



The Catholic Women's League of Canada

Archdiocese of Edmonton

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL, PRAY FOR US

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT ANNUAL REPORT

55 Councils Reported

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GROWTH IN FAITH

- (1) The CWL national theme is “Women of Peace and Hope” were used for spiritual development programs for 10 songs, 18 scripture readings, 34 spiritual reflections and 4 retreats. Other ways was to “Pray for Women of Peace and Hope” or for spiritual development programs. Many are Learning about Saints especially Mary. Some councils have banners up for every meeting, many say the rosary daily and another council has a wooden sign displayed at all meetings. Many attend Zone meetings.
- (2) Spiritual activities that were part of the regular Councils meetings were: Mass (126), Rosary (34), Retreats (5), Spiritual Refection (48), Shared prayer (38), and reconciliation (5), Memorial service for (15), members, some things that were done was Mass for deceased members (24), ceremonies from CWL booklets (26), installations of new executive, welcome (23) new members, often prayers for Priests and vocations, ceremony for years of service pins. Honor guards for deceased member’s funeral. Advent Celebrations, December Pot Luck suppers, the way of the Cross.
- (3) Music is an important component in Spiritual Development, Do your spiritual activities include music: Always (27) times, Often (28) times, sometimes (25) times, Never (9) times.
- (4) Many of the councils have observed Marian Feasts
Our Lady of Good Council: Mass (30), Rosary (8), Our Lady of Guadalupe: Mass (8), Rosary (1), Annunciation: Mass (10), Rosary (3), The Month of Mary: Mass (19), and Rosary (23), Some Members are involved in Mass ministries, Spiritual reflection on Mary, in months of May and October many join in the living rosary, 100 packages of “Litany of Virgin Mary” were made as a Jubilee Project for St. Albert’s 150th parish anniversary. Devotion to Mary weekly, Coffee and muffins after Parish Mass, Rosary is lead daily at West Country Hearth. Communion Breakfast for Feast of Our Lady of Good Council
- (5) Retreat councils have participated in: Oct 23, 2010 Carmen Marcoux – talked on Purity in Relationship. A one day retreat led by Dr. Suzette Phillips, Pilgrims on a Journey, Held two half day retreats, Silent Retreats, Parish Mission, Sylvan Lake

Council Retreat, St Francis Retreat in Cochrane. Retreats attended by individual member. Miriam Bethlehem Family Advent Retreat, A one day retreat-Theme- the Eucharist with Troy Davies. Pastoral Retreat

- (6) Council initiate or participate in any of these spiritual activities: Prayer Groups (31), Taize Prayer (3), Fatima Prayer Group (4), Adoration and Holy Hour (44), Stations of the Cross' (45), Spiritual Bouquets (16), At Christmas and Easter Bouquets were given to Priests and Seminarians, Rosary (46), Parish Mission (21), Members of Lay Apostolate (11).
- (7) Council members participated in spiritual education programs: RCIA/RCIC (27), Celebrating the Word (22), Pastoral Service Formation (13), Bible Study (33), Study for Catechism (13), Theology Classes (5), Seminarian Support (30), Acolyte Formation (12), International Eucharistic Congress (5), other programs Western Canada Liturgy Conference, People of Faith, Spiritual Programs in lower elementary grades, Teaching the Rosary, Divine Mercy Cenacle, Families of Nazareth Movement meet Weekly, Listening Centre, Members assist with Children's Liturgy and summer camp.

LAY MINISTRIES

- (8) CWL members assist the parish in many ways: Music (50), Lectors (50), Social Justice (32), Lay Presider (18), Religious Education (28), Hospitality (41), Adult Servers (39), Sacristans (30), Pastoral Council (47), Eucharistic Ministers (52), Art and Environment (35), Sacramental Preparation (45)
- (9) Members reach out spiritually to the community: Pastoral care (37), Visit at senior homes/hospital (49), Bringing Communion to sick & shut-ins (49), Many volunteer and arrange Mass times and preparation for Mass in Nursing Home & Lodge, Music Ministry at Seniors Complex, Prayer Chain, visit new parishioners, send cards to sick and shut- ins, provide rides to church, hospital, doctor appointments, support St. Benedict's Chapel, many go to Catholic Cemeteries for Mother's Day Prayer Service, Rosary and Liturgy of the Hours.
- (10) Councils support/participate missionary work of the Church by Prayer (42), Articles/Calendars Sales (25), Adopt- A- Family (7), Donations (40), other things are: Luncheons organized, Support foster children in Peru (2), adopted child through Chalice (2), Pray for Haiti, Peru and Philippines. A grand daughter from Zone 3 went to Africa to help in nursing.
- (11) Missions that are supported: "Chalice" Fr. Susia's Orphanage Program in India, Catholic Missions-Twinning with Haines Junction in Yukon, Catholic Missions Canada (11), Esk-omi Missions (8), Back Porch, Mater Care, Canadian Churches and Missions in the North, D & P Roots of Change (Nicaragua-Fr. Hebert), Sign of Hope Mission, Chalice Esk-omi-Christian Blind Centre, Madonna House, African Mission, On Eagles Wings, The Oblate Mission (3), St. Joseph's Missionaries of Sacrifice at Marshall, SK, Scarborough Missions in Dominican, Camp Encounter, Holy Childhood, Peddle Prairie Missions, Mission Assoc. Of Mary, Mission in Peru, Save a Family in India, India Orphanage (2), Children in Mexico, Leprosy Mission, Bosco Mission Society-Mongolian Project, Parish Missions in Olds (7), Rocky Mountain House, West Cameroon Africa, Academy Awaso in Ghana,

Orphanage in Nigeria, members went to Haiti, Peru and Philippines, God's Little Angels, Schools in Nigeria through Fr. Abba with Vic and Reach out to Neighbors.

ECUMENISM

(12) Members have participated in the World Day of Prayer: Participated (48), Planned (18), Hosted (16), Readers (33), Seasonal workshop services: Lent (28), Advent (29). Others: Feast Days, Festival of Carols, Nine readers & Carol with 4 other churches participating Sacraments, decorating Banners, Grad mass, Bibles, Christian Unity Service, Monthly 24 Hour Adoration, Bissell Centre Services, Pray Breakfast, Parish Church Service at the Senior's Lodge, World Day of

(13) Books are the resources used for Spiritual Programs;

BOOKS: (Titles/Authors)

Internet articles, Word Among Us, Kitchen Sink Prayer Book, Salt & Light & EWTN Magazines, Scriptures, Internet, Articles by Euthanasia Prevention Coalition, St. Brieghe McKenna & the Eucharistic Miracle, Redemption by Brian Moore, Compassion by Mildred Hondorf, and Pro Life stories, Walking the Sacred Path, Natural Family Planning, Prayer Services for Parish Meetings - Marliss Rogers, Rosary Program-Sylvan Lake Counsel, Authors: Menri Nonwen, Ron Rolheiser, Joyce Rupp "Brother Sun, Sister Moon" DVD TBA, Word Among us(11), Canadian League Magazine, Ecumenical Mission, Celebration for the Unborn, Women of many titles by Father C.M.Mangax, Living With Christ

SPEAKERS/FACILITATORS

St. Eveline Gagnon- Reconciliation, Charisma & Ministry, Oblates & Gray Nuns, Fr. Jau and our seminarian Miguel, Steward Ship Involvement, Daily Prayer Book and Internet. Informative report from Sisters outreach former member's personal mission journey. Spiritual Life in the Military by Denise Kantor, Prayers & Workshop for Women of Peace & Hope Amice – Holy Land Pilgrimage

VIDEOS & DVD

Beatitudes and Access to the library, Northing More Beautiful (4), Matthew Kelly – 8 week course, Johnett Benkovich "Women of Grace" 10 week course, Story of stuff, Miracles at the Eucharist, Two members spoke on Mission Visits, One member spoke on needs of aboriginal, Enrolled the sick members in Healing Masses, many helped prepare and serve a lunch after the Corpus Christi procession.

DIRECTIVES / COMMUNIQUES

(14) Spiritual Development Communiqués from National, Provincial and Diocesan help better meet many needs. If a person does not have internet ask a friend to receive info for her, Concrete ideas for spiritual activities, Sandra Brenneis has written 3 musicals with the profit going to their seniors complex, many would appreciate prayers and spiritual reflections for CWL meetings especially those relevant to National goals, The new book of prayers will be well used (2), Please continue to give resources (2), new ideas always welcome and materials for a

theme, sharing programs, wonderful ideas and resources on website, suggest sources or activities pertaining to specific church seasons (Lent, Advent etc) email directly to local chair- person and send or e mail subjects to use for workshops, new ideas, etc.

CONGRATULATIONS to all councils on a wonderful year and keep sharing your TIME, TALENTS and TREASURERS. God bless your faith, strength and wisdom in 2011.

Respectfully submitted,
For God and Canada

Dianne Theu

Vice-President/Spiritual Development