St. Andrew the Apostle

CWL NEWSLETTER

Issue 03/2025

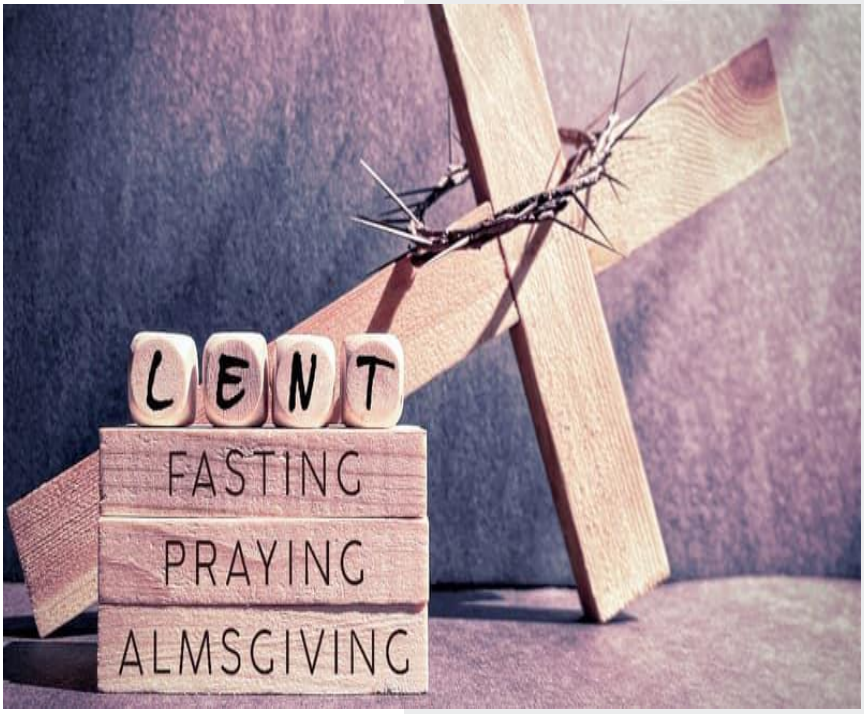
WELCOME!

HERE I AM LORD; SEND ME

HAPPY EASTER

Jubilee 2025

"Let us be pilgrims of hope bringing light to the world."



What does love look like?

"It has the hands to help others.
It has the feet to hasten to the poor and needy.
It has eyes to see the misery and want.
It has the ears to hear the sighs and sorrows of men.
That is what love looks like."
St. Augustine

*"In a world where so many feel overwhelmed and discouraged, let us bring **hope** through the power of **love**."*
Most Rev. Gerard Bergie
Bishop of the Diocese of St. Catharines

Ash Wednesday

March 5, 2025

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

In response to God's second great commandment to love thy neighbour and our CWL focus on the homeless and mental health our parish council decided to assemble "Blessing Bags" for Welland's new shelter for the unhoused. These were put together on Saturday, February 1 and delivered on Monday, February 3 to the Hope Centre that is overseeing the shelters. Each bag had a value of at least $50.00. I am sure that each recipient will feel the love. A message was also included as follows:

Dear friend,

We are wishing you peace and renewed hope in finding a permanent safe place to stay. When you need an extra dose of encouragement, please remember that you are a beautiful person and a child of God. Goodness and divine love are within you. While you shelter here, may you feel peace and love that surpasses all understanding. We hope that these essential items will assist you. God bless you.

Many thanks to members who made donations towards our "Blessing Bags" and to Mary Jane Ferrell, Linda Matchett and Monique Shinton for helping assemble the bagged items and for the delivery of the packages to the Hope Centre for the newly established homeless shelter.

May God bless you for your offerings.

Tuesday, April 22, 2025

IMPORTANT DATES AND REMINDERS

Welcome Spring Fundraiser
Sunday, April 6, 2025
St. Andrew Parish Hall
12:00pm – 2:00pm
Lunch
(Chili & Hot Dogs)
Penny Table, Bake Table Treasures
Donations & Help Gratefully Appreciated

Next General Meeting
Wednesday, March 19, 2025
5:30pm

Respect for Life Mass
Tuesday, March 25, 2025
7:00pm - Cathedral

Feast of Our Patroness, Our Lady of Good Counsel
Saturday, April 26, 2025

CONTACT INFORMATION

MEMBERSHIP

If you do not currently enjoy the benefits of CWL membership and have interest in joining the CWL, please contact our Standing Committee Chairperson of Organization, Mary Jane at 905 734-1611.

DIOCESAN NEWS TO SHARE

ST. CATHARINES DIOCESAN COUNCIL

DIOCESAN WORKSHOP
Saturday, March 22, 2025
9:30am -12:30pm
St. Alexander Church
Speaker: Betty Colaneri
Topic:
'1' for All and All for '1'

Pop Can Tabs Collection
Wheelchairs For Those in Need

DIOCESAN AMM
Tuesday, April 8, 2025
St. John's Ukrainian Catholic Church
91 Lakeshore Road, St. Catharines
7:45-8:45am Registration
$50 Lunch /Person Only
Deadline: March 20, 2025

FAITH

Novena for Members

The CWL Novena for Members is a prayer that asks for guidance, strength, and the ability to live out our Catholic faith. The novena is based on the Prayer to Our Lady of Good Counsel with a focus on the Objects of the League and our call to action. It was written so that it can be prayed anytime throughout the year. It can be prayed individually, as a group and even over the course of several months at parish council meetings.

Our parish council will be making use of the Novena for Members at our general meetings this coming year. If you do not attend meetings and would like to obtain a copy for your prayer time please contact President, Shelley Tamas or Faith Chairperson, Monique Shinton. Additional copies may be found behind the newsletters in the CWL hanging file holders.

PRAY! PRAY! PRAY!

SOCIAL JUSTICE

HOMELESSNESS

The number of individuals who find themselves homeless is on the increase and has certainly become a visible reality in our community. There are several reasons that persons find themselves in the situation of homelessness which include unaffordable housing, poverty, economic changes, chronic health issues, mental health, and personal circumstances such as addiction.

Thank you to all those who contributed gift cards and cereal at Christmas to help those who are suffering in this situation. Appreciation is also extended to the members who assist in providing breakfast on regular basis to those in need.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE

Begins on Ash Wednesday and throughout the Lenten season. St. Andrew: March – All Day

QUICK LINKS

St. Andrew Parish Council

standrewcwlwelland@gmail.com

WEBSITES:

Diocesan Council

www.stcatharinescwl.ca

Provincial Council

www.cwl.on.ca

National Council

www.cwl.ca

Diocese

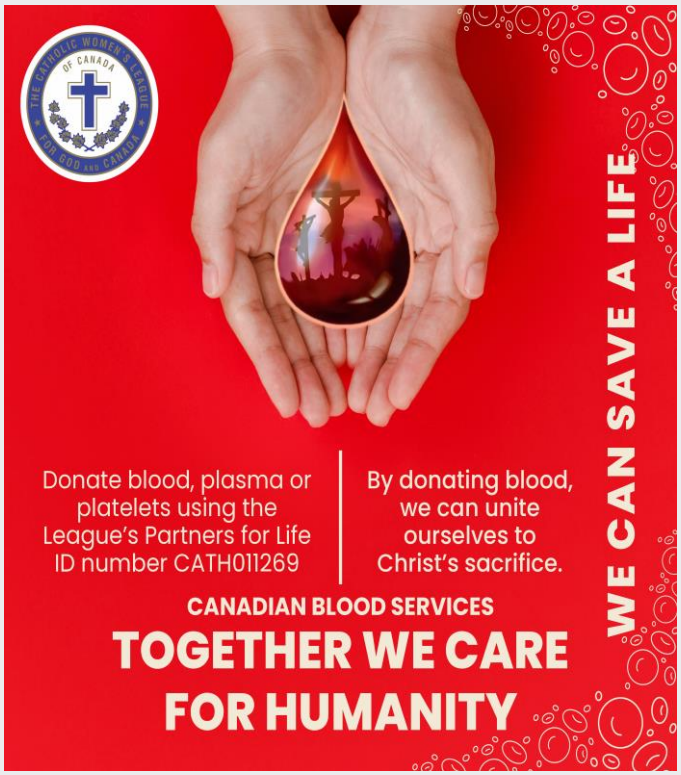
www.saintcd.com

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.

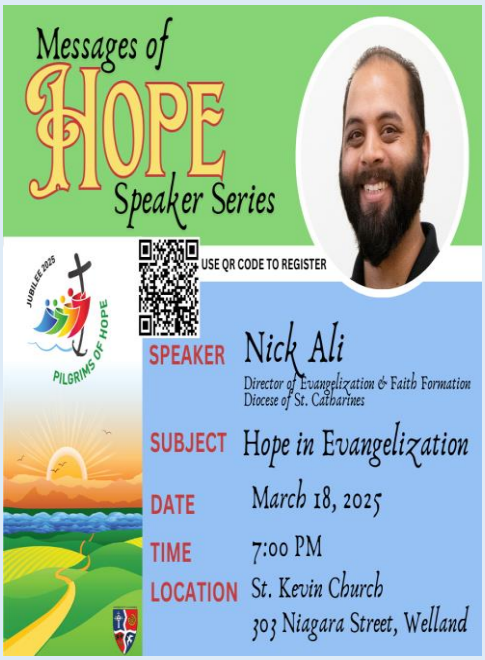
SERVICE

Joline Belliveau, National Chairperson of Service, reminds us that as Catholics we "believe that by shedding His blood and dying on the cross, Christ has won their redemption and the promise of eternal life." She urges us to consider donating blood this Lent. When we donate blood, we can unite ourselves to Christ's sacrifice. If you donate blood, please use the Leagues Partners for Life ID Number Cath011269.



GRATITUDE CORNER

Thank you to all those who have submitted and renewed their membership in the League. I am so grateful that you see the benefits and value of being a member of The Catholic Women's League of Canada. It is a privilege to serve in this capacity and to call all of you my sisters in Christ.



Message of National Vice President, Betty Colaneri

March: The Courage of '1'

Members can look at two important feast days in March for inspiration—the Feast of St. Joseph (March 19th) and the Feast of St. Oscar Romero (March 24th). St. Joseph was '**1**' humble, yet courageous man who embodied the qualities of compassion, patience and faithfulness.

St. Oscar Romero had the courage to speak out for the suffering, oppressed, poor and marginalized. He was '**1**' brave soul who advocated for social justice and human rights. His courage inspires members to advocate for social change and stand up for those oppressed who have no voice.

MESSAGE FROM BISHOP THOMAS DOWD PROVINCIAL SPIRITUAL ADVISOR

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION AND GROUP SHARING

● Can we think of other examples illustrating the difference between *espoir* and *espérance*? Have we ever lived a situation where we felt our hope shift from *espoir* to *espérance*?

● What have been our times of greatest joy? Do I thank others and praise others readily? Who should I offer thanks and praise to today?

● What have been the times when we have discovered more deeply the meaning of our life, or when we felt the need for greater meaning?

● What do we see as challenges to hope in our world today? What ideologies do we see arising to try and provide answers?

● How deep is my love for God? How have I felt God's love for me?

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

You are welcome to submit a newsletter contribution to Shelley Tamas before the first of the month and she will do her best to incorporate your contribution within the monthly newsletter.

Our Lady of Good Counsel

Our Lady of Good Counsel - (Latin: *Mater boni consilii*) - is one of the titles given to the Blessed Virgin Mary, after a painting said to be miraculous, now found in the thirteenth century Augustinian church at Genazzano, near Rome, Italy. Measuring 40 to 45 centimetres (16 to 18 in) the image is a fresco executed on a thin layer of plaster no thicker than an eggshell. Over the centuries, devotions to Our Lady of the Good Counsel grew among saints and popes, to the extent that a reference to it was added to the Litany of Loreto and the devotion spread throughout the world. Her feast day is 26 April. Since it's inception, Our Lady of Good Counsel has been the patroness of The Catholic Women's League of Canada.

HORIZONS OF HOPE

Toolkit on Palliative Care

May 6, 7, 13 & 14, 2025
Presented by:

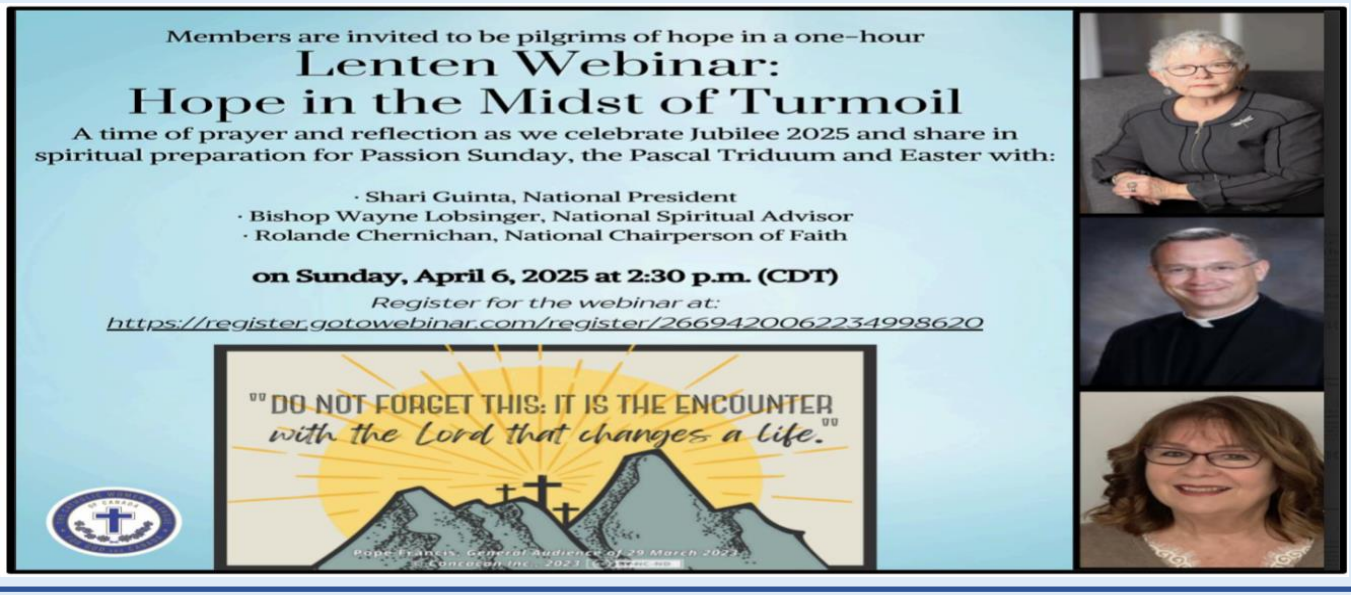
- **Dr. Moira McQueen**
- **Sr. Mary Rowell**
- **Shirley Christo, Life Member**

Stay tuned for more details coming.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

We wish to convey our sincere best wishes for a Happy Birthday to our dear sisters in the League who will celebrate a birthday in March and April.

06/03 Shelley Tamas
25/03 Bruna Ioannoni
11/04 Mary Delloso
24/03 Maria Fazzalari
28/04 Barbara Nenadovich

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Happy Anniversary to all members celebrating their Wedding in March and April.