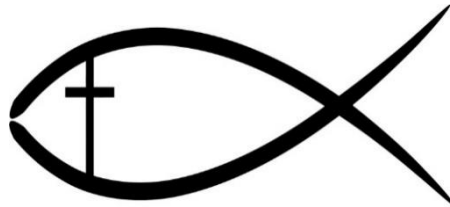




The Catholic Women's League of Canada
BC & Yukon Provincial Council

*The Communicator Special Edition
Provincial Happenings to Celebrate Centennial Year*



Witnessing to the Truth

National Theme



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

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Greeting from Gisela Montague

BC & Yukon Provincial Council, President

I wonder if Bellelle Guerin is in awe right now as the Catholic Women's League of Canada has celebrated its 100 years of organization. Bellelle was National President from 1920-1923? I am looking back at the League Magazine of Spring 2020 that contained the history of the League from its inception right up to this important day of joy and celebration. I have included the link below so that you too may be in awe of what has happened from its staunch and determined beginning to the present day.

<https://cwl.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/2020.v96.n2-The-Canadian-League-online.pdf>

Looking back myself from the day I joined the Military Council in Lahr, Germany 36 years ago, I reflect on so many wonderful friendships with my League sisters throughout Canada.

Never in my wildest dreams did I believe that God had plans for me to be a Life Member and President of the BC & Yukon Provincial Council; and for 3 years not the two customary terms to be on a council. But there again Bellelle Guerin's term was 3 years so she must have had something to do with it.

No matter where I have served on a council, the dedication of support and love from the spiritual advisors, executive and standing committee chairpersons as well as the members has been exceptional. I have albums of photographs of happy memories to look back on.

In all these years God has shown me His love through my League sisters, and my spiritual life has grown tremendously. In our moves to various places, I made friends through the League. God knows our needs and He surely has provided me with abundant blessings.

With many thanks to the executive members, I will pass on the gavel to Sharon Geiger as she will guide our Provincial Council ship for the next term as president. I appreciate the time I was part of the national board where I realized the big picture of the League and the great influence, we as members have on our families and society. In presentations to the provincial government, I learned of the great respect our elected officials have for the members of the Catholic Women's League of Canada. So, we truly must carry on holding them accountable to carry out their duty for the common good of all.

I must congratulate the Centennial Committee on their planning and replanning for the celebrations in these unprecedented times of the Covid pandemic. My hope is that we will be able to meet again in person at the national convention in Kelowna in 2022, and I am looking forward to greeting you then, exchanging our ideas, and just enjoying each others company again.

My appreciation goes out to Sylvia Jurys, provincial communications chair, for creating this Centennial Edition of the Communicator.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel guide us as we are moving forward with the implementation of the Strategic Plan for our beloved League.

Gisela Montague

Greetings From Fr. David,

*Spiritual Reflection on the Centenary of the CWL of Canada
Provincial Spiritual Advisor to the CWL of B.C. and Yukon*

As the CWL of Canada celebrates its centenary, we rejoice at all the good work that the league has done over the last century. As a priest who has a CWL in my parish which has also been in existence for a hundred years, I can very much see the practical results of such dedication.

Yet while we all want to celebrate, this is such a difficult time to rejoice.

Firstly, with Covid, there is a sense that we should be careful; we should almost keep our heads down and wait for it to be over. But I feel it has a long way to run yet, and there will be a few more twists and turns to come. One of the hardest things is talking to those for whom Covid has brought sickness or death within the family. Or with those who have been separated from a parent who might already have been confused by life but is now totally lost in dementia. Or even with those who have really struggled with loneliness over these last months. Covid has brought a lot of suffering.

Yet, while recognizing all this pain, I also feel that we should not deny that in some ways Covid has opened up a time of opportunity. I hardly dare say it as I don't want to appear insensitive to those who have been hit so hard by Covid, but I do see signs that will help us move forward from here.

I had always hoped that one day we would be able to broadcast our Masses, but I never dreamed it would come so quickly and be so universally accepted. And this brings benefits in ways I never thought about before. I was with a couple the other night who were talking about why they didn't go to church and the big step it takes to actually walk through those doors. I suggested that they watch our Mass on the internet for a couple of weeks first, so they got used to the service, then come and join us, and this seemed like a smaller step they were more comfortable with. I wonder how many are out there who might like to step inside our Church but they are afraid; that first step seems just a little bit too big. With 'Zoom Masses' that step just got a bit smaller.

We are blessed in our churches that we have multiple cameras, some giving long shots but some giving clear shots of the faces of myself, the readers and the soloists. Thus, many people have said that previously they would come to Mass and shut their eyes, or they would sit so far back that they could see nothing; yet now they want to see what is happening, they want to see the faces and expressions. I believe that this will lead to much greater participation. Our Masses just got a little bit more intimate.

So while we don't want to 'celebrate' Covid, we can do are best to be with those who have suffered over the last year-and-a-half, and at the same time be determined that the way to honour this suffering is to do our best to build anew with the whole array of opportunities that are now presented to us.

I also wonder whether another reason it might be hard to celebrate just now is the revelations that have come out of the Residential School in Kamloops, and just as we go to press, also from Saskatchewan. There is nothing that can mitigate the pain that so many experienced because of these schools. How in the world does one respond to news like that, particularly when one does not really know what it means?

Having been given up for adoption at six weeks old, all my life I wanted my birth mother to know that I was okay. I instinctively knew that she would wonder how her child was, what had become of him, was he happy? I so much wanted to say to her, "I'm okay, all is well." And I was right, when we eventually met up she told me that not a day went by when she didn't think about me. Any mother separated from their child must wonder what happened to her child. In my mother's case she knew that I went to a very good home where I would be well looked after as part of a loving family. But what did the parents of those First Nations' kids think? Their kids went off to a school far away and were never heard of again. There must have been a hope that they were okay and that one day they might arrive on the doorstep smiling and with a long story to tell. But no; they died and were buried and no one was told.

I am so disheartened that the two big 'institutions' I love – the Church I have given my life to serving and the great nation of Canada that I have taken as my home and identity – should do this. I love the Church, I love Canada and even after these revelations I still love them both.

But again, the way we can honour those who suffered because of so many wrong decisions of the past is to try to build a better future, a future where these things won't happen again, and not just because there are rules in place that will prevent them, but more importantly, because we understand our role as the Church and our value system as a society, so these things become unthinkable.

For me this is a real challenge because at the moment in our society there is a very strong current that is moving us away from loving and caring. We have the dreadful legacy of the Residential Schools where the lives of young people weren't valued as it should have been, their humanity wasn't honoured. Honestly in the light of this is it thinkable that we should now build more abortion clinics where the lives of young are disposed of because they are categorized as 'unwanted'? Or we should build euthanasia clinics where those who have stopped being useful to their families and to the society can be encouraged to go so that they are not a burden? Who will find those aborted babies in unmarked graves in a hundred-years' time? Who will understand how we could treat one part of our population – our old, sick or disabled – in this less than human way? We can't let our society walk down that same road again.

If ever there is a time for us to double and redouble our commitment to the CWL it is now. We have a great one-hundred years behind us, we have the technical opportunities given to us by Covid, and we have the real living pain of the Residential Schools to enkindle a fire in our belly that says we must do better.

Thank you, Lord, for all those ladies who have done so much. Help us all to be the builders of the second one-hundred years that has to be better and stronger because Canada – and indeed the Catholic Church in Canada – needs us more than it ever has before.
Our Lady of Good Counsel, pray for us.

With prayers,
Fr. David

First Provincial President

Mrs. D. E. H. Cleveland

Mrs. Cleveland's birthplace was St. John's Newfoundland, but her family moved to Montreal when she was 9 months old. She grew to young womanhood in Montreal being educated at St. Ann's and L'Academia St. Antoine.

She married Dr. Cleveland on April 30, 1917, in Lady Chapel, St. Patrick's Church, Montreal, with Monsignor Gerald McShane officiating. She has one son. E. M. Donald Cleveland, and one daughter, Mrs. Ivor L. V. McConnell.

Prior to her election as Provincial President in 1948, Mrs. Cleveland was a Treasurer and a President of the Vancouver Senior Subdivision and a Vancouver Diocesan President. She served as Provincial President until 1951.

Catholic Guiding in British Columbia owes its beginnings to Mrs. Cleveland, who was asked by the Provincial Guide Commissioner to launch Guiding for Catholic girls. The first Catholic Guide Company was launched under her patronage in the fall of 1932. She served as the first C.W.L. Guide Convener and also the first Provincial Guide Convener. She was honoured in 1951 at the annual meeting of Canadian Girl Guide Association by being made a member of its National Council for a three-year term, and again in 1953 when she was presented with a "Thank You" badge by the Provincial Commissioner in recognition of twenty years outstanding work in Guiding.

Submitted

Courtesy of the Archdiocese of Vancouver Archives

Kamloops Diocese – National 100 years old.

It's not terribly hard to imagine the zeal and willingness to work for God and Canada that must have been apparent with our founding CWL members 100 years ago as I look around me at the members of the Kamloops Diocese. Our methods may be different, but the hearts are the same. Looking to Jesus as our guide, we try to shape our lives and those around us by following God's plan. As Tony Evans once said... *God will meet you where you are, in order to take you where He wants you to go.*

The Kamloops Diocesan Council was organized in 1947, the same year as the BC/Yukon Provincial Council. At the time there were eight parish councils with Sacred Heart Kamloops, forming in 1921, making it now also 100 years old, and over the years we have grown to 17 parish councils. In our history, we include two First Nations Councils....in Kamloops 1961 – the St. Joseph Mission and in Canim Lake 1978 Tescuncum Council.

Last year saw Kamloops Diocesan CWL members focus on touching base with their members. Many councils sent cards and letters and made personal phone calls to reach out to members to keep them up to date and see how they were doing. In this era of computers, many picked up technical skills learning email etiquette and how to connect with each other virtually using "Zoom", webinars and finding their way through such internet platforms as U-tube and Facebook. These skills would be completely foreign to our founding sisters.

Our main social justice focus was on Bill C7 – to amend the criminal code for medical assistance in dying. Our resolution chairperson headed a letter writing campaign using a video explaining the harmful effects this would have on vulnerable people. I believe our sisters of 100 years ago would never believe the issues we fight for today.

It is amazing to watch our members today, standing on the shoulders of the women who went before us... who opened a pathway for Catholic women to be heard and to take part in molding and shaping our world of today....and the members of Kamloops Diocese do it with love and tireless efforts!

Diane Nadeau

Kamloops Diocesan President

Meet the Kamloops Diocesan Executive



*Back row l – r: Gail Kopp, Domenica Spina, Jeannette Melnychuk, Anna Gilbert, Terry Mae Sinclair
Front row l – r: Lynne Langley, Diane Nadeau, Dorothy Hruby, Carol Ann Taphorn, Kathy Dahl,
Minnie Mathieu*

Diocesan Executive by Position

Diane Nadeau	President
Father Paul Simms	Spiritual Advisor
Lynne Langley	President-Elect/Organization
Gail Kopp	Secretary
Anna Gilbert	Treasurer
Kathy Dahl	1 st Vice/Education & Health
Terry Mae Sinclair	2 nd Vice/Communications
Dorothy Hruby	Past President
Jeannette Melnychuk	Spiritual Development
Sonya Barrett	Christian Family Life
Carol Ann Taphorn	Community Life
Minnie Mathieu	Legislation
Domenica Spina	Resolutions
Nancy Simms	Life Member Liaison

Submitted by,

Diane Nadeau
Diocesan President

Kamloops Diocesan Presidents 1947 – 2021

1947- 1948	Winnifred Fulton
1948 - 1949	Emma Conroy
1949- 1953	Louise Wright
1953- 1954	Anna van Humbeck
1954- 1956	Alice Miller
1956- 1958	Yvonne Carlin
1958- 1961	Doreen Carrol
1961- 1963	Frances Sudol
1963- 1965	Mildred Clease
1965- 1967	Eileen Dedora
1967- 1969	Mary Caruk
1969 -1971	Rose Marra
1971 -1973	Sharon Shaw
1973 -1975	Helen Tarling
1975 -1977	Mabel Allen
1977 -1979	Ann Devlin
1979 -1981	Grace O’Keefe
1981 -1983	Brigette Stenberg
1985 -1987	Mary Girvin
1987 -1989	Sophie Mulholland
1989 -1990	Dulcie Ehman
1990 -1993	Lucie Schaff
1993 -1995	Pat Dorigo
1995 -1997	Francoise Roy
1997 -1999	Mariette Brenholen
1999 -2001	Marilyn Van Dongen
2001 -2003	Nancy Simms
2003 -2005	Doreen Gowans

Kamloops Diocesan Presidents 1947 – 2021

2005 -2007	Anna May McCarvill
2007 -2009	Lorrilee Jordan
2009 -2011	Sharon Geiger
2011 -2013	Lucille Wallace
2013- 2015	Catherine L'Heureux
2015-2017	Sheila Doherty
2017- 2019	Dorothy Hruby
2019 -	Diane Nadeau

Spiritual Advisors † 1947 - 2021

Father Michael Phelan

Father Quigley

Father Michael Byrne

Msgr. John McIntyre

Father Vincent Roche

Msgr. Jerry Desmond

Father Barry Desmond

Father Donald Potts

Father Peter Nguyen

Father Tony Ackerman

Father Dale Normandeau

Father Andrew L'Heureux

Father Paul Simms

Kamloops Diocesan Council Charter Dates and Current Presidents

Parish	City	Charter Date	2020 President
St. Jude	100 Mile House	March 15, 1960	Janice Silvera
St. Joseph	Armstrong	December 28, 1940	Monique Grossman
Our Lady of the Lake	Blind Bay	March 2005	Dorothy Hruby
Blessed Sacrament	Chase	1930-Disbanded 1931 Reorganized 1947 Disbanded 1995 Re-Chartered October 2003	Viola Levesque
Our Lady of the Valley	Coldstream	December 3, 2009	Mary Malerby
St. Joseph	Enderby	September 5, 1946	Mary Bassett
Holy Family	Kamloops	April 18, 1983	Sheila Doherty Anne Fox
Our Lady of Perpetual Help	Kamloops	May 30, 1950	Judy Robinson
Sacred Heart Cathedral	Kamloops	May 1921	Domenica Spina
St. John Vianney	Kamloops	April 10, 1979	Lesley Boettger
St. George	Lower North Thompson	Little Fort organized in 1955 Then merged with Lower North Thompson in 1961	Linda Casey
Sacred Heart	Lumby	June 20, 1939 (was part of Nelson Diocese until 1981)	Kathleen Elliman Barb Michaud
Sacred Heart	Merritt	January 17, 1958	Joan Bisson
St. Ann's	Quesnel	May 6, 1948	Pat Tresierra
St. Joseph	Salmon Arm	June 9, 1946	Vacant (Terry Mae Sinclair- Contact)
St. James	Vernon	September 22, 1930	Vacant (Nella Banducci – Contact)
Sacred Heart	Williams Lake	November 20, 1931 Disbanded 1938 Reactivated 1948	Christine Mason

Kamloops Diocesan Council

1947

Diane Nadeau

Our dear CWL Members Deceased during 2020 in the Diocese of Kamloops

Anita Bernardin	Peggy Brewer	Irene Clark
Joan Clydesdale	Denise Desy	Marilyn Devaleriola
Elsa Drummond	Joycelyn Farmer	Mary Fial
Maureen Gaines (2019)	Romaine Green	Nancy Holman
Julia Aleksandra Jarosinski	Elizabeth Jefferson	Mary Kogler (2019)
Cristina Kromhout	Juliette Loranger	Kay Marshall
Dianne McMillan	Celeste Mendes	Bernadette Paulin
Cecilia Roy	Helen Saemerow	Mary Sicoli
Brigitte Slomski (2019)	Helen Stoneman	Gerda vanderZweep

May they rest in the Loving Arms of Our Lady of Good Counsel

Spiritual Advisor at Sacred Heart, Lumby Went Above and Beyond During the Pandemic



It was September 2018 that Father Swann came to us after a sad goodbye to Father Vincent Asomugha. He impressed us immediately by phoning every parishioner and introducing himself and asking us a little about ourselves.

By October that year he was helping us make apple pies for one of our annual fund-raising events. His friendly demeanor and commitment to us as a CWL and parish was evident from the start even if we did think he looked too young for the job!

He continues to be present at all our meetings, either in person or via Zoom, and encourages us in all our endeavours but most of all to lead lives in holiness and prayer by living the liturgy and studying the Bible.

One day I found him at the top of a very high ladder in our church hall installing some stage lights for our Christmas Ecumenical Carol Service, and when a very large tree fell on the rectory, he still came up smiling!

When his father sadly passed away this year, he flew home to Korea and arrived five hours before the funeral and was able to officiate himself. Whilst there, despite personal grief and fatigue, he said a mass for our CWL in honour of Our Lady of Good Counsel on April 26th which was live streamed across Canada. After two weeks of quarantine, we were happy to have him back with us.

Apart from daily rosary and Mass, he offers us prayers five times daily on YouTube and never ceases to amaze us with his tech-savvy mind setting up a parish website that can be viewed at any time.

Thank you, Father Swann Kim.

Kathleen Elliman
Past President,
Sacred Heart Council, Lumby

Holy Family Council Charter and First Executive



Dated April 18, 1983

Holy Family First Executive

Mary Anne Piller President

Louise Tetreau

Carol E. Bianchin

Gladys Gogne

Linda Bourrie

Josiane Cordonier

Barbara McDonald

Sister Joyce Kennedy

Shirley Proskurniak

Mrs. A. Woterous

Berta Kreger

Mrs. E. Marlene Rombough

Marie Rosa Piscia

Sheila MacDonald

Dorothy Poissant

Dorothy Fosty

Mrs. Leo Loranger

Paula Karpluk (Swint)

Eliza Karpluk

Submitted by,

Sheila Doherty
Council Co-President

**Advocates of Alzheimer Disease are devoting their fundraising, awareness
and education efforts at
St. Vianney Council in Kamloops**

Meet one of our CWL Life Members at St John Vianney in Kamloops!



Marilyn van Dongen, celebrated her 70th birthday after mass in June. It was a festive day, singing Happy Birthday and sharing a lovely cake. Pictured with Marilyn are Parishioners, Roger and Therese Gobel.

Marilyn was a charter member of our CWL 42 years ago and was active right up to her diagnosis with Alzheimer disease about 10 years ago.

Marilyn and her husband, Casey, are now putting their efforts into fundraising for Alzheimer's and sharing information about the disease.

Maureen Carr

St. John Vianney Council Kamloops
Chairperson of Communications

Work Bee at St. Joseph's Salmon Arm was Fun and Fruitful!

St. Joseph's Salmon Arm was preparing for the Kamloops Diocesan Convention in 2020 and we a work bee to make paper bags. It was a fun day and a learning experience for the ladies who attended this work bee.

The bags did get finished but unfortunately the convention had to be cancelled due to Covid-19. We hoped that we could have had the convention in 2021 but that didn't happen either.



Submitted by Sharon Geiger

The Catholic Girls League Much-appreciated Activity in Vernon

In 2009 The Catholic Girls League was started in Vernon, BC by Catherine L'Heureux and 13 years later it is still going strong. It is open to Catholic and Non-Catholic girls between the ages of 10 and 15. The "CGL" motto is Faith, Friendship, Fun and Formation.

Girls from both St. James and Our Lady of the Valley attend and meet once a month in the library at St. James School after school. Friendships have been forged through fun activities that embrace and deepen the faith of our young members.

Some of the highlights of the past few years include, helping CWL members to pack shoe boxes for the homeless, serving tea at the CWL Christmas bazaar, attending year-end social with the CWL members, field trip to the Carmelite Monastery, and organizing bake sales with profits going to the street people and the Carmelites.

This past year due to Covid restrictions we only met up until Christmas, during which time we focused on a monthly virtue.



Anne Kelly and her team having fun at their Christmas event.



There is no stifling of creativity with this group of talented Girl Guides!

We look forward to being able to meet altogether again when the new school year begins in September 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Kelly
St. James Council
Vernon

A Centennial Year Birthday to Celebrate

Ida Toms turned 100 years old on March 1, 2021.



Ida was born in Pine River Manitoba, a small community north of Dauphin Manitoba. She is a proud member of St. Joseph's in Salmon Arm, with 56 years of membership in the League.

Although she hasn't been active for a few years now, she was always ready to serve, not only for the League but to many other groups she was involved in. When asked for baked goodies for a funeral, she always made a fudge cake, and she lovingly called it her *Funeral Fudge Cake*.

She often asks for flowers for her mother from all the ladies, and when she received them, they were always for Mary.

In March 2020, members from our CWL joined Father Dale Normandeau for a private Mass at Shuswap Lodge for our sister Ida's 99th Birthday. After Mass we enjoyed a beautiful celebration with a cake and juice.

Little did we know that the pandemic would stop us from gathering once again to celebrate this year - her 100th birthday!

We are ever so grateful for her love of the League, her quick wit, gentle ways and a smile that always fills up our love bank.

Happy Birthday Ida from your League sisters!

Linda Faust

Past President
St. Joseph's Council
Salmon Arm BC

Clare Ternier - 100 Years Young!

St. John Vianney Parish in Kamloops



Clare was born in Calgary Alberta on August 4, 1920 and moved with her family to Cochin Saskatchewan when she was 1 year old.

Clare married Albert Ternier on Sept. 25, 1941, in North Battleford Saskatchewan, and travelled with him to Brandon Manitoba, Mossbank Saskatchewan and Lethbridge Alberta, while he was serving in the Royal Canadian Air Force during WWII.

They settled in North Battleford after the war and raised 5 children, Welsh Ponies and Arab Horses. They moved to Salmon Arm BC in 1966 and lived there for 1 year before moving to Enderby. They retired to Kamloops in 1981. In 1997 Albert went home to God.

Clare and Albert built their home a few doors down from St. John Vianney Church in Westsyde and their fabulous garden provided beautiful flowers for the church for many, many years. Over the years Clare has taken her turn at caring for the Altar linens. She has been a dedicated member of The Catholic Women's League for the past 67 years. Clare still attends daily mass and is always at Sunday mass and greets everyone with her beautiful smile.

Reflections on the CWL Centennial Year

Debbie Cloutier

2020 President, Nelson Diocese

It has been an honour to serve as president of the Nelson diocese during its 83rd and 84th years, and this within an organization that celebrates its 100th anniversary!

Beside me was an amazing team of women: Sylvia Jurys, Marion Nygren, Diane Cey, Victoria Oppertshauser, Yvette Despres, Janet O'Flynn, Phyllis Miller, Elaine Smuland, Elizabeth Cytra, Fran Sutherland and Caroline Ann-Alter. We were additionally blessed with 2 spiritual advisors – Father Rafael Benosa and Fr. Neil Lustado to advise and guide us.

Looking back over my 11 years in the CWL, I realize that I was greatly blessed in having wise and loving mentors to guide me right from the beginning and up to my current position as past president of the Nelson diocese. May all new members be so blessed as well as humble to listen to their wisdom.

My journey with the League has deeply enriched my faith life, introduced me to “everyday” women who have done amazing things and made me realize that God has a special job just for me as well. To not have had the CWL in my life would have been an immense loss. My hope and prayer is that Catholic women who have not yet come to know the immense treasure in the sisterhood of the League will join us all as we journey forward in the next 100 years.

Our Lady of Good Counsel pray for us

NELSON DIOCESAN COUNCIL PRESIDENTS 1936 - 2021

1936-38	Mrs. P. Rahal	Nelson
1938-41	Mrs. F. Hereron	Kelowna
1941-42	Mrs. Mara	Rossland
1942-44	Mrs. W. Turner	Fernie
1944-46	Mrs. Padgett	Oliver
1946-47	Mrs. L.H. Choquette	Nelson
1947-49	Mrs. A. Dorsey	Oliver
1949-53	Mrs. B. Lockhart	Kimberley
1953-56	Mrs. H. Nucich	Revelstoke
1956	Mrs. McAvory	Rossland
	(Resigned -moved)	
1956-57	Mrs. M.J. Boyes	Nelson
	(appointed)	
1957-59	Mrs. M.J. Boyes	Nelson
1959-61	Mrs. J.V. Carberry	Penticton
1961-63	Mrs. M. Bettin	Creston
1963-65	Mrs. R. Jones	Rossland
1965-67	Mrs. J.V. MacDonald	Trail
1967-68	Mrs. J.W. Bedford	Kelowna
1968-70	Mrs. Phyllis Scaia	Warfield
1970-72	Mrs. Julie Wambeke	Kelowna
1972-73	Mrs. Agnes Barefoot	Nelson
1973-75	Mrs. Fiona Marasco	Cranbrook
1975-77	Mrs. Irma Tognotti	Trail
1977-79	Mrs. Pollyanna Kilgour	Oliver
1979-81	Mrs. Gerry Oliver	Sparwood
1981-83	Mrs. Agnes Barefoot	Nelson
1983-86	Mrs. Mary McLeod	Summerland
1986-88	Mrs. Beverly Watson	Cranbrook
1988-90	Mrs. Jackie Lenarduzzi	Warfield
1990-92	Mrs. June Merrick	Penticton
1992-94	Mrs. Jean Falck	Kelowna
1994-96	Mrs. Marion Nygren	Creston
1996-98	Mrs. Nancy Wigglesworth	Penticton
1998-2000	Mrs. Carol Penno	Golden
2000-02	Mrs. Elaine Audet	Castlegar
2002-04	Mrs. Sandra Stajduhar	Warfield
2004-06	Joyce Slattery	Creston
2006-08	Caroline Ann-Alter	Kelowna
2008-10	Alice Hallgren	Kimberley
2010-12	Rose Sehn	Kelowna
2012-14	Beth Bosch (became unwell)	Kelowna
	• Duties performed by	
	Alice Hallgren	Kimberley
2014-16	Janet O'Flynn	Kelowna
2016-18	Sylvia Jurys	West Kelowna
2018-21	Deborah Cloutier	Kelowna

Nelson Diocesan Council Council Charter Dates and Presidents

City	Council	Charter Date	2020 President
Castlegar	St. Rita's	November 23, 1937	Elaine Audet
Cranbrook	Christ the Servant	March 29, 1984	Helen Hammond
Cranbrook	St. Mary's	May 28, 1928	Linda Lancaster
Creston	Holy Cross	April 23, 1951	Lorraine Tyne
Fernie	Holy Family	November 4, 1920	Regina Vinge
Golden	Sacred Heart	May 22, 1941- April 1975 Reactivated January 1988	Carol Penno
Grand Forks	Sacred Heart	May 17, 1928 Disbanded 2017 but not forgotten	
Kelowna	Corpus Christi	November 6, 2016, (Merged with Holy Spirit and St. Theresa's)	Gloria Chopik
Kelowna	Immaculate Conception	August 7, 1930	Roberta Strangward
Kelowna	St. Charles Garnier	May 19, 1982	Marion Schneider
Kelowna	St. Pius X	March 11, 1962	Marie Ross
Keremeos	Our Lady of Lourdes	April 28, 1985	Cecile Richter
Kimberley	Sacred Heart	June 6, 1937	Wilma Croisdale
Lake Country	St. Edward's	May 7, 1959	Marion Podornick
Nelson	Cathedral of Mary Immaculate	February 15, 1933	Lois Morrison
Oliver	St. Martin (Christ the King 1938-1953)	October 3, 1945	Dorothy Taylor
Osoyoos	St. Anne's	April 26, 1942	Cheryl Harper
Penticton	At. Ann	September 25, 1939-	Donna Trenaman
Rossland	Sacred Heart	March 16, 1933	Alida Nesmith
Sparwood	St. Michael's	May 10, 1938	Robin Huryn
Summerland	Holy Child	April 25, 1945	Gina Hoffarth
Trail	Holy Trinity	May 26, 2012 (Merged with Stg. Anthony and St. Joseph)	Sandra Stajduhar
West Kelowna	Our Lady of Lourdes	April 23, 1951	Catherine Stroman

Nelson Diocesan Council

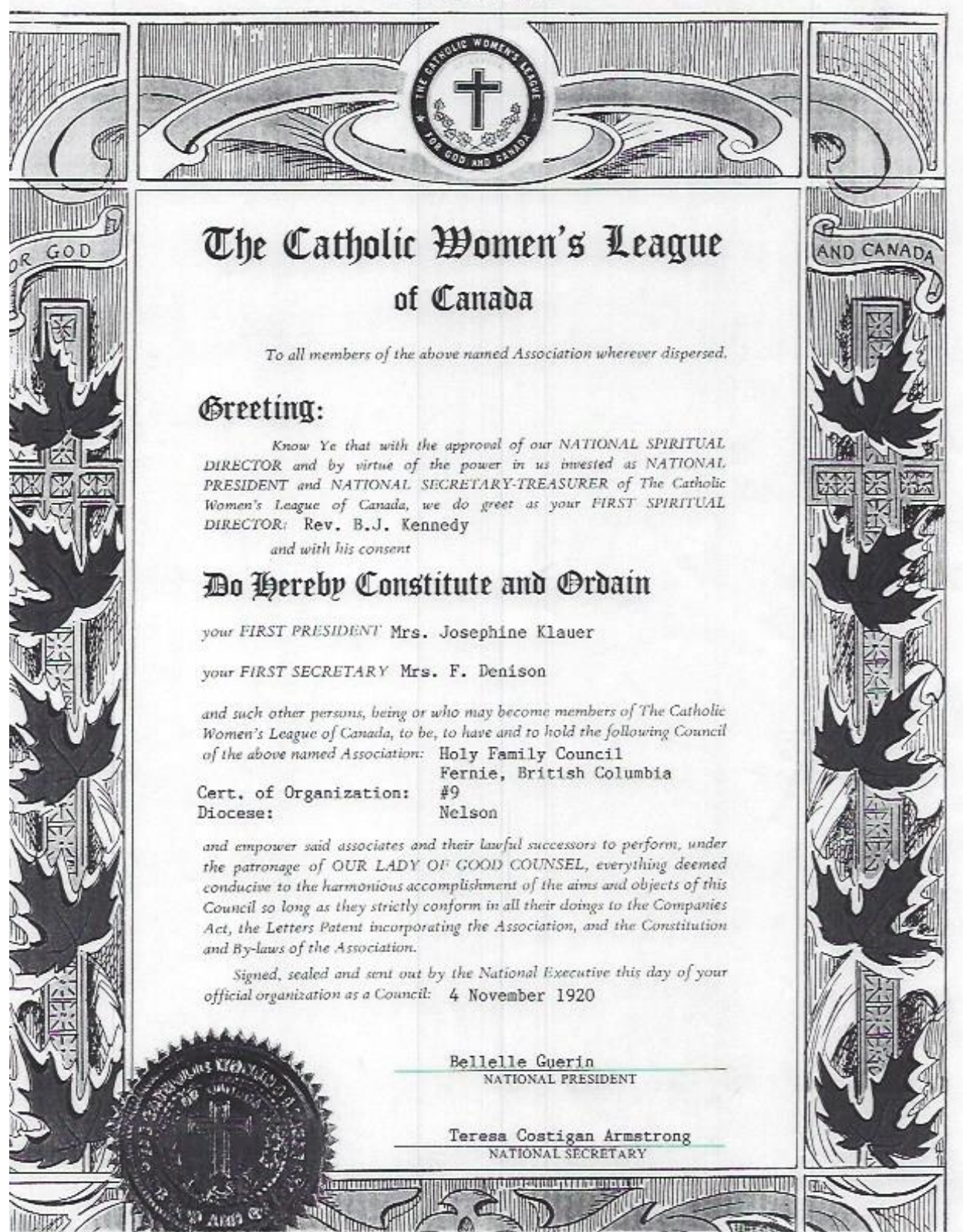
1936

Debbie Cloutier

CWL Members Deceased in 2020 in the Diocese of Nelson

City	Council	In memory of Our Beloved Deceased Members in 2020
Castlegar	St. Rita's	
Cranbrook	Christ the Servant	
Cranbrook	St. Mary's	Maude Hayes O'Sullivan
Creston	Holy Cross	
Fernie	Holy Family	
Golden	Sacred Heart	Phyllis Andersson
Grand Forks	Sacred Heart	
Kelowna	Corpus Christi	Katherine Lorette Mary Dashkewytch Catherine (Tina) DeGroot
Kelowna	Immaculate Conception	Florence Gauthier Barbara Odermatt
Kelowna	St. Charles Garnier	Emily Kopp Fulvia (Flo) Pasutto
Kelowna	St. Pius X	Carmel Kaz Ann Connell Rosemary LaLonde
Keremeos	Our Lady of Lourdes	Florentina Forcier
Kimberley	Sacred Heart	Alice Bell
Lake Country	St. Edward's	Margaret Shumay Monique Skudelny Rose Desjardine
Nelson	Cathedral of Mary Immaculate	Rheas Poulin Sonja Freno
Oliver	St. Martin (Christ the King 1938-1953)	
Osoyoos	St. Anne's	Patricia Yaner Blanche Wingenbach
Penticton	At. Ann	Kathleen Jasper
Rossland	Sacred Heart	Mary Vickers
Sparwood	St. Michael	
Summerland	Holy Child	
Trail	Holy Trinity	Ruth Guercia Angela Pozzobun Leda Creegan Teresa Veltri
West Kelowna	Our Lady of Lourdes	Lorreta Kampa Judith Leaman Carole Sweeney

Holy Family Council in Fernie Celebrates 100 Years!





Founding Charter members

Holy Family Church is a brick building that was constructed by the men of the parish from 1909 – 1911 and is viewed as the primary heritage Catholic Church for the province of British Columbia.

The Holy Family CWL Charter dated November 4, 1920, was signed by Bellelle Guerin, National President and Teresa Costigan Armstrong, National Secretary.

The first members of the Council were as follows:

Mrs. E. Herchmer, President

Mrs. J. Klauer, Secretary

Mrs. J. Aiello

Mrs. J. Bella

Miss Lizzie Banks

Mrs. E. Caulfield

Mrs. J. Caulfield

Mrs. T. Costanzo

Mrs. Cristafio

Mrs. F. Denison

Mrs. Mary Eshwig

Mrs. Mathew Flood

Mrs. Dan Gigliotti

Mrs. W. Morris

Mrs. Roseanne Penny (last surviving member until 1998)

Mrs. Wm. Turner

Mrs. S. Wilson

From the Leagues' inception the CWL and Knights of Columbus members have been the heart of the parish, participating in all the ministries serving their church and community and on the provincial and federal levels served on Resolution Committees which became legislation. The CWL has been recognized as a powerful organization that affects Canadian government.

At the parish level. League members have focussed on the immediate spiritual, social and financial needs of the parish. The pastors have always needed assistance to evangelize, to minister the sacraments and to bring parishioners together to socialize.

In the early years, the church was the social centre of the parishioners' lives, having teas, dances, pageants, suppers, and lunches that were often hoisted by the CWL. These events have helped the financial management of the parish.

During Fr. Harry Clark's tenure as Pastor (1988 - 1992) he said "Holy Family is indebted to the Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Women's League for the financial support given to the Parish"

REPORT FOR YEAR 1920

FERNIE BRANCH CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA

Our society was organized on January 1, 1920, under the name of the Catholic Women's Club. We held this name until our meeting of November 4th, when we affiliated with the Catholic Women's League of Canada and are now a duly registered branch of this organization, we are also the first branch of that order in British Columbia. In a letter under date of December 17th, from Mrs. Armstrong, Dominion Secretary of Catholic Women's League of Canada, we are informed that we have the honor to have our first President, Mrs. Herchmer, appointed a member of the Dominion Executive to represent the Province of British Columbia of that Council.

During the year we have held twelve regular meetings with an average attendance of eighteen members.

Our cash receipts for year have been	\$ 690.75
And our disbursements have been	\$ 617.06
Leaving a balance in Bank for 1921 of	\$ 82.69

We also have on hand \$18.50 cash being part of a check advanced and cashed for purchase of Bazaar materials.

Since our organization we have held one successful dance February 13, 1920, the net proceeds of \$133.60 to be used for the work of our Society. We had charge of a Garden Party for the benefit of the Church in July, the net profits being \$209.70. Gave a picnic for Sunday School children in August, - Catered for the Knights of Columbus Banquet for two hundred plates, in November, - Purchased flowers for the Church at Easter and Christmas, have also kept flowers on altars several months of the year, and our members have taken turns in dusting the Church, and on some occasions in sweeping it. We have purchased linen for an Altar Cloth and one of our members has crocheted about five yards of wide lace for it, made a beautiful and effective Altar Cloth. We paid a nurse for two weeks to care for a very sick woman in the parish, and our visiting committee have made a number of calls at the hospital and homes.

We have decided to hold a Bazaar later on, have done a little work towards it and some of our members have solicited a number of articles for it, but the Bazaar itself and the greater part of the work for it is left over for the year 1921.

(Signed by Secretary and President)

During the early years, Holy family had a parochial school that was operated by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Newark (1929-1956), and monetary support given by the CWL was a needed component to the functioning of the school.

Today on this site, a community garden is being established and 10 plots are rented for \$100 to a heterogenous group of the community and it is likely that thirty more plots will be constructed.

In keeping with the enthusiasm of the origin al council, we are most pleased that the kitchen renovations have been completed with an industrial dishwasher, counters, large table and new flooring. We have raised \$3,300 by the refugee committee to bring a family to Canada.

Our council is actively involved in social justice issues, and we have the presence of the Holy Spirit.

Holy Family CWL Council has provided an avenue for women of the same faith to come together to support each other in expressing “God’s great law of charity” to pray and study His Word and to grow in sanctity. It is in embracing Christ that we attain life everlasting with the Trinity.

A 100th Anniversary Eucharistic Celebration dinner and reception hosted by holy Family and St. Michael’s, Sparwood is being planned with the East Kootenay Councils when we are able after the pandemic has settled.

Submitted by,

Celia Roccamatysi
Past President

**Photographs of our Magnificent Holy Family Church, Fernie BC
Courtesy of Fr. David John, Pastor**



Beautiful Stained-Glass Windows Light up the Property at Night



Bell Tower before renovation



Q

The Bell patiently waiting for a “New Home”



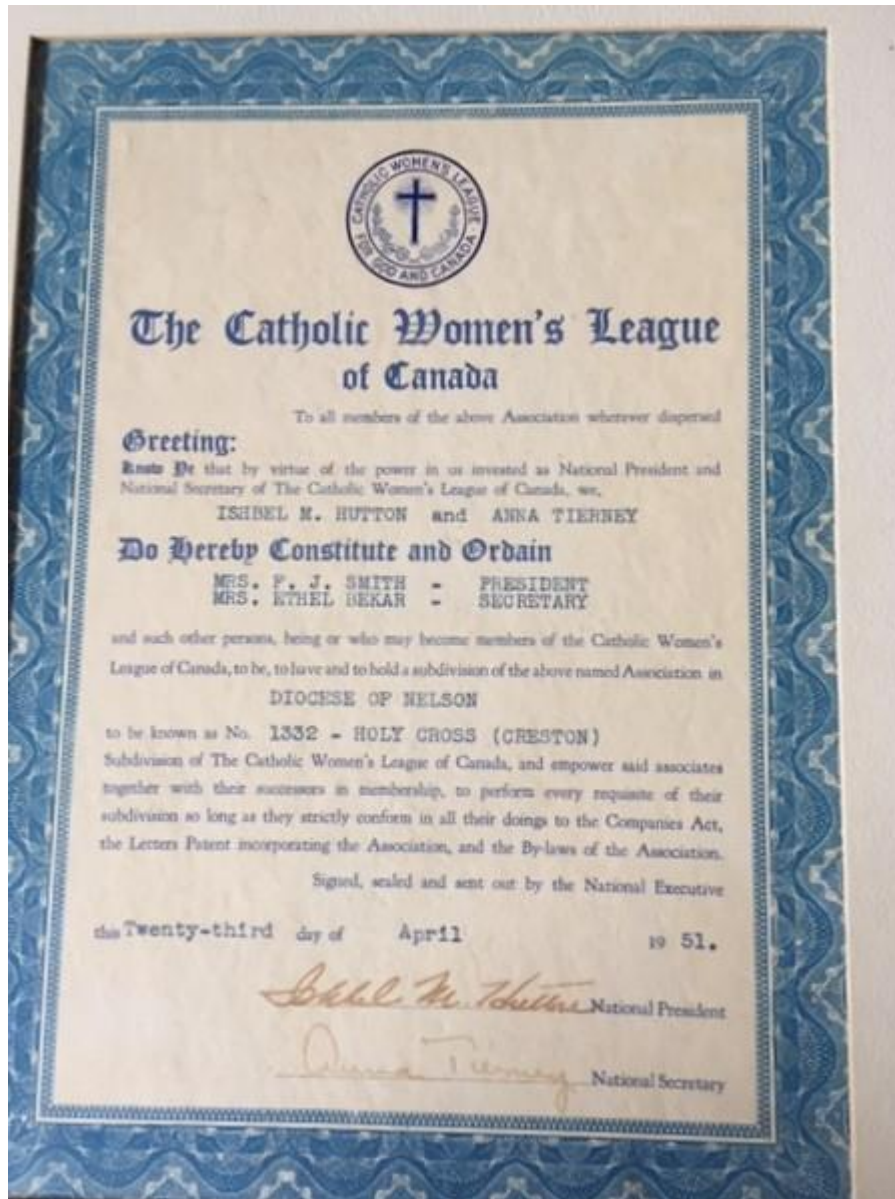
Bell Tower after renovation



And we managed to plant our centennial tree!

100 Years of happenings at Holy Cross Council in Creston

Charter dated April 23, 1951



Charter Members and 1st Director

First Director	Rev. Edward Doyle Holy Cross Council, Creston BC
First President	Mrs. Pauline Smith
First Secretary	Mrs., Ethel Bekar

Certificate Number is 1332

Organized March 11, 1951 by Mrs. Daisy Lockhart, Diocesan President

List of Original Members

2020 Executive

Mrs. Pauline Smith	President	Lorraine Tyne
Mrs. Ethel Bekar	Secretary	Patricia Hayes
Mrs. Julia Bonertz	Treasurer	Leanne Wastrodowski
Mrs. Sophie Baynton		
Mrs. Jennie Bens		
Mrs. Mary Cormier		
Mrs. Alexina Dupuis		
Mrs. Margaret Heembrock		
Miss Bernice Heembrock		
Mrs. Rose Kastelan		
Mrs. Emma Kludash		
Mrs. Lena Kwasnicki		
Mrs. Bonnie Kostiuik		
Mrs. Phyllis Kuntz		
Mrs. Joanne Lolacher		
Mrs. Winnie Marunchak		
Mrs. Rose Marunchak		
Mrs. Sally MacDonald		
Mrs. Marie Nickolchuk		
Mrs. Rita McLaren		
Mrs. Margaret Patrick		
Mrs. Anne Smith		
Mrs. Van Ackeren		
Mrs. Alice Westover		
Mrs. Hedwig Rieberger		
Mrs. Helena Jungwirth		
Mrs. Josephine Gribbin		
Mrs. Christina Jorgenson		
Mrs. Toni Getjos		
Mrs. Noilla Bonin		
Mrs. Bella Krell		
Mrs. Mary Biccum		
Mrs. Mary Lipovski		

Names Supplied by: Mrs. W. J. Dundin, Executive Secretary,
National Office
77 Maclaren St, Ottawa 4, Ontario

Fir Tree Planting



Left to Right: Colleen Hedlund, Marion Nygren, President, Lorraine Tyne

The tree was planted on the property of CWL Member Marion Nygren on June 4, 2021.

Our Lady of Lourdes Keremeos Charter



Photograph of Council members taken after Mass on the Feast Day of Our Patroness, Our Lady of Good Counsel, to commemorate the date of our charter.
(April 28, 1945)

Submitted by

Cecile Richter
President

Our Lady of Lourdes Council, Keremeos

What a wonderful occasion to celebrate, one hundred successful years as an organization. This is what all Catholic Women's League of Canada members joyfully anticipated but unfortunately that was not to happen in 2020!

Sadly, because of the virus confusion and government regulations, all gatherings were cancelled and so, guided by God's merciful hand and our Blessed Lady of Good Counsel, we persisted in keeping the spirit of this very important organization alive and growing.

Speaking of growing, one project that had to be postponed was the planting of a tree in each council's parish commemorating the 100th anniversary. We also had planned a wonderful celebration with our priest to include our CWL members, the Knights of Columbus and our fellow parishioners. As with most councils, this was postponed as well. Nature goes on oblivious sometimes to what we humans may plan because the little Alberta Spruce that my husband and re-gifted for this occasion was crying out to be set free from its confines of the big pot it came in. Free to grow and spread its roots...just like the Catholic Women's League's desire to grow and spread into the next century!



My husband, Dan, is a Knights of Columbus member and so we thought it would be a good idea to make it a joint venture, so he planted and our faithful members, Barbara Quaedvlieg, Organization Chairperson, Dolores Massie, Spiritual Chairperson, and myself gathered on March 31st to set this little tree free.

I must confess, my job as video crew really didn't contribute much to the real get down and dirty work! Being that the conditions were ideal for transplanting, but with short notice, there were only the few members who could be present.

Our council had a lovely plaque locally made and donated by a beautiful loving member of our council, that will eventually be blessed and set next to the tree when we have our celebration together in our parish yard.



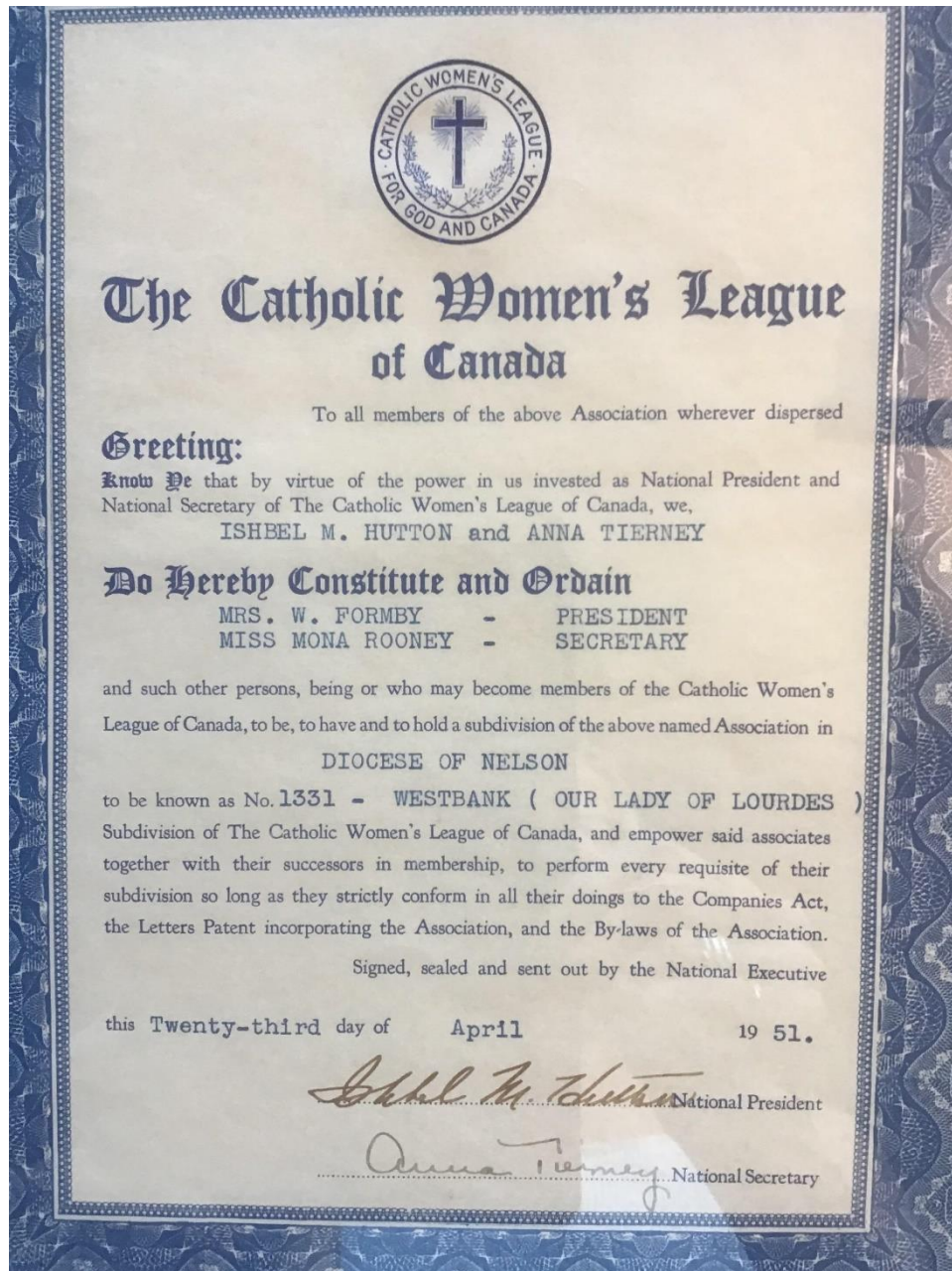
We pray that this very important organization, the Catholic Women's League of Canada will flourish and grow stronger so future generations can also celebrate the next 100 years and more.

We also pray for every loving woman past and present who have served God and Canada faithfully.

Humbly submitted,

Cecile Richter
President
Our Lady of Lourdes Parish
Keremeos BC

**Our Lady of Lourdes, West Kelowna
Celebrates its 70th Anniversary!**



Holy Mass to celebrate the 70th Anniversary of our Council was held at the parking lot of our church on the Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel and was officiated by Spiritual Advisor, Fr. Rex Velmonte. A reception will be held later this year.

Colette Girard
Chairperson of Spiritual Development

100th Anniversary Tree Planting at St. Charles Garnier, Kelowna

On Tues June 8th, members of the CWL and parishioners joined with Fr Gabriel in a Mass and dedication to bless the tree planted by the Parish CWL at St Charles Garnier church in Kelowna.

The tree will commemorate the 100th year anniversary of the Catholic Women's League of Canada, which was founded in 1920, and will stand as a reminder to the faith and service of CWL members.

Many CWL members and parishioners who attended Mass that morning came to celebrate this momentous occasion with us.



Fr. Gabriel blessing our tree



And the celebration begins!



Delicious cake for this special occasion

Marion Schneider
Past President

Centennial Year Tree Planting Cathedral of St. Mary Immaculate, Nelson



We were very fortunate to gather on Wednesday, May 19th for the dedication of a tree in honour of the 100-year anniversary of the CWL in Canada. 1920 - 2020.

A large group of members gathered at the Lakeside soccer field with Father Neil Lustado who said a prayer and gave a blessing to “our” maple tree.



After the dedication, we honoured Catherine Filbert, past president of our council for her many years of service and dedication. Coincidentally, it was Catherine's birthday on the same day as the tree was planted, and we were able to share some socially distanced conversations as well as some cake, in her honour of all she's contributed in the CWL and our parish.

In both events, we were blessed with bright, warm sunshine which we were so thankful for!

Lois Morrison
President
Cathedral of Mary Immaculate
Nelson, BC

Tree Planting Castlegar St. Rita's Nelson Diocese

May 27, 2020, St. Rita's CWL council planted a White Canadian Dogwood Tree in commemoration of the 100th Anniversary of the CWL.

14 members attended. Member, Diane Prince, led us in a beautiful ceremony with Prayers, Psalm, history of the Dogwood and its connection to the cross that Jesus was crucified on and singing of "For the Beauty of the Earth". Fr. John Kellogg blessed the soil, the tree & all the members in attendance. We look forward to a sturdy, fragrant tree, rooted in the earth and reaching to the sky that may serve as a home to earthly creatures and micro-systems.

Elaine Audet
President

Greetings from the Catholic Women's League Diocese of Prince George!

What a wonderful time to belong to The Catholic Women's League as we celebrate its 100th Anniversary. Our Diocese covers 133,000 square miles and has 13 Councils, and as you can imagine the vast distances within our Diocese travel time to mid-term meetings and conventions are lengthy for many of our dear sisters in the League.

Then came "Zoom", a wonderful method of meeting virtually which has come into play over the past year and a half. And what a Blessing "Zoom" has been.

(A few years ago, at one of the Provincial Mid-Term Meetings, Sharon Cieben, one of our Provincial Chairpersons, shared with us about a new 'break through' called 'Zoom'. I remember thinking, while she was explaining it to us, *'What the heck is she talking about?'*

This electronic meeting concept is ridiculous. It will never fly. She must be from another planet!) ... was I wrong! Councils can now meet when travelling is not possible or convenient. Members can keep in touch, sharing perspectives and making decisions virtually, saving the League much time and thousand of dollars in travel and hotel expenses. This new technology is a phenomenal tool.

Ringo Star, one of the remaining two 'Beatles' recently wrote a song called **"Zoom In, Zoom Out"**. Listen to it, It's Great!

I do have to say, it was a huge learning curve figuring out how to set up 'Zoom' meetings, sending out the 'Links' and manoeuvring through the meetings, but it has all been worth it.

How wonderful it has been to continue evolving, learning and growing while serving on the Diocesan Executive. There were days that I was ready to throw in the towel, but when I heard from the other members what their councils were doing in their churches, communities and with government, I feel very blessed to belong to this amazing group of women.

There is still so much work to do to bring about the "Kingdom of God". Let us stay the course! May the League continue its work in serving God and Canada and may Our Lady of Good Counsel (and Our Lady of Guadeloupe) guide us in all our decisions.

Love and Blessings,

Sylvia DeSousa

Prince George Diocesan President

P.S. On a personal note: In these "trying times" over the past year-and-a-half, I have had time to really clean and organize my home; organize paperwork and photographs; reconnect with many old friends via e-mail and phone; spruce up the garden; watch some wonderful movies; get back into letter writing; had time to sit still and be still; pray a little more and learn a lot more! There have been many positives over the past fifteen months.

God is Good.

Amen

Diocese of Prince George Charter Dates and 2020 Presidents

Annunciation Parish Council – Prince Rupert, B.C. - April 16, 1926

Parish President in 2020 – **Sandra Olaksew**

Sacred Heart Parish Council – Terrace, B.C. - April 1946

Parish President in 2020 – **Rachel Cote**

Christ the King Parish Council – Kitimat, B.C. - April 24, 1956

Parish President in 2020 – **Amabile DalMonte** and **Mary Amaral**

St. Joseph's Parish Council – Smithers, B.C. - June 3, 1946

Parish President in 2020 – **Eileen Bouvier**

St. Andrew's Parish Council – Fraser Lake, B.C. - March 3, 1968

Parish President in 2020 – **Yvonne Thalheimer**

Infant Jesus Parish Council – Vanderhoof, B.C. - October 1953

Parish President in 2020 – **Magdalena "Maggie" Saito**

Christ our Saviour Parish Council – Prince George, B.C. - December 4, 1980

Parish President in 2020 – **Norma Dauvin**

St. Mary's Parish Council – Prince George, B.C. - November 8, 1960

Parish President in 2020 – **Cortnie Weir**

Sacred Heart Parish Council – Prince George, B.C. - May 8, 1926

Parish President in 2020 – **Dodie Bond**

Diocese of Prince George Charter Dates and 2020 Presidents

Our Lady of Peace Parish Council – Chetwynd, B.C. - **April 27, 1965**

Parish President in 2020 – **Diane Mallia**

Notre Dame Parish Council – Dawson Creek, B.C. - **March 6, 1940**

Parish President in 2020 – **Barbara Frost**

Resurrection Parish Council – Fort St. John, B.C. - **October 10, 1946**

Parish President in 2020 – **Patricia “Pat” Forster**

Prince George Diocesan Council 1957

Diocesan President in 2020 - **Sylvia DeSousa**

Diocese of Prince George

City	Council	In Loving Memory of Our Members who passed away in 2019 & 2020	Date
Chetwynd	Our Lady of Peace		
Dawson Creek	Notre Dame	Maureen Saunder Teresa Keenan Mary Belak Joanne Sales Janet Vemplew Melina Hamilton	January 2019 May 26, 2019 July 18, 2019 April 19, 2020 May 6, 2020 October 2, 2019
Fort St. John	Church of the Resurrection		
Fraser Lake	St. Andrew	Marjorie Martineau	March 23, 2019
Kitimat	Christ the King	Anne Slanina Maria Pires	March 23, 2020 Dec.18, 2020
Prince George	Christ the Saviour	Eva Sollner Cathy Bilbrough	2019 2019
Prince George	St. Mary's	Amelia Peterson Marion Van Caeselee	March 25, 2019 June 26, 2020
Prince George	Sacred Heart	Eva St. Pierre	June 25, 2019
Prince Rupert	Annunciation	Domenica Klement Shirley Maronga Anne Marie Beillard Eileen Page Mary Anna Sambo Evelyn Sambo	July 5, 2019 July 29, 2019 June 26, 2020 June 30, 2020 August 7, 2020 August 26, 2020
Smithers	St. Joseph	Vicki York Klara Clement Janet Hetherington Evelyn Blouin Margaret Goodacre	August 12, 2019 August 28, 2019 March 15, 2020 October 14, 2020 October 19, 2020
Terrace	Sacred Heart	Lucia Stella Maria Onstein	February 8, 2019 October 8, 2019
Vanderhoof	Infant Jesus		

May these and all our faithful departed Sisters in the League, Rest in Peace.

Linda McClinton
Chairperson of Spiritual Development
Prince George Diocesan Council

Barbara Kniert from St. Andrew's Council Fraser Lake is delighted to be 100!



Just Thrilled to Receive a Papal Blessing for her 100th Birthday.

Barbara Kniert turned 100 on Jan. 29th, 2021. To celebrate this milestone, our council, St. Andrew's obtained a Papal Blessing for her. She was thrilled and as a thank you had a Mass offered for the intentions of our members.

Although she is unable to attend meetings, she faithfully prays every day for the CWL.

Every year is the first to renew her membership, now that is a truly faithful member!

She is a precious gem.

Blessings,
Yvonne Thalheimer
President
St. Andrew's Council,
Fraser Lake BC

Prince George Diocese, Christ the King Council Bursary Awards

Christ the King Council in the Diocese of Prince George awarded 3 high school graduates a \$500 Scholarship at the celebration of Holy Mass.



Diocesan president Sylvia DeSousa proudly announced the winners.

Cheryl Groves and Rossella Norman who headed up the scholarship selection committee, congratulated the students who were delighted to receive the scholarships from the CWL Council. Smiles were bountiful behind the masks!



L – R Cheryl Groves, Emily Krabes, Olivia Feldhoff, Jacob Baker, Rossella Norman

Sincere Congratulations to you all!

Sylvia DeSousa
President
Prince George Diocesan Council

History of the Church of the Resurrection

Fort St. John

The Church of the Resurrection took a commanding place in history in Fort St. John when its 150th Anniversary was celebrated in 2020. The Catholic Women's League of Canada Council at the parish also celebrated a milestone 75th Anniversary of Charter this year too!





Marie Bougie

Our First President, must have worked very hard to establish our new and vibrant Council during hard times.



Irene MacLean
1920 ~ 2017

With fond remembrances of one of the first charter members who passed away in 2017 but will never be forgotten, Rest in Peace Irene.



This beautiful banner was made by Catholic Women's League members, Alice Lock, Dorothy Trask and Lynn Halverson to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the parish.

We only have 45 members in our Council, but we are a close-knit bunch who arduously work together to keep things going throughout the year. Members over the age of 85 have their membership fee paid by the Council which is so appreciated and is in recognition of their commitment and service to the League.

We meet monthly except for July and August and host a social in December and our ecumenical sisters from the Presbyterian, Lutheran, United and Anglican churches in town are invited to join us for the occasion.

We hope to celebrate the 75th Anniversary together in October 2021 but in the meantime our Past President has suggested that each member say a Hail Mary for the 75 days prior to our anniversary date.

We are honoured and proud to be members of the Catholic Women's League of Canada in Fort St. John.

Blessings to all our sisters in the League.
Pat Forster

President

Our Lady of Peace Council Chetwynd

2 beautiful plums were planted at our Council with expert help from Fr. Rene Antonio in June 2020 to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Catholic Women's League of Canada



Diane Mallia and Bonnie McKee checking to make sure the plum tree is standing straight up!



Father Rene, Bonnie McKee and Sara Mallia are proud of their tree planting effort and are watching and waiting for delicious fruit in a year or two

Submitted by Diane Mallia

St. Joseph Council at Smithers rally up members to plant a Maple Tree

Our “100 years” The Catholic Women’s League of Canada tree planting ceremony that was held at Smithers BC on Saturday, May 15, 2021, turned out really nice.

The Maple tree which we planted that afternoon is standing tall and proud in its new spot in front of our church.



Here is a little excerpt for you of what was said and done at our ceremony.

"100 Years of Catholic Women’s League of Canada" - what an accomplishment, that truly called for a celebration and what better way to do this then with a newly planted tree symbolizing life and grows?

This beautiful tree shall grow for us for many years, and we wholeheartedly pray that it will be so for our beloved CWL.

May the Catholic Women’s League of Canada flourish and grow for many more years to come!

Planting a new tree is also very fitting for our current National theme “Care for Our Common Home”. As we all know, a tree sustains, beautifies and protects nature and our environment.

Father Jack then came forward and read a passage from the Bible and a blessing prayer and blessed all of us in attendance and our tree with some "Easter" holy water. It was very nice and truly meaningful.



Submitted by

Irene Waser
St. Joseph Council
Co-President

Catholic Women's League Christ the King Parish Council Kitimat, British Columbia

It was finally on June 11, 2021, that the Kitimat Council was able to plant our tree to commemorate the League's 100th Anniversary.

We had tried last year and early this year, but with Covid restrictions changing from week to week, bad weather and freezing temperatures last winter, we had to wait until June of 2021. Not only were we blessed with an absolutely gorgeous day, but we were able to gather together safely outside, as we all had had our second dose of the vaccine.

One of our younger League members brought her two little boys to watch. Who knows, they may someday be our future Knights of Columbus.

The ladies in the photo from left to right are Janice Gibbons with her two young sons,

Sylvia DeSousa, Maria Rego, Debbie Ceulemans, Maria Benevides, Maria Gutknecht, Maria Silva, Rossella Norman, Rosa Martins, Amabile DalMonte and Isobel Patzelt. And Mary Amaral wielding the shovel ... way to go Mary!



The tree we planted was a 'Toba Hawthorne' which is a hearty tree that will endure our ever changing, and sometimes extreme weather up here in the north.



A few of the Knights of Columbus (Joe Rego, Bert DaCosta & Leo DeSousa) were very gracious and dug the hole for the tree.

May the League continue to Thrive and Serve God and Canada for another 100 Years!

Sylvia DeSousa
President
Diocese of Prince George

A Memorable Year in the Vancouver Diocese

It's been a successful year in the Vancouver Diocese, and I am so proud to see how my Diocesan Executive has stepped up to create innovative processes and valuable meeting experiences for our members.

I have been supported in every decision by my knowledgeable Past President, Angelina Stiglich, who is always available for guidance. Our President-Elect and Organization chair, Sherray Duran, has shown a great amount of initiative, taking on many new projects. Spiritual Development chair and First Vice-President, Erin Merth, has provided inspiring spiritual programs at every meeting.

Secretary Susan Mustard, and Treasurer Karanda Tong, were both able to navigate new and unfamiliar technology and worked with professionalism and competence.

Our Communications chair, Marilyn Martin, had her hands full managing our busy Facebook page and group, as well as adding new items to our Diocesan website, www.vancouvercwl.ca Legislation chair, Theresa Weltzin, created a wonderful new letter writing workshop that can now be accessed on our website.

Our newbies, Education and Health chair, Conchita Bambilla, Community Life chair, Gladys Jung, and Christian Family Life chair, Paula Stewart, were able to “go with the flow” and create wonderful communiques and inspiring oral reports for our members.

Together, our Diocesan Council invited our members to join us online, for our four General Meetings of the year, providing spiritual programs, workshops, information and a chance to connect with each other and network. Council members were able to share ideas and tips for meetings and fundraising, along with information about issues of importance to all Catholic women. We were blessed to be able to provide an Annual Meeting of Members in May, with annual reports provided by our Executive and each of the 6 regions in the Vancouver Diocesan Council. We enjoyed a lovely spiritual program and memorialized our deceased members. It was a wonderful way to cap off a busy, but enjoyable year.

Our members in the parishes had a busy and fruitful year as well. They found new ways to connect with their members and to support those in our communities who were struggling. They did such a great job, that word got out to the BC Catholic and Councils across the Diocese were featured in an article showcasing their efforts. (<https://bccatholic.ca/news/catholic-van/cwl-angels-come-to-farmer-s-rescue-in-pandemic-outreach>)

Corpus Christi Parish in Vancouver ran a food drive, collecting a pickup truck full of food, along with cash donations for The Door is Open, Covenant House and the Missionaries of Charity, (pictured below with parish council members)



Other parish councils noted were St. Helen's in Burnaby, who sold home-made face masks to raise money for their parish food bank and The Door is Open. St. Ann's in Abbotsford helped a local farmer with harvesting daffodils, raising money for their charitable programs. They were also able to use some of the already opened daffodils themselves, spreading cheer to parishioners, local health-care workers, hospice patients, teachers, first responders, and neighbours.

These were just three councils who made efforts to connect with others, both within their council and their parish and in the larger community. However, I know of many, many more stories of councils reaching out to support others, spiritually, as well as materially.

The Catholic Women's League in the Vancouver Diocese has so much to be proud of, as they showed their commitment to faith, service, and social justice. In the words of an anonymous recipient of the League's generosity quoted by the BC Catholic, "Let the world know: during this pandemic, God sends angels to us."

Barbara Renaud
Vancouver Diocesan President

Vancouver Archdiocesan Council of The Catholic Women's League of Canada

Charter Dates and Founding President

Year	Date	Parish	Founding President
1923	March	St. Peter, New Westminster	Mrs. Mary O'Connor
1924	March 31	St. Edmund, North Vancouver	Mrs. C. McDonnell
1925	May 25	Vancouver Archdiocesan Council	Mrs. C. McDonnell
1930	December	St. Ann, Abbotsford	Mrs. H. E. Atkins
1933	September	St. Mary's, Chilliwack	Drusilla Beldam
1933	December	St. Patrick, Haney (Maple Ridge)	Elizabeth Hawley
1934	December 26	St. Joseph, Mission	Elizabeth M. Mara
1935	December 18	Church of the Assumption <i>Formerly St. Joseph, Powell River</i>	Edith M. Hobson
1935	September	St. Joseph, Langley	Ellen McDonnell
1937	April 2	Our Lady of the Assumption, PoCo	Mrs. M. E. Wild
1944	April 3	St. Luke, Maple Ridge	Kathleen Gibson
1945	February 28	St. Jude, Vancouver <i>(Reactivated 1984 & 2003)</i>	Franca Gambetese
1945	December 3	St. Theresa, Burnaby	Mrs. Christy
1946	January 22	Immaculate Conception, Delta	Alice Hone
1946	February 16	St. Anthony, WV (1931*)	Mrs. J. A. W. Blake
1946	September 6	Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Vancouver	Mrs. F. McConnell
1946	August 16	Star of the Sea, White Rock	Mr. L. V. Hicks
1947	November 20	Our Lady of Fatima	Mrs. Favero
1947	November 25	Precious Blood, Surrey	Mme. Sophie Gobin
1948	May 9	Holy Rosary Cathedral, Vancouver	Mrs. William Cashion
1948	May	Our Lady of Mercy, Burnaby	Mrs. Dorothy Armitage
1948	April 12	St. Anthony of Padua, Agassiz	Mrs. J. E. Tremblay
1950	March 3	Holy Trinity, North Vancouver	Mrs. L. Brasseur
1950	May 21	Sts. Joachim and Ann, Aldergrove	Mrs. E. Desmarais
1953	November 2	Our Lady of Sorrows, Vancouver	Mrs. Caroline M. Strrow
1953	December 7	St. Augustine, Vancouver	
1953	May 19	St. Francis de Sales, Burnaby	Mrs. Josephine Diett
1954	October 20	Holy Name, Vancouver <i>(Disbanded 1989-Reactivated 1994)</i>	Mrs. F. Fulton
1954	November 3	Our Lady of Good Counsel, Surrey	Mrs. H. Bolivar
1956	March 1	St. Joseph, Squamish	Agnes McKay
1959	June 30	Holy Cross, Burnaby	Mrs. J. W. Kennedy
1961	March 26	Holy Family, Sechelt	Pearl Tyson
1961	December 13	St. Andrew, Vancouver	Mrs. L. Gallagher
1964	March 24	St. Stephen, North Vancouver <i>(Disbanded 1968 – Reactivated 1974)</i>	Jacquelyn Foder
1981	June 3	St. Bernadette, Surrey	Theresa Devlin

Year	Date	Parish	Founding President
1983	October 2	All Saints, Coquitlam	Mary Kennedy
1985	April 30	St. Matthew, Surrey	Jeanne Faessler
1989	November 6	St. Paul, Richmond	Barbara Perrins
1994	January 19	St. Mary, Gibsons	Merrilee Mulligan
1995	January 12	St. James, Abbotsford	Bev. Sweeney
1995	January 19	St. Pius X, North Vancouver	Pat Deppeisse
1996	January 10	Christ the Redeemer, West Vancouver	Barbara Eifler
1999	February 12	Canadian Martyrs, Richmond	Irene Wong
1999	May 26	St. Monica, Richmond	Teresa Munsayac
2000	February 23	St. Clare of Assisi, Coquitlam	Irene McAloney
2003	July 17	St. Patrick, Vancouver	Emillie Ryan
2004	February 23	Our Lady Queen of Martyrs	Jennifer Segers
2006	January 8	St. Francis Xavier, Vancouver	Therese Leung
2006	January 17	St. Mary, Vancouver	Teresa Lung
2007	February 3	St. Andrew Kim, Vancouver	Theresa Sun Ok Lee
2008	January 5	St. Andrew of Padua	Barbara Clarke
2009	January 20	Holy Spirit, New Westminster	Francesca Zenone
2009	May 5	Our Lady of Lourdes, Coquitlam	Linda Bray
2010	March 27	St. Joseph, Vancouver	Matilde Lim
2010	July 19	St. Helen, Burnaby	Susanne Lambert
2010	October 26	St. Joseph, Port Moody	Louanne Richards
2010	October 27	Corpus Christi, Vancouver	Marcelle Girard
2014	December 4	St. Nicholas, Langley	Adrienne Castellon
2014	December 11	St. Joseph the Worker, Richmond	Maribeth Panes

Vancouver Diocesan Council

Centennial Year Council Presidents

Vancouver West/Richmond – Region 1	President
Canadian Martyrs (1999)	Grace Wong (Chinese Branch)
Immaculate Conception (1946)	Jane Rosenthal
St. Joseph the Worker (2014)	Adelaide Dede
Our Lady Queen of Martyrs (2004)	Mary Y. Waung (English Branch)
Our Lady of Perpetual Help (1946)	Lyse Rowledge
St. Monica (1999)	Norma Lim
Holy Name of Jesus (1954)	Charity Chen
St. Andrew (1962)	Imelda Fernandez
St. Patrick (2003)	Julie Bagyan
Holy Rosary (1948)	Jane Rosenthal
St. Anthony of Padua (2008)	Alice Edge
St. Paul (1989)	Bernadette Battle
St. Augustine (1953)	Samantha Strudwick

Vancouver East/Burnaby – Region 2	President
Corpus Christi (2010)	Kim Cheung
Our Lady of Sorrow (1953)	Imelda Nacar
St. Jude (1945)	Bella Mislang
Holy Cross (1959)	Marilyn Blew
St. Francis de Sales (1953)	Lulu Balitaan
St. Mary (2006)	Lenn Castro
Holy Spirit (2009)	Cecile Cartago/Evangeline Pagsanthen
St. Helen (2010)	Flavia Musso
St. Peter (1923)	Teresa Wright
Our Lady of Mercy (1948)	Janet Kilby
St. Joseph (2010)	Anthonette Juco-Imperial
St. Theresa (1945)	Gina Fabbro

North Shore/Sunshine Coast -Region 3	President
Christ the Redeemer (1996)	Jennifer Cartocci
St. Pius X (1995)	Marie Adams
Church of the Assumption (1935)	Betty Rae
St. Stephen (1964)	Maria Lynch
Holy Family (1961)	Wyn Yang
Holy Trinity (1950)	Linda Sibau
St. Mary (1994)	Suzanne Diamond

Vancouver Diocesan Council

Centennial Year Council Presidents

Tri Cities/Maple Ridge – Region 4	President
All Saints (1983)	Rosemary Azu
St. Joseph, Port Moody (2010)	Diane Aloysius
Our Lady of Lourdes (2009)	Cristie Fausto
St. Luke (1944)	Terry Wallsmith
Our Lady of the Assumption (1937)	Carole Airhart
St. Patrick, (1933)	Joanne Prawdzik
St. Clare of Assisi (2000)	Maria Magnusson

Fraser Valley South – Region 5	President
Immaculate Conception (1946)	Louise Graham
St. Bernadette (1981)	Susan McConnell
Our Lady of Good Counsel (1954)	Nicolette Olson
St. Matthew (1985)	Louise Klaponski
Precious Blood (1947)	
Star of the Sea (1946)	Rycarda Smith
St. Andrew Kim (2007)	Eun Kyung (Josephine) Lee

Fraser Valley North – Region 6	President
St. Ann (1930) Abbotsford	Noli Buyco
St. Joseph, (1935) Langley	Marg Rodrigues
St. Anthony of Padua (1948) Agassiz	Lynda van Scheyndel
St. Joseph (1934) Mission	Melanie Iozzo
St. James (1995) Abbotsford	Sheila Hall
St. Mary (1933) Chilliwack	Charlene Cranley
Sts. Joachim and Ann (1950) Aldergrove	Jeannine McCarthy
St. Nicholas (1998) Langley	Toni Lush

Vancouver Diocesan Council

Barbara Renaud

Vancouver Diocese Members Deceased in 2020

Fely Aben
Rita Bandierra
Carmela Bavaro
Ages Beaulieu
Elizabeth Beirne
Anita Bernardin
Dorothea Booth
Anne Banson
Janie Elizbeth Brown
Joan Brown
Ann Burns
Kae Burns
Lois Charlebois
Stephanie Cherney
Isobel Clancy
Patricia Clement
Kathleen Connolly
Rose Dalfo
Patricia Davidson
Mennie Dejong
Teresa Diniz
Mary Ann Edwards
Bessie Fai
Irene Fanning
Judith Farrell
Josephine Froschauer
Marcella Garneau
Barbara Gobbi
Vera Hill
Melinda Hurley
Jo Jarvis
Anastasia (Nancy) Jelinski

Vancouver Diocese Members Deceased in 2020

Mary Ann Johnson
Doreen Junk
Barbara Karanda
Noella Kehler
Christine Kemper
Theresa Keet
Soselia Khan
Muriel Kinaham
Anne Kroeker
Leondre Ianius
Terry Luckhart
Jean Louise Lacompe
Jane Lee
Ria Ling
Sonia Magaton
Mary Marxsen
Freda Mason
Bernadette Mcgroug
Alice Mehr
Maria Micallaf
Perl Mikitka
Agnes Minichiello
Doreen Murphy
Susan Q Najian
Cornelia Nobauer
Bridget O'Loughlin
Rita Oosterlaar
Susan Paquette
Gwen Pook
Elfreda Ramsbottom
Helen Reckling
Gerda Riffel

Vancouver Diocese Members Deceased in 2020

Elizabeth Sakali
Yolanda Sampler-Salazar
Isabel Savoie
Barbara Schmidt
Dora Seward
Del Sison
Jane Smith
Aurise Somon
Rina Tinaburri
Mima Toselli
Lena Turner
Margaret Vallee
Madge Vecchio
Una Walker
Lucy Wanner
Mary Watson
Drena Watson
Olga Wingert
Anita Woodley
Ellie Zilahi

St. Joseph Council, Port Moody Charter



Barbara Gobbi

Rest in Peace Dear Sister



The example of Christ and his teachings inspire all Christians to be better versions of ourselves, likewise the example of members we meet on our League journey can have a strong impact on the way we conduct ourselves in our work for God and Canada. They become our role models, and when we seek out their help, they become our mentors. Such a one for me was Barbara Gobbi, former Prince George diocesan president who died on January 11, 2020

At her funeral which I was privileged to attend, her daughter Vanya gave a beautiful eulogy focusing on Barbara's witness to the Christian principles which imbued her marriage and family life. Mine dealt solely with her service to the League and also contained comments I received from members serving at all four levels of the league, expressing their respect and admiration for

Barbara's service. Without exception each member attested to her strong defence of life, from conception to its natural end. One said, "She was a walking encyclopedia of prolife information, and was deeply passionate about the wonderful God-given gift of life." Another remembered how she participated in orderly and respectful outdoor placard demonstrations, and candlelight vigils in defence of life. She wrote many well-constructed and informative letters to government officials to educate them of the dangers of abortion, euthanasia and assisted suicide. Many others were written in support of the family unit. Her letters also supported resolutions which were presented to legislative committees, provincial and federal ministers. Topics included marriage, violence against women, childcare, anti-depressants, the need for improved palliative care, hospice, antibullying programs and inadequate labelling of pesticides. The topics she addressed were not always easy, for example, The Human Reproduction Act and its regulations regarding the use of human cells, but her intelligence, courage and research skills carried her through, resulting in convincing arguments.

In 2005 she and husband Greg moved to Sechelt where she joined Holy Family council, impressing its members by her industry in research, updating of archives, letter writing, resolutions and encouragement of prolife activities such as Forty Days for Life. You should have seen her well-organized boxes of files amassed during her long years of League work in faith, service and social justice. I saw these when she and Greg kindly billeted me on my way to diocesan events in the Lower Mainland. It was during these years that she served on my sub-committee. I greatly benefitted from her knowledge of convention protocol, and was continually inspired by her example of dedication, perseverance and righteousness.

In 2018 Barb and husband Greg moved back to Sacred Heart Parish in Prince George to the council where she had first begun her long and fruitful journey in the League. Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated by Very Reverend Rectorino Tolentino, Jr. and members of three councils formed her Honour Guard.

May the Lord she served so faithfully, grant her eternal rest.

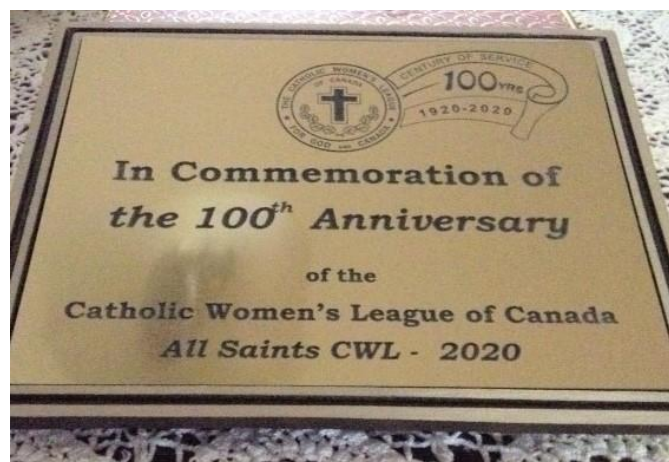
Evelyn Rigby
BC & Yukon Provincial Council
Past President

Japanese Maple Tree planted at All Saints Council Coquitlam

All Saints Parish in Coquitlam, B.C. celebrated 100 years of the League in Canada with a beautiful Japanese Maple tree planting ceremony on the parish property in August 2020.

A group of our members came out to participate and share in the celebration. We were blessed to have Barbara Renaud, our Diocesan President, and our spiritual advisor, Fr. Don Larson, attend and celebrate with us.

Our council will be placing a plaque by the tree commemorating the 100-year celebration.



Submitted by,
Laura Wilson
President-Elect

Greetings from Victoria Diocesan Council

The Year of the ZOOM

Shortly after the Catholic Women's League was officially organized nationally in June of 1920, the women of St. Andrew's Cathedral in Victoria had their first meeting on May 3, 1921.

As we celebrated the 100th Anniversary of our National League, we, in the Diocese of Victoria also stand on the shoulders of the women who, 100 years ago, had the foresight and fortitude to band together, right here on our Island in the West.

The Centenary Year, for the CWL Catholic Women's League of Canada of the Victoria Diocese, was the Year of the Zoom. This technology was new to all of us, but it soon became our regular meeting place. Each month parish council presidents and diocesan executive/chairs met in cyberspace to develop coping strategies on how to stay involved, motivated and connected. Round table discussions at our monthly Zoom meetings focused on "how to keep our councils alive". Soon parish councils started their own Zoom meetings; first starting with the executive and then offering them to the general membership. Everyone worked hard to come up with innovative ideas to hold the councils together and keep communications flowing.

During all of 2020, sisters in our Victoria Diocese, were creative, resilient and innovative. The tree planting project to commemorate our Centenary Anniversary continued. Members participated in virtual seminars and retreats and supported social justice by developing a resolution, writing letters to government on issues such as MAiD, the right of life from conception to natural death and provided meals and clothing to the homeless. If they couldn't make garments for bazaars, they made them for Tanzania. If they couldn't hold bake sales, they created no-bake sales. Virtual bazaars raised funds to support charities. If they couldn't meet, they prayed the rosary on the phone or on Zoom. Councils developed newsletters and reached out to members with regular phone calls, texts and emails. Our sisters continued to do what they do best – look after each other.

When we chose *Solid Rock, Living Waters* as our diocesan theme three years ago, we didn't know how appropriate that was. During 2020, we realized that faith is not confined to a building; it is a living faith as we are called to follow Christ through all the events of our lives. As St. Louis Grignon de Montfort said, "God is a spring of living water which flows unceasingly into the hearts of those who pray."

Against all odds, the 1000 members of our Diocese of Victoria continued to find ways in 2020 to answer God's call to grow in faith, and to promote social justice through service to the church, Canada and the world.



Victoria Diocesan Executive and Chairs of Committees 2018-2021

Left to Right: Linda Foucault, 2nd Vice and Christian Family Life; Gerry Heywood, Legislation, Resolutions, Communications and Webmaster; Renee Johnson, Treasurer; Bertha Landrie, 1st Vice and Community Life; Christa Grillmair, President; Fr. Alfredo Monacelli, Spiritual Advisor; Nancy Horsfield, Secretary; Pat Darling, Spiritual Development; Sandi Digras, Communications; Pat Carew, Health and Education; Maureen Ingram, Past President; and Laurel Phyll, President Elect/Organization.

Christa Grillmair
Victoria Diocesan President

Victoria Diocesan Councils' Date of Charter

Parish Council		Charter Date
Alberni Valley		1928
Church of the Ascension		Oct. 22, 1938
Christ the King		1948
Our Lady of the Rosary		1940
Our Lady Queen of Peace		1925
Saanich Peninsula		1985
Sacred Heart		1940
Salt Springs Island		1978
St. Andrew's Cathedral		May 3, 1921
St. Edward's		1950
St. Joseph the Worker		1980
St. Mary's		1934
St. Patrick's (CR)		1948
St. Patrick's (V)		1926
St. Peter's		1937
Trinity		2019

Victoria Diocesan Council	May 1926
---------------------------	----------

The Victoria Diocese is grateful to the leaders who came before us and on whose shoulders we now stand.

Presidents who led our diocese from 1926 to 2020

H. W. Ebbs-Canavan

W.C. McManus

R. A. Duncan

H. O'Brien

Carolyn Munsey

Blair Reid

Marion Rivers

Freda Smith

Sarah Cannon

Emma McLellan

Madeline Clay

J. Sullivan

Grace Horgan

A.C. Niehaus

Sally Rogers

Mary Harman

Grace Shelling

Lee James

Audrey (Dot) Malo

Yvette Valcourt

Glenda Wilson

Helene Banner

Ruth Hazlett

Mary Wilson

Gertrude Lammie

Beryl Sheard

Pat Thompson

Margaret Beardon

Nan Reinke
Olga Kelly
Dorothy Sage
Elaine Hentges
Sheila Quinn
Karen Gierc
Mary Lazarski
Agnes Geiger
Elizabeth Hoskins
Daisy Mah
Kathryn Weswick
Blanca Stead
Maureen Ingram
Christa Grillmair

**Beloved Members from the Victoria Diocese
who passed away during 2018, 2019, 2020**

2019

Gladys Anderson
Jean Anderson
Violet Bardessono
Anne Marie Barton
Holly Beattie
Riet Broeren
Kathryn Brown
Carolyn Ann Clark
Daphne Dalsin
Yvonne Dion
Barbara Dunahee
Pat Dupuis
Anne Elphick
Maisie Fraser
Sally Gannon
Maria Gregoire
Stefania Graczyk
Joanne Horton
Yvonne Hutcheson
Dorothy Laughlin
Adele Meyer
Shirley Newman
Ann Parson
Gloria Rampanen
Shirley Rigby
Jean Rozynski
Bernadette Shaw
Peggy Spilsbury
Frances Terry
Elizabeth Valiant

(Decease in 2018, reported in 2019)

Irene Chisholm
Marie Hopkins
Agnes Huser
Hildegard J. Lovehohn

May they Rest in Peace

**Beloved Members from the Victoria Diocese
who passed away during 2018, 2019, 2020**

2020

Gladys Anderson
Edith Bonar
Elizabeth Bradley
Isabel Braun
Nell Chernichen
Justyna Cichowski
Rita Cosmacini
Frances Croteau
Frances Dolan
Sylvia Duggan
Elizabeth Epton
Maureen Grecht
Ann Guidi
Yvonne Hutcheson
Therese Janssen
Adrienne Johnson
Maureen Kenward
Luci Knudsen
Norma Llewellyn
Chrissie Lyons
Audrey Malo
Margaret McKenzie
Anne Pearson
Bea Pritchard
Joyce Randle
Bernice Rosko
Elizabeth Russell
Evelyn Scanlon
Vickie Schmidt
Jean Scullion
Olga Shiyuk
Helen Suhan
Mildred Untereiner
Joyce Workman

May they Rest in Peace

St Edward's Council Duncan Celebrated the Centennial Year in Many Fun Ways!

St. Edward's Council in Duncan wanted to do something to celebrate the 100th Anniversary and because of COVID, we did two things:

In 2020 – THE year, Tita Alatiit and a few members and a few husbands got together with Queen of Angels School Kindergarten Teacher and class and planted 100 Daffodils. A lot of fun was had with the very keen children. On hand to plant: back row l to r. Brenda Hennig, Jim Korman, Tita Alatiit, Julie Flegel, and Val Alatiit; front row – the enthusiastic and cheerful students.



A promise was made that we would be back to count the blooms in Spring. When asked "How would they count them," the response was "With our pointy fingers." Why do adults ask silly questions?

On hand to count: Benda Hennig – Teacher, Jolene Duncan – Educational Assistant, League member Tita Alatiit, and planting/counting coach, and those amazing students, aka pointy-fingered green thumbs.



Thank you to League member Brenda Hennig and the Kindergarten Class for counting the flowers of the bulbs planted last fall. All added up there were 200 blooms – I guess those pointy fingers

can really count. Thanks to Julie for assisting and taking photos. Tita commented that it was fun to count with the children and so awesome to sing with them too.

In 2021 – THE National request to plant a tree in recognition of the 100th Anniversary was at last realized. Great help came from those who knew what and how to do this and we thank Mary and Gerry Hof.



Also, on hand to celebrate the planting of the Satomi Pink Dogwood were members:



l to r – Pat Saretske, Francine Tournier, Mary Hof, Paula Stocco and Julie Flegel.

Submitted by,
Francine Tournier

The Rainy Weather did not stop St. Mary's Council, Ladysmith, from planting their 100th Anniversary Tree!

September 23, 2020 was a very wet and soggy day, but that didn't stop members of St. Mary's Council in Ladysmith on Vancouver Island from gathering, socially distanced with each other and their pastor, Fr Mel Bayron to plant their centenary tree, a pink dogwood, in the Catholic section of the Ladysmith Municipal cemetery.



As members took turns covering the roots, they were reminded of their sisters of St Mary's Council and our sisters from across Canada who have gone before us.

These women provided strong roots and just as the roots of the Dogwood will keep the tree growing and blooming each Spring, so may our roots to the League provide us with the strength to grow and continue in the work of Faith, Service and Social justice for the next century.

Pat Darling,
President,
St Mary's Council, Diocese of Victoria

“A Step at a Time” on Vancouver Island!



Members from Sacred Heart and St. Joseph's Councils in Victoria

The process of honoring and celebrating 100 years of the presence of the National Catholic Women's League by planting a tree, progressed for the Sacred Heart Catholic Women's League Council a step at a time.

By the third expression of intention at three different meetings, the members, on September 5, approved the funding of the planting of a centenary tree. Members are willing to take care of the tree, by keeping it pruned and fertilized. The next debate was about the kind of tree; it was a difficult choice, given how many beautiful trees that there are to choose from.

What kind of tree? How? Where? A reading of the day from Matthew spoke of the man who climbed a fig tree in order to be able to just see Jesus. We rethought our choice of an apple tree, and the consensus was for a fig tree – although it would require fencing around it to protect it from the deer. On October 3, we celebrated the blessing of the fig tree at Mass, with our sisters from Saint Joseph's Council.

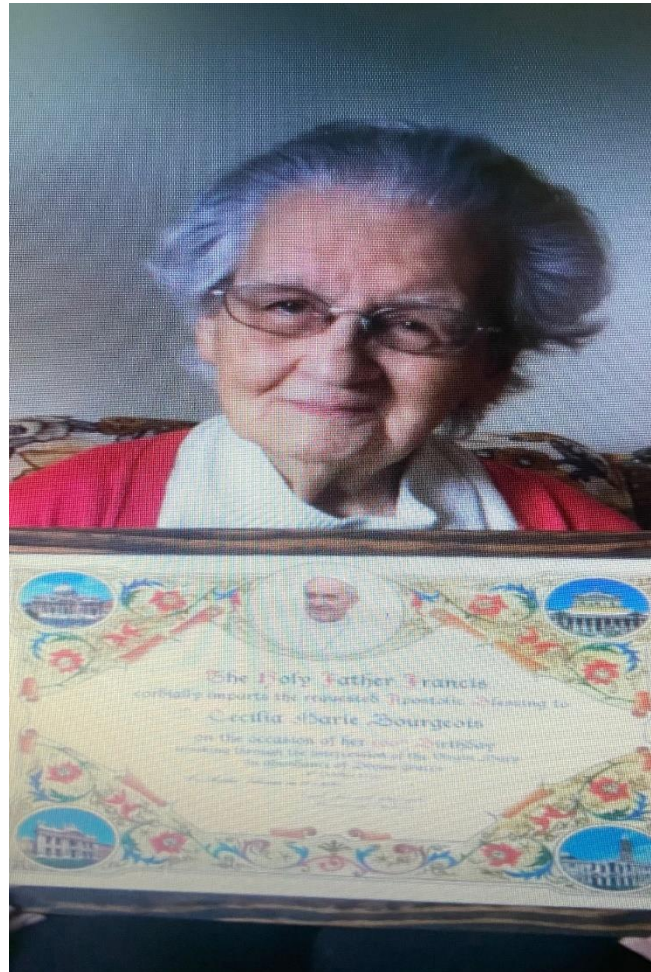
The next step is the planting. Our parishioners will generously fund the clearing of an area overrun by invasive plant species. Our Centenary tree could become part of the parish plans for an outdoor *Stations of the Cross*. Our President, Miriam Podmoroff, nurtures our choice until it can be planted.

The centenary fig tree will add to the natural beauty of the parish grounds. We will also be honouring our members throughout the years of our presence in the parish since December 5, 1940.

Kathy Weswick
BC & Yukon Council
Chairperson of Education & Health

Centenarian from St. Patrick's Parish, Victoria

Cecilia Bourgeois



Cecilia with her Certificate from Pope Francis

This lovely lady turned 100 years young on October 8, 2020; and is a 51-year member of the League. She is soft-spoken and very sharp witted and is very kind sweet.

She loves to hear news of the League and looks forward to our monthly newsletter.

As a member she was very active in used clothing sales that after her mending, washing and ironing the articles looked brand new.



Cecilia on her actual birthday. Council President Lorrie Van Somer dropped by with flowers to mark her special day.

Lorrie Van Somer
President
St. Patrick's Council
Victoria

Happy 100th Birthday Lucille!

Lucille has been a member of our Council/parish for 26 + years. She has served on the executive council and in the hobby group. This petite lady is an accomplished seamstress and knitter. She has made 90% of her wardrobe. She made many Raggedy Anne and Andy dolls over the years to sell at our Bazaars.

Lucille is known for her bright - sunny Disposition. Her outlook on life is Always be positive and happy.

Lucille is a lifelong resident of James Bay. Born on March 17, 1917. Her life has come full circle As she lives now in the James Bay Care Home. In Victoria, BC. Member of St Patrick's Parish.

This lovely lady is recognized by many of our long time members.

She is a dear Friend to many.



Gordon, Lucille

Big Congratulations to our Centenarian as she Celebrates turning 104 on March 17th 2021.

May you hear from many friends far and near as you celebrate your special day, May Our Blessed Lady of Good Counsel Keep You In Her Care

Thank you Lucille for presenting the Catholic Women's League of Canada By being a Faithfilled Catholic Lady

Lucille is amazing at her age, she is on our newsletter list and has someone read it to her. A few ladies from our council visit in non covid Times. Imagine what she has seen in her life!!!

Tree Planting at St. Timothy's Council, Nanaimo



Pictured left to right ...

Dolores Kuziw, Louise Coombe, Father Jozef Kobos – Pastor, Angela Watters Huguette Fox – President, Rosanna Van Reeuyk, Nora Loftus, Gayle Dickie, Maureen Lowden, Christa Grillmair - Diocesan President, Deacon Alan Cavin - Spiritual Director, Jane Wardrop, Anne Marie Powell, Patricia Jackson, Cynthia Palin, Mary Adachi

On October 27th, members of Trinity Catholic Council (Nanaimo, BC) along with our Parish Priest, Father Jozef Kobos, planted a golden Rhododendron in the Memorial Garden of the Church commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the Catholic Women's League in Canada.

A blessing ceremony followed with 16 members participating showing their appreciation for the gift of our new Council.

Hugette Fox
President, St Timothy's Council
Nanaimo

A Beautiful Pink Dogwood Tree is planted in Parksville!

Church of the Ascension Council in Parksville, BC, planted their Centenary Tree, a pink Dogwood, on April 26, 2021, on the Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel.



Fr. Mike and Fr. Thomas prepare to plant the tree



In attendance were Father Mike and Father Thomas who blessed the tree, Father Mike's Mom, the members of our Executive and Nancy Horsfield, the Secretary of our Victoria Diocesan Council

Everyone present had the opportunity to do their share of the planting with a shovelful of dirt, and afterwards coffee, tea and snacks prepared by members of the Executive were shared and enjoyed by all, outdoors and socially distanced.

Carmen Tellier
President – Church of Ascension Council

Greetings from the Diocese of Whitehorse

Celebrating 100 Years of the Catholic Women's League

While many of our Southern Sisters were out doing memorable things to celebrate the Centennial of the Catholic Women's League, this tiny northern satellite just managed to keep the lights on and twinkling.

Thanks to all of you, we had plenty of good reading material from communiques, newsletters and mailings, as well as plenty of 'eye candy' all wrapped up in zoom to get us up in the morning and right to our computer screens for marvellous seminars, retreats, those cozy fireside talks, and even masses with the Holy Father! So as not to offend your senses, no pictures were taken of these mostly private events in 'casual clothing'. And in affirmation of your generous offerings, our ladies were duly satisfied with being shut-in members!

Late 2020 just held the promise of vaccines that would help get our lives back on track, and that hope made our Christmas celebrations joyous and special. I do have a picture for you of a few of us gathering to put together Christmas hampers for the missions and clergy in the Diocese. We bake and make, we buy and gather, till we have boxes full of goodies and staples for these great folks. I have to say all those folks swoon with joy when they open their packages!

Earlier on in the year, we were able to honour our Sacramental recipients with handmade cards and small gifts. About the same time, we gathered toiletries, personal hygiene products and treats, coffee cards, a little cash, and Mothers' Day cards for the young ladies in the Teen Mom Centre and put them together in pretty hampers for these courageous young ladies who keep their babies with them as they try to finish school.

It's no secret that they are often estranged from their families and suffer grief from the fathers of their babies and their families, and just generally face monumental challenges to get to school each day. Thank God they are safe and fed and sheltered there. I would encourage your council to investigate this charitable act if you aren't doing so already. You wouldn't believe the lift they get knowing someone in the community knows they're there and cares about their struggles.

So, as you can see, although we didn't gather, we gathered!

We had a great opportunity to get together for Mass and a meal and a gabfest in the fall. (Father Slawek always opens the dining room in his rectory for us) I've been told the Knights of Columbus don't bring meals for him. The Nighties Council do! I wasn't supposed to mention the 'C' word but just in case you're wondering, we did it all with protocols in place at the time!

Meanwhile, the ongoing information goes out to members mostly by email and by gosh they're learning to look on the websites! We did participate in modified Right to Life events but took a back seat in the Strategic Plan participation. We truly admire our sisters who are able and willing to carry the banner for us.

And at the end of the year, we prayed our sister, Eva Gratz into heaven. She was mercifully brought home by Jesus after a short but severe illness and we continue to miss that brilliant light in her eyes whenever she smiled, which was often. Rest in peace Eva.

With Best Wishes for all that Heaven allows for you from the Whitehorse Diocese.

Carol Vanderbyl
Yukon Diocesan President



The Catholic Women's League of Canada

FUNDRAISER

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To be held in Kelowna BC
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cwlpashmina@gmail.com

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**Pashmina
Logo**

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August 13 - 18, 2022

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Grand Okanagan Resort**

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Bookings available starting August 1, 2021

Reference the Catholic Women's League
of Canada National Convention

when making your reservation for group rate

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View the Beautiful Kasugai Japanese Gardens

**Enjoy a Boat Tour of Beautiful Okanagan Lake
and "Much More"!**

1310 Water Street - Kelowna, BC V1Y 9P3



Playing with Numbers! (One of my many Passions in Life!)

Congratulations to the Diocesan Councils and local Councils in the Province of British Columbia, for notable years of Service, Dedication and Commitment to the Catholic Women's League of Canada for the past one hundred years.

Diocese	Years
Diocese of Kamloops	851
Diocese of Nelson	1660
Diocese of Prince George	905
Archdiocese of Vancouver	2679
Diocese of Victoria	1138
Diocese of the Yukon Territory	85
BC & Yukon Provincial Council	73
Total years of love, prayers and service	7391

In remembrance and gratitude to members of the League and spiritual advisors who have served and continue to serve, for all of the years of the past century; God speed to those who will follow in our footsteps.

Our Lady of Good Counsel Pray for us.

Submitted by,

Sylvia Jurys
Chairperson of Communications

In closing

My dearest Sisters in the League, my heart is full of love and gratitude for you all for your enthusiastic and excellent contributions to this special centennial edition of *The Communicator*.

To say that I was surprised at the quality and diversity of your involvement in the Centennial Year of the League is an understatement, but what is not a surprise is the incredible commitment that you have shown within your Councils to the Catholic Women's League of Canada. Bravo!

During the centennial year I have prayed for you all every step of the way on the pilgrimages that walked on virtually with *My Virtual Mission Conqueror Missions*. My first pilgrimage in July 2020 was the Camino de Santiago from France to St. James Cathedral, almost 800 kilometres in total and another 800 kilometres by December 31. I truly was inspired by you all, thank you!



My term as 2nd Vice President and Chairperson of Communications was the most fulfilling, enriching and joyful years as a member of the Catholic Women's League of Canada, working together side by side with all our members across our country for God and Canada; and clothed in the Mantle of Our Blessed Mother, Our Lady of Good Council

With this special edition of the *Provincial Communicator*, I pass on the Chairperson of Communications responsibilities to Christa Grilmair, and I know that you will support her as much as you did me.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel wrap her loving arms around you always.

Love and prayers,
Sylvia Jurys