



# Notre Dame de Lorette

## Catholic Women's League

**CATHOLIC**  
and **LIVING IT!**

April 2022



*"If the basis of Christianity were anything else than a God Who came from a tomb, then we would be without hope. If He were a worldly success, then we would have to imitate Him in worldliness. If He were a failure, and never rose from defeat, then we would be vindictive, and hate who symbolized the world that crucified Him. If He were only a man, He would be forgotten as all men are. If He wrote a book, we would all have to be professors, but since he came into this world to bring victory out of defeat, then the more hopeless the situation, the more certainly does the Divine Power operate. How long this conflict between good and evil will last we do not know."* **Archbishop Fulton Sheen**

**Our Spiritual Advisor**  
Fr. Jorge Mario de los Rios Londoño

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

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

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

# Lucille's



# Letter

Dear Sisters in the League & Fr. Mario,

In a little more than two weeks, we will be celebrating the great feast of Easter, Our Lord's Resurrection! We are blessed to have been given many different retreats and daily prayer options to help us with our Lenten observances. Let us make the most of the next few weeks to meaningfully prepare our hearts and souls for this wonderful occasion.

If Covid taught us anything, it is the ability to be flexible, yet resilient when we are faced with circumstances beyond our control. Such was the case with our planned Anniversary Celebration. Holy Week as well as preplanned meetings on the other Wednesdays in April meant we had to make the decision to reschedule our Anniversary Celebration to our May meeting date to ensure that as many members as possible could attend. Our April meeting will go on as originally scheduled (April 13<sup>th</sup>) but we will forego any partying to the later date. We will have Holy Mass as usual starting at 6:15 pm before the meeting.

The news coming out of Ukraine is very distressing. It is leaving me with a sense of powerlessness. Until more of the refugees make their way to Manitoba and we are able to help in a more tangible way, our National Chairperson of Community Life, Faith Anderson, has identified several organizations who are accepting monetary donations to help with emergency relief in Europe. Faith has also listed other helpful suggestions. You can find a copy of Faith's communiqué in this newsletter. (pg 7)

Tis the season for conventions! There is still time for you to

register to attend the St. Boniface Diocesan Convention at Mary Mother of the Church on Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please let me or Suzanne know if you are interested. Our council will pay your registration fee. The provincial convention will be held in Neepawa on June 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>. As Susan explained to us in March, these conventions are opportunities to see how the various levels of the League intersect. They are both very educational/enlightening and fun.

A reminder that the CWL has been invited by Archbishop LeGat to participate in an honour guard at the Chrism mass at the St. Boniface Cathedral on Tuesday, April 12<sup>th</sup>. Please let me know if you are able and willing to attend this celebration.

Truth and Reconciliation is something each and every one of us must accept some responsibility for. By the time you read this newsletter, indigenous groups will have met with Pope Francis in the hope of furthering this process. We will be presenting the first in a series of Indigenous teachings at our April meeting. I look forward to some soul-searching discussion as a result of all that is happening currently with our indigenous brothers and sisters.

Lastly, I want to extend my sincere condolences to all of you in our CWL Parish Council who had worked very closely with and were good friends of Maryanne Rumancik. Her loss will have a great impact on the church

*Lucille Chay*



## Collecting Tins for the Bin for Our Taché Food Bank

At each of our monthly meetings  
Bring donations of non-perishable  
food items

And/or monetary donations

We will keep track of the weight and money  
until the end of June 2022

**C&S Fundraiser ends April 8.**

**Get your sales in soon!**



## 2022 Pope's Intentions

### April

#### Health Care Workers

We pray for health care workers who serve the sick and the elderly, especially in the poorest countries; may they be adequately supported by governments and local communities.

# April 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
	 <p>Holy Week is a privileged time when we are called to draw near to Jesus: friendship with him is shown in times of difficulty.</p> <p>— Pope Francis —</p>					
3 	4	5  Susan Bernier	6	7	8  Mae & Gil Ross <div>Crystal Chernichan</div>	9
10 	11	12  Honour Guard at Chrism mass 7:30 pm at cathedral	13  CWL mtg at hall, 7:00 	14	15 	16 
17 	18	19	20	21	22	23  St. Boniface Diocesan CWL AMM
24 	25 <div>Jennifer Poitra</div>	26	27	28	29  Winnipeg Diocesan CWL AMM <div>Monique &amp; Renald Johnson</div> 	30





The Catholic Women's League of Canada  
**NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF  
 MEMBERS/CONVENTION**

74<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of Members/Convention  
**St. Boniface Diocesan Council**  
**April 23, 2022**

hosted by  
 Mary, Mother of the Church Parish Council  
 85 Kirkbridge Drive, Winnipeg, MB

*ZOOM connection will be made available to those who wish to participate virtually*

**CATHOLIC  
 and LIVING IT!**

8:00 a.m.	Registration and Gathering
9:00 a.m.	Opening and Spiritual Program
	Business Session
12:00 p.m.	Lunch
1:00 p.m.	Keynote Speaker
2:00 p.m.	Resume Business
4:00 p.m.	Closing of Annual Meeting of Members
5:00 p.m.	Holy Mass
	Installation of Officers
6:00 p.m.	Gathering Time
6:30 p.m.	Banquet

*Scent Free Annual Meeting of Members/Convention*

**Church and Parish Hall handicap accessible**



The Catholic Women's League of Canada  
**WINNIPEG DIOCESAN COUNCIL**  
**CATHOLIC and LIVING IT!**

March 5, 2022

CWL PARISH PRESIDENTS, WINNIPEG DIOCESAN EXECUTIVE,  
 MANITOBA PROVINCIAL COUNCIL,  
 ALBERTINE MORAN, LIAISON MANITOBA LIFE MEMBERS

You are cordially invited to attend the 101<sup>st</sup> Winnipeg Diocesan Annual Meeting of  
 Members/Convention on **Friday, APRIL 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022** hosted by Holy Ghost Parish Council.

*All that we ask,  
 is for each one attending to bring their own bag lunch.  
 Coffee, Tea & Water will be provided*

**You have the choice of attending the meeting in-person or by zoom.** The one-day  
 event will be held at: **Holy Ghost Parish Hall, 342 Pritchard Avenue, Winnipeg MB.**  
 Anyone choosing Zoom will receive a link prior to April 29<sup>th</sup> via the email provided when  
 registering.

Parking is not allowed in the parking lot during school hours. You can park on Pritchard  
 Avenue behind the church and hall. Also, parking is available on Selkirk Avenue in front  
 of the church. You can then walk between the school and the church to the back doors  
 of the church and enter the hall downstairs.

The following items are attached, registration form and credentials and Agenda. You  
 may contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,  
*Pat Ward*

Pat Ward, President  
 Catholic Women's League Winnipeg Diocesan Council  
[patward.cwl@gmail.com](mailto:patward.cwl@gmail.com) H – 204-757-9272; C – 431-996-1475



The Catholic Women's League of Canada  
**NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF  
 MEMBERS/CONVENTION**

70<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of Members/Convention  
**Keewatin-The Pas Diocesan Council**  
**April 30, 2022**

hosted by  
 St. Ann's Parish Council  
 163 Centre Street, Flin Flon, MB.

**CATHOLIC  
 and LIVING IT!**

8:00 a.m.	Registration and Gathering
9:00 a.m.	Opening and Spiritual Program
	Business Session
12:00 p.m.	Lunch
1:00 p.m.	Keynote Speaker
2:00 p.m.	Resume Business
4:00 p.m.	Closing of Annual Meeting of Members
5:00 p.m.	Holy Mass
6:00 p.m.	Gathering Time
6:30 p.m.	Banquet

*Scent Free Annual Meeting of Members/Convention*

**Church and Parish Hall handicap accessible**



The Catholic Women's League of Canada



**NOTICE OF CONVENTION**

74<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of Members / Convention

**MANITOBA PROVINCIAL COUNCIL**

June 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Hosted by

St. Dominic's Parish Council  
 416-1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Neepawa, MB

Mass – 5:00 p.m., June 3, 2022, St. Dominic's  
 Gathering & Banquet – 6:15 p.m., St. Dominic's Parish Hall  
 Convention Registration – 7:30 a.m., June 4, 2022, St. Dominic's  
 Convention Business – 8:30 a.m., June 4, 2022, St. Dominic's

*Catholic and Living It!*

8:30 a.m.	Procession of Flags & Banners, Official opening of convention
8:35 a.m.	Spiritual Program
9:00 a.m.	Greetings
9:30 a.m.	Business Meeting
10:00 a.m.	Health Break
10:15 a.m.	Business Resumes
12:00 noon	Luncheon
12:45 p.m.	Gathering Prayer & Memorial Service for Deceased Members & Spiritual Advisors
1:00 pm.	Speakers – <i>Catholic and Living It!</i>
1:30 p.m.	Speaker – National President Fran Lucas
2:30 p.m.	Health Break
2:45 p.m.	Business Resumes
3:15 p.m.	Questions & Answers
3:30 p.m.	Closing Prayer, Adjoiment and Lowering of the Flags
3:35 p.m.	Elections, followed by Installation of Officers

**Scent Free Convention – Church and Parish Hall Handicap Accessible**



# 102nd Annual National Convention

*Rejoicing in the Vineyard of The Lord!*



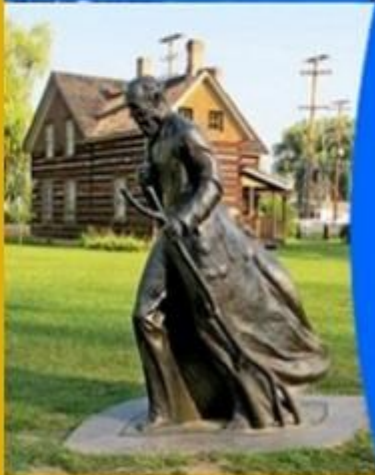
**August 13 - 18, 2022  
at the**

**Delta Hotels by Marriott  
Grand Okanagan Resort  
1 (800) 268-1133**

Bookings available starting August 1, 2021  
Reference the Catholic Women's League  
of Canada National Convention  
when making your reservation for group rate

**Visit Father Pandosy Mission  
Tour the Okanagan's Beautiful Wine County  
View the Beautiful Kasugai Japanese Gardens  
Enjoy a Boat Tour of Beautiful Okanagan Lake  
and "Much More"!**

**1310 Water Street - Kelowna, BC V1Y 9P3**





# Eva Marie Bernier

June 26, 1925 – March 2, 2022



Thank you, dear CWL sisters and spiritual advisors for your messages and prayers for our mom, Eva Bernier, and our family, as well as the holy Masses offered to our intentions. They were very appreciated, and they supported us before, during and after Mom's passing. Our heartfelt gratitude for the CWL sisters who were able to attend our Mom's Mass of the Resurrection on March 7, 2022, in Fisher Branch and who participated in the honour guard. Your presence was an extra special comforting hug to our family, and it affirmed the solidarity and sisterhood of our beloved League.



*United in prayer and gratitude,  
Rolande Chernichan  
on behalf of the Bernier family*



### Canada (UCWLC)

In a letter dated March 8<sup>th</sup>, the UCWLC requests people check with the Ukrainian community in their area for trustworthy information and how to help as volunteers, as well as with Ukrainian Social Services organizations and immigration services. It asks for prayers, encourages members to let their voices be heard through local politicians and explains that, "To protect civilians, Ukraine pleads for a 'no fly zone.'" Visit the following websites for more information:

Ukrainian World

Congress: [ukrainianworldcongress.org/news/](http://ukrainianworldcongress.org/news/)

Ukrainian Canadian Congress: [ucc.ca/](http://ucc.ca/)

Canada Ukraine

Foundation: [cufoundation.ca](http://cufoundation.ca)

"Every war leaves our world worse than it was before. War is a failure of politics and of humanity, a shameful capitulation, a stinging defeat before the forces of evil." (Pope Francis, *Fratelli Tutti*)

There is an ongoing concern for the people of Ukraine and the need for support through various donation avenues. This communique provides information on how members and councils can offer help to the people of Ukraine. Please distribute the information to your diocesan counterparts and ask that they forward it to their parish councils.

### Catholic Near East Welfare Association-Canada (CNEWA)

A statement from CNEWA-Canada, "This kind of violence is painful to watch for Christians and people of good will throughout the world. The number of casualties continues to grow and the story is changing by the hour. But what cannot change is our deep commitment to help innocent people whose lives are in danger."

In a recent letter, the Ukrainian Catholic Women's League of Canada indicates it has partnered with CNEWA-Canada to receive donations through parishes and online. The funds will be matched up to \$500,000 by an anonymous donor. Donations can be made online at [cnewa.org/ca/campaigns/ukraine/](http://cnewa.org/ca/campaigns/ukraine/).

### Ukrainian Catholic Women's League of

### Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace (CCODP)

The CCODP has made an immediate allocation of \$75,000 to Caritas Ukraine to provide food, shelter, medical care and transport to safe locations. Donations can be made at [devp.org/en/civicism/contribute/transact?reset=1&id=3&gl=24360](http://devp.org/en/civicism/contribute/transact?reset=1&id=3&gl=24360) (select Emergency – Ukraine) or by calling (888) 664-3387.

Alternatively, donations by cheque made payable to Development and Peace and marked "Ukraine Emergency" can be mailed to Development and Peace, Caritas Canada, 1425 René-Lévesque Blvd. W, 3rd Floor, Montreal, Quebec H3G 1T7.

### UN Refugee Agency

The United Nations estimates 12 million people inside Ukraine will need relief and protection, and more than four million Ukrainian refugees will need support in neighbouring countries. "The United Nations and humanitarian partners [have] launched coordinated emergency appeals for a combined US\$1.7 billion" to deliver aid to people in Ukraine and those fleeing to neighbouring countries.

A \$1.1 billion "Ukraine Flash Appeal" to assist six million people inside Ukraine for an initial three months will provide

multipurpose financial assistance for the most vulnerable people, food, water and sanitation, support for health care and education services and shelter assistance to rebuild damaged homes. Use the following links for more information on the appeal and how to donate:

[reliefweb.int/report/ukraine/ukraine-flash-appeal-march-may-2022-enuk-giving.unhcr.org/en/ukraine/?gclid=CjwKCAiA4KaRBhBdEiwAZi1zzo9Ck9v2Kg8lQbgr8hvvQt8SZgZxyU14OkCqvXlbR43P2XX4ngm0URoCyE4QAvD\\_BwE](http://reliefweb.int/report/ukraine/ukraine-flash-appeal-march-may-2022-enuk-giving.unhcr.org/en/ukraine/?gclid=CjwKCAiA4KaRBhBdEiwAZi1zzo9Ck9v2Kg8lQbgr8hvvQt8SZgZxyU14OkCqvXlbR43P2XX4ngm0URoCyE4QAvD_BwE)

The appeal is supported by a Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) grant of \$20 million and a Ukrainian Humanitarian Fund allocation of \$18 million. As of February 24<sup>th</sup>, CERF has already allocated \$20 million for humanitarian assistance in Ukraine and neighbouring countries.

### More Ways Councils and Members Can Help or Donate

Life Member Lucille Partington provides the following suggestions on how members and councils can help:

- Decorate a colourful 'Toonie Jar' for children and parishioners to give what they can.
- Support Airbnb.org's funding for short-term housing for up to 100,000 people fleeing Ukraine. For more information, visit [airbnb.org/help-ukraine](http://airbnb.org/help-ukraine).
- Hold a bake sale with colourful muffins decorated in Ukraine's colours of blue and yellow or host a combined bake and craft sale.
- Check with the local UCWLC or Ukrainian Catholic churches for ways to help and support. They may have avenues for donated items that can be sent to Ukraine. Be creative and use the resources in their community.
- Monitor the refugee status of those coming to Canada and support any refugee programs in their community.

Please be wary of other "sites to donate" and ensure they are from trusted established organizations.

*Faith Anderson, National Chairperson of Community Life, Communique #7, March 14, 2022*



# New Name, New Location, Same Mission for Centre Flavie

Centre Flavie-Laurent is now Centre Flavie, and they're moving into a new, larger space that will enable a host of new activities to expand their mission. "We were incorporated in 2005," explains



Centre Flavie's Board Chair, Julie Turenne-Maynard. "We didn't worry about a branding strategy; we were focused on the mission. Fifteen years later, we thought it was high time to demonstrate who we are with a better visual identity. With our expansion project on the go, it was good timing for new beginnings."

*Julie Turenne-Maynard*

Centre Flavie distributes donated goods to vulnerable and impoverished populations at no charge. They support over 100 families a day and thousands of donations are received annually. Their new visual identity reflects their work. "Everything we do comes from the heart," says Turenne-Maynard. "The heart in the logo represents the compassion in action that is demonstrated by volunteers and staff, but also by everyone in the community. The open box represents what people can pack up and take home, and visually, it looks like a person with their arms open, wanting to support those in need. It's also a very contemporary expression of the resurrection of Jesus Christ."

As for the name change, many in the community have been calling the organisation "Centre Flavie" or simply "Flavie" for years, so it was a natural progression. "We've also created a tagline: From Hearts to Homes."

The physical changes to Centre Flavie are well underway. With the help of Réseau Compassion Network, they were able to acquire and combine four plots of land to build their new space just around the corner from their current location. Located at 301 Archibald Street, the new location will over 13,000 square feet of space, significantly larger than their current location on Provencher Boulevard.

Réseau Compassion Network contributed \$550,000 towards Centre Flavie's expansion and provided expertise in real estate and project management. A strong capital campaign was also run by Centre Flavie's staff and volunteers to raise the funds to for the new location. There's still a little way to go in that campaign, and those interested in contributing to the expansion can do so [HERE](#).



*Work continues at the site of Centre Flavie's new location*

As always, the goal of the expansion is to better serve those in need in the community. "We'll be able to have a better flow of donations

coming in and recipients' goods going out," continues Turenne-Maynard. "And we'll have space for some new and exciting additions like a community garden, nicer outdoor spaces for those who are waiting for services, and a new social enterprise. We're happy to have so many new ways to demonstrate our mission to the public, our volunteers and our participants."



*The roof structure is nearly all installed*

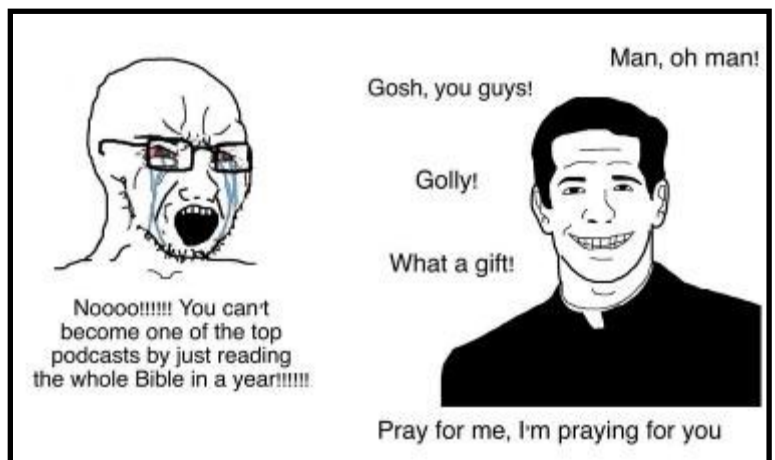
The social enterprise (a business with specific social goals for its revenues) will be called the Boutique Unique and will be the latest destination for vintage clothing, antique furniture and, as the name denotes, anything unique that could appeal to a collector. This store will be open to the public, feature a strong online presence and most importantly, raise funds for the work happening at Centre Flavie every day.



The new space on Archibald is on track for an early summer opening date, thanks to the hard work of many. "Our board, staff and volunteers have been wonderful and we're looking forward to an exciting future," concludes Turenne-Maynard.

*Work continues at the new Centre Flavie site.*

<https://compassionaction.ca/2022/01/20/new-name-new-location-same-mission-for-centre-flavie/>





Join Pope Francis and the  
bishops of the world in making an  
*Act of Consecration of  
Russia and Ukraine*  
to the Immaculate Heart of Mary



O Mary, Mother of God and our Mother, in this time of trial we turn to you. As our Mother, you love us and know us: no concern of our hearts is hidden from you. Mother of mercy, how often we have experienced your watchful care and your peaceful presence! You never cease to guide us to Jesus, the Prince of Peace.

Yet we have strayed from that path of peace. We have forgotten the lesson learned from the tragedies of the last century, the sacrifice of the millions who fell in two world wars. We have disregarded the commitments we made as a community of nations. We have betrayed peoples' dreams of peace and the hopes of the young. We grew sick with greed, we thought only of our own nations and their interests, we grew indifferent and caught up in our selfish needs and concerns. We chose to ignore God, to be satisfied with our illusions, to grow arrogant and aggressive, to suppress innocent lives and to stockpile weapons. We stopped being our neighbour's keepers and stewards of our common home. We have ravaged the garden of the earth with war and by our sins we have broken the heart of our heavenly Father, who desires us to be brothers and sisters. We grew indifferent to everyone and everything except ourselves. Now with shame we cry out: Forgive us, Lord!

Holy Mother, amid the misery of our sinfulness, amid our struggles and weaknesses, amid the mystery of iniquity that is evil and war, you remind us that God never abandons us, but continues to look upon us with love, ever ready to forgive us and raise us up to new life. He has given you to us and made your Immaculate Heart a refuge for the Church and for all humanity. By God's gracious will, you are ever with us; even in the most troubled moments of our history, you are there to guide us with tender love.

We now turn to you and knock at the door of your heart. We are your beloved children. In every age you make yourself known to us, calling us to conversion. At this dark hour, help us and grant us your comfort. Say to us

once more: "Am I not here, I who am your Mother?" You are able to untie the knots of our hearts and of our times. In you we place our trust. We are confident that, especially in moments of trial, you will not be deaf to our supplication and will come to our aid.

That is what you did at Cana in Galilee, when you interceded with Jesus and he worked the first of his signs. To preserve the joy of the wedding feast, you said to him: "They have no wine" (Jn 2:3). Now, O Mother, repeat those words and that prayer, for in our own day we have run out of the wine of hope, joy has fled, fraternity has faded. We have forgotten our humanity and squandered the gift of peace. We opened our hearts to violence and destructiveness. How greatly we need your maternal help!

Therefore, O Mother, hear our prayer.



Star of the Sea, do not let us be shipwrecked in the tempest of war.

Ark of the New Covenant, inspire projects and paths of reconciliation.

Queen of Heaven, restore God's peace to the world.

Eliminate hatred and the thirst for revenge, and teach us forgiveness.

Free us from war, protect our world from the menace of nuclear weapons.

Queen of the Rosary, make us realize our need to pray and to love.

Queen of the Human Family, show people the path of fraternity.

Queen of Peace, obtain peace for our world.

O Mother, may your sorrowful plea stir our hardened hearts. May the tears you shed for us make this valley parched by our hatred blossom anew. Amid the thunder of weapons, may your prayer turn our thoughts to peace. May your maternal touch soothe those who suffer and flee from the rain of bombs. May your motherly embrace comfort those forced to leave their homes and their native land. May your Sorrowful Heart move us to compassion and inspire us to open our doors and to care for our brothers and sisters who are injured and cast aside.

Holy Mother of God, as you stood beneath the cross, Jesus, seeing the disciple at your side, said: "Behold your son" (Jn 19:26.) In this way he entrusted each of us to you. To the disciple, and to each of us, he said: "Behold, your Mother" (v. 27). Mother Mary, we now desire to welcome you into our lives and our history. At this hour, a weary and distraught humanity stands with you beneath the cross, needing to entrust itself to you and, through you, to consecrate itself to Christ. The people of Ukraine and Russia, who venerate you with great love, now turn to you, even as your heart beats with compassion for them and for all those peoples decimated by war, hunger, injustice and poverty.

Therefore, Mother of God and our Mother, to your Immaculate Heart we solemnly entrust and consecrate ourselves, the Church and all humanity, especially Russia and Ukraine. Accept this act that we carry out with confidence and love. Grant that war may end and peace spread throughout the world. The "Fiat" that arose from your heart opened the doors of history to the Prince of Peace. We trust that, through your heart, peace will dawn once more. To you we consecrate the future of the whole human family, the needs and expectations of every people, the anxieties and hopes of the world.

Through your intercession, may God's mercy be poured out on the earth and the gentle rhythm of peace return to mark our days. Our Lady of the "Fiat," on whom the Holy Spirit descended, restore among us the harmony that comes from God. May you, our "living fountain of hope," water the dryness of our hearts. In your womb Jesus took flesh; help us to foster the growth of communion. You once trod the streets of our world; lead us now on the paths of peace. Amen.

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/250756/vatican-pope-francis-text-for-march-25-consecration-prayer?fbclid=IwAR1qBDuIb9owhYuzVQ0KjNHPHAqnvRyJmd0rxw1nsmNB6WaKPTdotAgfQ>



# Development and Peace

CARITAS CANADA

*"Let us put into practice our call to do good to all, and take time to love the poor and needy, those abandoned and rejected, those discriminated against and marginalized." (Fratelli Tutti, 193)*

## Dear Sisters in Christ,

First, I would like to thank you for your faithful support over the decades as a cherished partner of ours. The Catholic Women's League (CWL) and Development and Peace — Caritas Canada enjoy shared values and a longstanding relationship that dates back to 1969.

As the main caregivers and educators here in Canada and in the Global South, women play a very important role in society. Women like you regularly take action as described in Matthew 25:35, by feeding the hungry, giving water to the thirsty, clothing the naked, sheltering the homeless, providing health care to the sick and educating children.

For over 50 years, CWL members have been making contributions to the **1% Program** in support of Development and Peace partners working to improve the status of vulnerable women in the Global South.

Through your prayers and dedication, you have turned a toonie a month into tens of thousands of dollars! Collectively, the funds you have raised have made a real difference in the lives of thousands of women searching for social and economic justice for themselves, their families and their communities.

## This Year's Project

This year, the League is partnering with Development and Peace to raise funds for a community-based schools project to bring education to remote communities of Afghanistan.

Decades of war have wounded Afghanistan's social fabric and stalled its development. In rural areas, many children, especially girls, do not attend school simply because the nearest school can be up to 20 kilometres away. Furthermore, Afghan women have been



*School children photographed during our 2015 mission to*

deprived of their basic human rights throughout their country's history. Despite progress in the last two decades, women's rights in Afghanistan have already suffered significant setbacks since the Taliban seized power in August 2021.

1 By regularly setting aside one percent of their expenses on personal items and of the funds raised by parish councils (approximately a toonie a month) for the national voluntary fund that supports Development and Peace.



*Children photographed during our 2012 mission to Afghanistan. (Development and*

For example, after the takeover, Taliban decisions prevented most girls and women from attending secondary school and university, and local directives prevented many women from continuing to work. With

millions of Afghans unable to buy food or basic goods, and a humanitarian crisis looming, households in which women were until recently the main earners will be the hardest hit.

Furthermore, Taliban forces have used gunfire, batons and tear gas to break up protests demanding women's rights to work and education, and some women activists have been arrested or have disappeared after participating in protests.

Although the Taliban recently said classrooms would reopen for all girls and women on March 21, their studies have suffered a severe setback.

To support our sisters in Afghanistan, Development and Peace is partnering with Catholic Relief Services (CRS) on a community-based schools project in remote communities. The three-year project will allow 180 students (92 girls, 88 boys) currently in grades 1 to 3 to continue through grades 4, 5 and 6.

One of the few remaining agencies that can operate effectively in Afghanistan, CRS is making education safe and feasible for the children by (1) basing the project in communities in which it enjoys broad-based support and buy-in, (2) running classes in the children's neighbourhoods in discreet locations, often in teachers' homes, and (3) delivering the government-mandated curriculum. This project is thus a means for us to continue supporting Afghan women and girls and their rights.

**A heartfelt thank-you!** The Catholic Women's League has long been a dedicated supporter of Development and Peace's mission and of our sisters in the Global South who are striving for a better future. Knowing that God understands suffering and takes pity on the poor and the persecuted, you can unite your actions with His will in your support for Afghan women and girls. This project promotes their access to economic empowerment and greater dignity. Together, we can build a more just world. May your Lent be rich in spiritual graces and thank you wholeheartedly for your support!

*Genevieve Gallant, Director of Communications, Campaigns and Fundraising*





## Serena Manitoba, Inc.

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February 2022

### ***Dear Sisters-in-Christ***

COVID made 2021 a challenging year for all, including Catholic Women's League Councils that have been unable to resume their normal activities and fund-raising, which resulted in their inability to give to worthwhile Catholic charities. We at Serena Manitoba know that 2022 will be another very lean donation year. We just received more bad news that one of our main Catholic contributors will not, for the first time in many years, be able to support us this coming year due to an extreme shortage of funds.

The Catholic Women's League has always defended our Holy Catholic Church, and its moral teachings and doctrines, including its teaching on natural family planning. Although the Church has a very beautiful and rich understanding of human sexuality and the role of natural family planning, only a very small percentage of Catholics have been exposed to this message. From Blessed Pope Paul VI prophetic 1968 encyclical *Humanae Vitae*, on the regulation of birth, Saint John Paul II's development of his *Theology of the Body*, to Pope Francis' continued defense of this teaching, Serena Manitoba's volunteer teacher-couples have been available to Manitobans interested in learning how to manage their fertility using the *Sympto-Thermal Method*.

In order to function, Serena relies solely on donations. It is only with the support of strong Catholic organizations such as the CWL, and like-minded individuals, that we are able to continue teaching natural family planning. Last year most councils were unable to respond to our plea. In light of ongoing restrictions, we expect that if you are able to give a donation this year it will be very small, but even as little as ten or twenty dollars will help. Your financial assistance will ensure that Serena Manitoba can continue to provide its service to couples throughout our province. Thank you for considering this request. Please feel free to contact us with any questions you may have regarding Serena and natural family planning.

On behalf of the Serena Manitoba Board of Directors

Jean LaFrance  
President, Serena Manitoba



## Our Lady of Guadalupe Circle

In 2016, the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCC) created Our Lady of Guadalupe Circle (Circle), a coalition of Catholic partners to strengthen relationships and partnerships with Indigenous peoples. A member was chosen to represent the League. The Circle asks for the League's cooperation to assist engage the Catholic faithful in Canada in the Indigenous delegation journeying to Rome from March 28th until April 1st.

**Our Lady of Guadalupe Circle** is a "Catholic coalition of Indigenous people, bishops, clergy, lay movements and institutes of consecrated life, engaged in renewing and fostering

relationships between the Catholic Church and Indigenous Peoples in Canada." To learn more, visit <http://ourladyofguadalupecircle.ca/who-we-are/our-mission/>.

The CCCC "share[s] a profound commitment to renewing and strengthening relationships with Indigenous Peoples... with whom the church has maintained relations since the 17th century. **The Canadian Catholic Indigenous Council** is the key

element to this commitment. Consisting of Bishops and Indigenous Catholics, the council furthers relationships, healing, and joint initiatives with Indigenous peoples across Canada. Within their own dioceses, bishops strive with pastoral solicitude to understand and engage issues affecting local Indigenous populations and likewise encourage all the faithful in their dioceses, including the members of religious institutes of consecrated life and of Catholic community organizations, to foster relationships in charity and solidarity with Indigenous peoples." For more information visit <http://ccc.ca/indigenous-peoples/> and <http://ccc.ca/about/commissions-committees/canadian-catholic-aboriginal-council/>  
*Cathy Bouchard, National Chairperson of Spiritual Development, Communique #5, March 16, 2022*



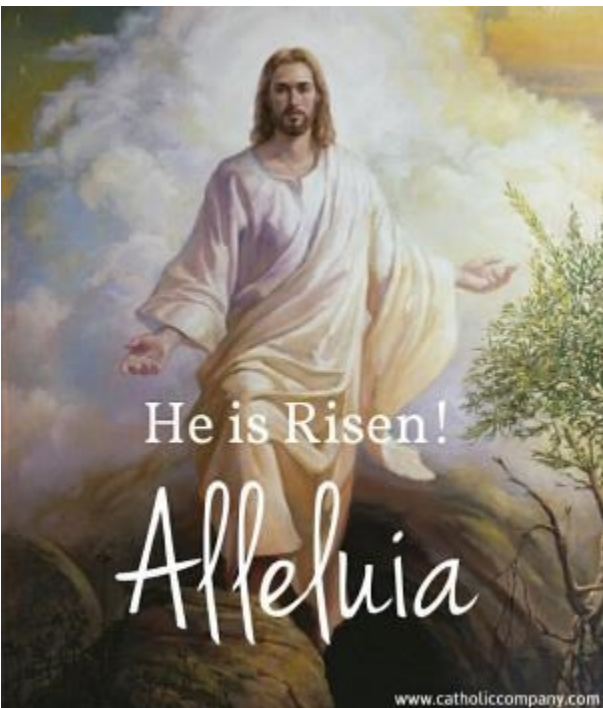
"Who is this that comes forth like the dawn, as beautiful as the moon, as resplendent as the sun..." Song 6:10 (Vg)

O Blessed Virgin, Our Lady of Guadalupe  
Intercede for us with your Son  
That we who live in this land,  
Indigenous and non-Indigenous together  
may experience healing and  
reconciliation,  
on a renewed journey for justice  
and peace for our children.

Mother of the Church, pray for us.







## Three Simple Ways to Celebrate the 50-Day Easter Season

Holy Week is the time of year we experience in a deeper way many of the events we remember each time we pray the Holy Rosary. The Sorrowful Mysteries take us through Jesus' Passion, from the emotional torments in the Garden of Gethsemane to the physical torments culminating at Calvary.

Then, after we pass through the sorrows and sacrifices of Lent and Holy Week, Easter breaks forth as a great time of joy and celebration. It is the "Solemnity of solemnities" celebrated by the Church. This is the day our hope was made complete, the day Jesus conquered sin and death on our behalf in order to reconcile us back to God.

### EASTER ISN'T A DAY - IT'S A SEASON!

For Catholics, Easter isn't just a single day of

celebration—it's an entire season where we celebrate our new life in Christ. Just like Christmas, Easter is celebrated for an extended period of time—50 days to be

The feast proper is celebrated for the full octave (Easter Sunday through Easter Saturday). Then we enter Eastertide, the longer Easter season which ends on Pentecost Sunday. During these fifty days of Easter we relive the joyous events of the Glorious Mysteries of the Holy Rosary—the Resurrection, Ascension, and the coming of the Holy Spirit on Mary and the Apostles at Pentecost.

There are many ways you can make Eastertide a very special time of year for you and your family. Here are three easy ways to make the most of the Easter season this year.

### 1. SPREAD THE EASTER CHEER

Get yourself in the Easter mood (and others too!) by sending out Easter cards this Eastertide. This is an easy way to remind friends that Easter is an entire season, not just a single day! You can also spread the Easter cheer by surprising your family with Catholic Easter gifts that go beyond bunnies and chocolate. Make Easter cards and gifts, no matter how small, an annual tradition to honor the holiest time of year.

You can also bring back the traditional Catholic greeting at Easter: when you greet family and friends, say, "He is Risen!" The reply greeting is, "He is risen, indeed!"

### 2. DECORATE THE HOUSE

Spring and the Resurrection go together! Fill your house with the lovely fragrance of freshly cut flowers. Keep a beautiful bouquet in the kitchen, on the dining room table, and in each bedroom in honor of the Resurrection of Jesus and a sign of hope in our own resurrection. Give flowers to your loved ones to grace their homes as well in honor of the Easter solemnity (they would go great with an Easter card!).

You can also decorate your home by draping

white sashes on all your crosses and crucifixes, reminding your family that the joy of this season goes beyond Easter Sunday.

### 3. INCREASE YOUR DEVOTION

The fifty days between Easter Sunday and Pentecost Sunday is a great time to pray for the Holy Spirit to pour into your own life just as it did on Mary and the Apostles. The beautiful, simple prayers of the novena to the Holy Spirit are a great way to foster a devotion specifically to the Holy Spirit this Easter season.

This is also the time of year when catechumens are baptized and received as new Christians into the Church. Renew your own baptismal promises by bringing Holy Water into your home and using it regularly.

The second Sunday of Easter is Divine Mercy Sunday; therefore, this devotion is tied in a special way to the Easter season. There are many ways to make the Divine Mercy devotion a part of your life. In addition to the Divine Mercy feast day, there is also the Divine Mercy image that you can have blessed and hang in your home, the Divine Mercy chaplet which you can pray daily (it only takes 5 minutes!), and the Diary of Faustina Kowalska (the visionary who brought this great devotion to the world), which you can read during Eastertide. Learn more about the Divine Mercy devotion here.

With these simple ideas, hopefully, you can enjoy your fifty days of Eastertide in a new and special way this year with your friends and family.

[https://www.catholiccompany.com/magazine/three-simple-ways-to-celebrate-easter-6037?mrkgadid=1000000&mrkgcl=254&mrkgen=qdsa&mrkgbflag=0&mrkgcat=&acctid=2170000001657482&dskeywoid=39700057108205577&lid=39700057108205577&ds\\_s\\_kwaid=58700006326617430&device=c&network=g&matchtype=&locationid=9001173&creative=588750452328&targetid=dsa-371057009646&campaignid=82662878&adgroupid=114091948448&qclid=CJ0KCQiw8\\_qRBhCXARIsAE2AtRbKJL\\_zCwte6Fm7U3ceyLVKRn5dza8Z1CDI1S40rimWHINQH227xYaaAhV-EALw\\_wcB&qclsrc=aw.ds#](https://www.catholiccompany.com/magazine/three-simple-ways-to-celebrate-easter-6037?mrkgadid=1000000&mrkgcl=254&mrkgen=qdsa&mrkgbflag=0&mrkgcat=&acctid=2170000001657482&dskeywoid=39700057108205577&lid=39700057108205577&ds_s_kwaid=58700006326617430&device=c&network=g&matchtype=&locationid=9001173&creative=588750452328&targetid=dsa-371057009646&campaignid=82662878&adgroupid=114091948448&qclid=CJ0KCQiw8_qRBhCXARIsAE2AtRbKJL_zCwte6Fm7U3ceyLVKRn5dza8Z1CDI1S40rimWHINQH227xYaaAhV-EALw_wcB&qclsrc=aw.ds#)

## Youth & Young Adult Ministry



### SAVE THE DATE!!! World Youth Day 2023

Inviting all young people (18+ by August 2023) who are interested in attending the 2023 World Youth Day to fill out our Declaration of Interest Form! This will help both the office of youth and young adults in the Archdiocese of Saint Boniface and Winnipeg in the planning of sending delegates to Lisbon Portugal!

Fill out the form here: <https://bit.ly/WYDInterestForm>

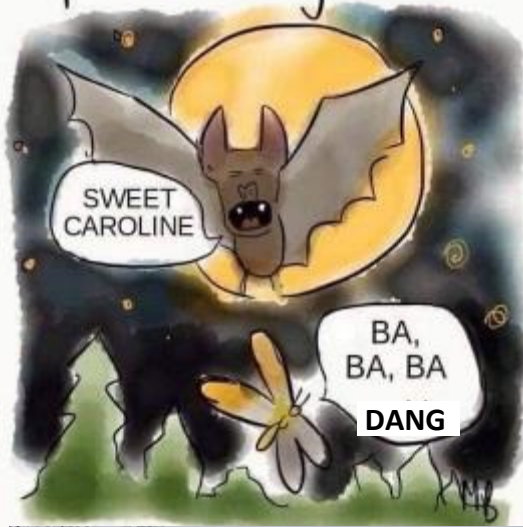
### What is World Youth Day?

Initiated by Pope Saint John Paul II, World Youth Day (WYD) is a celebration and gathering of young people held every three years in a different country. Together with the Pope, many young Catholics

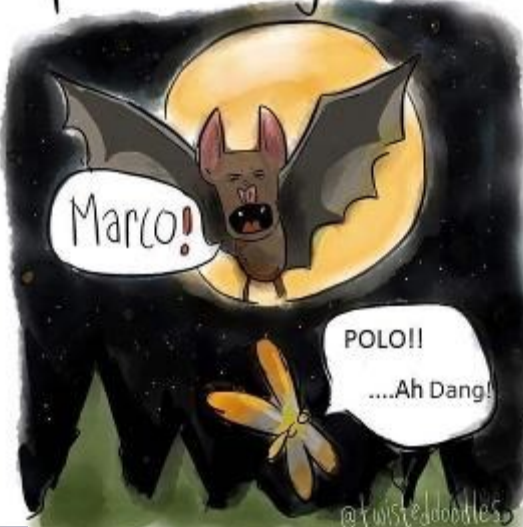
from all over the world experience Christ, the universality of the Church and grow deeper in faith.



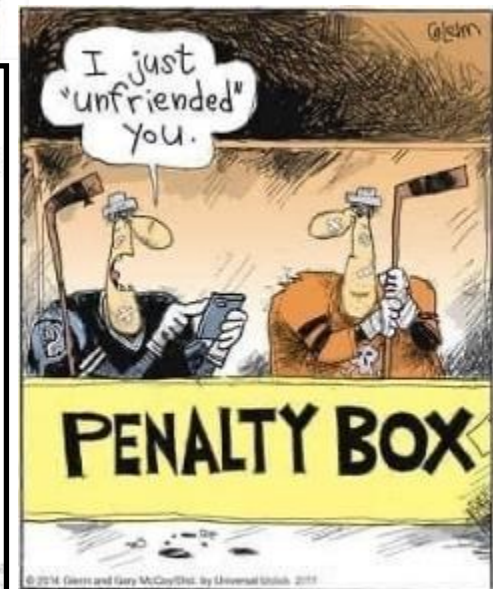
Bats locate their food using sound



Bats locate their food using sound



That exact moment when you realize you speak 17 different languages.



Look how instinctively, the mother croc carries the baby in its mouth. Nature is beautiful.



Stallone: I'm making a movie about composers. I'm playing Beethoven.  
Van Damme: I'll be Mozart.  
Schwarzenegger: Stop it guys, I'm not saying it.

I grilled a chicken for two hours... It still wouldn't tell me why it crossed the road.

MY MATE WAS TELLING ME HE FAILED HIS EXAM IN ABORIGINAL MUSIC...

I SAID 'DIDJA REDO IT?'