

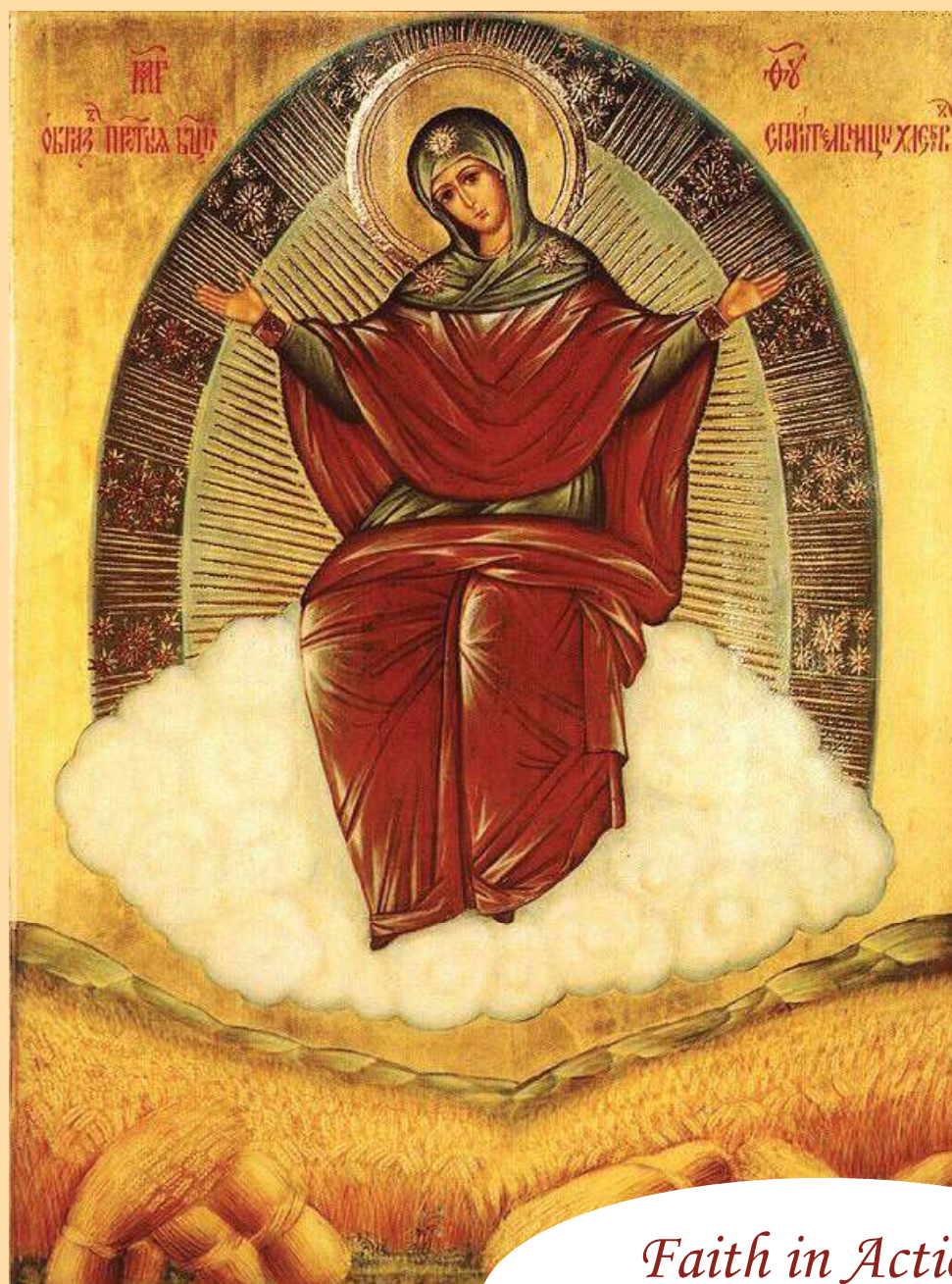


Catholic Women's League News



MARCH/APRIL 2025

Issue No: 167



*Faith in Action
Serving with Love*



MARCH/APRIL 2025



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 31st October 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 newsletter that truly reflects the work of the CWL across our dioceses.

Thank you for your cooperation!

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CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Our New CWL Members!

The Archdiocese of Durban joyfully welcomed 32 new members into the Catholic Women's League (CWL) in Mtubatuba on 29 June 2025. This beautiful induction ceremony was the culmination of months of communication and preparation between the Durban Diocesan Team and the dedicated women who responded to the call to serve.

To each of our new members: may your hearts remain joyful and steadfast in the decision you've made—not only for your personal growth in faith, but for the love, service, and care you are now empowered to spread in your communities.

The National Management Committee warmly congratulates you and wishes you every blessing as you begin this new chapter in your CWL journey. May you always find strength in sisterhood, joy in service, and peace in purpose. Welcome to the CWL family!





A Word from the National President



Dear Fellow CWL members,
How swiftly time has flown, and how remarkable the events around us have been.

I'm referring, of course, to that unforgettable Easter Sunday when we witnessed Pope Francis in his buggy, gently waving to the crowds in St. Peter's Square - only to awaken the next morning to the stunning news of his passing.

This moment marked the beginning of a new chapter in the life of our Church. As the sacred traditions of the conclave unfolded - from the somber signal of black smoke to the joyful appearance of white - we were reminded once again of the deep continuity and grace within our faith. By providence, I happened to be reading 'Conclave' by Robert Harris during this time - a compelling novel that was beautifully echoed by the real-life events surrounding us.

The world watched with reverence and anticipation as our new Holy Father was chosen. Pope Francis had indeed done the hard work - earning the love and admiration of people across the globe. Now, as Pope Leo XIV takes up the sacred mission of guiding our Church forward, let us hold him in our hearts and prayers.

A heartfelt thank you to all the dioceses that submitted articles for this edition of our Newsletter. It is deeply encouraging to read about the inspiring work taking place across



the country. Congratulations to those who have welcomed new members - may you continue to nurture their interest and engagement. Every act of service, no matter how small, carries meaning. By living out our faith with intention and care, we offer witness to others. We are, after all, "Serving with Love." Our actions are not measured by their scale, but by the faith and love behind them. Since Easter and the beauty of the Triduum, we

have celebrated five deeply meaningful Sundays in June, culminating in the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul on June 29th. As I reflected during that Mass, I thought of our CWL family. One of these great saints was a learned scholar; the other, a humble fisherman. Yet both were called to build the Church. Their legacy reminds us that our own diverse gifts are equally valued and essential to our mission.

If you ever feel unnoticed or unappreciated, remember this: you are called to this sodality, and you are treasured for all that you offer. Every prayer, every gesture, every act of love matters deeply.

As we look ahead to the Feast of the Assumption on August 15, may we be inspired to live with faith and confidence. Like Mary, we are invited to rise above the sorrows of this world and to trust in the promise of eternal life. We are pilgrims - not wanderers, but people on a sacred journey.

During our CWL Novena in August, may our prayers be lifted not only for peace, compassion, and understanding in the world, but also for a deeper awareness that death is not the end. Together, let us walk in faith - onward toward the day we meet our God.

Kindest Regards
Sheila Thyse

Faith in Action: Serving with Love

Dear Sisters in Christ,

The Feast of the Assumption is just around the corner, and it got me to thinking about Mary and how her day-to-day living made such a difference - perhaps sometimes more than we realise. Mary's being taken body and soul into heaven is not just about her destination, but about the path she walked to get there. It was a path marked by trust, generosity, service, and love - qualities that lie at the heart of our CWL motto: Faith in Action: Serving with Love.

Mary lived a life rooted in faith. She listened for God's voice and responded with an open heart. When the angel appeared to her, she didn't know what the future would hold, but she said yes. And she kept saying yes - through joy and sorrow, through ordinary days and difficult moments. She showed up, again and again, for others: for her cousin Elizabeth, for the newlyweds at Cana, for the disciples after the Resurrection. Mary never made life about herself. She made it about listening, trusting, and quietly serving where she was needed.

In that way, Mary's story is not so different from the stories of many CWL women. You serve in parishes, homes, hospitals, schools, and communities - not seeking recognition, but because your faith moves you to love. You write cards, make food, visit the sick, help at funerals, support the poor, offer prayers, and show up for others when it matters most. Often these acts are unseen by many. But not by God.

The Assumption tells us that a life of humble service is not forgotten. It

assures us that the work we do out of love - however small it might seem - is part of something eternal. God sees it, treasures it, and brings it to fulfillment.

Still, we all have days when we wonder: Is what I'm doing enough? Does this really make a difference? Mary's life reminds us that the answer is yes. Yes, when you give your time for someone in need. Yes, when you hold your tongue in a difficult moment. Yes, when you put someone else first.

These are the kinds of choices that shape a holy life, even when we don't see the full picture.

So as we approach this feast, I invite you to reflect: Where is God inviting you to say "yes" at this moment in your life? Is there someone around you quietly in need - someone who might not ask for help but would be grateful if you noticed? Are you holding on to hope, even in situations where the path forward is uncertain?

These are the kinds of questions that Mary lived with. They are the questions that shape a life of faith in action. Let the Assumption be more than a holy day - it can be a call to keep going, to keep trusting, and to keep serving with love, knowing that God is faithful.

Thank you for all you do, often in quiet ways that carry great meaning. I pray that Mary, assumed into heaven, will continue to inspire and strengthen each of you.

Yours in mission,
Fr Jerry



Notes from the National Management Committee



It is indeed a privilege and honour for me to share about myself and my role as Second National Vice President of the Catholic Women's League.

It's winter, a necessary pause, a Sabbath of the earth. As a retired educator and being a member of the Catholic Women's League for the last twenty-eight years, I was assigned the task of seeing that the five recommendations requested by the National Council at our Catholic Women's League National Conference 2024, be added to the Catholic Women's League Handbook.

We are extremely excited to present our latest edition of the CWL handbook, revised April 2025 with the additions made as indicated:

- Recommendation 1 appears on page 18
- Recommendation 2 appears on page 2
- Recommendation 3 appears on page 4
- Recommendation 4 appears on page 10
- Recommendation 5 appears on page 6

We would also love to share with our isiXhosa speaking sisters that we now have a complete IsiXhosa Handbook ready for printing. For us to print we need the different diocese to place their orders as soon as possible. Contact our Treasurer (cwlsa.nationalfinance@gmail.com) to place your orders then printing can go ahead.

**Kindest regards,
Belinda Allie**

Editorial

- At the 2024 National Conference, we were encouraged to ensure each diocese has archives. Unexpectedly, Dr. Agnes Desmazieres contacted us. She's researching CWL globally, comparing SA's charity-driven model to England's fellowship focus. She found useful CWL data in Pretoria but noted records stop at 2017. Agnes, based in Paris, is publishing her findings through a U.S. university.
- Exciting news! The NMC has agreed to be incorporated into the Dept. of Laity. This department of the SACBC deals with sodalities and basically how we can all work together within the church. More news later.
- Sadly this newsletter could not be edited by Dolly Chabula as she has had an eye problem. It was left to Adelaide Karomo and myself to complete the task. Please keep Dolly in your prayers .

Regards Sheila Thyse

The Memorare

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary,
that never was it known
that anyone who fled to thy protection,
implored thy help,
or sought thy intercession,
was left unaided.
Inspired by this confidence
I fly unto thee,
O Virgin of virgins, my Mother.
To thee do I come,
before thee I stand,
sinful and sorrowful.
O Mother of the Word Incarnate,
despise not my petitions,
but in thy mercy hear and answer me.
Amen.





News from the Diocese



Bloemfontein

On the 1st of February 2025, the Catholic Women's League of the Bloemfontein Archdiocese celebrated a Mass in honour of deceased members at the Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church, Rocklands Bloemfontein. This Mass will be celebrated annually in honour of those that committed their time to Charity, Work and Loyalty. During that mass, we inaugurated the new Archdiocesan committee.



Executive Council Meeting

On 7th June 2025, executive committees from all branches came together with the Archdiocesan Executive Committee and had a progressive meeting. Raffle tickets were sold to all members of the archdiocese and the draw was held on the day.



Father's Day Celebration

Archdiocese of Bloemfontein Executive Committee members attended Mass with our Spiritual Father at All Saints Catholic Church and they surprised him with a Father's day token of appreciation.



Archdiocese Workshop

Earlier in the year we enjoyed a well attended council workshop at Kreste Paseka Ya Rona in Zastron. The ladies not only planted trees but also signed an oath that they would abide by CWL laws and mandate.



St Mark - Bloemfontein

St. Mark's CWL Visit the Tswellang School for Children with Disabilities

The Tswellang School for Children with Disabilities, takes care of 73 learners between the ages of 7 and 18. Many of whom have been abandoned by their parents. Here the teachers not only educate but also step in as caregivers, finding ways to provide food, clothing, and other basic necessities.

During our visit, we donated essential items and we assured the school that we would return soon to help them.

The staff shared heartfelt stories that offered us a deeper understanding of the challenges and rewards of their work. The highlight of the visit was a touching speech of gratitude delivered by one of the learners. This humbling experience confirmed our continued support of this incredible school and its dedicated staff.



WUCWO

The CWL and St Anne's Sodality together organised the World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations (WUCWO) Day on the 17th May 2025 at Kriste Lesedi la ditjhaba Catholic Church in Bloemfontein. The event was well attended and both sodalities committed to doing better in future.





News from the Diocese



Krísté Bophelo Ba Rona - Bloemfontein

Celebration of Our Newly Tiled Altar at KBBR - May 25th

On May 25th, we joyfully celebrated the opening of our newly tiled altar at KBBR, a generous donation from the Catholic Women's League (CWL). This event has brought our congregation together in faith and fellowship.

We shared a lovely lunch and are deeply grateful to the CWL for their generosity and to everyone who contributed to making this event so memorable.



Annual Passover Meal Feast Brings Community Together in Faith and Service

Sacred Heart Cathedral, April 14th - The Catholic Women's League hosted its annual Passover Meal, a cherished Holy Week tradition blending faith, service, and community. More than just a meal, it's a sacred offering that unites parishioners in spiritual reflection and joyful collaboration. Guided by their motto, "Charity, Work, and Loyalty," the CWL's selfless efforts make this event both spiritually



enriching and financially impactful for the parish and beyond.

St Joseph's

Ladies shared their charity responsibilities with the kids at church by distributing oranges. After their fun walk all walkers enjoyed sandwiches, juice and apples.



Planting the First Tree of the Term

The small yet powerful women of the Catholic Women's League (CWL) at KBBR have shown their strength, unity, and unwavering dedication. They have shovelled the path forward - both in spirit and in action. The first tree of the term has been planted at KBBR. This act not only represents growth and renewal but also stands as a living testimony to the CWL's commitment to faith, community, and legacy.



Sacred Heart Cathedral - Bloemfontein

CWL Shrove Sunday 2025: A Sacred Start to Lent

Faith, Fellowship, and a Purposeful Beginning to the Lenten Journey

As Lent approached, the Catholic Women's League of Sacred Heart Cathedral, Bloemfontein, hosted its annual Shrove Sunday on March 2, 2025. Rooted in the tradition of "clearing the pantry," the event blends fellowship, faith, and service. Often known as the "pancake sale," it marks a spiritual transition into Lent. Proceeds support local outreach programmes and reminds parishioners that small acts of love and service can have a lasting impact.



Our Lady of Fatima

Donation to the Needy

On the 1st of June 2025, CWL Ladies demonstrated their continued commitment to charity and compassion by donating non-perishable food items and sanitary towels to support the needy members of their congregation. This generous act of kindness reflects their dedication to caring within their parish community.

"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." - Matthew 25:40





News from the Diocese



CWL Ladies support Parish Priest through outreach to Parish Children

In a beautiful gesture of support for our Parish Priest, on Fathers' day, which was on the 15th of June 2025, CWL Ladies extended their generosity to the children of their parish. They provided nourishing soup and bread, along with snacks, bringing joy and comfort to the young ones. This act of kindness not only helps meet a practical need but also strengthened the spirit of love, unity, and service within our church.

"Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me." - Mark 9:37



CWL Ladies Honour Parish Priest on Father's Day

In celebration of Father's Day on the 15th of June the CWL ladies lovingly presented gifts to their Parish Priest as a token of their heartfelt gratitude and appreciation for his spiritual fatherhood, guidance, and dedication to the parish.

"I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will lead you with knowledge and understanding." - Jeremiah 3:15



Loyalty

CWL Ladies Attend Spiritual Retreat for Renewal

On the 8th of March 2025 the ladies attended a spiritually enriching retreat organized and led by Father Thabo Lesenyeho. The retreat served as a sacred time for renewal, reflection, and soul-uptment, allowing the women to deepen their faith and strengthen their spiritual journey. The Parish Priest commends the CWL for their commitment to growing spiritually and supporting the life of the Church.

"Come away by yourselves to a quiet place and rest a while." - Mark 6:31

CWL Ladies Donate Mass Wine to the Parish

Earlier this year the CWL ladies donated Mass wine to support the celebration of the Holy Eucharist in our parish. This meaningful contribution reflects their continued support of parish needs. Through this gesture, the CWL has helped ensure the smooth running of our liturgical celebrations.

"God loves a cheerful giver."
- 2 Corinthians 9:7



Food Sale

The Catholic Women's League (CWL) ladies prepared and sold fish, salads, and rolls on the 13th of April 2025 as a fundraiser. Through their dedication and teamwork, they offered delicious meals to parishioners and visitors, creating both fellowship and financial support for CWL projects and strengthened community bonds through shared effort and generosity.

"Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God." - 1 Corinthians 10:31



Resignation Deputy President Resignation

With heartfelt sadness, Our Lady of Fatima CWL committee accepted the resignation of their Deputy President: Me Litsheho. Her dedication, leadership, and meaningful service will be treasured. Me Mabona, who was an additional member, has stepped into the role, ensuring continuity in leadership.

"To everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven"



CWL Ladies Visit the Sick

As part of their ministry of compassion and care, the CWL ladies recently carried out visits to the sick within their League. Through prayer, words of encouragement, and a comforting presence, they brought hope and spiritual support to those facing illness and difficult times. A true reflection of serving others with kindness and dignity.



"I was sick and you visited me" - Matthew 25:36



News from the Diocese



Cape Town

Day of Recollection

Our annual Day of Recollection was held at the beautiful Schoenstatt Retreat and Conference Centre in Constantia on 17th May 2025. We were blessed to share this wonderful, very uplifting and, at times, amusing spiritual talks by Father Ludwe. At lunch time, two peach trees were planted by our Diocesan Chaplain, Fr Nkululeku, on the request of WUCWO, who encouraged members to plant a tree.



Father Nkululeko blessed the trees before the planting. He is seen below with Rebecca Weir, Diocesan President of Cape Town Archdiocese and Sue van der Valk who assisted with the planting. We look forward to seeing the trees grow and to enjoy their fruit in years to come.



Our Diocesan Executive seen below with Father Ludwe and Anne Deary, past National President, at our Day of Recollection on 17 May 2025.



Bothasig

Bothasig hosted a Mother's and Daughter's Tea on Saturday, 10 May. The guest speaker was, Amanda Pereira, who spoke about 6 Biblical Mothers and what they teach us in our lives today. Lots of chatter and laughter was heard in the church hall where many lucky draw prizes were won.



Bothasig CWL ladies gave Easter eggs and colouring pages to children at St Joseph's. After a robbery at Lilly Rose Community Farm, they stepped in to help by donating blankets, socks, and beanies for pensioners. Member Noreen sewed handmade squares into warm blankets.

174 items were packaged and delivered within a week, to the farm, and distributed among more than 100 inhabitants. They will support this worthy cause in future.

Goodwood

Goodwood CWL ladies served hot soup and buttered bread to the homeless for lunch Thursday 26 June.



Khayelitsha

On Saturday May 24th 2025, the CWL Khayelitsha Branch successfully hosted their first fundraiser. This fundraiser was centred around the theme of "Wrapped In Grace". Their parishioners and community supported this fundraiser draped gracefully in their most colourful 'doeks'. All proceeds from this fundraiser were donated to the upgrade of church furniture. The branch members highly appreciate the love and support, and hope that all future fundraisers may be as successful.





News from the Diocese



Langa

On 20th April, CWL Langa visited Langa Cheshire Homes and handed them toiletries and groceries which were gratefully received.



Plumstead

CWL Plumstead held a very successful Bingo afternoon on 10th May. A great time was had by all.



Retreat

The CWL ladies from Our Lady Of Perpetual Help, Retreat distributed sanitary towels which were gratefully received at four schools in Cafda and Steenberg : School of Skills, Lourier, Delta & Sibilius High Schools.



Rocklands

St. Stephen's, Rocklands, Palm Sunday. The Pascal Meal held in April was greatly enjoyed by all.



Rondebosch

On Tuesday, 15th April, Rondebosch CWL hosted a successful Paschal Meal. It was a very spiritual evening and all the hard work of preparation was worth the reward.



Steenberg

CWL Steenberg visited Floreat High School to present them with 100 packets of sanitary towels. Ms Rossouw expressed her gratitude and told the CWL ladies that she had just used the last of their stock that very day.



Above: Sarah Naidoo, Sharon Loots, Sarah Exteen and Ms Rossouw, Principal of Floreat Primary School

Sarah Naidoo from CWL Steenberg knitted 10 beautiful jerseys which were donated to the Clothing Guild on Saturday 7th June 2025. Well done Sarah!



Table View

The members of CWL Table View evening group attended a tour of St Mary's Cathedral in Cape Town, as part of the Jubilee Year. After the tour, their AGM was held in the Secret Garden coffee shop, where coffee and boerewors rolls were a welcome treat.





News from the Diocese



The morning group of CWL Table View held a cake stall at the Parish Easter Market on 12 March.



Table View evening group donated 26 boxes of Easter eggs and Easter treats to "Mothers That Care" Cape Town, for distribution to the various schools and crèches that they support.

Three ladies from the Table View CWL evening and three ladies from the morning group were very blessed to have been asked to participate in the washing of the feet on Holy Thursday, together with 6 men from the Men's group. It was a meaningful experience for all.



The CWL ladies of Table View evening group packed 13 bumper baby bags for underprivileged new moms at DuNoon Maternity Clinic. These bags are donated to the most needy, who often arrive to have their babies, with nothing. The Table View morning group also donated generously to this project.

Jen Henrick and Virginia Adriaans, President of CWL Table View evening group, delivered 13 bumper baby bags for underprivileged new moms to Mrs Maya Mhaka the social worker at the DuNoon Clinic. A large amount of baby and toddler clothing and some adult clothing was kindly donated by Table View morning group.



Wynberg

The ladies from CWL Wynberg had a very successful Mother's Day cake sale. The parishioners enjoyed all the delicious treats.

The Cape Town AGM

The Archdiocese of Cape Town recently held their well attended AGM at St Michael's in Rondebosch. The Mass before the meeting, was celebrated by Bishop Sylvester David. New enrolments and long service badges were presented after Mass.



De Aar



Congratulations to the 2 new members of St. John's Mission of De Aar.

Durban

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PINETOWN

In April we had our famous Easter hamper which was a huge success, won by Rene Thompson. The money made will be donated to one of our beneficiaries.

Tasty treats sale on the 1st of June, which was well supported by the parishioners, was sold out very quickly





News from the Diocese



St Francis Xavier - Bluff

"You have been a beacon of inspiration for 96 years in lighting the way with your enduring spirit and heart. Continue to shine, guiding us with your boundless wisdom and courage. Your legacy is a tapestry of the lives you've touched and the difference you've made."



96th Birthday celebration for Elizabeth (Betty) Williams, oldest CWL member of St Francis Xavier, Bluff

Sacred Heart Parish

The CWL ladies and formation members from Sacred Heart Parish (Woodlands) held a spiritually uplifting day of prayer and reflection on 24th May 2024. Father Nkazimulo Shange guided and directed them us on how to grow spiritually through prayer.



CWL - Bellaír / Queensburgh

CWL Bellaír-Queensburgh visited St Philomena's Children's Home in Sherwood, Durban. They donated very useful food and toiletry hampers. In the photo is also Fr Herman the Director/Chaplain of the Home



Holy Trinity Branch

On the 15th of April, the Holy Trinity CWL members hosted the parish Paschal Meal. Members worked tirelessly to ensure that every aspect to commemorate the Old Testament Passover was perfect. Heartfelt thanks to all who attended this meaningful event.

In May we held our annual Mother's Day raffle which was once again a huge success. Proceeds from the raffle will go towards sustaining our ongoing charitable work.

At the AGM there was special recognition of one of our longstanding members, Rosalie Donachie. She was honoured for an extraordinary 60 years of devoted service to the CWL. We celebrate



CWL 60 Years of Service Award - Rosalie Donachie
(L-R) Cheryl Fuller, Robyn-Lee Boyce, Rosalie Donachie, Rea Mina

Rosalie's remarkable commitment and thank her for her inspirational contribution.

St Joseph Parish -Amatíkwe

On the 5 April 2025 we had a prayer walk at the beach starting at Blue Lagoon to Suncoast Casino Point with our Parish priest Father Madlala. It was fabulous day. On the 11 May we had a successful Jumble sale. We raise funds to finance charity work and also to look after our Parish priest.



St Clement Parish - Clermont

On a bright and blessed morning on 18 May 2025 the Catholic Women's League (CWL) Clermont joyfully hosted the 'Families Come Together' Fundraising Breakfast - a heartfelt initiative bringing our Parish and community closer while raising much-needed funds.

Immediately after Mass, we welcomed over 300 guests to a beautifully prepared buffet breakfast. The occasion was more than just a meal - it was a celebration of faith, family, and shared purpose.

The primary aim of the event was to raise funds in order to continue our vital works of charity.

We are deeply humbled by the overwhelming support we received from the Mariannhill Diocese and its affiliates, whose presence and contributions truly uplifted the spirit of the gathering. The success of this event is a testament to the power of collaboration within the Church and the broader community.



News from the Diocese



"To be without trees would, in the most literal way, to be without our roots."
- Richard Mabey

Umndení Ongcwele Parish - Hammarsdale

The Hammarsdale branch on the 24th of March 2025 surprised Fr M Mncwabe with a new Pilgrims of Hope vestment.

On the 13th of April the CWL at Hammarsdale donated 10,000 small communion hosts and 300 big hosts. Fr M Mncwabe and The Umndení Oyingcwele PPC are very grateful to the Hammarsdale Branch for this donation.

On the 11th of May the Hammarsdale branch started a new program named "Happy Girl" drive. We had people from SAPS and Social development talk to the boys and girls about awareness. This program was a huge success, that is how we celebrated our Mothers Day.



On the 23rd of May we lost one of our members Makhosazane Mthethwa, may her soul continue to rest in peace.

On the 06th of June we lost another member Bongive Memela, may her soul continue to rest in peace.

Johannesburg

Johannesburg Diocesan Chaplain, Fr Michael Seheri, facilitated a Spiritual Growth session on Saturday, 15th March. It was very informative and relevant to us both as Catholics and CWL members. The in-depth information about Mother Mary was very enlightening. A Jubilee Candle was blessed, lit and handed to one of the regions, it will then rotate to other regions.



The Wucwo Mass was celebrated at diocesan level on the 10th of May at the Cathedral of Christ the King, concelebrated by Fr Micheal Seheri and Fr Mduduzi Ndlovu.



The CWL competed against the Immaculate Conception Sodality on the Fun Share Relay On Air to raise funds and spread hope. The Outcome of the joint effort resulted in the CWL winning the challenge by raising over R170 000 to keep Radio Veritas on air. This was only possible because of the support of our Sisters in Christ from other dioceses. God bless your generous hearts.

Vaal Region



The 30th of May saw the Emmanuel branch embark on The School Shoe Project for needy scholars.



VRC had their AGM at Our Lady Fatima in Sharpeville. In attendance were the Regional Spiritual Director Fr. Kiffle as well as Diocesan President Mme Khosi Maloka



Vaal ladies feeding the less fortunate



News from the Diocese



East Rand Region

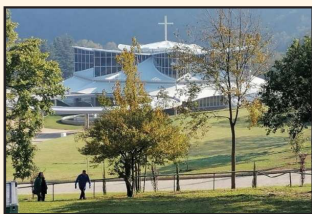
On Easter Sunday the parishioners of St. Dominic Boksburg were involved in an Easter Hamper Raffle organised by the CWL branch members. The youth organised a Parish Easter Egg Hunt.

The East Rand hosted the COMSAM Symposium at St. Dominic's Girls School in Boksburg. The ladies prepared food for over 400 consecrated religious delegates from across Africa, for the entire weekend.



Johannesburg Region

The Victory Park (Tuesday group) as well as La Rochelle CWL branch members went on a Pilgrimage to the Marian Shrine in Magaliesburg.



Members of the Johannesburg region served soup to the youth attending the AMOF (Annual Meeting of Families) event. The Diocesan Kopanong Soup Kitchen Project, CWL Adoptions and Mary Immaculate Queen were also showcased.



The Johannesburg Regional Council held their Annual General Meeting at St Martin De Porres Church in Craighall Park, on Saturday 24th May. In attendance was the Regional Chaplain Father Mabe OMI, Diocesan President, Mrs Khosi Maloka, Diocesan 1st Vice President, Josephine Mhlongo.

South-West Region

The Women's World of Day Prayer Mass was held on the 8th of March at Regina Mundi. It included the ceremonial handing over of the Trees of Hope to the youngest members in attendance. Branches of the South-West Region were presented with a plant by the Regional President, Ms. Nandi Dabula. Some planted them at their branches with their priest, and a few planted them at their homes



Our Lady of Fatima - Dube

On the 15th of June, Our Lady of Fatima CWL members were involved in a food drive for the St. Vincent De Paul Society.



St Peter Claver - Pimville

The ladies of St. Peter Claver Pimville held their annual workshop, aimed at reflecting why they are CWL members, at their parish. It was facilitated by Mme Lizzie Maepa and Ntate Bandile.

St Margaret - Diepkloof

On the 18th of June, St. Margaret and Immaculate Conception Diepkloof CWL members visited Father Kataka Retirement Centre in Edenvale where they donated warm clothing to Father Mahlangu.

St Angela - Dobsonville

In March, St Angela CWL members distributed toiletries to the boys and girls of the parish. In April, the CWL ladies presented the parish altar servers with brand new vestments



St Phillip Neri - Moletsane

On the 29th of May, the members of the CWL Moletsane branch, in conjunction with the CPF Sector 2 Patrollers and the Jabulani SAPS, held a GBV awareness child week at Kholwani Primary School. The aim was to educate learners and staff about the different forms of GBV and how to respond to it. The League then prepared both dignity bags and a filling meal to those in need.





News from the Diocese



Our Lady of Mercy - Emndení

The CWL ladies of Our Lady of Mercy catered for the parishioners and the bishop at Father Kgaugelo Ntsie's 5th Anniversary as a priest and his 35th birthday. The members also raised Men's Mental Health Awareness as part of CATCHA.



Raisitse Moeketsi and Tshegofatso Podile handed over the Jubilee candle of Hope to the parish priest Fr. Kgaugelo Ntsie. The candle was lit from the flame of the Pascal candle and the light was then shared with all the parishioners holding their candles.

St Francis de Sales - Lawley

"Pure Path Alliance" invited youth and conducted a workshop at St Frances de Sales, where the youth were taught about the dangers of abortion. CWL members then served refreshments.

Our Lady of Assumption - Molapo

On the 26th of April, the league members hosted a vibrant kitchen party at the home of Mme Nana to raise funds for future initiatives.

St Joseph - Meadowlands

Members of St Joseph organized a raffle. They donated various prizes towards the raffle, including a braai stove. The tickets for the raffle were sold at R30 per ticket. The draw took place on the 18th of May 2025.



St Martín de Porres - Orlando West

The CWL ladies from the St Martin De Porres donated sanitary pads to their school.



Regional News

The annual SWRC workshop was held at Good Sheperd Catholic Church in Protea North. On the 14th of June. The 8th Annual General Meeting was hosted at St. Pius Catholic Church in Mofolo Soweto. In attendance was the Diocesan executive, the regional executive, and the members of the South-West region.

West Rand Region

The West Rand Region went on a pilgrimage to the Ngome Shrine from the 6th to the 8th of June. A worthwhile spiritual revival.



Members of Westonaria celebrated the awarding of 10-year service badges. Their Parish Priest, Fr Masina, also handed them beautiful certificates. Fr Masina was presented with a new Marian stole.





News from the Diocese



Munsieville ladies, visited the graves of our nuns from the Companions of St Angela on Mother's Day. They cleaned the area and laid flowers.



Rodepoort ladies visited the Culture of Life Apostolate (COLA) where they donated much needed items and spent time with the young moms and babies.



Krugersdorp celebrated Fr Fidgeon's retirement by giving him a monetary donation as he is returning home to Ireland.

Keimoes-Upington Bisdrom

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 Gelof 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.

Olifanttrivierstreek het gasprekers gehad wat gepraat het oor die huwelik en die gesinslewe en vergewingsgesindheid. Boesmanland: Aggeneys 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 gebied vir die huwelikslewe. Keimoes tak het behandel 'n resep vir 'n geseënde familie. Gebedsvrouens het sammegestem dat almal 'n behoefde het na vrede binne die gesin. Silwerkollektes was opgeneem.

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



Inseëning van die Keimoes - Upington bisdomraad 03 Mei 2025

Bid dag vir Katolieke Vroue. (WUCWO World Day of Prayer)



Olifanttrivierstreek:
Koekenaap Tak



Lutzville Tak



Namakwaland streek



Oranjerivierstreek:
Prieska tak

Kimberley

The Diocesan Office was taken over by Kimberley from Taung with effect from 03 May 2025. Handing over was done in the presence of our Diocesan Chaplain, Rev. Fr. Medupe Motshwari. The Outgoing Executive:



Pictured (from left to right): Lydia Seoposengwe, Martha Mothupi, Alexandria Seodigeng, Gloria Gaobuse, Rev. Fr. Medupe Motshwari

New Office Bearers:

- Wingy Mongale : President
- Martha Motuba : Deputy President
- Palesa Portia Mokhele : Secretary
- Veronica Morris : Deputy Secretary
- Kediemetse Senwedi : Treasurer
- Audrey Matthews : News Correspondent

WUCWO Day

WUCWO day is an annual event which is celebrated on 13 May, however the CWL Kimberley Deanery celebrated it on 17 May 2025 at the St Mary's Cathedral. Mass was celebrated by the Parish Priest, Rev. Fr. Orakwe. It was hosted jointly by St Anne's and CWL Sodalities, under the theme "Support, Accompany, Encourage Family". The event was well attended by all branches.





News from the Diocese



Fun Day

This is an annual event in which every Branch in the Deanery participates. Stalls sell a variety of items with the aim of raising funds for the Deanery. This event was held on 31 May 2025 at St Charles Lwanga.



Giving back to the Community

The ladies at Our Lady of Fatima Shrine were hard at work lovingly serving the community of Galeshewe with soup and bread. This was a weekly task for the month of June. Every member contributed generously towards the ingredients for this successful endeavour.

The ladies at St Peter's The Apostle celebrated Mother's day on Sunday, 11 May 2025. Lunch was served to the 30 mothers that attended the event.



On Sunday, 15 June 2025 the branch celebrated Father's Day. The fathers, including our Parish Priest, Rev. Fr. Medupe Motshwari were presented with gifts.

On the 18th May 2025 the members of St Charles Lwanga Branch visited their sister church where the Mass was celebrated by Fr. Jeremiah Mahatlheng. As this day also coincided with the birthday of our Parish Priest, immediately after Mass, he was presented with gifts, while the elderly were given food parcels and clothes and the community were served with meals and drinks.



June 16th (Youth Day) celebrations were also held jointly by the parishes of St Monica, and St Joseph. After mass the children were served with food while fun games were enjoyed by all who attended.



Klerksdorp

Recruitment Drive

The 30th of March saw scores of CWL members in Klerksdorp descending on Stilfontein, at Immaculate Heart of Mary parish. Father Maurice Kalino the parish priest saw a need to establish a CWL branch in his parish and requested that the Diocesan executive assist him with this matter. The neighbouring branches (St. Michael, Calvary, St. Paul, St Peter & Paul, Cathedral of Christ the Redeemer) were also happy to talk to the ladies of Immaculate Heart of Mary. After the President Mrs Monama addressed the congregation seven ladies indicated their interest in joining the CWL. Ladies of Cathedral of Christ the Redeemer will guide them on this journey. The day was a huge success, much to the delight of the Parish priest and the President.



Diocesan President, Mrs Monama addressing the congregation

Mmatshupo Growing Well (Tree of Hope)

After the Klerksdorp Diocese executive had held their meetings on the 8th of March at the Cathedral of Christ the Redeemer they checked on the tree that was planted at the beginning of this year. Affectionately named Mmatshupo by Father Tshidiso Moleke OMI (CWL Chaplain) the tree is living up to its name of giving hope in hopeless situations by its show of healthy green leaves. That, to CWL represents life and hope. The door of HOPE remains open at the Cathedral for pilgrims during this Jubilee year.

St Louis Bertrand prioritise sanitation

Seeing that the parish ablution facilities were not in a good condition, the 3 ladies of St Louis Bertrand, embarked on a project to both repair the toilets and to install new ones. With the help of some parishioners, members and their spouses, the ladies completed the project and presented the finished product to the parish on the 30th of March 2025.

St Martin de Porress (Kanana) reach out to school children

The ladies of St Martin de Porres in Kanana have under privileged children close to their hearts. They pooled their few resources they had and packaged toiletries for the 25 children at Bathabile Primary school at Kanana. The School Governing Body and the children were elated.



The toiletry packages donated by St Martin de Porres to Bathabile Primary School



News from the Diocese



CWL Ladies from Our Lord King of Peace

Inter-denomination activities

Our Lord King of Peace

Trust the ladies of CWL Our Lord King of Peace to represent the church when needed most. On the 30th March, the ladies hosted their annual tea function to raise funds for the underprivileged. This annual function included various different denominations. Proceeds are used to buy winter clothing and Christmas groceries for the less privileged in the community.

Inter-branch visits

The CWL president in the Klerksdorp Diocese encourages unity and collaboration among branches to inspire and share best practices. This message is gaining momentum, fostering togetherness across the league. On March 30th, St. Francis (Lichtenburg) and Mofirigo wa Bafumanegi branches, both small in size, joined for a shared Mass celebration. Their collaboration marks a positive step, showing how working together strengthens and benefits all members involved.



Ladies from St Francis and Mofirigo wa Bafumanegi working together to grow the CWL and strengthen relations between the two parishes

Cathedral of Christ the Redeemer welcomes new members

On the 6th of April great excitement was tangible at the Cathedral. The branch was officially welcoming new members. The branch welcomed Ms Seipati Susan Mohube who has completed 6 months serving diligently in the league. Ms Hazel Nombulelo Goeieman also lived up to her surname by joining the league. She has so far been a "goeie vrou" within the league.



Mrs Hazel Nombulelo Goeieman



Ms Seipati Susan Mohube

Manzini (eSwatini)

The faithful CWL members of Manzini diocese continue to respond with devotion and joyful commitment to the universal church enacting "faith in action". As a diocese we are pleased to highlight some of the activities that the different CWL parishes have achieved in the second quarter of the year. Acts of charity, work and loyalty in the sodality, continue to take place as the plans for this year are executed.

CWL Christ the King Parish

The diocesan committee led by the president Make Sindie Dlamini visited CWL Christ the King parish in Hlathikhulu (Shiselweni region). The delegation attended mass on Sunday March 16th 2025 and received a warm welcome from the parish priest Fr. N. Vilakati. Also present was the CWL committee from Sacred Heart parish. The purpose of the visit was to encourage the current members and to show support to the few members that they have, in this under privileged community. In the meeting that followed, the members were edified in the Lord from the discussions on their achievements and their challenges since the CWL sodality was launched in their parish. The Diocesan committee aims to visit more parishes on the same mandate.



Christ the king: Group photo of CWL diocesan committee with the executive of Christ the King and Sacred Heart parish. In the midst is Fr. N. Vilakati

Fundraising and outreach

The different parishes undertake fundraising activities supported by parishioners and these funds enable them to undertake charitable initiatives. These fundraising activities have the women working tirelessly to source these items which are usually light snacks to sell after mass. Further "bucket hamper" distribution continues to take place in more parishes as CWL responds to the call of charity in their respective communities.



Mater Dolorosa parish: CWL Quarterly visit to Selulasandla Orphanage where CWL members interact with children, play games, sing and pray together and offer donations in the form of clothing and food parcels



St. Peter and Paul parish: Hamper distribution



News from the Diocese



St. Joseph parish: CWL members selling refreshments after mass for fundraising

Spoil your priest

The women of CWL, in their respective parishes, annually host a special ceremony for their parish priests to show appreciation for their selfless dedication in uplifting and being faithful shepherds to the church and communities they serve. This included the spiritual advisor of CWL as appointed by the Bishop. On this day the women voice wonderful words of encouragement and appreciation while the priests are afforded the time to share their own heartfelt sentiments towards the event and to the CWL sodality. Later a sumptuous lunch prepared by the CWL is served for all in attendance.



Spoil you priest in March for St. Josephs parish priests Fr. Motsa and Fr Mazibuko



Spoil your priest in April for Our Lady of Assumption parish Fr. Nkomo, Fr. James, Fr Mkhonta, Fr Mafola (in absentia) and Fr. Muinde (spiritual advisor)

Mini conference

On the 26th of April executive members (chairperson, secretary and treasurer) from all 10 parishes in which CWL sodality is established, were hosted by the diocesan committee, in Manzini, for a mini conference. This is the first of two mini conferences preceding the main conference in October. On the agenda was a session of presenting a comprehensive explanation of their duties and responsibilities. Furthermore, reports on activities were presented by different CWL parish representatives. Other issues were discussed including plans that would unite all CWL parish members in the diocese of Manzini. Present was the spiritual advisor Fr. Muinde who shared words of encouragement. During the meeting the ladies presented Fr. Muinde with a blanket as a "spoil the priest" gesture to the spiritual advisor.



Executive members from different parishes listening to the speakers during the mini conference

Ordination

Members of CWL assisted the office of the bishop by contributing towards the ordination of Fr. N.C. Ngwenya on the 3rd of May 2025. The women participated both financially and with the catering for visitors. They also participated in the cleaning of the Our Lady of Assumption Cathedral afterwards. The ordained priest was also showered with gifts by CWL members.



Ordination gift being given to Fr Cyprian Ngwenya by MDC CWL Vice Chairperson, Theodore Ncube with some observing members

Loss of Members

As we celebrate the achievements of our annual plan across various parishes, it is with profound sorrow that we acknowledge the loss of two cherished members of the Catholic Women's League (CWL) in the Diocese of Manzini during the month of June: Mpho Mhlanga and Gertrude Malinga. Additionally, the diocese and the CWL family mourn the passing of Fr. T.V. Mabuza, who was also laid to rest in June.

In keeping with the spirit of charity, love, and loyalty that defines our mission, CWL members responded to the sad news with compassion and solidarity. Members visited both the Mhlanga and Malinga families to offer prayers, comfort, and support during their time of grief. Furthermore, CWL members attended the requiem Masses and took part in the full CWL funeral rites, accompanying our dear sisters with dignity and reverence to their final resting places.

May the Lord grant them eternal rest, and may perpetual light shine upon them.

In the same spirit of unity and compassion, the CWL Diocesan Executive also paid a visit to Bishop José Luis Ponce de León, expressing their deep sorrow and support following the loss of Fr. Mabuza - a devoted priest of the diocese.



Members of CWL visiting the Malinga family in Matsetsa to comfort them on the loss of Gertrude Malinga



CWL members bidding farewell to Mpho Mhlanga after Requiem mass at the Our Lady of Assumption Cathedral



News from the Diocese



Marianhill

St Joseph's Cathedral - Mariannhill

The CWL Ladies of the branch organised a "We are together with Mary on the journey to Golgotha" hike which took place on 29 March 2025. This successful hike was open to all Parishioners as well as all CWL branches within the Diocese. The hike not only promoted the physical well-being but focused also on the spiritual well being as there were prayers held from the beginning to the end of the hike. This fruitful day ended with a celebration of the Holy Mass.

Uganda Martyrs - Umlazi

The Catholic Women's League at Uganda Martyrs branch is thriving. On 17 May 2025, four new members enrolled, and long-serving members (10, 20, 40 years) were honoured. Fr Cosmos Mzizi, CWL Diocesan Chaplain, presided over the event, celebrating service through Charity, Work, and Loyalty.

Our Lady of Grace - Umlazi

On 25 May 2025, CWL and St Anne's sodality planted a "Tree of Hope" and lit the Jubilee 2025 diocesan candle, led by Fr. Dumisani Khumalo. The candle will remain lit for a month before moving to another parish. Monthly, the branch donates food parcels for Fr. Khumalo's visits to the elderly and sick.



St Magdalene - eZimbokodweni

A chilly Saturday it was on 31 May 2025, but the ladies of this branch braved the cold and held their annual revival. Ladies from other branches were part of this graceful event, which ended with a Holy Mass where one (1) new member enrolled. It was most encouraging to see the branch growing with a young person joining the CWL.



Streetwise Hope visit: Combined Project

A total of 7 branches (St. Joseph, St Kizito, St Charles Lwanga, St. Wendolin's, St Xavier, Sts Mary & Anne, St. Timothy) combined to fundraise. Socks and Crocs were donated to the Streetwise Hope (a home that houses homeless children) on Saturday, 07 June 2025. This charitable initiative brought smiles to the faces of the children. To show their gratitude they treated the ladies to a special dance routine to end off this beautiful day.

WUWCO Day Celebration

On Saturday 17 May 2025, the CWL Ladies of the St. Joseph, St Kizito, St Charles Lwanga, St. Wendolin's, St Xavier, Sts Mary & Anne and St. Timothy met at the St. Wendolin's branch where they planted a tree under the auspice of the National "Tree of Hope" project. Together in prayer, the ladies also commemorated the WUWCO day.



Polokwane

Regina Pacis Parish

The parish has been very busy with the following activities: Serving pickled fish and dumplings to the senior citizens; celebrated father's day and gifted them with diaries; visited St Matthews in Mmotong and donated toiletries; enjoyed a Day of Recollection with Fr Galane and later we celebrated the WUCWO Day of Prayer.



Day of Recollection



Serving the elderly

St Martín De Porres Parish - Westernburg

On the 13th April 2025 CWL ladies donated cleaning materials and chemicals to the church.

And on the 18 May 2025 we celebrated WUCWO in our church. It was well organized and the attendance was very good.



WUCWO Day celebrated



Donating cleaning materials to the church



News from the Diocese



Sacred Heart Cathedral

On the 10th May 2025, the CWL ladies visited the Sekutu Convent to donate the groceries to the sisters.



On the 12th May 2025, the members of CWL hosted and celebrated the birthday of our parish priest, Rev Fr Boniface Mashiane.



St Peter and Paul (Mokopane)

Our Lady of Fatima

Had the privilege to celebrate as a member was inducted on the 18th May 2025.



Fr Maluleka congratulating the member

St Gregory the Great Parish

We thank God for the gift of our jobs by sharing with those who are in need. This is a drop off centre in Mankweng called Hlahlaganya where we delivered our goods.



Port Elizabeth

Sacred Heart

7 MAY 2025

We celebrated Fr. Lubabalu's birthday and ordination in April. Some of our ladies took part in "Jerusalem Joy" on Good Friday, telling the Easter story through music. Rita our vice president celebrated 10 years with CWL. Eileen Leeson also received her 25 years badge. Two of our members Beverly and Annelene graduated. Our knitting and crochet ladies handed over baby jerseys, scarves and beanies to the Motherwell clinic and another outreach was to a crèche in Kuyga.

San Francisco

As we prepare for the Easter Vigil, the Stations of the Cross will take place throughout Lent.

The CWL Ladies led the service " Mary's Way of the Cross." during Lent. Additionally, the Deanery Stations will be at our Parish After the Rosary is recited , the workshop which is hosted by Sandra, the ladies take out their knitting needles and chat away Nora Puggia and Sandra Berenisco delivered knitted jerseys and beautiful knitted teddies to Maureen Lamb. Nora also donated 10 pairs of beautiful knitted bed socks to Cheshire Homes in Cleary Park where 44 disabled adults and 18 Children are given wonderful care.

Bottles and 4 bags of clothes were also collected and given to Missionvale who are always appreciative of our support.

In June we welcomed Olivia Malama who joined our league, and we are hoping to welcome another young lady at our next meeting.

The excellent WUCWO Service, which was held at the Methodist Church, was attended by three of our members.

Our President and Vice President attended the CWL 67th AGM held in Grahamstown . They were blessed with the presence of Bishop Zungu who celebrated Mass for the CWL on the day.

Some of our Ladies planted our Pincushion Protea for the project "Planting with Hope". Thank you to Father Sonny for digging the hole and for the ladies helping.



Church of Resurrection

The Church of Resurrection is currently engaged in a fundraising effort to celebrate our Priest's Silver Jubilee in December. As part of this initiative, we are selling aprons in various colours, including black, white, red, purple, and green.

This significant event is not only a parish celebration but also a Diocesan-level occasion, highlighting the Priest's dedication and service to the community. We invite everyone to support this worthy cause by purchasing an apron and joining us in honoring our Priest's milestone.



News from the Diocese



Some of our members supporting the Cheshire Home annual Fete held on 7 June 2025.



St Bernadette's

In March the CWL ladies provided tea for friends and family who attended a special Mass to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Storms River tubing disaster.

Boxes of Easter eggs were donated to the Knights of Da Gama for general distribution and lovely items of children's clothing which were knitted by some of our members, were passed on to the needy.

Sheila Sullivan, who is an Honorary Life Member of the CWL, visited the Sisters of Mercy in Addo and handed over a large donation of clothes, knitted blankets and jerseys, all of which were gratefully received.

Another large collection of clothes, knitted blankets, beanies and jerseys was sent to the Children's Feeding Trust and Missionvale.

The CWL ladies at St Bernadette's were thrilled to congratulate Jeanne Stephens (40 years) and Sandra Wait (20 years) on their long service awards that were handed out at the Diocesan AGM in Makhanda in May.

We continue to assist our parish by providing tea and refreshments for funerals. The donations we receive help us to support our monthly charities.

Corpus Christi

ENROLLMENT OF NEW MEMBERS on 4 May 2025:

We were blessed with the enrolment of 2 new members: Carol Lloyd and Gwen Hiles, congratulations to you both.



The WUCWO meeting at Mater Dei took place on 13 May. A few of our members attended the meeting. The collection was generously supported by all attending.



St Kevin's

We sadly lost one of our Honorary Life Members Mrs. Botha who was a dedicated CWL member for over 60 years.



Mrs. Webster, who was also a member of the St Kevin's CWL for many years passed away in June. Three ladies from our Branch received their 25 year badges for dedicated service in the league:

Amanda Alexander
Belinda Pietersen
Veronica Hector

Eva Brouwer received her 20 year badge.

Virginia's Hector was inducted to the CWL.



GRAHAMSTOWN AGM

The 67th annual general meeting of the PE Diocesan CWL Council was held on 25 May 2025 in the St. Patrick's Church in Grahamstown. The meeting was followed by Holy Mass celebrated by Bishop Zungu. It was a blessed gathering.



Helping with Kindness

We continue to assist at funerals by providing tea and refreshments. On 28 May 2025 our league assisted a local school by serving sandwiches and juice to the learners.





News from the Diocese



St Mary's - Grahamstown

Donations were handed over to the SVP society and Curry Park soup kitchen. We thank our Creator for the life of Ethol du Plessis who celebrated her 70th birthday.



Our new president, Dianne Oosthuizen and new vice president Marily Haywood both celebrated their wedding anniversaries. We were blessed to host the PE Diocese AGM in Grahamstown. We extend our gratitude to Bishop Vincent Mduduzi Zungu, for enriching our gathering. Our past president Dorothy Davies received her 20 year service badge at the AGM.

St Francis Xavier

St. Frances Xavier CWL Branch attended the AGM in Grahamstown. St. Frances Xavier CWL on Retreat at the Cathcart Shrine.



Mater Dei - PE

Easter Care for the Sick & House-bound

In the final week before Easter, our CWL members personally delivered goody bags (complete with biscuits and Easter eggs) to those parishioners who are vulnerable or house-bound. This simple, yet meaningful, gesture reminded us all of the true essence of the Easter message of bringing light, comfort, and presence to those who need it most.

Outreach to EP Children's Home

On 17 May 2025, our CWL members, together with the youth of Mater Dei, visited the Eastern Province Children's Home in Glendinningvale, Port Elizabeth. We spent a joyful afternoon serving hotdogs, distributing goody bags, and engaging in games with the children while spreading the word of God, sharing love, laughter and a meal. The day concluded with the planting of a tree, symbolizing hope and a brighter future for all, especially the children.



Knit-A-Thon Fellowship

On Saturday, 31 May, we spent an afternoon filled with laughter and warmth, as CWL members gathered to knit together. Through our collective efforts, we produced numerous blanket squares that will soon be sewn into blankets for distribution to various outreach programs.

Our motivation flows from a long standing passion to warm bodies and hearts alike. Our knit-a-thon brought us together to craft something beautiful, while also preparing tangibly for our community.





News from the Diocese



Reflecting on our activities from April through June, we see a tapestry woven with acts of kindness, shared joy, and spiritual enrichment. Each initiative has strengthened our bonds and deepened our faith. We are grateful for the dedication of every member.

St Anthony of Padua - Uitenhage

At our March CWL meeting, I shared with the Ladies the message from Sheila about planting a "Tree of Hope" and encouraged them to plant a tree at home in support of the WUCWO initiative.



After the meeting we planted a tree on the church premises.

Pretoria

A successful and well-attended WUCWO Prayer Day, co-hosted by the CWL and the St Anne's Sodalities, was celebrated on 24 May 2025, in Queenswood.



CWL DC President, Sis Nkuli Shinga explains the WUCWO Theme and the action required from us, in her Opening Address.



Leading the Holy Mass is Archbishop Emeritus William Slattery and CWL Chaplain of Pretoria Fr Thomas Vanderkunnel



Among the attendees were young, old, non-Catholic women, Religious Sisters, and members of various Sodalities, including St Anne's, Catholic Women's Association (CWA), Sacred Heart, and the Malawian Catholics Women's Organisation (CWO) - an affiliate of WUCWO

The spirited Choir of the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart Parish sang Mass hymns that lifted our souls into deeper worship. This day of prayer seeks to unite all Confirmed Catholic women under one umbrella, which resonates with one of the core objectives of the CWL. As Catholic women, we are called to live by the example of our Blessed Mother and to pray for Her intercession. This year, WUCWO Day theme was to celebrate family. The theme being: "Support, Accompany, Encourage, Family". WUCWO is challenging us to think of the families in our own parishes and communities. When we strengthen a family, we strengthen our parish. When we support parents in raising their children in the Catholic faith, we invest in the future of our Church. My sisters, the need is great, but our capacity for love and service is even greater.

Visit to Sizanani Children's Home

On 29 March 2025, the Catholic Women's League (CWL) of the Archdiocese of Pretoria visited Sizanani Children's Home, a care facility for individuals with disabilities. As part of their charity initiative, CWL provides essential items quarterly and fosters human connection through worship and interaction. Deeply moved, members praised the staff's dedication. CWL also supported restoring Sizanani Centre financially in 2024 and committed to ongoing fundraising efforts.



Lyttelton, Lynnwood and Zwavelpoort CWL Members visit Sizanani Home



Fr. Mathibela Sebothoma leads the Holy Mass at the Sizanani Home

Radio Veritas Fun Share Relay 2025

CWL Pretoria Archdiocese collaborates with CWL Johannesburg Archdiocese and The Immaculate Conception (Kemolo) to raise funds for Radio Veritas on 21 March 2025.



The Winning Team gathers for the introduction and opening prayer



The CWL and Kemolo teams sign out after the day's work, well done!

Alongside the Immaculate Conception (Kemolo) Sodality, they led the morning slot themed "An Immaculate Morning anchored in Marian Hope." The live broadcast was dynamic and teamwork-driven, involving show design, calls, and pledge management. Their efforts earned them 1st place. All participants were commended for uniting to keep Radio Veritas on air, exemplifying Catholic collaboration and faith in action.

The Diocesan Recruitment Drive

Since 2023, the CWL's membership drive has boosted visibility and expanded into townships and peri-urban areas. The latest success is the launch of the Ga-Rankuwa branch in the Northwestern Deanery, enrolling three new members. With active presence in five of six Deaneries, efforts continue, including outreach at Charles Lwanga Parish in Soshanguve and a return visit to St Raphael Parish in Mamelodi West, showing steady growth and renewed interest. "Faith in action".



CWL members from St Anthony Parish in Soshanguve support Archdiocese of Pretoria President, Sis Nkuli in the recruitment drive at their Sister Parish, Charles Lwanga



Archdiocese of Pretoria President, Sis Nkuli delivers the presentation to entice potential CWL members at the Charles Lwanga Parish in Soshanguve



News from the Diocese



St Columba - Capítal Park

Feeding Scheme - Ladies of St Columba lovingly prepare meals to feed the destitute.



St Píus X Parish - Eersterust

Sun Rise Breakfast: A Morning of Spirit and Strength

Despite a power outage and no water, the Eersterust community gathered for a Sunrise Breakfast filled with love, unity, and resilience. CWL members, priests, and patrons turned a simple meal into communion. With Comrades Marathon runners present, the event celebrated faith, service, and the spirit of ubuntu: "I am because we are."



Honouring the Ladies and Visiting Priests Who Took Part in the Comrades Marathon

María Mater Ecclesíae (MME) - Garankuwa

Launch of a new branch

On the 11th of May 2025, CWL Ga-Rankuwa Branch was launched, and three 3 members were enrolled. Father Harrison Mulenga officiated at the occasion together with our DC President, Sis Nkuli Shinga, and Vice-President Lemao Modise. CWL ladies from St Anthony Catholic Church in Soshanguve were present to support the new members.



Diocesan Council members and the Soshanguve branch. Together they celebrate the launch of the Ga-Rankuwa branch



CWL sisters support the three newly enrolled CWL members, Sonto Malaza, Mmaphefo Pooe and Joyce Seane, holding candles

St Camillus

On 26 April 2025, CWL St Camillus hosted a fun walk to raise funds for vulnerable families. Aquelle and Debonaire's sponsored the event and participants received medals and prizes. Some of the funds raised were also used to buy toys and books for a local day care centre.



CWL St Camillus members after a successful Fun Walk



Bringing joy to many children who will receive books and educational toys

Church Revamp and Clean up (Letsema)

On 16 June 2025, CWL St Camillus joined hands with the church community for a special church yard clean up of our worship environment. CWL served warm, delicious soup to all those who attended the Clean-up.



St John Físcher - Lynnwood

Lynnwood branch alive and well

The Lynnwood Branch has been active in recent months, with a steady presence at meetings and participation in the Retreat. Highlights include a visit to Sizanani Home in March and hosting Diocesan President Nkuli Shinga in May. Members continue promoting CWL activities to parishioners after Masses.



A few of the Lynnwood branch members visited our CWL sister Prisca's home to celebrate her 95th birthday by saying the Rosary together on the 29th of April.



News from the Diocese



María Regina Parish - Lyttelton

Fundraising



Our branch holds monthly book sales and knitted goods sales after the different Masses on a Sunday. This initiative is greatly supported by our parish



We held our Boerewors sale on the 1st of June, which was a great success. Our fundraising aim is to fund the different charity initiatives planned for this year

Charity Events

Our branch donated school uniforms to needy school children at Irene Middle School in March. As part of the Sizanani project, our branch was the first to visit the home. We donated linen and toiletries with funds received from DC.



Branch AGM 2025 - The branch AGM was held on the 8th of June

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish - Midrand

Supporting and Nurturing our Sister Parish

On March 16, CWL Midrand visited St Agnes Parish. They were warmly welcomed by Sister Thulisile. We planted a Tree of Hope, contributing to WUCWO's legacy and leaving a lasting, meaningful impact.



The CWL Midrand branch visit St Agnes Parish in Olivenhoutbosch



Olivenhoutbosch parishioners join the CWL Midrand branch members to plant the Tree of Hope

Church of the Presentation Parish - Montana

Montana CWL is working hard to spread the love by keeping the Elders at St John the Baptist Old Age Home warm this chilly winter. This Charity project was adopted in 2022. On our visit, we established that they could do with some extra blankets. We are proud to have put a smile on the faces of our elderly.



Holy Trinity - Olifantsfontein

Planting Seeds of Hope

CWL Olifantsfontein Branch members 'Cheerfully, Willingly and Loyal' play their part in heeding the WUCWO call of "Planting Hope" Campaign and planted two trees.



Parish Lenten Retreat

Spirits Renewed: (Below) Members of St. Anne, the CWL and Sacred Heart Sodalties of the Holy Trinity Parish in Olifantsfontein gathered on the 5th of April for a spirit-filled CWL Lenten Retreat led by our beloved Parish Priest, Fr. Benoit.



Nonhlanhla, Olifantsfontein Parish Priest Fr. Benoit and Susan, CWL Branch President



News from the Diocese



Cathedral of the Sacred Heart - Pretoria Central

Caring for our Religious Sisters

On June 15, 2025, after Trinity Sunday Mass, CWL sisters from Sacred Heart Cathedral visited the Handmaid of Christ the Priest Home in Hammanskraal.

They shared breakfast, delivered groceries, bonded with the Religious Sisters, and watered the flourishing WUCWO "Planting Hope" tree that they had planted together in faith and unity.



Cathedral CWL members Smangele, Shibu, Sue, Christinah and Cynthia brought groceries, cooked and spent quality time with The Religious Sisters of The Handmaid of Christ the Priest Home, before watering and nurturing the tree of hope

St John the Baptist Parish - Pretoria North

"We are pilgrims of hope, yet a journey without faith falters"

On 24 May 2025, CWL members of St John the Baptist, Pretoria North, joined fellow parishioners in a vibrant Parish Fete to raise church funds. Activities included a fun walk, aerobics, children's games, soccer, and food stalls. Their service reflected the jubilee motto: "I am the Church; You are the Church; We are the Church!"



Showing Up for Our Diocesan Council Activities

Some members of the CWL of St John the Baptist, Pretoria North attended the WUCWO Prayer Day in Queenswood on 24 May 2025 while others participated in the Parish Fete.



Captured above are from left to right, MaShongwe, Sis Queen, Sis Nthabi, Sis Tshidi, Sis Dipuo, Sis Neo and Sis Daphney.

St Augustine Parish - Silverton

Spiritual Growth through Prayer and Retreat

We held a deeply enriching retreat led by our own Parish Priest, Fr. Mkhari. He encouraged us to grow in our faith and continue nurturing our spiritual journey

through regular prayer meetings. The retreat renewed our commitment to our mission as Catholic Women and reminded us of the strength found in spiritual sisterhood.



Members of CWL St Augustine's were attentive at the Retreat led by Fr. Mkhari



Silverton Branch President, Sis Nono Matlala, on their visit to Auntie Martha

We visited Auntie Martha, our oldest CWL member, now frail but still inspiring with her faith and wisdom. She shared memories with a new member, highlighting our inter-generational sisterhood.

Over tea and cake, she felt our love. Our branch fosters fellowship by offering tea after Sunday Mass and celebrating unity in Christ. On Father's Day, we joined parish women to spoil the Dads with gifts in appreciation of their role.



"I am because you are" CWL members keeping Parishioners warm with a cuppa



CWL members join other women Parishioners in stylish pink to celebrate Father's Day

Supporting Diocesan Council (DC) Initiatives

We proudly support all DC initiatives. Recently, our members participated in a gathering of WUCWO members. As CWL members, one of our important roles is to encourage other women to pray and to deepen their commitment to Christ.

Charity and Outreach

Our key outreach projects include:

- **St. Alphonso Home:** We continue to support this home in Bronkhorstspuit with essentials and with regular visits.
- **Family in Crisis:** We are collecting essentials for a family whose home tragically burnt down. They lost a daughter in the fire, and two sisters were hospitalised.

Our Living Legacy: The WUCWO "Planting Hope" Campaign

St Augustine's branch gladly participated in the WUCWO "Planting Hope" Campaign as encouraged by our Diocesan Council. The CWL tree is growing beautifully symbolising our strength, growth, and rootedness in faith. Pictured are the CWL sisters standing beside the flourishing tree. For St Augustine's CWL, the tree stands as a living testament to our unity, service, and commitment to nurturing new life in the Church and our community.





News from the Diocese



St Anthony Parish - Soshanguve



Outreach

On the 16th of March 2025, CWL St Anthony embarked on an outreach visit to our sister Parish, St Charles Lwanga in Soshanguve Block F. What a beautiful mass celebration we had. The warmth and joyful atmosphere was outstanding. We prayed and asked Mary, our mother, to intercede in our effort to recruit new members and to expand the CWL reach in our Diocese and in the Northwestern Deanery.



The CWL Tree of Hope

On the 23rd March 2025, we planted two (2) trees with the help of the men and the youth in our parish. We truly appreciate the support and unity in our parish.

On Human Rights Day, Friday the 21st of March, we spent this special day together to plan and strategise. What a fruitful team-building exercise we had. May the bond we built be sealed by God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Church of the Beatitudes - Zwavelpoort



Sizanani Visit - Members of Zwavelpoort CWL were part of a delegation that visited Sizanani Children's Home in Bronkhorstspruit on 29 March 2025. CWL raised funds to purchase linen for the Sizanani Home



Celebrating Mothers - Together with PPC, CWL ladies co-ordinated and financed part of the Mother's Day gifts, which made the mothers of our parish feel appreciated and valued

Queenstown

St. James Parish

As part of our charity work for St James Parish, all learners from our parish were provided with writing materials to support them during their June exams. In addition, St James Parish celebrated the WUCWO Mass in May, where we were honoured to be joined by DOSA.



St. Theresa's

This year marks the Jubilee Year of Hope in the Catholic Church. As part of the celebrations, the youth, CWL ladies, and parishioners from Christ the King and St. Theresa's visited the shrine in Cathcart, where we were spiritually guided by Brother Nojekwa George Mthetho. During this pilgrimage, he provided a profound explanation of the Nicene Creed.

In honour of our Patroness, Mother Mary, we dedicated the month of May to her by praying the Rosary every Thursday before Holy Mass. We also attended a WUCWO gathering at St. Theresa's, led by Father Thulani.

On Friday, 13 June 2025, we celebrated the priesthood of our Chaplain, Father Thulani, by hosting a special lunch for him, the priests, and the nuns of the Diocese. The meal was lovingly prepared by the CWL ladies.



Additionally, on 16 June, the Diocese of Queenstown came together to celebrate Bishop Siphiwo Vanga's 70th birthday.



Obituaries

"May the Holy Angels lead you into paradise"



Edith Molise - Bloemfontein

Mrs. Edith Molise was an active and loyal member from St Rose of Lima in Bloemfontein. She served in the league for 20years.



Gcwalisile - Durban

Gcwalisile, affectionately known as Gcwali, joined the CWL in 2017 and had since been a pillar of strength, humility, and unwavering service within our Parish and community. She served three consecutive terms as an executive member, fulfilling her role as News Correspondent with diligence and grace. MHSRIP.



Ntswaki Thaisi - Bloemfontein

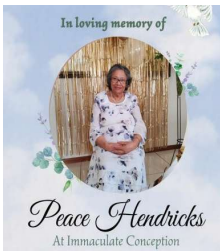
Mrs. Ntswaki Thaisi was an active and loyal member from St Antony in Jacobsdaal. She served as President of the branch and was awarded her a 10 year badge this year.



Yvonne Bridget Savy - Durban

14.02.1932 - 19.05.2025

Yvonne was a very devout Christian and attended daily Mass all her life. As an active member of the CWL she ran the "Getting to Know you" group at our church. Yvonne was an active worker for "Toys for Happiness" and also, in her younger years, a reliable worker for the TB kiosk at the Botanic Gardens. Enjoy your eternal rest dear sister!



Peace Hendricks - Cape Town

Laid to rest 24.05 2025



Merle Jackson - Durban

Merle Jackson, born 28 December 1934, passed away on 28 October 2024. An Honorary Life Member of CWL, she served St Joseph's Branch tirelessly and received a Papal Medal for her dedication. She upheld the CWL motto with distinction.



Thelma Birch - Cape Town

Passed away Sept 2024
MHDSRIP



Petronella (Nellie) Smith - Durban

28.07.1945 - 7.10.2024

Nelly faithfully served as secretary and treasurer of Assumption CWL, later joining Bellair/Queensburgh. She was active in MOTHWA as Lady Billie, on the DUCWA committee, and involved in the church liturgy. A dedicated member, she will be deeply missed.



Mary Meyer - Cape Town

We are deeply saddened by the tragic passing of Mary Meyer of CWL Elsie's River on 11 June. A devoted member since its inception, Mary was a beloved stalwart whose presence will be sorely missed. Our heartfelt condolences go out to her family and fellow CWL members during this difficult time.



Joyce de Mourissem - Durban

It was with great sadness that we learnt of Joyce de Mourissem's death in mid March. Joyce was one of the 'solid' reliable members of our CWL group. With her gentle smile and quiet way, she bore witness to her faith through her trust in God. She was also known for her deep devotion to Mary, especially with the Medjugorje apparitions. MHSRIP



Makhosazane Mthethwa - Durban

31 DECEMBER 1971 - 23 MAY 2025

Makhosazane Mthethwa served the League well for 8years. She was very dedicated in doing the Lord's work for which we will always cherish her. May her soul rest in peace.



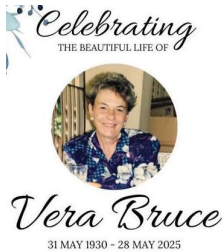
Margaret Cullis - Durban

Passed away September 2024
MHDSRIP



Obituaries

“May the Holy Angels lead you into paradise”



Vera Bruce - Durban

31.05.1930 - 28.05.2025



Margaret Mavuso - Johannesburg

Mme Margaret Mavuso was an active member of St Margaret's Diepkloof. She was inducted as a CWL member in 1996. She passed away on 12th April 2025.



Dieketseng Tseleng - Johannesburg

The Molapo Catholic Women's League mourns the loss of our beloved member, Dieketseng Tseleng, who passed away on the 30th of March 2025. Dieketseng joined the CWL in May 2024. She was laid to rest on the 5th of April 2025 at Our Lady of the Assumption, surrounded by family, friends, and fellow CWL members.



Thuli Motaung - Johannesburg

Mme Thuli Motaung, born on the 9th of November 1973, sadly passed away on the 22nd of May 2025. She joined the league in 2015, having served for 10 years. She was a former secretary of the branch, chorister, conductor and a member of the parish fundraising committee.



Busisiwe Dladla - Johannesburg

Ms Busisiwe Dladla joined the CWL in 2019. Sadly she passed away on 5th April, and was laid to rest on 12th April 2025.



Meisie Nyathi - Johannesburg

Mme Meisie Nyathi was born on the 9th of August 1943. She passed away on the 27th of May 2025, having joined the league in 2000 at Our Lady of Fatima. She served the league for 25 years. She was an associate member when she passed away.



Elsie Galoojee - Johannesburg

Passed away September 2024.



Poppy Sechele - Johannesburg

Mrs Elizabeth "Poppy Sechele" was a member of Cosmo City. Born on 20 November 1951. She joined the League in 2014. A devout Catholic, who carried herself with grace, dignity and kindness. She passed away on 10 June 2025 after a long illness. MS RIP



Cavill Payne - Johannesburg

Passed away September 2024.



Zola Biyase - Johannesburg

Mrs Zola Biyase of Holy Family Parish in Spruitview, was born on 29 December 1959. She joined the League in 1998 and passed away on 4 May 2025.

She was a dedicated member of the branch. She will be sadly missed by her League sisters.



Nonhlanhla Mabaso - Johannesburg

Mme Nonhlanhla Mabaso was born on the 10th of November 1944, and she sadly passed away on the 12th of April 2025. She was a member of the Catholic Woman's League at Regina Mundi for over 3 decades, having joined in 1985. She was a truly committed member of the CWL.



Sanna Jacobs - Kimberley

Sanna Jacobs joined the Holy Trinity Branch of the Catholic Women's League in 2005. She passed away on 07 March 2025. As a loving, kind-hearted and committed member she served as the Branch President from 2015 to 2018. She also served as a Block Leader and as a Lay Minister. She will be deeply missed. MHS RIP



Obituaries

"May the Holy Angels lead you into paradise"



Joyce Baatweng Letshoalo - Kimberley

She was a dedicated member of the Catholic Women's League, from the Mahikeng Deanery, in the St Mary's Branch. She joined the League in 2020 and passed away on 16 March 2025. MHDSRIP



Ntsoaki Molahloe - Klerksdorp

Branch: Cathedral of Christ the Redeemer (Klerksdorp Diocese)
Joined CWL: 2016
Passed on: 26 May 2025
Laid to rest: 31 May 2025



Selekane Rebecca Sehloho - Klerksdorp

Branch: Krete Morekolodi (Klerksdorp Diocese)
Joined CWL: 2007
Passed on: 24 May 2025
Laid to rest: 31 May 2025



Ingrid Zanele Mtshali - Marianhill

Ingrid Zanele "Girly" Mtshali, Uganda Martyrs (Umlazi)
An ever smiling, warm hearted and dedicated CWL member - Girly sadly passed away in January 2025. May her soul rest in peace and may perpetual light shine upon her.



Dudu Dupree - Marianhill

Dudu Dupree - Sts Mary and Anne (Mariannridge)
Mam Dudu was a faithful, active CWL member who sadly passed away on 28 May 2025. May her soul rest in peace and may perpetual light shine upon her.



Mutjetji Welhelminah Molongwana - Polokwane

23.06.1952 - 16.01.2025



Miriam Hlongwane - Polokwane

6.06.1946 - 7.05.2025

It is with deep sorrow we announce the passing of our beloved sister, mother, and grand mother.



Dlanah Makhubela - Polokwane

11.08.1963 - 4.06.2025

Burial: 14/06/2025



Maureen Bosch - Port Elizabeth

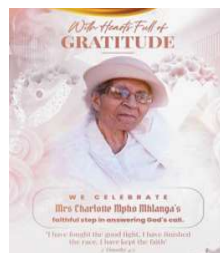
6.08.1932 - 23.06.2025

MHDSRIP



Gertrude Malinga - eSwatini

Gertrude Malinga, the Diocesan Treasurer in Mazini Eswatini has passed away. She was a member of CWL at St Peter and Paul parish in Matsapha. She was active in fundraiser and served as chairperson of her parish. She had been an active member of CWL for about 18 years.



Mpho Mhlana - eSwatini

Laid to rest 7.06.2025

The late Mpho Mhlana who was a founding member of the CWL in the Manzini diocese. She participated particularly at the Our Lady of Assumption parish. Mpho Mhlana was the first CWL member in the Manzini diocese to be awarded Honorary Life membership. As a member of the CWL she shared a wealth of wisdom with her sister members for over 40 years

Glory be

to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen."

Rest In Peace



Eulogy for Pope Francis

Pope Francis consistently championed the dignity and essential role of women within both the Church and society. He spoke out boldly against misogyny and the marginalization of women, urging their greater inclusion at all levels of ecclesial life. Under his leadership, there was a clear call for women to assume more leadership roles within the Vatican and the wider Church, recognizing their unique contributions in pastoral care, theology, and decision-making.

He did not shy away from confronting global injustices, frequently denouncing violence against women as a "global scourge" and even calling it a form of "sacrilege." His papacy opened new and important dialogues about women's roles, emphasizing the need for a more just and inclusive Church - one that listens to, respects, and values the voices of women.

While Pope Francis may not have achieved every reform he envisioned during his lifetime, he was never afraid to try. His courage lay in his willingness to challenge the status quo and to keep pushing the Church toward greater compassion, humility, and inclusivity.

Organizations like WUCWO (World Union of Catholic Women's Organisations) promoting initiatives such as tree planting reflect the spirit of Pope Francis' landmark encyclical *Laudato Si'*, where he urged us to care for our common home. His emphasis on ecological conversion reminded us that protecting creation is a moral and spiritual responsibility.

Pope Francis was a man of great humility and tireless energy, who travelled extensively to bring the message of mercy and hope to the margins of the world. He has left an indelible mark on Catholic life and practice - calling us all to a deeper encounter with Christ through simplicity, dialogue, and justice.

He reminded us, again and again, that to follow Christ is to walk with the poor, care for the Earth, welcome the stranger, and uphold the dignity of every person.

May your beautiful soul rest in peace!



**“Learn character from trees,
values from roots, and
change from leaves.”
- *Tasneem Harneed***