

Parish President's Annual Report

For the period January 1 to December 31, 2011

Name of Council St. Francis of Assisi

Diocese Peterborough

Name of President Helena Lessard

Address of President 5 Chester Lane Newcastle ON L1B 1E5

Number of Members 67

Number of Life Members 1

During the year 2011, our parish council has brought life to the Objects of the League and to the League's *Mission Statement*. This report is to be based on all the information from the committee reports and choosing items you wish to focus on that exemplify "Centred on Faith and Justice – Led by the Spirit".

- Our council co-hosting and celebrating the 90th anniversary of the Peterborough Diocesan convention
- Having a member receive a Life Member's pin for the first time in our council
- Implementation of a pastoral care program in our parish

The following is a list of organizations to which members donated time and money in the year 2011.

Alzheimer Society	Horizons of Friendship
Arthritis Society	Lakeridge Health (Hospital) Centres
Bereaved Families of Ontario	Lioness Club
Bethesda House Shelter and Community Outreach	Meals on Wheels
Camp Northern Lights	Orono Senior Citizens Centre
Canadian Cancer Society	Parkinson Society
Community Care	Respect Life
Development & Peace	St. Francis of Assisi Elementary School
Diocese of Peterborough	St. Stephen's Secondary School
Fosterbrooke Long Term Care Facility	St. Vincent de Paul
Heart and Stroke Foundation	St. Vincent's Kitchen
	Victoria Order of Nurses (VON)

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

For the period January 1 to December 31, 2011

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ORGANIZATION

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- Co-hosted the Peterborough Diocesan 90th annual convention resulting in two excellent days of presentations and reports demonstrating the theme
- One member of our council received the Life Member's pin and other members were able to see this member receive accolades at conventions of other levels

CHRISTIAN FAMILY LIFE For the period January 1 to December 31, 2011

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1. *Pastoral Care program* was implemented with a member as chair and several members volunteering their time and talents in providing prayer, eucharist, social and emotional support to our parish shut-ins whether it be for medical reasons or because of aging problems.
2. Vacation Bible School was organized and led by two CWL members with council financial support for snacks and crafts.

COMMUNITY LIFE

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Baby shower gifts were gathered for not only newborn babies but also for unwed mothers

EDUCATION AND HEALTH

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School nutrition program assisted our elementary school children and the parish as the grocery items for the snacks were purchased using gift cards from the CWL gift card fundraiser for the parish

COMMUNICATIONS

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The Canadian League – urged members to read the League magazine

Media for evangelization – mentioned about praying for Canadian Saints; member attended canonization of Brother Andre

Media to promote the League – members were convenors for the Diocesan convention; council display set up at convention; CWL display set up at parish Ministry fair

Media evaluation and promotion of good content – delivered gifts and cards to sick, shut-ins and hospitalized members; cards sent to members who had relatives whom had passed away; Christmas cards to shut-ins

Newsletters and bulletins – use of church bulletin for CWL information and meetings

Media relations – spoke of our duty to vote in Provincial election; asked members to make sure they pay attention to issues addressed on Catholic Education

RESOLUTIONS/LEGISLATION For the period January 1 to December 31, 2011

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- Many letters were written in opposition of Bill C-389 which was asking for "gender identity and gender expression" be added to the Human Rights Act and the Criminal Code's hate crimes section. Although this bill died when parliament was dissolved March 26, 2011, we did our best – and did receive responses to our letters.
- Many members signed the on line petition sent by Sr. Roddy of the Respect Life Office opposing the Super Bowl commercial entitled "Feed the Flock" in which our eucharist was being mocked. None of us saw it aired.

HISTORIAN

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- Reflection for C.W.L. Mission Statement from National manual of Policy & Procedure.

PARISH ACTIVITIES For the period January 1 to December 31, 2011

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- 1) Liaison and cooperation with parish pastoral councils
CWL represented on Liturgy Council
facilitated communication between parish groups
- 2) Parish assistance
presented educational awards and sacramental gifts to students
provided financial and food donations to St. Vincent de Paul and Vacation Bible School
- 3) Other
fundraised through euchre games or FundScrip gift card program
hosted CWL Diocesan convention