



REVIEW

GATHERING IN CHRIST



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Each year, about this time, I am often asked, "Where are you going for Easter"? My standard reply is, "I'm going to Church". Apart from the Virgin Birth and celebrations at Christmas, the Easter Triduum contains the most powerful display of our Christian faith. Beginning on Holy Thursday with the humbling performance of the washing of the feet, we progress to the last Supper and the institution of the Blessed Sacrament – our spiritual food for life. Then follows the sorrow of Good Friday with the agony in the garden, carrying of the Cross to Calvary, culminating in the Crucifixion, where we could all despair – but NO!

Sunday brings the Resurrection, upon which all our faith is restored. We rejoice and thank God for all His blessings and gifts to us. That's what I re-

gard as a Happy Easter and I try every year not to miss any part of it.

We were all very saddened by the passing of the late Senator Brian Harradine. He was such a great supporter of all things Christian, particularly his Catholic principles. He never deviated from his beliefs, whatever opposition he encountered. Our country and our parliament are the poorer for this great loss. We extend to his wife and family our sincere sympathy and our prayers at this sad time. May he rest in eternal peace.

Most branches by now have had their annual general meetings, several of which I had had the privilege of attending. Congratulations to each and every one of you for all your hard work throughout the year. Some branches have so few members it is astounding how much is ac-

complished. Your charity work in the broader community is to be commended.

At the suggestion of a previous State President, we are presently praying the daily Rosary to Our Lady Help of Christians hoping she will inspire an influx of new members to join us.

During Volunteers' Week two of our volunteers attended a Volunteers' Recognition event in the Hobart Town Hall, where the Mayor presented them, and representatives of many other organizations, with a certificate of appreciation. This event is held annually and highlights the work done by so many people.

I hope members have given serious thought to attending the State Conference in Hobart from October 10-12. More information about that in future.

Lola Phillips

REFLECTION FOR JUNE

GOSPEL DISCUSSION (PREPARED BY SR MARJORIE BOUTCHARD PBVM)

John 16: 7-8

(Jesus said) I must tell you the truth: it is for your own good that I am going, because unless I go, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I do go, I will send him to you.

Act 2: 1-11

When Pentecost day came around, they had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech.

Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. "Surely", they said, "all these men speaking are Galileans. How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language?..... Everyone was amazed and unable to explain it; they asked one another what it all means. Some, however, laughed

Commentary

In the extract from Jesus' we read of Jesus' promise to send an Advocate. An advocate is one who pleads for another or speaks in favour of another. This gives us one clue to the action of the Holy Spirit.

In the extract from Acts, we read how the Holy Spirit came to the Apostles and those gathered with them.

Discussion

- How does the symbolism of wind speak to you of the Holy Spirit?
- We are comfortable with the symbol of the warmth of fire depicting the work of the Holy Spirit, but what about the symbolism of the destructive power of fire? What does this tell you about the Holy Spirit?
- The symbolism of one language has many implications for today's world. What would some of these be?
- You received the Holy Spirit especially in the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation, but also in all the Sacraments. What does this mean for you today? What has been a Holy Spirit moment for you in your life?

There were three great signs: a strong wind, tongues of fire and the miracle of tongues (all those national representatives hearing the Apostles speak in their language). When we look at the symbolism of these manifestations we can learn more about the Holy Spirit.

A Strong Wind.

Without wind, which is moving air, we would not have life, seeds would not be spread. If there was never any wind our atmosphere would not be fresh and invigorating. Throughout history the power of the wind has been harnessed for our use. Wind can also destroy. On a hot day a cool sea breeze refreshes. In Hebrew the same word *ruah* is used for spirit breath, air and wind.

Fire.

The symbolism of fire teaches us about the work of the Spirit. We know how comforting a fire is in winter, and we fear the power of a bush fire which is so destructive.

The Miracle of Tongues.

In the book of Genesis, Chapter 11, we read that throughout the earth all spoke the same language, with the same vocabulary. The story tells us that the people were going to build a mighty tower that would bring them glory and honour. However, God intervened and confused their language, so they could not understand each other.

The sin of Adam resulted in an alienation from God. This led to alienation from one another. This was signified by the difference of language. At Pentecost we see this condition reversed when all the people

REFLECTION FOR JULY

GOSPEL DISCUSSION (PREPARED BY SR MARJORIE BOUTCHARD PBVM)

Luke 11: 1-13

Once Jesus was in a certain place praying, and when he had finished, one of his disciples said, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples." He said to them, "Say this when you pray:

"Father, may your name be held holy, your kingdom come; give us each day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive each one who is in debt to us and do not put us to the test."

He also said to them, "Suppose one of you had a friend and goes to him in the middle of the night to say, 'My friend, lend me three loaves, because a friend of mine on his travels has just arrived at my house and I have nothing to offer him' and the man answers from inside the house, 'Do not bother me. The door is bolted now, and my children and I are in bed; I cannot get up to give it to you.' I tell you, if the man does not get up and give it to him for friendship's sake, persistence will be enough to make him get up and give his friend all he wants.

"So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; search and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For the one who asks always receives; the one who searches always finds; the one who knocks will always have the door opened to him. What father among you would hand his son a stone when he asked for bread? Or hand him a snake instead of a fish? Or hand him a scorpion if he asked for an egg?

Personal Prayer and Reflection - Reflect on the words of the Our Father

Discussion

- What for you is the most challenging line of the Our Father?
- What line of the Gospel speaks to you of God's love and care for you?
- What do the following words mean for you?
- *Ask, and it will be given to you; search and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For the one who asks always receives; the one who searches always finds; the one who knocks will always have the door opened to him/her.*
- How can you, as a Catholic woman, help the coming of the Kingdom of God?
- We pray for our daily bread. How can we ensure that all the world shares in that daily bread?

There are four categories of pray: Adoration, Thanksgiving, Reparation and Petition. Which one would you use mostly? Why?

If you then, who are evil, know how to give your children what is good, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

Commentary

This Gospel extract has many lessons for us about prayer. The apostles must have been impressed by the way Jesus prayed. Perhaps it was the words he used, or his recollection, or his appearance of deep reverence for his God. It could have been the joy on his face as he spoke to his Father.

In response to the apostles' question, Jesus taught them the prayer we now know as the Our Father. The version in Matthew 6: 9-13, is more familiar to us, as it is the form we use in our Liturgy, but probably Luke's version is nearer to what Jesus taught his friends.

Jesus' relationship with God was that of a child to its Father. Jesus uses the Hebrew word *Abba*, which is equivalent to *Daddy*. He does not see God as a patriarchal figure, but as a loving, caring parent. Jesus then goes on and teaches them in a parable some points about prayer. Prayer must be persistent. We must keep on knocking, asking and searching. God will never give us anything that hurts us. We would never give a child something that would hurt it, so God, who is Goodness, would not either. The last line of the Gospel seems to be telling us that the greatest gift we can ask for is the Holy Spirit. It is the Holy Spirit who empowers us to pray, to engage in conversation with our God, speaking and listening.

POPE FRANCIS' FIVE FINGER PRAYER

1. Your thumb is nearest to you. So begin your prayers by praying for those closest to you. They are the easiest to remember. To pray for our loved ones is, as C. S. Lewis once said, a 'sweet duty.'

2. The next finger is the pointing finger. Pray for those who teach, instruct and heal. This includes teachers, doctors and ministers. They need support and wisdom in pointing others in the right direction. Keep them in your prayers.

5. And lastly comes our little finger – the smallest finger of all, which is where we should place ourselves in relation to God and others. As the Bible says, "The least shall be the greatest among you." Your pinkie should remind you to pray for yourself. By the time you have prayed for the other four groups, your own needs will be put into proper perspective and you will be able to pray for yourself more effectively.

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3. The next finger is the tallest finger. It reminds us of our leaders. Pray for the president, leaders in business and industry, and administrators. These people shape our nation and guide public opinion. They need God's guidance.

4. The fourth finger is our ring finger. Surprising to many is the fact that this is our weakest finger, as any piano teacher will testify. It should remind us to pray for those who are weak, in trouble or in pain. They need your prayers day and night. You cannot pray too much for them.

MASS CRUSADE – June

Oatlands

Universal: That the unemployed may receive support and find the work they need to live in dignity.

For Evangelisation: That Europe may rediscover its Christian roots through the witness of believers.

MASS CRUSADE – July

Sorell

Universal: That sports may always be occasions of human fraternity and growth.

For Evangelisation: That the Holy Spirit may support the work of the laity who proclaim the Gospel in the poorest countries.

STOP PRESS!

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Eris Smyth OAM and Mary Excell OAM on being awarded Life Membership of the National Council of Women at their May meeting.

HOW OLD IS GRANDMA?

Continued from the "Review" April/May, 2014

One evening a grandson was talking

to his grandmother about current events. The grandson asked his grandmother what she thought about the shooting at schools, the computer age, and just things in general. The grandmother replied, "Well, let me think a minute. I was born before....."

- We had 5 and 10 cent stores where you could actually buy things for 5 and 10 cents. Ice-cream cones, phone calls, rides on a streetcar, and a Pepsi were all a nickel and if you didn't want to splurge, you could spend your nickel on enough stamps to mail 1 letter and 2 postcards.

You could buy a new Ford Coupe for \$600, but who could afford one? Too bad, because gas was 11 cents a gallon.

In my day:

- "grass" was mowed, "coke" was a cold drink, "pot" was something your mother cooked in and "rock music" was your grandmother's lullaby.
- "Aids" were helpers in the Principal's office, "chip" meant a piece of wood, "hardware" was found in a hardware store and "software" wasn't even a word.
- We were the last generation to actually believe that a lady needed a husband to have a baby.
- We volunteered to protect our precious country.

No wonder people call us "old and confused" and say there is a generation gap.

How old do you think I am?"?

***This woman would be only 61 years old.
She would have been born in late 1952.
Gives you something to think about,
doesn't it?
Makes you realize how far we've come
during our lifetime.***





SOCIAL ISSUES COMMITTEE REPORT

2014 is now well advanced and your Social Issues Committee has met several times.

Culture of Life Seminars

Among our priorities is the continuation of Culture of Life Seminars following the successful one held in 2013. On that occasion many younger women attended, attracted by the excellent speakers and the topics, covering motherhood, and women and the culture life.

We plan conduct three or four seminars annually, probably held at CWL Centre on Saturday mornings. Thought will need to be given to extending these seminars to other venues in the northern areas.

Proposed Anima Women's Network/Catholic Women's League partnership. Since the League has found such difficulty in attracting young women into the branches and younger women may find it difficult to attend regular CWL meetings as most meetings take place during the day and work commitments preclude their attendance, we are giving consideration to proposing the establishment in Tasmania of the Anima Women's network.

The Anima Women's Network was formed in Victoria in 2003 to provide a hub of communication and encouragement between women, from different age groups and in a variety of walks of life, involved in different movements and vocations within the Church. The common ground for us is shared sisterhood in the faith and desire to promote, in a concrete way, love, a culture of life and the dignity of women.

Anima aims to enrich the lives of women by addressing the issues that women face in their faith, families, relationships, workplaces and society. Women connect, find mutual support, encouragement and have fun together. (Do check it out for yourselves online)

Anima has become a sister organisation with the Catholic Women's League of Victoria and Wagga Wagga. In a very real sense, this covenantal relationship strengthens both the League and the Network. The League provides both practical and spiritual support to the Anima Women's Network. Anima provides a flexible and informal form of organisation and presence, thus enabling the League to engage with women in a different way. One of the many blessings from this relationship has been Anima Education, a joint project of the Anima Women's Network and the League, which provides affordable, and accessible, adult education and formation in the Catholic faith. Formation and education were part of the essential vision of the founders of CWL Victoria and Wagga Wagga.

Sexpo

This most unwelcome and unhealthy side show has come and gone. I represented CWL on radio and TV and at the request of The Mercury submitted an article which received prominence in Saturday Soapbox. The support for our stance was considerable. From all sorts of people I received calls, emails, cards and comment in support. I must say I prayed for the Holy Spirit to provide the words and that is what happened. I found that placing myself in God's hands in this way and receiving His help, was an experience more intense than I could have imagined. The Lord really is by our side. We do have cause to be optimistic. Hopefully the fuss we made will encourage the government to think twice before giving a permit for another visit.

I received a letter from His Grace Archbishop Julian expressing his appreciation for the work of the League in this matter and asking that we keep active to combat attacks on life, marriage and family.

Pat Gartlan



FROM WUCWO

2014 WUCWO Day Celebrations in Hobart

Theme: Truth in Action – Speaking the Truth in Love

The celebration commenced with Mary Walsh reading the Introductory Prayer; then opening remarks and greetings from the WUCWO women of Africa who prepared this thoughtful faith-filled Mass. Celebrant Father Gerald Quinn CP proceeded to the Alter, while all present joined in singing the opening hymn *Christ be our Light*.

The chosen Scripture Reading and Psalm were read by Mrs. Eris Smyth and following the Gospel, Father Gerald gave a short homily on the themes of Truth and Love.

All recited the Apostles Creed, then eight members read in turn the Prayers of Intercession, which included prayers for Pope Francis and the Church leaders, the courage to love in truth all mankind, for governments all over the world, for our families and homes, all victims of hatred, wars, trafficking etc., for our children and youth, for all Catholic women and for the forthcoming General Assembly of WUCWO in Fatima from October 22-27, 2014.

The Mass continued and at the recitation of the *Our Father* all held hands. The Communion hymn was *Father we Adore You*. The Mass ended with all joining in the final hymn, *Hail Queen of Heaven*.

This very happy and uplifting celebration was held at the CWL Centre, Hobart, and was attended by members of Hobart, Kingborough, Lindisfarne/Risdon Vale, Richmond and Sorell Branches. Following the Mass, the Annual General Meetings of Hobart and Kingborough Branches and the Centre were held. The celebration was completed by all sharing a delicious lunch.

Mary Walsh

FROM THE STATE TREASURER

All branches will by now have received forms to list details of membership. Upon completion, these forms should be returned to the State Treasurer with a cheque for \$25 for each member (Life Members \$20) as soon as possible after the Annual General Meeting and no later than June 15.

All branch financial books are to be closed on June 30 and audited as soon as possible after the receipt of the June Bank Statement, so now is the time to contact your auditor to make sure he is available. The audited statements are then sent to me **no later** than **AUGUST 15**. Yours co-operation in adhering to this date of would be very much appreciated. **If just one branch is late sending their audited statement, our State Auditor cannot begin his audit.**

Diaries. Please ascertain at your July meeting the number of diaries required by your branch and let me know by August 15.

Jan Lawler

FROM THE SOUTHERN VICE-PRESIDENT

Besides being the month of Our Lady, May is also the month for the Annual General Meetings of Tasmanian CWL branches. Attendance at such events is always inspiring and one feels great admiration for the prayers and work of a remarkable group of women. The three Eastern Shore branches, despite, but perhaps because of our “demographic”, have contributed in an outstanding way to community and church by performing in various and sometimes indirect ways the seven corporal works of mercy – to feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, shelter the homeless, visit the sick, visit the imprisoned, bury the dead. Congratulations and thank you to the outgoing office bearers and to those who have accepted new responsibilities of office.

Similar emotions were experienced when we travelled to Oatlands – a warm welcome and generous hospitality. Following the meeting conducted in her usual professional and elegant way by Mrs. Gaye Clark before she handed over to the new President, Susan Lyall, we enjoyed a delicious and entertaining lunch, as many present reminisced about the early days of Parattah, Tunnack and Oatlands. We were delighted with the tales of nuns, the long walks to Mass and dances, the books read and the sewing done by candlelight. We were handed several copies of a story written by that prolific writer, Vera Fisher, “A True Story of the Oatlands District.” I have not had a chance to read it at the time of writing this article, but if past experience is anything to go by, it will be a great read. Copies are for sale in the CWL Craft Shop at a cost of \$12. Thank you all for a truly wonderful day. We send out love and prayers to Judy Gibbens, whose husband is not well and a special thanks to Catherine Marshall (whose husband is also not well) and who has taken over as Secretary/Treasurer.

On May 20 we celebrate WUCWO Day, the Annual General Meetings of Hobart, Kingborough and the CWL Craft Shop. More about that in the next issue.

The importance of such organizations as the Catholic Women’s League cannot be emphasized too much. It is necessary that we guard against too much intrusion by the state in the role of families. The National Parliament of Scotland has recently passed “*Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014*”, under which a “named person” – a health worker – is to be appointed for every child up to the age of five, after which the responsibility passes to local councils, with teachers likely to take over the role. The implication is that every parent is a potential abuser or capable of serious neglect. The scheme has been trialled in the Highlands since 2010 and 7,927 children have been given a “Child’s Plan” by a head teacher or health visitor. Before this, just 64 children in the whole Highland Council Area had been on the “Child Protection at Risk” Register.

In Tasmania a significant report was prepared by Professor Maria Harries in November 2013 regarding child protection. It deserves serious study. We are, of course, conscious of the dreadful implications of the *Reproductive Health (Access to Terminations) Act* passed last November by the previous government – its destruction of the rights of the unborn, its restriction on the rights of assembly and on freedom of conscience.

Eris Smyth

From Anna Matuszek Bioethics Coordinator

Andrew Wood, of the St John Centre for Biblical Studies is delivering a 12 hour intensive course on the **Gospel of Matthew**

Cost: \$120 per person.

Venue: The Archdiocesan Office, Murphy Room.

Times: Friday 6th June, 7-9 pm; Saturday and Sunday 10.30-4.30 pm.

Bring your own lunch, tea and coffee supplied.

FROM THE NORTHERN VICE-PRESIDENT

May has been a busy month in the north with Annual General Meetings in each of the branches. I travelled to Launceston to attend their meeting, held in the Nano Nagle Room at the Church of Apostles on May 12. As usual, I was warmly welcomed and after reciting the Opening Prayers and a spiritual discussion and reflection on the Gospel, Fr. Southerwood addressed us, talking about the role of the two women in the Scripture, Mary and Elizabeth, and their place in our Christian heritage. I President Pat Haine's Annual Report, it was great to hear how the ladies in the Launceston branch are so supportive of each other, especially in times of need. They are a busy group of ladies, being involved in numerous organizations and Church activities, as well as being dedicated to supporting through prayer and letter writing, the various social issues that we all wish to uphold. Their members have travelled the length of the State to be represented at the "Culture of Life" seminar in Hobart and the 70th Anniversary celebrations of the Devonport branch. Various members were commended on their particular roles in the Launceston branch, especially Mrs. Tuppy McCann for her organization of social events and her knitted contributions for charity and Susan Finnigan (Treasurer) and Rosanne Neskovicin (Secretary). I would like to congratulate Mrs. Bernice McKenna on being elected President, Mrs. Pat Cameron as Treasurer and Mrs. Rosanne Neskovicin who was re-elected as Secretary.

Next day, the Lilydale-Karoola and George Town branches held their AGM. Mass was celebrated in the Star of the Sea Church and Fr. Edward Zammit then came to the old Convent Chapel with us to share lunch before the meeting commenced. Lilydale-Karoola has a small but dedicated group, whose commitment to prayer and support in their community reflects what it is all about to be a member of the Catholic Women's League. Mrs. Tot Sulzberger, although not well enough to travel from home, is still President and advisor to the branch and is assisted by Vice-Presidents, Mrs. Terri Bryce and Mrs. Billee Parry. Mrs. Mary East is Secretary/Treasurer. Congratulations to those ladies who remain in their positions, as for last year.

George Town also has not changed office bearers this year, with Leonie Darcy remaining as Treasurer, Carmel Girvan as Secretary and myself as President. George Town's membership has dropped this year, losing three members very recently. The branch members continue to be active in the parish community as individuals and in their prayers – for the current social issues and for other specific needs as required. They also demonstrate their dedication to the CWL by their commitment to their activities in the community.

I would like to ask you all to keep in mind various members of the northern branches whose health is at present in need of your prayers, especially Mrs. Irene Bingham, who is now living with family in Victoria, Mrs. Maria D'Orazio and Mrs. Susan Finnigan.

Members in the north may remember Mrs. Beverley Bryan, a former active member of the Launceston Branch of the League. She was the daughter of another very committed member, Mrs. Nellie Boon, former member of the Branxholm/Derby branch. Beverley passed away last March. She and Dorothy Andrews and several others in the north were very dedicated members and did great work for the League.

Just as this goes to print the northern branches will be "rallying" for a combined Mass at Riverside Catholic Church, followed by lunch at the Riverside Hotel. Hopefully it will be a way to attract new members, as all women from the parishes in the region are invited.

Wendy Fittler



DAY OF PRAYER AGAINST TRAFFICKING AND SEXUAL SLAVERY

On July 6, 2002 – the centenary of the death of 12-year old Maria Goretti during an attempted rape – a Day of Prayer was inaugurated by the Catholic Women’s League of Australia to pray for those women and children subjected to violence and sexual abuse, especially through being trafficked. The goal of the prayer intention was that **“those in power would have the political will to combat trafficking”**. CWL Tasmania has continued to ask members to pray every July 6 for this intention.

Photo courtesy of the web site ‘Tradition in action’

Now, in a new and positive development, leaders of the major religions have come together to combat trafficking and slavery. Australian billionaire, Andrew ‘Twiggy’ Forrest has recently launched the Global Freedom Network (GFN) which hopes to use faith to combat slavery. The network aims to free the world’s estimated 30 million slaves.

The initiative came about after an experience that deeply shook Mr. Forrest, changing his business practice and his life. Five years ago his daughter Grace, aged 15, volunteered at an orphanage in Nepal – but then found out that all the children she had been looking after had been “groomed” for sex work. The children had been trafficked through India into the Middle East.

Mr. Forrest travelled to Asia and met some of the victims. “There was one kid there (from Kathmandu) who could only say she had been sent to a land where the men wore long dresses,” he said. Her ordeal had begun when she was only nine, and three years later she was put on a plane back to India. “She hadn’t spoken for several months. She gave her story and from that point on she would only rock on her bed and whimper,” Mr. Forrest said. “When I walked through the little columns of beds to this kid, she was wailing at the back and just rocking from side to side. The screams she let out when she saw an approaching male, and the horror and revulsion and the terror on her little face will be stuck with my wife, Nicola, and I forever.”

Mr. Forrest was delighted to meet Pope Francis and receive his support for the project. In his first Easter message in 2013 Pope Francis identified slavery as one of the evils he is most keen to combat. “The Pope wants slavery beaten or mortally wounded so it will never recover, by 2020... He is of the view that it is one of the worst scourges of humanity,” Mr. Forrest said.

- All global faiths to remove any slavery-related organizations from their supply chains and investments
- 162 governments and 30 heads of state to endorse the GFN by the end of 2014
- Political leaders to slavery-proof government supply chains
- The G20 to adopt a new anti-slavery and human trafficking initiative
- 50 multinational businesses to commit to “slavery-proofing” their supply chains

“Billionaire Andrew ‘Twiggy’ Forrest fights to end global slavery” –by Nick Miller (**“Age News” March 18, 2014**)

By Maree Triffett

Novena to Our Lady Help of Christians 13th to 21st June

CWL Members are invited to pray a novena of the Rosary to Our Lady Help of Christians between the 13th and the 21st of June. The first intention is to ask Our Lady to intercede against any harmful influences of the upcoming festival Dark Mofo. The festival is scheduled to mark the winter solstice of June 21st/22nd. Last year it included a “Satanalia concert” (advertised as such in the ‘Pulse’ section of the Mercury June 13th 2013.)

The second prayer intention is in reparation for the exhibition at MONA of the blasphemous picture of Our Lady—The Holy Virgin Mary—by Chris Ofili. The painting is a “*mixture of the sacred (Virgin Mary) and the profane (excrement and pornography)*...As of 2011, it is exhibited at Walsh’s Museum of Old and New Art in Hobart, Tasmania. (Wikipedia)



FROM THE CWL CRAFT SHOP

With Winter upon us (some might say it’s already here), our shop is well stocked with knitted fingerless gloves, an excellent supply of beanies and scarves to keep you nice and warm, baby’s and toddler’s jumpers and jackets and loads of booties. We also carry a good supply of knitteds for premature babies and some knitted toys.

If it’s a gift or even a pot holder or oven towel you’re looking for, we have plenty for you to choose from. We have a good range of cards and also carry a limited range of pious objects, Rosary Beads, etc. Call and see us any day – Monday to Friday – in the CBD – right next to the Flower Room at 108 Bathurst Street, just down from the State Library and 50 & Better Centre. We’re open from 10-3 daily. Phone us on 6234 1513 if you need any further information.

FROM THE STATE SECRETARY’S DESK

Theme. It would seem there is great disparity in the choice of a theme for the next State Conference, but the one most voted on was “**Pray and Act for Change**”, so now we can get to work and invite guest speakers.

Raffle Tickets. You will soon be receiving books of raffle tickets to raise some money to offset costs for the conference, so please keep an eye out for them.

Handcraft. Entry Forms for the Archbishop Sir Guilford Young Perpetual Award will be mailed to you if you contact me by email on plpansy46@gmail.com or by mail at 2/63 Brent Street, Glenorchy, 7010 or mobile on 0466016019. (Please check these numbers, because they have changed since the last issue of “Review”).

Entries in the display can also be sent to me at the above address with full details of the items – sender, etc. enclosed. The winner of the display will be chosen by popular vote and be awarded the Marie Dunne prize.

Patricia Leamey

FROM THE NORTH-WEST VICE-PRESIDENT

Ulverstone and Devonport branches met together in May at Emmaus House in Devonport at 11.00 am for their AGM's and to celebrate WUCWO Feast Day. Ten people attended. After a welcome cup of tea we began the day with the WUCWO service, with each person taking part in the readings. A collection was taken up. A lovely lunch was then enjoyed and this was followed by the AGM's.

Ulverstone. The Ulverstone President, Marjory, read the Reflection for May from the "Review" and a prayer was said for the writer, Sr. Marjorie, who is ill.

The President read her report in which she said Ulverstone has nine members and they now meet monthly after trialling bi-monthly meetings last year. They were sorry to farewell the Assistant Priest, Father Jim McMahon, who has retired and moved to Sydney. Baptism welcome cards are given to parents of newly baptized babies. The branch is planning to celebrate its 70th birthday on September 2, with Mass, followed by lunch at the Lighthouse Hotel.

The election of officer bearers resulted in President – Marjory Payton, Secretary – Marie Byrne, Treasurer - Colleen Stingel, Vice-President – Kay Bourke.

Devonport. In the capacity of President, Kath read Devonport's report, in which it was stated that membership has reduced to six, owing to illness and ageing of members. Nevertheless, the usual tasks Devonport has been engaged in have been carried out.

Stamps are sent to the Columban Missions, shoe

boxes are packed for Operation Christmas Child and welcome baptismal cards are given to the newly baptized. This project was begun in 1990 by foundation member Lorna Jones, who has made 550 cards since. We have supported a foster child since 1988, but owing to a lack of funds, we withdrew our support this year.

Our main problem is lack of office bearers. The position of Secretary is vacant at the moment and sadly our Treasurer has found it necessary to resign.

The highlight of our year was the celebration of our 70th birthday in February. This was marked by a Concelebrated Mass by Fathers Mike and Augustine and State Chaplain, Father Southwood. After Mass we were joined by many friends, members and past members, for lunch at the Gateway Motel. It was a very happy occasion.

In the capacity of Vice-President, Kath spoke to both reports and mentioned it was pleasing to note that Ulverstone has begun the practice of the welcome baptismal cards. It was worrying to note the decrease in membership for Devonport. After 70 wonderful years it would be sad to see the closure of the branch. At the April meeting Devonport decided to concentrate on a membership drive and re-assess the situation in September.

Election of office bearers: President – Kath Pearce, Secretary – vacant, Treasurer - vacant, Vice-President – vacant. Kath will act in these positions for the moment and hopefully Devonport will be able to appoint a Vice-President at the next meeting.

Kath Pearce

ACW – FELLOWSHIP DAY

The date and venues for services known at the time of going to press are:

Devonport – Friday, July 25 at 1.30 in St. John's Anglican Church

Launceston – Monday, July 28 at 1.30 in the Trinity Uniting Church, 120 Balfour Street

Hobart Northern Suburbs – Friday, July 25 at 11 am in the Uniting Church, Main Road Glenorchy

FROM ANNA MATUSZEK BIOETHICS COORDINATOR

Issues in prenatal testing 2012—address given to Family Life International Conference by Dr Deirdre Little.

In 2004 it became medical policy to screen every pregnant woman in Australia for Down Syndrome. Called 'best medical practice' it is now the benchmark of care. Each mother, at her first consultation for each pregnancy, is to be invited to consider the worth of her child. She is invited to submit her children for 'consideration' of whether he or she is worth having. This 'standard of care' is a measure of the standard of the child. On one hand it is a medical package offered to all; on the other, it represents a biomedical vision, which has cast a net of confusion, misinformation, despair, hazard and programmed death over Australian families.

How have we come to this place? The mystification of prenatal genetic testing obscures not only its process but also its purpose. Hiding in vague language and unspecified 'best practice' marketing, its activity, results and goals are not always obvious to public opinion or indeed to parents' consent. Society will have difficulty evaluating this commodity without removing prenatal genetic testing from its habitat of ignorance, and despair-laden counselling. We can't make decisions about this 'health package' offered to every family if we don't understand it.

Prenatal testing is a separate part of antenatal care, and the term is used to refer to prenatal genetic testing. To demystify and grasp the issues of prenatal genetic testing we will:

1. Briefly visit its history, the abandonment of beneficence and removal of conscience
2. Understand the process; first and foremost of Downs Syndrome screening because it is both universal and opaque: its hazards and reliability; and understand its enablers—the values behind 'best practice' together with the skewed misinformation, promotion, low standard of genetic counselling even at tertiary level, the poor codes of ethics and medical oaths, lack of accountability and disregard for hazard and concepts of proportionality which sustain it
3. Look at the other processes of prenatal genetic testing and
4. Look at what's new, but in the distance

(Dr Deirdre Little)

Anna has requested CWL members support Father Brian's monthly Rosary session—Serra Club (also known as the 31 club). The first will be on Saturday 31st May 7:30am. Contact Fr Brian Nichols 6234 4463

And

Professor Tracey Rowland from the John Paul II Institute of Family and Marriage will be a guest speaker at the Dawson Center in August. Details to follow in the next issue of the Review

And

Dr Brigid McKenna will speak on *The truth about love - a young woman's guide to Theology of the Body* on June 19th 2014 at 6:30pm at the Southmore Study Centre 27 Red Chapel Avenue Sandy Bay. Please encourage young woman to attend. Cost \$5.00. Contact Diana on 0488 271 832.

COMING EVENTS:

Mass Crusade	June	Oatlands
Mass Crusade	July	Sorell
Branch M'ship Forms	June 15	To State Treasurer
Novena	June 13-21	Our Lady Help of Christians
St. Maria Goretti	July 6	Day of Prayer
Audited Financial S'ments	August 15	To State Treasurer
List of Diaries	August 15	To State Treasurer
State Conference	October	Friday 10th – Sunday 12th

LIST OF STATE EXECUTIVE:

State President & Craft/Office Chairperson

President

Mrs. Lola Phillips
21 Walker St.
Sorell 7172
Ph. 6265 2268
ann.sutcliffe2@bigpond.com

State Secretary

Miss Patricia Leamey
2/63 Brent St.
Glenorchy 7010
Ph. 6273 9630
plpansy46@gmail.com

Treasurer

Mrs. Jan Lawler
65 Main Road
Sorell 7172
Ph. 6265 2321
ann.sutcliffe2@bigpond.com

Immediate Past President:

Mrs. Marjorie Payton
PO Box 82
Stanley 7330
Ph. 6458 3232

International Secretary:

Mrs. Mary Walsh
2a Cedar St.
Lindisfarne 7015
Ph. 6243 8136
mmwalsh@netspace.net.au

Southern Vice-President:

Mrs. Eris Smyth
30 Waterloo Crescent
Battery Point 7004
Ph. 6223 3417
es866974@bigpond.net.au

Northern Vice-President:

Mrs. Wendy Fittler
14 Burnett St.,
George Town 7253
Ph. 6382 1816
wfittler@bigpond.com

North West V/P:

Mrs. Kath Pearce
2/40 George St.
Devonport 7310
Ph. 6424 6504
kathpearce@bigpond.com

Social Issues Convenor:

Mrs. Pat Gartlan
4/10 Ellerslie Rd

Bioethics Convenor:

Mrs Anna Matuszek
1422 Huon Road

Archivist:

Mrs Lillian Deane

Editors Lillian Deane & Sandra Harvey 65b Jetty Road Old Beach 7017 spharvey65@yahoo.com.au

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