these words throughout her life. She believed that faith would help us through any challenges. She also believed that God has a plan for each and every person. Mary Jean had patience in her faith – trusting and believing God would handle all things and waited for Him to do so in His time. She was ever so grateful for what she received. As Mary Jean entered into the Kingdom of Heaven, she was greeted by Our Lord with these welcoming words: "Well done, good and faithful servant"

May Mary Jean rest in God's peace.



Father Greg Blonde, Past Spiritual Advisor to London Diocese CWL

Fr Greg was ordained June 1, 1963 at St Peter's Cathedral by Bishop Cody. He served at Blessed Sacrament, London, ON, as secretary to Bishop Carter, at the Social Service Bureau in Sarnia, at Our Lady Help of Christians, Wallaceburg, at Holy Name of Mary, Windsor, as Chaplain at Hotel Dieu Hospital in Windsor and Victoria of LHSC, London and as Diocesan director of Pastoral Care for Hospital and long term care for Catholics. He was especially devoted to fellow ministers of the Word of God. Greg was known by his many friends and family as a compassionate and caring priest. He touched many, many lives in his various ministries including Spiritual Advisor to the CWL of London diocese, as was evident by the cards and heartfelt greetings he received during his time at St. Joseph's hospice in Sarnia. He will be greatly missed. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the ministry of the Diocese of London or the Diocesan archives.

I Heard Your Voice In The Wind Today

I Heard Your Voice In The Wind Today - Unknown

I heard your voice in the wind today
and I turned to see your face;
The warmth of the wind caressed me
as I stood silently in place.

I felt your touch in the sun today
as its warmth filled the sky;
I closed my eyes for your embrace
and my spirit soared high.

I saw your eyes in the window pane
as I watched the falling rain;
It seemed as each raindrop fell
it quietly said your name.

I held you close in my heart today
it made me feel complete;
You may have died...but you are not gone
you will always be a part of me.

As long as the sun shines...
the wind blows...
the rain falls...
You will live on inside of me forever
for that is all my heart knows.

CARDINAL LOVE

**The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Diocese of London
Themes for 2022
National Theme "Catholic and Living It"
Provincial Theme "Go Make A Difference"**



League Prayer

**We humbly pray you, O 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.**

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.**



**Objects of the League
shall be to unite Catholic women of Canada:**

- To achieve individual and collective spiritual development
- To promote the teachings of the Catholic church
- To exemplify the Christian ideal in home and family life
- To protect the sanctity of life
- To enhance the role of women in church and society
- To recognize the human dignity of all people everywhere
- To uphold and defend Christian education and values in the modern world
- To contribute to the understanding and growth of religious freedom, social justice, peace and harmony



Diocesan Executive

Position	Name
Spiritual Advisor	Fr. Paul Kim
President	Theresa Ryan
President-Elect/Organization	Mary Bannon
Life Members Liaison	Patricia Rivest
First Vice-President/Resolutions	Willi Kole
Second Vice-President/Legislation	Denise Lalonde-Morris
Treasurer	Cam Cadotte RIP R. McCarrell
Recording Secretary	Denise Masse
Administrative Assistant	Julie Sans
Past President	Rebecca McCarrell

Diocesan Standing Committees

Position	Name
Christian Family Life	Mary Ann Horne-White
Communications	vacant
Community Life	Patricia Sloan
Education and Health	Mary Clare Latimer
Spiritual Development	Joan Lobsinger

Regional Chairpersons

Region	Name
Chatham-Kent	Angela Soulliere
Essex	Jeanne Lauzon
Huron-Perth	Mary Barnes
Ingersoll	Edytta Heleniak
London	Dianne Kehoe
Sarnia-Lambton	Nelly Kelders
Windsor	Caroline Ngui

*If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more,
do more and become more, you are a leader.*

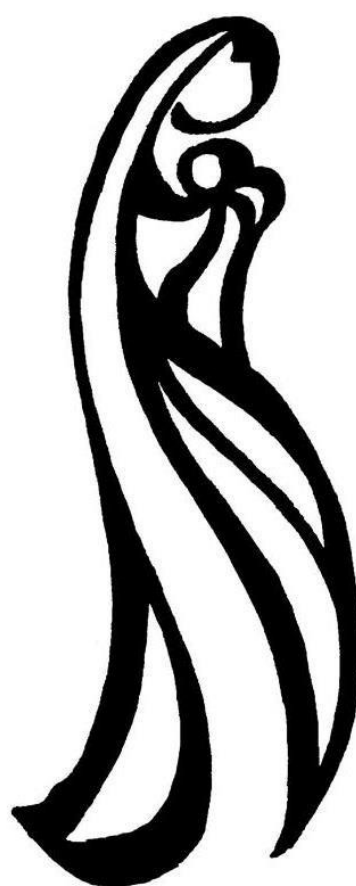
John Quincy Adams

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Letters
Of
Greetings



DIOCESE OF
LONDON
OFFICE OF THE AUXILIARY BISHOP

1070 WATERLOO STREET
LONDON, ONTARIO N6A 3Y2
CANADA
519-433-0658
FAX: 519-433-0011

14 February 2023

Catholic Women's League of Canada
London Diocesan Council

Dear Sisters in Christ,

It is a privilege for me, along with Auxiliary Bishop Joseph Dabrowski, to extend to you a warm welcome as you gather in Sarnia for the 103rd Annual Diocesan Convention of the Catholic Women's League. It is truly a joyful occasion for you to gather together again in person after three years of virtual meetings. As we slowly reintroduce large gatherings into our lives, we remember how special and life-giving it is to be a part of a community. The pandemic was a time of great isolation and loneliness for many people, so it is our hope that this year's Convention be productive but also a time to re-connect and to renew friendships within the CWL.

Bishop Dabrowski and I commend you for your valuable contributions not only to the Diocese of London, but also to our country and the Church in Canada. We offer our profound gratitude for all you do. Your deep faith and love for God are evident through the many charitable ways in which you serve your community. We pray that the Convention be a time of prayer, renewal, and fun. May God, through the intercession of Our Lady of Good Counsel, bless you, your families, and your good works.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Rev. Ronald P. Fabbro, CSB
Bishop of London



January 20, 2023

My dear sisters in the League,

A time to gather, a time to build new and stronger relationships are awaiting each of you. This gathering is your opportunity to do that, looking to the future with great hope and the desire to be the light and face of God for all you encounter. As you gather to celebrate your accomplishments, please take time to reflect upon the blessing and privilege of being a part of an organization with more than 60,000 members.

May the League's core values of faith, service and social justice help you live out the theme, Catholic and Living It! Your various activities reflecting our national theme continue to greatly encourage members. You can take pride in knowing others notice and appreciate your actions. You have continued to do valuable work in your community as Catholic women. That work contributes to the mission that you have been called to through your baptism.

As you gather for your meeting, you can do so with great joy hearing reports of wonderful accomplishments. Future plans will be decided, and I look forward to hearing about all of them. Celebrating your 103rd anniversary is a great way to recognize the dedication, work and love of the members before you. On behalf of the national executive/board, composed of the 11 table officers and the 11 provincial presidents, it is my pleasure to bring greetings.

I pray for all members in London Diocesan Council as you continue to serve "For God and Canada."

Your sister in the League,

Fran Lucas

National President and Chairperson of International Relations



ONTARIO PROVINCIAL COUNCIL
of
The Catholic Women's League of Canada

My Dear sisters in the League,

The year 2023 brought changes to The Catholic Women's League of Canada as several of the initiatives suggested by the strategic planning committees were introduced. We live in exciting times!

League members of your diocese have embraced both the national theme of "Catholic and Living It!" and the provincial theme of "Go Make a Difference!"

Your president, Theresa Ryan, has represented you well at the provincial meetings and worked tirelessly on your behalf. The work of the League in parishes and by the diocesan council has served the people of God and addressed many issues in your communities. Imagine all that has been accomplished over the history of the League in your diocese.

Know that the prayers and best wishes of more than 30,000 members across Ontario are with you as you gather to conduct the business of your diocesan council in 2023.

May God bless you and Our Lady of Good Counsel watch over you as you continue serving in the League, *For God and Canada*, through faith, service, and social justice.

Respectfully,

Linda Squarzolo

Ontario Provincial President





The Catholic Women's League of Canada

London Diocesan Council

Dear Sisters in the League, and Spiritual Advisors

April 2023

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11

It has certainly been a different experience than I ever could have imagined being your president for the last two years. The thing that I missed most was being with you my sisters at convention for the past two years and other events.

I have learnt a lot since I first took in my first CWL meeting in 1977. I hope to continue to learn for the rest of my life. I have been fortunate to have great mentors and a humble spirit where I find it easy to ask for help.

I thank all those women who have stepped up and taken office especially when no one else would. I challenge you to mentor your replacement. I have tried to be there for anyone who is needing assistance or clarification on any matter. I am here to serve you. Please don't be afraid to approach any member of your diocesan executive, we are here for you.

I was disappointed that as your representative at the provincial table I was not able to attend in person meetings but was able to attend the in person provincial convention in Ottawa. It was so memorable for me as London Diocesan president. However just to highlight how covid-19 was still rampant I learned when I went home that my roommate and the two women sitting on either side of me throughout the business sessions came down with covid. I was lucky and didn't.

Attending the national convention in Kelowna was again a highlight. We had the vote on raising the per capita which passed, much to our shock, but also the amendments (which also passed with the exception of changing our patroness, thankfully)

Two workshops were held, one on Legislations and the other on Resolution. This is something we need to continue to do to educate our members. We also held three fall regionals where it was so good to be with you again.

We were very saddened with the death of our dear sister and Life Member Mary Jean Horne. She was a very special lady and one of my mentors. She is definitely missed. I was very pleased to see such a strong CWL presence at her funeral. I am sure she was smiling down at us.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel guide us and keep us always close to her Son, Jesus.

Theresa Ryan, President London Diocese CWL



The Catholic Women's League of Canada

London Diocesan Council

April 2023

Dear Sisters of the Catholic Women's League, Spiritual Advisors, delegates and guests,
Christ is Risen Alleluia! Alleluia!

I wish to welcome all of you to our Annual Meeting of Members, as we continue to journey through this sacred season of Easter. While I have not yet had the opportunity to meet many of you in person, I am humbled to be part of the CWL London Diocesan Council and to serve you as spiritual advisor. I am grateful to you all for welcoming me into your CWL family and for joining us for this in-person diocesan convention.

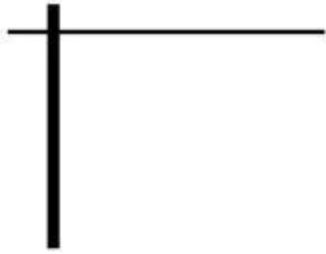
Over the past years you have probably heard Pope Francis' call for us to be a synodal church, to be a listening church, and one that walks together. During Lent he expressed his desire for us to listen to Jesus, especially in the Word of God and to listen to Jesus through our neighbors, especially from those in most need.

Amid some challenging times both in the Church and in our world, it is that same voice of Jesus that continues to unite and strengthen us to rejoice and live out the gift of Easter joy. Just as the Apostles lived through turbulent times in the early Church, they model for us to see all things with Easter faith (Acts 4:33).

As we come together this year, we give thanks for the labours and prayers for all of the Catholic Women's Leagues in our diocese. I pray that God will continue to bless in abundance the good work you have been doing in years past, and that your prayers and efforts will bear fruit for the communities and families of our diocese and beyond.

I look forward to praying and celebrating with you in our shared love for the Lord!

In Christ,
Father Paul Kim
London Diocesan Spiritual Advisor
Catholic Women's League of Canada



Executive Reports



London Diocesan Council Report

2022

President: Theresa Ryan

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Paul Kim

Members: 7945

Councils: 92

Life Members: 11

Regions: 7

As we felt it was still not prudent to meet in person we held our Annual Lenten retreat online with 147 women attending. Our topic was Mary, the Blessed Virgin.

It was a difficult decision but to be on the safe side we held our AMM online. It was decided that the executive would all be present but everyone else would be online. As such there were no speakers present. We were able to have our prayers and reports online. Shari Guinta represented National and Colleen Perry Provincial, and gave their talk through Zoom. Our social justice award winner was Yvonne Triesman for her work volunteering and arranging medical help, doctors, nurses and medical supplies in Guyana.

Our councils were getting familiar with zoom meetings so a very successful fun night was held on zoom. The theme was "pretty in pink" and members were encouraged to wear pink and join in the fun from the safety of their home. Jokes, exercises, videos, painting and music were all part of the fun. A legislation workshop was held online using Betty Colaneri's workshop with some changes made. It was very well received and many questions were asked. We followed up later in the year with a resolution workshop that was held in person but then later repeated online for those who couldn't attend in person.

Our diocese was highlighted in the provincial newsletter in June and many articles and pictures were sent in.

Every June there is a retreat at Holy Family Retreat House in Oxley, for the diocesan executive and the Life members. Fr. Murray Sample spoke on Faith, Service and Social Justice.

July saw a return to our annual day at the diocesan shrine to our Lady in Merlin Ontario. There were around 175 women from across the diocese and several spiritual advisors. It was a wonderful day and the rain held off until it was over.

We held three regional days that were well attended and where the three pillars were explained. There were also workshops on the importance of

membership growth, explaining the importance of raising the per capita and a nominations and election workshop.

After a break of a few years, a diocesan newsletter was started again to be published three times a year, by our Administrative Assistant Julie Sans. It is a resounding success.

A lot of our councils have struggled through the pandemic and are hoping for a better future where more women will come forward to share their talent.



ONTARIO ANNUAL REPORT YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022

DIOCESE: LONDON

of parishes responding 67 of 92

STANDING COMMITTEE: Organization

CHAIRPERSON: MARY BANNON

Annual Membership Drive

- 38 of the reporting councils reported that they had membership drives
- 4 reported no membership drive
- Bulletin announcements, ministry fair displays, one on one recruitment, pep talks /invitation from the pulpit at Masses, reminders in CWL newsletters, personal emails and phone calls were some of the tools used in recruitment and retention of members

Info sessions for members?

- Information from the Regional chair is passed by the council presidents to members.
- Announcements at masses, information in the church bulletins, and the use of the parish website about the purpose and benefits of being a CWL member.
- all CWL members informed of any changes proposed by National and Regional Pamphlets, personal invitation, open forum news letters and directives, upcoming changes

Info session for prospective members?

- When a new member joins some give them a welcome package with information about being a CWL member
- One on one conversation with prospective member.
- had a "Did you Know..." in the Church bulletin.
- We use posters and league pamphlets to provide information to prospective members. Our members are very active in the church and provide a wonderful example of service

What resources/assistance would parish councils like to have?

- Not many of the councils have invited executive members to assist them

- How to inspire ladies to take on executive positions. We would like to have a very simple list of positive changes that were made as a result of the CWL lobbying the government.
- prepared prayer services or retreats

Frequently asked questions (FAQs) on the duties of President-Elect/ Organization

- What is the CWL organization about and why should someone pay an increase in membership fees ? I spoke to several about the intangible benefits of membership, not just the magazine
- workshop defining and explaining the roles of the executive
- spiritual development

In point form below, describe any unusual activities undertaken as President Elect/Organization at the diocesan level in 2022.

- Visited several CWL councils who were having problems with finding executive members
- Participated in Regional Study days (3) to educate members on membership, elections and the new plans for strategic development

Recommendations for improvements in policy, guidelines, or reporting related to President-Elect/Organization position including identifying at what level of the League.

- we have much to offer but the message is either not being heard or we need to build upon/expand our creativity to increase membership.
- Encourage use of videos and prayer services on the National website
- Help for diocesan executives to get members to attend regional days, retreats, AMMs to assist us with these concerns.



ONTARIO ANNUAL REPORT YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022

DIOCESE: London

of parishes responding 67 of 92

STANDING COMMITTEE: Past President

CHAIRPERSON: Rebecca McCarrell

In your capacity as past president list instances for which you were consulted that may require clarification of policy and identify at what level of the League. (Reference Q18)

- Policy, Procedures, Past practices, Direction & support to the current president. Consulted with Regional Chairperson when questions could not be answered
- Past President is generally inactive

Describe options for where parish councils keep their archives in bullet one and any items archived in 2022 beyond those described in policy in following bullets. (Reference Q19)

- Filing cabinet/ cupboard in the church
- Prayer cards and obituaries of deceased members; articles used in discussions; past fund raiser information

Do parish councils have a history book? A policy manual? (Reference Q19&21)

- YES 29_NO 38 _____
- YES• 39_NO 28 _____

Did parish councils use the Constitution and Bylaws at meetings? Reference Q21

- YES 35____ NO 31_____

Did parish councils indicate they have council policy manuals? Reference Q20

- YES 39____ NO 28 _____ Describe below any strategies or tools, not available from national, diocesan council used to assist parishes with developing policies.

Were there frequently asked questions (FAQs) on the duties of Past President? Describe the FAQs and how you answered or assisted with obtaining an answer.

- Most sought information was on the process of nominations / elections at parish level
- Provided information on the set up of committee and the recruitment of eligible nominees.

List any recommendations for improvements in policy, guidelines, or reporting related to the Past President position including identifying at what level of the League.

- Emphasize the importance of this position as a support to the current president at all levels
- Archives needs to be better explained especially on the process and storage.



Diocese: London

Of Parishes responding: 67 of 92

Standing Committee: Resolutions and Legislation

Chairpersons: Willi Kole – First Vice President-Resolutions,

Denise Lalonde Morris- Second Vice President- Legislation

.....
Tools used in the last 3 years to develop a resolution: All of the tools listed were used. They were workshops: in communication from national, a supplement to Exec. Handbook and guide, as well as receiving mentoring from another member.

Number of Councils using the following:

6- Faith in Action workshop 2- federal department of justice website
14- Mailing from go's reps. 7- in person online gov't forums at any level
2- Hansard, printed record of gov't proceedings 5- LEGIS info website
19- Other

Resolutions and Gov't Bills/laws studied or acted upon:

Bills reviewed: Provincial- Bill C-7, C-4 .Bill 14- Long-term Care in nursing homes, Bill C-278- MAiD, Bill C-230 Bill C-268,

Names given showing interest in specialized training in resolution development – 3

Federal and Provincial legislation mentioned by parishes: very much like reply above

Bill C-230: Euthanasia Bill on Conscience rights for medical practitioners, liquor in variety store, Bill C-7, Bill C-268, and Bill C-4

There were no frequently asked questions on the duties of Resolutions and Legislation. There were a lot of councils who did not rate Legislation and Resolutions as important .

Recommendations or challenges for keeping resolutions and legislation active at various levels:

- How can legislation and resolutions go from fear of the unknown to a rewarding endeavour?
- How can we change the perception of the 2 critically important areas?
- Issues need to be something you want to do not the area you avoid

- More members need to take part in the “Faith in Action” exploring what legislation is all about and as well follow with the latest Resolution Workshop
- Consider presenting both topics at regional days and ask local politicians to attend



ONTARIO ANNUAL REPORT YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022

DIOCESE: London

of parishes responding 69____ of 92____

STANDING COMMITTEE: _____ Treasurer

CHAIRPERSON: (Acting) Rebecca McCarrell (Cam Cadotte – deceased)

What did parishes donate to national voluntary funds in 2022? (Reference Q15)

Catholic Missions in Canada	_____
Catholic Near East Welfare Association	<u>1,100.00</u>
CCCB Palliative Care Kit	<u>300.00</u>
Coady International Institute	<u>500.00</u>
Development and Peace-Caritas Canada	<u>5543.00</u>
Euthanasia Prevention Coalition	<u>799.00</u>

Parish councils donated the following total to all charities in 2022. (Reference Q16)

136049.00

Were there frequently asked questions (FAQs) on the duties of Treasurer not answered by policy or guidelines? Describe these FAQs and how you answered or assisted with obtaining an answer.

- One parish council had difficulties with a president who would not allow others to do their positions, and did not pass anything along to treasurer (including moneys, cheques, directives, bank statements, etc)
- Had a meeting with the council and had a new executive formed. Assisted council in going through all paperwork given by outgoing president. Cleaned up Treasurer information as much as possible, then assisted at bank to close out accounts and open new accounts to start afresh

In point form below, describe any unusual activities undertaken as Treasurer at the parish or diocesan level in 2022.

- None

List any recommendations for improvements in policy, guidelines, or reporting related to the Treasurer position including identifying at what level of the League.

-

**London Diocese Donations as Reported
by Parish Councils to the Treasurer**

Coady international	425.00
Development and Peace	1,958.00
Catholic Missions in Canada	3,190.00
Euthanasia Prevention Coalition	350.00
National Bursary	50.00
Near East Welfare Association	825.00
Standing Chair Committees	124,306.00
Parish Donations	5,5097.00
TOTAL	\$186,203.00



ONTARIO ANNUAL REPORT YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022

DIOCESE: London

of parishes responding 67 of 92

STANDING COMMITTEE: Recording Secretary

CHAIRPERSON: Denise Masse

What did parishes do in your diocese to keep their members up to date in 2022? (Reference questions Q11-13).

- 75% of councils read monthly minutes at each meeting, only 34% prepared and sent a quarterly report of all council activities to its members
- 91% of councils kept their membership up to date regarding special events

Parish secretaries shared specific comments of note on their position as follows: (Reference Q14)

•

Were there frequently asked questions (FAQs) on the duties of the Secretary not answered by policy or guidelines? Describe the FAQs and how you answered or assisted with obtaining an answer.

- questions about how to handle the new workload of the new role, I offered the Communication Team model I made

In point form below, describe any unusual activities undertaken as Secretary at the parish or diocesan level in 2022.

•

List any recommendations for improvements in policy, guidelines, or reporting related to the Secretary position including identifying at what level of the League.

- Directive on Land Acknowledgements, Indigenous Peoples ...

ONTARIO ANNUAL REPORT YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022

DIOCESE: London

of parishes responding 67 of 92

STANDING COMMITTEE: Christian Family Life

CHAIRPERSON: Mary Ann Horne-White

For each of the following, list actions by parish councils and diocesan council to:

support marriage and families.

- Councils kept in touch with widows, divorced, separated, and prayed for families. Some supported Retrouvaille weekends for couples
- A few councils gave memberships for a year to brides and RCIA
- Funeral prayers and honour guards were provided upon request from families

uphold or advocate for the sanctity of life.

- Most councils supported Right to Life, participated in 40 days for life, some collected baby items for Birthright and other homes to support pregnant women and girls
- Masses were celebrated monthly for the unborn by a few councils

support youth.

- Councils supported sacraments taught in school with books and gifts, and volunteered at Confirmation and First Communion receptions
- Some members volunteered and supported Sunday School in their parishes

reach out and provide ministry to others.

- Councils phoned and visited their shut-ins, sent thinking of you cards and newsletters to keep members informed, members did their stories for our 100th anniversary book and history.
- Some councils gave their members Bereavement support

support and/or promote religious vocations.

- Councils have prayed for vocations, sent cards to their priests and deacons, arranged masses for their intentions, and donated to the Seminary
- Spiritual Bouquets have been sent out

Were there frequently asked questions (FAQs) on the duties of Christian Family Life? Describe the FAQs and how you answered or assisted with obtaining an answer.

- Councils have been clear on the duties of Christian Family Life. Some of the chairpersons have been in the position for years. If there were any questions, Provincial and National councils' directives would be of assistance .

In point form below, describe any unusual activities undertaken as Christian Family Life chair at the diocesan level in 2022.

- Participated and promoted Compassionate Community Care and "My Story Being There" with our members
- Visited our members and shared stories for CWL and their family history

List any recommendations for improvements in policy, guidelines, or reporting related to the Christian Family Life position including identifying at what level of the League.

- One council asked how to address LGBTQ with their council. All levels will need to decide what to do.



One of the happiest
moments ever,
is when you find the
courage to let go of
**what you can't
change.**

Communications Standing Committee Report 2022

Diocese: London

Chairperson: none

Parishes Reporting: 67/92

No report submitted

ONTARIO ANNUAL REPORT YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022

DIOCESE: London

of parishes responding 67 of 92

STANDING COMMITTEE: Community Life

CHAIRPERSON: Pat. Sloan

List the # of councils participating and answers to subsequent question for parish councils and diocesan council:

2nd National Truth and Reconciliation Day – September 30, 2022(Reference Q37)

36 Councils Participated

The ways they participated are as follows

- Wore orange shirts and ribbons
- Attended special masses
- Had Indigenous speaker at their September meeting
- Prayed Rosary at home

National Food Bank Project(Reference Q38)

49 councils participated . Many donated money to St. Vincent de Paul Food Bank or other food banks in their area.

National Webinar on Human Trafficking by Joy Smith (Reference Q39)

22 Councils answered the question, but only 9 councils took part in the Webinar.

They learned how to notice something suspicious going on and how to prevent it. They learned how to use the study guide. They were all surprised at the staggering number of people trafficked and the number of homeless and young people that were targeted.

Assisting Ukrainian refugees in transition to their new life in Canada?
(Reference Q40)

25 councils responded. • They supplied financial support, clothing, baby items and wore blue and yellow ribbons to show support.

Did parish councils use the:

Development and Peace – Caritas Canada brochure to promote projects supported by the League? (Reference Q41) YES 18% NO 82%

Catholic Near East Welfare Association brochure to promote projects supported by the League? (Reference Q42) YES 8% NO 92%

Were there frequently asked questions (FAQs) on the duties of Community Life? Describe the FAQs and how you answered or assisted with obtaining an answer.

- I have never been asked any questions on duties

In point form below, describe any unusual activities undertaken as Community Life chair at the diocesan level in 2022.

- Food Bank Project
- Truth and Reconciliation

List any recommendations for improvements in policy, guidelines, or reporting related to the Community Life position including identifying at what level of the League.

- The timelines that are given to us by OPC are too short notice for the parish councils to be notified to participate in a project.

ONTARIO ANNUAL REPORT YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022

DIOCESE: London

Number of parishes responding 67 of 92

STANDING COMMITTEE: Education and Health

CHAIRPERSON: Mary Clare Latimer

List the # of councils participating and answers to subsequent question for parish councils and diocesan council:

Promoted/assisted Catholic education (Reference Q43)

67 # of parishes • (list ways)

The majority of parishes regularly and/or annually donate money to local schools for religious education purposes; sponsor Christian based awards for both elementary/high school students; donate rosaries and/or other sacramental gifts; attend school masses; fund bus costs for children to attend mass regularly; assist with sacramental preparation and/or regularly visit their local schools to teach the rosary; participate in school board Faith Days; hold elementary/high school essay contests regarding topics related to Catholic Teachings and Values; provide Vocation Crosses to all local schools; contribute to/sponsor (children's) Sunday Friends podcast and encourage their members to engage in local school events, presenting themselves as Catholic Women League members

Bursaries or Scholarships (Reference Q44)

67 # of parishes • (list levels of education provided to)

Most parishes reported awarding council bursaries to both elementary and high school students. One parish continues to support a local student joining the NET Ministries of Canada. Despite ongoing education efforts overall parish awareness/ applications to National and Diocesan scholarships and bursaries continues to lag.

Blood Services Canada National League Partnership (Reference Q46)

16 # of parishes • (what did you learn?)

Increased awareness is still required regarding the League "Partners for Life" program with Blood Services Canada.

Did your council participate or act on the following (Reference Q45 and Q47):

Mental health post card campaign 8%__ YES 63% NO
30% UNAWARE

Palliative care post card campaign ____ 19% UNAWARE	23%_ YES	____ 58% NO	
Webinar on palliative care May 7 ____ 15% UNAWARE	37%_ YES	____ 48% NO	
12 hours of prayer for palliative care ____ 3% UNAWARE	68%_ YES	____ 29% NO	
World Water Day, March 22 ____ UNAWARE	12%_ YES	____ 88% NO	____
Earth Day, April 22 UNAWARE	25%_ YES	____ 75% NO	____
Earth Action Initiative, September 20 ____ UNAWARE	6%_ YES	____ 94% NO	____

List any other significant campaigns or speakers related to helping the environment (Reference Q48).

- Councils reported that many of their members are also community environmental group members, engaging councils in local park/lake/riverside cleanups and/or other environmental community initiatives. Eg. London F.O.G.(Fats,Oils,Grease) cups for parishioners; Rotary milk bag sleeping mats; stamps for D&P global south project; battery depots; egg/margarine/yogurt containers for food distribution centres. One council purchased a digester for their church kitchen, with the resulting compost used for a community garden. The majority of respondents remain committed to planting trees, holding paperless meetings, eliminating single use plastics and using only recyclable products at meetings/events.
- Speakers included: local Horticultural Society; Faith & The Common Good from Toronto

Were there frequently asked questions (FAQs) on the duties of Education & Health? Describe the FAQs and how you answered or assisted with obtaining an answer.

- Regular communication with Educ and Health Provincial Chair was helpful
- At times members requested clarification of National response regarding Eg. the decision by Canadian Blood Services(CBS) to sign a 15-year agreement with a for-profit international pharmaceutical firm to collect plasma.

In point form below, list any unusual activities undertaken as Education & Health chair at the diocesan level in 2022.

- N/A

List any recommendations for improvements in policy, guidelines, or reporting related to the Education & Health position including identifying at what level of the League.

- National and Provincial Educ & Health Chairpersons should be made aware of local Diocesan directives and/or newsletter deadlines to ensure timely notification/awareness of any education and health campaigns/initiatives/ opportunities to increase overall member participation



ONTARIO ANNUAL REPORT YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022

DIOCESE: London

of parishes responding 67 of 92

STANDING COMMITTEE: Spiritual Development

CHAIRPERSON: Joan Lobsinger

.....
For each of the following, describe ways parish councils and diocesan council assisted members:

in their communal and personal prayer life in 2022?

- Most councils used a variety of prayer styles (65%); and retreats, days of reflection and online webinars of a spiritual theme (53%)

in their growth in Catholic faith?

- All of the resources were used by the councils to some degree.
- The majority of councils shared information from Catholic sources (77%)

in being up to date on the role of women in the church?

- All of the resources were used with the majority (56%) listing websites as being used most often.
- Some councils did not answer this question

Describe ways parish councils and diocesan council supported women and men discerning their vocation?

- Prayers, words/cards of encouragement and financial support were given to the seminarians and deacons.
- Some councils supported NET
- One council provided financial assistance to a young woman in their parish who is involved in a missionary ministry

Were there frequently asked questions (FAQs) on the duties of Spiritual Development? Describe the FAQs and how you answered or assisted with obtaining an answer.

- Some councils were looking for resources. The Fall Regional Days, Advent service and Our Marion Day at the Shrine were well attended. The prayer services used were available so they could be used at the parish level.

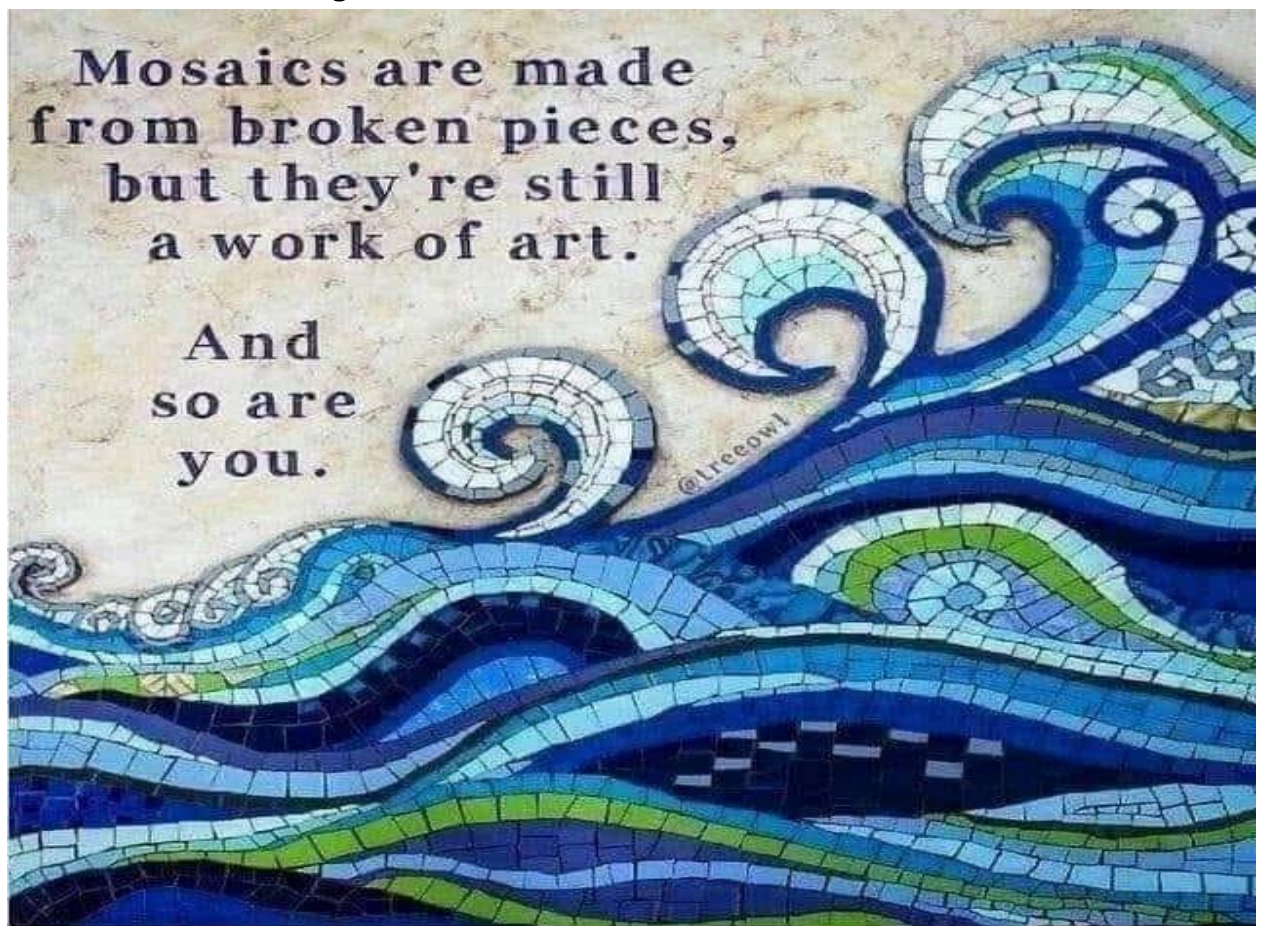
- My goal in writing directives was to provide councils with resources for spiritual growth.

In point form below, describe any unusual activities undertaken as Spiritual Development at the parish or diocesan level in 2022.

- Provided Diocesan Lenten Retreat via Zoom.

List any recommendations for improvements in policy, guidelines, or reporting related to the Spiritual Development position including identifying at what level of the League.

- There are councils that are unaware of the resources available. We need to find ways to better inform our members. Fall Regional Days and directives often provide this information but still it seems the information doesn't get to all councils.



*Chatham-Kent Region
Regional Chairperson,
Angela Soulliere
13 Councils*

Faith. Service. Social justice.

It's who we are as Catholic women. I know if I were to ask the presidents of the Chatham Kent what they do to exemplify these pillars, they would be modest and not toot their own horn. I know that these women do what they do without even thinking about it. It's who we are in Chatham-Kent.

Faith- these women live their faith every day. They are celebrating mass weekly-some daily. They are ministers of various ministries within their parishes. They teach and pray the rosary. They have vocation crosses. They support seminarians. They advocate for the sanctity of life. Many councils participate in World Day of prayer. They live their faith daily.

Service- the women in Chatham-Kent live their Christianity through service to the people of God. They are involved in their community. They volunteer at schools and at soup kitchens. They volunteer at Canadian Food for Children. They have guest speakers (now that we can!) to speak about human trafficking, racism and bullying. They are trying to make a difference in the community...no matter how small.

Social Justice- the women of Chatham-Kent actively participate in activities like WRAP. They advocate for the end to pornography. They participate in Right To Life events such as March For Life and 40 Days for Life. They have hosted baby bottle boomerang. They have had baby showers for Right To Life. They have written resolutions to be brought forward. They have run for political office so that they can be part of the change that needs to happen.

The women of Chatham-Kent are truly amazing and inspiring women. The councils in Chatham-Kent work tirelessly to support each other and to help grow our community. I am truly blessed to be counted among these women!

*Faith is not the belief that God will do what you want. It is the
belief that God will do what is right."*

— Max Lucado, *He Still Moves Stones: Everyone Needs a Miracle*



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Blessed Sacrament, Chatham

No report submitted

St. Joseph's (City) Chatham.

Co-Presidents: Beth Lachine and Sharon Thieven RIP

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. John Jasica

Number of Members: 87

Year 2022 got off with a slow start.

We planned for our Penny Sale, which took place in November and proceeds from that 50/50 went to New Beginnings Adult Brain Injury Chapter in Chatham and toward our Spirit and Life Centre. Our ladies focused on this fundraiser.

Money was forwarded to Goodfellows and The Refuge Centre. Although we could not give to many well worth areas the ladies did wonderful in making this be successful. God Bless.

St Joseph's Harwich Chatham

President: Geraldine King

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. John Jasica

Number of members: 86

We started 2022 off with our first somewhat successful virtual meeting with lots of participants and hiccups but were still able to catch up on business and with each other for the first time in the past two years. The 2022-23 executive were introduced and voting on the instructed vote for the proposed amendments to the CWL's Constitution and Bylaws was held. April marked the return to in person meetings. Members began to serve as honour guards for our deceased sisters and held funeral luncheons for members and fellow parishioners. We provided financial support to our local food bank, Salvation Army, Goodfellows, Hospice, Community Living organizations and financial support to the maintenance of our parish centre and St Vincent du Paul luncheons served there. We also financially assisted St Peter's Seminary, Development in Peace, Right to Life and Euthanasia Prevention.

Our council donated over \$9,200 and 1,400 hours to worthy causes. We were certainly Catholic and Living It!

St. Ursula, Chatham

President: Sandra Richie

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. John Jasica

Number of Members: 113

In November we voted in a new executive and then in December we had a wine and cheese party for Christmas. We introduced the new executive, and presented pins for 70 years, 60 years, 50 years, 40 years 25 years and 10 years which we could not do during covid. We also paid tribute to 15 Ladies that passed away. Good time was had by all.

Visitation, Comber

President: Nancy Sylvestre

Spiritual Advisor:

Number of members: 137

During the year of 2022 slowing getting over Covid, it took awhile for members to start coming to Membership Meeting.

We started back in March when it was possible to start having our meetings back in the church hall.

By April we had our Executive Meeting and no General Meeting because no one came to the meeting. But we had Easter Spiritual Bouquets for our members who were in shut-in, sick, or lost a member of their families mailed out before Easter.

In the Month of May we had a good turnout for our General meeting. Members brought canned goods for the poor to help replenish our Food Bank in Tilbury .

St. Michael's CWL, Dresden

President- Norine McFadden

Spiritual Advisor- Fr. Chris Gillespie

Number of Members – 51 Number of Life Members - 0

This report is to reflect on the League's continual work on the theme Catholic and Living It! The beautiful story of the CWL pin was shared by our Faith Chairperson at a recent meeting. The CWL pin is a beautiful story of love, participation and volunteerism. The Spirit of God has been guiding our members throughout this year's journey and giving our work a place in our common home and community home. Our Service Chairperson created many opportunities through the 50/50 Fall Draw; Baby Bottle Boomerang and Clothing Drive to bring attention to feeding the hungry; clothing the naked; protecting the life of the most precious of God's children. Our Social Justice Chairperson kept the hot topics in the spotlight- gatherings after Mass to support the homelessness- donation to the St. James Outreach; engaging our parishioners in the End Pornography campaign. Our Organization Chairperson created a wonderful evening event to gather women of the parish through the Personal Christmas Planters.

St. Patrick, Merlin**President: Christine Drew****Spiritual Advisor:****Number of Members: 29**

Our CWL slowly emerged from the fear and restrictions of the pandemic. Since our elderly membership was neither able nor willing to hold meetings online we had only 4 meetings in 2022. This has put a financial strain on our council. "Strengthen the faith and good works of our members, building-up life in the world by being Catholic and Living It."

This year we gathered monetary donations and baby clothes to be donated to Refuge. We supported our parishioners who were candidates for the sacraments with a gift. Like past years we sent cards and small gifts to our sick and shut-ins and at every meeting pray for those in need. We held our annual memorial mass for our deceased members honoring one of our members who passed in 2022. We donated to Save-A-Family-Plan, Community Living C-K, C-K Big Sisters/ Big Brothers, C-K Hospice, Community Living C-K and many others.

The CWL again provided lunch for the visiting priests who are celebrating mass during St. Patrick's Shrine Days. We assisted by providing refreshments and music during the CWL Diocesan Shrine Day held at St. Patrick's Church and Shrine. We donated to Canadian Missions. "Through the intercession of Our Lady of Good Counsel may we be joyful and responsive to our Christian calling by truly being Catholic and Living It".

Sacred Heart, Port Lambton

No report submitted

St. Michael's CWL, Ridgetown**President: Susan Martens****Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Christophe Mbunzu****Number of Members: 63****Life Members:0**

Our Catholic Women's League Council in Ridgetown has been focusing on our Catholic faith and putting it into action. Because we are passionate about the Sanctity of Life, we had an excellent response to the Baby Bottle Boomerang held our annual *Right to Life* baby shower filling a large almost new crib with approximately nine large boxes of clothes ranging from preemie to two years of age. With the rising cost of rent, utilities and food, it is becoming increasingly difficult for mothers to provide for the basic necessities of life. A volunteer from ROCK (Reach Out Chatham Kent) missions came and spoke to us about her ministry where she helps feed the homeless and those with food insecurity. A box has been placed at the back of the church for

donations for this important program. As Catholic women, we are called to take care of the poor and to give them kindness and hope.

St. Paul, Thamesville

No report submitted

St Francis Xavier Tilbury

President: Michelle Rivard

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Mukacha Katherno

Number of members: 129 Life members: 0

Our Council had a busy 2022. We held a food drive for our local food bank receiving an abundance of groceries. Our executive installation was held and we were able to begin our in-person general meetings in March. We held a one hour in-person prayer service for Palliative Care. We had a personal hygiene collection month for the needy with a great response. We held a crowning of Mary event during our masses on Mother's Day. We gave token gifts to our youth making their first communion and confirmation. Our June meeting was a potluck dinner and featured our Spiritual Advisor as guest speaker. We provided 3 elementary and 1 secondary school bursaries for Gr 8 and Gr 12 students. We helped sponsor one child to attend a Christian summer camp. We collected items/gift cards for a Ukrainian refugee. Our members assisted with our Family of Parishes picnic held in September providing side dishes to enhance our meal. We participated in the local Life Chain. We held a "Day of Christmas Blessings" collection for Ashley's Place, a local organization who help provide women's shelters, homeless, with Christmas bags filled with personal hygiene items and other goodies. We held a lovely memorial service for all members who left us for their eternal home over the last 4 years. We held our yearly Samaritan's Purse Christmas Shoe Box campaign. We also recited a decade of the rosary for the intentions of Pope Francis and a special prayer at every meeting as our contribution to his spiritual bouquet. We held our Christmas potluck meeting with our yearly pin ceremony along with fun games. We had a great 2022 even with the challenges we were all facing

Holy Family, Wallaceburg

President: Sue Anderson

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Chris Gillespie

Number of Members: 93

We are finally up and running again. The year has been busy as we practise the theme, Catholic and Living It.

- we donated shoes to Canadian food for Children and did a can drive for St. Vincent de Paul.
- we had a Drive by Food Drive for St James Anglican Church food bank and collected 8 boxes, 6 bags and \$100.
- we had our Lady of Good Counsel Mass and handed out pins and had an Easter Basket Raffle with the proceeds donated to Fairfield Park Seniors Home to renovate the Palliative Care room.
- Right to Life Baby Shower and collected a full playpen of items
- had Shut in Masses
- spiritual bouquet for Pope Francis' visit
- handed out blue and gold ribbons in support of the War in Ukraine
- we had a bake sale and sold Epicure Promo boxes.
- Advent tea which all enjoyed and a 50/50 draw whereby we made money for Father Chris' mission to repair a Church roof in El Salvador

Our Lady, Help of Christians, Wallaceburg

President: Margaret Cushman

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Chris Gillespie

Number of members: 169

How We Responded to God's Call In 2022:

International Humanitarian aid:

- Save A Family Plan, Operation Christmas Child, Homes for Hope El Salvador, Ukraine War Relief , Development and Peace – Caritas Canada

At Local Level:

- Right to Life activities (Life Chain, annual Baby Shower, March for Life)
- St. Peter's Seminary
- Community Meals financially as well as assist with preparation and serving of meals .
- Youth Ministry activities
- Women's Shelter given donations of money and items needed
- Visits and prayers to our senior members, shut-in's and those living in nursing homes thr
- White Ribbons and postcards against pornography
- Blue & Gold Ribbons in support of the people in Ukraine.
- Postcards against euthanasia in its many forms, especially the killing of infants
- Provide sacramental gifts (First Communion and First Reconciliation booklets) to children; also we gift crucifixes to newly wedded couples.
- Awards for grade eight graduating students at our schools
- We keep in touch with members through phone calls to shut-ins and elderly, through

emails and Newsletters. We send cards to bereaved families, to the ill, on the birth of a baby, etc.



*No matter what accomplishments you achieve,
somebody helps you.*

Althea

Essex Region
Jeanne Lauzon, Chair
9 Councils

The Essex region presidents and executive have grown together through prayer, common interests and support.

Our members are always looking for ways to grow in **FAITH**. A retreat was held at Holy Family Retreat House and 25 members attended. The day included mass, prayers, reflections and sharing on the theme Believe. We agreed that we should gather together across the region more often to pray and to share ideas and events.

Returning to our roots of **SERVICE**, we participated in the My Story project for Compassionate Community Care. Visiting some of our shut-ins and learning more about their lives was an amazing experience for those who participated. We all agreed that this should be continued in our councils and added to our archives.

SOCIAL JUSTICE continues to play an important role in our councils. A special soup luncheon was held and donations were sent to support the Ukrainian effort. We continue to learn more about indigenous issues through materials offered through the various seminars and websites.

As we commit ourselves to the new pillars, we are learning to work more as a team by sharing the workload and recognizing the contributions made by many members of each council. We are empowering each other by supporting CWL events across the region. We are getting to know each other and to support each other's causes.



Great occasions for serving God come seldom, but little ones surround us daily.

Saint Francis de Sales

St John the Baptist, Amherstburg

President: Anne Roy

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Matt Kucharski

Number of members: 56

- Since September we have added 22 new members including transfers from Harrow.
- At our December Social we held a advent service and pinning ceremony where new members received pins, and members received pins for their 5yr, 10yr, 15yr, and 30 years of service
- Honour guard at Theresa Bezaire's and Jean Duffy's funerals.
- Organization chair Bernadette O'Mahony added their names to the Book of Life
- We held a mass for our deceased members on November 9,2022
- Members have signed up to visit members at Harrowood to help combat loneliness

St Simon and St Jude, Belle River

President: Jackie Gomes

Spiritual Advisor: Fr Robert Renaud

No. of Members: 186 Life Members: none

Some of the notable endeavours were in the support of the needy both here and abroad, as well as participate in social justice events. Listed are a few examples

-Participation in anti-abortion, anti-euthanasia initiatives and support of a local crisis pregnancy home

-We undertook a project to knit/crochet hats and scarves for residents of a local assisted living group home. These items were gift wrapped and delivered in Dec. to very appreciative brothers and sisters.

-Our council actively supports the Canadian Food for Children with many items donated at all our monthly meetings and work collaboratively with our Family of Parishes Outreach initiatives and programs for the poor and marginalized through time and donations.

May you have a grace-filled year with good health and many blessings

Holy Name of Jesus, Essex

President: Janice Rounding

No Current Spiritual Advisor

155 Members, 0 Life Members

Catholic and Living it

We held our first yard sale in our parish hall. Members were very generous in their giving of items for sale. Free will offering made it simple and fast to get ready. The town people were generous in their purchasing. All leftover items were donated to our St. Vincent de Paul and Good Will stores.

We had a bake sale in October, again with free will offering. Our ladies donated so many goodies, that we were able to provide Street Help Homeless Centre of Windsor, our 3 youth groups, First Reconciliation children and our council spring banquet with goodies, and desserts. We were able to put some money in our coffers for our budget requirements as well as help out those in need. May our Lady of Good Counsel continue to bless us.

St. Anthony of Padua, Harrow

We send our prayers to our members from Harrow who have disbanded their council. May you find a warm welcome from the members in your choice of council.

St. John de Brebeuf and Companions, Kingsville

President: Rose Jones

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Tom Ferrera

Number of members: 71

Activities starting May - Dec 2022; This is when we started meeting again post covid.

Feed people;

- Hold a social for all parishioners once a month, proceeds, which are by donation are shared with the SSVP.

Sick;

- Do wellness phone calls to members.
- Long term care (4), nursing homes and home bound; reach out in the form of appropriate cards, visits and phone calls.
- Volunteer at Erie Shores Hospice.

Homeless and Clothing;

- Provide socks and other necessities to Bridge Youth Centre (centre for troubled youth, ages 16-24).
- Conducted a baby bottle campaign for donations for Our Lady of Guadalupe Home (shelter and support for new mothers and pregnant women in crisis);
- members participate in all ministries of a Sunday Mass (lector, Alter servers, sacristans, greeters and Eucharistic ministers.)
- Members serve as catechist for other sacraments.
- Several members attended and participated in World Day Of Prayer 2022.

Fund raising;

- Held spring and fall yard sales,.
- Held a quiche Sunday
- Monies raised used to support our donations to various groups.

Good Shepherd, Lakeshore

President: Audrey Rychel

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Patrick Beneteau

Number of Members: 56

Masses were said once a month for different issues i.e. Homeless, our Indigenous Brothers and Sisters, the Refugees of the World, victims of Human Trafficking, Migrant Workers as well as for any deceased member. Cards were mailed to our members who were sick and to our shut-ins to let them know we are thinking of them.

Food and non-perishable items were donated to different food banks. Financial donations were given for Ukraine Refugees and to Euthanasia Prevention Coalition; men's and ladies gloves, hats and socks were collected and donated to the Salvation Army. Several members donate their time helping with Street Help and Street Angels.

We led the Stations of the Cross, helped at our 5th Anniversary celebration and the parish picnic. We took part in the 12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care and provided a Spiritual Bouquet for Pope Francis. We honoured our Mother, Mary, at a mass, presented an award to 2 worthy students and invited all parishioners back for coffee and dessert after a Healing Mass. We wrote to our MPs and signed petitions with respect to several Bills as well as signing and mailing cards to our local MPs on Euthanasia.

Two of our members wrote "Their Story" of what being a member of the Catholic Women's League means to them.

St. Michael's , Leamington

President: Mary Di Milo

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Tom Ferrera

Number of members: 170

Number of Life Members: 1

- ZOOM meetings held in Jan/Feb.
- Baptism Stoles and Guardian Angel cards for newly baptized, Crosses presented to Confirmation candidates and First Communicants
- Truckload Drive for Ukraine , Caritas Ukraine sandwich fundraiser
- Funeral Pall made by member
- Lenten Fish Fry -takeout meals prepared by KofC/CWL members
- Members attended Parish Synod and provided refreshments
- 12 Hours for Palliative Care
- Crowning of Mary celebration followed by Annual CWL Banquet – Guest speaker Fr. Paul Kim. Spiritual Bouquet for Pope Francis was filled in by members
- Presented 70 year pin, 50 year pin and Maple Leaf pin
- March for Life Flags Campaign – CWL presented Pro Life Flags to Catholic area Schools
- Our Lady of the Cape Pilgrim Service
- Sister Elaine Cole – Farewell Mass – presented her with gift and reception
- Potluck Supper – Fr. Olivet was guest speaker – more membership pins were presented
- CWL Shrine Day @ St. Patrick's in Merlin
- Fall Regional Day in Windsor–

- Members wrote letters /emails to politicians re: Bill S-248, Bill C-295, Bill C-265
- Annual Apple Pie Fundraiser
- 40 Days for Life and Walk for Life
- Membership Campaign begins
- Donations made to Homelessness Hub in Leamington and to 2 refugee families

St. Clement, McGregor

President: Diana Coyle

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. David Johnston

Number of Members: 92

Life Members:

None

The League blesses our community and me with members living out the theme “Catholic and Living It”. Relationships are being built and our faith deepened when we form our small faith group discussions at our meetings.

We serve our Family of Parishes in leading weekly Stations of the Cross during Lent; a Prayer Service on Divine Mercy Sunday; and on Orange Shirt Day a Prayer Service consisting of a Divine Mercy Chaplet and a Rosary for the intentions of Indigenous Peoples. We also hosted a Coffee Sunday & Bake Sale for our Parish that helped build community and brought in a very generous amount of money to continue some of our charitable works. One of the highlights this year was being informed by Save a Family Plan that the family in India that we were assisting is now able to support themselves!

A “Soup for Ukraine” fundraiser resulted in sending \$1300.00 to CNEWA to help families affected by war in Ukraine. Looking forward to the Convention in Sarnia!

Ste. Anne, Tecumseh

President: Diane Gerard

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Mark Poulin **Number of Members:** 218

CATHOLIC AND LIVING IT! Our CWL parish has been focusing mostly on helping the poor in our surrounding communities. Firstly, by collecting full size toiletries for men and women, shampoos, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, feminine hygiene products for “SECOND CHANCE MINISTRY”. Last year were hats, scarves, mittens, running shoes, coats, blankets, sheets again for Second Chance Ministry. The parishioners have been so generous we had to bring the items on a weekly basis. Our Second focus has been postcards against Child Euthanasia in Canada campaign that were signed and collected to send to our MP’s while they were in session from Jan 30-Feb17. Also, to protect rights of our healthcare workers and to improve Care for Long Term Care Homes and letters against the use of MAID for mentally ill. We certainly need to keep bombarding Parliament on these matters and those of which have been presented at the National Level.

St. John the Evangelist, Woodslee

President: Kat Chevalier

Spiritual Advisor: Deacon Bryan Chevalier

Number of members: 68

Work continues on the My Story Booklets, unfortunately we were not able to get them finished in time for the book. But we will be putting them together for our archive.

Plaque design for the Pieta statue has been completed and we are now looking for people who desire one for their deceased child

Our council has additional volunteers going to the nursing home

We are currently participating in a baby bottle drive to support Guadalupe Home and the new mothers.



A bird is safe in its nest — but that is not what its wings are made for.

Amit Ray

Huron-Perth Region

Mary Barnes, Regional Chairperson

15 Councils

In 2022 things started to open up therefore Huron Perth was able to start to hold in person Regional Meetings unless the weather didn't want to cooperate. There was good attendance at meetings whether virtual or in person. Moving to the three pillars of Faith, Service and Social Justice councils embraced these with various initiatives.

Faith: Councils continued with interfaith endeavours. In person World Day of Prayer was held. Rosary Rally, CWL Masses, calls to council members, cards, etc. also continued. A priest spoke about his journey to become a priest. A challenge was put out by a council to their members to decorate their front doors with some kind of Easter Message the theme being "Christ at our Door, Let us Rejoice".

Service: Catholic Education continued with CWL bursaries to local high schools. Rosaries were given to First Communicants, crucifixes to Grade 8 graduates. A council raised monies in support of Jesu Ashram a care center in India providing quality health care service to the destitute and poor. It was founded in 1971 by Brother Bob Mittelholtz who was raised in Zurich.

Social Justice:

Signatures were collected calling upon the House of Commons to adopt human rights and environment due diligence legislation (Private members Bill C262) in Canadian overseas operations and global supply chains.



*I am no longer accepting the things
I cannot change;
I am changing the things
I cannot accept.* Angela Davis

St. Patrick's, Dublin

President: Mrs. Kathy Rowland

Spiritual Advisor: Father Philip Joseph

Number of Members: 35

Catholic and Living It! The theme is inspirational and is exemplified in our members in the time and talents that they contribute as volunteers in our parish. After three years of pandemic restrictions, we were happy to host our annual Christmas Dinner, once again, in 2022. We honoured members who have been CWL members for 50, 60 and even 70 years. These women have put their faith into action. Over the years, they have served in many roles as CWL Members including; CWL executive positions, compiled CWL History, served as team leaders for funeral lunches, prepared and served food at funerals, helped with special events and served us as prayerful members. Their roles have intertwined many aspects of the parish life. Thank you for being role models of faith and service for all. Catholic and Living It!

Precious Blood, Exeter

President: Caroline Klaver

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Antoine (Tony) Laforet

Number of members: 54

It was a rough start for our council. We considered disbanding at the end of 2021 due to lack of interest for the executive positions. 2022 started with no President. After much prayer and finally listening (lol), I agreed in June to accept the role as President. With half the year in limbo and summer upon us, we did our best to hit the ground running in September. It has been a learning curve! Both for myself and also for the membership. Sometimes 'fresh blood' is too fresh. My proudest and most humbling moment came when we were preparing for our bake sale. I had 2 or 3 names on a list of people willing to help. I had no expectations. And then the kitchen was full. People were laughing and chatting and working together. This was Catholic and Living It!!

St. Peter's, Goderich

President: Joanne Doherty

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Tony Laforet

Number of members: 131 Life Members: 1

Our council is alive with the spirit of Catholic and Living It! Members have been actively involved in many fundraising endeavours which have allowed us to resume our donations to pre-pandemic levels and assist worthy community projects. New fundraisers were done with covid protocols in mind for safety for all. A Fashion Show, Paint nights over zoom, art cards and bookmarks created, mint smoothie sales, drive-thru bbq chicken dinners were new adventures accepted. In addition, the continuance of the CWL (Calling with Love) calls made communication with our members a vital source of making sure everyone was safe and well.

Our members are faith-filled and generously share their gifts and talents making a difference to so many. It is a Sisterhood.

Immaculate Heart of Mary, Grand Bend

President: Maureen Garinther

Spiritual Advisors: (Fr. Steve Eckert, Fr. Steve Marsh) Fr. Vince Gulikers

Members: 83

Our members were eager to show our community that our Council cared about them. Plans were made to make our annual "Ham and Strawberry Social" a fundraiser, with both take-out and in-house meals available. Parishioners and members of our local community were welcomed and all were grateful for a delicious meal. We saw many smiling faces as our members greeted everyone who attended. Catholic and Living It! Was very evident when we made a \$1000 cheque presentation to the Chief Executive Officer of the Grand Bend Area Community Health Centre, for the "We Can Help" fund which provides a financial boost to locals in need.

In November, the proceeds from the very successful sale of Raffle tickets supported three local foodbanks, enabling them to stock their shelves for Christmas. A local Hospital and Hospice benefitted as well. There were many busy CWL hands and lots of laughter on Pie Making Day and the making of Christmas Planters. The many notes of thanks received as a result of our giving hearts certainly indicates the Immaculate Heart of Mary Council is Catholic and Living It!

St. Patrick's Kinkora

President: Linda Donkers

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Ronnie Tagnines

Number of Members: 76 Life Members: 0

Our CWL in St. Patrick's, Kinkora have challenged our members at Easter to decorate their front doors with some kind of Easter Message. We encouraged families to talk about the whole passion, death and resurrection of Christ and asked them to create a sign of our faith for Easter during their Spring Break. We used the theme "*Christ at our Door. Let us Rejoice*". Many families participated, even some got their children and grand children involved. Some shared their creations through social media to show the world what we believe. Photos were also shown on the screens in our church following Easter Mass to share with our parishioners. Here in Kinkora, we are "*Catholic and Living it*"!

St. Joseph's Listowel

Co-Presidents Judy Givens and Judy Charles

Spiritual Advisor Fr. Ross Bartley

Number of members: 81

It was so good to resume in-person meetings and events after the covid restrictions were lifted.

We have resumed catering funeral luncheons in our church hall.

Fun was had at our June meeting with a potluck dinner and fashion show with several members modelling fashions from a local businesswoman.

Our CWL council helped with our parish roast beef dinner in October.

Several of our members attended the Listowel Right to Life Banquet on November 19th.

It was a festive season when our annual Christmas Bazaar was enjoyed in person.

Our Christmas Dinner was held at a local restaurant after Mass was celebrated. A presentation of membership milestone pins was made after Mass.

St. Vincent de Paul, Mitchell

Contact person Ingrid Hanrath

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Philip Joseph

Number of members: 41

As you know our group lacks a president and secretary and has little spiritual guidance. So the remainder of the group came together for a meal in June 2022 at which time we also invited diocesan representatives to answer questions. We were on the verge of folding.....BUT We met again for a meal at Christmas time and discussed some changes. We created a correspondence position and will continue to focus on our parish and community needs. Our membership has increased from 31 to 41 for 2023 with a lot of prayers.

We get together for funeral lunches and you notice the camaraderie of the group. We continue to pray for someone to take the presidency.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Mount Carmel

President- Clasina Geurts

Spiritual Advisor-Deacon Fred Truchon

Members-59

Our council held a Food Drive for Lent where a lot of food was collected and a large amount of cash donations.

Two of our members started a monthly Parish Newsletter to help parishioners stay more connected with what is going on in the parish. We announce funerals, weddings, baptisms, first communions and reconciliations, also major birthdays and anniversaries. CWL news, history of the area, happenings in our local school, and an inspirational quote and joke are included. Many comments of appreciation have been received.

St. Peter, St. Joseph

President: Carrie Van Osch

Spiritual Advisor: Father Steve Marsh

Number of Members: 45 Number of Life Members: 0

In 2022, slowly we regained some normalcy in our council community and were very happy to be gathering once again at our monthly meetings. Nothing better than to share a smile, a hug, a cup of tea with 'Family' members. Over the course of the year, with little funds in our account to make donations to our charities and knowing it would be hard to ask for those donations from local businesses to support us, we decided to forgo the normal Penny Sale and fundraisers. We still wanted to show we were CATHOLIC AND LIVING IT!, so we opted for a few larger bake sales and a raffle. These events were a success and it allowed us to continue to at least support our local community, being the less fortunate and elderly. With the passing of Fr. Matthew George late in 2021, as a commemoration of his time with us and all that he had done for us, a marker and tree planted at St. Peter's church is now in place to hold his memory dear for us and all CWL members who happen to visit.

Holy Name of Mary, St. Marys

President: Shirley Ann Beecroft

Spiritual Advisor: Father David Butler

Number of Members: 96

Catholic and Living It! We were filled with gratitude in 2022 when it was possible for the members of our CWL Council to plan and host a Memorial Mass for the eleven members of our council who had died since the beginning of covid-19. Family members and friends were invited to this Mass followed by a reception in our parish hall. We also were filled with joy and pride that by careful budgeting, even when it was not possible to do any large fundraising, we were able to continue to support our two families in the "Save a Family Plan" and to contribute material goods and financial donations to six local charities.

St. James, Seaforth

President: Mary Barnes

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Philip Joseph

Number of Members: 83 Life Members: 0

The year 2022 brought big hopes for a return to "normal". Catholic and Living It for St. James Council meant unfortunately another year of waiting. We finally did meet in early fall to confirm going forward to the end of the year. Two ladies gave a presentation in church regarding the increase in membership fees and what it means to be a member of The Catholic Women's League. Response was very favourable and our membership increased slightly. We were the host church and council again this year for the Huron County Christmas Bureau sponsored by Rural Response for Healthy Children. Many monetary donations were received that directly go back to families in the area. In December we honoured our long serving members at a potluck with pins and/or a Novena of Prayers from the Carmelite Sisters in St. Agatha. As we look towards 2023 we hope that things will return to what will be considered normal.

Immaculate Conception, Stratford

President: Sharon Twamley

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. David Butler

Number of members: 78

Catholic and Living It

We held a successful raffle in the spring with all money raised going to our church.

We did complimentary, well attended Soup & Dessert Luncheons for all our members on a weekday noon hour .

Our monthly meetings were once again held in our hall in June as covid was behind us.

We were very excited to once again host our yearly Bazaar in November and welcomed our community back with open arms with all funds raised again going to the church and charities.

We delivered a Christmas flower and card to all our sick and shut-ins the week before Christmas.

Our membership drive is well under way for 2023 and so far one new young lady has signed up.

St. Joseph's Stratford

President: Mary Cobb

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. David Butler

Number of Members: 176

Things did not start to fall into place as Covid was still lingering. We have a new council executive that came in Dec. of 2021. Many of our executive and general members take part in Adoration every Friday, some are part of Divine Mercy and part of St. Vincent de Paul and through daily prayer and doing acts of services at church and the community .

Once the CWL was able to meet and gather we started getting ready for celebrating our members and getting caught up on giving out pins to our ladies 2021- 30 and 2022 -33 .

We celebrated the St. Joseph's Christmas Market and our CWL Christmas lunch. Both a great success . Looking forward to the upcoming year 2023. CATHOLIC AND LIVING IT!

Sacred Heart Wingham

President: Marilyn van Heesch

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Ross Bartley

Number of Members: 71

Catholic and Living It

Our bazaar was changed to a Fall Family Fun Fest in 2022. It was aimed at young families with games and prizes for different age groups and a candy floss machine. Teenagers also helped with this, other bazaar activities, and lunch for all ages.

We have members participating within the parish with choir, church flowers and decorating, sacramental preparation, RCIA, serving at funeral lunches, reading at masses, funeral honour

guards, bible study, and cards and communion to sick and shut-ins.

In our community members participate in the Right to Life board, World Day of Prayer, and volunteering in many community needs and causes.

We had a social tea for our members in the spring. The speaker connected the theme of dolls to our spiritual life in an interesting way.

St. Boniface, Zurich

President: Loretta Ayotte

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Tony Laforet

Number of members: 89 Life members: 0

In 2022 the St. Boniface CWL council continued by their actions to demonstrate the theme "Catholic and Living it" in many ways. Two of the ways I will share here are our food drives and our commitment to our more senior members in nursing homes and those who are unable to get out. Each year at various holiday times (ie Valentine's Day, Easter, Halloween, Christmas) our league prepares cards and or a small gift and delivers them to our members who are no longer able to join us at meeting. Also, throughout the year we have food collections and we work closely with our local food bank "Blessings" to ensure we are providing items they need to help them serve their clients



*Make visible what, without you, might
perhaps never have been seen.*

ROBERT BRESSON

*Ingersoll Region
Edith Heleniak
Regional Chairperson
10 Councils*

Ingersoll Region is located in the eastern part of London Diocese and is composed of 10 fantastic councils. Unfortunately we lost one council in Princeton. We are still feeling the post covid mandates and lost many members due to age limitations and membership decrease. With ups and downs we continue to work very hard in fulfilling our League mission.

Even if we didn't get the chance to meet so often through the year, presidents and the councils worked very hard to support local communities and charities, with limitations. Some councils support refugee families not only with simple things but giving them moral support too. Many of members are involved in many ministries in churches. Some councils continued support for food banks, bursaries for schools, taking care of our older members in nursing homes, having potluck dinners with presenting pins, sending cards and serving funeral lunches with honored guards for members. This is Service.

We were very fortunate to host the Fall Regional Day in Waterford with good attendance. The day was full of Faith, many question and very informative about Social Justice. Thank you to the ladies from St. Bernard of Clairvaux for organizing the event with a yummy lunch.



*If one has faith,
one has everything.*
Ramakrishna

Our Lady Queen of Martyrs , Delhi

President: Vacant report submitted by Vicki Braun, Recording Secretary

Spiritual Advisor: Fr Augustine Ogundele

Number of Members: 133

Life members: 1

Our Lady Queen of Martyrs, CWL has been doing “ works of corporal mercy” in our community for 84 years. Covid has altered all but PRAYERFUL monetary support to the community!

Our Spiritual Advisor Fr. Alan Dufraimont retired in June 2021. As a CWL we were unable to host a farewell , choosing to send a monetary gift as he moved into his own home. We welcome Fr. Augustine as pastor of the Catholic Family of Parishes in Norfolk and spiritual advisor to Our Lady Queen of Martyrs CWL, Delhi.

We held 2 CWL meetings, with Covid rules & protocols, to address our financial commitments. The league’s financial situation remains positive. A budget was completed and donations reviewed with alterations. All correspondence was reviewed and replies completed.

Fund raising issues are on hold until Covid restrictions, as per protocols from the Diocese, are lifted. NO bazaar or rummage sales were held . Rummage was donated to the library for their outdoor sale which they held this summer.

Membership has declined and the league continues to pay the membership of all members that reside in Long Term Care. When rules were eased 2 members visited a 100 year old parishioner, in LTC to present her with flowers on her birthday.

As 2022 should be an election year , NO members were willing to move into executive positions. Past President Diane VanWynsberghe continues to be a great mentor to ALL members as is PP MaryAnn Van Maanen. With their guidance and the continuing executive and ALL members we continue to pray & manage the league directives. Our league has been blessed with devoted women and a very supportive parish community

The prayer (phone) line keeps our members in touch to pray for the sick. A member also crochets prayer shawls that are given to parishioners.

Sacred Heart, Ingersoll

President: Joanne Schoenmaker

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Gilbert Simard

Number of members: 88

No report submitted

Sacred Heart, Langton

President: Linda Vandendriessche

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Thomas Kuriacko

Members: 163

No report submitted

Our Lady of LaSalette, LaSalette**President :Edith Heleniak****Spiritual Advisor : Fr. Augustine Ogundele.****Number of members : 41****Life members : 0**

Our Lady of LaSalette CWL was celebrating 101 years , through the covid mandates our number decline and members still feel not quite comfortable to participate in the league events.

We started our meetings in September with no fundraising plans , but we are still planning to support our local school and community , we continue to send cards to our members with Christmas and Easter wishes , we serve funeral lunches and send Mass cards .

We celebrated Christmas with donations to our local food bank and St . Vincent de Paul .

Some members attended Fall Regional Day in Waterford which was very educational and spiritual , also many members participating in church activities .

We feel very blessed and wish everyone many blessings in the coming year.

St. Peter's , Norwich**President: Mary-Ellen DeKlerck****Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Ben Huygen****Members: 11**

No report submitted

St. Cecilia's, Port Dover**President: Evelyn Hudecki****Spiritual Advisor: Fr Augustine Ogundele****Members: 42**

No report submitted

Sacred Heart, Princeton

We regret the disbanding of Sacred Heart and express hope that their members have found a warm welcome in their new councils.

St. Mary's Parish, Tillsonburg**President: Darlene Papaioannou****Spiritual Advisor: Father Ben Huygen****Number of Members: 251**

Executive meetings were held March and Sept. 2021 (no general meetings in 2021)

Prayer shawl committee continued to make shawls in their own homes and were made available to the sick.

Our C.W.L. 5-70 year pins were mailed to our members.

Cards were sent to our members (Get Well, Sympathy, Birthdays, Anniversaries)

Masses were said for our deceased members and a banner displayed at the funeral service.

Gifts were presented to our Communicants and Confirmation candidates.

During this time our archives were updated, gathered and filed. Our council's history and events through the years were placed in a scrapbook.

We provided donations to St. Vincent de Paul, Right to Life, school scholarships ,Vision T.V.

Hospital favors at Christmas and various charities in our area.

We received many thankyou cards from various organizations for our support during this very difficult time of the pandemic.

St. Michael, Walsh**President: Mireille Braun****Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Thomas Kuriacko****Members: 61**

No report submitted

St. Bernard of Clairvaux . Waterford**President: Barbara French****Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Augustine Ogundele****Members: 53**

I moved to Waterford and became part of the League council just before the restrictions of covid. Although active members are few in number, their outreach is impressive!

Unique and ongoing for 25-30 years is a service directed at seasonal migrant farm workers who faithfully attend mass on Sunday evenings, from planting to harvest. The garage attached to the rectory becomes a clothing store, selling new and good used items, at a nominal fee. Donations are received from parishioners across the region. Meanwhile, others are making food available for the workers.

Holy Trinity Woodstock**Acting President – Carmen Velocci**

Spiritual Advisor – Fr. Dariusz Jagodzinski

181 members Life members: 1

Another year of Covid, another year of challenges. Many of our members were kept indoors. We kept in touch by sending cards for different occasions, birthdays, a cheerful get well, or a message of condolences and sympathy. Some members were able to make visits or take communion to other members in retirement homes in between lockdowns. All members received a phone call and a chat on their birthday.

We had a few meetings outdoors in the summer to plan and pass on information. We encouraged members to educate themselves about the Residential Schools and many articles were submitted to our CWL Facebook page for members to share.

One of our members took the course 'Indigenous Canada' with Dr. Paul L. Gareau from the University of Alberta. Others joined in the Truth, Reconciliation and Healing, 10 Speaker Series and Gatherings with the Springbank Catholic Family of Parishes with Fr. Michael Bechard.

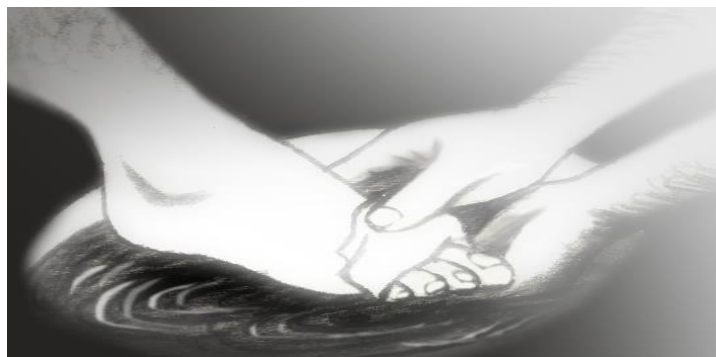


*What would it be to awaken to a day
devoted to gratitude, a day of thankfulness
for what was and yet will be?*

STEPHEN LEVINE

*London Region
Dianne Kehoe
Regional Chairperson
20 Councils*

Faith is opening our hearts to any possibility no matter how unexpected. Certainly, the pandemic entering a third year was unexpected. Throughout all of this, I have seen Faith in action. The women never lost faith. Their hearts were open to all the possibilities the pandemic brought. They shared their faith with each other and the community through virtual recitation of the Rosary, online retreats, and days of reflection. They shared their faith by their presence in their communities in service to the poor and marginalized. Through this sharing, hope was instilled that even though we were in a pandemic the CWL cared and was extending a helping hand. We have seen and heard about people feeling disconnected, isolated, and forgotten. Faith, Service and Social Justice has never been more evident. We are finding the joy in our lives and through our faith, hope and charity bringing that joy to others. We are "Catholic and Living it!".



*To fulfill yourself,
fulfill others first.*

Our Lady of Sorrows, Aylmer

President: Jackie Van Ryswyk

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Graham Keep

Members: 127

At Our Lady of Sorrows we once again started meeting regularly in person and slowly re-started some activities and evaluated our capacity to continue with former activities. Our goal this past year was to reconnect members. We once again implemented honour guards at funerals and in September started to offer to prepare and serve funeral lunches for families. A committee of women also started baking the sweets for these funeral lunches. In November we had a special Mass and ceremony to remember and honour the 20 former members of the Catholic Women's League who died since the beginning of the pandemic. We finished off the year with a fun Christmas Dinner celebration for members, on the feast of St. Nicholas.

Sacred Heart, Bornish-Parkhill

Interim Leader - Lucy Hendrikx

Spiritual Advisor - Fr. Thom Blondin

38 members 1 Life Member

"Catholic and Living It"! In a small community like the town of Parkhill, every day we meet people on the street, who know and respect members of our parish and The Catholic Women's League for their work and volunteerism to make our community better.

Our council provides gifts to all the children and adults from our parish who are being initiated into the Sacraments of First Penance, First Communion, Confirmation and Marriage. These are all gifts which will help the recipients enjoy the fullness of the Roman Catholic life in their home and in society.

We support 2 families in India through Save a Family Plan, helping them by showing that our Lord has sent them help through our Catholic Women's League with prayers and financial aid. We are actively involved with other members of our community in World Day of Prayer, to unite all Christian Women around the world in praising our Lord.

Our members are actively involved in our parish life as Sacristans, Eucharistic Ministers, Lay Readers, Choir Members and Sacramental Prep Leaders.

We work together to provide meals and treats to shut-in members of our community. Each of these gifts comes with a visit and time spent helping in their every day needs. We work together with all the other churches in our community to provide a Christmas dinner on Christmas day for all those people who might otherwise be spending the day of our Lord's birth by themselves.

Our prayer team meets weekly to pray for all those people in our community and beyond who have asked for our prayers in their time of need.

Through prayer and volunteerism, our members demonstrate in our parish and our community, that we're "Catholic and Living It".

St.Charles Garnier - Glencoe

President: Teresa O'Leary

Spiritual Adviser: Fr. Thom Blondin

Number of Members: 43

Life Members: 0

Our small but dedicated 'Ladies in Christ ' CWL membership supports each other & community. Participating in Parish Ministries and CWL events in person / online such as World Day of Prayer, Lenten Retreat, Good Friday's ' Poor Man's Lunch, Alpha Sessions, CWL Day at Our Lady of Rosary Shrine in Merlin, Birth-Rite Baby Shower, Advent Tea & more reinforces our Faith, Service, and Fellowship.

Even a decreased budget still allowed donations to many local charities, school programs, and gifts of Faith (crucifix, prayer cards & handmade rosaries) for First Communion, Confirmation, and Graduation.

We enjoyed a special CWL '100th Anniversary Celebration' of All Saints - Strathroy and Sacred Heart - Parkhill Councils. CONGRATULATIONS LADIES!

We welcomed St. Charles CWL accredited 2023 Executives: Shirley Gilliland- President, Shelley Coad- Secretary, Barb Gerber- Treasurer. God's Blessings for 2023 & World Peace!

Holy Cross , London

President: Maria Marques Di Cicco

Spiritual Advisor: Rev. Fr. Nelson Cabral

Members: 53 members

Two of the things which our council organized that I feel do a good job of showcasing our "Catholic and Living It" theme was a project in support of Mental Health and the second was learning about Ukraine Relief efforts here in London.

In the spring, our council collected 10 bed linen sets, along with added blankets, etc., and some kitchen accessories for the Canadian Mental Health Association Thames Valley Crisis Stabilization Space. We were also able to work with a local quilting group to arrange for donations of quilts for this location as well. In the fall, our annual CWL dinner was very well attended by our members, friends and parishioners. The guest speakers selected this year were volunteers with the London Ukrainian Humanitarian Action group. Their presentation and discussion of the work their group is doing was so moving that many of those in attendance made personal donations to support their efforts both with refugees arriving in Canada as well as helping those who have stayed in Ukraine.

Holy Family , London

President: Vacant (submitted by Angela Pellerin)

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Bob Remark

Membership: 101 Life Members: 2

When we were finally allowed to hold meetings at our parish, we held a social event. The ladies were so excited to finally get together. We have also kept in touch via email.

During the shutdown and beyond our members continued to live out their faith by participating and/or facilitating bible study courses by means of zoom. Various members also served on the hospitality team, greeting those attending mass and serving as eucharistic ministers. A spiritual retreat was held in September with Bernardine Ketelaars as facilitator. Bernardine spoke on the theme Catholic and Living It.

Members continued to serve those in need in the community through the Society of St Vincent de Paul. Thanks to good management of funds, we were also able to continue to financially support our chosen charities.

Fun has been part of our goal with Life Member Mary VanDyk leading us in making Easter cards during Lent and Christmas cards in November. Although a number of us are not crafty, we had fun. Members helping members, much laughter and conversation ensued. The office staff commented how good it was to hear us.

Mary Immaculate, London

President: Ann Andreica

Spiritual Advisor: Bros. Doss Vallengali

Number of Members: 104 Life Members 0

“Catholic and Living It”

- Donated Rosaries as a gift to those making their First Holy Communion
- Sent out Easter Cards to shut-ins, birthday cards to members, Christmas cards
- Held a Birth Right Shower
- Donated \$100 to the retirement of our Parish Priest
- Hosted reception for the Installation of new priests for our Family of Parishes
- We participated in the Merlin and Martyrs’ Shrine Retreats
- We hosted a brown bag picnic lunch with CWL members
- Donated supplies to our local Women’s Community House
- Participated in the 12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care
- Donated money to St Joseph Hospitality
- We attended the Mass of Remembrance for CWL members that passed away this year
- We attended the Advent Tea celebration
- Monthly exchange of names for prayer partners
- Hosted a year end Christmas party and prepared a roast beef dinner. Distributed and awarded service pins to members

St. Andrew the Apostle, London

No report submitted

St George, London

President: Rita MacIntyre

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Michael Bechard Number of members: 202

Our executive held monthly meetings via Zoom and as restrictions were lifted we met in person. Every other month we held a general meeting for all CWL members to keep all members advised of what was happening plus we also had a speaker at these meetings. We keep our members informed via emails or via phone for the members who don't have a computer. We sent out quarterly newsletter to all members. Unfortunately a few of the executives have resigned and their position has not yet been replaced. However our spiritual person will continue to send out reflections to all members until her position has been filled. Our correspondence person continues to send out cards to all members or family members depending on the circumstances. We continue to pay the CWL annual dues for all members 80 and over. We held our first fundraising event which was our Candy Cane bazaar.

St John the Divine, London

President: Colleen Kelly

Spiritual Advisor: Fr Michael Bechard

Number of Members: 142 Number of Life Members: 0

In **CATHOLIC AND LIVING IT!** our focus looked to the former theme Care for our Common Home to focus on feeding the poor. The environment team entered year 2 of its vegetable garden and in 2022, the vegetable team grew by two members, who wished to learn and share ideas regarding vegetable growing plus the idea of feeding others hit home for them. For St. Vincent de Paul clients a change was made to allow the clients to pick from the garden themselves, so that they could pick fresh what they would use and thus reduce waste.

In sharing such a venture, it took teamwork. We had to step outside the box in assessing our resources in time, knowledge and people to help such an endeavor come to life. The team shared the gifts of camaraderie, communication, education and unsolicited support from the recipients of 30 Base Line Road, for the many gifts of produce they received from June to October. Also, the Catholic and Living It PowerPoint presentation was presented at a General meeting to educate members on the back story of the theme and provide ideas in moving forward with the new theme.

St Justin's, London

President: Elisabeth Duggan

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Christopher Bourdeau

Number of members: 80

Our council has been involved with helping new comers from Mexico and Colombia to one of our Family of Parishes at St Francis. We collected warm coats, boots and clothing, blankets and

household items for them as well as donating funds for the 70 children for a Christmas party which provided them with pajamas and a toy and a lot of fun. We also have ladies who knit and crochet hats, scarves, mitts and blankets for the homeless and warm hats, mitts for children in our school community. We also collect items that are needed and requested by Women's Community House. We are blessed with wonderful, caring women.

St. Martin of Tours, London

President: Susan Coleman

Spiritual Advisor: Rev. Chris Bourdeau

Members: 60

The dedicated, hard working members of St. Martin of Tours CWL demonstrated again and again how they are Catholic and Living It!

- Stayed connected – phone-call outreach, Members Only Directory, newsletters (email and mail), online and in-person general meetings, 12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care participation, and Rosary in the Rose Garden event
- Assisted at parish events - provided soup at Stations of the Cross event, hosted Confirmation and First Communion celebrations and coffee Sundays, participated in Family of Parish implementation and Relic of St. Andre Bessette Vigil, donated flowers for Father's Day, displayed poppies for Remembrance Day, donated to Newcomer's Ministry, and supported parish staff with Spiritual Bouquets
- Supported local charities - sock and pajama drives, hat and mitt donations, baby items for Birthright, and financial donations
- Fundraised- Mother's Day Baskets
- Paired up with Knights of Columbus Council 12996 on several initiatives - Christmas Basket fundraiser, Christmas Dinner, Mini-Bazaar and Bake Sale

St. Michael, London

President: Dorothy Solomon

Spiritual Advisor: Fr Sekar Raj

Members: 126

St. Michael's Council demonstrated being "Catholic and Living It" by supporting an endeavour undertaken by the London Ukrainian Center. The Center hoped to purchase and donate 5,000 Life Straws for the people of Ukraine who are challenged by water insecurity. Our council collected \$700 and were able to deliver 56 personal water filtration units to the Ukrainian Center. These Life Straws filter out 99.99% of particles including bacteria, parasites, and microplastics allowing them to drink from any water source – rivers, ponds and puddles and can be used up to 100 times.

At one of our general meetings, it was brought to our attention that some funeral homes were offering rooms for euthanasia. One of our members decided to investigate this further. She contacted ten funeral homes in London and asked if they participate in offering a room for M.A.I.D. It was discovered that there were two, A. Millard George Funeral Home and Northview Funeral Chapel. They do not use the term “M.A.I.D. Rooms” but instead refer to them as the “Compassion Room”. We were very disappointed to learn about this and shared the information with our members.

St. Peter’s Basilica, London

President: Julie Sans

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Raj Sekar

Number of Members: 114 Number of Life Members: 0

Based on the prayer that guides our new National theme, St. Peter’s CWL reflects on how we have demonstrated that we are, “Catholic and Living It”.

Love for all people- through acts of kindness, donations of material items and money to those in need, for example, Children’s Aid Society, the Ukraine, St. Paul’s Food Bank. St. Peter’s CWL was involved and attended World Day of Prayer service, 40 Days for Life, Rosary Rally and Earth Day. Deepen spiritual life- taking the opportunity to spend the day in prayer at Merlin in June, CWL meetings at all levels provide spiritual reflections and programs for both the Lent and Advent season.

Works of mercy, the forgotten the suffering or vulnerable – 250 breakfast bags for Ark Aid, socks and toiletries for 519 Pursuit, making blankets for those living on the street, supporting St. Joseph’s Hospice and organized 12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care, praying together weekly the rosary and volunteering at organizations that provide meals and comfort.

Witnessing to life, peace and social justice –members attended/ viewed the videos on the Diocesan website to learn about CWL Legislation and Resolutions process. Resolutions are an active part of the mission and advocacy of the League. As a collective use of our voices, we speak out, write letters and petition our constituents and support legislation that protects our earth, the sick, the elderly and the unborn.

The challenge now is to find opportunities to engage all members, as every member is needed and has a valued role to play.

St Patrick’s , Lucan

President - Harriet Duynisveld

Spiritual Advisor - Rev Stevan Wlusek

90 members 1 Life Member

The women of the St Patricks CWL are Catholic & Living it!, by supporting our church with flowers, Coffee Sunday Socials, our youth through sacramental gifts and receptions, our

seniors with calls, cards and masses, and local charities through monies raised by our bazaar. We also serve coffee for funeral lunches if families request it and donate money to good causes that may be brought forth by our parishioners. We encourage our members to attend spiritual retreat days offered by our diocese. We try to provide opportunities for fun, leadership development, and mentoring at our meetings and events. We are always trying to grow into an organization for change and growth in our church community.

Holy Angels, St. Thomas

President: Maureen Bedek

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Graham Keep

Number of Members 96

CATHOLIC AND LIVING IT! If Covid taught us anything, it was we need to be in communion with each other. I asked our ladies what they appreciated most from our busy activities in 2022 and without a hesitation it was the camaraderie in coming together in service for others. As a relatively new member I have observed these wonderful, dedicated women coming together to prepare funeral lunches, stand as Honour Guards, bake cookies, pies, make meals for those in need, celebrate the sacraments with students, and participate during our mornings of reflection; when asked to help the answer is always the same, "Yes, I'll be there, what do you need me to do?" In the setting of our new 2023 budget and activities it was heartwarming to hear them support each other, agree to take on new activities, provide input into ideas and work as a team. We need to be tethered to Jesus and to each other to ensure we are in service for those God our Father, is asking us to help. To be the hands and feet of Jesus here on earth.

St. Anne's, St. Thomas

President: Katie Kelly

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Graham Keep

Number of Members: 159

Life members: 0

CATHOLIC AND LIVING IT!

We were finally able to resume in person meetings in March. We have also been able to have in person events and fundraisers. We held our Women's Breakfast in September for the first time since 2019. CWL members had active roles at our 11am Mass before the brunch. We presented years of service pins following the brunch. It is wonderful to be able to gather again. In May and October, our members joined together to pray the rosary.

Our Council donated to the Community Outreach Christmas Dinner hosted by St. Anne's Festival Board. Some of our members helped serve the dinner which was held in December. Throughout the year, CWL members prepared hot meals or soup/sandwiches every Saturday for the needy and homeless in our community. Members also baked cookies for the food bank and community outreach.

All Saints, Strathroy

President: Pauline deJeu

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Thom Blondin

Number of members: 204 Number of Life members: 1

Catholic and Living It! Our council supports the charitable works done in our community to feed and help the less fortunate. Funds raised through means such as funeral lunches and pie-baking are shared with charities supporting medical work in Guyana and helping women become self-sufficient in India. We support our sisters by nourishing them with cards when times are challenging or events are being celebrated. To shut-in members we deliver Christmas plants. We support the sacraments of fellow Catholics including paying for buses to take elementary school children to Mass once a month, giving crosses to newlyweds and assisting at Alpha for confirmation candidates.

St. Helen's, Wallacetown

President – Linda J. Van Raay

Spiritual Advisor – Father Graham Keep

Members – 48

Our members, following the motto Catholic and Living It, work for the good of our church, parish and community. Three members were representatives at a parish meeting for the opening of our church, at Easter. Members signed up for Called, Gifted and Sent and to host socials after every Mass. We pray for our entire community with our Prayer chain, as well as, honour members who have passed away, with a funeral prayer service, honour guard and Mass. Our community projects have leaned towards the needy through food drives for local food banks and veterans, and a Christmas Angel tree. We make donations to charities and give gifts to our priests at Christmas. We also continue to show that we are living as Catholics with our visitation committee who sends out cards and decorates the landing outside of our church for all to see, such as, Advent-Lent-Mother's Day, etc..



*I don't think of all the misery, but of the
beauty that still remains.*

ANNE FRANK

Sarnia/Lambton Region
Nelly Kelders, Chair
12 Councils

Working and praying together as a team has been the mantra of our region throughout 2022. Our councils have been faced with some challenges and saddened as our council numbers decreased. Unfortunately, St. Charles Courtright and Sacred Heart, Sarnia felt that they could no longer sustain active councils and disbanded. We were heartened by the number of women who sought new councils and are enriching our lives with their presence. Throughout this period, we have been working energetically to provide all our CWL sisters in London Diocese, with a welcoming Annual Meeting of Members (AMM) in April 2023. For the majority of presidents in our region, this has been a first experience at hosting the AMM and we did have some learning curves! What really stuck out was the solidarity, kindness and teamwork to get things done, to offer suggestions and to provide advice, time and skills as needed. Humour has lightened the burdens more often than not. We are looking forward to celebrating the fruits of our labours at the AMM.

Another change this year has been the introduction of the Family of Parishes and its impact on our councils. We have two families in our region and each has its own way of doing things but the work of our Councils remains consistent. Together we demonstrated the meanings of our three pillars of faith, service and social justice. *Divine Mercy Sunday* and the *Feast of the Immaculate Conception* are two examples of how the councils came together to pray and to feed. Our support of St. Patrick's High School food drives, *Irish Miracle* and *Cyclone Aid* are but two of our combined social justice projects.

As our councils move into the new structure of the re-energized CWL, we look forward to sharing and celebrating our successes and brainstorming problems into solutions. We will look for ways to continue to promote who we are and why it is important for all women in our parish communities to belong to our dynamic councils. May Our Lady of Good Counsel continue to bring light and love to all we do.



Striving for social justice is the most valuable thing to do in life.
Albert Einstein

St. Michael, Bright's Grove**President: Mary van Delft****Spiritual Advisor: Father Dan Vere****Membership: 120**

St. Michael CWL membership remains strong and active despite the lingering effects of the pandemic and lower church attendance. We continue to email members a weekly communiqué to keep them up-to-date on what is happening with CWL at all levels, but especially our own Council. Our fundraising activities were very successful and raise the funds needed to support the activities of our Council, our parish and charities in our community. Members look forward to participating in them for the friendship, fellowship and sisterhood with other members.

Here are just a few examples of how our Council is Catholic and Living It:

Blue and yellow awareness ribbons were made when the war in the Ukraine broke out.

We hosted World Day of Prayer for our local faith community.

Grade 7/8 students were invited to help with our pie-making workshops this year.

In conjunction with our annual membership recruitment drive, we held an Information session on the CWL Strategic Renewal and the new structure being implemented in 2023. The session was open to all women in our family of parishes including long-time CWL members, new members and women discerning membership in the CWL.

Our December meeting included a "Baby Shower for Jesus". Members, and parishioners, were invited to bring generic baby items to the meeting. These items were donated to the local Pregnancy Options and Support Centre and to Gianna Home for Life and Family (a home for women who are pregnant or have a young baby and need a safe place to live).

St. Joseph's, Corunna

No report submitted

St. Charles, Courtright

No report submitted

St. Christopher, Forest

No report submitted

St. Philip's, Petrolia**President: Ann Wade****Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Matthew Bedard****Number of Members: 58 Life Members: 0**

We hold our meetings in the President's home where it is cozy, and she gets out the good china! That's our attitude as we organize ourselves, share ideas, pray for each other and others who need it. We enjoy our fundraising efforts such as our Dinner & a Movie nights, getting our seniors and married couples out for a fun evening. We sold plates of Christmas cookies and enjoyed delivering them, making it a visitation time for shut-ins. We connect often with the Holy Rosary CWL, showing we are Catholic & Living It.

Our Lady of Mercy Sarnia

President: Phyllis Vanoverbeke

Spiritual Advisor: Deacon Lyle LaLonge

Number of members: 42

Our Lady of Mercy CWL started having regular meetings in the spring 2022

It's going to be remarkably interesting but also challenging AMM

We held a successful jewellery sale in October . Late November we had a crafternoon Tea

It was a success -proceeds went to Canadian Catholic Mission but this year we only sent a portion. We wanted to make sure the bank account was a little healthy – for the AMM

We received a nice Thank you letter from the Canadian Catholic Mission plus we were featured in the Magazine.

Queen of Peace, Sarnia

President: Joanna Kazanecki

Spiritual Adviser: Fr. Jan Burczyk

Number of Members: 34

Life Members: 0

This past year has been busy and productive for our council.

We are a small group working together and always ready to help.

Last February when the war drove Ukrainian people from their country, the ladies decided to organize a fundraiser to help a refugee center in Poland located close to the Ukrainian boarder.

Thanks to the people of Sarnia and Lambton County, who supported us, we sent \$17,405 to them. The first Fall Bazaar, after the pandemic, was very successful. We were able to donate some of the profit to the church, local charities and the Hospice.

In addition to the above we also took part in various church activities.

Sacred Heart, Sarnia

No report submitted

St. Benedict's Sarnia

President: Carol Hall

Spiritual Advisor: Deacon Lyle Lalonge

Number of members: 173

We at St. Benedict's Catholic Women's League are very proud of our outreach programs. We provide honour guards for the funerals of our members and have made funeral lunches available to the parish. We support Gianna Home, a new facility in Sarnia, that houses and supports pregnant women and girls before, during and after pregnancy. When we have our biannual pot luck dinners, members are asked to bring items for the local food bank. They bring not only food but hygiene items for both males and females which are very much needed and appreciated. In addition, one of our members was instrumental in starting a Catholic Girls' League based at our church. Other league members are involved and our council supports this group financially. We have survived the last three years and are looking forward to tackling new projects in 2023

St. Joseph, Sarnia

No report submitted

Our Lady Help of Christians, Watford

President: Betty Thuss

Spiritual Advisor:

Number of members: 50

We began 2022 with monthly newsletters to keep our membership up to date with happenings. Two of our members set up a virtual Pajama Bingo Game Night which was fun. During our shut in days we had some interest in the Life Story project and so, through long phone conversations, we gathered two life stories of longtime members and submitted them. During Lent our council led an evening Way of the Cross and members also joined in with a virtual World Day of Prayer. In April we were finally able to gather once again and had our first in person general meeting in two years. It was well attended and we had lots of catching up to do and lots of plans to make. First thing was the upcoming AMM which then was attended virtually by five members in the President's home. When the nice weather arrived, we once again served up a Coffee Sunday, outdoors, after morning mass continuing into the Fall. Our June meeting included a potluck and a rousing Corn Hole tournament. Two of our priests and our deacon were able to join in the fun. We kicked off our 2023 Membership Campaign being available after mass, over coffee and goodies, to answer questions and accept membership renewals and welcome new. After this we called upon, either at their door or with a phone call, all those who had not yet renewed. In December we were able to hold our Annual Christmas Dinner, Penny Sale and Skit Night fundraiser. It was very successful and all our members so generously gave of their time, talents and gifts to make that possible. We had a Birthday Party for Jesus toy drive where we handed out cupcakes to everyone after mass and collected a trunk full of gifts. A good year of Being Catholic and Living it!

Holy Rosary, Wyoming
President: Joan Fournier
Spiritual Advisor:
Number of members: 37

Holy Rosary CWL is an active group in our community. Our members try to keep in touch with our senior members and make sure they are doing ok. We also check in on our Catholic community who live alone, are sick and/or are homebound. Because of covid there were and are a lot of our seniors who still do not attend Mass. Palm Sunday I took a lot of palms home and visited our seniors and gave them a palm. The people were so happy to receive them and I felt blessed bringing a part of our faith community home to them.

At Christmas we give all the school students a candy cane and in June when they have their fun day we give them all a Mr. Freeze. Catholic and Living it was very intimidating to me because I was looking for "big" things that stand out and then I realized it's all the little things we do out of love for others.



*Sometimes I need only to stand
wherever I am to be blessed.*

MARY OLIVER

Windsor Region

Caroline Ngui

12 Councils

2022 was a year of transition for our CWL members as we slowly emerged from the pandemic and encouraged our members to meet together to resume the friendships and enjoy the presence of each other as we gather to celebrate our faith, our service to the communities and tackling Social Justice issues.

As you can read in the individual Windsor Council reports, our members were active and embraced the mission of the CWL by strengthening our Faith through prayers, special masses, reflections etc., continuing our Service to the community through student bursaries, support of the poor, Development and Peace etc., and also continuing awareness of the important Social Justice issues by further education of members, letter writing etc.

As the "Catholic and Living It" beautiful prayer says "Lord Jesus, deepen our spiritual lives and strengthen the faith and good works of our members" I can attest that the Windsor members are certainly living the Catholic Faith and the mission of the CWL as they gradually returned to their in-person activities

May Our Lady of Good Counsel continue to guide and protect us

"I don't think that we're meant to understand it all the time. I think that sometimes we just have to have faith."

— Nicholas Sparks, *A Walk to Remember*



St. Paul's, LaSalle**President: Judith Benn****Spiritual Advisor: Father Dwayne Adam****Number of Members: 34**

We have tried to incorporate the theme Catholic and Living It in our daily lives. Members helped compose ten Mass Intentions and sent them with our donation to the Missions of Canada. We paid memberships for our two ladies who are long time members of the CWL, now in nursing homes, and also sent them seasonal cards. All members were sent information regarding online workshops, seminars, retreats, and important news and were encouraged to participate when able. We kept in touch with our members mostly by e-mails, phone calls, reminders, and prayer. We supported the Joy Project (for seniors), Confirmation Program and Father Dwyane presented the Maple Leaf service pin to Ann Domarchuk who has been an active member of this council for 40 years. Some of the CWL members, attended and participated in the two synod sessions offered by our parish. In May, we hosted a get Re-acquainted night for all the Ladies of our Family of parishes. Our Past President Louise Robinet, and her husband graciously hosted a potluck lunch in August. The past president and I attended the virtual Meeting of Members as Accredited and Voting delegates. Meetings resumed in person September. The CWL Ladies helped with parish events, phone calls, drop off and picking up members for meetings, events, weekday/weekend Masses. We had a Christmas social and eleven members were presented service pins for the years, 2020, 2021, 2022.

Corpus Christi, Windsor**President: Jo-Anne Lortie****Spiritual Advisor: Fr. John Pirt****Number of members: 147**

We had a couple of very successful events related to the theme, "Catholic and Living It!" One of our main goals in the fall was to get a defibrillator (AED) for the Church. Working together mainly with the Knights of Columbus and some parishioners, a barbecue took place both on a Saturday and Sunday. Everyone had a great time under sunny skies and we were able to purchase the defibrillator as well as first aid kits. It was very timely too because the AED was used during Mass shortly afterwards! God works in mysterious ways!

Our other 'feel good' project was to make stew for the homeless centre, "Street Help".

Members brought in food items of their choice while the kitchen crew cut, cooked and stirred the pot! Three huge pots were delivered and within minutes were being served on a cold day. It was so rewarding to do this and see how well received it was by all.

Holy Trinity, Windsor

No report submitted

Immaculate Heart, Windsor**President: Anna St. Antoine****Spiritual Advisor:****Number of members: 38**

Catholic and Living It. Our council took the opportunity to have open discussions who is in our group being Catholic and living it. How we could incorporate that in our daily lives. Charity was one area that we focused upon taking care of those in need and those struggling. As a group we support the Madonna House. The Madonna House supports and promotes a prayer presence in the community. Through our discussions, we have learnt the continued need for prayer in our daily lives. We have also been working with the Knights of Columbus within our parish to provide social opportunities for families to gather as a Catholic family. We will continue to assist charities within our community/Parish. We realize the importance to continue "Living it".

Most Precious Blood, Windsor**President: Laurie Dufour****Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Greg Bonin****Number of members: 126**

We are Catholic and Living It! Our council has been very busy upholding the 3 pillars of Faith, Service and Social Justice. We have come together using Zoom to pray the Rosary with and for each other. We support the youth of our family of parishes by acting as catechists for Sacrament Prep. We held a celebration in honour of Our Lady of Good Counsel which included prayer, song and the crowning of Mary. We serve as Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers, Commentators, and Choir members during Masses. We participate in Intercessory Prayer and Eucharistic Adoration. Many of our ladies serve on various committees within our parish. We served our community by donating needed items to various organizations. Any food that was left over after any of our events was given to community service groups that serve those experiencing homelessness. We supported 4 Ukrainian women who came into our community who were pregnant by helping to ensure that they had all the supplies they would need when their babies were born. In order for us to continue to do all the things we do to support our parish and community we focused on self-care. At each of our meetings we discuss one thing we can do to support our physical, mental and spiritual health and we also discuss one thing we can do to show that we are Catholic and Living It! One member per meeting shares with us what this theme means to them. We end each meeting by reminding our ladies to Go Make a Difference!

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Windsor**President: Brigitte McFadden****Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Greg Bonin**

Number of Members: 55**Life Members: 0**

We are doing our best to stay connected and make sure that our members do not become isolated as they are getting older. We offer the ladies the opportunity to join us to attend plays by Windsor Light Production at the Chrysler Theatre. Since we can “car pool,” this is a great help to the ladies who no longer drive. We also attend and participate in World Day of Prayer. We take part in Days of Reflection, memorial Mass, and Mass for our living members. Our members are actively involved in the “Christmas Giving Tree” so no one is without a Christmas gift. We have many members who are Eucharistic ministers, readers, choir members, St. Vincent de Paul Society, visiting hospitals and nursing homes. The passing away of our members bring many to funeral homes for prayers and honour guard. Even though we are an aging council, we have found ways to be of help where we can. We are looking forward to another busy year and welcoming new members to our council.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help. Windsor

President: Janis McIsaac

Spiritual Advisor:

Number of members: 33

- Incentive to collect 2023 CWL dues by December 9, 2022 chance to win a draw for free membership 2024
- CWL Pasta Sauce Contest at our Dinner & Paddle Auction
- On-going emails, calls and cards to inform CWL Members of those who are ill, going thru surgery, moved to long term care, passed away, etc.
- Weekly Bulletin / Newsletter showing CWL spirit “CATHOLIC and LIVING IT ! ” with involvement, requests and updates
- CWL participation in Mass readings for the Stations of the Cross, Honor Guards for Funeral Service, Corporate Communion Mass with K. of C., etc.
- Inform members of upcoming CWL meetings
- Many CWL members “CATHOLIC and LIVING IT ! ” take part in other OLPH Ministries such as SSVP, Choir, Welcome Desk, Seniors Euchre Card Club, Readers, etc.
- CWL Bursary given to a High School Graduate

Our Lady of the Assumption, Windsor

President: Marilyn Morrison

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Maurice Restivo, C.S.B.

No. of Members ~ 13

Following the relaxation of COVID restrictions, our C.W.L. Council resumed meetings beginning September 2022. This new beginning led us to be “*Catholic and Living It*” by being visible to members of our Council, to each other, our parishioners in our Family of Parishes and to the community at large. We continued our quest to feed and clothe the poor and less fortunate

than ourselves by supporting the many charities seeking help, with collecting and providing hats, gloves, socks and scarfs. At Christmas, we had our first successful fundraising opportunity by selling Poinsettias. We support our Assumption Cares Program by helping to feed the homeless on Monday nights, visit Nursing Homes and the home bound of our Parish. As of this writing we have 13 members and continue our recruiting efforts to the women of our Parish and by notices in the Church bulletin.

Our Lady of the Atonement, Windsor

President: Penny Craig

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Rob Rocheleau

Number of members: 144

For the year of 2022 COVID restrictions continued to prevent us from meeting in person for a time. However, we did manage to meet both as the executive committee and membership starting June 2022. We continue to facilitate communications with members through phone calls, newsletters, email etc. Our Corresponding Secretary continues to send special cards to those appropriate members. Once again, we have experienced losses in our council due both to deaths and members having to move out of town. We have also reset our meeting times to afternoons.

We continue in our CWL mandate of service through support of various community activities such bursaries to the graduating grade 8 classes of our local grade schools and high school candidates; we supported the school breakfast program, our parish Giving Tree Program by working with our local conference of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul. In June we worked together during a meeting to reply to the Synodality questionnaire. We enjoyed a guest speaker from our Indigenous community at our October meeting to help us in our members' awareness of the issues facing the local indigenous people and their history. We have held a joint Advent Dinner with St John Vianney Council December 8th.

St. Angela Merici, Windsor

President: Lucia Truant

Spiritual Advisor: Father Antonio Del Ciano

Number of members: 44

We got together to make crostoli (angel wings). With the proceeds, we were able to donate monies to the Welcome Centre Shelter for Women and Families, donate food to the St. Vincent de Paul Society, and ensure that our Church looked festive for Christmas. Our Council held its Christmas mass and luncheon. 84 persons were in attendance. Donations were received from Council members at that time of winter apparel for the needy. After the luncheon, the food that was left and the winter apparel donations were delivered to the Welcome Centre Shelter for Women and Families, who were most appreciative. This is our fulfillment of the "Catholic and Living It" theme by helping our neighbours, praying together, and helping our Church.

St. John Vianney, Windsor

President: Patricia Lafontaine

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Rob Rocheleau

Number of members: 75 Number of Life Members: 1

- Started Up Again in February after Pandemic with installation of new executive
- Shower with Knights of Columbus for Birthright
- Crowning of Mary Procession in May
- Collected Diapers & Baby Clothes for Ukraine Help
- Collected Rosaries for Nursing Homes
- Sold Mums for Fundraiser
- Joint events with Our Lady of Atonement CWL for the Closing Mass of St. Vincent de Paul Parish and an Advent Social

St. Michael's German , Windsor

President: Anne Their submitted by Angie Mora

Number of members: 19

We at St. Michael's are a small but close-knitted group of women, whose goal is to love and respect one another. We get together for our monthly meetings which we enjoy and did so in 2022 as soon as we were allowed to. We hold our meetings, pray and socialize over coffee and sweets. We participate in Holy Mass prior to our meetings. We also get together for a bit after regular Sunday Mass just to catch up and connect with each other.



*The smallest surprise, received
gratefully, yields a harvest of delight.*

BR. DAVID STEINDL-RAST



Life Member Liaison Report 2022

Diocese of London

Life Member Liaison: Patricia M. Rivest

Life Members and Past President

Honorary Life Members: 0 Life Members: 10

Newly Appointed Life Member 2022: 0

Life Member Liaison's Activity Report

- At present there are 10 Life Members in the Diocese of London
- 2022 continued to be a year of many changes.
- Kept all members of The Catholic Women's League of Canada with prayer intentions offering strength and support
- Supported members with prayers, phone calls, emails, cards, etc.
- Continued to be mentors offering encouragement, knowledge and support to members at various levels of the League
- Forwarded prayer requests from Provincial Life Member Liaison Shelley Tamas
- Forwarded National Communiques to Life Members
- Was in tune with each member through prayer, reflections, spiritual readings and more thoughtfulness and kindness to all
- Completed work on the London Diocesan CWL History Book
- Sad that I was not able to plan for our 2 Pot Luck Luncheons because of ill health

Shirley George

- Continued to pray for all members of the League

Muriel Murphy

- Staying with family in Vancouver

Mary Van Dyk

The CWL year at Holy Family for 2022 was slow. They were unable to host monthly meetings until just before Easter. The April meeting was well attended as I was invited to help the ladies to make Easter Cards. My husband fell and broke his left arm and right ankle so I was unable to attend any meetings until the November meeting when I went and assisted the members to make Christmas cards.

Trucy Cornelis

- Was not able to participate in council activities
- Caring for Gerard as he has been ill and undergoing treatments

Maria S. Odumodu

Covid 19 and variants affected Diocesan Conventions, which was replaced by AMM

- Acted as the Parliamentarian at the Diocesan Convention
- Attended the National Convention in BC
- Attend Daily TV Mass and pray for the League, end to pandemic and peace in the world.
- Advice given as needed to President
- Mentoring young people
- As part of work, we went to Germany and England
- Directed the 29th Christmas Pageant
- Read directives and prayed for CWL members
- Called Parishioners to assure them that they are not alone
- Was part of Honour Guard for deceased members

Bev Weiler

- Attended my own parish council meetings at All Saints Strathroy and offered assistance and mentorship whenever needed
- Attended London Regional meetings
- Committee member to develop a P & P manual for the London Region
- Offered advice and support to our Diocesan executive members and to President Theresa Ryan
- Attended the Diocesan executive retreat at Holy Family Retreat House in Oxley

- Attended the London Region Advent Tea
- Assisted with the election process as Diocesan Screening Officer
- Served as Honour Guard for our beloved Mary Jean Horne

Patricia M. Rivest

- My appointment as Life Member Liaison will end in April. Thank you, Theresa Ryan, for this opportunity to serve my sisters in the League in the Diocese of London
- Kept up to date with the activities in my council of St. Michael's in Leamington, although I was unable to attend meetings
- Asked to review the financial books of St. Michael's Council
- As member of the History Book Committee completed CWL Diocesan History Book
- Continue to have coffee every Tuesday morning with 2 very dear friends
- Sub-committee member of the OPC Treasury
- Attended the London Diocesan Convention by Zoom
- Attended the OPC convention by Zoom
- Attended the Day of Reflection at Merlin Shrine
- Attended the 100th anniversary celebration for St. Ann's in Tecumseh
- Corresponded with members by phone, emails, and text
- Most of 2022 was recuperating from various surgeries, therapy and waiting for energy to return
- Attended funeral for my dear friend and beloved Life Member Mary Jean Horne in Chatham
- Sudbury and Winnipeg families visited and helped me while I healed from the operations. So very grateful for their time with me.

Lucy Hendrikx

- Interim Leader in my parish of Sacred Heart's Council in Parkhill
- Attended an Advent Tea at St. Michael's, London
- Hosted an Advent Tea at our parish
- Attended the London Diocesan Annual Retreat with executive and Life Members
- Attended the Fall Regional Day in St. John the Divine, London
- Finished the editing and printing of our Diocesan History Book
- Attended the diocesan MGM on line
- Working as chairperson on the London Regional P & P, we still have to make changes to allow for the changes at the National level i.e., committee structure
- Attended anniversary celebrations for councils in the diocese

- Enjoy spending time with family and friends when not doing volunteer work.

Marie-Theresa Lamphier

- Finished my three years as Treasurer for the Ontario Provincial Council. The term was extended by a year due to Covid.
- I was kept busy with all the duties of OPC Treasurer including, issuing cheques, making deposits, setting up meetings, renewing investments, making reservations and preparing reports.
- Attended the virtual discernment workshop presented by Rebecca McCarrell on Discernment
- Participated in accreditation process for St. Peter's Seminary and attended virtual meetings as required.
- Participated in Legislation workshop sponsored by London Diocese
- Participated virtually in the Lenten retreat
- Participated in St. Joseph Retreat – Heart of the Family (Thunder Bay)
- Participated in Zoom Meetings with our Accountants BDO
- We tested positive for Covid in April, just before our trip to Disney World with my daughter Nicole and her children. Thankfully it was a relatively mild case.
- Attended the virtual London Diocese Fun Night and the practice session for the convention on zoom.
- Attended the London Diocese convention by zoom
- Vacationed at Disney World at the end of April and beginning of May, while celebrating my daughter's 50th birthday and my husband's 75th birthday. We had a great time!
- Attended presentation by Joy Smith on Human Trafficking (zoom)
- Attended Strawberry Social at Good Shepherd Parish, Essex Region
- Attended the London Retreat for Executive and Life Members at Holy Family Retreat House
- Attended Ontario Provincial Council Convention in person in Ottawa. I was blessed to be elected for another two-year term as Treasurer
- Attended the day of reflection at Merlin Shrine with CWL sisters
- Supported St John Vianney fund raiser by buying Mums
- Attended regular CWL meetings for my council
- Attended 100th Anniversary celebration for St. Simon and St. Jude, Belle River
- Attended 100th Anniversary celebration for Ste Anne's Tecumseh at Beach Grove
- Prepared a reflection for my CWL council monthly meeting

- Attended the Fall Regional Day at Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Windsor
- Attended Membership drive and breakfast for St. Clement in MacGregor.
- Attended visitation and funeral for my dear friend and Life Member Mary Jean Horne in Chatham
- Attended Honour Guard for deceased CWL member in Windsor
- Completed three hours on-line course – 4 Seasons of Reconciliation and received certificate from First Nations University of Canada.
- Attended presentation by Mona Stonefish, member of the Three Fires of Confederacy and Doctor of Traditional Medicine and international activist for peace, sponsored by Our Lady of Atonement CWL council.
- Attended the Essex Region CWL Christmas meeting and lunch
- Enjoyed Advent Fun and Friendship with our family of Parish CWL Sisters, at our Lady of Atonement Parish
- Attended the Indigenous Day of the Rosary (Zoom from North Bay)
- Assisted Life Member Patricia Rivest when she had health issues.
- My husband and I try to keep active by participating at Life After Fifty exercise class and we love spending time with our grandchildren

Angela Pellerin

- With continuing Covid, 2020 started off slowly. Our pastor didn't allow any meetings at the church until April. We had a meeting then he closed it again for a while.
- CWL life has not been dull. Our council president resigned leaving us with only me as Recording Secretary, a treasurer and a member who agreed to send out cards etc. I have spent my time trying to keep members informed and have meetings, when possible. We have held a membership drive in November with Bernardine speaking at all masses one weekend. As a result, we have acquired a few new members. Now we just need people to volunteer for various things so we can do some fundraising and other activities. Thanks to previous fundraising and a healthy bank balance before co-vid, we have been able to financially support our chosen charities.
- Theresa Ryan asked me to act as convention expert for a couple of years. As such, I have been consulting with the Sarnia region for the 2023 convention. It should be a good event and I know we are all looking forward to seeing each other in person. Dianne Kehoe and I also got quotes from various venues for the 2025 provincial convention. Provincial have decided to go with the Four Points Sheraton for the 2025 convention in London. Lots of work ahead. One

fun thing is acting as door lady at the Seminary when the diocesan executive has their meetings. I enjoy keeping in touch with everyone. At their last meeting Fr. Peter Keller told a gentleman who I let in that I was the CWL security guard. A new title!

- The grandchildren are all growing way too fast! Hannah is now in Grade 5 at St. Mary's Choir School and Lily is in Grade 8 at St. Mary's. She is looking forward to going to C.C.H. next year. My younger sister's son is in second year of studies at Western University and her middle child is doing the preliminary program at Brescia. Alexander is living in a condo his parents bought and Carissa is in residence. It is great having them close by. A few weeks ago, my daughter-in-law came from Kelowna as her grandfather has had some health issues. It was lovely to get together with her as we haven't seen her, Brendan or the kids in about 6 years.
- In the fall I began volunteering at St. Joseph's Hospice working on the reception desk. I really enjoy doing it. It is rewarding to be able to do a small part to serve those in need at a difficult time in their lives.

Past President: Rebecca McCarrell

This is my last term on the London Diocesan Council! And, it was a long mostly enjoyable journey! 23 years! The growth of mind, body and spirit were astronomical, and I would recommend to all to step out of their comfort zone and run for a position with the region or diocesan councils. You won't regret it! What's in it for you??? Good friends, good fun, and time to grow your faith!

As time continues, I hope to be able to further assist in various areas for the League. Resolutions and legislation are my passion. I am excited and most grateful to join my mentors and Life Member sisters on the other side of the table. You are all special to me!

I am looking forward to some time to heal as I have been quite ill for the past year. I thank everyone for their prayers and good wishes.

Presidents, London Diocesan Council

1921-1922	Mrs. B. C. McCann	London
1923-1924	Mrs. J. J. P. Dunn	Chatham
1925-1926	Mrs. G. B. Dawson	Sarnia
1927-1928	Mrs. W. Kirwin	Ingersoll
1929	Mrs. J. Bohan	Monkton
1930	Miss K. Casey	LaSalette
1931-1932	Mrs. J. A. Horricks	Windsor
1933-1934	Mrs. J. A. Frezell	London
1935-1936	Miss Catherine Toal	Strathroy
1937-1938	Mrs. T. E. Durocher	Windsor
1939-1940	Mrs. Wm. McMahon	LaSalette
1941-1942	Mrs. Jos. Coveny	Electric
1943-1944	Mrs. Jos. Freeman	Riverside
1945-1946	Mrs. P. M. Dewan	Ingersoll
1947-1948	Mrs. R. S. Saigeon	Sarnia
1949-1950	Miss Alice Daly	Seaforth
1950-1952	Mrs. E. G. Marnell	Tilbury
1952-1954	Mrs. Mel Walters	London
1954-1956	Mrs. J. M. Fitzpatrick	Windsor
1956-1958	Mrs. T. M. Kelly	Kinkora
1958-1960	Mrs. P. L. McManus	Windsor
1960-1962	Mrs. R. E. Doyle	Chatham
1962-1964	Mrs. W. J. Farrell	London
1964-1966	Mrs. Fred McDermott	Ingersoll
1966-1968	Mrs. H. R. Ferris	London
1968-1970	Mrs. G. O. Rutherford	Windsor
1970-1972	Mrs. Lawrence Howard	London
1972-1974	Mrs. J. J. Gardiner	London
1974-1976	Mrs. T. A. Gorski	Harrow
1976-1978	Mrs. P. J. Belanger	Windsor
1978-1980	Mrs. R. M. Bingham	Amherstburg
1980-1982	Mrs. Rita Ouellette	Windsor
1982-1984	Mrs. Wm. Regier	Mt Carmel
1984-1986	Mrs. Don Vrooman	St. Thomas
1986-1988	Mrs. Max Mousseau	Belle River
1988-1990	Mrs. Angela DeBruyn	Blenheim
1990-1992	Mrs. Eva Mitchell	London

1992-1994	Mrs. Theresa Loebach	Windsor
1994-1996	Mrs. Shirley George	Delhi
1996-1998	Mrs. Muriel Murphy	Goderich
1998-2000	Mrs. Gladys W. Dewey	Forest
2000-2002	Mrs. Marie Coughlan	Sarnia
2002-2004	Mrs. Trucy Cornelis	Parkhill
2004-2006	Mrs. Maria S. Odumodu	Woodstock
2006-2008	Mrs. Bev Weiler	Watford
2008-2010	Mrs. Patricia Rivest	Leamington
2010-2012	Mrs. Lucy Hendrikx	Parkhill
2012-2014	Mrs. Mary Jean Horne	Chatham
2014-2016	Mrs. Marie-Theresa Lamphier	Stoney Point
2016-2018	Mrs. Angela Pellerin	London
2018-2021	Mrs. Rebecca McCarrell	Tilbury (pandemic)
2021- 2023	Mrs. Theresa Ryan	Kinkora



1922-2022

Best Wishes for many more!

Chatham Kent

St. Patrick, Merlin

Essex

St. Simon and St. Jude, Belle River

Ste. Anne, Tecumseh

Huron-Perth

Ingersoll

London

St. Patrick, Lucan

Sarnia

Windsor

2022 Member Councils

City/Town	CWL Council
Amherstburg	St. John the Baptist
Aylmer	Our Lady of Sorrows
Belle River	St. Simon and St. Jude
Bornish/Parkhill	Sacred Heart
Bright's Grove	St. Michael
Chatham	Blessed Sacrament
	St. Joseph (City)
	St. Joseph Harwich
	St. Ursula
Comber	Visitation
Corunna	St. Joseph
Courtright	St. Charles
Delaware	Sacred Heart
Delhi	Our Lady Queen of Martyrs
Dresden	St. Michael
Dublin	St. Patrick
Essex	Holy Name of Jesus
Exeter	Precious Blood
Forest	St. Christopher
Glencoe	St. Charles Garnier
Goderich	St. Peter
Grand Bend	Immaculate Heart of Mary
Harrow	St. Anthony of Padua (disbanded 2022)
Ingersoll	Sacred Heart
Kingsville	St. John de Brebeuf
Kinkora	St. Patrick
Langton	Sacred Heart
LaSalette	Our Lady of LaSalette
LaSalle	St. Paul
Leamington	St. Michael

Listowel	St. Joseph
London	Holy Cross
	Holy Family
	Mary Immaculate
	St. Andrew the Apostle
	St. George
	St. John the Divine
	St. Justin
	St. Martin of Tours
	St. Michael
	St. Patrick
	St. Peter's Cathedral
Lucan	St. Patrick
McGregor	St. Clement
Merlin	St. Patrick
Mitchell	St. Vincent de Paul
Mount Carmel	Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Norwich	St. Peter
Petrolia	St. Philip
Port Dover	St. Cecilia
Port Lambton	Sacred Heart
Princeton	Sacred Heart (disbanded)
Ridgetown	St. Michael
Sarnia	Our Lady of Mercy
	Queen of Peace
	Sacred Heart
	St. Benedict
	St. Joseph
St. Joseph	St. Peter
St. Marys	Holy Name of Mary
St. Thomas	Holy Angels
	St. Anne
Seaforth	St. James

Stratford	Immaculate Conception
	St. Joseph
Strathroy	All Saints
Tecumseh	Good Shepherd, Lakeshore
	Ste. Anne
Thamesville	St. Paul
Tilbury	St. Francis Xavier
Tillsonburg	St. Mary
Wallaceburg	Holy Family
	Our Lady Help of Christians
Wallacetown	St. Helen
Walsh	St. Michael
Waterford	St. Bernard of Clairvaux
Watford	Our Lady Help of Christians
Windsor	Corpus Christi
	Holy Trinity
	Immaculate Heart
	Most Precious Blood
	Our Lady of Guadalupe
	Our Lady of Perpetual Help
	Our Lady of the Assumption
	Our Lady of the Atonement
	St. Alphonsus (disbanded)
	St. Angela Merici
	St. John Vianney
	St. Michael
Wingham	Sacred Heart
Woodslee	St. John the Evangelist
Woodstock	Holy Trinity
Wyoming	Holy Rosary
Zurich	St. Boniface

