



# The Catholic Women's League of Canada

## Report to St. Joseph the Worker Annual General Meeting — May 15, 2016

### **CWL Council Executive Members:**

Spiritual Advisor: Father Alfredo Monacelli  
President: Gerry Heywood  
Past President: Karen Douglas  
Recording and Corresponding Secretary: Lorraine Hawks  
Treasurer: Shirley Cummins  
Spiritual Development/Christian Family Life: Beth Geras  
Organization/President Elect: Barbara Strong  
Community Life: Kathy Frazer, Anne Pearson  
Education and Health: Fran Pelton, Brenda Bella  
Parish Activities: Emmy Selleza

St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Women's Council normally meets on the second Monday of every month at either 1:00 P.M. or 7:00 P.M. Currently, we have 46 members. The objective of the Catholic Women's League is to unite Catholic women so they can grow spiritually and personally. We, also, as a council have fun doing this.

We have been particularly concerned and have put a lot of time and energy responding to threats to the sanctity of human life and religious freedom as exemplified by the proposed physician assisted suicide law and individuals' right of conscience in this matter. We also remain steadfast with our national sisters in our opposition to abortion and other social changes that diminish the dignity or life of others. For example, we lobby for more palliative care and hospice beds to care for the very ill. We also fight against pornography and its devastating effects upon its victims and families through the CWL White Ribbon campaign.

On the local level, we continue to provide refreshments after the second Sunday of the month's morning mass and we serve at funerals. Our other activities include: \$100 donation to St. Andrew's High School Dry Graduation celebrations, a CWL "Day of Reflection", workshops to make Angels to sell to support the African Angels Aids Program, made hampers for St. Vincent de Paul and Anawim House at Christmas, hosted the World Day of Prayer, helped plan and serve our Parish Spaghetti Dinner in support of the Masithuthukasane Project, supported a family in India for the year under the "Save a Family Plan", provided a gift to the first communicants/confirmation candidates in the parish, supported religious education at St. Joseph's Elementary with a \$500 donation, supported Coady International with a \$150 donation, supported Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace with a \$110 gift, gave \$50 to Catholic Missions in Canada, supported the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition with a \$50 contribution, gave Velma's Dream/Catholic Near East Welfare Association \$100, supported the Diocesan Youth Conference, gave a \$120 donation to the Seminarian Fund in support of Vocations to the Priesthood and provided refreshments to the Pastoral Care Workshop.

We recently held our Lady of Good Counsel Mass and reception on April 23, 2016 and about 50 people came to celebrate this event. We were blessed to have members from three other neighbouring councils attend this special mass.

Last, but not least, we held two pie sales on our special days; Mothers' Day and Thanksgiving. And you were wondering where we got all that money to help all those special causes!

Since this is a formal annual report to you, our parish, I will not mention the fun parties, upcoming movie day (with popcorn), conferences/workshops or upcoming Blessing of the Animals. Yes, we do work hard but we also have fun in our CWL community. I would be remiss not to invite women of our parish to come and see. Our members include young mothers, employed women as well as retired ladies. Our CWL council is active and relevant in today's

world. So talk to us or visit our Facebook page called **Catholic Women's League St. Joseph the Worker** . We'd like to meet you.

Respectfully submitted by  
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