



Grouard-McLennan Diocesan

Catholic Women's League

Newsletter #5 January 2017

From the Communications Chairperson New Theme for 2017.

Donna P.

Web: [www.grmcl.cwl.ab.ca](http://www.grmcl.cwl.ab.ca)

e-Mail: [cwlgrmcl\[at\]grmcl.cwl.ab.ca](mailto:cwlgrmcl[at]grmcl.cwl.ab.ca)



Included in this newsletter:

1. Message from the president
2. Message from the Communications Chair
3. News about Calgary Diocese
4. Some historical blurbs
5. Upcoming dates
6. Message from Past President

## 1. Message from the President

In 2014, I accepted to be the Catholic Women's League Diocesan president for April 2015-2017.

Oh, how I did not realize what I'd learn!

I learned from parish members, diocesan members and provincial members that we are important in Christ's Church and the community at all levels. We are representative of the Church, His spouse.

I respect all the members I've come in contact with and hope to meet all.

You have all encouraged me to be a CWL lifer. You have taught me to be more cognizant of ongoing life issues such as physician-assisted suicide.

We'll continue to be aware of Euthanasia Prevention Coalition, Catholic Education, Mental Health issues and provide support to our parishes and its needs.

Let us continue to be CWL members through witness of our love, living and work lives.

Continue to pray for me and I will continue to pray for you.

*Inspired by the Spirit, We respond to God's call.*

## Irene B., Grouard-McLennan Diocesan President

### 2. Message from Communications

➤ *The Canadian League*- You are all familiar with this magazine which is a powerful tool for keeping in touch. It presents information on issues the League is involved with and/or working on to its readership. The magazine continues to evolve, and I encourage you to send in articles for publication.

➤ *The media* is also a powerful tool. We sometimes forget the media is there to present news and items of public interest. Do you submit letters on issues the League has made a statement on to the editor of your local newspaper? Do you submit articles of your local activities?

➤ *On the Spot (replaces Be League)*- The League has launched a new feature on [cwl.ca](http://cwl.ca) featuring stories and submissions from councils across Canada. If you have council news you would like to share, please submit one paragraph of approximately 50 words with 1-3 images if applicable to <[info@cwl.ca](mailto:info@cwl.ca)>. Submissions may be edited.

➤ **Presidents**- prepare a welcome-to-CWL package including a welcome letter from you as president (Oct. 1, 2016 minutes). This will help new members to be introduced to your council and its activities.

➤ Message from Provincial Communications Chair Annette deB.:

"DO NOT forward information that is political in nature unless it has been specifically approved by the CWL at the appropriate level. If unsure, contact your parish/ diocesan/ provincial president for

guidance. Recently a forwarded request included a petition that came from a “cwl address.” It, however, came from a political party and was not from the CWL. It was not sanctioned by the CWL, though it gave the appearance to be because it was forwarded through a cwl address. So please be very cautious of what you forward.”

## Donna Prevost, Communications Chairperson

### 3. News from Calgary Diocese

Did you hear? Bishop Henry has resigned. He was bishop for 19 years. A new Bishop for the Calgary Diocese has been appointed. The new bishop for the Calgary Diocese is William Terrence McGrattan. He was Bishop of the Diocese of Peterborough. His is the present Spiritual Advisor to the National Catholic Women’s League. How about that, he will be in our province!

### 4. Some interesting historical finds

Please note that archives are important. Keep a box of your history in a safe place – like a church storage, not in basements. Make an index and place it at the front of the box at the end of each Past President’s term. **Minutes** are your history! Be sure these and all records are dated.

1977-78 Debolt and Crooked Creek had 13 members.

1977-78 Valleyview had 22 members

Grande Prairie – no specific date – (1950’s perhaps) - *“The CWL was represented in the New Canadian Citizen Interdenominational Organization. A CWL representative is Chairman of the organization and hostesses teas served at local Court House every month for new citizens. During the year 85 new citizens were hosted.”*

Not all the following are dated but I think they are in the 1950’s.

- It seems the book *“Father Smith Instructs Jackson”* was on the study list as several reports mention this book as being studied and discussed.
- *“The Belloy CWL has become active again after a year of absence with 5 members. Our only activity in the past year was help given to our First Communicants.”*  
-Ozan McSweeney
- *Friedenstal: “One of the bigger undertakings of our Subdivision was the celebration of Corpus Christi. The CWL prepared 2 altars.”* -Mrs. Ida Heck
- *High Prairie: ‘A course of instruction following the book, “Father Smith Instructs Jackson.” We did not complete this and will finish it next term.”*  
-L. Loudry, Pres.
- *Beaverlodge: “On the Social side, we have had our usual Christmas Party for the children of the parish, and also for the members themselves, to which their husbands were invited, with exchange of gifts. The trend is toward gifts of a religious nature here also, as befits our organization.”* -Miss I.M. Hamel

- Organization Report (I think): “We have 28 subdivisions in our Vicariate, we welcome Eaglesham, as our latest addition...I have received only 18 reports with a membership of 407.” -Mrs. Angela Becher
- The Buffalo Lake CWL Report 1956-57 “The money that was taken in by our CWL was given out in donation to Faith Of Millions, Sisters of Service, Cultural Foundations, Ottawa, Hungarian Refugees, Sacred Heart Program, and our building fund, also a few gift donations to our priest.” (-no signature)

## 5. Grouard-McLennan Diocesan CWL upcoming dates

Date	Event	Place
February 25, 2017	Spiritual Workshop	Beaverlodge
March 25, 2017	Diocesan Executive Meeting	Bezanson
April 22, 2017	Diocesan Convention	Bezanson
June 9-10, 2017	Provincial Convention	Edmonton
October 21, 2017	Fall Education Workshop	Fairview

### Reminders:

- **Presidents remember to prepare a 2016 report for the convention annual report booklet. Prepare and send to President Irene NOW. She must have this by Jan. 30<sup>th</sup>.**
- **Please send a 2017 parish council roster to President Irene. We need an updated roster for the diocesan executive.**
- **Our CWL is celebrating 100 years in 2020. Has your council considered the lap quilt/blanket challenge? Page 35 *The Canadian League Fall 2016*. How wonderful if we could assemble 25 from our diocese.**
- **All eligible members will be receiving an invitation to let their name stand for diocesan executive.** Please be generous when considering this request. It is with you that the future of our Catholic Woman’s League rests. We need you. God love you.  
*From Linda V/dB., Past President*

**May God Bless you all in 2017.**

**Communications Chairperson Donna Prevost**