



Catholic Women's League

St. Joseph's Parish Highland Creek Council

Newsletter for May/June 2010

Spiritual Advisor	Fr. David Okenyi
President	Mary Tuccitto
Organization & Membership	Eileen D'Souza
Treasurer	Raffaella Civello
Secretary	Marianne Civello
Spiritual Development	Mary Campanelli
Resolutions & Legislation	Eral Zong
Education & Health	Danielle Giggie / Lola Gray
Community Life	Erika Cabrera Vale
Christian Family Life	Pat Wilson
Communications	Denise Van Veen
Past President & Historian	Lucia Vacca

Spiritual Advisor - Fr. David Okenyi

I have been reflecting on the events of the Holy Week which led to the celebration of Easter, with reference to the attitude of a crowd at the time of Jesus, and now. As we read from the "Acts of the Apostles" since after Easter, these thoughts become stronger in me as I reflect on the lifestyle of the post-resurrection Christians.

We are familiar with the saying: "Follow the crowd," "Go with the flow." It looks like that is what is happening in our society today. Many people have followed the "if you can't beat them, join them" attitude of life. At the trial of Jesus before Pilate we heard that the crowd shouted "crucify him." There was no single voice that said the contrary. Those who would have done so were either very much afraid or simply wanted to follow the flow.

As we reflect on what is happening in our society today - the stand of many Christians on some issues that go contrary to the teachings of Jesus, we ask: "where is their faith; where is that witness to Christ." As Christians and followers of Jesus, our values, motives, and attitudes are bound to be different from others. We must not follow the crowd, even if the crowd is the majority against Jesus. We must go against the flow. The "Acts of the Apostles" show, that this was the way of the early Christians.

I do wonder whether the only way to defend our faith values today is to sign petitions against one Bill or the other. But it is quite distressing that the proposals of such Bills are generally Christians. Today it is Bill C-384. What will be the next Bill tomorrow?

This is a time when all Christians are more challenged than ever to stand up for Jesus and bear witness to Jesus teachings and values. A second-century Christian author wrote: "When people hear us speak God's word, they marvel at its beauty and power; when they see what little impact it has on our daily lives, they laugh and poke fun at us."

President's Message

Mary Tuccitto

My Dear Sisters in the League, Peace Be With You! What a Joyous time. Our Lord is Risen and Spring has arrived. The warmth in the air invokes visions of new life and celebration. Our parish schools and Sunday school have been busy with First Communions and soon we will be celebrating Confirmation. We are grateful for the opportunity to support these young people as they receive their sacraments. Our CWL here at St. Joseph's is proud to provide the certificates for these sacraments once again this year. It is one way in which we show our support and commitment to our parish community and to our faith. I would also like to remind you of our partnership with Pope John High School with their Pennies for Heaven program. Thank you to all who have been collecting their loose change and passing it on to us. Since December, we have forwarded almost \$400.00.

Since our last newsletter, many special events and celebrations have taken place, some of which are highlighted as you read on. If you missed out, you still have an opportunity to get involved with the upcoming Afternoon Tea Social and Heritage Day Celebrations as we need your help to make every project a success!

I encourage you to be active with *your* St. Joseph's CWL. We are very privileged to have such an alive and vibrant parish community, so come out and get involved. There are lots of ways in you can be of service for "God and Canada".



Our Gift to St. Joseph Parish 2010

This St. Joseph Banner is a one of a kind creation. It was "officially" presented with great pride on behalf of our CWL to the parish on March 19th to commemorate our Patron Saint in this special Year of the Priest.

May it become a permanent fixture in this place of honour to be enjoyed by all our parishioners for many years to come. Blessings and many thanks to all who made this possible.

Organization & Membership Eileen D'Souza

CWL Afternoon Tea – Sunday May 30th -- 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. St. Joseph's Hall



This year our May Social will be a very special event. We will be gathering in the parish hall for an afternoon High Tea Social. This promises to be a sold out event as there will be an important speaker. This will be a catered with the grace and elegance of a bygone era.

All are encouraged to wear their favourite **HAT** to win a prize. Tickets are \$20.00 each and space is limited so don't delay in securing your place at "Tea Time". It's going to be a great afternoon!

Call Lucia Vacca at 416 283-3536 or Mary Tuccitto at 416 283-8828 for tickets.

Our Lady of Good Counsel Mass/New Members Ceremony & CWL Day of Peace & Hope

This special mass was celebrated on Monday April 26th with many of our ladies and their families as well as visitors in attendance. What a great celebration with a full house! Fr. David Okenyi our Spiritual Advisor, along with Fr. Michal Jurkowski celebrated mass at which we also installed 24 new members. This was followed by a touching and inspiring slide show presentation on the theme *Women of Peace and Hope*.



At the reception we had an opportunity to present the parish with the CWL Community Life/Christian Family Life Project, a poster depicting all our Spiritual Advisors dating back from 1953, the year The League was established at St. Joseph, to date and the various gifts and regional celebration in this year of the Priest.

Special thanks to the Prayer Group Choir who led us in song and all who helped with the reception.

Congratulations and welcome once again to our new Sisters in The League.

SPECIAL WELCOME TO NEW AND RETURNING MEMBERS – 2010

Marlene Campbell

Laura Campbell

Katie Wicik

Maria Teresa de Manuel

Ancy Jacob

Ave Fernandes

Maria Sol Tellis

Anne Shepherd O'Hare

Sheila McManus

Linda Martino

Teresita Elmido

Loretta Riberdy

Annie Alkins

Eleanor Boyle

Karen Heifa

Allison Augustin

Olga St. Louis

Tania Mascarenhas

Collette Fernandes

Lourdes Mangilinan

Eileen Malcolm

Elizabeth Fernandes

Diane Frysztacki

Melissa Augustin-De Souza



Special Presentation
for the
Year of the Priest

CWL St. Joseph Parish
Spiritual Advisors since
November 5, 1953

63rd Annual Ontario Provincial Convention – Saturday July 10th – July 14th

This year's convention will take place in **Cornwall**, Ontario at the NAV Canada Training & Conference Centre www.conference.navcanada.ca. Cornwall is the Diocese of Alexandria-Cornwall. The theme is entitled "Women of Peace and Hope–In the Footsteps of Mary". This is a great opportunity to meet our CWL Sisters at the Provincial level. For information call Mary Tuccitto 416-283-8828.

90th Annual National Convention – Sunday, August 8th to 11th

This CWL National Convention will take place in OTTAWA at the Crowne Plaza Ottawa Hotel. This is your invitation to attend this event. You can find the details on the www.cwl.ca website and in the last issue of the League Magazine Volume 86/No. 1/Winter 2010 on pages 14 to 16.

Resolutions & Legislation Eral Zong

The two Resolutions: 2010.01 Raising awareness of Anaphylaxis and 2010.02 Medical Coverage for Diabetic Supplies, will be presented at the May 2010 Toronto Archdiocesan Convention. We read and discussed these at our April General Meeting and our President will be voting as to our instructed vote.

We will wait to hear if these are accepted & passed to move to the Provincial level, and then take action.

Spiritual Development Mary Campanelli

Lift Jesus Higher Rally - Saturday April 24th

A number of our CWL members and other members from our Prayer Group here at St. Joseph's went to this annual event held at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. What a truly Spiritual day it was. There were various speakers who spoke about their journey to God and the Catholic Church. There was a testimony from a man who was truly healed from a brain disorder just from the Power of Prayer. There was a live group who kept us always praising and singing the familiar songs we all know and love. Jesus was definitely "Lifted Higher" that day.

Education & Health Danielle Giggie & Lola Gray

A new health and physical education curriculum was proposed by the Ministry of Education to be implemented in all Ontario schools beginning in the new school year, September, 2010. The newly proposed sex education curriculum for elementary schools is of grave concern to parents, and religious groups including the entire Catholic community. .

It was proposed that:

1. Students in Grade 1 should be taught the correct names for body parts.
2. Grade 3 students should be taught about sexual identity and orientation.
3. Grades 6, 7 and 8 students should be introduced to sexual terminologies.

Major concerns were voiced openly to the Premier of Ontario. As a result, the government has decided to re-visit and revise the proposed new approach as well as to consult and seek input from parents and the Catholic community.

James Ryan president of the Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association noted that Catholic teachers would not experience a big change in the teaching of sex education. Presently, Catholic teachers utilize the "Fully Alive" program which offers age appropriate lesson plans beginning in Grade 1 within Catholic lens. Human sexuality is taught to Grade 3 students. They are taught about relationships and love and topics such as homosexuality and sexual orientation, which are included in the government's proposed curriculum are already taught to Catholic students in Grade 8, and are in line with Catholic teachings which emphasize chastity, non-discrimination and respect for others.

Community Life Erika Cabrera Vale

Update on Our Foster Child:

In November of 2009 we were informed by Chalice (Christian Child Care International) that our sponsored child by the name of Lalitha Mookamma Yellappa had "graduated" from the program of sponsorship. We started to sponsor Lalitha in the year 2000 when she was just 10 years old. Over the years she studied very hard and had a gift for drawing, and in each of her letters to us she always made sure that we received a drawing of animals, children or flowers. Her letters to us were always cheerful and full of thanks to all our CWL sisters for all the support that she received from us. We wish her all of God's blessings in her future endeavors.

We now have a new child and her name is Jenisa. She comes to us from the India Project and she was born on Dec. 30, 2000. She is a very lovely child who is currently attending St. Euphrasia's School where English is her favourite subject. Jenisa was found on the road and was brought up by a family who put her in the orphanage. She does not know the whereabouts of her parents. Our sponsorship will at least provide her with educational support, proper nutrition, medical care when needed and other necessities.

Please keep both children in your prayers.

Marguerite Civello

Save a Family Plan Update

Our family wrote to us in July and at Christmas. To recap, we started supporting a family of 3 children when their parents had died in 2000 and their Grandfather did not have the means to provide for them when he became ill. He died a couple of years ago and the eldest, Maria Subi, is in charge of the family. She started working at the Electricity Board as a cashier around the time her grandfather died. Her younger sister Maria Sheeba completed her 2-year nursing studies and the good news shared with us last summer was that she married in September 2009. The boy, Robin has finished school and is now an apprentice (to what it is not stated). Our donations over the 5 years helped with their tuition and living expenses. I'm sure that when Robin starts working that the Save a Family Plan organization in India will recommend another family start receiving support.

Maria Subi thanks us and keeps us in their prayers. I have recently written to say that they have been in our prayers as well and we are proud that they have made their way in the world.

Save A Family Plan (www.safp.org) is committed to poverty reduction in India through sustainable development and the overall strengthening of families and communities. This is accomplished through the financial assistance of donors, whose support to impoverished Indian families and communities is made possible through the transfer of funds from SAFP Canada to SAFP India, where, with the cooperation and facilitation of local partners (NGO's/Diocesan Social Service Societies/self-help groups/community-based organizations), vulnerable families and communities are assisted. It works with 50 Diocesan Social Service Societies and supports over 19,000 families in some way. All the funds go to support the work in India and it is supported by a wide network of volunteers - including us!

Gloria Montserin



**Our very own St. Joseph CWL member
Olympic Torch Bearer - Erin Corrado**

**We were very proud of Erin as we watched her
in December carrying the Olympic Torch.**

**Congratulations Erin,
Congratulations Canada!**

Christian Family Life Pat Wilson

March for Life – Ottawa May 12-14 –

The 37th annual March for Life to Parliament Hill is an ecumenical event. Support youth in their quest to experience life without Abortion (original Bill passed May 14, 1969). Two members of St. Joseph CWL will be attending this event which will take place on Thursday May 13th in Ottawa. For more information go to www.marchforlife.org

Alliance for Life – Provincial Conference Mississauga – June 11 and 12

Facing A Changing World *Making the Case for the Future of Humanity*. See the conference brochure and registration form at www.allianceforlife.org or call 1-866-588-2684 for information.

Bill C- 384 Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide, a bill to amend the criminal code, death with dignity, was strongly defeated 228 to 59 in Parliament April 24, 2010.

Thank you to all CWL members who helped to collect signatures for the petition, those who signed the petition and those who wrote letters to their MPP. Many important concerns were raised in this debate. There is renewed strength for ongoing strategies aimed at improving palliative care access for all Canadians, changing attitudes, improving services for those with disabilities, identifying and eliminating elder abuse and developing effective strategies for suicide prevention.

Concerning the history of Hospital and Hospice Palliative Care (community) see the Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association at www.chpca.net

Communications Denise Van Veen

May 16th, 2010 is the **44th World communications Day** . Pope Benedict XVI announced the theme will be “The Priest and Pastoral Ministry in a Digital World: Media at the Service of the Word”. Pope Benedict reminded all priests “to make astute use of the unique possibilities offered by modern communication”.

In the Toronto Archdiocesan Council Newsletter Debbie Bates asks “How can we as CWL members do the same”

- Read his Holiness’ official message on Vatican website. Go to www.vatican.va choose The Holy See English and click on latest updates
- Initiate discussions with members on new communication tools used and how they can be utilized to better communicate with each other
- One tool used by all people is the internet. Continue to promote internet safety for children.

To all members receiving the newsletter by email, please let me know if you would like to continue receiving it this way or you would prefer a printed copy.

Treasurer Raffaella Civello

Budget 2010 – the draft Budget was presented by the Treasurer at the April General Meeting and motion read to accept the Budget as presented. Unanimous acceptance; organizations who will receive our donations this year are: Covenant House • Good Shepherd Refuge • Homeward Family Shelter • Myalgic Encephalomyelitis • St. Francis Table • St. Vincent de Paul • Spiritans-Brottier House • Catholic Missions in Canada • Coady Int’l • Development & Peace • Matercare • WUCWO • Hope For Children • St. Michael’s Scholarship • C.A.S.E. • Chalice • Camaroon Mission • Save a Family Plan • Share Life • Sleeping Children Around The World • Spiritans-Malawi • Spiritans-Seminarian • Salt & Light TV • Right to Life • St Joseph’s Parish - RCIA bibles; Bldg fund & Capital project; Refugee Outreach; Mary Dalgarno cooking classes;

Your generosity at our two major fundraisers (Heritage Day and Christmas Bazaar) helps to make these donations possible!

Past President & Historian***Lucia Vacca*****St. Joseph's CWL Nominations/Elections for New Executive Team 2011-2012**

A Nominations & Election Committee will be formed in the next few months. Our President Mary Tuccitto will be selecting an Elections Committee which is comprised of previous CWL accomplished leaders from St. Joseph. This committee will organize the election of a NEW Executive Team at the November General Meeting (November 8, 2010).

Nomination forms will be distributed in our September/October newsletter along with an eligible list of members to stand for Executive positions. At that time if you are nominated and a committee member calls you. We urge you to say "YES" and accept the nomination with confidence.

Highland Creek Heritage Day – Saturday June 19th, 2010 The official Website for this annual event is: www.fleurcom.on.ca/Heritage, this website has all the information of scheduled events, road closures, parade route etc... This annual event is our one of two fundraisers for our charities. We need your support with the various activities to make this a successful day. Please contact any one of the following ladies if you can contribute, join their committee or participate in some way.

Setup for this event is on Friday, June 18th from 2:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. We also need your help on Saturday, June 19th from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. We need you to participate, even for a few hours, so that everyone can enjoy the festivities of the day.

Parade: Costanza De Luca 416-284-5350

Theme of the day is: "There is No Business Like Show Business". CWL will be featuring the movie "Wizard of Oz". If you are interested in joining in this event and like the exercise and proudly represent St. Joseph's CWL, then this is one of the activities you can be a part in. We will be in costume so give us a call with ideas and your participation.

Bake Table: Lina Civello 416-283-0165

We need your contribution of baked goodies for this table. So start baking your favorite dessert! We would like to see this table overflowing with goodies. Drop off is on Friday, June 18th.

Plant Sale: Ingrid Hart 416-282-8775

Our plants are the best! If you love plants and have a green thumb you can join us at this table. We will accept potted plants a few days before or the night before the event on Friday, June 18th 6:00p.m.- 8:00p.m. Drop off is at the back of the Hall (next to the garage/patio)

Tea Room: Marguerite Civello 416-286-6162

Enjoy our selection of foods, sandwiches, drinks, coffee etc... and our famous strawberry shortcakes will be on sale. All at a very reasonable price.

Yard Sale: Eileen D'Souza 416-283-3959

Your gently used items are someone else's treasures. We will **not** accept soiled or broken items. Treasures will be accepted on Friday, June 18th between 6:00p.m. - 9:00p.m.

Raffle: Raffaella Civello 416-287-0006

We need new or good condition items for this table.

Silent Auction: Lucia Vacca 416-283-3536

Quality items for this table will be accepted on Friday June 18th. Thank you!

Vendors: Barbara Sullivan 416-283-4116

We have 10 vendors participating in this event in the hall.

JOIN IN THE CELEBRATION it's a great way to meet your Sisters in the League.

Happy Birthday and Happy Anniversary: Best Wishes to all our Members celebrating these special occasions during the months of May & June - God Bless

For the Deceased -- It is with great sadness to announce the passing of our CWL Sister – *Elizabeth Michalski* on Tuesday March 2nd, 2010. Elizabeth was a member of the League for 15 years. A Mass has been scheduled on Wednesday May 26th at 9:00 am.

Our deepest condolences are extended to our sisters in the League who have had a death in their family:

Delma Alphonso (Past-President 1999-2000) for the passing of her husband *John*

Ingrid Hart for the passing of her husband *Eric*

Patricia Hall for the passing of her father *Richard Henry Crean*

Ingrid Stalteri for the passing of her mother-in-law *Teresa Rocca*

Eternal Rest, grant unto them and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

Pray for our Sisters in the League- Continue to Pray for Good Health for our CWL Sisters and their families. If you know of any of our Sisters in the League, who are ill please contact: Eileen D'Souza. *May Our Lady of Good Counsel keep you in her loving care.*

CWL Items for Purchase: CWL Blue Scarves \$23.00 -- CWL Name Tags \$3.50 -- Madonna Pins \$10.00 CWL Insignia Pin \$4.00 -- Windshield Decal \$2.00 Call Lucia Vacca if you are interested in purchasing any of these items.

COFFE MUGS – Members are encouraged to bring their own mugs to the meetings.

DATES TO REMEMBER

May 13 (Thursday)	March for Life – Parliament Hill – Ottawa
May 17 & 18 (Mon/Tues)	89th Toronto Archdiocesan Convention
May 23 (Sunday)	Pentecost Sunday
May 30 (Sunday)	CWL Afternoon Tea Social – St. Joseph’s Hall 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm For members and lady friends – wear your favorite HAT to win a prize -- tickets are \$20.00 -- Call 416-283-3536
June 13 (Sunday)	CWL Mass /Welcome Sunday
June 14 (Monday)	Social – Pot Luck Dinner – Hall – 7:00 pm Setup 2:30 pm
June 18 (Friday)	Setup Hall for Heritage Day 2:00 – 9:30 pm
June 19 (Saturday)	Heritage Day –Parade, Plant Sale, Tea Room etc 7:30 am - 4:00 pm
June 27 (Sunday)	Parish Picnic – Adams Park
July 10 to 14	63 rd Provincial Convention – Cornwall, Ontario
August 8 to 11	90 th National Convention – Ottawa, Ontario
September 12 (Sunday)	CWL Mass /Welcome Sunday
September 13 (Monday)	General Meeting – Rosary 7:10 Meeting 7:30
September 19 (Sunday)	Rosary Sunday – Midland Martyrs Shrine
October 3 (Sunday)	Life Chain – (Kingston Rd. & Lawrence 2-3:30 pm) Be there!
October 12 (Tuesday)	CWL Scarborough Region General Meeting 7:30 p.m. St. Aidan’s Parish – all members are invited to attend
October 14 (Thursday)	Apple Pie Making 1-4
October 15 (Friday)	Interfaith Celebration – 7:30 p.m. Service & Reception in the Hall
October 21 (Thursday)	Apple Pie Making 1:00-4:00
October 23&24 Masses	White Ribbon Campaign – need CWL representation at each mass