



Catholic Women's League Holy Rosary Parish Newsletter Winter 2018



Advent Greetings

Fr. Kevin D'Souza, Spiritual Director

As we enter into this season let us take a moment to prayerfully reflect on Advent. We know that one aspect of Advent is a kind of waiting that is full of hope. But what exactly are we waiting for? Pope Benedict reminds us that when time is not filled with a present that is meaningful, waiting becomes unbearable. When on the other hand, time itself is meaningful and every moment contains something especially valuable, our joyful anticipation of the greater experience that is still to come makes what we have in the present even more precious.

Advent helps us to wait with precisely this kind of waiting. This is the Christian way of waiting and hoping. May this special time of Advent be meaningful for you as you prepare your hearts for His coming.

MEMBERSHIP FEES: Annual membership fees are due by January 31, 2018. A motion was adopted by the general membership in September in support of a **fee increase from \$25 to \$30**. This fee increase is necessary to offset the increases from national, provincial and diocesan councils and to bring our council in-line with other councils. You may pay fees by placing your church or a blank envelope (include your name & CWL) into the weekly collection, in person at the January meeting or dropping it off at the parish office.

GROWING OUR MEMBERSHIP: Invite a **Friend!** January is *membership appeal month*. Over the last year, we have been blessed with an increase in membership. We are an organization that promotes spiritual growth, sisterhood, fundraising events for charity, and fun. **A draw for a CWL Scarf and Scarf Pin is open to members who engage a new CWL member.** We meet the **second Thursday of every month from 7 to 9 pm in the church hall.**

CHRISTMAS DINNER: Thursday, December 14th: Your executive will be cooking a Christmas dinner including turkey, ham and lamb. We ask that you consider bringing a salad or dessert. Mass will be celebrated prior to dinner.

SPECIAL LENTEN EVENTS:

LENTEN MINI-RETREAT: January 11 at 7pm
Join our Spiritual Director, Fr. D'Souza in the church for Lenten Readings and Reflections. Refreshments to follow in hall.



PRODIGAL DAUGHTER PLAY & REFLECTION (\$5 pp)*. MARCH 8th @ 7 pm. In celebration of International Women's Day, join us for this beautiful one woman play. It is a great way to prepare ourselves for Easter. Presented by Ephphatha Productions. **A fee of \$5.00 per person will be charged at the door.** Refreshments to follow.



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WHAT A BUSY & SUCCESSFUL FALL!

Thank You

“Never be so busy as not to think of others.”
— Mother Teresa,

FALL RUMMAGE SALE: Another great success. So many wonderful treasures were donated and found a new home. Thanks to our league sisters who volunteered!

65th ANNIVERSARY GALA: Thank you to all who helped make the 65th Gala a huge success! Special thanks to Mary Lou Nerbonne for leading this initiative. A presentation of the proceeds towards building a Hospice for Milton and Halton Hills will be present to Townsend-Smith Foundation in the near future. Watch for details!

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR: WOW, what a great response from the ladies of Holy Rosary. Beautiful handmade items, yummy baked goods, cozy tea room and local artisans made for a very festive day. **A special thanks to the Challenge Girls who helped with face painting, bake table and distribution of candy canes.** Proceeds will be distributed to a charity agreed to at an upcoming general meeting.



CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING AT CWL EVENTS. We need your help! We

invite all members and friends to share your talents and God given gifts. Many hands make light work ... and it is lots of fun, too!



CWL SCARFS, SCARF CLIPS and

more: If you are interested in ordering CWL products and gifts, please contact: Nancy Fellows, 905-878-7931 or **email**

cwl.holyrosarymilton@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATE



SPRING PLANT & RUMMAGE SALE:

Saturday, April 12 Use the long winter days to clean out you closets and basements and the spring to dig up saplings from your garden. We accept gently used clothing, household goods, books & toys. **New this year Perennial & House Plants will be accepted.** Drop off Friday, April 13 from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. Thank you in advance for your support.

BIRTHRIGHT BABY SHOWER: May 10th



Consider donating an unwrapped gift or gift card . All donations to be given to Halton Birthright. A presentation by Birthright will follow.



GOT IDEAS FOR FUTURE CWL EVENTS? Speak with a member of the executive or drop your idea in the idea box at a CWL meeting.



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FROM NATIONAL OFFICE: A very successful 97th convention was held in Charlottetown, PEI this past August. A number of resolutions were passed. These include:

2017-01- Urge the federal government to fully implement the R. v. Gladue decision by directing the courts of Canada to ensure that *Gladue reports* (case specific reports) are provided to all judges before sentencing **Indigenous offenders**.

2017-02- Mandatory Age Verification for Adult *Pornographic websites*.

2017-03- urge the federal government to grant *zero-rated* status for **regulated child safety products** under the goods and services tax provisions of the Excise Tax Act.

2017-04- urge the federal government to amend the Criminal Code of Canada to be consistent with the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms by **making it an offence to coerce healthcare professionals** into *referring for, or performing procedures that are in opposition to their charter rights of freedom of conscience and religion*. ***Holy Rosary's Action Plans*** to support these national resolutions will be developed by your executive for presentation at an upcoming meeting.



FROM ONTARIO

PROVINCIAL OFFICE: Homelessness is a real problem in Ontario. The focus of the community life standing committee, for now, is to, educate people about homeless issues, celebrate and support local good works and highlight local issues. We are already helping to solve homelessness by learning more about it. Share

your new knowledge with your family and friends. The next time someone says something rude or unkind about a homeless person, set the record straight. When passing a street person do not ignore him/her, smile, stop and talk. Show respect and dignity; you do not have to give them money, but give them your time and kindness. This also applies to people in your area, the seniors, refugees, teens, veterans who are alone and need someone to acknowledge them with kindness. Celebrate and support the good works by donations to agencies.

Donations of socks are just one of the items helping homeless people and those who are poorly housed. Food, clothing, and household items are also needed...Donate Points Whether it's Air Miles, reward points, or other credit or loyalty card points, they are always looking for donations to support the work. To find out how to donate your points, please contact the organization. Remember prayer is powerful. - *
Submitted by Joanna Sisk, Community Life Chairperson. Edited from ON-Newsletter. October, 2017 by N. Fellows

Hamilton Diocesan Council of the CWL

Imagine! 100 Years of The Catholic Women's League in the diocese of Hamilton. What a wonderful time to reflect and look back at how much The Catholic Women's League has made a difference in your life! In the life of your Parish! In your community! The 100th Anniversary Planning Committee is organizing some special events throughout the years leading up to the grand finale in 2020, where a year long celebration of memories begin. So stay tuned!



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Knights of Columbus- Council-6777, Challenge Girls & CWL Working together:

Our League is blessed to be collaborating with the Knights of Columbus and Challenge Girls on various events. Sharing resources and helping hands, ensures the success of all three parish groups. Let's nurture and grow our league of the future by mentoring and encouraging our young Challenge Girls to work together for God and Country.



RELIGIOUS ARTICLES are for sale after most masses. A great selection of Baptismal, Holy Communion gifts, Advent

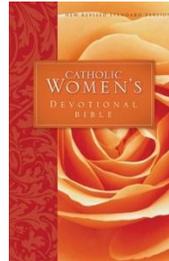
Wreaths, candles and Christmas cards are available. Also visit www.holyrosaryparish.ca under groups/CWL. We are looking for volunteers to assist with sales after all masses. Contact any member of the executive to volunteer.



HOLY ROSARY CWL OFFICIAL CHARTER DAY NOVEMBER 16, 1952

On November 16th, 1952, a small group of faithfully women gathered together to launch Holy Rosary Catholic Women's League Council sixty-five years ago this month. We are proud of the rich heritage crafted by these women and are blessed to have three charter and many long service members who continue to sustain and nurture our council.

WOMEN OF THE BIBLE



Did you know? There are only three books of the Bible named after women? They are **RUTH**, **ESTHER** and **JUDITH**

RUTH was a Moabite who showed extraordinary *loyalty* by leaving her homeland in order to follow her mother-in-law Naomi, back to Bethlehem. One of the most cherished verses in the Book of Ruth is "*Where you go, I will go. Where you lodge, I will lodge: your people shall be my people, and your God my God.*" Ruth 1:16. She was the great grandmother of King David.

ESTHER was a Jewish orphan who became a queen. She demonstrated *bravery and courage* when she risked her life to save the lives of her people. "O God, whose might is over all, hear the voice of the despairing, and save us from the hands of evildoers. And save me from my fear!" Esther 14.19

JUDITH was a pious widow of *faith and courage*. Though the story of Judith is not historical, it shows us how the faith of just one person can overcome the enemies of Israel. "You are the glory of Jerusalem, you are the great boast of Israel, you are the great pride of our nation! You have done all this with her own hand: you have done great good to Israel, and God is well pleased with it." Judith 15:9-10



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It has been an honor and privilege to serve as your President over the past year and to work collaboratively with your executive. What a talented group of women!

As you can see from this newsletter, our council has embraced the CWL national theme "*Inspired by the Spirit, women respond to God's call*".

We strive to be inclusive, accountable, visible, enthusiastic and to celebrate our parish league. We are proud that the membership is growing and members are volunteering at many events.

The support received from our pastor, Fr. Peter and Spiritual Advisor, Fr. Kevin continues to motivate your executive. But the league is not the executive, it is YOU. In a recent homily on the Parable of the Talents, (Matt: 25:14-31) Fr. Kevin challenged us to share our God-given unique talents. Will you respond to the call?

Join us at our next meeting or event and bring a friend for sisterhood, spiritual fulfillment, education, fun and laughter.

May our Lady of Good Council, bless you during this Advent season and bring peace to you and your family during this holy time. **Nancy Fellows**



CWL Meeting Themes & Events for 2017-18

December 14 th	Mass & Christmas Dinner *
January 11 th (meeting)	Lenten Retreat with Fr. Kevin * (In church)
February 8 th (meeting)	Heart & Stroke- Heart Health *
March 8 th (meeting)	Prodigal Daughter Play & Reflection (\$5 pp)*
April 12 th	Spring Rummage & Plant Sale
April 26 th (meeting)	Our Lady of Good Counsel Mass & Crowning of Mary
May 10 th (meeting)	Birthright Baby Shower
June 14 th	Pot Luck
Sept 14 th	Welcome Wine & Cheese*

** Denoted a scheduled CWL Meeting. All events held in Church Hall except for Lenten Retreat which will be in the church*

All proceeds from CWL events/fundraisers are donated to local, provincial, national and international Catholic charities.

Need a ride to CWL meetings or a call from a CWL member? Call Margaret Doma at 905-336-7152



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