



**ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI  
CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE  
SPRING 2018 NEWSLETTER**

Now is the time to put away our heavy winter clothes. New colours, and new fashions entice us to spruce up our wardrobes. To help with this on **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11<sup>TH</sup> at 7:30pm** the CWL will hold a **SPRING FASHION SHOW** sponsored by Nygaard. Everyone is welcome. A freewill donation for the Working Centre is requested. When culling your wardrobe, please remember the poor and homeless and consider donating good used clothing to the less fortunate.

In response to the White Rose planting held last May with the Lutheran ladies of neighboring churches, Faith Lutheran ladies have invited St. Francis and St. Stephen Lutheran for a morning of fellowship on **SATURDAY, APRIL 14<sup>th</sup>** at 9:30am. If you would like to join us and meet of our Lutheran neighbours, please contact Karin, 519-576-6587, [kmanley@rogers.com](mailto:kmanley@rogers.com) by April 7.

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18<sup>TH</sup>** at 1:00pm is our **ANNUAL CARD PARTY**. All are invited to come and play their favourite game – bridge, euchre, dominos, cribbage, etc. Lunch will be served at 1pm and there will be lots of prizes. Tickets are \$15.00 per person and proceeds will go to Hospice of Waterloo Region. Tickets are available at the parish office or from Karin 519-576-6587, [kmanley@rogers.com](mailto:kmanley@rogers.com). If you would like to donate a prize, they can be dropped off at the parish or contact Karin for pick up. Bring your friends and neighbours and help us support palliative care services in our Region.

The Catholic Women's League of Canada calls all people of faith to join nationwide in **12 HOURS OF PRAYER FOR PALLIATIVE CARE** on **MAY 4<sup>TH</sup>** as a profound witness to the sanctity of human life. There is a pressing need for all Canadians to have greater accessibility to palliative care. This end-of-life care is true compassion. It allows individuals who are facing death to not be burdened by pain and suffering but to receive the support that respects their human dignity both physically and spiritually. The Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association notes that, "Support for hospice palliative care is almost unanimous, with the vast majority of Canadians (96%) being supportive, including 66% who are very supportive." However, they also note that, "Only 19% say it is available to those dying of life threatening illnesses" and that "one-third of Canadians (34%) are not sure to whom hospice palliative care services are available." Canadians both want and need palliative care.

All parishioners, family and friends are invited to join ST. FRANCIS CWL in prayer and solidarity on **FRIDAY, MAY 4<sup>TH</sup>** from 8:00am to 8:00pm in the church. Fr. Dan Lobsinger will conclude our day of prayer with a Mass at 7pm followed by our special guest speaker, John Milloy. Sign up sheets will be available at the church so we can ensure that people are in the church all day. For more information, please contact the parish office or Barbara Diemert, 519-744-8955 or [bdiemert@rogers.com](mailto:bdiemert@rogers.com).

Pope Francis says, "Let us not underestimate the power of so many voices united in prayer."

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 9<sup>TH</sup>** at 7:30 pm is our May General Meeting. There will be a Crowning of Mary followed by Teresa Harnett of the Hamilton Diocese who will present "OVER 18" a powerful documentary by a young Canadian filmmaker, Jared Brock, about the growing epidemic of pornography exposure, especially for our children and youth. This meeting is open to the parish.

The weekend of **MAY 25 – 27** is the **HAMILTON DIOCESAN ANNUAL CONVENTION** at the Delta Hotel in Guelph. All CWL members are encouraged to attend at least part of the convention. It is a great way to meet other CWL women and see the League in action. Our St. Francis CWL will subsidize one half of the cost. Anyone who would like to attend is asked to contact Barbara [bdiemert@rogers.com](mailto:bdiemert@rogers.com) or 519-744-8955 for further information and registration forms.

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6<sup>TH</sup>** (Please note the change of date) is our **ANNUAL POT LUCK SUPPER** in the church hall. Please join us for fun and fellowship as we wind up a very busy year.

**MEMBERSHIP:**

Your membership in the CWL is important. If you have not yet renewed or you would like to join the Catholic Women's League, membership is \$30.00. A cheque made out to St. Francis CWL can be placed in the Sunday collection or by contacting Judith Booth [gjbooth@rogers.com](mailto:gjbooth@rogers.com). More information can be found on the parish website ([www.stfranciskw.ca](http://www.stfranciskw.ca)) or the national CWL website ([www.cwl.ca](http://www.cwl.ca)).

**PRAYER FOR HOMELESS PEOPLE**

Hear our prayer today for all women, men, boys and girls who are homeless this day.  
For those sleeping under bridges, on park benches, in doorways or bus stations.  
For those who can only find shelter for the night but must wander in the daytime.  
For families broken because they could not afford to pay the rent.  
For those who have no relatives or friends who can take them in.  
For those who have no place to keep possessions that remind them of who they are.  
For those who are afraid and hopeless.  
For those who have been betrayed by our social safety net.  
For all these people, we pray that you will provide shelter, security and hope.  
We pray for those of us with warm houses and comfortable beds that we not be lulled into complacency and forgetfulness.  
Jesus, help us to see your face in the eyes of every homeless person we meet so that we may be empowered through word and deed, and through the political means we have, to bring justice and peace to those who are homeless.

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*May Our Lady of Good Counsel continue to guide us in all we do.*

Karin Manley, Co-president, [kmanley@rogers.com](mailto:kmanley@rogers.com)  
Barbara Diemert, Co-president, [bdiemert@rogers.com](mailto:bdiemert@rogers.com).