

**BLESSED SACRAMENT
CATHOLIC WOMENS' LEAGUE**

**2015 ANNUAL GENERAL
MEETING**



**BLESSED SACRAMENT AMHERSTVIEW
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Agenda for 2015 Annual General Meeting

1. Welcome and call to order..... President
2. Opening prayer..... Bernadette Burgess
3. Keynote speaker: The Year of Mercy Bernadette Burgess
4. Approval of minutes of AGM February 10, 2015 Secretary
5. 2015 Annual Reports..... President
6. 2015: The Year in Review.....Historian
7. 2015 Membership Growth Chart.....Membership Convenor
8. 2015 Financial Summary Treasurer
9. Close of Annual General Meeting..... President

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2015 Annual Reports

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

On Sunday, April 12th 2015, Divine Mercy Sunday, our parish held adoration of the Blessed Sacrament following 10:30 a.m. Mass until 3:00 p.m., at which time the Divine Mercy Chaplet was prayed. This was organized by our Spiritual Development Chair. Over 20 members of the Catholic Women's League attended this time of prayer. We look forward to holding this again in 2016.

Also in 2015, our Catholic Women's League took up a collection at each meeting for a one particular parish family in need. So far this year we have received just under \$400.00 for this family. The Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy are actions we can perform that extend God's compassion and mercy to those in need. The Corporal Works of Mercy are these kind acts by which we help our neighbors with their material and physical needs. By giving to one in another in need we give them hope to carry on. *"Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will repay him for his deed"*. (Proverbs 19:17)

ORGANIZATION

One new policy was added to our policy manual this year, a policy on the annual Convention. Our policy manual is available online on our parish Catholic Women's League website at:
<http://www.blessedsacramentamherstview.org/blscwl.html>.

We had successful elections for standing committee chair positions at our November meeting, filling all positions. Our officers' elections will be held next year, in alternating years from standing committee chair elections.

CHRISTIAN FAMILY LIFE

In 2015, Blessed Sacrament Parish Catholic Women's League provided newlyweds a crucifix to place in their homes.

We also give a bursary to a graduating student at Our Lady of Mount Carmel who will be continuing his/her education in a Catholic high school.

We attended First Communion and Confirmation, providing a gift on behalf of the Catholic Women's League to the students receiving the sacraments.

COMMUNITY LIFE

In 2015 we adopted a "foster family" (a family in need of financial assistance) and had a collection box left out at every meeting to raise funds. This money was given to the secretary of Blessed Sacrament Church to forward on to the family, who remained anonymous.

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We also sponsored a speaker on the Topic of the *White Feather Project*.

EDUCATION

We liaise with Our Lady of Mount Carmel School to learn of changes in the new Curriculum, and anything that the Catholic Women's League can help them with.

We also put notices of parish events in the school newsletter.

HEALTH

In 2015, the Catholic Women's League organized a training session on CPR and the Automated External Defibrillator (AED) with Mark Halliday, a paramedic with Kingston Ambulance Services. Mr. Halliday brought his own equipment and did not charge for training, however, there was a \$5.00 charge for the certificates.

Guest speakers on health issues included Aaron Bailey, who spoke about the diagnosis and experience of living with Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD).

Our council supported the theme of Wellness through the organization of a Wellness Committee and the support of our members. The committee met monthly for six months and on September 19th, 2015 we held a Wellness Fair in our Parish hall. Exhibitors included Mental Health, Spiritual Wellness, Leisure activity, and Skin Care. This promoted the concept that we must be active participants in gaining information to care for ourselves and our loved ones in all aspects of our health - Mental, Spiritual and Physical. Our bodies are temples for the Holy spirit and it is our responsibility to seek balance and wellness for ourselves, our family and our community.

COMMUNICATIONS

The League magazine articles of importance and inspirational events are reported at the Monthly meeting. The Website addresses of the National, Provincial and Diocesan Councils have been given to all the members and are available on our website.

Members have been encouraged during this past year to pray and to continue sending the Pornography Hurts Postcards to the Prime Minister and other parliamentarians.

Information flyers are given to members at some of the weekend Masses for important CWL events as well as Election and Membership information. For our members who are housebound we send the information by mail. A reminder of the monthly meeting dates is put in the Blessed Sacrament Sunday bulletin and are posted on the parish website. Minutes of our monthly meetings are posted on the Blessed Sacrament Catholic Women's League website.

Our parish CWL council has a website liaison member as well as a phoning committee for special events such as the Wellness Fair, Snowflake Bazaar, Funeral Lunches, Pot Luck Dinners, 20th Anniversary Celebrations, etc.

Birthday cards are sent to all members with a monthly Mass held for their intentions. Get Well, Sympathy and Thinking of You cards are sent when needed and Mass Cards are sent for the recently deceased family members of our members.

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RESOLUTIONS AND LEGISLATION

Our Council elected a Chairperson (the first time we have had someone in this role) who worked closely with the President to assist in introducing the resolutions to the membership. We also worked closely with Father Stan and a couple of members to organize a few speakers in support of resolutions and challenges associated with Mental Health.

HISTORIAN

Our Council's documents were gathered into one binder and presented to the Council in February, titled "History of Blessed Sacrament CWL". Contents include information from special events, membership lists, winners of awards and certificate, etc. This is now stored in our locked Catholic Women's League cabinet in the church hall.

Our Council had its 20th Anniversary on November 9th, 2015. We celebrated the event at our November 10th meeting, with a cake and a 20-minute social time prior to the meeting. We will be holding a series of events over the course of the next 12 months to bring our members together and celebrate with our parish. The business event was the launch followed by our elections meeting. In preparation for the events of next year, our photo albums were updated and all photos labelled, and a binder was prepared with all minutes from

our council meetings over the 20 years that we were able to find. These historical records are now kept locked in our cabinet.

2015: The Year in Review

JANUARY: Our annual membership drive was held over the month of January, 2015. An Early Bird prize of a free membership was drawn from those members who renewed their membership by January 31st.

FEBRUARY: Our first Annual General Meeting was held in February this year (will be held in January in subsequent years), to satisfy new requirements for Not for Profit Organizations. Our annual budget was approved at the AGM, as were our charitable donations for the year. An AGM booklet was developed with highlights of 2015. A *History of Blessed Sacrament CWL* was prepared by our historian.

MARCH: Several of our members participated in the World Day of Prayer on March 6th. Craft groups were held in March to make items for the fall Snowflake Bazaar. At the request of our Health Standing Committee Chairperson, an AED (automated external defibrillator) was purchased for our parish. A new policy was approved, dealing with Annual Conventions.

APRIL: At our April meeting, Aaron Bailey spoke on Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). Once again this year, our ladies organized Project Homeland, sending comfort items to service personnel overseas. First Communion and Confirmation were held in April, with the children receiving gifts from the Catholic Women's League. On April 12th, Divine Mercy Sunday, our Spiritual Development Chairperson organized Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and praying of the Divine Chaplet. This was attended by over 20 of our members.

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Sadly, our current President, Shirley O'Connor, resigned her position due to health issues. Our President Elect moved into the President's role.

MAY: Our spring pot-luck dinner meeting was held May 12th. Our annual Bake Sale, in conjunction with the Knights of Columbus Garage Sale, was held on May 2nd. Several of our members attend the Kingston Diocesan CWL Convention May 2nd & 3rd.

JUNE: In June our ladies assisted with the annual parish ham dinner. On May 10th, 35 of our members were present for the crowning of the statue of the Blessed Mother. Our Graduation Bursary was presented by Eleanor Wagar to an OLMC student.

JULY: On July 30th, our ladies held a birthday party for residents at Helen Henderson Care Centre, in Amherstview.



SEPTEMBER: Our first Wellness Fair was held on September 19th. Despite low numbers of attendees, it was deemed to be a success and will be held again in 2016. The income from the Fair was donated to our Foster Family.

OCTOBER: The annual Coat Drive was held in October, as was our pie making bee, where the ladies prepared pies to be frozen and sold at our annual Bazaar.

NOVEMBER: Our annual Snowflake Bazaar was held on November 2nd. Our elections took place at our November 10th meeting and new Standing Chairs were elected. November 10th marked the 20th anniversary of our Council, with a cake and social period. A number of

events are planned to celebrate over the course of the next 12 months. The Knights of Columbus held a community breakfast on November 29th to honour the CWL. On November 21st, several of our members attended the annual CWL Retreat at Our Lady of Lourdes.

DECEMBER: Our Christmas Pot Luck dinner was held on December 9th, with Donna Guiney and Teresa Horner awarded Certificates of Merit for outstanding work for our Council.



AWARDS AND PINS

Our Council presented the following awards and pins in 2015:

- 10-year pin: Mary Grace Amann, Johanna Boon
- Certificate of Merit: Teresa Horner, Donna Guiney

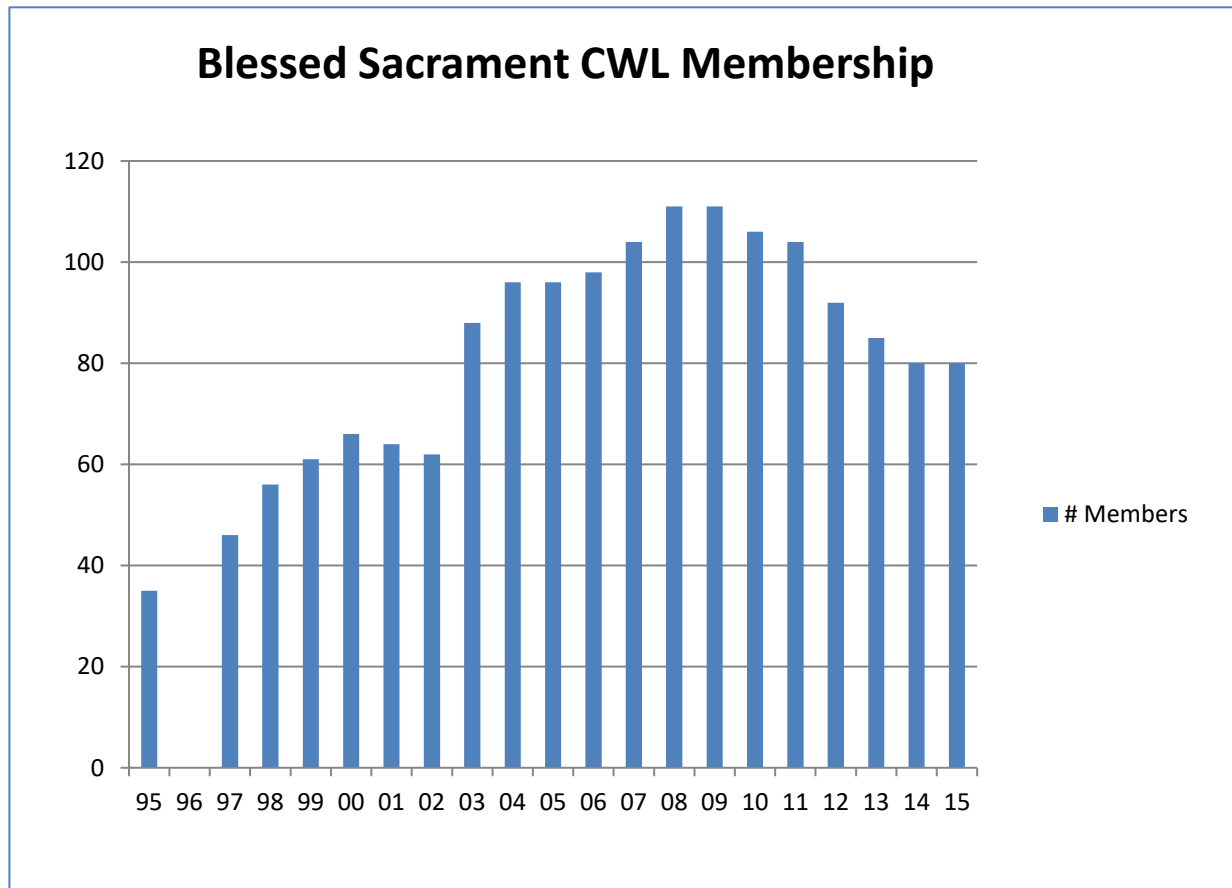
GUEST SPEAKERS

Guest speakers were featured at three of our meetings in 2015:

- In April, Aaron Bailey spoke about ADHD
- In September, Shawn McDonald spoke on aboriginal issues and the *Feathers of Hope* incentive
- In October, Bernadette Burgess spoke on Discernment

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2015 Membership Growth Chart



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2015 Financial Summary

Blessed Sacrament CWL Budget 2015

Income	2014 Actuals	2015 Budget	2015 Actuals	Details
Paid Membership x69	1,725.00	1650.00	1,775.00	paidX71
Bazaar Income	4,121.45	4300.00	4,051.04	
Bake Sale	758.95	800.00	858.90	
Funeral Lunches	720.00	750.00	670.00	
Conventions	103.00	300.00	648.00	
Religious Articles	561.00	300.00	208.59	
Share The Wealth	32.00	35.00		
Donations	329.25	200.00	25.00	
Other	1,084.79	500.00		CPR fees, Pennies refund
Interest	0.14	0.14		
Total Income	\$ 9,435.58	\$ 8,835.14	\$ 8,236.53	

Expenses	2014 Actuals	2015 Budget	2015 Actuals	Details
Office	333.89	250.00	312.80	
Kitchen	0.00	200.00	0.00	
Bazaar	316.60	300.00	335.79	
Funerals	531.73	600.00	544.56	
Conventions	434.00	500.00	1128.00	
Guest Speakers	50.00	100.00	50.00	
Religious Articles	345.29	0.00	84.77	
Pins/Awards/Gifts	0.00	200.00	179.00	
Clergy Gifts	\$150.00	150.00	\$150.00	donation to priest's retirement
Christmas Gifts	20.00	20.00	38.00	Mass for Fr. Stan
Masses	460.00	400.00	400.00	
Charitable Donations	2742.65	2,000.00	2150.00	
tion - Church (from Bazaar)	449.84	1,400.00	2000.00	
Donation - Church (other)	1200.00		0.00	
CWL Memberships x 80	1600.00	1,500.00	1600.00	X80
Bank Charges	18.50	30.00	80.75	money order fees and currency fees
Other	1,141.19	500.00	45.20	engraving bill for CWL Plaque
Total Expenses	\$ 9,793.69	\$ 8,150.00	\$ 9,098.87	

Bazaar profit is \$3715.25

Balance (Income - Expense - \$	358.11	\$ 685.14	-\$ 862.34
ADD: Balance on hand Jan	4,190.23	\$ 3,832.12	\$ 3,832.12
Balance on hand Decemb	\$ 3,832.12	\$ 4,517.26	\$ 2,969.78

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2015 CHARITABLE DONATIONS

Billings Life

Birthright

Food Bank

Foster Family

Grade 8 Graduation Gifts

Hope Fund

Nepal Disaster Relief Fund

Parish Assistance

Pennies for Pesos

World Day of Prayer