



Notre Dame de Lorette Catholic Women's League 2021



Our Spiritual Advisor
Fr. Jorge Mario de los Rios Londoño

Our Members
Lacey Bernardin, *President*
Megan Bernardin
Lynne Bernier
Susan Bernier
Irene Bialek
Valerie Bonnefoy
Jacqueline Bouchard, *Vice Pres, Chair*
Lindsay Bouchard
Jolene Capina, *Treasurer*
Maryse Chartier
Lucille Chay, *President-Elect, Chair*

Crystal Chernichan
Monica Chernichan
Rolande Chernichan
Jaquelyne Cournoyer
Patricia Danylchuk
Suzanne Desmarais
Janine Durand-Rondeau
Gisèle Falk
Constance Haas
Monique Jeanson
Sue Johannesson
Monique Johnson
Delaney Kolowca
Heather Kolowca
Nettie L. Lambert
Catherine Larson

Micki Maxwell
Marie McCall
Madelyn McConnell
Kathleen Messner
Suzanne Moore, *Chair, Secretary*
Carol Mravinec
Mary-Ann Novak
Agatha Olayiwola
Marcia Poirier
Jennifer Poitra
Marie-Ange Prevost
Mae Ross, *Chair*
Iris Swiderski
Joanne Touchette
Marilyn Toutant

September 2021

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|-----|-----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8  CWL Mtg @ Hall, 7:00 pm | 9  Valerie & Roger Bonneyfoy | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15  Nettie & Ray Lambert | 16  Lucille Chay | 17  Marie- Ange Prevost | 18  Highway Cleanup |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24  Marie & Edward McCall | 25  Gisèle & Walter Falk |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29  Delaney Kolowca | 30 | | |

Hello ladies & Father J.

Mario,

Welcome back everyone!

It's been a long and eventual summer and it's going to be a busy Fall. There's much to go through so I'll get right into it.

First, we started off with the passing of our sister Micki. We were able to celebrate her life during her funeral on May 21 where she was entered into our Book of Life and was aired on YouTube. Micki led a wonderful and very filling life and was a member of the CWL for 64 years.

We sent our scholarship certificate and letter to the school of our recipient, Elena Chammartin, in order for them to present it to her. Due to ongoing restrictions, the school had to present it instead of one of our members.

On June 19th, we went ahead and participated in our Annual Spring/Summer Highway Cleanup. Unfortunately, we were a smaller group than usual and was not able to complete all the areas that needed cleaning. Those that were able to come put in a great effort and were rewarded with amazing sandwiches and baking when we were finished. Immediately following the cleanup, many of us were able to don an orange shirt and then we proceeded to have a special ceremony for the residential school children. We planted several orange flowers around the base of our tree in front of the church and

Dear CWL Ladies

We thank you, Lacey, for representing the group of women. Thank you kindly for honouring my mother, Helen, by speaking on her behalf, praying and entering her name in the Book of Life and giving us a single red rose.

The ladies of the CWL made her final farewell today truly special. It was a lovely yet simple service suitable to the "COVID times". May God bless you all.

Sincerely, Jeanette Agnot & family

Thank you note from family of Helen (Micki) Maxwell

then read some prayers and articles for these children.

Way back in May, we were notified that Armand Poirier was nominating our council for a municipal award, which ended up being upgraded to the Premier's Volunteer Award. Two of our members worked hard to get what was needed together and all the paperwork got put through. Officially, Andrea Adams, with the help of her father, Armand, successfully submitted the forms and then the wait was on. Early in July, we were notified that we had won the award in our category. Subsequently, we took a group photo for publication in The Carillon and Steinbach Online. Another four of us were interviewed by the Free Press and conducted a photo shoot a la "Abbey Road". On August 5th, Volunteer Manitoba came out and filmed our group receiving the award. Rolande and Susan accepted the award on our behalf. The ceremony will be aired on September 23rd on the Volunteer Manitoba's Facebook page.

During the Diocesan AMM that replaced the Annual Convention this year, they conducted their elections. Unfortunately, the results were not very favorable, as there were only two members who were elected to the council. Due to the lack of positions filled, there will be a special meeting in September, hosted by the Life Members. There was an email sent out to all our members with a letter explaining the situation. I urge all of you to pray for and about this situation and to think about possibly putting your name forward.

On August 8th, we as a parish celebrated our first Appreciation Day for Father Mario. As a council, we put together a spiritual bouquet as well as words of appreciation for Father. We put through a motion as well to purchase and gift Father with a Visa giftcard. The motion was approved and will be added to our minutes.

I'd like to thank everyone who was

Lacey's Address



able to participate in any of the activities throughout the summer or who prayed for us throughout these times. Everyone's help and participation was greatly appreciated.

Lastly, and almost most importantly, we have a reason to celebrate one of our members. As most of you have heard by now, our very own Rolande Chernichan, has been elected to the CWL National Executive Council as chairperson of Resolutions! CONGRATULATIONS!! We're all very proud of you and your accomplishments in the past and with your future on National Council. Our prayers and support go with you.

This month's general meeting will be September 8th at the parish hall at 7pm. You are all asked to bring your own snacks/food/refreshments for this month. Please remember to wear your masks and respect social distancing. I look forward to seeing you all again soon.

Lacey Bernardin

P.S. Save the date: Highway cleanup - September 18 with a rain date of the 25th. Volunteers needed for supplying snacks.

Lacey Bernardin

2021 Pope's Intentions

September

An Environmentally Sustainable Lifestyle

We pray that we all will make courageous choices for a simple and environmentally sustainable lifestyle, rejoicing in our young people who are resolutely committed to this.

Congratulations, Rolande!

Rolande Chernichan
National Chairperson of Resolutions

Rolande served as the charter president of Notre Dame de Lorette Parish Council (Manitoba), holding membership with that council for 32 years. She has held several officer positions at the parish, diocesan and provincial levels. Rolande served as St. Boniface Diocesan President from 2008-2010. She was awarded the maple leaf service pin in 2012 and was a recipient of life membership in 2016. Her service in the League includes developing leadership training, facilitating resolutions and *S'Mores* workshops, as well as serving on several *ad hoc* committees. She was appointed to the national resolutions committee from 2014-2016. She served as president of Manitoba Provincial Council from 2017-2019, a term marked by celebrating the 70th anniversary of provincial council, hosting the national convention by Manitoba in 2018, the launch of the provincial website, as well as the start of implementing the League's strategic plan. She became national chairperson of resolutions in August 2021. (*Biography from Manitoba Provincial Council*)



Meet Elena Chammartin, our 2021 Scholarship Recipient

I've always loved helping others and, in high school, became very interested in sciences. I loved learning about biology, chemistry and the human body and, after taking a first aid course, began to explore the idea of a career in nursing. I spoke to family member and friends who are nurses, attended online presentations about nursing programs and spent time praying and discerning. I now feel confident this is the right career path for me and am excited to learn more about different types and jobs in the nursing field. I would feel so honoured to be able to care for people in different stages of life and to show my compassion to patients and families. I have been accepted into the bilingual nursing program at USB and am prepared to study and work hard to succeed and achieve my goals.

2021 Lorette Parish Men's Golf Tournament



Knights of Columbus of Lorette are organizing a Men's Golf Tournament (16 yrs and older) on Sunday September 12 at the **Prairie Oaks Golf Course @ 22048 Oak Grove Rd.** 4 player teams playing a 9 Hole Texas Scramble with Prizes and Fun.

You can register from 1 to 4 people by emailing leoandsuzie@gmail.com or phone Leo @ [204 961-1442](tel:2049611442). ****ASAP****

Arrive by 12:45 - Shotgun start at 1:30 pm.
- Event will end by 5:00 pm. No registration fee. You pay your green fees to the golf course upon your arrival

Thank you to our Council for the donation towards tournament prizes.

A Social-Distancing Activity that helps our community!
Saturday, September 18, 2021

Raindate: September 25, 2021

**COME ON
DOWN AND
LEND A HAND!**

**Refreshments served
at Lorette Parish Hall
Parking Lot
following Clean-up.**

In keeping with Public Health orders, a maximum of 2 people will travel in a car to the start-up locations. Pilot drivers will ferry people back to their vehicles as needed. Face masks are recommended when travelling with someone else (exception is made for members of the same household).

Hwy 207 from McDougall Rd to Junction of Hwy 206

HIGHWAY CLEANUP

Meet 9:00 a.m. at Lorette Parish Hall Parking Lot



Sponsored by the Notre Dame de Lorette Catholic Women's League



Meal delivery to your home, or Curbside Pickup from Université de Saint-Boniface

Musical entertainment : 6:15 to 6:30 PM

Live Program : 6:30 to 7:30 PM

\$75 ticket with \$40 tax receipt

50/50 The draw will take place on Thursday, October 7, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. at the Flavie-Laurent Center offices, 450 Provencher Boulevard, Winnipeg, Manitoba R2J 0B9.

<https://centreflavie.square.site/>



**PREMIER
OF MANITOBA**

Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 0V8
CANADA

JUN 25 2021

The Catholic Women's League of Notre Dame de Lorette
c/o Lacey Bernardin
Box 238
New Bothwell, Manitoba R0A 1C0

Dear Lacey Bernardin:

On behalf of all Manitobans, please accept my sincere congratulations on being selected as a recipient of the Premier's Volunteer Service Award for 2021.

The award recognizes the dedication and commitment demonstrated by outstanding volunteers and the valuable services they perform in our province. The contribution you have made is commendable and reflects the generous work of so many volunteers who are making a difference in our province.

Thank you again for your contribution to volunteering in Manitoba. Please accept my best wishes for continued success in your future endeavours.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Brian', is written over a horizontal line.

Brian Pallister

A Note of Congratulations

Dear Lorette Go Getters:

When reading the July 31, 2021 Free Press article of your achievement, I feel compelled to speak of my reactions. For certain, I commend you big time. The focus of footwear could not have been a better choice, is truly my thought. It speaks to me of the big draw one side to the other — could be dancing, water play or even business matters. You can see I am not familiar with Lorette and so many readers may not be as well, but may feel the impact of need for this crosswalk.

I further feel a desire to applaud your tenacity to stay the course and when you walk on it, will you take three quick steps for me as I enjoy it with you? Bless you for your efforts and being open to our great helper. Smile with me. This picture will be taped to my workroom wall to show me again and again the good together we can achieve. Sincere congratulations — *Mary Ritchie*

Dear Notre Dame de Lorette Catholic Women's League:

Congratulations on receiving the Premier's Volunteer Service Award for 32 years of service to Lorette and southern MB.

Blessings, Ted Falk, *MP for Provencher*

Such a great article. I know you would enjoy reading it. Way to go Lorette CWL. Marilyn

Sending "Congratulations! On behalf of the the Winnipeg Diocesan Council to the Notre Dame Le Lorette Catholic Women's League, Rolande Chernichan, Suzanne Moore, Susan Bernier and Lacey Bernardin on your award written within the above article. "Congratulations"
—*Pat Ward, President, Winnipeg Diocesan Council*

Our heartfelt congratulations on your award and gratitude for being "The Face" of the CWL in Manitoba. Your gift of self to your community and beyond is inspiring.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel bless each of you as you work for God and Canada.

—*Your sisters in The League, Ste. Anne des Chenes CWL*

Congratulations to the wonderful ladies of Notre Dame de Lorette Parish Council. Not only do you never say "No" to anyone or any organization in need, you always look for ways to be of service. May our Lady of Good Counsel bless you now and always.

So proud of you all! —*Colleen Holloway (former member of our council)*

Congratulations on your volunteer award. You have all done a fantastic job and we at St. Stanislaus are very proud of all the work you do for the parish. I personally hope to meet with you when we are able to gather in person.

—*Patricia Goodman, St. Stanislaus CWL*

Congratulations on your council having received the Premier's Volunteer Service Award! You guys are an inspiration!

Lindsay Jennings, St. Joseph the Worker

Very cool - Congratulations!!!! —*Janet Brunger, MB President, CWL*

My congratulations to you and all council members. Well deserved.

—*Blessings, Paulette Chase, St. Boniface Diocesan Council Past-President*

That is such great news! I am sending on congratulations on behalf of the Beausejour CWL.

— *Anne Wolkenstein, President*

You Ladies are amazing and very inspiring. Congratulations on a well-deserved award. I absolutely love the picture!

—*Janice Butler*

Mr. Armand Poirier,

I am writing these few words to you on behalf of Bishop Albert LeGatt to thank you for your note of July 12 with the very good news about the members of the CWL of Notre Dame de Lorette. What a joy for him to learn that they have received the Premier's Award of Manitoba from Volunteer Manitoba. Monsignor wishes to congratulate them wholeheartedly and express his gratitude to them for their exceptional contribution in the parish, in society and in the whole diocese.

Warmly,

Alice Lemoine Adjointe administrative de Mgr l'Archevêque
Executive Assistant to the Archbishop



A community organization in Lorette was honoured earlier in the week by the province.

The Notre Dame de Lorette Catholic Women's League (CWL) was notified that they are a recipient of the Premiers Volunteer Service Award.

The Premier's Volunteer Service Awards were established by the Premier's office, in partnership with Volunteer Manitoba, to honour the efforts and dedication of outstanding volunteers in Manitoba; and recognize and encourage the valuable services performed by volunteers throughout the province.

Andrea Adams was part of a group of residents that nominated the CWL and was excited about the announcement. 'We've been very excited about the fact that they aren't just getting any old award. They're getting the Premier's award and this is just long overdue and very very very well deserved.'

Adams didn't need to be persuaded to participate in the nomination process, as the CWL has been instrumental in building community in Lorette for decades. She has seen firsthand the good that the women's group does in the community, 'they just do it for the good and for helping others, and that's I think what is most important.'

From helping out at wedding receptions, to picking up garbage, collecting clothing donations, hosting socials and fundraisers, the CWL has had an active part of Lorette for over 32 years. Adams says this group of women deserve recognition. 'If somebody needed a wheelchair or if somebody needed to take a trip to Germany to get back surgery or a new van for a young woman in town who required a special van for her wheelchair, it's been countless things like this and they get little to no recognition for the job that they do within our community and within our province.'

Lucy Bernardin, president of the CWL was surprised by the nomination followed by receiving the award, 'when we first told that we were nominated, it didn't really feel real, but it was really special.'

After they learned of the nomination and that the requirements to be nominated involved explaining volunteer activities, the ladies of the CWL decided to compile their own list of the things they have done. The list was over three pages long covering activities over the 32 years they've been involved in the community.

According to Bernardin, the group is fairly young compared to other women's leagues in the province and she says they have an experienced group. 'A little bit of bragging, but I would say some of the most experienced and well thought out, and intelligent ladies that I've ever seen. And they are passionate about what they are involved in and that really comes through in how we show ourselves.'

Bernardin is quick to explain why women should join the Catholic Women's League. 'For starters, we are faith-based, so if you have any spirituality or faith, it's a great way of just bolstering it up. And you're doing it in a group of ladies, so you're sharing in your faith. They are amazing women; they welcome you in, they love having you there. And it's fun, we're not all serious. Trust me, we have a lot of fun. And when we do have our meetings, we have an amazing lunch and so you're well-fed.'

As Bernardin reflected on the award, she reflected on why the CWL received it. 'We got this award because we are about action. We don't just sit there and talk a lot. We walk the walk as well as the talk.'

Although she isn't currently part of the CWL, Adams is already making plans to participate in the future. 'I will definitely be following in the footsteps as much as I can and leading by example just as much as they have for the rest of the community over the years.'

<https://www.steinbachonline.com/local/we-walk-the-walk-as-well-as-the-talk-lorette-catholic-women-s-league-recognized-by-the-province?tmpl=component&print=1&layout=default>

Slow and steady Catholic women in Manitoba receive award for their decades of community work

By: [Brenda Suderman](#)
Posted: 4:00 AM CDT Saturday, Jul. 31, 2021



Every time Lorette resident Andrea Adams safely crosses the busy main road with her young daughter to get to the community splash pad or soccer field, she knows exactly who to thank.

That would be the 42 members of the Notre Dame Le Lorette Catholic Women's league, who lobbied for seven years for traffic-calming measures along Provincial Road 207, also known as Dawson Road.

"It's become a lot safer and secure," Adams says of recently installed flashing crosswalks along the busy thoroughfare that bisects this community 30 kilometres east of Winnipeg.

"We feel better crossing the road with young kids."

Last fall the province installed crosswalks equipped with flashing lights at three spots on Dawson Road: one at Lorette Collegiate, one at Lorette Community Complex and the other near Notre Dame de Lorette Roman Catholic Parish.

The Lorette Catholic Women's League will be recognized for three decades of service to their community and beyond with the Premier's Volunteer Service Award, to be presented at a virtual ceremony on Sept. 23.

"We are very proud we were able to get crosswalks in the town of Lorette," says member Rolande Chernichan, former president of the Manitoba CWL chapter.

"Our objective was to (install) something that would slow down the traffic."

Traffic may be slowed down in Lorette these days, but the group has not let up on their work of advocating for social justice well beyond their community of 3,200. Over the years, discussions at their monthly meetings,

which pause for the summer, include topics as diverse as income tax credits for adult fitness, banning electronic cigarettes, and refundable deposits for recyclable beverage containers.

Open to women of faith 16 years and older, the Lorette league has met virtually during the pandemic, attracting up to 20 members, but spotty internet service in the area limited access for some, said Lacey Bernardin, president of the Lorette league.

"We're definitely looking forward to meeting in person so all of our members can attend," she says of the monthly meetings, which inspire women in their faith and develop their leadership skills.

Resolutions proposed at the parish level make their way up to CWL organizational structure until they land at the appropriate spot for action. The Lorette group has a strong record of researching resolutions that are debated at national conventions, which have been held virtually for the last two years.

"We have a reputation for well-written, well-thought-out and timely resolutions," says member Susan Bernier, who chaired the 2018 national convention, the last time it was held in Manitoba.

The Catholic Women's League has a long history of advocating for social issues and serving vulnerable populations in Canada, with roots in a chapter in Edmonton formed in 1912 to support and protect immigrant women and girls. A national organization of this lay association of women was formed in 1920 with the motto "For God and Canada."

The Lorette group is much newer, founded in 1989 when the formerly French parish became bilingual, explains Chernichan.

"The reason the league is in Lorette is that the past national president was a parishioner in our parish," she says.

As well as lobbying for crosswalks, the Lorette league has led fundraising efforts to support injured community members, organized spring and fall cleanups along an eight-kilometre stretch of PR 207 and collected toiletries, clothes and food for other charities.

They're humbled by this award, but also slightly amused that they're getting recognized by an award named after the top provincial politician, since their organization has a mandate to meet regularly with elected officials, including premiers and prime ministers.

Their last — and only — meeting with Premier Brian Pallister was in 2018, just a day before the national convention began, says Chernichan, who said their allotted 45 minutes stretched to two hours.

"He had a huge learning curve of what the Catholic Women's League was all about," she says of that meeting with Pallister.

But the people of Lorette already understand the power of the league, says Adams, and she's pleased others in the province will also get that opportunity as award winners are publicly recognized.

"We're hoping it gets people seeing who they are and what they do," says Adams, who nominated the Lorette league along with her father, local municipal councillor Armand Poirier.

brenda.suderman@freepress.mb.ca

Lorette Women Honoured with Leadership Award



The Lorette Women's League was recently recognized for their hard work with a Community Leadership Award.

By Marianne Curtis

The Notre Dame de Lorette Catholic Women's League (CWL) are being recognized for decades of behind the scenes work after being named as a recipient of the Premiers Volunteer Service Award.

The Premier's Volunteer Service Awards were established by the Premier's office, in partnership with Volunteer Manitoba, to honour the efforts and dedication of outstanding volunteers in Manitoba; and recognize and encourage the valuable services performed by volunteers throughout the province.

For the past thirty-two years, the CWL have been active volunteers, service and advocates for social justice in the community. Some of their lists of accomplishments are raising \$40,000 to help pay for a van and home renovations for a 14-year old paralyzed following back surgery. They raised \$50,000 so a man could go to Germany for back

surgery, and raised another \$40,000 for a teen injured in a snowmobile accident. They can also be seen along the highway cleaning up garbage after adopting Highway 207, through the adopt-a-highway program.

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a new van for a young woman in town who required a special van for her wheelchair, it's been countless things like this and they get little to no recognition for the job that they do within our community and within our province."

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"A little bit of bragging, but I would say some of the most experienced and well thought out, and intelligent ladies that I've ever seen. And they are passionate about what they are involved in and that really comes through in how we show ourselves." Bernardin added that, "We got this award because we are about action. We don't just sit there and talk a lot. We walk the walk as well as the talk."



News from Maryse

Hola!

I hope this finds you well. First and foremost, I want to reassure everyone: I arrived safely in Peru, luggage included. I have settled in the novitiate in Canto Grande, which is part of one of Lima's most populated districts, San Juan de Lurigancho. I am starting a new chapter in my journey: novitiate.

The plane trip itself (August 14 –15), with two layovers in Calgary and Los Angeles went rather well. I was blessed to encounter helpful airport and border security staff, especially in Calgary. First, a few courteous employees directed me along the way to U.S. customs, all the way at the other end of the terminal. I certainly did not suffer from lack of exercise that day! Then, just before speaking to the custom officer, I realized that I had left my envelope with my negative COVID test results at the bottom of the bin after going through the scanner. Fortunately, the security personnel had noticed and had put it in a safe spot! Then, I raised the custom officer's awareness about the

Francophone community in Manitoba since he was surprised to see a passport with a French name and Winnipeg as the city of birth. The rest of the trip was mostly devoid of adventures, but I was sure glad to see Sr. Elvia just outside of Hugo Chavez airport.

During my first week, I recovered from my travels, settled in my room, and attended my religious life classes (3 mornings/week) offered by the Peruvian religious conference. I was blessed to be able to have a two-day retreat on Friday and Saturday to prepare for my official admission to the novitiate on Sunday, August 22. During the simple but beautiful ceremony, accompanied by songs carefully chosen by my community members, I committed myself to living according to the constitutions of the Congregation of the Sisters of Holy Cross during my novitiate. I presented an offering representative of what I desire to live during this intense formation period, a period when I let myself be drawn into the desert and be clay in the hands of a loving God. Thus, I shaped an ear of wheat out of clay (see picture). This wheat represents the fertile ground where I grew up as well as my Manitoban roots, but also reminds me of the

grain of wheat that must die to bear fruit (John 12:24). I received the book of constitutions (rules governing the life of the Sisters of Holy Cross) and my chaplet of the Seven Dolors of Mary, patron saint of the congregation. It all concluded with a Magnificat and a feast. In addition to my four housemates (Sr. Elvia, Sr. Agnès Nikiéma, Frecia and Natacha), Sr. Esmeralda and Sr. Saturnina were also in attendance (see pictures).

And what does a novice do exactly? Well, I hope to share these discoveries with you as I learn that myself. As I mentioned earlier, novitiate is often compared to time spent in a desert. In

other words, where one wholly dedicates oneself to deepening one's relationship to the God of Love. And, as my older sisters often remind me, you only live the novitiate experience once! Since I am committed to living this unique experience to the fullest, I am not yet sure how often I will be sending these emails or how quickly I will be able to respond to your emails. Thanks in advance for your understanding!

You will stay close to my heart and in my prayers. Un fuerte abrazo,

Maryse Chartier

In Our Parish



September 3, 7:00 pm Little Flowers for girls 5+ at parish hall

September 4, 3:00 pm Prayer and Life Workshop at parish hall

September 9, 6:30 pm Jesus in the Gospels Bible Study (online)

September 11, 6:00 pm Teams of Our Lady for married couples at church



PRAYER AND LIFE WORKSHOPS

A New Evangelization

The Prayer and Life Workshops are a new form of Evangelization: alive and with a greater positive vision than what has previously been available. It is a more vibrant and vivid presentation of Jesus; a true adaptation of the needs of our present society. Its emphasis is on Love's transforming power rather than on fear and punishment. That is why unequivocally we say that Prayer and Life Workshops is an answer to today's world.

These workshops were offered last fall with Sally Usher. The next sessions are available for those that want to re-take or new participants



Teams of Our Lady

Teams of Our Lady is an international movement to enrich marriage spirituality. The aim of the movement is to help couples live out a married spirituality and to discover the full richness of the sacrament of marriage. Each Team is made up of five to seven couples and a Spiritual Director/ Priest. Meeting monthly in each other's homes, Teams provide support and encouragement to the couple in their spiritual journey and daily lives. The team becomes a close community. The Team couples inspire one another through their living examples of faith, and share with one another their struggles and successes, on their way to holiness. Couples grow in communication and spirituality through life in a team.

"The Teams of Our Lady have as their essential aim to help couples to strive after holiness – no more, no less". Father Henri Caffarel



Little Flowers Girls' Club® is a Catholic club – *coming to our parish* - for girls ages 5 and up that teaches virtues through scripture, saints' biographies and the Catechism of the Catholic Church. Based on the 1906 Catholic classic "The Catholic Girls' Guide" by Fr. F.X. Lasance, and the spirituality of St. Thérèse, the Little Flower of Lisieux, this beautiful, authentically Catholic program, has delighted and instilled in our girls a love of our Catholic Faith for over 25 years.

Little Flowers Girls' Club® program consists of four years of study: Wreaths I, II, III and IV. Each Wreath consists of nine virtues. Like a scouting program, girls earn badges for the virtues they have practiced, life skills they have learned. But unlike most scouting organizations, the girls learn and earn their badges through a distinctly Catholic lens. This Catholic to the Core program relies on the stories of the saints, Sacred Scripture and the Catechism of the Catholic Church. The program is flexible enough to use with a variety of age groups.



Fall 2021 | Sept 22 - Oct 31

Winnipeg Campaign

WINNIPEG, CANADA

40 Days for Life Campaign (10th) – Winnipeg –

At Health Science Centre (Women's Hospital) located at 665 William Ave and Sherbrook Street
Come pray for an hour for the end to abortion

Between 8:00am – 8:00pm daily. - *Please pray for this campaign and all its participants.*

To Register Online: <https://www.40daysforlife.com/en/winnipeg>



The results are in: here is your international pro-life flag

Pro-Life Flag Project

Inspired by the success of the rainbow flag, supporters of the right to life of the unborn have mobilized under one banner.

The Pro-Life Flag Project has announced its winning design for an internationally-recognized banner to represent support for the rights of the unborn.

Designed by Brazilian artist Nanda Gasperini, the pink and blue flag which features two baby feet held in a mother's hands, received the most votes and will now serve as a unifying standard for the pro-life movement around the world.

According to SecularProLife.org, a partner in the project to come up with one pro-life flag, the winning design is highly symbolic:

- The white background symbolizes non-violence in the womb as well as the innocence of the unborn child.
- The two baby feet represent the humanity of the unborn child; baby feet have been a symbol associated with the pro-life movement since the iconic Precious Feet lapel pins were named the international pro-life symbol in 1979.
- The two pink hands represent the pregnant mother, holding and protecting her child. The white heart in between the feet symbolizes the pro-life movement's love for both the mother and her child.
- The two stripes emphasize the TWO distinct human lives present in a pregnancy.

The stripes also form an "equals sign," stressing that the unborn child is equally and fully human, and therefore deserving of equal human rights.

The project was sponsored by a number of pro-life groups representing both religious believers and non-believers. Inspired in part by the success of the rainbow flag in promoting the cause it is associated with, the Pro-Life Flag Project's organizers hope people around the world will coalesce around an easily recognizable flag. At the very least, the flag will get people who see it to think about what abortion is, they say.

To order your own flag visit prolifeflag.com. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the pro-life organizations that sponsored the flag design contest. Supporters and activists are also encouraged to use the design in their own promotional materials.

https://aleteia.org/2021/07/26/the-results-are-in-here-is-your-international-pro-life-flag/?utm_campaign=NL_en&utm_content=NL_en&utm_medium=mail&utm_source=daily_newsletter

Highway Cleanup June 19, 2021





Every Child Matters Commemoration





Prayer for the Students of Kamloops Residential School

As read by President Lacey at flower planting ceremony, June 19, 2021

O God, we are grieving.
O God, we are shocked.
O God, we are horrified.
But, God, if we truly listened, we can't be surprised.
The Elders and the Communities had already told
the Truth and Reconciliation Commission,
told the governments and the world,
the stories of the children, dead and buried,
unnoted by the settler systems,
but never ever forgotten by their siblings, their parents,
their communities.

We grieve for the Indigenous children,
taken from their homes and parents by the government,
handed over to the responsibility of the Christian church,
the children who died under its care,
never to be held by their families,
never to be returned to their communities
— not only the 215 children of the Tk'emlups te Secwepemc
and other Indigenous communities
along the west coast and interior
whose bodies have now been found
on the grounds of the Kamloops Indian Residential School
grounds,
but all of those children
whose bodies have not yet been found
who died in any of Indian Residential Schools.

We grieve for the survivors of the Indian Residential Schools,
the children who did come home,
but were changed by their experience,
the children who grew up,
and have the trauma of remembering, again,
what happened to them.

Even as we give thanks for their families and communities,
who hold the stories of the children, who have kept searching,
who keep searching,
we grieve that that search is even necessary,
that even one child was taken,
that even one child died,
that even one child's death went unnoted by the system.

Help us to stop, to sit in silence,
to remember the names we do not know.
May their spirits have peace,
and their bodies be brought home to their lands.

And God?
Help us to take this grief,
this shock,
this horror,
and turn it into right action —
action that works for right relations—
action that works for healing and justice and hope.

And, please,
don't let those of us who are settlers
and descendants of settlers,
newcomers to this land,
let the horror, the shock, and the grief
just be an outpouring of words,
or tears,
or ineffectual hand-wringing.

Let this be a moment that changes,
a moment that transforms the brokenness,
that we might walk in right relations,
for the good of your children,
for the good of your world.

Please, God.

These things we pray,
in the name of the one who brought Creation into being,
in the name of Jesus, our teacher and friend,
in the name of the Holy Spirit,
whose wings spread across the sky.

Amen and amen.

<https://www.comoxunitedchurch.com/news/prayer-for-the-students-of-kamloops-residential-school>



WHY STAY IN THE CHURCH?

Ron Rolheiser column

Week of July 11 2021

Several weeks ago after giving a lecture at a religious conference, the first question from the audience was this one: How can you continue to stay in a church that played such a pivotal part in setting up and maintaining residential schools for the indigenous people of Canada? How can you stay in a church that did that?

The question is legitimate and important. Both in its history and in its present, the church has enough sin to legitimize the question. The list of sins done in the name of the church is long: the Inquisition, its support for slavery, its role in colonialism, its link to racism, its role in thwarting women's rights, and its endless historical and present compromises with white supremacy, big money, and political power. Its critics are sometimes excessive and unbalanced, but, for the most part, the church is guilty as charged.

However, this guilt isn't unique to the church. The same charges might be leveled against any of the countries in which we live. How can we stay in a country that has a history of racism, slavery, colonialism, genocide of some of its indigenous peoples, radical inequality between its rich and its poor, one that is callous to desperate refugees on its borders, and one within which millions of people hate each other? Isn't it being rather selective morally to say that I am ashamed to be a Catholic (or a Christian) when the nations we live in share the same history and the same sins?

Still, since the church is supposed to be leaven for a society and not just a mirror of it, the question is valid. Why stay in the church? There are good apologetic answers on this, but, at the end of the day, for each of us, the answer has to be a personal one. Why do I stay in the church?

First, because the church is my mother tongue. It gave me the faith, taught me about God, gave me God's word, taught me to pray, gave me the sacraments, showed me what virtue looks like, and put me in contact with some living saints. Moreover, despite all its shortcomings, it was for me authentic enough, altruistic enough, and pure enough to have the moral authority to ask me to entrust my soul to it, a trust I've not given any other communal entity. I'm very comfortable worshipping with other religions and sharing soul with non-believers, but in the church in which I was raised, I recognize home, my mother tongue.

Second, the church's history is not univocal. I recognize its sins and openly acknowledge them, but that's far from its full reality. The church is also the church of martyrs, of saints, of infinite generosity, and of millions of women and men with big, noble hearts who are my moral exemplars. I stand in the darkness of its sins; but I also stand in the light of its grace, of all the good things it has done in history.

Finally, and most important, I stay in the church because the church is all we've got! There's no other place to go. I identify with the ambivalent feeling that rushed through Peter when, just after hearing Jesus say something which had everyone else walk away from him, Peter was asked, "do you want to walk away too?" and he (speaking for all the disciples) replied: "We'd like to, but we have no place else to go. Besides we recognize that, despite everything, you still have the words of everlasting life."

In essence, Peter is saying, "Jesus, we don't get you, and what we get we often don't like. But we know we're better off not getting it with you than going any place else. Dark moments notwithstanding, you're all we've got!"

The church is all we've got! Where else can we go? Behind the expression, *I am spiritual, but not religious* (however sincerely uttered) lies either an invincible failure or a culpable reluctance to deal with the necessity of religious community, to deal with what Dorothy Day called "the asceticism of church life". To say, *I cannot or will not deal with an impure religious community* is an escape, a self-serving exit, which at the end of the day is not very helpful, not least for the person saying it. Why? Because for compassion to be effective it needs to be collective, given the truth that what we dream alone remains a dream but what we dream with others can become a reality. I cannot see anything outside the church that can save this world.

There is no pure church anywhere for us to join, just as there is no pure country anywhere for us in which to live. This church, for all its checkered history and compromised present, is all we have. We need to own its faults since they are our faults. Its history is our history; its sin, our sin; and its family, our family – the only lasting family we've got.

Oblate Father Ron Rolheiser is a theologian, teacher, and award-winning author.

He can be contacted through his website www.ronrolheiser.com.

Now on Facebook www.facebook.com/ronrolheiser



Seven Promises to those who meditate on Our Lady's Seven Sorrows

The Blessed Virgin Mary grants seven graces to the souls who honour her daily by meditating (i.e. mental prayer) on her seven sorrows (dolors). The Hail Mary is prayed seven times, once after each meditation.

1. "I will grant peace to their families."
2. "They will be enlightened about the Divine Mysteries."
3. "I will console them in their pains and I will accompany them in their work."
4. "I will give them as much as they ask for as long as it does not oppose the adorable will of my Divine Son or the sanctification of their souls."
5. "I will defend them in their spiritual battles with the infernal enemy and I will protect them at every instant of their lives."
6. "I will visibly help them at the moment of their death. They will see the face of their Mother."
7. "I have obtained this grace from my divine Son, that those who propagate this devotion to my tears and dolors, will be taken directly from this earthly life to eternal happiness since all their sins will be forgiven and my Son and I will be their eternal consolation and joy."

THE SEVEN SORROWS OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

These seven prayers presented in this format were approved by Pope Pius VII in 1815. They start with the following introduction: (they use a familiar verse/response pattern for groups, but you can say each of these lines by yourself, of course!)

V. O God, come to my assistance

R. *O Lord, make haste to help me*

V. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

R. *As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen*

(The Hail Mary is prayed a total of eight times, including once after each of the seven prayers.)

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death, Amen

[For the [First Sorrow](#) - The Prophecy of Simeon:] I grieve for thee, O Mary most sorrowful, in the affliction of thy tender heart at the prophecy of the holy and aged Simeon. Dear Mother, by thy heart so afflicted, obtain for me the virtue of humility and the gift of the holy fear of God
Hail Mary, etc.

[For the [Second Sorrow](#) – The Flight Into Egypt:] I grieve for thee, O Mary most sorrowful, in the anguish of thy most affectionate heart during the flight into Egypt and thy sojourn there. Dear Mother, by thy heart so troubled, obtain for me the virtue of generosity, especially toward the poor, and the gift of piety.
Hail Mary, etc.

[For the [Third Sorrow](#) – The Loss of the Child Jesus in the Temple:] I grieve for thee, O Mary most sorrowful, in those anxieties which tried thy troubled heart at the loss of thy dear Jesus. Dear Mother, by thy heart so full of anguish, obtain for me the virtue of chastity and the gift of knowledge.
Hail Mary, etc.

[For the [Fourth Sorrow](#)- Mary Meets Jesus on the Way to Calvary:] I grieve for thee, O Mary most sorrowful in the consternation of thy heart at meeting Jesus as he carried His Cross. Dear Mother, by thy heart so troubled, obtain for me the virtue of patience and the gift of fortitude.
Hail Mary, etc.

[For the [Fifth Sorrow](#)- Jesus Dies on the Cross:] I grieve for thee O Mary, most sorrowful, in the martyrdom which thy generous heart endured in standing near Jesus in His agony. Dear Mother, by thy afflicted heart, obtain for me the virtue of temperance and the gift of counsel.
Hail Mary, etc.

[For the [Sixth Sorrow](#)- Mary Receives Jesus:]

I grieve for thee, O Mary most sorrowful, in the wounding of thy compassionate heart, when the side of Jesus was struck by the lance and His Heart was pierced before His body was removed from the Cross. Dear Mother, by thy heart thus transfixed, obtain for me the virtue of fraternal charity and the gift of understanding.
Hail Mary, etc.

[For the [Seventh Sorrow](#)- Jesus is Placed in the Tomb:] I grieve for thee, O Mary most sorrowful, for the pangs that wrenched thy most loving heart at the burial of Jesus. Dear Mother, by thy heart sunk in the bitterness of desolation, obtain for me virtue of diligence and the gift of wisdom.
Hail Mary, etc.

After the seven prayers, we conclude with the following:

V. Pray for us, O Virgin most sorrowful
R. That we made be worthy of the promises of Christ

Let us Pray

Let intercession be made for us, we beseech Thee, O Lord Jesus Christ, now and at the hour of our death, before the throne of Thy mercy, by the Blessed Virgin Mary, Thy Mother, whose most holy soul was pierced by a sword of sorrow in the hour of Thy bitter Passion. Through Thee, Jesus Christ, Savior of the world, Who with the Father and the Holy Ghost lives and reigns, world without end.
Amen.

<https://www.ourcatholicprayers.com/seven-sorrows-prayers.html>



HOW TO SAY GOODBYE IN CANADA

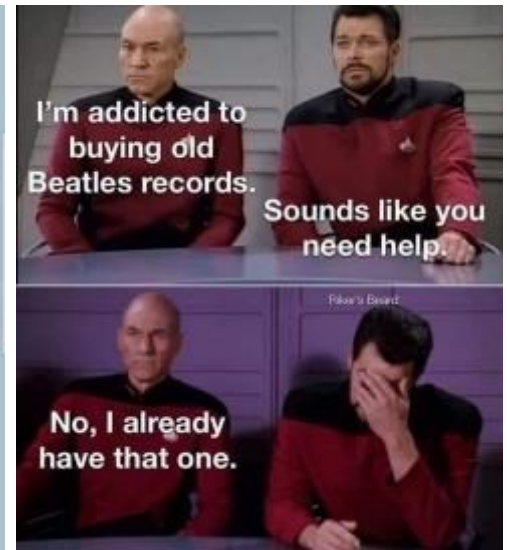


1. Slap thighs and say "Welp, I better skedaddle"
2. Chit-chat for another 5 minutes without getting up
3. Say "Ok, I should probably get going" and stand up
4. Make your way around the group and chit-chat with each person for 5 minutes each, and give hugs
5. Make your way to the doorway and chit-chat for another 5-10 minutes, more hugs
6. Walk to the driveway while host walks you out
7. Stand in front of car chit-chatting for another 5-10 minutes
8. Get in car and start car, roll window down, and chit-chat from car for another 2-3 minutes
9. Backup car from driveway and wave from window one last time
10. Stop in street while host asks you a question about your car
11. Continue on with one last wave
12. Host yells "Drive safe, watch for deer"



off the mark.com

by Mark Parisi



I see a little silhouette of a man



Scare a moose, scare a moose...

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