



**ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE**  
**SPRING NEWSLETTER 2019**  
*"Care for our Common Home"*



The snow is finally melting, days are longer and all kinds of birds are starting to appear. Looks like Spring is here!

**Our National CWL theme for the next 2 years is "Care for our Common Home."** How appropriate it is to ask our CWL members to look and reflect in the beauty of nature and to find ways – both big and small – to help safeguard and protect God's creation.

Thank you to all members who have renewed their 2019 CWL membership. The CWL relies on your support and show of solidarity with other Catholic women. If you have not yet renewed, it is not too late. Please take a moment to place your membership fee of \$30.00 made out to St. Francis of Assisi CWL, your name, address, telephone # and email address in the Sunday collection or drop it off at the parish office.

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

WED. MAY 1 **WATERLOO REGION INTERFAITH COMMUNITY BREAKFAST** with guest speaker Rev. Rosalyn Kantlah<sup>^</sup>nta'Elm speaking on the topic "From Settler to Sojourner: Living together in the Land." The event takes place from 7am – 9am in Marshall Hall at Bingemans Conference Centre. Tickets are \$25.00 and are available at [ICBreakfastTickets@gmail.com](mailto:ICBreakfastTickets@gmail.com). You are welcome to join St. Francis CWL at this popular annual event.

WED. MAY 1 Fun, Fashion and Friendship – St. Francis CWL is hosting an evening of **FASHIONS BY NYGARD**. Starting at 7pm there will be refreshments, fashions and lots of fun. Bring your family and friends. Free will offering. Models are needed if you wish to participate. Please contact Lorraine 519-498-4526.

WED. MAY 8 After a Crowning of Mary service at 7pm, St. Francis CWL is proud to present **DAVID DAYLER**, Director of Discipleship & Parish Life, Diocese of Hamilton, speaking on "Mary and Discipleship." This event is open to the parish.

WED. MAY 15 **ST. FRANCIS CWL ANNUAL CARD PARTY**. Doors open at 12:30pm, lunch at 1pm. Tickets \$15.00. They are available at the parish office 519-745-7301 or from Karin Manley 519-576-6587. No tickets will be sold at the door. Proceeds to Hospice of Waterloo Region. Bring your friends and family to play cards or games and enjoy an afternoon of fun and prizes.

MAY 24 – 26 **HAMILTON DIOCESAN ANNUAL CONVENTION** Delta Hotel, Guelph. If you would like to participate for all or part of this worthwhile experience, please contact Karin 519-576-6587 for further details.

WED. JUNE 19 **ST. FRANCIS ANNUAL POT LUCK SUPPER** 6:30pm. All CWL members are welcome. Watch the bulletin for details.

**HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2018.....**

**HOMELESSNESS:** In response to the Ontario CWL initiative to address homelessness, St. Francis CWL invited Rev. Michael Hackbush, Director of Spiritual Resources, House of Friendship to speak on the work being done in our community to assist the homeless. In the fall Deb Schlichter, Director of Housing for the Region of Waterloo, introduced us to the strategies the Region is implementing to house and protect our most vulnerable citizens. A fashion show was held in April with the proceeds being directed to The Working Centre.

As a practical response to homelessness, our CWL undertook the Warmth and Comfort sock campaign that collected 400+ pairs of men's winter socks donated to the House of Friendship.

**INTERFAITH INITIATIVES:** St. Francis CWL participated in the World Day of Prayer; we sponsored a table at the Interfaith Community Breakfast; we invited Muslim women to come and share a presentation on "Days for Girls"; we were invited for a morning of friendship with the ladies of Faith Lutheran church; and we had an evening dedicated to learning about the Holy Land with a special guest, Rodney Said.

**PALLIATIVE CARE:** In May our council held a 12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care followed by John Milloy as our keynote speaker. The proceeds from our annual Card Party were dedicated to Hospice of Waterloo Region.

**PORNOGRAPHY HURTS:** In addition to financially supporting the diocesan Pornography Hurts campaign, St. Francis CWL invited Teresa Hartnett of the Hamilton Diocese to present the powerful documentary "Over 18" about the growing epidemic of pornography exposure, especially for children and youth. Truly a disturbing, eye opening experience.

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION:** We were very pleased when the Papal Honour Cross Pro-Ecclesia et Pontifice was bestowed on our sister CWL member, Sandy Milne for distinguished service to the church. This is the highest Papal award in the Church given to the laity. We wound up the year with our annual Christmas dinner where we distributed the proceeds of our bazaar to parish needs and local charities. We were also honoured to award service pins to Donna Snider (20 years), Helen Hornyak (50 years), and Joan Ferraccioli (60 years).

**IN MEMORIUM - Barbara Diemert**

In January St. Francis CWL's long and treasured friend, Barbara Diemert, passed away. Her life was one of great faith and leadership promoting a world of justice, love and peace. Her many friends and associates will miss her faithfulness, her steadfast support and unfailing good humour through both the good and challenging times. It is with great sadness we bid farewell, but know that she rests in peace with our Lord.

*May Our Lady of Good Counsel continue to guide us in all that we do.*  
~ Karin Manley, President, St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Women's League