

St. Benedict's C.W.L. Council Newsletter Fall 2011

Everything starts from prayer. - Mother Teresa

Resolution Invocation

**Let this truly be
The celebration of
A New Year.....
Let us remember
The past, yet
Not dwell in it.
Let us fully use
The present, yet
Not waste it.
Let us live for
The future, yet
Not count on it.
Let this truly be
The celebration of
A New Year.
As we remember
And appreciate
And live rejoicing
With each other**

Mattie J .T. Stepanek -1990-2004

Convenor's Corner:

Dear Friends- Do you feel an excitement when Sept. comes? Does it feel like a new beginning to you? As I thought about this, our first newsletter, I thought about the past few years – about all of our new beginnings. This little poem, I think, expresses it all -a separate past with special memories, a coming together in trust and hope and now the joy and happiness of our new community.

Mattie Stepanek was 12 years old when he wrote this poem. He started writing poetry at the age of three. He was widely known on American TV as the “Messenger”

We, the CWL were “messengers“of hope and trust during the amalgamation process. God has now blessed us with this beautiful new church community. Let this news letter become a “messenger of appreciation and joy” as we live, serve and thank God together.

President's Message

It is with great excitement that I welcome our current and new members to join us as we return to our council's activities after the summer break. This has been a very busy year for our council's executive who work very hard to bring information and initiatives to our members. I want to thank their hard work on behalf of our council and our parish.

I just returned from Toronto, when I attended the 91st Annual National Convention and enjoyed meeting many sisters in the League from all over Canada. The highlight of the Convention for me was the message from keynote speakers Dr. Nancy Reeves and Linnea Good's reflection and music on how to treat burn out, depression, compassion fatigue (giving too much) with strategies on how to allow God to nurture ourselves for the long haul. They suggest we starve from expensive emotions (i.e., anger, guilt, and sadness) and feast on the qualities that help discernment (i.e., receptivity, patience, and trust with Love). Carry on our own is mission impossible! We should listen/read the Word of God and receive the Eucharist to heal our sorrow and share our experiences among ourselves in active participation and gratitude. God strengthens our weaknesses and is with us 24/7.

I also had a lot of fun attending the International dinner and entertainment at the first day of the convention. Four new resolutions were approved: Prohibition of Practices re Human Reproductive Material, Children of Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women, National Organ and Tissue Donation and Transplantation Registry, Caffeine in Energy Drinks; one defeated resolution on Tax Credit for Adult Fitness. The next issue of the League magazine will provide lots of information on the resolutions and business conducted during the convention.

I was also glad to attend the Provincial Convention in Antigonish in June, and the Diocesan Convention in April at the Blessed Mother Theresa of Calcutta Parish.

I hope to see many of you in our Day of Reflection, being planned by Linda Corsetti on September 17th. Come and take time for yourself; there will be time to pray, learn, reflect, and share together in our strengths and weaknesses. Fr. James will be blessing our new icon, large beautiful image of Our Lady of Good Counsel purchased with donations from family of some of our deceased members.

Some of our council's activities planned for the fall/winter include the Annual Christmas Bazaar and Luncheon (November 5th), Wedding Milestones Anniversary celebration (December 3rd), and we will be hosting the second Parish Women's Breakfast (December 10th) with great speakers sharing their experiences of living within our League's theme of "Centred on Faith and Justice".

I am enjoying my four grandchildren (2 visiting from England) and will be busy downsizing in the next few weeks. May we be faithful to our League Prayer, always aware of the needs of others and seek justice for all, with love.

CWL Executive:

Many thanks to the outgoing executive. These ladies served an extra time in order to help Father Bernie during the transition time while the new church was being built. Thank you for your generosity of time and talents.

The following Executive was installed on Jan 30, 2011.

Spiritual Advisor: Father James Mallon	Corresponding Secretary: Mary Cookson
President; Christina Corkett	Treasurer: Roseann Rice
President Elect/ Organization; Dawn Purcell	Communications: Anne MacMillan
First Vice president /Spiritual: Linda Corsetti	Community Life: Stella Fogarty
Past President: Christine Baker	Christian Family Life: Theresa Goodhue
Recording Secretary: Connie LaiFatt	Education/Health: Pat Levangie -
Legislation: Joan Brooks	Sept: Donna Leggier
Resolutions: Frankie Dower	Parish Activities: Sandra
Kline	

Congratulations and God's Blessings on the New Council

Membership:

We currently have 176 members – seven of these members are inactive.

A special welcome to the following new members : Ann C, Betty K, Joan M(returning) Yvonne S (transfer) Jeanette S, Bernice E, Nancy P, Lonnie M (transfer) Helen L, Eleanor D, Pat M, Yvonne S , Joan R (return).

May your membership bring you many blessings – prayer, service, friendship and peace?

Membership fees will go up in 2012 (from \$15-\$20.) This is due to National increasing their portion of the fee from \$8- \$13. The breakdown of the fee is \$13 National, \$3.00 Provincial, and \$3.00 Diocesan – leaving \$1.00 to our Council. Fees are due in Dec.

During the year we have lost, through death, the following members: Sadie Power, Irene Landry, Anna Phalen, Mary Norris, Bonnie St. Peters, Arlene Burns, and Julia Henman.

The Executive expresses deepest sympathy to the former Councils of these dedicated ladies.

They were wonderful members, friends and mentors. They are deeply missed.

Thinking Cap:

Frankie Dower (our Resolution's convenor) thinks that as we are hosting the Diocesan 90th Convention next May it would be wonderful if we submitted a resolution to the meeting. She is asking us to submit ideas .We will be hearing more about this in the fall.

Fund Raisers and Fun Times:

Day of Reflection:

All members are invited to attend a day of prayer, reflection and spirituality on Sept 17 (9:30 to 3:30 pm) Speakers will be Father Mallon and Danielle McNeil- Hessian, Past CWL National President. Please contact Linda Corsetti at 443-8345 if you plan to attend. There is no cost.

Valentine Tea: Everyone loves our Valentine's Tea. This Tea was suggested by Stella Fogarty as a pleasant break for the winter doldrums. This was the tenth year of tea in china cups, beautiful table cloths, silver services and 200 very happy guests. Twelve hundred and ninety – eight dollars was raised. Thanks Stella for 10 years of fun. Be sure to come next year.

First Women's Day of Prayer:

Father Mallon asked the CWL to host this wonderful morning. Over 200 women came to this very special morning of prayer, song, and delicious breakfast.

And friendship. Our newest member of staff, Tanya Rogerson, was the excellent speaker. We are all looking forward to the next one in Dec. 10.

Thanks Theresa for a job well done,

Christmas Bazaar:

Well this is the biggest and best of the year! Many members and parishioners work the whole year to enable us to have this bazaar... Crafts, jewellery, lotteries, lunch, bakery, fudge and books are many of the items offered. Last year \$12,500 was raised. Nov.5 is this year's date. If you wish to be a part of these activities call the convenor Christine Baker.

Dates to remember:

Sept' 14 General meeting
Sept 17 Day of Reflection
Oct 05 General meeting
Nov 02 General Meeting
Nov.05: Annual Christmas Bazaar and Luncheon
Dec 03 Wedding Milestones Anniversary
Dec 07 General Meeting- Christmas Social
Dec 10 Women's Day of Prayer
Dec. 17 Baskets for the sick

PRAY

WORK

PEACE

Benedictine Mottoes