



THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE
St. Joseph's Highland Creek Council
Established: November 5, 1953

www.stjoseph.ch

JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2012



Spiritual Advisor
Fr. David Okenyi, C.S.Sp.

2011-2012 EXECUTIVE

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SPIRITUAL ADVISOR'S MESSAGE: Rev. Fr. David Okenyi, C.S.Sp.

The Value of Affirmations in our lives.

As I continue to reflect on the mystery of this holy season of Christmas, the personality that comes to my mind regularly is Mary. And this becomes stronger as we prepare to celebrate the feast of the Motherhood of Mary on New Year Day. All through Advent and especially the days leading to Christmas the gospel readings focused on the Annunciation - when the angel Gabriel brought the message of God to Mary (Luke 1:26-38).

For me, one of the turning points of that encounter was the angel's affirmation of Mary: "Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you...Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God..." Though Mary was "much perplexed by his words" but in all humility she accepted it. That affirmation strengthened her faith, her self-esteem, if you like, to be totally subservient to the will of God - "Here am I, she said, "the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word."

It is not only Mary who received affirmation; Jesus also was affirmed at his baptism by John in the River Jordan: "This is my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on him." (Mt. 3:17).

Jesus also affirmed John the Baptist: "What did you go out to see in the wilderness ... a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet... I tell you, among those born of women no one is greater than John,...." (Lk. 7:24-28).

I believe that various affirmations have come to us from God, particularly through our imagination. As we know, God can communicate special messages in a variety of ways that include speaking words inside us. Sometimes we explain this away by this expression: "I would have listened to my gut." It is said that God speaking to us through our imagination is not uncommon experience. This is more so when we are struggling with love relationship and forgiveness with a neighbour.

Many professionals give affirmation different names: power of positive thinking, developing self-esteem, positive mind-set, visualizations, etc.

Our faith teaches us that we should always be humble. Good. But we must also learn to accept affirmation from God and others in all humility. We cannot be more humble than Mary. You can imagine what happens to a couple who never affirms each other. And what do you think that "I love you" that couples tell each other does?

As we celebrate the feast of Mary Mother of God on New Year Day, the gospel is going to tell us: "But Mary treasured all those words and pondered them in her heart." Those words of affirmation by the angel Gabriel were so powerful to Mary that she literally lived all through her life pondering how she could have been the Mother of God's Son who is the Saviour of the world.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Pat Wilson

Our National theme is Centred on Faith and Justice, with a focus on raising money to fight poverty. At St. Joseph we supported Catholic Family Services as part of the Toronto Diocesan Council initiative, contributed clothing to others through the Outreach Committee, donated money for disaster relief and provided continued support to CWL charities, many of whom work to fight the root causes of poverty both at home and abroad. In 2012, making the needs of the poor a priority will continue to be a focus for our work. In addition, we are asked to consider another form of poverty – 'spiritual poverty'. How does "spiritual poverty" impact our parish community? Are there women struggling with issues in their faith in need of support and friendship? Have they felt out of touch, busy, disconnected? Would these same people connect, renew or reconnect to their faith through their interests and membership in CWL?

January is membership month. CWL work is faith in action. Let each of us think about what brought us to CWL. Was it sisterhood, sharing of prayer and worship, a place to read, hear or learn about issues of faith, to socialize, find support or learn new skills? There are so many reasons to join; I've only mentioned a few. Not everyone joins for the same reason, but diversity makes us strong. Tell someone new why you joined and what it has meant for you to be a member. Ask them what their interests are. See if you can make the connection for them. Personal invitation is still the best way to increase membership. All members need to look to the future to provide success for those who will follow. Membership recruitment and maintenance are everyone's opportunity to reach out, share what you value with others. Encourage them to become members, even if their particular interest is different from yours. I believe there is something for everyone in the Catholic Women's League, but you need to join to find that special connection for yourself.

We are called by our Baptism to be leaders. The gifts of the Holy Spirit at Confirmation help us to live our faith as adults. Each of us can make a difference at home and in our communities. Lets invite others to join us.

Wishing each of you a meaningful membership in CWL, faith, fun and fulfillment in 2012.

TREASURER'S MESSAGE:

Ingrid Stalteri

We ended 2011 with a great fundraiser – the Bazaar on November 19, 2011 which raised \$6,034.20 (Gross); \$5,443.80 (Net). The break-down is as follow: Apple Pies - \$2,282.95 (Gross); \$1,724.14 (Net); International Tables/Tea-Room-\$1429.90; Bake Table - \$837.85; Treasure Table – \$688.10; Silent Auction - \$419.00; Raffle Table - \$155.00; Vendor Tables - \$60.00; Youth Table - \$41.40. This was the result of the efforts and donations of all the volunteers who made the Bazaar a huge success.

In our Budget for 2011, we estimated our total expenditures to be \$13,514.34. Our actual expenditures were \$14,309.82. We estimated our receipts (income) to be \$13,515.00. Our year end actual receipts (income) were \$16,837.06. We ended the year with a surplus of \$2,527.24. Happy New Year to everyone!

PRESIDENT-ELECT/ORIGANIZATION & MEMBERSHIP: MARY CAMPANELLI

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS:

A warm welcome to the following new members: Yvonne Hameed & Denise Gracias

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FOR 2012 – NOW OVERDUE!!!

Please submit your renewal form together with your payment of \$25.00 ASAP. You can drop it off at the Parish Office or in the collection basket at all Masses in the envelope marked "St. Joseph's Catholic Women's League Membership". Be sure to fill out all the information. Thank you.

POTLUCK ADVENT SERVICE AWARDS SOCIAL – Held on December 12, 2011

This was a great event where members and invited guests came together to celebrate the Advent season with sisterhood and scrumptious food from our many diverse cultures.

Congratulations to the following members who were awarded their service pins:

40 years – Roma O'Meara. Ethel McGilley is also to receive a 40 year pin, but she was absent from the Pot Luck. This will be presented to her at a later date.

25 years – Lina Civello. Virginia Madeiros is also to receive a 25 year pin, but she was absent from the Pot luck. This will be presented to her at a later date. Maria Zapfe received her 25 year pin earlier this year, as she was not well in Hospital. This was presented to her by Lucia Vacca. She has since passed away.

10 years – Rose Joseph. Mary Cunningham is also to receive a 10 year pin, but she was absent from the Pot Luck. This will be presented to her at a later date.

TORONTO ARCHDIOCESAN DEVELOPMENT DAY – Saturday, February 18, 2012

This event will be held at Nativity of Our Lord Parish Hall (480 Rathburn Road, Etobicoke). Registration is at 8:45 a.m. Opening Prayers at 9:15 a.m. followed by Presentations and 2:15 Closing Eucharist. The cost of this event is covered for our CWL members of St. Joseph's (\$10.00 per person). Bring a brown bag lunch, beverages will be provided. CWL members are encouraged to attend. Pre Registration is a MUST and the cut off is before February 10th. If you are interested, please call me at 416-283-0870 ASAP.

Congratulations to our Graduates from the CWL Leadership & Public Speaking Course:

Collette Alvares and Mary Campanelli. We also extend a big Thank you to our very own Course Instructors: Anne Rode, Delma Alphonso & Mary Tuccitto. The CWL course is an initiative under Membership League Development. If you are interested in this course, give us a call as we will be gathering names for the next CWL Leadership & Public Speaking Course for the spring of 2012.

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

Pat Furtado

December 12, 2011: Spiritual Bouquet - At our CWL Potluck Advent Service Celebration, held on December 12, 2011, a combined Spiritual Bouquet of the following:
Masses: 113 / Communion: 120 / Rosaries: 129 / Visit to the Blessed Sacrament: 87 / Acts of Sacrifice/Repentance: 65 and other Prayers: 49
was presented to our Pastor, Fr. David Okenyi and our Associate Pastor, Fr. Michal Jurkowski, along with their respective Christmas gifts.

Thurs. March 1, 2012: Televised mass to conclude the Toronto Diocesan CWL's 90th anniversary. Tapping for this mass will be held on Wed. Feb 29, 2012 at 5.00 p.m. at St. Basil's Church, St. Joseph's Street, down town. Members are encouraged to attend.

World Day of Prayer – Fri. March 2, 2012

Our Annual World Day of Prayer Celebration is Friday March 2, 2012. Please mark your calendar so that you can be part of this International prayerful event! St. Joseph's Highland Creek Parish is not hosting the event this year, but as in past years will celebrate with our local faith communities. Closer to the March date, we will update you with the event time and location. Please contact me if you wish to read prayers with other CWL members at this event or if you have any questions (416-724-8570). This year's theme is "Let Justice Prevail". Hosting Churches will meet to learn about Malaysian culture, music, bible study and review the service prepared by women for this event. It is a learning opportunity and an interfaith collaboration. All are welcome to attend. This planning session is Saturday January 7, 2012 at Timothy Memorial Church, 230 St. Clair Ave. West, 9am - 2:30pm. You can register at the door."

New Roman Missal – Advent, 2011:

The "New Mass translations" were introduced at Advent this year. Some of the most significant changes include modifications to the Gloria, Nicene Creed, and several responses. Some good resources for understanding the changes to the mass and for explaining, teaching, learning the new Mass texts can be found in Magnificat Magazine, Daily Roman Missal, Third Edition, St. Joseph Sunday Missal and several other publications/books. Study and familiarize yourself so you can actively participate in the celebration of the Mass.

RESOLUTIONS & LEGISLATION:

Maria Sol Tellis

"We always have a choice to live the moment as a cause of resentment or as a cause for joy."-Henri Nouwen(1932-1996)

UPDATES: Resolution 2010:01 Chrysotile Asbestos

Background: Resolution submitted by New Brunswick & Saskatchewan Provincial Councils.

Resolved, That the national council of The Catholic Women's League of Canada, in 90th annual national convention assembled, urge the federal government:

- to stop the export of chrysotile asbestos to developing countries by the year 2015
- to call for a ban on the mining of chrysotile asbestos by the year 2015

I reported on the same topic two months ago but I have to announce **a most surprising development.**

For the first time in 130 years, **no one is mining asbestos in Canada**. Mining is suspended at both producers. The Jeffrey underground mine is awaiting a \$58 million loan from the provincial government. Plans to resume production at the end of 2010 have been delayed considerably. Lac d'amiante du Canada ceased mining near Thetford Mines earlier in November.

Canada supplied 85% of the world's asbestos needs in the early 1900s, and production peaked in the early 1970s. Concerns about the safety of using the fibres have led to a sharp drop in demand in the last 20 years.

Investors hope to resume production at the Jeffrey mine next spring.

This has to be Divine Intervention of the highest magnitude. Let us continue in our prayers to save Canadian miners from the effects of asbestos mining and to ask the Holy Spirit to grant wisdom to our government officials to do the right thing.

EDUCATION & HEALTH:

Anne Martin

Health:

February is Heart Month. Heart disease and stroke take 1 in 3 Canadians before their time and it is the #1 killer of women. Did you know that your risk of Heart disease and stroke can be affected by your cultural background?

Are you at risk? Learn more about living a healthy life and reducing your risk of heart disease:

- 1) **Visit** <http://ww1.heartandstroke.ca>
- 2) Choose Ontario
- 3) Complete the Risk Assessment

Education:

- Kindergarten registration begins January 9
- Virtues of the Month
 - January – Courage
 - February – Love

Morning Prayer:

God of Boundless Courage and Compassion:

Grant us the clarity of hearing to attend to Your call echoing inside our hearts,

Grant us the fullness of your vision to see Your face in the people all around us.

Grant us your strength of heart to take on the greatest challenges,

Grant us generosity of soul to share in people's burdens

Grant us the wisdom to put all life's suffering under the banner of the Cross of Jesus.

We make our prayer in the name of Jesus. Amen

- Mary Dobell Pro-Life Essay & Poetry Contest – February 1, 2012
- St. Joseph's Parish Public Speaking Contest – February 11, 2012

COMMUNITY LIFE

Denise Van Veen

This article was taken from CWL Community Life Communique #3 written by Barbara Dowding

Did you know?

- "Violence keeps women in conditions of poverty, in poverty, or fear of poverty and keeps women trapped in violent situations."
- "Poverty marginalizes women, increasing their risk of victimization, while violence also isolates women, as the mental and physical effects grind away at women's sense of well-being, limiting what is possible."
- "Individual women are not responsible for poverty or violence. Poverty and violence exist because of inequalities in our society. Hence, we are collectively responsible for ending both poverty and violence against women..."

If you would like to find out more information on various topics sign in to

[www.cwl.ca/community life/communiques](http://www.cwl.ca/community%20life/communiques)

One of the resolutions adapted by National during 2011 is

"Children of Missing and Murdered ***Aboriginal*** Women" for more information on this resolution sign in to [www.cwl.ca/community life/resolutions](http://www.cwl.ca/community%20life/resolutions)

CHRISTIAN FAMILY LIFE:

Jean Fernandes

Sanctity of Life: Euthanasia Prevention Coalition: Last year, Canada's parliament rejected Bill C-384, a bill to legalize euthanasia and assisted suicide. Having lost this, the suicide lobby is bring their demand for legalized killing to the courts. Let us pray that this course of action will not be successful. It is also important to mention here that every one of us should have a living will in place in the event a medical emergency should arise where loved ones must make a decision on our behalf.

Vocations Ordinandi Dinner: The 2012 Ordinandi Dinner will be held Tuesday, March 6, 2012, at he Pearson Convention Centre in Brampton. All CWL members are encouraged to contribute their prayers on the yellow forms that will come out in January at our general meeting. As in the past, spiritual bouquet will be collected from all our four elementary schools and one high school within our parish boundary.

Bishop Bernard F. Pappin Memorial Bursary Fund: In memory of the late Bishop Pappin, a Spiritual Advisor for the Ontario Provincial Council, the CWL established a Bursary Fund to assist diocesan seminarians in need of financial support. An application is to be submitted to the Provincial President by January 15th each year, requesting financial help. If

you are aware of a seminarian in need of such help, please advise him of this award being available.

Ministry to Youth: Being encouraged by the news item in the Catholic Register announcing the establishing of a Catholic Girls' League in Mississauga at St. Francis Xavier Parish, it is hoped that we can work out a similar project here at St. Joseph's. I look forward to being able to work jointly with Standing Committee Chair for Health and Education, Ms. Anne Martin, who has a wealth of knowledge and experience in the education sector, to be able to establish a group (though small in number) here at St. Joseph's.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Winifred Martin

The following is excerpted from www.networketiquette.net/cybersafety. This site provides volumes of information for parents, caregivers and families on safety while on the net.

Avoiding Cyber Crime: There are traditional criminals and then there are cyber criminals. Cyber criminals commit crimes on the internet. Use good netiquette to steer clear of Cyber Crimes and those who commit them.

CYBERCRIME: Cybercrime is on the rise. Fraud and identity theft are widespread. Hackers have conventions and companies recruit from them.

There is a general lack of moral conduct on the internet or a lot of bad netiquette. That is why I made this site, so that good people will know what to do.

It is alright to download music. It is not alright to sell copyrighted material.

Selling copyrighted material online is a cybercrime. There are more serious cybercrimes, phishing, identity theft, and fraud, for example.

Do not give out personal information and use antivirus software to protect yourself from phishing scams and identity theft.

FAMILY CYBERSAFETY: Family internet safety etiquette, netiquette, is how you keep the kids and entire family safe on the internet. Rules and tips for keeping the kids and whole family safe online.

KIDS ONLINE SAFETY: Kids will be kids. That means there are a lot of them using the internet for social media because kids are purely social. The things we do to protect children

Parental Netiquette Rules

1. Monitor with software.
2. Supervise surfing.
3. Read their messages.
4. Set time limits.
5. Computers in the main room.
6. Keep the cells in a container.
7. No texting for kids.
8. No surfing on the cell.
9. No computers in their rooms.
10. Communicate with care providers.

The best way to protect your children on the internet is to teach them right from wrong. Teach your kids good netiquette first. A combination of adult supervision, software monitoring, and education are good netiquette for keeping kids safe online.

TEEN CYBERSAFETY: Teen Netiquette is popular culture. Popular culture drives the internet. Therefore, teaching teens about cyber safety is crucial to the growth of the internet. They have to know who to friend and for what reasons. Teens need to know what information they can share online.

Cyber bullying is a major issue in Teen Netiquette because it is common. There have been incidents of violence related to cyber bullying. It should not be tolerated.

PREDATORS: Child predators surf the internet for victims. MySpace is frequently used by pedophiles and other child predators to find victims because of the anonymity it allows. Recently, Facebook has had a problem with child predators as a result of their size. Since child predators surf the internet for unsupervised children to make victims, it is proper netiquette to monitor your child's internet activity.

In addition, you must teach your children not to talk to interact with adults online. Furthermore, you must teach them that adult content is not appropriate. For more information check the website at www.networketiquette.net/cybersafety
One last thing, remember to apply for your free Credit Report from Equifax and/or TransUnion – it helps keep you aware of any illegal activity that would impact your credit rating or Identity Theft.

PAST PRESIDENT/HISTORIAN:

Mary Tuccito

The Annual *Winter Event* for **all** CWL members of Scarborough Region will be held at Precious Blood Parish (1737 Lawrence Ave. East) on Saturday, February 4th with registration at 9:30 a.m. The day will feature a guest speaker, Father Joe Pena and he will give a talk entitled "The two Blind Men". After the lunch break we will have an opportunity to get to know our sisters in Scarborough with various games and a 50/50 draw. The day will conclude at 2:30 p.m. Please bring a lunch and \$2.00 for registration. All members and

friends are encouraged to attend this fun event. Please call me if you have any questions and for carpooling.

Members Remembered and Honoured

At our end of year Potluck and Advent Celebration on December 12th, 2011 we had an opportunity to celebrate the season in the spirit of sisterhood and joy. At this event, we gave years of service pins to the respective members, as reported by our President Elect Mary Campanelli. We also remembered our deceased members of 2011 – Cecile Tofani, Mary Handler, Margaret Gschwind, Stephanie Ramsay, Adele Michniewicz and Maria Zapfe. Please continue to remember them and all our departed sisters in your prayers.

At this celebration we also honoured Past Presidents who served CWL in various capacities beyond the parish level. It was an opportunity to express our appreciation and gratitude to those who shared their knowledge, talents, time and love of the League with others at CWL beyond the Parish Level. Certificates of appreciation were presented to Judith Tiber, Betty Anne Brown-Davidson, Pat Sheehan, Anne Rode, Delma Alphonso, Marlene Don Paul, Gloria Montserin and Lucia Vacca. Thank you ladies once again for your continued dedication to The League.

OTHER NEWS:

Congratulations:

To Katie Wicik on the birth of her son Nathaniel.

DATES TO REMEMBER

JANUARY 2012

- January 7 Saturday) Festival Day at Timothy Eaton Church, 9:30 -2:30 pm, registration at the door, plan featured: Malaysia, Theme: 'Let Justice Prevail'. Location to be announced. All are welcome.
- January 8 (Sunday) CWL Mass 11:00a.m.– Welcome Sunday Reception
Set up at 10:00a.m. Donations of snacks/baked goods would be greatly appreciated.
- January 9 (Monday) General Meeting in Room 2 – Rosary @ 7:10pm; Social Time @ 7:30pm followed by the General Meeting
- January 9-15 Week of Christian Unity (Parish Event)
- January 17 (Tuesday) Memorial Mass for Stephanie Ramsay – RIP

FEBRUARY 2012

- February 4(Saturday) 9:00 a.m. Memorial Mass for Maria Zapfe – RIP
- February 4(Saturday) 5:00p.m. Memorial Mass for Adela Michniewicz – RIP
- February 4(Saturday) Regional Winter Event – Precious Blood Parish, 9:30 2:30pm, registration \$2, guest speaker – Father Joe Pena topic "Two Blind Men", 50/50 draw, games, bring your own lunch
- February 11(Saturday) Mary Matthews Public Speaking Contest – 9:30 am to noon
Room Parish Hall, (Room 2 – Coaching Room) all are welcome
- February -12(Sunday) CWL Sunday 11:00 a.m. Mass,
- February 13(Monday) CWL General Membership Meeting beginning at 7:10 pm
Rosary, social time, Business Meeting, Room 2
Budget Statement 2011 Review, Education and Health/
Resolutions presentation
- February 15(Wed) Heritage Day Planning meeting – 7:30 in the Boardroom
All CWL members are welcome to attend

- February 18(Saturday) Toronto Diocesan Council CWL Development Day'
Theme- The What, Why and How of Prayer... The
Power of Prayer', Father Gilles Mongeau, S.J.
- Nativity of Our Lord Parish Hall, 480 Rathburn Road,
Etobicoke ON, 8:45 am to 3:15 pm, tea and coffee, bring
Your own lunch, **FREE TO ALL CWL MEMBERS** – contact
Mary Campanelli to reserve your spot 416-283-0870
- February 19 (Sunday) Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast
- February 20(Monday) Family Day
- February 22(Wed) Ash Wednesday
- February 29(Wed) Toronto Diocesan Council 90th Anniversary Closing Celebration
Mass 5:00pm, St. Basil's Church, St. Joseph/Bay St. This mass
will be recorded and televised Thursday March 1, 2012

MARCH 2012

- March 2(Friday) World Day of Prayer – country featured is Malaysia, theme 'Let
Justice Prevail', location TBA
- March 3(Saturday) Annual Lift Jesus Higher Rally
- March 6(Tuesday) Ordinandi Dinner – in honour of the Graduating 2012 Deacons
who will be ordained in May 2012. This event is sponsored by the
Serra Clubs of Toronto – a vocations arm of the Church
- March 11(Sunday) CWL Sunday Mass at 11:00 am, **no CWL Welcome Sunday in
Lent**
- March 11 (Sunday) Scarborough Region – Mary Matthews Public Speaking Contest
(Details TBA)
- March 12(Monday) CWL General Membership Meeting beginning at 7:10 pm with
Rosary, social time, business meeting, Policy and Procedure
Review with Membership
- March 19 (Monday) St. Joseph's Feast Celebration