



THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA

EDMONTON DIOCESAN COUNCIL

Women of Peace and Hope

Diocesan Newsletter

www.edm.cwl.ab.ca

August 2009

Message from the President

June Fuller, President

Dear Sisters in the League:

I am hoping that you are enjoying a well deserved rest from your busy life as CWL members. I attended the CWL Provincial Convention in Medicine Hat at the beginning of June and I would like to congratulate Fran Lucas, Cathy Bouchard and Dorothy Johansen on being elected to the Provincial Executive. I would also like to congratulate St. Theresa's CWL Council on winning two out of the three Father Walter Krewski awards for membership increases for 2008. The convention was wonderful and Holy Family Parish was a wonderful venue for this event.

I would also like to thank all the CWL councils that invited me to their windup meeting and social over the past couple months. I thoroughly enjoyed having the opportunity of getting to meet more ladies from our Diocese.

In less than a month, I will be traveling to St. John's, Newfoundland to attend the CWL National Convention on your behalf. I am looking forward to attending this event and I know that I will have lots of news to share with you on my return.

I hope that each council is planning on sending a representative to the Diocesan CWL Fall meeting that will be held on September 26th, at Sacred Heart Parish in Red Deer. I know that the ladies from Sacred Heart are looking forward to being your host for this upcoming meeting.

In closing, I wish everyone a safe and relaxing summer and look forward to seeing many of you in the fall.

Your Sister In Christ

June Fuller

Diocesan President

Words from our Spiritual Advisor

Rev. Marc Cramer, Spiritual Advisor

What a great blessing that Pope Benedict XVI has declared a Year of the Priest. It is an opportunity for the whole Church community to be renewed in our understanding of the Sacrament of Holy Orders and to express our appreciation to the men who offer their lives in service to Christ and His Church. The late Pope John Paul II said,

“The Priestly vocation is a mystery. It is the mystery of “wondrous exchange” – admirable commercium – between God and man. A man offers his humanity to Christ so that Christ may use him as an instrument of salvation, making him as it were into another Christ. Unless we grasp the mystery of this “exchange”, we will not understand how it can be that a young man, hearing the words “Follow me!” can give up everything for Christ, in the certainty that if he follows the path he will find complete personal fulfillment.”

I quoted these words of the late John Paul II on my Priestly Ordination card. They touched me deeply in my preparation to be a priest. It helped me to realize that God does a great work through our meagre and simple offerings and that the Priesthood He gives to those He chooses is a gift to the whole Church. It is a gift of His very self sacramentally present in the priest.

May we as the Catholic Women's League continue to support our priests, love them and help them realize again how much their willingness to serve Christ allows them to be a tremendous gift and blessing to the parishes, communities and to the CWL. In a special way pray for them this year, support them this year, love them this year and help them be renewed in their priestly ministry. Thank my Sisters and Mothers. Your support is greatly appreciated by all the priests in this Archdiocese. On their behalf I thank you again and God Bless!!

Fr. Marc Cramer

Membership & Organization Message

Gladys Brown, President-Elect, Organization Standing Committee Chair

Greetings! Where has 2009 gone and by the way where has the summer gone? Time sure flies when you are having fun. As always we must work on increasing the MEMBERSHIP within the League. I know we can do it. In fact, at the Provincial Convention in Medicine Hat in June, it was announced with much pride as the St. Theresa Council won two awards; first for the greatest number of new members and the second award for the greatest percentage increase in membership. These awards fall under the Fr. Krewski Membership Awards. The personal approach is very important and make the attempt to make the meetings more social than all business.

I will be attending the National Convention in St. John's Newfoundland in August and hope to gather information with respect to increasing the membership within our diocese and other information.

Please feel free to call me at anytime with new updates such anniversaries and special occasions and any other concerns.

Take care and we will see you in Red Deer at the Fall Meeting. Till then, have a relaxing and restful summer.

Your Sister in Christ

Gladys Brown

Diocesan President-elect

Spiritual Development News

Diane Thew, Vice-President, Spiritual Development Chairperson

The Diocesan Convention in April and the Alberta Mackenzie Provincial Council Convention in June were both very interesting and now looking forward to the National Convention in August at St. John's Newfoundland. So much can be learned at each convention. When the Conventions are all over it will be time to get back to work.

Hope to hear from the Dean of Students, Doreen Bloos who will follow-up in due course the possibility of the CWL offering sponsorship to the

female students, both lay and religious.

Please continue to read "The League" magazine, and all the Catholic publications so we all know what is happening in our world. May this year of service be both rewarding and abundant. God bless you all in your service as true Catholic Women.

Diane Thew

Spiritual Development Chairperson

Diocesan Treasurer

Cheryl Boom

Dear Sisters in the League,

My name is Cheryl Boom and I have been married to Lewis for 22 years. We have 2 children, Stephanie is 18 years old and Brandon is 14 years old. We have lived in Edmonton together since 1985. I was born in Labrador City, Newfoundland, however I was raised in Nova Scotia for 6 years before heading out West.

I have been a CWL member for 10 years at St. John Bosco Council in Edmonton, Alberta. I have been a very active member since I joined. I was hooked to serve!!

I was only a member for 3 years when I stepped in as President, without serving 2 years as President-Elect. I served an extra year as President due to the President-Elect being unable to take over due to illness. I recently completed 6 years on our Council's Executive.

I have excellent leadership skills and I am known for my sense of humour and organizational skills.

I work full-time as a Senior Administrative Assistant for 2 Directors at Alberta Health Services.

I am passionate about scrap-booking, watching my children play sports and getting away on hot holidays to relax.

News from the Treasurer

As I begin my service as your new Treasurer, I feel very excited and a bit nervous. I look forward to working with all of you.

Summer is almost over and it is time to come back to our meetings and start planning a new year of activities as we continue to serve. Keeping accurate records of your income and expenses, supporting charities and getting your per capita fees in on time is so important. Remember to use the donation form when sending in your donations and if you have donations for the National Voluntary Fund, please

send them directly to National with a copy of the form to me.

September is a good month to start collecting 2010 membership fees so you can send in your per capita fees to National by January 1, 2010. We depend on the fees in a timely manner to do the work you have directed us to do.

As we continue to serve God and Canada, I offer blessings to all of you as we journey together as women of peace and hope.

Your sister in Christ,

Cheryl Boom

Diocesan Treasurer

Community Life

Lynne Calkins, Chairperson

Dear friends in Christ:

What a wonderful country we live in.

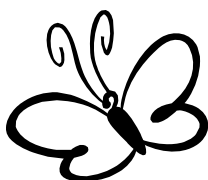
After holidaying in the Maritimes for two weeks. I was made aware how very fortunate we are. So much history we have and seeming not to appreciate it here in the West, or simply not being aware.

My husband and I were walking back to our Bed and Breakfast one evening in Yarmouth, N.S. when we came upon four couples who had just come out of a Knights of Columbus hall. We greeted them and indicated where we were from. Immediately we felt like we had known them forever. We were escorted around the hall, in the kitchen (would you believe) we met CWL ladies helping their Knights clean up. (sound familiar?) We left feeling as if we had made new friends. There was promise of maybe seeing some in St. John N.L. for National. We are truly Blessed and should be so proud of who we are "Catholic Women League of Canada."

God Blessings on all of you and see you in Newfoundland.

Lynne Calkins

Community Life Chairperson



Past-President

Cathy Bouchard,

Greetings! As I write this we have just completed a school year and I think of us past presidents as a group who have graduated together. Many of us have been presidents together; you as the parish council presidents and members of the Diocesan Council and myself as the Diocesan President. I thank you for the support you have given to me and to each other. I encourage you to lead your new president in this same spirit of sisterhood where we work together for the common good of the council and the League.

One of your roles is to coach your president that she needs to attend the Fall, Midwinter, Pre and Post Convention Diocesan meetings. You may even offer to travel with her and assist her in decisions that are made at the Diocesan level. Every president's voice counts.

Remember, "Members have a definite role to play while attending a meeting, whether presiding or participating. This role, to be effective, requires the formation of good meeting habits and knowledge of some basic parliamentary procedure. Meetings will run more smoothly and take less time if members are familiar with the proper procedures, using them in a fair and courteous manner. An added benefit will be the feeling of satisfaction knowing that members had the opportunity to take part in the decision-making process."

God bless you in the coming League year.

Cathy Bouchard, Past President

Education and Health

Caroline MacDougall, Chairperson

I (Caroline Madeline Marie MacDougall nee Duchesne) was born in Timmins, Ontario. I'm the oldest of three children having two younger brothers, Rene and Larry. I received my primary education in various communities in Northern Ontario. In one of these communities, Marathon Paper Mills nestled in the northern forest of Ontario, I had the distinction of being the only student in grades six, seven, and eight. I attended High School in Timmins for grades 9, 10, and 11. The summer of 1958 the family moved to Hinton, Alberta where I completed my High School education.

Following graduation I enrolled in the two year Standard S Program in the Education Faculty at the

Women of Peace and Hope

University of Alberta. I began my teaching career of twenty-one years in Hinton, teaching French to some of my former classmates who were back for some upgrading. Subsequently I moved to Edmonton to teach where I met my future husband. In the spring of 1964 Dave and I were married, and shortly after, my career was interrupted to become the mother of five children, Greg, Janet, Julie, Christine, and Sarah. We are now the proud grandparents of five grandchildren, ranging in age from one to twenty.

While raising my family I continued to study and completed my Bachelor of Education in 1971. In 1975 I resumed my teaching career with part time, temporary contracts and eventually a full time position. I retired from teaching in 1996.

I'm a member of Annunciation Church in Edmonton. At the parish level I've served on Parish Pastoral Council for two terms and was the coordinator for our Parish Pictorial Directory 2001-2002. At present I am a Eucharistic Minister and Lector, coordinator for the Coffee Socials after our Sunday Masses, and a team leader for funeral luncheons.

I have been a member of Annunciation CWL for 22 years. I have held the positions of President Elect, President and currently plan the Spiritual Programs for our council's meetings. At the diocesan level I was the chairperson of the Hospitality Committee for the Diocesan Convention, April 2006.

In my leisure time I enjoy reading, playing duplicate bridge, attending weekly Scottish Country Dancing, and golfing in the spring and summer.

I'm happy to be part of the Diocesan Team for the next two years and look forward to the new challenges as we work together for God and Canada.

Education and Hearth Chairperson

Caroline MacDougall, Chairperson

Christian Family Life

Margaret King, Chairperson

Greetings Sisters in the League

The summer is half over and it is time to start thinking of projects for the coming year. The League has a duty to speak for the voiceless. We the members support groups that share our values. The members are to provide this support in non-violent ways by letter writing and by signing petitions. We can write letters to our Members of Parliament about

the legalization of euthanasia and assisted suicides.

This year's list for Adopt a Seminarian will be available at the Fall Meeting in Red Deer on September 26th.

See you in September

Margaret King

Christian Family Life Chairperson

Communications

Gwen Elliott, Chairperson

My name is Gwen Elliott and I have been married to Keith for 33 years. We have 3 sons, 1 daughter, 1 son-in-law, 1 daughter-in-law and a wonderful grandson also named Keith.

We have lived in Camrose for 12 years, but over the years have lived in Quesnel, Edmonton, Westlock, Edson, and Sedgewick.

I joined the CWL in Westlock in about 1979 and continued to serve in Edson, Killam and Camrose. I have had the honour of serving as Community Life and Resolutions & Legislation Standing Committee Chairs on the Edmonton Diocesan Council.

I am involved in St. Francis Xavier Parish on the Liturgy Committee, Music Ministry, Lector and Eucharistic Minister and Development & Peace.

I work as an Elementary school librarian and have the opportunity to encourage children to read and learn as well as the fun of reading great stories to them.

There is so much to learn and the Communications Standing Committee is a challenge.

I WILL DO MY BEST.

- Diocesan Council placed an ad promoting Christian Marriage in the Special Marriage Edition of the Western Catholic Reporter. We plan to make this a yearly commitment.
- Do you have a problem seeing all of the Diocesan Website? If not.... It may be because you have done recent updates and downloaded Internet Explorer 8. Luckily I have a son-in-law that came to my aid and installed a different internet browser (Firefox). Let me know if you are having this problem.

Gwen Elliott, Chairperson

Diocesan Secretary

Joanna Davis

Edmonton CWL Diocesan Council Newsletter

Dear Sisters in the League:

I am the new secretary for the Diocesan Council having began the role in May 2009. I have never had any formal training or work experience as a secretary of this kind but I am willing to learn. Please do not hesitate to ask me any questions or give me any tips or advice. This also includes computer operation and tips.

I took on the role of secretary of St. Dominic Savio Council in Edmonton, to which I have belonged for the past four years, in January 2009. I have enjoyed being a member of St. Dominic Council and I am involved in running the CIC program at the church as well as Eucharistic Minister and other volunteer duties. These two secretary positions are basically the same but there are many differences. It is my commitment to try to do a satisfactory job to both of these roles and I appreciate all the help I have been given.

I retired two years ago after working for the City of Edmonton for 27 Years. I am divorced, have three children, seven grandchildren, one great-grandchild and looking forward to having another great-grandchild due any time now.

Women of Peace and Hope

Sisters in the League

Johanna Davis

Diocesan Secretary



Legislation & Resolution

Madeline Twerdochlib, Chairperson

Hello everyone! My name is Madeline Twerdochlib, your new Diocesan Legislation and Resolution Standing Committee Chair. It was 30 years ago that I became a member of CWL, bringing much joy to my mother who has been active in CWL since the beginning of time. I have been married to Ron for 45 years and we have three grown awesome children. To complete our family circle we have seven PERFECT grandchildren. I find myself very involved in my parish at Holy Trinity in Spruce Grove. One of my favourite ministries is Art and Environment. We have a big, beautiful church and decorating it is a privilege, not a chore. Every spare minute I have is spent quilting or just sewing and creating "stuff". I belong to a book club so my quiet moments are spent reading.

Three years ago I retired from a 30-year career with

Canada Post. Somehow life didn't slow down but it picked up momentum and I have never been busier.

During the summer our family loves to spend time at our cottage at the lake. The fishing is great and the fish stories are even 'greater'. This is who I am in a nutshell.

God bless every one of you.

Madeline Twerdochlib

Legislation & Resolutions Chair

Important Dates

Diocesan Fall Meeting

Saturday, September 26th, 2009
Sacred Heart Parish, Red Deer

Diocesan Mid-Winter Meeting

Saturday, Feb 6th, 2010
St. Theresa's Parish, Edmonton

CWL Diocesan Convention

April 16-18th, 2010
Olds College, Olds

Bizarre Women's Bookclub

"The Shack"

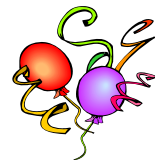
Date & Time TBA

Held at St. Agnes, Edmonton

Special Anniversaries

Congratulations to:

St. Joseph Council, Wabamun who celebrated their 50th Anniversary on July 5th



The CORNERSTONE OF FAITH Campaign

The Anthony Henday ring road expansion has forced the Archdiocese to relocate St. Joseph Seminary and Newman Theological College to new premises on the Catholic Pastoral Centre grounds. Most – but not all – of the cost of reconstruction is being covered by proceeds from the sale of the old site. This fall, a gala dinner will launch a new campaign to raise the remaining funds needed for these vital projects. By supporting the campaign, you can contribute in a very real way to the formation of priests to serve in our parishes and to the education of lay leaders and teachers who help carry out the mission of Christ and His Church.

Cornerstone of Faith Gala Dinner

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Shaw Conference Centre, Hall D

9797 Jasper Avenue, Edmonton, AB

Reception 6:00 pm; Dinner 7:00 pm

Guest Speaker: His Eminence Francis Cardinal George O.M. I. Archbishop of Chicago

Tickets: \$200. per person

\$2000 per table

Contact Louise Schurman at (780) 469-1010 ext 265 or at cornerstone@caedm.ca with any questions.

News Release

The Alberta Conference of Catholic Bishops and the Alberta Catholic School Trustee's Association are pleased to announce the:

2010 Catholic Conference

Stand in the Light:

Washed, Anointed, Sent

March 12 & 13, 2010

Mayfield Inn & Conference Centre,

Edmonton

For information contact the Alberta Catholic School Trustee's Association at (780) 484-6209.

A Prayer for Our Priests

You came from among us
To be, for us, one who serves.
We thank you for ministering Christ to us
And helping us minister Christ to each other.

We are grateful for the many gifts you bring
To our community:
For drawing us together in worship,
For visiting us in our homes,
For comforting us in sickness,
For showing us compassion,
For blessing our marriage,
for baptising our children,
For confirming us in our calling,
For supporting us in bereavement,
For helping us grow in faith,
For encouraging us to take the initiative,
For helping the whole community realize
God's presence among us.



For our part, we pray that we may always be
Attentive to your needs and never take you
For granted. You, like us, need friendship and
Love, welcome and a sense of belonging,
Kind words and acts of thoughtfulness.

We pray, also, for the priests who have
Wounded priesthood.

May we be willing to forgive
And may they be open to healing.
Let us support one another during times
Of crisis.

God our Father, we ask you to bless our
Priests and confirm them in their calling.
Give them the gifts they need
To respond with generosity and a joyful heart.



We offer this prayer for our priest,
Who is our brother and friend.
Amen.