



Notre Dame de Lorette Catholic Women's League

CATHOLIC
and **LIVING IT!**

May 2022



Holy Mary,
Mother of God,
pray for us.

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,

Dears Sisters in the League & Fr. Mario,

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! I hope your Easter season continues to be filled with God's blessings, peace and joy.

When we made the decision to cancel our last general meeting on the morning of April 13th, I was reminded of the saying "man makes plans and God laughs". There were several agenda items that did not get dealt with so please keep checking your emails for further information and to give us your feedback. The spiritual bouquet for Pope Francis needs your immediate attention if you have not already submitted your intentions.

What a spring season we are experiencing! But we remain confident that better days are ahead. After all, we are itching to use our C & S gift cards. Thank you to all of you for your wonderful support of our first fundraiser of the year.

Last week, I had the privilege of attending the virtual **Caritas dinner** and award presentations. Advocates for mental health services were being honoured this year. Sara Riel Inc, Sharon Blady and Artbeat Studio Inc were recognized for their years of dedicated service to the care of persons with mental illness. Sharon Blady gave a touching, personal talk on her "lived experience". One of the things she said that really stayed with me is that we all need to stop "should..ing" people. Isn't that a neat term? It is easy to see how we can contribute to someone's angst by putting expectations on them with our ill timed/ill thought comments of "you should do this or you should do that".

The **Diocesan convention** held April 23rd was a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with sisters in the League. Lacey did a superb job of chairing the meeting. Congratulations! I always enjoy hearing and reading the reports from the various councils on the activities they are participating in. The guest speakers selected were great. Minera

Macapagal from Catholic Christian Outreach gave us reason to hope for the well being of our Catholic faith among young people. Their missionary work on university campuses across Canada is bearing fruit. Minerva asked for our prayers that the work they do will lead to more conversions. CCO will also accept monetary donations to help in their ministry.

Orysia Hull is the President of the Ukrainian CWL in MB. She related her family's story of leaving Ukraine at the start of WW II, then talked about the current situation in Ukraine. As difficult as things are for the refugees and internally displaced persons, Orysia's biggest fear is that Putin may succeed. She presented many options as to how we can assist now monetarily (Ukrainian Canadian Congress, Canada Ukraine Foundation or CNEWA) and how we will be able to assist once the refugees arrive en masse in MB. We will be having more discussions about these opportunities at upcoming meetings. In the interim, Orysia urged us to write to our MP's to ask that Canada do more to assist Ukraine in their time of crisis.

May will be a busy month. It starts this Sunday with the **K of C fundraising breakfast** for a specialized wheelchair for a young boy in the community. In the evening, our CWL parish council is hosting a pre-screening of the pro-life movie "**A Matter of Life**".

We will be **collecting baby items** for moms in need over the next several weeks. The **March For Life** will be held in Steinbach on Saturday, May 28th. Details on all these events are in the newsletter.

Our **anniversary dinner** is on May 11th. It will start with mass at 6:15 pm and be followed immediately by dinner. If you have not done so as yet, please reply to the invitation ASAP. After dinner and some time for socialization, there will be a few business items to deal with. As well, we will be presenting service pins to 5 members and we will be doing the installation of officers.

Our sister, **Agatha Olayiwola**, has agreed to be our guest speaker for the evening and will talk about her journey from Nigeria to Canada. I look forward to hearing Agatha's story. I hope to see many of you at our celebration.

Remember to put June 11th on your calendars for our **highway clean-up**.

Let us continue to pray for our sisters and their families who are facing serious health issues.

God bless each and every one of you!

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

2022 Pope's Intentions

May

Faith-Filled Young People

We pray for all young people, called to live life to the fullest; may they see in Mary's life the way to listen, the depth of discernment, the courage that faith generates, and the dedication to service.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Fundraiser for Olivier, 10:00 Movie: <i>Matter of Life</i> , parish hall, 7:00 pm	2	3	4	5	6	7
8  Lacey Bernardin 	9	10	11  Anniversary Mass: 6:15 Dinner to follow at hall	12  Rolande & Bob Chernichan	13	14
15	16	17  Gisèle Falk	18	19  Connie Haas	20  MaryAnn & Wayne Novak	21  Monique Johnson
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29  Marilyn & Bob Toutant	30	31	"If you invoke the blessed Virgin when you are tempted, she will come at once to your help, and Satan will leave you." - <i>Saint John Vianney</i> "If you ever feel distressed during your day, call upon our Lady, just say this simple prayer: 'Mary, Mother of Jesus, please be a mother to me now.' I must admit, this prayer has never failed me." - <i>Blessed Mother Teresa</i> "Let us run to Mary, and, as her little children, cast ourselves into her arms with a perfect confidence." - <i>Saint Francis de Sales</i> "The Son of God became man for our salvation but only in Mary and through Mary." - <i>Saint Louis Marie de Montfort</i>			



The Catholic Women's League of Canada

NOTICE OF CONVENTION

74th Annual Meeting of Members / Convention

MANITOBA PROVINCIAL COUNCIL

June 3rd and 4th, 2022

Hosted by

St. Dominic's Parish Council
416-1st 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, Adjournment and Lowering of the Flags |
| 3:35 p.m. | Elections, followed by Installation of Officers |

Scent Free Convention – Church and Parish Hall Handicap Accessible

Honour Guard, Chrism Mass, April 12, 2022



Selecting the Prize Winners, C&S Gift Card Sales



C & S Gift Card Fundraiser 2022

\$7380 in total sales

\$1107.00 in profit

Thank you to Chris Maxemuck and C&S
for supporting us once again!

Thank you to the members who bought & sold!

Prize Winners: (bundle of pro-mix; see left)

Lucille Chay, Connie Haas, Michael Lavich, Janine Durand-Rondeau,
Lena Roy, Kyla Haas, Yvonne Romaniuk, Lee Morin, Liz Hacault,
Maureen Manning

St. Boniface Diocesan Convention, April 23, 2022



The Welcome Crew



Getting down to business



Guest speaker, CCO Missionary
Minerva Macapagal



Masked bandits!



Visiting with Fr. Charles and the Military Ordinariate members



Guest Speaker, Orysia Hull,
Ukrainian Catholic Women's League



Missing Irene

St. Boniface Diocesan Convention, April 23, 2022



Installation of Diocesan Officers



Our Council Receives a Certificate
of Merit

Dear Lacey, Lucille and Suzanne

I want you to know how proud I was of you three on Saturday at our diocesan convention!!!

Lacey, you were so well prepared, and you kept everything on time and running smoothly. You were beautifully dressed (loved those high heels), carried yourself with confidence, and you were cool, calm and collected throughout. We never felt rushed by the program. Suzanne, with your laptop and wealth of experience, you so ably and professionally kept Lacey on track, just as presidents rely upon when they are responsible to chair a whole day event. Of course, with all the hats you wore, you must have had a sore neck by the end of the evening! I was relieved there were no resolutions to add to the business, but maybe for next year, we can change that. The guest speakers were very interesting and were well placed in the program. I liked the spiritual program and I was impressed that Sharon used technology to offer a guided meditation; it keeps the League evolving in using various ways to pray and to experience spirituality.

Lucille, your very comprehensive report captured the work you put into preparing it; it also shows your excellent leadership of our small but mighty executive. Your report and your delivery of your report had just the right amount of humility! Some parish presidents were intimidated and realized they might need to try new and creative ways to keep their members engaged in service to God and Canada.

We are truly blessed that Archbishop LeGatt and Fr. Charles shared the day with us and made us League members feel valued and appreciated by their messages and simply being present and participating.

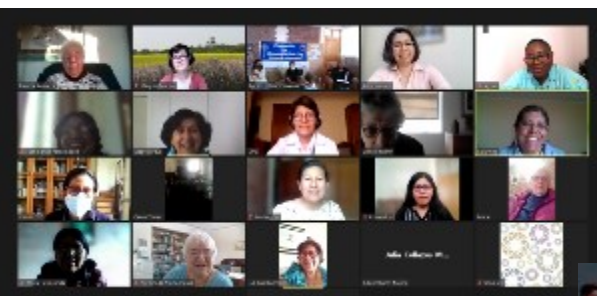
All in all, I am so extremely proud of our Lorette council, of our members who attended in support of you, and especially of you three who did us proud! Keep up the excellent work! May your love of God through service in the League continue to blossom as you respond to His call by your leadership and service.

Love, hugs and blessings,
Rolande, Life Member, National Chairperson of Resolutions



CATHOLIC
and **LIVING IT!**





I hope that spring is gradually coming to your area. I take advantage of my monthly day off to give you some news. (Leave from community activities, no personal prayer, etc.)

Where to start? First, in early February, the Latin American Virtual Regional Assembly was held (see photo), followed by the Holy Cross Family of Peru. Among other things, we explored the Congregation's theme for this year, "All is Interconnected," and a topic that is being heard more and more in the Catholic Church these days, synodality, or walking together as the people of God.

The last few months have also given me more opportunities to get to know the Holy Cross family in Peru (My religious family founded by Blessed Basil Moreau is now comprised of four branches: the Marianites of Holy Cross, Sisters of Holy Cross, Sisters of the Holy Cross and the Congregation of Holy Cross—Brothers and Fathers). The last three branches are in Peru and we gathered for the ordination to the diaconate and perpetual vows of Jim Gutiérrez (see photo). It is inspiring to see several years of journey and formation culminate in this lifetime

commitment. And we continued the celebration after the Eucharist by dancing. (From what I have seen, if you don't dance, it's not a celebration...)

At the beginning of March, the classes of initiation to religious life resumed. Monday mornings are online. I go to the district of Pueblo Libre on Wednesdays and Thursdays for the other classes. I am in contact with classmates from a dozen countries and congregations. This diversity enriches the exchanges. During the break, we meet outside for a game of volleyball. (See photos.) On Friday nights, I attend a workshop on forgiveness and reconciliation. Other workshops are also offered from time to time on prayer, synodality, managing emotions, etc.

Personally, since the beginning of 2022, I have decided to choose to work on a particular area of shadow in my life and in my personal history that limits my freedom to love. I see this choice validated by the convergence of questions and approaches that many of my courses and workshops offer, which help me to journey and be shaped by the God-of-Love. There is a lot of

movement within, and I sometimes have difficulty letting my perceptions and attitudes be transformed according to God's rhythm. When discouragement arises, I remind myself that, first, I am well surrounded (both in accompaniment and in prayer), second, that if there is movement, it means that there is life (!), and third, that I chose this road motivated by my fundamental desire for freedom.

Celebrations and moments of leisure also punctuate this stage of the novitiate. I was able to visit a cemetery with a lot of famous Peruvian people, I am learning the guitar, we celebrated birthdays in the community, and then we lived Holy Week in the parish.

Thank you so much for taking the time to read me and to support me with prayer and affection despite the distance. I keep you all in my thoughts and prayers.

May the peace and joy of the Risen One shine in your hearts!

Your CWL Sister,
Maryse Chartier



Why is May the Month of Mary?

The ways Mary is honored in May is as varied as the people who honor her.



It's here.

May, the month in which the earth springs into bloom (at least in the Northern Hemisphere) and we start thinking about planting gardens, family picnics and making vacation plans.

It's also the Month of Mary.

Having gone to a Catholic grade school run by the Schoenstatt Sisters of Mary, my early childhood memories include honoring Mary during May – a practice I've continued all of my life and taught my children to do as well. It's as natural and essential to me as my morning coffee (only far, far more joy-filled if you can even imagine that).

I know a number of Catholics who see May as the Month of Mary, and we all get the same question from time to time: Why is May Mary's month? Here's a brief explanation.

For centuries, the Catholic Church has set aside the entire month of May to honor Mary, Mother of God. Not just a day *in* May, mind you, but the entire month.

The custom spans both centuries and cultures, with roots going back as far as the Ancient Greeks. In early Greece, May was dedicated to Artemis, the goddess of fecundity.

In Ancient Rome, May was dedicated to Flora, the goddess of blooms, or blossoms. They celebrated *ludi florals*, or floral games, at the end of April and asked the intercession of Flora for all that blooms.

In medieval times, similar customs abounded, all centering around the practice of expelling winter, as May 1 was considered the start of new growth.

During this period, the tradition of *Tricesimum*, or "Thirty-Day Devotion to Mary," came into being. Also called, "Lady

Month," the event was held from August 15-September 14 and is still observed in some areas.

The idea of a month dedicated specifically to Mary can be traced back to baroque times. Although it wasn't always held during May, Mary Month included thirty daily spiritual exercises

honoring Mary.

It was in this era that Mary's Month and May were combined, making May the Month of Mary with special devotions organized on each day throughout the month. This custom became especially widespread during the nineteenth century and remains in practice until today.

The ways Mary is honored in May is as varied as the people who honor her.

It's common for parishes have a daily recitation of the Rosary during May, and many erect a special May altar with a statue or picture of Mary as a reminder of Mary's month. Additionally, it's a long-standing tradition to crown the statue of Mary during May – a custom known as May Crowning. Often, the crown is made of beautiful blossoms representing Mary's beauty and virtue. It's also a reminder to the faithful to strive to imitate our Blessed Mother's virtue in our own lives. May Crowning, in some areas, is a huge celebration and is usually done outside of Mass, although Mass may be celebrated before or after the actual crowning.

But May altars and crownings aren't just "church" things. We can and should be doing the same in our homes. When we echo the customs and traditions of the Church in our homes – our domestic churches – we participate more fully in the life of the Church.

If you haven't already, I encourage you to erect a prayer corner in your home. No matter how fancy or simple it is. The main point is that it's a place designated for God, and more specifically, for spending time

with him. Just as you need proper atmosphere to sleep, you also need proper atmosphere to pray.

For May, give Mary a special spot in your prayer corner. It can be a statue or picture, but place there some representation of our Blessed Mother. Make it appealing and a real tribute to her beauty and virtue.

Then, crown Mary. You can give her an actual or spiritual crown and you can make it a subtle gesture or ornate ceremony of your own device. The meaning is far more important than the action. You can do it in the beginning, at the end of May or anywhere in between.

Just do it.

Why?

Not because it's a long-standing tradition in the Church, although it is. Not because there are any special graces connected to it, although there is.

No, do it because Mary is Mother – your mother, my mother, everyone's mother – and because she cares for all of us day-in-and-day-out without fail, interceding for us in even the tiniest matters.

For that, she deserves an entire month in her honor.

<https://www.ncregister.com/blog/why-is-may-the-month-of-mary>

CARRY YOUR ROSARY EVERYDAY

- ♥When you carry a Rosary, Satan has a headache.
- ♥When you use it, he collapses.
- ♥When he sees you praying it, he faints.
- ♥Let us pray the rosary every time, so that he'll keep fainting.
- ♥Did you also know that when you are about to share this post, Satan will try to discourage you?
- ♥Share it anyway and help hasten the triumph of Mother Mary!
- ♥Send this to your prayerful friends and see how the Holy Spirit works!
- ♥There is a great deal to gain and absolutely nothing to lose!



CWL 33RD ANNIVERSARY

Celebrate

Lucille Chap 204-755-2821

Wednesday, May 11 at 6:15 PM, CT

Notre Dame de Lorette Parish Hall, 1282 Dawson Rd., Lorette, Manitoba

Gratitude
PROJECT
2021-2022



Centenary Committee Update

On behalf of the Centenary Committee, I would like to extend our profound gratitude to members across Canada for participating in the Gratitude

Project. I am thrilled to announce that members responded with over 1,200 cards distributed to frontline workers, PSWs, local hospitals, long term care facilities, retirement facilities, assisted living, daycares, soup kitchens, businesses, members, diocesan presidents, parishioners, parish employees, Spiritual Advisors and clergy.

Members also participated as follows:

- ◆ PSWs given Tim Horton and Starbuck \$10 gift cards
- ◆ Meals and desserts individually packaged and delivered to three nursing homes for staff on a total of ten shifts and twice to the homeless shelter
- ◆ 'Thank you' posters as well as 'thank you' letter presented to every department, cashiers and to workers behind the scenes
- ◆ Posters placed on bulletin boards
- ◆ Paid or rented billboards in their communities with thank you messages to front line workers and health care workers that kept us all safe during the pandemic
- ◆ Personally thanked store clerks, their home care workers, acknowledging them for their dedication and hard work
- ◆ Mass offered for the front-line workers as well as including them in their prayers during their council meetings.

There is still time to participate in the Gratitude Project. The Gratitude Postcard can be downloaded from the national website under the 100th Anniversary Celebrations link. Kindly forward any updates regarding the number of cards that have been sent out or any other act of gratitude your council has done to national office. We look forward to receiving the results of more expressions of gratitude being done.

This project will conclude on July 31, 2022. I look forward to reporting the wonderful results from your participation with the Gratitude Project at the national convention.

With gratitude,
Betty Colaneri,
Centenary Committee Chairperson

VOLUNTEER – May 12, 2022

Each child made in the image and likeness of God.

Please click on the "VOLUNTEER" button or go to <https://bit.ly/Volunteer-100kFlags>.

This year, National Week for Life and the Family (NWLFF) runs from May 8-15, 2022. The **National March for Life** is planned for Thursday, **May 12, in Ottawa**.

A Mass for Life, concelebrated by the three Archbishops in Winnipeg, will be offered virtually on the National March for Life website (marchforlife.ca).

On the day of the March for Life in Ottawa, the Knights of Columbus and Life Culture will be hosting a **100,000 Lives Flag Display at St. Boniface Cathedral** in Winnipeg to commemorate the lives lost to abortion each year in Canada.

Please take this opportunity to bring friends and family to walk through the beautiful

Cathedral grounds and reflect on the magnitude of abortion in Canada. Even better, **please volunteer** to help plant the flags - bring your family - each flag honouring a preborn child lost to abortion in Canada during the previous 12 months.

WALK FOR LIFE 2022 — Saturday, May 28, 2022, 10:00 am

K.R. Barkman Park, Steinbach



Let's make this a huge event!

This is a family-friendly event where we celebrate life! Hear pro-life speakers, join the walk, enjoy a bbq hotdog, and show your support for a culture of life!



Alex Schadenberg

Euthanasia Prevention Coalition



Susan Penner

Life Culture Canada



Carol Enns

Guest Speaker

Life Culture's Spring Banquet



Please consider joining us for an evening of solidarity with other pro-life people from around Southern Manitoba. This year, Life Culture has invited Alex Schadenberg as the keynote speaker.

The date is **Friday, May 27**, at the Niverville Heritage Centre.
Doors open at 6:00pm, dinner at 6:30pm.

No Cost — Freewill Offering

Alex Schadenberg is the Executive Director and co-founder (1998) of the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition of Canada (EPCC) and past Ontario State Life Program Director. The EPC is an internationally known centre for education, advice and resources related to euthanasia prevention. If you need help in how to understand and defend our families, friends and neighbours from current and expanding assisted suicide and euthanasia legislation, he's the man.

He has travelled around the world speaking to audiences and authors the most read blog in the world that focuses on euthanasia, assisted suicide and end-of-life issues.



Please RSVP by May 16

Call (204) 326-5433 or online at <http://www.lifeculture.ca/banquet>

To reserve your seat; limit of 200 seats available

HUMAN TRAFFICKING WEBINAR

May 28, 2022

The Catholic Women's League of Canada is pleased to offer a webinar session on human trafficking. Statistics indicate that 95% of victims of human trafficking are women and girls and 43% of all victims of human trafficking were between the ages of 18 and 24.

***Human Trafficking, Canada's Secret Shame –
How it Happens and How it can be Prevented***
Presented by: Joy Smith, B.Ed., M.Ed.



Joy Smith is recognized as one of Canada's leading anti-human trafficking activists. Following her election in 2004, Mrs. Smith led the discussion on human trafficking at a national level which resulted in important changes in the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act*. Her continued efforts to raise the issue of human trafficking on the Standing Committee on the Status of Women resulted in an intensive study of the issue by the committee and the release of the highly regarded report on human trafficking called *Turning Outrage into Action*.

Joy Smith is the founder of the Joy Smith Foundation where she tirelessly volunteers her time combatting human trafficking, and fighting for the rights of women in Canada and around the globe.

Date: May 28, 2022

Time: 11:00 a.m. CDT (Winnipeg)

Register online through

The Catholic Women's League of Canada's website: cwl.ca

**This presentation is open to everyone, family, friends,
neighbours, co-workers. ALL ARE WELCOME.**

WHAT NOT TO SAY TO A FRIEND EXPERIENCING A MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEM

@BELIEVEPHQ



CMHA Mental Health Week
#GetReal May 2-8 2022

This Mental Health Week is all about empathy

"I can relate."

It's a familiar expression and one you've likely used countless times throughout the pandemic. When someone has been sick or stressed, felt lonely or lost their job. You say it without having to think: "I get it. I've been there. I can relate."

But did you know that, hiding in these very simple sentences, is a sophisticated skill you may not even realize you have? Psychologists and researchers call it empathy. And it's not just for therapists or counsellors. Empathy is the ability to share someone else's feelings or experiences by imagining what it would be like to be in their situation. It's a simple concept, but it may be the very thing we humans need most.

As human beings, we share an ability to imagine what life is like for someone else. To see the world as others see it. To look through someone else's eyes. To climb inside and walk around in their skin.

When someone is struggling, they don't always need someone to swoop in and fix things for them. First, they need someone to understand where they're coming from.

During his time as president, Barack Obama suggested the biggest deficit in the world was an empathy deficit. He defined it as the ability to see the world through those who are different from us.

But maybe that's shifted these past two years, as our world has faced a common problem: we've lived together through a long and grueling pandemic. The virus came for all of us. No exception. And while it left its mark on some more than others, it is clearer now that we're as much the same as we are different. Empathy might, in fact, be the silver lining to all of this: whatever our circumstances, it's clear that we all need to feel seen and heard.

If empathy doesn't come easily to you, the good news is that it can be learned and practiced. Empathy can help us know ourselves and our own feelings. It can help us lead, help us communicate and help us support and connect with others. At home. At work and at school.

For **Mental Health Week** this year – May 2-8, 2022 – #GetReal with each other. We may be different, but that doesn't make us rivals. Let's stop polarizing and start empathizing. Be there for each other when times are hard and be ready to listen. You don't have to agree to understand, and you don't have to fix it to help.

#GetReal. Don't weigh in. Tune in.

<https://cmha.ca/this-mental-health-week-is-all-about-empathy/>

Charity Status Threatened for Crisis Pregnancy Centres across Canada

The PM's office recently instructed Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland to "...introduce amendments to the Income Tax Act to make anti-abortion organizations that provide dishonest counselling to pregnant women about their rights and options ineligible for charitable status.". This was expected as we were forewarned by the PM in their campaign promises during the last Federal election that they would "No longer provide charity status to anti-abortion organizations (for example, Crisis Pregnancy Centres)...".

Canada already aborts nearly 100,000 babies a year and gives hundreds of millions of dollars a year to women's reproductive health, both domestically & internationally. However, there should still be support for women who choose to keep their babies. **Choosing life should also be supported by the government.**

Please contact the Prime Minister and your MP and ask that pregnancy crisis centres and pro-life organizations remain eligible for charitable status.

Conscience Rights

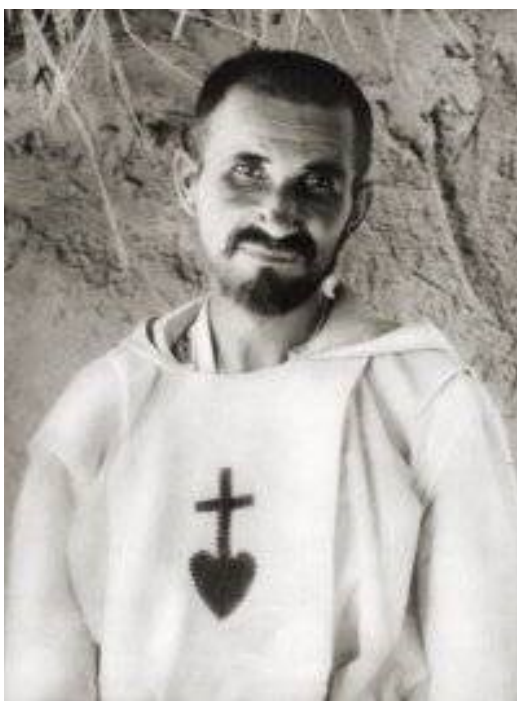
Imagine being a doctor or nurse and being asked to assist in euthanasia, even though you absolutely believe in protecting life from conception to natural death. According to Alex Schadenberg, Executive Director of the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition (and Life Program Director for Ontario State KofC): "It is true that the law does not require medical professionals to participate but it does not protect medical professionals if a hospital or the College of Physicians and Surgeons requires them to participate. Bill-230 protects medical professionals from being coerced, intimidated or forced to participate in euthanasia."

What can we do?

Write our MPs. You can read more on <https://www.lifeculture.ca/consciencerights>.

Or send a postcard to your MP and others. Visit <https://www.epcc.ca/bill-c-230-mp-mailer-card/> for a well designed bilingual postcard template.

Who was Charles de Foucauld?



Vatican City, Nov 9, 2021 / 10:30 am

The Vatican announced that the canonization of Bl. Charles de Foucauld and six others will take place in Rome on May 15, 2022.

Who was Charles de Foucauld?

De Foucauld, also known as Brother Charles of Jesus, was a soldier, explorer, Catholic revert, priest, hermit, and religious brother, who served among the Tuareg people in the Sahara desert in Algeria.

He was assassinated by a band of men at his hermitage in the Sahara on Dec. 1, 1916.

De Foucauld was born in Strasbourg in 1858. He was raised by his wealthy and aristocratic grandfather after being orphaned at the age of six.

He joined the French military, following in the footsteps of his grandfather. Having already lost his faith, as a young man he lived a life of indulgence and was known to have an immature sense of humor.

De Foucauld resigned from the military at age 23, and set off on a dangerous exploration of Morocco. Contact with strong Muslim believers there challenged him, and he began to repeat to himself: "My God, if you exist, let me come to know you."

He returned to France and, with the guidance of a priest, came back to his Catholic faith in 1886, at the age of 28.

The following saying is attributed to him: "As soon as I believed in God, I understood that I could not do otherwise than to live for him alone."

De Foucauld realized a vocation to "follow Jesus in his life at Nazareth" during a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. He was a Trappist monk in France and Syria for seven years. He also lived as a hermit for a period near a convent of Poor Clares in Nazareth.

He was ordained a priest in 1901 at age 43 and left for northern Africa to serve among the Tuareg people, a nomadic ethnic group, saying he wanted to live among "the furthest removed, the most abandoned."

In the Sahara he welcomed anyone who passed by, whether Christian, Muslim, Jewish, or pagan.

He was deeply respectful of the faiths and cultures he lived among. During his 13 years in the Sahara he learned about Tuareg culture and language, compiling a Tuareg-French dictionary, and being a "brother" to the people.

The priest said he wanted to "shout the Gospel with his life" and to conduct his life so that people would ask, "if such is the servant, what must the Master be like?"

De Foucauld was the inspiration for the founding of several lay associations, religious communities, and secular institutes of laity and priests, known collectively as "the spiritual family of Charles de Foucauld."

At his beatification in 2005, Pope Benedict XVI said as a priest, de Foucauld "put the Eucharist and the Gospel at the center of his life."

"He discovered that Jesus -- who came to unite Himself to us in our humanity -- invites us to that universal brotherhood which he

later experienced in the Sahara, and to that love of which Christ set us the example," he said.

After meeting with Cardinal Angelo Becciu, prefect of the congregation for saints' causes, the pope approved a second miracle attributed to de Foucauld's intercession, paving the way for his canonization.

The date of the canonization had been delayed due to the uncertainty of the COVID-19 pandemic, Foucauld's postulator **told** CNA last month.

The May 15 ceremony will be the Catholic Church's first canonization Mass since the start of the coronavirus outbreak.

Who else will be canonized?

With Foucauld, Pope Francis will also **canonize** Devasahayam Pillai, a layman from India who was martyred after converting from Hinduism to Catholicism in the 18th century.

Two religious sisters will also be canonized on May 15: Bl. Maria Francesca di Gesù, the foundress of the Capuchin Tertiary Sisters of Loano, and Bl. Maria Domenica Mantovani, the co-foundress and first general superior of the Institute of the Little Sisters of the Holy Family.

Bl. César de Bus, Bl. Luigi Maria Palazzolo, and Bl. Giustino Maria Russolillo — three priests who founded religious congregations and institutes — will also be declared saints.

<https://catholicherald.co.uk/who-was-charles-de-foucauld/>



Bl. Maria Francesca di Gesù



Serva di Dio
Madre
MARIA DOMENICA MANTOVANI



Devasahayam Pillai

Don't Hate the Rich!



Hold on a second, we might retort. If indeed we should pray for the rich, does that mean we should ask God to provide the wealthy with

hunger, and untreated illness. But thereafter, let us also pray for the wealthy, that they might be strong against the temptation to selfishness and so use their largesse for the furtherance of the kingdom of God and the benefit of their fellow man.

Such a use of wealth in the context of the Church has brought great spiritual fruit over the centuries, as we can see in the smattering of canonized kings and queens—the heroic St. Louis IX of France among them—and some of the world's great cathedrals and basilicas built primarily because of the generosity of the “haves.” And that's not to mention how the wealth and influence of certain of Jesus' followers enabled them to play pivotal roles in salvation history. For example, Joseph of Arimathea, whose feast day the Church celebrated just recently, had the means to buy a tomb for Our Lord and the cachet to petition Pontius Pilate for the delivery of Jesus' body. It is quite possible that right stewardship of significant wealth, the owner of which is seeking to use it according to the will of God, could have an even greater impact in the modern world than it ever had before.

Finally, for those of us who have few (if any) material needs, it is a given that we must pray for the poor first. But afterward, let us pray for ourselves, just as fervently as we might have done before we had wealth. Any Christian, frankly, who feels he does not need God's help—even if it comes from a well-intentioned but mistaken desire for the Lord to “spend his time with those who need it more”—is putting his eternal destination at risk. God's grace is available and necessary for all, though it can take different forms depending on our state in life. Pray for spiritual poverty at a level of fervor that matches our material wealth. Pray for the wisdom and courage that will allow us to use a significant portion of our resources for the benefit of our neighbor. Pray for humility, a virtue of which most of us could use more.

And let us pray for one another, in charity, regardless of our means or lack thereof. May we remain steadfast against the sin of envy on the one hand and the sin of selfishness on the other. The Lord desires that all men spend eternity with him in heaven. And we can not only strive for that ultimate goal ourselves, but also help each other get there.

<https://www.catholic.com/magazine/online-edition/dont-hate-the-rich>

Is open conflict between the classes what Our Lord had in mind when he laid out the difficult path to heaven for the wealthy?

As Catholics, we are rightly reminded that in the Church's social teaching, there is a *preferential option for the poor*. This idea reflects the canon law obligation for us, in the first place, to do all we can within our means to assist the poor and most vulnerable (Can. 222 §2). One of the most important ways to answer this obligation, in addition to material assistance, is to pray regularly for the poor.

Recent data show that the economic gap between the rich and the poor in our society has widened over the past few decades, and that expansion has sparked conflict. Added to this longer-term trend, the recent COVID pandemic only exacerbated the divide as those with plenty were able to keep their jobs and work from an extra room converted into a home office, for example, while many with hourly jobs found themselves with no job at all when their employers shut down, often permanently.

In the Gospels, Our Lord speaks often of the dignity of the poor and our responsibility for their care. He goes even farther when, in several well known instances, he speaks pointedly to the rich and unflinchingly lays out the difficult path to heaven ahead of them.

But is open conflict between the classes—the “haves” and the “have-nots”—what Our Lord had in mind? On the spiritual level, one thing that unites us all is our need for prayers. Who among us can say we are completely, or even mostly, self-sufficient? On the contrary, Jesus says, “Apart from me, you can do nothing.”

With that in mind, consider the following questions:

How often, if ever, do we pray for the rich, for those who experience material plenty? And if we are affluent ourselves, do we pray for God's assistance as fervently and as often as we should?

greater abundance? Prosperity gospel preachers like Joel Osteen, Creflo Dollar, and Joyce Meyer might say sure, but no, that's not at all what we are talking about.

From the beginning, spiritual warfare has been a central reality of Christian life—perhaps today more than ever—regardless of whether we recognize it and how much wealth we have. Given the general human tendency toward sin, all of us will be tempted by any number of vices. But if we do not have wealth, we may also be tempted to envy or jealousy, not only resenting the rich, but even wishing misfortune on them. Envy is a cardinal sin, so this is clearly not what God desires from us.

On the other hand, the wealthy among us might be tempted by different sins, like pride, vanity, and outright disregard for our fellow man. But consider how the rich

And let us pray for one another, in charity, regardless of our means or lack thereof. May we remain steadfast against the sin of envy on the one hand and the sin of selfishness on the other.

succumbing to these temptations might have an outsized effect on society. Got an extra million dollars in your pocket? Well, Satan says, “Forget the poor. Buy a new yacht!” Own a prime piece of real estate? The Deceiver cajoles, “You don't really want to donate that. Maximize your profit. And buy an even bigger yacht!”

These may seem like solutions looking for real problems, but there are significant implications of the wealthy losing such spiritual battles, above and beyond the ultimate destination of their souls. What could that million dollars, donated, have meant to a struggling pro-life ministry? Or that piece of land for a church bursting at the seams, needing both a new building and a place to put it?

Certainly, let us first pray for the poor, whose needs may well involve life or death and include such tragic hardships as homelessness,



This is the fastest thing in the world 🤪



Zinho
@_Celine

Opening these hands will have you questioning your own strength

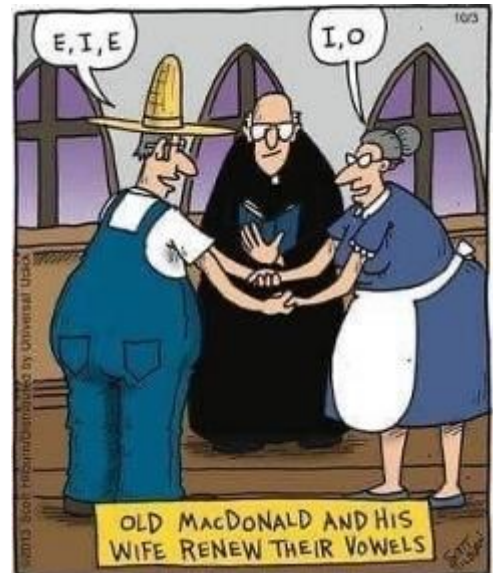


Things that used to hurt my back:

- Jumping off garages
- Crashing my bike
- Falling out of trees
- Diving into the shallow end
- Contact sports

Things that hurt my back now:

- Sneezing
- Mopping the floor
- Washing the dishes
- Cooking huge meals
- Brushing my teeth
- Tying my shoes
- Rolling over in bed



off the mark.com

by Mark Parisi

