



Catholic Women's League News



JUL/AUG 2026

www.cwlsa.org.za

Issue No: 170



*Faith in Action
Serving with Love*



JULY / AUGUST 2026



CWL Newsletter Guidelines for Submissions

1. Please submit One Article per Diocese/Archdiocese
 - The article should be a diocesan report, reflecting activities and events across the diocese.
 - The article should provide an overview of key CWL activities within the diocese.
 - Focus on notable events, charitable works, spiritual initiatives, and significant achievements during the reporting period.
2. Formatting & Submission
 - Submit articles **in Word format** (.doc or .docx)
 - We cannot edit PDF's.
 - Use clear, concise language and avoid lengthy paragraphs.
 - Include high-quality photos with a caption.
3. News should not be older than 3 months
4. Deadline for Submission
 - Articles must be submitted by the 2 Nov 2026 for inclusion in the next Newsletter. Late submissions may not be included.
5. Where to Send
 - Email your article to cwlnatnews@gmail.com with the subject line: CWL Newsletter - [+ Diocese Name].

By following these guidelines, we can ensure a well structured and informative magazine that truly reflects the work of the CWL across our dioceses.

Thank you for your cooperation!

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The new Catholic Women's League web site is loaded!!!
We are excited to be launching the National Management
CWL website in July 2026.

Our Web address: www.cwlsa.org.za

Look who is also planting trees!





A shepherd leads with wisdom, protects with love, and gently guides those entrusted to his/her care. Jesus reminds us, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep" (John 10:11), while Psalm 23 assures us, "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want." We all need a shepherd to keep us focused on the path God has prepared for each of us. In today's fast-changing world, women face many distractions competing for their attention, challenging their values, and priorities. More than ever, we need the guidance of Christ, the Good Shepherd, to help us discern truth from distraction and to live with faith, courage, and compassion. As Catholic women, we are called

to support one another, nurture our families and communities, and be witnesses of hope, integrity and God's unfailing love.

Are you a follower or a leader? Both roles are essential. Before leading others, however, we must ensure that the foundations of our faith, prayer, and daily actions are positively shaping our lives. Ask yourself: What is my destination? Am I journeying closer to Christ?

As you read the inspiring articles in this magazine, choose one new idea to put into practice before the end of this year. That's the challenge I'm asking you to focus on!

Small, faithful steps can lead to lasting spiritual growth and joyful service.

Every Stranger Has a Name: Living the Gospel of Welcome

Fr Jerry Browne (National Chaplain)

Over recent weeks, many of us have watched with sadness as tensions surrounding migrants and foreign nationals have unfolded in different parts of South Africa. Families have been forced to flee their homes. Some have lost their possessions, their livelihoods and, perhaps most painfully, their sense of belonging and safety. Fear has affected not only those who have been displaced but also many South Africans who are anxious about unemployment, crime and an uncertain future.

As Christians, we cannot ignore these realities. We are called to acknowledge the genuine struggles experienced by many in our communities. At the same time, our response must always be shaped by the Gospel rather than by fear.

Jesus leaves us in no doubt about how we are to treat those who are vulnerable. In Matthew's Gospel he tells us, "I was a stranger and you welcomed me" (Matthew 25:35). These words are not simply a suggestion; they are a measure of authentic Christian discipleship. Christ identifies himself with the stranger, the refugee, the displaced person and the one who has nowhere to turn. Whenever we welcome another person with dignity and compassion, we welcome Christ himself.

The Catholic Women's League has always been known for putting faith into action. Across this region, CWL members quietly care for the lonely, feed the hungry, visit the sick and strengthen parish communities. This same spirit of compassionate service must also be extended to the stranger.

Welcoming the stranger does not mean ignoring the complex challenges facing our nation. Governments have a responsibility to uphold the law, protect borders and address the economic and social concerns of their citizens. These are important responsibilities. Yet none of these realities can justify violence, insults or name calling. Every person, regardless of nationality, race or language, is created in the image and likeness of God and must be treated as such.

Pope Francis often reminded the Church that migrants are not merely statistics or problems to be solved; they are people with names, families, hopes and dreams. Many have fled violence, persecution or desperate poverty. Most long for exactly what any mother desires for her children: safety, work, education and the opportunity to build a better future.

Our welcome begins not with grand gestures but with small acts of everyday kindness. A smile, a greeting, an invitation into conversation, assistance with food or clothing, or simply refusing to repeat rumours or hateful language can become powerful signs of Christ's love. Such actions build bridges where others erect walls.



As Catholic Women, we can be instruments of healing and reconciliation. Our homes, our parishes and our communities should be places where people encounter respect rather than suspicion, compassion rather than prejudice, and hope rather than fear.

Each CWL branch has the opportunity to make the Gospel visible in simple but meaningful ways: praying for migrants and divided communities; reaching out to newcomers in our parishes; supporting families in need through practical assistance; challenging prejudice whenever it appears and ensuring that every person who enters our churches is greeted with warmth and dignity.

Our faith is not measured only by the prayers we say, but by the love we show. In a world where fear can so easily divide, the Catholic Women's League is called to be a sign of hope, building bridges of understanding and reminding our communities that every person is a child of God.

May our words always reflect kindness, our actions reveal compassion, and our hearts remain open to Christ, who still comes to us in the stranger seeking welcome.

Great News!

The Catholic Women's League website has been updated!

We are delighted to announce the launch of the updated Catholic Women's League National Management website. A sincere word of thanks to Jacques Batista and everyone whose time, expertise and dedication have made this update possible. The website has been refreshed to make it easier to access information about the Catholic Women's League, stay informed about national initiatives and events, and discover resources to support members and diocesan councils throughout Southern Africa.

Whether you are a long-standing member, a parish leader, or someone who would like to learn more about the mission and work of the Catholic Women's League, we warmly invite you to explore the site and visit it regularly for news, updates, resources and announcements.

Visit us today: www.cwlsa.org.za

Together, let us continue to grow in faith, friendship and service as we strive to put our faith into action through lives of love and witness.



BLOEMFONTEIN

Thank You

A very special thank you to the CWL ladies of Bloemfontein for the outstanding reception we received when we visited them in May. The meeting was most enjoyable with very interesting feedback.

- President: S. Thyse

Newly appointed Archdiocese Chaplain - Fr Vumile Nogemane

Fr. Vumile Nogemane was born on 18 July 1961 in Mpondoland, Eastern Cape and was educated at a Catholic boarding school before joining the Franciscan Order in 1981. He studied for the priesthood at St John Vianney Seminary and was ordained in July of 1989. After serving in parishes in the Eastern Cape and KwaZulu-Natal, he pursued further studies at the Franciscan University in Rome, where he obtained a Masters degree.

Returning to South Africa, he worked in the formation of young Franciscans and served as Provincial of the Franciscan Province (1999-2008). He later ministered in the Port Elizabeth Diocese while completing a PhD at Rhodes University on Franciscan history (2010-2013). His work also included teaching in Zambia and serving in Namibia. He currently serves in the Bloemfontein Archdiocese, including parish ministry at Thabo Ya Krete, Thaba Nchu and has now been recently appointed Chaplain of the Catholic Women's League.



Recruitment Drive

On 12 April 2026, the Archdiocese of Bloemfontein Recruitment Committee visited the communities of Tweespruit and Thaba Nchu. Thabo ya Krete and St Martin de Porres parishes are in Thaba Nchu.

The visit to Tweespruit was challenging, as the team did not gain any new members despite their efforts. At Thabo ya Krete, the response was initially slow, but the team was able to recruit three new members, with the hope of more joining.

The visit to St Martin de Porres was very encouraging. The team was warmly received, and through their engagement they successfully recruited five new members.

Although the day had its ups and downs, it was ultimately a joyful and inspiring experience. It was heartening to witness the Catholic Women's League growing in the Thaba Nchu Deanery - a true sign that the mission continues to bear fruit.



National Committee to Archdiocese of Bloemfontein

On 1 May 2026 the Archdiocese of Bloemfontein welcomed the CWL National Committee in Bloemfontein. We were honoured to host, Fr Jerry Browne, National Chaplain; Ms. Sheila Thyse, President and Ms. Pauline Potgieter, Treasurer.

Executive members from 13 branches within the Archdiocese of Bloemfontein were in attendance.

The day started with Holy Mass, celebrated by Fr Vumile Nogemane. He delivered a beautiful homily, reflecting on the scripture from John 14: "Let not your hearts be troubled."

Following Mass, the programme for the day continued. The Archdiocesan President, Mrs Mpho Ntema gave a report. She highlighted the various activities undertaken within the archdiocese, guided by the League's motto: Charity, Work and Loyalty.

This was followed by an address from the National President, Ms Sheila Thyse, who outlined a few projects undertaken by the Catholic Women's League. These include the Tree Planting Initiative, efforts to address Gender-Based Violence, and participation in Caritas projects - such as collecting wool to make blankets for Nelson Mandela Day and gathering toys for disadvantaged children. She also emphasized the importance of attracting new members, particularly young people, and addressed key administrative matters within the League.

The National Treasurer, Ms Pauline Potgieter, then presented on the planning and implementation of the National Conference. She also explained the responsibilities and role of the Treasurer within the League.

The programme concluded with a powerful and inspiring talk by the National Chaplain, Fr Jerry Browne. He emphasized the significance and impact of the Catholic Women's League, drawing on both historical and biblical examples, as well as its role within the community. He also referenced a quote by Maya Angelou: "Each time a woman stands up for herself, without knowing it possibly, without claiming it, she stands up for all women."

The meeting provided valuable insight into the mission, activities, and administrative processes of the Catholic Women's League. It was indeed a fruitful and an enriching engagement.



"Everything is within your power, and your power is within you."
- Janice Trachtman



News from the Diocese



Launch of the Ecumenical and Elderly Ministry and the Women's Fellowship invitation honoured

The Archdiocesan President and the Secretary General of the Archdiocese were honoured to attend the launch of the Ecumenical and Elderly Ministry and the Women's Fellowship at St Thomas Methodist Church on Saturday, 13 June 2026.

The event brought together church leaders, members of various Christian denominations, community stakeholders, and elderly guests in a celebration that marked an important milestone in strengthening community engagement and the support for senior citizens. Representatives from Lapologa Old Age Centre and Khauhelo were among those in attendance, highlighting the importance placed on the welfare and inclusion of older persons within society.

The programme featured presentations outlining the vision and objectives of both ministries. Particular emphasis was placed on fostering collaboration among churches and developing initiatives that respond to the social, spiritual, and practical needs of elderly community members.

The presence of the Catholic Women's League was warmly acknowledged during the proceedings and further recognized through its inclusion on the official event banner. This acknowledgement reflected the spirit of mutual respect and cooperation shared among faith-based organizations working towards common community goals.

An additional honour was extended to the Catholic Women's League when the Archdiocesan President was invited to deliver the Closing Remarks. In her address, she expressed appreciation to St Thomas Methodist Church and the Women's Fellowship for the invitation and commended the organizers for establishing ministries that seek to make a meaningful impact on the lives of both the elderly and the wider community.

The launch was both informative and inspiring, showcasing how faith communities can work collectively to create lasting and positive change.

The Archdiocesan President and the Secretary General extend their sincere appreciation to St Thomas Methodist Church and the Women's Fellowship for their hospitality and for the opportunity to participate in this significant occasion.



WUCWO Day 2026: United in faith, hope and peace

The Bloemfontein Archdiocese joyfully celebrated WUCWO Day 2026 at Emmaus Catholic Church, Botshabelo, bringing together women from various Catholic organisations for a day of prayer and reflection.

The celebration began with Holy Mass, where participants took an active role through the liturgy, readings, offertory procession, and prayers for peace, families, refugees, and those unable to practice their faith freely. A moving candle-light blessing served as a symbol of hope, faith, and unity among all present.

Reflections followed, inspired by the teachings of Pope Francis and the message of Pope Leo, encouraging participants to live lives rooted in humility, reconciliation, peace, and mutual understanding within families, communities, and the Church.

Fr Banda and Fr Vumile's words of encouragement inspired the women to continue working together in faith and unity for the growth of WUCWO activities within the Archdiocese.

WUCWO Day 2026 was a meaningful and spiritually enriching event that strengthened unity among women's organisations and promoted the message of peace and hope. The launch and blessing of the Archdiocese Committee was a significant achievement and laid a foundation for future growth and collaboration.



The new Catholic Women's League website is loaded!!!

www.cwlsa.org.za

CWL Pre-Mojekelo Fundraising Activity

On Sunday, 21 June 2026, the Catholic Women's League (CWL) of the Archdiocese gathered at Sacred Heart Cathedral for the Pre-Mojekelo Fundraising event. Although the day was marked by cold temperatures and continuous rain, the determination and commitment of the women of faith were evident as members travelled from various parishes to support this important initiative.

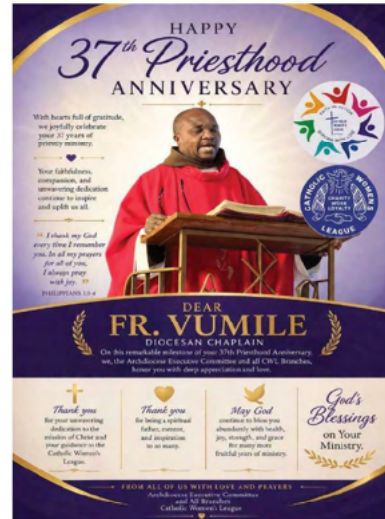
Members came together with one purpose: to support the preparations for Mojekelo and strengthen the work of the CWL within the Archdiocese.

The fundraising event proved to be a great success. Through the generosity of members and supporters, a total of R52,650 was raised. Special recognition goes to Sacred Heart Cathedral, which emerged as the highest contributing parish. Their leadership and support played a significant role in the success of the event.

Most parishes demonstrated exceptional commitment and generosity, inspiring others through their support of the CWL mission.

The Executive Committee extends its heartfelt appreciation to all parishes, members, clergy, supporters, and volunteers who contributed in various ways to make the day a success. Whether through financial contributions, attendance, prayers, or assistance with organising the event, every contribution made a difference.

This fundraising event reminded us that when women unite in faith and purpose, no obstacle is too great. The success of the day stands as a testimony to the strength, resilience, and dedication of the women of the archdiocese. As we continue our preparations for Mojekelo, may the spirit of unity, generosity, and sisterhood displayed during this fundraising event continue to guide and inspire us.



On the 1st of July, CWL Chaplain, Fr. Vumile Nogemane was celebrating 37 years as a priest. May God continue to bless you abundantly for many more fruitful years of ministry.



ST MARK

Caritas/CWL Blanket Project

National office asked all the Parishes to join in a project to knit/crochet blankets which will be donated to the needy on Mandela Day. St Mark's CWL managed to knit four (4) blankets. They will be handed over to the Diocese.



Celebrations!



The Archdiocese of Bloemfontein, Me. Mpho Ntseke celebrated her birthday on the 24th June. May God continue to give her strength and wisdom to lead the league.

Menzi Palace Centre

Menzi's Palace (also known as Menzi's Palace, the Place of Love) is a specialized care facility located at Elichpark in Bloemfontein. It primarily caters for the aged citizens, offering both permanent residency and day/night care services.

It is important to visit a home for the elderly. Visiting an old age home often brings mixed feelings - joy of being able to give love and care, and sadness at seeing loneliness in old age. It teaches us to respect and value our elders. It reminds us of the importance of family bonds and responsibilities. The Centre has 11 female elders, 16 male elders who are staying there permanently and 10 employees.

On the 6th June 2026, St Mark's CWL ladies visited Menzi Old age home. We had a charity drive and donated groceries, pampers, clothing and curtains. The place needs special attention because the living conditions are not good. The outreach brought great joy and smiles. We managed to sit down and discuss how they are feeling about being at the home.



News from the Diocese



ST ROSE OF LIMA

Charity

As part of their charity programme, the Catholic Women's League of St Rose of Lima branch took the initiative to purchase groceries for their parish priests. The handover of the groceries took place during the Palm Sunday Mass. As Jesus entered Jerusalem, the women expressed their hope that their gesture would bring support and appreciation to their priests.



In addition, as a gesture of support for the parish, the league members donated R5,000 towards the Parish Priest's Car Project. This contribution reflects the CWL's continued commitment to supporting the mission of the Church and caring for those who faithfully serve the parish community.



"The quickest way to double your money is to fold it and put it back in your pocket."
- Will Rogers

CWL Mother's Day

On 09 May 2026, the St Rose of Lima Catholic Women's League (CWL) Branch hosted a memorable Mother's Day Lunch at Pax Nova Hall, bringing together women of the parish for a day of fellowship, learning, and celebration.

The event was graced by the presence of our Parish Priest, Fr. Thabo Mmolaoa OMI, and Assistant Priest, Fr. Hashatsi, whose support and encouragement added great significance to the occasion.

The programme featured a number of insightful guest speakers who addressed issues affecting women in their daily lives.

Ms. Paballo Mahabu, a healthcare worker, spoke passionately about the importance of women prioritising their health.

Ms. Nombeko Nonxuba, a social worker by profession, addressed the growing concern of Gender-Based Violence (GBV).

Fitness enthusiast Ms. Puseletso Grootboom inspired attendees to take care of their physical wellbeing. She highlighted the benefits of regular exercise and maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

The afternoon provided a valuable platform for education, empowerment, and fellowship while celebrating the vital role mothers and women play within the Church, families, and society.

"She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come." (Proverbs 31:25)



SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL

Showing Up in Faith: The Heart of the CWL

"They serve quietly but their faith speaks loudly."

The Catholic Women's League (CWL) is often found behind the scenes, ensuring that every parish event big or small runs smoothly. While their work may appear purely practical, it is deeply grounded in prayer, devotion, and a strong spiritual foundation. CWL members embody a complete model of Christian living through prayer, action, and almsgiving. Service and generosity are second nature to them. Even amid busy schedules, they consistently make time to support their parish and community.

The CWL gently led the way by encouraging parishioners to prepare not only their homes, but also their hearts in remembrance of our Lord's sacrifice at Lent. By promoting the celebration of Shrove Tuesday on a Sunday, they make it easier for the community to gather and participate. What was once known simply as a "pancake sale" is now being reclaimed as a meaningful spiritual tradition that prepares us for the Lenten journey. In a fast-changing world, the CWL remains steadfast preserving traditions, nurturing faith, and passing these values on to future generations. They don't just organize they minister. They don't just serve they live their faith.





News from the Diocese



CWL Passover Seder Deepens Faith and Understanding

The Catholic Women's League (CWL) at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Bloemfontein successfully hosted its annual Passover Seder, continuing a long-standing spiritual tradition within the parish community.

The event reminded parishioners of the biblical Passover in Egypt before the coming of Jesus Christ and reflected on the connection between the Old Testament and the Passion of Christ during Holy Week. Through prayer, reflection, and fellowship, the Seder encouraged parishioners not only to read Scripture, but also to spiritually relive and better understand salvation history.

Behind the scenes, various CWL subcommittees worked together to organise the event, while generous sponsors and parishioners assisted through financial and in-kind donations. Their support has helped to maintain affordable ticket prices over the past three years.

This year's tickets sold out quickly, with an additional 20 admissions accommodated following educational talks during Mass announcements explaining the meaning of the Passover Seder. The growing interest has highlighted the possible need for a larger venue in future.

The CWL expressed sincere gratitude to all sponsors, volunteers, parishioners, and prayer supporters who contributed to the success of the event, describing service, unity, and charity as important expressions of faith in action.



ST JOSEPH

Praying together, loving together, putting God first - always. We enjoyed every second of it. Blessed to be part of a family that honours moms and honours God. Happy Mother's Day to all the mamas. That's how we celebrated our Mother's Day enjoying homemade soup.



What a beautiful Father's Day we had as a church family. We laughed, we worshipped, and we prayed together. There's something so powerful about fathers, sons, and men of God putting Him first in one voice. We don't just celebrate dad's today, we celebrate the God who gave them to us to lead, protect, and love us. We truly enjoyed every moment. We prepared a delicious lunch for our fathers which they enjoyed.



MAMOHAU

The Catholic Women's League (CWL) at Mamohau showed their love and generosity by donating food parcels to nine (9) disabled children at their parish.

They also organised themselves and decided to clean the entire church and assisted the priest by cleaning windows on his premises.



CORPUS CHRISTI

On Sunday 07 June 2026, Corpus Christi CWL successfully launched their annual soup kitchen. The soup kitchen will run for 9 consecutive weeks ending on the 2nd of August 2026. Corpus Christi parishioners welcomed this wonderful gesture and look forward to it.

CAPE TOWN

The Catholic Women's League Archdiocese of Cape Town held their Annual General Meeting at St Pius Church, Plumstead, on Saturday, 20 June 2026. The event was very well attended, with approximately 140 ladies present from across the Archdiocese. We were especially honoured to have Holy Mass celebrated for us by the new Archbishop of Cape Town, Archbishop Sithembale Sipuka, together with our Diocesan Chaplain, Fr Nkululeko, and the parish priest of St Pius Church, Fr Diego.

We were delighted to enrol 10 new members. They are: Carmen Carolus and Desiree McKenzie from Bishop Lavis, Lucinda Sefton and Margo Wildschutt from Kuilsriver, Cindy Layman and June Brown from Plumstead, Joy Klaasen from Parow, Valerie Grant from Rocklands and Veronica Berger and Funeka Zhakata from Wynberg.

Long Service Awards were presented to dedicated members in recognition of their faithful commitment and service to the League.

10 Year badges were presented to: Delphine De Voss, Georgina Wakefield and Rita De Vos from Bishop Lavis, Merle Pope from Retreat, Charlene Jacobs from Rocklands, Angela Carretoni and Jen Henrick from Table View PM, and Norma Arendse and Sandra Dullisear from Wynberg.

20 Year badges were presented to: Mandy Stopford and Yeolanda Heimann from Bothasig and Alexander Mpayimana from Langa.

A 30 Year badge was presented to Rene Webb from Parow.

Following Mass, the AGM took place, after which everyone enjoyed a wonderful bring-and-share lunch. A raffle was also held, with exciting prizes including a Kenwood Air-Fryer Oven, a R1000 voucher, and four additional prizes of Shzen hampers and Mugs.

The meeting was a great success, filled with faith, friendship, gratitude, and community spirit. A sincere thank you to the CWL from St Pius Parish, Plumstead, for hosting this special occasion so warmly and to our Diocesan President, Rebecca Weir for leading the CWL for another fruitful year. Thank you also to the Diocesan Executive Committee for their hard work and dedication and to Fr Nkululeko for his spiritual guidance.



The Clothing Guild

Ladies from CWL Rondebosch, Retreat and Goodwood sorted the donated items for the Clothing Guild, which is an interdenominational organisation. Almost 900 items were collected and 20 bags filled with winter warmth for infants, boys and girls, ladies and gents.



Day of Recollection

The Catholic Women's League held their Annual Day of Recollection at Schoenstatt on Saturday, 16 May. It was wonderful to see such a well-attended gathering from all branches.

A heartfelt thank you to Fr Nkululeko, who was the speaker for the day and shared such an uplifting and inspiring message with us.



The Women's World Day of Prayer

This was celebrated by a number of our branches, namely Kuilsriver, Langa, Macassar, Rondebosch, Parow, Retreat, Rocklands and Table View.

The theme was 'Come I will give you Rest' and the women of Nigeria were celebrated. The services were enjoyed by all.

I Will Give You Rest: Come

Program written by the
World Day of Prayer Committee of Nigeria for 2026
Matthew 11:28-30



"Rest for the Weary" By Gift Amarachi Ottah



Meeting with our new Archbishop

On Saturday, 6th June, Archbishop Sithembale Sipuka invited the chaplains and two members of each sodality or organisation within the archdiocese to a meeting at the chancery. He discussed his vision for the role of the sodalities in the parishes and invited comment on how to set about encouraging as many as possible to be involved in the process of evangelisation. It was a most informative meeting and he offered his support to all. Pictured are from left to right are – Father Nkululeko, Pat McEwen, Archbishop Sipuka and Rebecca Weir, Diocesan President.



ST MARTIN DE PORRES - BISHOP LAVIS

The Bishop Lavis CWL had their Annual General Meeting on Saturday 23 May 2026 at the St Martin de Porres Catholic Church, Bishop Lavis. Rev Dcn Arthur Arries, their spiritual advisor was in attendance.

They elected a Treasurer, Sharon Volkwyn (former Vice-President) Carmen Carolus as Vice-President. Ursula Piet is President & Agnes Julie Secretary.



GOOD SHEPHERD - BOTHASIG

An appeal was made on the CWL News Broadcast Group, to donate to the 5600 residents of Cape Town who had been affected by the storm that made landfill on May 4 2026. The CWL in Bothasig decided to collect as much as we could to help.

Blankets, pillows, clothing and non-perishable food was delivered to Caritas in Athlone on Friday, 15 May 2026. We are hopeful that these donations will help these poor families, some of whom lost all their belongings and some even lost their homes.



KHAYELITSHA

On 26 April 2026, the CWL Khayelitsha Branch continued its outreach work with a visit to St Francis Xavier Seminary, where the ladies donated toiletries and USB drives to support the needs of the Brothers. The donation aimed to promote personal dignity and provide access to learning resources. This reflected the branch's commitment to serving others through practical acts of kindness. Father Gabela, the Rector of the Seminary, expressed his sincere gratitude to the CWL ladies for their generosity and ongoing support.



CWL Khayelitsha Branch visited the Missionaries of Charity, Mother Teresa's Home, at St Raphael in Khayelitsha, where they donated clothes, washing powder, and various cleaning detergents to support the daily needs of the residents. The CWL members were warmly received and expressed gratitude for the opportunity to give back to the community through acts of kindness and love.



ST ANTHONY'S - LANGA



On 9 May, Langa CWL held their AGM. On 28 March they held a Prayer Breakfast, the theme being 'Lord Teach Us To Pray.'

On Sunday 28th June CWL in Langa were celebrating Father's Day. The theme; "The father who never leaves." Hebrews 13 vs 5 'Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.'



ST STEPHEN THE MARTYR - MACASSAR



CWL Macassar enjoyed a blessed happy birthday tea with Fr Pierre, after Mass. He turned 75 years young on 9th March.

Macassar had an Easter outreach for some families in need. Fr James blessed the occasion.





News from the Diocese



PAARL

Paarl CWL enrolled their 13th member at St Charles Luwanga in Paarl on 12 April. Nwabisa Sidzuma was supported by her family and friends and the ladies of CWL Paarl. Fr Emmanuel officiated at the induction. Ladies from CWL Khayelitsha attended to lend their support.



They also joyfully welcomed their 14th member on Sunday 5 July, with the enrolment of Faeza Boer at Our Lady of Divine Love Catholic Church, Paarl. The enrolment ceremony was officiated by Fr Emmanuel and Logie, President of the CWL Paarl Branch. It was a beautiful joyous occasion, celebrating the continued growth of our branch and the spirit of faith and fellowship that unites us.

May God richly bless Faeza as she begins this new journey of faith, friendship, and service.



ST MICHAELS - RONDEBOSCH

On Friday, 22nd May, the Rondebosch CWL held a quiz evening as a fund raiser. Included in the programme was a Fish and Chips supper and cookies with tea or coffee. The evening was a great success!



PARISH OF THE RESURRECTION - TABLE VIEW

Morning Group

The CWL Table View morning group delivered 300 packs of ready-to-make soup parcels to the TLC Outreach behind Table View Police Station. 100 pairs of thick winter socks and Beanies were also donated for distribution to the homeless and needy in the greater Blouberg Area. TLC also serves sandwiches or hot soup daily from the Waterpark carpark, to the needy, men, women and children.



CWL Table View Morning Group delivered a bumper collection of clothing to Janet Perrott who is the liason for Red Cross and Retreat Hospitals. The clothes will be sorted and donated to the patients and parents at Red Cross and Retreat and it will also go to TB and Aids patients and teenage mothers. The clothes were donated by our CWL ladies and Life Teen, Table View. We look forward to future collaborations with Life Teen.

Evening Group

The CWL evening group donated 22 boxes of Easter eggs to Mothers That Care - Cape Town for their Easter egg drive. It is so gratifying to think about all the little ones who will be delighted by an Easter egg this Easter. Jen Henrick made the delivery.



The CWL Table View evening group packed 13 bumper baby bags to be given to the underprivileged moms at Du Noon Clinic. Some moms arrive to have their babies with literally nothing and this bumper bag will give their babies a good start in life.



CWL Table View evening group delivered a bumper donation of clothing from the parishioners of the Parish of the Resurrection, Table View. It was very gratefully received by Caritas.

CWL Table View delivered 140 soup packs made by the teens of Life Teen, Table View, to Mothers that Care - Cape Town. The ingredients were donated by the CWL morning group and the teens. This was part of the total consignment of 656 soup packs made by them and divided between the CWL morning and evening groups. The soup will be going to the flood victims in Worcester, Lily Rose and Hanover Park. Well done to Life Teen for this fantastic donation.



CWL Durban Diocese took part in the Caritas project for knitted squares and blankets. A total of 5 boxes were collected.



BELLAIR / QUEENSBURGH

The ladies from CWL Bellair Queensburgh crocheted beautiful blankets and also packed sweets for the girls of St Philomena's Children's Home. They will now have beautiful warm winters ahead, thank you ladies for all your hard work.



The CWL evening group delivered 190 soup packs made by Life Teen Table View to the Du Noon Community Health Centre. The soup packs will be given to TB patients enabling them to have a nourishing meal as part of their treatment.

The social worker, Mrs Mahka is always so delighted to receive our donations.



CWL Table View Evening group was privileged to deliver R2000 worth of foodstuffs to the Durbanville Children's Home, together with baby clothing, toiletries and a large consignment of books to be sold in their bookshop to raise funds. A big thank you to Life Teen Table View for the donation of soup ingredients, which were gratefully received. The Home houses 144 children from age 2 - 18.

DURBAN

Durban Diocese held their Annual General meeting on the 23rd of May 2026 at KwaKristo uMsindisi Parish and were blessed by Archbishop Jwara. All deceased members were remembered at the AGM.



Mrs Simphiwe Buthelezi with her daughter Sno Buthelezi, who graduated with a BSc in Agricultural Economics



Mrs Nomvuyo Thobela celebrated her daughter's wedding. She became Mrs Samkelisiwe Ndlovu



News Correspondent Nombuso Khumalo graduated with a BA in Community Development & Political Science



Mrs Busisiwe Khumalo with her daughter Kwandile Khumalo, who graduated with a BCom in Supply Chain Management

AMANZIMTOTI

CWL Amanzimtoti branch enjoyed a workshop with the Diocesan. Our members are very grateful for the knowledge imparted to them.



HOLY ROSARY - STANGER

The Grotto was officially blessed by His Grace, Bishop K.E Zondi. This sacred structure was generously donated by the Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, Stanger, CWL



The Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, (Stanger), donated clothing to the community crisis centre. This donation forms part of the Mbumbulu Sisters' community project, aimed at supporting vulnerable members of the local community.

As part of the Easter project, the Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, (Stanger), CWL donated groceries to Sisters' based in Mbumbulu



ST CLEMENT - CLERMONT

The Catholic Women's League Clermont is delighted to announce the successful completion of a special fundraising project: the installation of a beautiful stained-glass window dedicated to our Blessed Mother Mary.

This achievement is a testament to the unwavering commitment, dedication, and generosity of the women of the League, whose hard work and perseverance made this vision a reality.

The stained-glass window stands as a beautiful reminder of the Blessed Virgin Mary's love, humility, and faithful service to God. It will inspire prayer and reflection for generations to come.

As the Catholic Women's League, we remain steadfast in our mission of Charity, Work and Loyalty.



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - PINETOWN

The second quarter of the year has been filled with faith, fellowship and service as the Pinetown Branch of the Catholic Women's League continued to live out our mission of serving others.

In April, we were privileged to welcome our Diocesan President to our branch meeting, where members were encouraged to remain committed to the League's work. We also continued our outreach ministry through visits to the sick and elderly, offering prayers, companionship and support.

In May, members attended the Diocesan AGM and supported the Mother's Day Spa Raffle. Our Tasty Treats Sale was a great success, thanks to the generosity of our members and parishioners. We also celebrated with our seminarian, Sandile, on completing his Bachelor of Philosophy degree and we continue to keep him in our prayers.

During June, members visited St Vincent's Home for Youth Day, donating toiletries and spending time with the residents. We also hosted our annual "Thank You" Tea to express our gratitude to the parish community for their continued support.

Throughout these three months, the branch remained committed to outreach, supporting the Tuesday Feeding Scheme, the Society of St Vincent de Paul, pensioner grocery donations, and those in need. We thank all our members for their generosity, dedication and faithful service.



UMNDENI ONGCWELE - HAMMARSDALE



The first jumble sale of the year was held on the 4th of May. The proceeds help us pay the expenses that are not part of our annual budget.

We celebrated Mother's Day with a hike to Giba Gorge. The 3 speakers on the day reminded us about mommy issues, health issues and financial matters. It was indeed a wonderful experience.



At the thanksgiving Mass on the 21st of June, at which Fr Wiseman Hlongwane presided, the CWL ladies of Umndeni Oyingcwele gifted Fr Hlongwane with a beautiful Chasuble.

It's with great pleasure that we announce that our former seminarian, has been ordained. The ladies gifted Fr Chipapata with a beautiful Chasuble which will be couriered to him.



SACRED HEART - WOODLANDS

The Woodlands CWL branch held a day of prayer and reflection on the 20th June. We were blessed by the presence of our Parish Priest Fr T Zuma and our Seminarian Brother Lindelani Zuma. We are grateful for the powerful and heartfelt messages they both shared with us, reminding us of our faith, unity and service within our church.



ESHOWE

ST BENEDICT

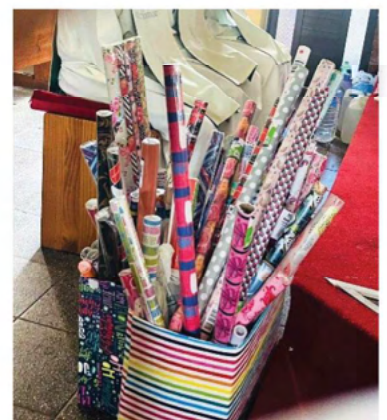
Charity

CWL Members raised funds in order to buy food parcels and to supply the needy families at Christmas time. Their parish Priest Fr. Macuacua also attended the function.



ST LWANGA PARISH

The St Lwanga C.W.L. members were celebrating the "Gift Day", Isivuno, in church in a special way by wearing Zulu Culture hats and wrap-arounds which had the C.W.L emblem on them. Our church Priest Fr T. Buthelezi praised them for their outfits and the money they donated to the church. They also donated stationery to the school children at Sunday school.



2026 Diocese Meeting and Workshop

All Parishes and Deanery executives attended this meeting. A lady from Eshowe "Mandy" presented a workshop about the issues of finances. She highlighted how to go about doing a budget, and that included income and expenditure. After the workshop the Diocesan president quizzed members and those who answered correctly were given very attractive cushions.



News from the Diocese



ST KEVIN'S PARISH

The League is still functioning. We serve soup on a Tuesday and distribute it in the different streets where we live. This is especially welcome now in the school holidays. We are currently busy preparing for our big celebration. Joseph Juries is going to make his final vows into brotherhood on Sunday 12 July. We are expecting over 300 guests to attend this wonderful occasion. 16th June, Youth Day, some of the ladies helped serve the youth with a breakfast and lunch at the Mater Dei Hall.

ST AUGUSTINES

St Augustine CWL would like to extend a warm welcome to its newest members Lizzy, Maureen & Joan who joined our dedicated team of ladies during the 1st quarter of 2026. We are thrilled to have these ladies on board and look forward to many blessed years of serving together.

In March 2026, many of our members attended a morning of Recollection hosted at Sacred Heart. This formed part of CWL spiritual renewal and was a memorable experience for all present.

Celebrations of the St Augustine's 160th year Jubilee began on the 17th of April 2026 and lasted until the 20th of April 2026.

We were blessed to have one of our oldest, dedicated and committed members, Doreen van Reenen present at the celebration. Doreen, at 88 years of age, is the oldest person to have been baptized in the Cathedral where she has also served for 45 yrs in the league.

The celebrations started off with a formal Jubilee dinner that was held in the McSherry hall on Friday evening 17 April 2026, followed by a more relaxed bring and share style of "get together" in the same hall for parishioners on the Sunday, after Mass. Our CWL ladies were, as usual, the backbone and support of the events, from coordinating, serving, and cleaning afterwards. The CWL ladies of St Augustine's Cathedral ensured that the events, including the priest's caravan lunch on Monday 20 April 2026, ran smoothly and punctually.



QGEERHA / PORT ELIZABETH

ST MARTIN DE PORRES

Winter is coming but...on the 25 April 2026, it was warm weather, a warm welcome and beautiful smiles at Gelvan Park Frail Aged Home, in Gqeberha. The ladies of the CWL were welcomed by Amara, one of the board members at the home.

At present there are 98 frail residents accommodated at the facility and donations of any kind from the public are always received with greatest appreciation.

The blankets donated by the CWL of St Martin de Porres on the day, were received with open arms. Keep warm... winter is coming!





Kaye Hendrick and Doreen van Renen, the recipients of the Benemerenti Medal at the 160 Years Jubilee celebrations



At the WUCWO celebrations at Mater Dei

ST MICHEAL'S - FORT BEAUFORT

We as St Micheals Catholic Women's League in Fort Beaufort have 20 active members. Most of us are involved in different parish ministries. At our monthly tea/meeting we discuss and plan all our activities. We often visit the sick, the house bound and pray the Rosary with them. We have recently bought new curtains and curtain tracks for the presbytery. We gave Father Mafu a monetary gift for his birthday as a small token of appreciation. We also help with groceries for Fr Mafu as often as we can. We are looking forward to a GOOD YEAR and hope to be a blessing to more needy families in our community.

SAN FRANCESCO

Unfortunately, due to the recent flooding in our area, no meetings were held. Our Ladies group have been very busy knitting blankets and squares, which were donated to the Nelson Mandela Day Initiative as well as to the Ekuphumleni Old Age Home in Zwide.

In addition, we donated food parcels and clothing to flood victims at the Missionvale Care Centre and to Glenda of the Walmer Project, Angel of Hope. We were also privileged to support the following organisations through donations:

- PE Seminary Fund
- Capuchin Student Fund
- Norwood Children's Hospice
- Soup deliveries

Furthermore, our Saturday evening Mass has been rescheduled to 5:00pm while the Rosary now begins at 4:40pm during the winter months.

We recently celebrated the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, which took place on Sunday following the 9:00am Mass. Parishioners were invited to spend time with our Lord concluding with the Benediction.

"It is in giving that we receive".

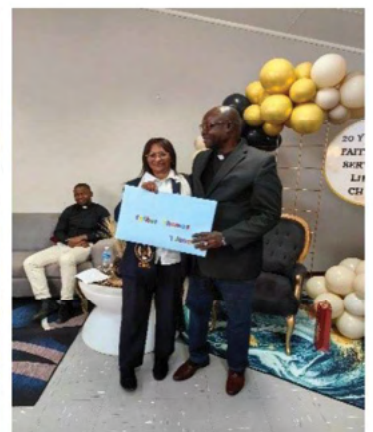
EAST LONDON

2026 started off very well with all branches ready to work together as a team. Our first task was to get Eucharistic Heart branch up and running again. This we did. We successfully have a new executive in place and we will be enrolling their new members in this year. Our next task was to add another branch, St. Bernards, to our organization. We attended Mass there to speak to the congregation. It was a success and we will be establishing the new branch.

We had a spiritual WUCWO morning at Holly Spirit Church. We were invited to attend our Chaplain's Birthday and 20th Anniversary in the Priesthood. The Mass was held at St. Peter Claver.



CWL ladies attending Mass at St. Bernards to encourage them to open a branch



Fr. Thomas Woa's 20th Anniversary and birthday. The gift from our CWL Branches was being given to Fr Woa.



The new Catholic Women's League website is loaded!!!
www.cwlsa.org.za



Our WUCWO Day at Holy Spirit



Attending the DCWL AGM in Makhandia - 14 June 2026

On 14 June, six of our members travelled to Makhandia to attend the DCWL AGM. We congratulate Nola on receiving her 40-year badge and Dorothy on receiving her 30-year badge. Thank you for your many years of dedicated service to the League, your flames are still burning brightly.



Our Regional President delivering her report at the Diocesan AGM in June.

CORPUS CHRISTI

WUCWO Day of Prayer

It was a privilege for our branch to lead the WUCWO day of prayer service at Mater Dei on 13 May 2026. Three of our members were readers and were leading the singing. The collection was well supported. Tea and refreshments were served after the service.



ST PATRICK'S

Parish 90th Anniversary Celebration - 31 May 2026

Our 90th Anniversary celebrations began with a retreat led by Fr. Henry on Saturday, 23 May. On Sunday, we were honoured to celebrate Mass with Bishop Zungu and six priests. We also had the honour of Bishop Zungu blessing our new Grotto, Grotto of Grace, in the courtyard. The celebrations continued with a successful lunch attended by the Bishop, priest, parishioners, former CWL members, and past parishioners. It was a joyful day of faith, fellowship, and gratitude, enjoyed by all who attended.



Cheshire Home Annual Fete

Members of our league supporting the Cheshire Home Annual Fete held on 6 June 2026. Our ladies, once again, joyfully ran the cake table. The success was truly a community effort. One can only be grateful for the generosity shown by all.

CWL Tea for our Parishioners

Our ladies hosted a tea on 7 June 2026, to thank our parishioners for their wonderful support. The turnout was incredible and it was a blessing to spend the morning with the parishioners of Corpus Christi.



Monthly Meeting - 13 June 2026

At our monthly meeting on Saturday, 13 June, Fr. Henry treated the ladies to a cup of tea accompanied by delicious biscuits. It was a thoughtful gesture that was greatly appreciated and enjoyed by all.



Parish Tea Raffle Winner

A raffle for a delectable chocolate cake was held during our tea. One of our very own CWL member won and then generously gifted it to Corpus Christi's newest member. Our member said she felt he needed "cheering up". What a beautiful example of generosity in our parish and CWL.





Scarves knitted from donated wool and squares

The Knit-A-Thon 2026

Our league had a successful drive for wool and squares for Knit-A-Thon. Thanks to our parishioners' generosity, their donations of wool and knitted squares made these beautiful scarves possible.

Long Service Badge: 50 Years at Makhanda AGM

At the 68th Annual General Meeting of the PE Diocese Council on 14 June 2026, we congratulated Jenny Hammond on receiving her 50 years of service badge. Thank you Jenny for your dedication and service to the league.

You are a true blessing to our parish.



Youth Day March

Our CWL branch joined the march in honour of Youth Day. School children were encouraged to wear their school uniform.



Donation of blankets

Blankets were handed out to senior citizens of the Old Apostolic Church, Walmer Congregation.



SACRED HEART

In March we catered for three funerals. Our ladies did the Marion devotions during all three weekend masses during the month of March. A few of our members attended the World Day of Prayer at Mater Dei. Our branch had our retreat on the 14th March 2026. In April we sadly attended the Requiem Mass of Rose Carr, one of our auxiliary members. This, took place at Sacred Heart. Colette our branch secretary got married to Mathew Hutton on the 2nd May 2026.

Our branch celebrated our annual CWL mass as it is 65 years old this year. We handed out Mother's Day gift packs to the maternity wards at Dora Nginza and West End Clinics. Fortunately we could attend the WUWCO Day service at Mater Dei despite the bad weather. CWL Sacred Heart provided the delicious eats and coffee on the occasion..

In June we had soup kitchen duties to do. Our ladies made up gift bags for the homeless fathers that attended our soup kitchen. We knitted beanies, scarves and mittens for the less fortunate.

We continue to help St Kevin's and St James with soup ingredients. Our Ladies helped with the youth day celebrations that were held at our parish. We will be hosting our annual fundraising event [Golden oldies] on the 26th of June.



ST. MARY'S - GRAHAMSTOWN/MAKHANDA



On 12 April, our vice president Marilyn and Thomas Haywood celebrated their 40-year wedding anniversary.



Our secretary Varonique Sias graduated with an Advanced Diploma in Business Analysis in April at Rhodes University Grahamstown.



At the 30th Conference of the Catholic Women's League, the Plenary Assembly adopted several important resolutions, including Resolutions 7 and 9, which address the poor condition of public roads and the urgent need for safer school transport. In response to these resolutions, the National Executive Management Committee organised and led an advocacy march in Gqeberha (formerly Port Elizabeth) on 16 June 2026. The march called for safer school transport and improved road safety measures to protect children throughout the community. The ongoing reality prompted this initiative, as far too many young lives are placed at risk each day because of unsafe transport, deteriorating road infrastructure, and inadequate measures to safeguard learners travelling to and from school. Through this awareness campaign, the Catholic Women's League sought to highlight these critical concerns and appeal to the relevant authorities to take meaningful and lasting action in ensuring the safety and well-being of all schoolchildren.

my identity and we identified a program that has to do with the education of women.

"Since the substance and the content of issue 14 was educational, we were able to discover that though the elements of the program were somewhat different, they were all very relevant to the content we have issues with," Minkowski said, smiling.

Meanwhile, the Catholic Women's League of the National Management Committee marked World Day with a march from St. George's Cricketer Stadium to City Hall, calling for urgent reforms measures to school transport safety and urging tribute to children who have died in transport-related accidents.

The demonstration formed part of the organization's ongoing advocacy campaign, which leaders say follows repeated attempts to raise concern with the government that have not produced significant results.

CWU national president, Sheila Thyne said the march was intended to move the issue from written to verbal, and give public engagement.

She said the organization had done this through engaging the school community on scholar transport safety.

"We've written many letters to the government on this issue, and we've been getting no particular response, so we decided to do something practical. At our next conference in August next year in Gaborra, we want to have a debate about the issue and be able to report back and say, 'this is what we raised, and this is what we got.'"

It could be said, it could be small. I wasn't worried about that. The fact is we are doing something. We're taking 20, 30, maybe 50 people and saying, 'this is what we've done,' she said.

'Herald' Wednesday 12 June 2026

ew Brighton walk of one of several Bay events marking 50th

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• **By Margaret**
and
PHOTOGRAPH BY

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The Catholic Women's League marked 'Fourth Day' with a march to raise awareness about safe school transport and for busminibus accidents. The group, including children and adults, held signs, one of which said 'SAFETY'.

The Catholic Women's League marked 'Fourth Day' with a march to raise awareness about safe school transport and for busminibus accidents. The group, including children and adults, held signs, one of which said 'SAFETY'.

"I feel encouraged by this walk," Miss said, "and I hope events like this as we can speak about what is in our hearts."

"Look at this place, it shows that we do not lose ourselves. People around here could be proud of who we are."

At the park, winds are growing since the summer with parts of the government. Illegal dumping out the park and a broken fence allowing entry for people. Puntis said more needed to be done to make sure and to





News from the Diocese



Friday 1 May a few of our ladies attended two milestones of celebration. Fr. Thembaletu Mana celebrated his 20th priestly anniversary and his 50th birthday at Corpus Christi Catholic Church, Gqeberha. Many years of God's grace and mercy upon Fr. Thembaletu in his priestly ministry.

On Mother's Day, Sunday 10 May, Marily Haywood (vice president), Gail Jeggels (treasurer), Bernardine Patrick (news correspondent), Marian Jacobs, Maralese Williams and Ellerise Duiker received their 10 years' service badge. Our badges were blessed by Deacon Berenisco at St. Mary's Grahamstown.



CHURCH OF RESURRECTION

The CWL of the Church of Resurrection hosted a High Tea on 9 May 2026. The event was held at the Sacred Heart Church Hall in Kabega, the proceeds of this memorable event will go towards renovating a room at parish which will be used for either meetings and/or as a catechism classroom.

The speakers at this prestigious event were the Deputy Master of the Court, Simone Jonkers, Fikile Sihuma and Dr Jam-jam.

Each table selected their best dressed lady and all the selected ladies received prizes and certificates as tokens of appreciation. The overall winner was Bobo Mvinjelwa.

Our members also attended both the AGM in Makhanda and took part in the march organised by the National team to demand better roads and safer scholar transport.



MATER DEI

Women's World Day of Prayer

On 6 March 2026, the CWL ladies hosted the annual Women's World Day of Prayer, themed "Come, I Will Give You Rest" (Matthew 11:28-30). This year's programme focused on the women of Nigeria, with readers sharing moving reflections on the burdens of oppression, religious persecution, and poverty, while highlighting the hope and strength found through faith in Christ.

The gathering was further enriched by a heartfelt presentation from Dr Febizola, a Nigerian-born guest speaker, who shared her personal experiences and offered valuable insight into the lives of women in Nigeria. It was a beautiful morning of prayer, praise, worship and fellowship as women united in faith.



Visit to Gelvan Park Frail Aged Home and Tree-planting initiative

On Saturday, 25 April 2026, our members visited the Gelvan Park Frail Aged Home as part of the League's outreach programme. The morning was spent in fellowship with the residents, sharing prayer, music and refreshments, while clothing donations were also presented to the home.



A tree was planted during the visit as a symbol of hope, growth and our commitment to caring for God's creation. During this time, the branch also received five indigenous trees through the DCWL environmental stewardship initiative. The remaining trees will be planted at suitable locations within our parish community, continuing our commitment to caring for the environment.

CWL Workshop

On 16 May 2026, our ladies attended a CWL Workshop presented by Fr Luvuyo. The workshop focused on spiritual formation, leadership development and strengthening the mission of the League. It provided an opportunity for learning, fellowship and encouragement, equipping members to continue serving the Church and community with renewed commitment.



VICARITE OF INGWAVUMA

On the 30th of May 2026 the E Kwa-Msane parish went to NGOME MARIAN SHRINE. It was a day fully dedicated to praying. Our day was divided into three sessions firstly we dedicated the 1st hour to prayer which consisted of a personal prayer, rosary and confession.

Secondly, we went to the holy source of water where the anointing of the sick took place. Fr Ngubane officiated as we took the Way of the Cross and had our closing Mass.





On the 27th of June we visited one of our CWL member and her family. We donated a well earned food parcel. This showed our love and consideration of our member and her family.



BLESSED JOSEPH GERARD

On the 27th June 2026, we celebrated our one-year anniversary as CWL of Kwa-Msane Parish where we had a Thanksgiving Mass which was celebrated by Fr Ngubane and Br Langa Dlamini. The day ended with a delicious lunch for our CWL members.



On 12th April, the branch had its annual Easter eggs distribution

JOHANNESBURG

ST FRANCES DE SALES

REGINA MUNDI



Branch knitted blankets for the National Caritas initiative



Members surprised the children and the elderly with Easter eggs

OUR LADY OF MERCY

The branch was involved in various charity drives in May, among others was a lunch for Religious Sisters, Community caregivers, the elderly, and underprivileged families in their parish.

ST MARTIN DE PORRES



Branch held its AGM on 11th April 2026



News from the Diocese



ST JOSEPH



Branch held their retreat with Fr Fusi Khumalo celebrating Mass

ST MICHAEL

Branch held its AGM on 11th April



SOUTH WEST RAND REGION



The South West Rand Region held their AGM and celebrated WUWCO Mass on the 16th May

It was blankets galore as the different regions of Johannesburg donated their blankets to the National Caritas Initiative. It is evident that the ladies made these pretty knits with love. Some branches donated wool and knitting needles.



Radio Veritas Fun Share Relay - 2026 Champions

The Johannesburg and Pretoria Diocese retained the Radio Fun Share Relay Championship by raising the highest amount of money. The trophy was awarded on the 4th of June. We greatly appreciate the support of all our regions and other dioceses.



ST PETER CLAVER



The parish held its annual branch workshop on 14th March

BLESSED ISIDORE BAKANJA



Visited the homeless and offered them food and encouragement

1 Peter 3:3-4

"Your beauty should not come from outward adornment, such as elaborate hairstyles and the wearing of gold jewelry or fine clothes. Rather, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God's sight."

AMOF JOZI 2026

The CWL Adoption & Child Protection Organization and Mary Immaculate Queen Preschool exhibited their services at the AMOF on 20th June. They also sold wools-rolls to raise funds.



Bid dag vir Katolieke Vroue. (WUCWO Prayer day)

Diocesan AGM

Members braved the cold weather to attend the Diocesan AGM on the 27th of June at Regina Mundi Catholic Church in Rockville, Soweto. It was preceded by Benediction led by Rev Fr Shiya, The Regional Chaplain of South West Region. Fr Cletus, the Regional Chaplain of East Rand Region, joined the AGM. The attendance was pleasing.



Olifantrivierstreek: Koekenaap Tak

KEIMOE-UPINGTON

Op 21 Maart het die Upington-tak saam met kloostersusters bome geplant by die Ko-Katedraal en omliggende sale. Die projek het vinnig regoor die bisdom versprei.

Op 3-4 Mei is die Keimoes-Upington bisdomraad ingeseën. Biskop Edward Risi het die vrouens aangemoedig om voort te gaan met hul werksaamhede en ook saam met die parogie priesters te werk aan die Jaar van Geloof se projekte. Die Wêreld biddag vir Katolieke vroue het afgekom by alle takke.

Gasprekers het vroue aangemoedig om Vrouebond-takke te stig. Die Wêreldbiddag is in verskeie streke gevier met temas oor gesin, vergifnis en gebed. Introspeksie en vrede in gesinne is beklemtoon. Oranjerivierstreek het op 7 Mei vergader.

Olifantrivierstreek het gasprekers gehad wat gepraat het oor die huwelik en die gesinslewe en vergewingsgesindheid.

Boesmanland: Aggeneyns het deur middel van fotos die gesinslewe uitgebeeld. In Pella het hulle met mekaar hulle eie lewens ervarings gedeel. Poffadder tak het introspeksie gehou en afgesluit met massa gebedes.

Namakwastreek se groep besprekings het onderandere gelui oor, kommunikasie, vergifnis vra, nederigheid en om te luister.

Oranjerivierstreek het vrouens gebid vir die huwelikslewe. Keimoes tak het behandel 'n resep vir 'n geseënde familie. Gebedsvrouens het saamgestem was dat almal 'n behoefde het na vrede binne die gesin. Silwerkollekes was opgeneem.

Oranjerivierstreek het op 07 Mei 2025 Streeksvergadering gehad en 'n groepfoto met die parogie priester gedeel.

Inseëning van die Keimoes - Upington bisdomraad 03 Mei 2025



Lutzville Tak



Namakwaland streek



Oranjerivierstreek: Prieska tak



News from the Diocese



KIMBERLEY

Charity and Work Events

A successful networking opportunity was established in support of the Caritas Project. The ladies in the Diocese contributed wool and some knitted blankets in support of the Wool Collection Drive leading up to the 67 blankets for Nelson Mandela Day. Our theme, encouraged by the Diocesan Chaplain is "Hands to serve and Hearts to Love". The Diocese was acknowledged and commended for its outstanding participation in this initiative.



OUR LADY OF FATIMA

Our Lady of Fatima Parish ladies served a warm and hearty meal to the community for the entire month of June.



ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL

Easter Egg Project

In conjunction with the CWA (Catholic Women's Association), the ladies provided all the children in the parish with party packets over the Easter Season. The remaining packets were donated to the children at the Helen Bishop Home.



ST CHARLES - LWANGA

The branch is currently assisting with the building of a secure structure at Holpan. They will celebrate Sunday Mass in the new structure. Building material was donated by Our Lady of Fatima Shrine. Volunteers in the area assisted in the erecting of the building. The CWL ladies provided meals for the day.



Kimberley Deanery Fun Day

On the 30th of May, the ladies of the Kimberley Deanery were all hard at work, at a fund raising event, selling a variety of foods.



ST PETER THE APOSTLE

Father's Day and Mother's Day

Both days were celebrated, one on the 10th May and the other on the 21st June with the parishioners. This made them feel special in providing the mothers with gifts and fathers with a hearty meal. The Priest, Rev. Fr. M Motshwari was also provided with a gift.



Caring and Sick Visits

Our Lady Of Fatima Shrine - The ladies visited one of the oldest members of the congregation, Ms Makhadu on 28th April, and prayed the Rosary with her.



On Wednesday, 3rd of June 2026, the ladies continued to keep their oath with regards to the Cancer Awareness Campaign, in visiting and caring for the patients in the Oncology Unit, at the Robert Mangaliso Sobukwe Hospital. Our members donated toiletries to all present especially to those from out of town. The ladies also visited one of their members and there they prayed the Rosary together.





News from the Diocese



Membership growth and long service

On 03 May 2026 the branch enrolled a new member, Ms Eunice Coetzee and awarded two long service badges : Ms Pulane Louw - 30 years and Ms Desiree Britz - 10 years. One member, Ms Baby Khuzwayo, was reinstated into the sodality and also blessed. The service was conducted by the Parish Priest, Rev. Fr. M. Motshwari, who is also the Diocesan Chaplain.



Farewell Function

St Mary's Cathedral was bidding farewell to one of their members, who went on retirement and now returning to Pretoria. Ms Martina Masanabo served the League with dedication and commitment during her time as member of the League. May God continue to bless her for her enthusiasm towards the growth of the Sodality.



WUCWO Day

The Catholic Women's League jointly celebrated this day with the St Ann Sodality and the Daughters of St Ann (previously known as St Theresa) on 16th May at Our Lady of Fatima Shrine. The Chairperson of the Deanery gave a brief explanation of what WUCWO is about and its Mission. The Parish Priest, Rev. Fr. M Koloj, in his sermon, encouraged us to know our worth and not compare ourselves with men as we are created in a unique way.



KROONSTAD



The diocesan retreat was hosted in Welkom this year at Mofumahali wa Rosari. The two day retreat was hosted by Rev Fr Rasello and Rev Fr Mifi.





News from the Diocese



Charity work

The diocese donated toiletries to the parish/ branch (Mofumahali wa Rosari) which hosted the annual diocesan retreat.



These toiletries were donated to two local schools around Thabong, Welkom- Mokgwabong and Hani Park Primary Schools

WUWCO Day

WUWCO day was held at St Peter's in Kroonstad, Maokeng. It was celebrated by all the CWL members and St Anne's. Mass was celebrated by Rev Fr Rasello and Rev Fr Mthumkhulu. The CWL Diocese then held their Annual General Meeting after Mass.



BISHOP AMOS MASEMOLA ORDINATION

The CWL ladies of the diocese were responsible for cooking the Sunday lunch at the ordination of Bishop Amos and others who attended. The ordination was hosted in Kroonstad at St Patrick Cathedral in May 2026.



The new Catholic Women's League website is loaded!!!

www.cwlsa.org.za

Ships don't sink because of the water around them. Ships sink because of the water that gets inside them. Don't let what's happening around you Get inside you and weigh you down. Stay anchored in faith, guarded in heart, And steady through the storm.



News from the Diocese



MANZINI

CWL Manzini Diocesan Retreat

St. Joseph's Mission hosted the CWL members who had gone to the Spiritual Centre for spiritual upliftment and prayer in March. The newly ordained Deacon Siyabonga Ndwandwe shared a moving talk on Mary as the patron saint of CWL. Fr. Anthony Muinde, the spiritual adviser of the sodality, celebrated Mass after many activities including the Rosary and personal reflections at the sacred garden of the Grotto.



Members pose for a picture after Mass



Rosary Garden: Members pose for pictures after praying the rosary and after personal reflection

Manzini Diocesan Mini Conference

The Manzini Diocesan executive committee hosted parish executives from the different parishes on the 2nd of May. The deliberations were focused on the feedback of activities for the first quarter of the year, as well as the upcoming activities of the Diocese and the much anticipated Gzeberha National Conference in 2027.



Parish Executives in attendance at the Mini conference

ST. MARY'S

ST. MARY'S WELCOMES 5 NEW MEMBERS INTO CWL

The CWL Diocesan president, the executive committee members and members from different parishes attended Mass at St. Mary's to induct 5 new members into the CWL in March. Mass was Celebrated by Fr. Zweli Ngwenya.



CWL St. Mary's Parish welcomed 5 new members, Fr. Ngwenya, the CWL Manzini Diocese president Sindi Dlamini and CWL members after Mass

SACRED HEART

CWL Sacred Heart donates

CWL Sacred Heart members visited Nhlanguano Correctional Services in March 2026. The CWL representatives handed over toiletries to officials to distribute to inmates. Furthermore CWL donated a bed and bedding, to the parish priest, to be used for visitors. The parish priest also received some clothing items on his birthday in May.



Sacred Heart hand over toiletries to officials at Nhlanguano Correctional Services facility

OUR LADY OF ASSUMPTION

Our Lady of Assumption Mother's Day fundraising dinner

Packed to the rafters in support of CWL Mother's Day on 9 May 2026, the OLOA parish hosted a fundraising dinner at the St. Theresa's High School hall with a seating capacity of close to 300.

There was not an empty seat as members from all the parishes in the Manzini Diocese attended the dinner. The proceeds would supplement the budget for activities of charity, in the OLOA parish. It was a day of capacity building for women of all ages, performances from notable faces as well as prizes galore for lucky ticket winners.



Packed to the rafters: attendees listening to one of the speeches at the St. Theresa's High School hall

In CWL colours:
Members of
CWL attending
the dinner
on the 9th of
May



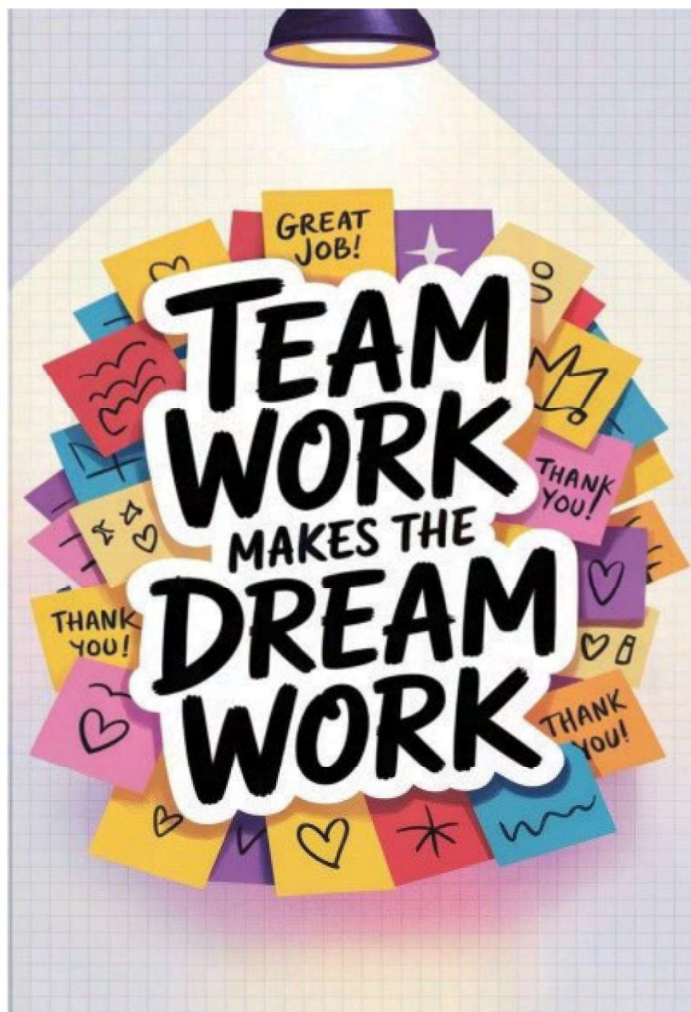
MATER DOLOROSA MBABANE

Mater Dolorosa Mbabane parish fundraising

On Mother's Day the 10th of May, the CWL held a successful cake sale and they continued fundraising for the whole of May. The fundraising supplements members' contributions to continue their charity projects. They have quarterly visits to the Selulasandla Orphanage in Mbabane, where food and clothing items are usually donated to the children and staff. CWL members also take time to pray, play and talk to the children to motivate them during these visits.



MDC Fundraising: Cake sale after Mass by CWL members



MARIANNHILL

Diocese Annual General Meeting

On 21 March 2026, all branches converged for the Diocesan Annual General Meeting (AGM). In attendance was the Rev. Bishop Neil Frank (Diocesan Bishop), Fr. C. Mzizi (Diocesan CWL Chaplain) and Mr. T. Fakazi (DPC Chairperson). At this meeting the League presented the Bishop with a cheque of R30 000 towards the Diocesan Seminarian Fund.



A donation of R3 500 was also made towards the roof repairs at the MaryHelp branch where disaster befell when the church roof was blown away due to heavy winds in December 2025.



WUWCO Day Commemoration

The day was commemorated on two separate days to accommodate as many ladies, within the diocese, as far as possible. On both occasions the WUWCO prayers were recited and all gathered, reflected on the call to be peacemakers within their families, communities and the world at large.



WUWCO Day (13 May 2026) at Our Lady of Grace branch



WUWCO Day (16 May 2026) at St Xavier branch

ST JOSEPH'S CATHEDRAL

Ladies of the branch as well as other branches gathered at the Marianwood Nature Reserve for the Prayer Hike. Stations of the Cross were observed and the day concluded with a Holy Mass. This hike was a meaningful blend of faith and nature, leaving the participants spiritually refreshed.



Uganda Martyrs

On their own accord, the ladies of the branch have assumed the responsibility of preparing the sanctuary for all the celebrations of the Sunday Holy Mass services. This will ensure that it is orderly and properly arranged so that everything reflects reverence for the celebration of the Eucharist. This is championed by 2 of the honorary life members of the branch, Sthandwa Msomi (83) and Hillaria Zungu (72). They ensure that the League fulfils this responsibility without fail. Their dedication continues to inspire all and leaves a valuable lesson for all - one is never too old to do the Lord's work.



Floral décor arranged for the Easter service

Act of Compassion - Collective project

With the winter fast approaching, the ladies of the 7 branches agreed to donate school jerseys to the boy children housed at the Streetwise Orphanage Home on 25 April 2026. This annual project always brings joy and happiness to the children.

ST WENDOLINS

The ladies of the branch forgo the privilege of being celebrated on Mothers' Day (10 May 2026) and chose to celebrate all the mothers within the branch on that day. This touching gesture was appreciated as there are many mothers, who for various reasons, no longer get to be remembered nor celebrated on this day.



Still in the month of May, the ladies celebrated the birthday of their Parish Priest, Fr. M. Khwela, on 28 May 2026 where we gave him a voucher and the greatest gift - prayer over his life.

ST. ALPHONSE

On 26 April 2026, the branch visited a nearby Canaan Old Age Home bearing gifts for the 49 residents and 6 staff members. Each was presented with a supply of toiletries. This was warmly welcomed as the Sister-in-Charge confirmed the need of donations to cater for the requirements of the elderly people. This heartwarming visit ended in prayer led by one of the elderly residents.



ST MAGDALENE'S



On 30 May 2026, the branch held its annual revival where 1 new member was enrolled. Ladies from nearby branches were part of this spiritual event. It is encouraging to see the steady growth of this branch



News from the Diocese



ST ANNE'S

3 new members were enrolled on 03 May 2026. Fr. C. Mzizi, the Parish Priest and the Diocesan CWL Chaplain were beaming with joy seeing the growth of the branch which was launched not so long ago.

OUDTSHOORN BISDOM

In die Bisdom van Oudtshoorn het die breinaalde behoorlik geklik soos die dames aan die brei was, om die breiprojek te ondersteun. Kleurvolle komberse is geskep.

St Maria Gorreti tak se dames het 'n uitreik projek gehad waar klere en beddegoed aan behoeftiges op die omringende plase van Worcester uit gegee is.

St Konrad tak het 'n suksesvolle funksie gehad. Snoekbraai, slaaie en roosterbrood om fondse in te samel.

St Theresa se vroue besoek gereeld hul bejaardes. Die dames bid rosekrans by rustende lede. Hul boom is ook geplant. Op Sondag, 14 Junie 2026 is twee lede na 'n lang tyd by St Annes op Blanko, op geneem in die Bond.

Al die takke is aktief en woon byeenkomste by.



Members of the CWL with the Pretoria Diocesan President, Ms Lemao Modise



CWL procession during WUCWO event, Lead by the Diocesan President



Our previous Diocesan president, Ms Nkuli Shinga and current President Ms Lemao Modise



ST MARIA GORRETI



St Maria Goretti betrokke by die omringende plaas gemeenskappe

PRETORIA

What have the Women of quality been up to?



WUCWO

On 30 May 2026, WUCWO was hosted in the Archdiocese of Pretoria by St Annes and CWL ladies. The day was filled with unity in prayer, 'Bearers of Peace and Hope' being the theme for the day.

Ladies honoured the day with their CWL attire and African attire. They embraced prayers for our continent. Donations of non-perishable items were gifted at the altar.

Radio Veritas Fun Share Relay 2026

Congratulations to all our sisters across all dioceses, who contributed to achieving this milestone. CWL President ,Pretoria Archdiocese, Ms Lemao Modise, CWL News Correspondence Johannesburg Archdiocese, Ms Thoko Khoali, CWL Member Busisiwe, Spiritual planning team from Archdiocese of Pretoria.



Congratulation to the Catholic Women's League. "We are the Champions" of the Radio Veritas Fun Share Relay 2026



Celebration moments



2026 RADIO VERITAS FUN SHARE RESULTS

TOTAL MON ALLOCATED AMOUNT: R 12 000.00

The amount was divided into 4 and allocated to all 4 clubs, therefore each club received a total of R 3 000.00

2026 FUN SHARE RESULTS:

Position	Club	Amount without non allocated	Amount with non allocated
1	St Anne's	R 10 000.00	R 11 000.00
2	CWL and Sacred Heart	R 10 000.00	R 11 000.00
3	St Anne's	R 10 000.00	R 11 000.00
4	CWL	R 10 000.00	R 11 000.00
TOTAL		R 40 000.00	R 44 000.00



Performance and donations contributed from the Fun share results



News from the Diocese



Recognition to our Sisters - Sizanani Board member

PROUD MOMENT: On behalf of all members of the in the Diocese, We extend heartfelt congratulations to Dr Nomsa Mahlangu-Mathonsi from the Church of the Beatitudes Branch on her appointment to the Sizanani Children's Home Board.

Sizanani Children's Home remains a key beneficiary of the support and outreach initiatives of the Diocese. It is therefore especially meaningful to see one of our own women stepping forward to serve in this important role. Though still under induction and not yet a full member of the CWL, Dr Mahlangu-Mathonsi has already demonstrated exceptional commitment, leadership, and willingness to serve others.

She has taken it upon herself to lead by example, embodying the spirit, values, and mission of the CWL through humility, compassion, and selfless service. May God grant her wisdom, strength, and grace as she undertakes this responsibility.



Diocesan Council Visit to The Cathedral branch

The representatives of the Diocesan council gathered to visit The CWL Cathedral branch and pray together. The Parish priest Fr Sefiri extended his welcome and appreciation to the ladies who attended.



CHURCH OF THE PRESENTATION

Montana branch: 23 March 2026 - Lenten Walk

On the 23 March the Montana CWL branch held an annual Lenten walk, supported by both parishioners and non parishioners. Structured around the pillars of Loyalty, Charity, and Work, the plan commits to the continuous raising of funds, and serves as a fun day for families and friends. The branch prepared food stalls and medals were awarded to everyone who participated in the contest. Father Patric Rakeketsi opened the walk with prayer and blessing of everyone attending and he blessed the medals.



Pretoria Archdiocesan CWL Council extended Meeting

A great day it was! CWL Archdiocese of Pretoria hosted its Diocesan council extended meeting on 28th March 2026. All the CWL Parish executive members attended and this was hosted at Lynnwood Parish. It was a productive day of sharing and finding solutions on a way forward. Thank you to our CWL Exco and our Chaplain Fr Dladla.



Exco members leading the meeting together with the CWL Chaplain, Fr Dladla



Branch leaders taken through the year plan for the diocese and the alignment of the strategy. All issues and challenges that branches are facing were discussed. Clarity on each department (Secretariat office, branch President, News correspondent, Treasurer office) role was discussed and a way forward was reached. It was a productive meeting indeed.



Passover Dinner - 31 March 2026

On 31 March 2026, the CWL Montana Branch had its annual Passover dinner, a Jewish event that was led by Fr. Patrick Rakeketsi. A step by step programme with guided contemplation, the attendees were taught the significance of the meal that was served. The dinner served as essentially the "celebration to commemorate biblical stories of Exodus", providing profound teachings and emphasis of themes of freedom, redemption and the birth of Jewish nationhood". This event reaffirmed the branch's commitment and team spirit.





News from the Diocese



1000 Hail Marys - 16 May 2026

We hosted our annual "1000 Hail Marys". It is a prayer day dedicated to honour and celebrate our mother Mary. The aim of the event is to provide spiritual growth and healing for everyone attending.



SAINT JOHN FISCHER - LYNNWOOD

On Tuesday, 28 April, members of the CWL gathered at the home of Gogo Prisca Molutsi Mokhokong to pray the Rosary and share tea in celebration of her 96th birthday. Gogo Prisca is the oldest member of the CWL in our parish. Despite her age, she remains remarkably active and continues to attend most parish meetings and functions. She carries a wealth of wisdom and experience, inspiring and encouraging us to remain steadfast in our faith, service, and commitment to the Church.



On 9 May, the CWL prepared Mother's Day gifts for the women of the parish. These small tokens of appreciation were a way of recognising and celebrating the love, care, sacrifices, and invaluable contributions of mothers and women within their families and communities.

As part of our service to the parish community, we prepare and serve tea to bereaved family members during funerals. This picture was taken at one such occasion on the 16th of May.



On 13 May, a group of CWL ladies visited Kungwini to donate beanies for children in need. As part of our ongoing outreach program, we also support the community by providing monthly food parcels.

ST COLUMBA'S - CAPITAL PARK

Appreciation for the Sisters of Mercy

The Sisters of Mercy have dedicated themselves to nurturing young minds through Religious Education, Biblical teachings, Catechism, and holistic education at IONA Convent School. Their commitment to the spiritual and educational development of children continues to make a lasting impact on our community.

On 31 May, members of the Catholic Women's League (CWL) spent a meaningful morning with the Sisters of Mercy. As a gesture of appreciation and care during the winter season, we presented them with warm socks as gifts.



Sr Colleen, Sr Majela, Sr Mavis, and Sr Marilyn, Justina Estavo, Lizzy Nukere, Dineo Crisp, and Akhona Mbande

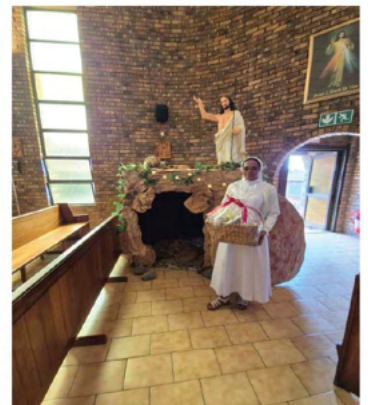
Mother's Day Fundraising Raffle

Our Mother's Day the Fundraising Raffle was a wonderful success. We congratulate our lucky winners: 1st Prize: R1,500 Spar Voucher - Ms. Langanani Mashamba. By your generosity you help support the work and activities of our parish community.



OUR LADY OF THE SACRED HEART - MIDRAND

During Easter the branch had a Fundraising Easter Raffle. The draw was on Easter Sunday and the lovely prize full of chocolate goodies was won by one of the Nuns at the church.



The new Catholic Women's League website is loaded!!!

www.cwlsa.org.za



News from the Diocese



In support of the Caritas drive, the branch had a sanitary pads drive. The box of sanitary pads was handed over on the 25th April.



Mothers' day

Mothers' day was full of smiles and gratitude when the 10 Nuns, at the church convent, were gifted with boxes of chocolate.



ST AUGUSTINE - SILVERTON

Celebrating parishioner's birthday's certainly marks the passage of time. The parish expresses gratitude for another year of life. Prayer group meetings provide a vital space for worship, mutual support, and spiritual growth. It deepens spiritual connection by bringing people together to celebrate answered prayers, and to support one another.



ST CHARLES LWANGA - SOSHANGUVE

Palm Sunday Celebrations

Palm Sunday was a truly vibrant and fruitful occasion at St Charles Lwanga Parish. Members of the Catholic Women's League (CWL) proudly joined the drum majorettes parade, which began at the local store and concluded at the church premises. The joyful procession set the tone for the day's spiritual activities. All sodalities, including CWL, participated reverently in the prayers at each station, creating a powerful sense of unity and devotion across the parish community.



CWL Feeding Initiative

In a spirit of service and compassion, the CWL, together with other sodalities, organized a special initiative to feed the entire congregation after Mass. This thoughtful gesture was especially appreciated by the elderly, as Palm Sunday Mass tends to be longer than usual. Volunteers worked tirelessly to prepare and wrap hundreds of sandwiches - neatly packed and ready for distribution - ensuring that everyone could share in fellowship and refreshment. The sight of tables filled with food was a testament to the parish's commitment of caring for one another and living out the Gospel through action.



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST - PRETORIA NORTH

St. John the Baptist ladies hard at work during their monthly fundraising activities held during February, March and May 2026. Our former DC President Ms. Nkuli Shinga graced our fundraising activity in support of us.



St. John the Baptist ladies from Pretoria North graced the occasion and attended the well-organized W Day of Prayer hosted by Zwavelpoort on Saturday 21st March 2026.



Ms. MmaMosadipuo Mogale, Ms. Queen Lekota, Ms. Itumeleng Ganyane (DC Deputy President) Ms. Daphney Locke, Mme Sheila Mafole, Ms. Bonang Mafisa and Ms. Lerato Keetse

Pretoria North CWL executive members attended a very informative DC extended meeting that was held on Saturday 28 March, hosted by Lyttleton. President, Ms. Ntombizodwa Lekabe. She was accompanied by her team, treasurer, (next to the president) Ms. Seipati Rasetsoke, deputy Secretary Ms. Granny Leketi, News correspondent Ms. Mary Mothupi and the Secretary Ms. Lhiwe Lippa.



The CWL and Caritas wool drive

The wool drive was well supported at St. John the Baptist Pretoria North. The Parishioners and members of different sodalities supported the initiative by donating wool and blankets as requested. Well done ladies for your hard work.



Once again, our ever-committed president, Ms. Ntombizodwa Lekabe represented us well during the Radio Veritas 2026 Fun share relay that was held on Wednesday 25th March.



ST JOSEPH - EERSTERUST BRANCH

The CWL Eersterust Branch held its first fundraising event of 2026, a "Boerie roll & Soft Drink" sale, at the home of Anita Noah. Every new year, we strive to begin on a clean slate, and this includes rebuilding our funds when they have been depleted.

On 1 May, a cold, rainy, cloudy day, we spent many hours serving our community by giving our time, talents, and helping hands at the annual fête of our local hospice.

After a long but rewarding day, the ladies stepped out to paint the town "red" at our elegant/fun "all-black" fundraising event. It was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate, connect, and support a cause close to our hearts.



**"I can do all this through him
who gives me strength"**

Winter Retreat Theme: Sisterhood

Winter is often regarded as a season when life slows down. The land becomes barren and dry, and the harsh conditions remind us that nature itself enters a period of rest.

With this spirit of reflection and renewal, we embarked on a spiritual journey through a retreat centred on the theme "Sisterhood." Led by our newly ordained Deacon Vivian Afrikaner.

During the retreat, we reflected on the Scriptures: Ecclesiastes 4:9-12, 1 Corinthians 12:7 and Psalm 91. Our reflections led us back to Genesis, where we explored the creation of Eve and God's intention for unity, companionship, and mutual support.

Key themes that emerged included:

- The power and impact of our words and actions.
- Equality and Radical Unity in Christ.
- Answering the call to guide and inspire the next generation.
- Remaining steadfast and keeping the faith in all seasons of life.



ZWAVELPOORT

On 18 April 2026, CWL Zwavelpoort hosted a successful fundraising High Tea event at Ndlovu Lodge. The event was organized to raise funds for the purchasing of sanitary pads and socks for underprivileged learners, at a school around the East of Pretoria.

The fundraiser received tremendous support from CWL sisters from neighboring branches, as well as parishioners from the Church of the Beatitudes, whose generosity and participation contributed significantly to the event's success.

A variety of stalls offered an assortment of items for sale, creating an enjoyable and vibrant atmosphere. In addition, several generous donations were received for auction, adding excitement to the day while further enhancing the fundraising efforts.



On 19 April 2026, five members of the CWL Zwavelpoort branch celebrated a significant milestone - their 10-year anniversary of dedicated service and commitment to the Catholic Women's League.

This special occasion provided an opportunity to recognise and honour their years of faithful participation, contribution, and support within the organisation. Their dedication continues to inspire fellow members and strengthen the mission and fellowship of the CWL.





On the 8th of March 2026 CWL Soshanguve (St Anthony and St Charles Lwanga) did the out reach at St Mary Magdelene. It was a very fruitful day. May the spirit of our Mother Mary continue to live.

15 April 2026 CWL shared Easter eggs with parishioners. May we encourage each other to share the little you have with others.



02 May 2026 It was a day full of laughter, joy and love. Thank you all for supporting the CWL fundraising initiative

ST CAMILLUS - HAMMANSKRAAL

Mother's Day celebration

The CWL ladies hosted the ladies of their parish to celebrate Mother's day on 10th May 2026. They shared a generous gift with all the ladies while sharing a cup of tea/coffee and baked items. CWL branch president, Ms Hilda Tema, shared some motivational words to all mothers.



Celebrating closing of the month of the Rosary

The CWL ladies and Immaculate conception of Mary ladies shared the closing of the month of the Rosary, with special prayers and the celebration of our Mother Mary.



Are you planning on attending the Catholic Women's League AGM in August 2027 in Gqeberha (Port Elizabeth)?

Consider the following: here you'll find food for thought as you make your final decision



Reasons to Attend the CWL AGM

- 1. Exercise Your Right to Vote**
The AGM gives diocese/members the opportunity to vote on important decisions, policies and constitutional changes.
- 2. Have Your Voice Heard**
Members can raise concerns, share ideas, and make suggestions that help shape the future direction of the CWL.
- 3. Hold Leadership Accountable**
The AGM provides an opportunity to review reports from the executive committee, ensuring transparency and accountability in leadership and financial management.
- 4. Receive Important Updates**
Members are informed about the organization's achievements, challenges, strategic plans, and activities since the previous AGM.
- 5. Help Shape the Future**
Decisions made at the AGM influence the organization's priorities, programmes, and long-term goals for the next three years.
- 6. Strengthen Unity and Fellowship**
The AGM brings members together from different diocese, fostering camaraderie, mutual support, and a shared commitment to the organization's mission.
- 7. Represent Your Branch**
By attending, members ensure that the views, concerns, and interests of their local diocese are represented during important discussions and decisions.
- 8. Learn About Financial Stewardship**
Members receive audited financial reports and gain confidence that the organization's resources are being managed responsibly.
- 9. Develop Leadership and Knowledge**
Attending the AGM helps members better understand the organization's governance, encourages active participation, and prepares future leaders.
- 10. Demonstrate Commitment to the Organization**
Attendance reflects dedication to the values, mission, and continued success of the CWL, ensuring it remains strong and effective for current and future members.



Obituaries

"Rest in peace faithful servant of God"



Moselentje Julia Morabe
ALI WAL NORTH

12 December 1938 - 23 January 2025

An auxiliary member for 10 years. A lovely mother who was so loyal to the league and never hesitated to assist others in whatever way she could. We will remember Moelentje as a true example of faith and courage. May her soul rest in peace.



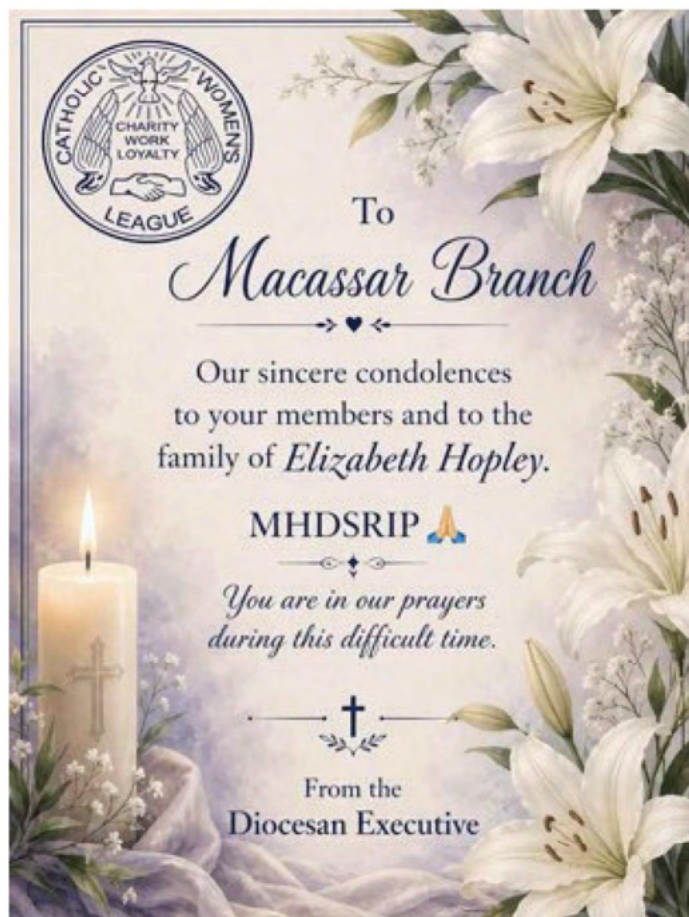
Mrs Mmalebohang Domínica Seeko
ALI WAL NORTH

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of Mmalebohang D. Seeko on 14th May 2025. Dominica had been a highly active member of the league since 1996 until 2025 and served as our hardworking Vice President for many years. She served the CWL for 30 years. May she rest in eternal peace.



"Nkgono" Pinkie Khosi
ALI WAL NORTH

"Nkgono" Pinkie died peacefully at Aliwal North Hospital on the 12th December 2025 at the age of 76. Nkgono was a member of the CWL for 30 years and lived our motto, charity work and loyalty to the fullest. Well done, Nkgono, now gone to your eternal reward. She worked as an outreach Professional Nurse in Walter Sisulu Local Service Area.



Marlene Abrahams
DURBAN

29 January 1945 - 09 March 2026



Gloria Glen
DURBAN

21 March 1929 - 14 March 2026



Christiane Mulcahy
EMPANGENI

She joined our Empangeni CWL Branch in 1996. She's been a Secretary and a Treasurer in the branch and a Treasurer to the Eshowe Diocese twice. We, the CWL ladies, are going to miss her tremendously as she left us so suddenly. Good bye Christiane and rest in peace.



Obituaries

"Rest in peace faithful servant of God"



**Kakanyetso Virginia Boikang
KIMBERLEY**

A dedicated, hardworking and loyal member of the MogoJane branch in the Kuruman Diocese passed away recently. May her dear soul rest in eternal peace.



**Nondumiso Purity Ncube
MARIANHILL**

Nondumiso, a full member of the Branch, joined the League on 21 June 2021 and was called to rest on 22 June 2026 - five days before her birthday. May her soul rest in peace and may the perpetual light shine upon her



**Victoria S. Magagula
MANZINI**

April 2026



**Ellen Geduld
OUDTSHOORN**

1975 - 2026

Sy was een van die stigterslede van die KVB tak in Blanko.

Sy het ook op die KVB raad gedien. Sy het vir jare as kategeet gedien.

Mag haar siel in vrede rus.



**Ntombizennina Dlamini
MANZINI**

May 2026



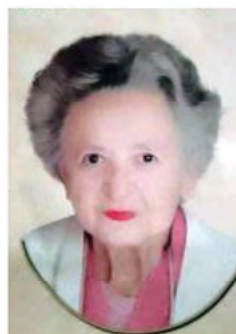
**JUDGE TLHAPI
PRETORIA**

Judge Vuyelwa Vivienne TLHAPI joined the CWL Cathedral Branch as a member in 2014. Her membership was one of consistent and selfless service to the Lord. She received her ten-year badge of service and a CWL Honorary Lifetime membership in 2024. She was called home on 21 August 2025. She will be forever missed by her Cathedral Branch sisters. May her departed soul rest in perpetual peace.



**Ingrid Zanele "Girly" Mtshali
MARIANHILL**

An ever smiling, warm hearted and dedicated CWL member - Girly sadly passed away in January 2025. May her soul rest in peace and may the perpetual light shine upon her.



**Ruzica (Rose) Car
PORT ELIZABETH**

Ruzica Car or Rose, the name by which we all knew her, was born on 20th November 1936 in Croatia. Rose joined the Catholic Women's League in 1965. She was a longstanding member at the Sacred Heart branch in Port Elizabeth.

She was a devoted and dedicated woman of fervent prayer and faith. She was the epitome of a Catholic woman. Rose went to be with her Lord and Saviour on 4 April 2026 who surely welcomed her into His bosom with the words, "Well done, good and faithful servant!" After 61 years of dedicated, fruitful service to the League, Rose Car, we salute you. May her soul rest in eternal joy and peace.



**Dudu Dupree
MARIANHILL**

Mam Dudu was a faithful and participative CWL member who sadly passed away on 28 May 2025. May her soul rest in peace and may the perpetual light shine upon her.



Obituaries

"Rest in peace faithful servant of God"



Rose Strause
PORT ELIZABETH

We were deeply saddened by the passing of one of our Auxiliary members, Rose Strause who was called home on 11 March.

Rose was a member for 40 years. May she rest in eternal peace and may the light of Christ shine upon her always.



Jean Mary Duncan
JOHANNESBURG

She was a member of St Martin De Porres in Craighallpark. Her Requiem Mass was held on 29th June.

She dedicated her gifts to the League.



Patricia Siphamla
JOHANNESBURG

St Margaret - Diepkloof. She joined in 2012. Passed on 30th April 2026.

Worked tirelessly for the CWL.



Nana Martha Nkosi
JOHANNESBURG

Nana Martha Nkosi of La Rochele branch. She had such passion for the CWL.



Marion Glencross
JOHANNESBURG

Joined CWL in 1985, received her 30 year badge. Had moved from Florida Parish to Craighall Park but remained an auxiliary member in the Florida CWL.



Maria Botha
JOHANNESBURG

Maria Botha joined the League in 1971, received her 50-year badge. Auxiliary member at the time of her passing.

She was an avid knitter and worked with dedication for her parish, St Martin De Porres and Toekomsrus community.



Janet Rosman
JOHANNESBURG

St Martin De Porres, Toekomsrus. Born 29 October 1936. Passed on 5th May 2026.

She served with love.



Zola Biyase
JOHANNESBURG

A dedicated member of Holy Family Spruitview.



Mapitso Matilda Masakala
JOHANNESBURG

Born: 07 April 1958. Departed: 28 June 2026. Joined CWL: 2009. Branch: Nyolohelo.

A loyal member of the League.



Thank You!

**TO ALL DEDICATED
CWL DIOCESES**

FOR YOUR INCREDIBLE PARTICIPATION

**CARITAS AFRICA & CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE
♥ WOOL COLLECTION DRIVE CAMPAIGN ♥**

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



67 BLANKETS
FOR NELSON
MANDELA DAY

A Very Successful Campaign!

FEBRUARY – APRIL 2026

Because of your generosity, dedication, and compassion,

**WE HAVE KNIT AND CROCHETED
WARMTH, HOPE AND DIGNITY**
for the needy people across
South Africa and Eswatini.

TOGETHER, WE WEAVE
COMPASSION.
TOGETHER, WE MAKE A
DIFFERENCE.
TOGETHER, WE ARE THE
CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE.



THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
HARD WORK



THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
KIND HEARTS



THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
COMMITMENT



THANK YOU
FOR SHARING
GOD'S LOVE

ONE HEART. ONE PURPOSE. MANY HANDS. ENDLESS IMPACT.



