



**Catholic Women's League**  
**Diocese of St. Catharines**



*National CWL:* [cwl.ca](http://cwl.ca)  
*ON Provincial CWL:* [cwl.on.ca](http://cwl.on.ca)  
*St. Catharines CWL:* [stcatharinescwl.ca](http://stcatharinescwl.ca)

**Compiled & Edited by:**

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*Easter Sunday*  
*Manuscript Illumination by Nerius, ca. 1320*  
*Tempera, ink, and gold on parchment*

## **CWL Diocesan Executive: 2024-2026**

**President:** Deedee Alexandre

**Treasurer:** Dina Marchionda

**Secretary:** Denise Papaiz

**Faith Chair:** Theresa Murphy

**Lead:** Frances Murdaca

**Service Chair:** Sue Pellerin

**Lead:** Lee Crampton

**Social Justice Chair:** Kate Montague

**Leads:** Lorrie MacKenzie/Syl Roach

**Communications Chair:** Theresa Murphy

**Life Member Liaison:** Janice Deslauriers

**Past President/Historian:** Lisa Fillingham

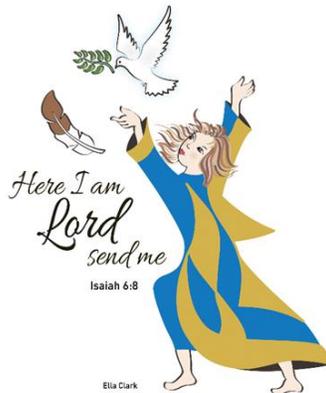
**Spiritual Director:** Father Richard Kowalchuk

### ***Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for the Month of April***

***For the use of new technologies***

*Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.*

## President's Message



### Dear Bishop Bergie, Father Richard Kowalchuk, Clergy, and Sisters in the League!

On Tuesday, April 8, the Annual Meeting of Members was held at St. John's Ukrainian Catholic Church in St. Catharines. The day was successful—wonderful speakers and great food! Thank you to everyone who completed the evaluation form; the comments are particularly important. On Wednesday, April 16, the Planning Committee will be having their debriefing meeting and discussing the comments.

And, now it is Holy Week—sacred time in the Liturgical calendar. On behalf of the Diocesan Executive, we all pray that each of you has a blessed Holy Week and blessed Easter. God is good—all the time!

Don't forget to get your tickets for the **Murder Mystery Evening** being hosted by the Serra Club at Club Roma on **Saturday, May 3**. Deadline is April 22. Contact me for more details.

**Saturday, May 31: Speakers' Forum**--10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at St. Alfred Parish, St. Catharines --fabulous speakers on the unhoused and mental health. Please see the poster for more details.

**Any questions**, please contact your Council President for more info.

Deedee 905-732-4782 deedecw1321@gmail.com



**Everyone makes mistakes in  
life, but that doesn't mean they  
have to pay for them the  
rest of their life.**

**Sometimes good people make  
bad choices.**

**It doesn't mean they're bad...  
it means they're human.**



The Catholic Women's League of Canada  
St. Catharines Diocese



Steering Committee

Presents:

## Speakers' Forum

**"Where Will My Sister Lay Her Head?"**

Saturday, May 31, 2025 from 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

at

St. Alfred Parish, 272 Vine Street, St. Catharines--

**Marni Katzman: Keynote Speaker**

*lived expert / public speaker / survivor*

**Father Gerard Power: St. Patrick Parish, Niagara Falls**

**Jane La Vacca: Executive Director of Westview**

*Centre 4 Women*

**Council Presidents:** please let Deedee Alexandre know **final numbers** of people planning to attend by **May 28:**

**pizzas need to be purchased!**

**all CWL members, clergy, friends, and spouses can attend!**

**This event is free!!! Need to register!**

Serra Club of St. Catharines  
Promoting Catholic Vocations

Presents!

**Murder**  
Mystery Dinner

at

**CLUB ROMA**

25 Vansickle Road  
St. Catharines

**MORE GRUESOME DETAILS!**

**When:** Saturday, May 3, 2025

**5:30 p.m.** doors open / **6:30 p.m.** event starts

**Cost:** \$65 / person: **includes:**

one drink ticket, dinner, and

**THE MURDER MYSTERY**

**Tickets:** e-transfer [events@serrastc.ca](mailto:events@serrastc.ca)

**More Info:** Deedee Alexandre--905-732-4782

**DEAD-line--Tuesday, April 22, 2025**

seating-8 max/table and more info: [serrastc.ca](http://serrastc.ca)



# JUBILEE 2025

## CALENDAR OF MAJOR EVENTS

### DECEMBER 2024

**24 December**  
Opening of the Holy Door of Saint Peter's Basilica



### JANUARY 2025

**24-26 January**  
Jubilee of the World of Communications

### FEBRUARY 2025

**8-9 February**  
Jubilee of Armed Forces, Police and Security Personnel

**15-18 February**  
Jubilee of Artists and the World of Culture

**21-23 February**  
Jubilee of Deacons

### MARCH 2025

**8-9 March**  
Jubilee of the World of Volunteering

**28 March**  
24 Hours for the Lord

**28-30 March**  
Jubilee of the Missionaries of Mercy

### APRIL 2025

**5-6 April**  
Jubilee of the Sick and Health Care Workers

**25-27 April**  
Jubilee of Teenagers

**28-29 April**  
Jubilee of People with Disabilities

### MAY 2025

**1-4 May**  
Jubilee of Workers

**4-5 May**  
Jubilee of Entrepreneurs

**10-11 May**  
The Jubilee of Bands and Popular Music

**12-14 May**  
Jubilee of the Eastern Churches

**16-18 May**  
Jubilee of Confraternities

**30 May - 1 June**  
Jubilee of Families, Children, Grandparents and the Elderly



### JUNE 2025

**7-8 June**  
Jubilee of Ecclesial Movements, Associations and New Communities

**9 June**  
Jubilee of the Holy See

**14-15 June**  
Jubilee of Sport

**20-22 June**  
Jubilee of Governments

**23-24 June**  
Jubilee of Seminarians

**25 June**  
Jubilee of Bishops

**25-27 June**  
Jubilee of Priests

### JULY 2025

**28 July - 3 August**  
Jubilee of Youth

### SEPTEMBER 2025

**15 September**  
Jubilee of Consolation

**20 September**  
Jubilee of Justice

**26-28 September**  
Jubilee of Catechists

### OCTOBER 2025

**4-5 October**  
Jubilee of the Missions

**4-5 October**  
Jubilee of Migrants

**8-9 October**  
Jubilee of Consecrated Life

**11-12 October**  
Jubilee of Marian Spirituality

**31 October - 2 November**  
Jubilee of the World of Education



### NOVEMBER 2025

**16 November**  
Jubilee of the Poor

**22-23 November**  
Jubilee of Choirs

### DECEMBER 2025

**14 December**  
Jubilee of Prisoners

TIN

[www.iubilaeum2025.va](http://www.iubilaeum2025.va)



@iubilaeum25



## THE JUBILEE PRAYER

Father in heaven,  
may the faith you have given us  
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,  
and the flame of charity enkindled  
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,  
reawaken in us the blessed hope  
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless  
cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.  
May those seeds transform from within both  
humanity and the whole cosmos  
in the sure expectation  
of a new heaven and a new earth,  
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,  
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee  
reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,  
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.  
May that same grace spread  
the joy and peace of our Redeemer  
throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed,  
be glory and praise for ever.

Amen.

*Franciscus*

# PRAYER FOR POPE FRANCIS

O God, who in your providential design willed that your Church be built upon blessed Peter, whom you set over the other Apostles, look with favor, we pray, on Francis, our Pope and grant that he, who you have made Peter's successor, may be for your people a visible source and foundation of unity in faith and of communion.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

*Amen.*



<https://www.marquette.edu/faith/prayers-new-pope.php>



## Prayer of St. Gertrude the Great

A prayer which would release 1,000 souls from Purgatory each time it is said. Let's try to make a point of saying this prayer each day.

**“Eternal Father, I offer You  
the most precious blood of Your  
Divine Son, Jesus, in union  
with the Masses said throughout the  
world today, for all the  
Holy Souls in Purgatory,  
for sinners everywhere, for  
sinners in the universal church,  
those in my own home and  
within my family. Amen.”**



# Past Events

*Submitted by Angela Van Kralingen, Parish Newsletter Editor*

## Star of the Sea CWL Member Awarded the King Charles III Coronation Medal

On Tuesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, at a ceremony at Brock University, a number of individuals from St Catharines were awarded this prestigious medal by MP, Chris Bittle, for their outstanding work in the community.

One of the recipients this year was Star of the Sea parishioner and CWL member, Pat Waters! Since Pat was away on holidays on the day of this event, her brother, Denis, graciously accepted the award on her behalf.

This is a well-deserved recognition for Pat and we are so very happy for her!



## Niagara Catholic Award of Distinction presented to CWL Member of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary, Thorold

*Adapted from the Vineyard 2025 Lenten Edition*

Retired trustee and board chair Kathy Burtnik was chosen as one of the 2025 recipients for the **Award of Distinction**, given at the annual Benefit Gala on March 27, 2025. To be considered for the award, recipients must have made a notable, significant and positive contribution to Catholic education. Kathy will join a long list of exceptional contributors on the Niagara Catholic District School Board's Wall of Distinction.



Kathy Burtnik

Kathy Burtnik has been committed to Catholic education for her entire life. She attended Catholic elementary and secondary schools in Niagara, as did her children and grandchildren.

Kathy was an avid volunteer in her children's schools and became involved in the Parent Council (now known as Catholic School Council) and was a familiar face at school events, supporting them in any way possible, with the goal of enriching each student's experience.

It was through this school connection that she decided to run as a Catholic school board trustee. She was first elected a trustee to the Lincoln County Roman Catholic Separate School Board in 1994. She served multiple terms as trustee, vice-chair and chair on that board, then after the amalgamation of school boards in 1998, (Niagara Catholic District School Board) until her retirement from public service in 2022.

During her tenure as a Catholic school trustee, she served as a trustee representative on Niagara Catholic's Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) and Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (NCPIC), ensuring their voices were heard at the trustee table. She supported their initiatives at events and activities and was consistently an advocate for their support of students.

For these very tangible reasons and for the countless other examples of her commitment and dedication to Catholic education and Niagara Catholic, we are proud to present Kathy Burtnik, a long-time friend and advocate for Catholic education, with a Niagara Catholic Education **Award of Distinction**.



**NIAGARA CATHOLIC**  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

## Rosaries for Elementary Schools – St. Kevin, Welland

*Submitted by Lorrie MacKenzie, President*

The ladies of the St. Kevin Catholic Women’s League are making rosaries for the children in Grade 2 of the three elementary schools which we support. When babies are baptized in the parish, we give them a Jesus medallion and a prayer card to celebrate their baptism. As well, we celebrate and provide graduation awards – Christian Unity to Grade 8 students in our elementary and secondary schools. So, we decided that we need to also celebrate the blessed sacrament of First Holy Communion and all of the students in Grade 2 of all three schools will receive a rosary from us. This is the first time that we are making rosaries, and thanks go out to Jennifer from St. Julia’s Parish for coming down to teach us how to make the rosaries, especially the knots!



Bonnie Vadacchino and Bonnie Driscoll



Phyllis Colton Anne Marie Caister



Gemma Crescenzi Bette Ann Gregory

Many thanks to our ladies who turned out on a drop-in basis to make rosaries.

Also, the CWL held a Fish Fry Fundraiser on Friday, April 4 with the profits going to benefit the Open Arms Mission in Welland. Open Arms is a Christ-centered organization that empowers its clients to reach personal potentials by showing respect and dignity as image bearers of God. It has partnerships with churches, businesses, agencies and individuals for the betterment of the community. It provides both short-term and long-term supports to individuals in the community.

# Diocesan CWL Annual Meeting of Members

*St. John Ukrainian Catholic Church, St. Catharines*

*Tuesday, April 8, 2025*







*Stay tuned! More photos will be available for viewing soon.*

# | Month of the Holy Spirit & The Holy Eucharist |

## Catholic Culture



The month of April is dedicated to The Holy Spirit and The Holy Eucharist.

The first nineteen days of the month fall during the season of Lent which is represented by the liturgical color violet or purple — a symbol of penance, mortification and the sorrow of a contrite heart.

April 20th is Easter Sunday and the beginning of the Easter

season. The liturgical color is white — the color of light, a symbol of joy, purity and innocence (absolute or restored).

As our Lenten journey comes to a close, we prepare to follow Christ all the way to the cross and to witness His glorious Resurrection. Hopefully we have sacrificed and prayed so that we are now able to more fully reap the fruits of a well-spent Lent. After our solemn commemoration of the last days and death of Our Lord, we will spend the remainder of the month of April celebrating. As Spring breaks forth, even nature will join us as buds and blooms begin to surface, and we spend this month basking in the joy of the Resurrection. We continue throughout the entire month our cry, “Christ is risen, Christ is truly risen.”

The Feast of Divine Mercy offers us the opportunity to begin again as though we were newly baptized. The unfathomable mercy of God is made manifest today if we but accept His most gracious offer. Easter is the feast

of feasts, the unalloyed joy and gladness of all Christians. This truly is “the day that the Lord has made.” From Sunday to Sunday, from year to year, the Easters of this earth will lead us to that blessed day on which Christ has promised that He will come again with glory to take us with Him into the kingdom of His Father.



The feasts and saints that we will focus on this month — those who have already shared in the rewards of the Resurrection are:

**St. Francis of Paola** (April 2),  
**St. Isidore of Seville** (April 4),  
**St. Vincent Ferrer** (April 5),  
**St. John Baptist de la Salle** (April 7),  
**St. Stanislaus of Cracow** (April 11),  
**St. Peter Chanel** and **St. Louis Marie de Montfort**, (April 28),  
**St. Catherine of Siena** (April 29),  
and **St. Pius V** (April 30).

These feasts are superseded by Holy Week, the Octave of Easter or Sunday liturgies:

**St. Martin I** (April 13),  
**St. Anselm** (April 21),  
**Sts. George and Adalbert** (April 23),  
**St. Fidelis** (April 24), and  
**St. Mark, Evangelist** (April 25).

# Why April is the best month in the Catholic calendar



[Cerith Gardiner](#) | [Aletia](#)  
*published on 04/05/2025*

*And it's not just about Easter Sunday falling on April 20 this year!*

The month of April is a wonderful time of year. Not only is spring very much in the air -- with the trees blossoming, winter coats stored away, and lighter evenings -- it's also a time of great celebrations in the Catholic Church. While some are grand, others are more simple, but they come with a touch of grace.

Although Easter often takes center stage, there's so much more to celebrate in April. So here's a little guide to the best Catholic moments this month, with some ideas on how to make the most of them:

## Eastertide

Obviously the list has to start with Easter. However, while the world often focuses on Easter as a day to snaffle copious amounts of chocolate, Catholics know the truth — Easter isn't just a day; it's a whole season! The 50 days of Eastertide stretch all the way to Pentecost, meaning we have plenty of time to bask in the Resurrection's joy. So go ahead, eat that extra Cadbury egg, keep the Alleluias coming, and remind everyone that the Easter lilies on the altar are still very much in season.

### **Divine Mercy Sunday (First Sunday after Easter)**

St. Faustina Kowalska's vision of Jesus led to the institution of Divine Mercy Sunday — a day dedicated to embracing God's infinite mercy. It's a perfect time to pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet, go to confession, and maybe even extend some mercy to that one family member who always takes the last slice of cake. (Yes, even them.)

### **A saintly lineup worth celebrating**

April is packed with incredible saints, including:

**St. Gemma Galgani (April 11)** – The patron saint of students and pharmacists, she was a mystic who had an incredible devotion to Christ's Passion. If you've got exams coming up, she's your go-to intercessor.

**St. Bernadette Soubirous (April 16)** – The visionary of Lourdes, reminding us of the beauty of faith, perseverance, and the power of Our Lady's intercession.

**St. George (April 23)** – Famous for slaying a dragon (metaphorically or not, it's still pretty impressive), St. George inspires us to face our own dragons — whether they're fear, doubt, or a mountain of laundry.

**St. Mark the Evangelist (April 25)** – The Gospel writer who reminds us that sharing the Good News is a job for all of us. Maybe take a

moment to share an uplifting Bible verse on social media instead of your latest vacation pic, or delicious dessert.

### **A little Marian love: The month before May**

While May is the traditional month of Mary, April gives us a great chance to warm up our Marian devotion. Why not start incorporating the Angelus (substituting the Regina Caeli during Eastertide!) or the Rosary into your daily routine? Bonus points if you do it outside among the fresh spring blooms.

### **Earth Day (April 22): Caring for God's Creation**

April also brings Earth Day, a perfect reminder that stewardship of the earth is part of our Catholic call. Plant a tree, clean up a park, or simply take a moment to thank God for the beauty of nature. (Of course, as it is spring, you might find even greater joy in caring for your garden, or giving your indoor plants a little extra love.)

### **Spring cleaning for the soul**

April, with its themes of renewal and mercy, is a great time for a little spiritual spring cleaning. Go to confession, let go of grudges, and refresh your prayer life. And if you happen to declutter your home in the process, well, consider it an added grace.

So there you have it — a month full of faith, joy, and opportunities for renewal. Whether you're celebrating Eastertide, calling on your favorite saint, or simply embracing God's mercy, there's something special about April in the Catholic Church. Enjoy it, and don't forget — those Easter chocolates are just an added bonus.

# Why Should You Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet?



[Marge Fenelon](#) | [National Catholic Register](#)  
published on 04/02/16

When I first heard about the Divine Mercy Chaplet, I thought it was ridiculous.

That was in the year 2000, when St. Pope John Paul II canonized St. Faustina and granted universal observance of the Feast of Divine Mercy annually on the Second Sunday of Easter. Up to that point, I'd never heard of Divine Mercy, nor did I know much about chaplets in general. So, I knew nothing about the Divine Mercy Chaplet.

*We have the Rosary; why do we need anything else?* I thought to myself.

I figured one bead-related devotion was plenty. The Blessed Mother herself had given the devotion to St. Dominic (d. 1221), citing 15 promises to all who pray the Rosary. “Whatever you ask in the Rosary will be granted,” she told him.

Then she promised this:

1. Whoever shall faithfully serve me by the recitation of the Rosary, shall receive signal graces.
2. I promise my special protection and the greatest graces to all those who shall recite the Rosary.
3. The Rosary shall be a powerful armor against hell, it will destroy vice, decrease sin, and defeat heresies.
4. The Rosary will cause virtue and good works to flourish; it will obtain for souls the abundant mercy of God; it will withdraw the hearts of men from the love of the world and its vanities, and will lift them to the desire for eternal things. Oh, that souls would sanctify themselves by this means.
5. The soul which recommends itself to me by the recitation of the Rosary, shall not perish.
6. Whoever shall recite the Rosary devoutly, applying himself to the consideration of its sacred mysteries shall never be conquered by misfortune. God will not chastise him in His justice, he shall not perish by an unprovided death; if he be just, he shall remain in the grace of God, and become worthy of eternal life.
7. Whoever shall have a true devotion for the Rosary shall not die without the sacraments of the Church.
8. Those who are faithful to recite the Rosary shall have during their life and at their death the light of God and the plenitude of His graces; at the moment of death, they shall participate in the merits of the saints in paradise.
9. I shall deliver from Purgatory those who have been devoted to the Rosary.
10. The faithful children of the Rosary shall merit a high degree of glory in Heaven.
11. You shall obtain all you ask of me by the recitation of the Rosary.

12. All those who propagate the Holy Rosary shall be aided by me in their necessities.
13. I have obtained from my Divine Son that all the advocates of the Rosary shall have for intercessors the entire celestial court during their life and at the hour of death.
14. All who recite the Rosary are my sons and daughters, and brothers and sisters of my only Son Jesus Christ.
15. Devotion of my Rosary is a great sign of predestination.

I figured that just about covers everything.

Given, those promises, I viewed similar devotions as a waste of time. Until, that is, I heard St. Pope John Paul II's words in regard to St. Faustina and the devotion to Divine Mercy.

In his homily during the canonization Mass of St. Faustina, he said:

“Today my joy is truly great in presenting the life and witness of *Sr Faustina Kowalska* to the whole Church as a gift of God for our time. By divine Providence, the life of this humble daughter of Poland was completely linked with the history of the 20th century, the century we have just left behind. In fact, it was between the First and Second World Wars that Christ entrusted his message of mercy to her. Those who remember, who were witnesses and participants in the events of those years and the horrible sufferings they caused for millions of people, know well how necessary was the message of mercy.”

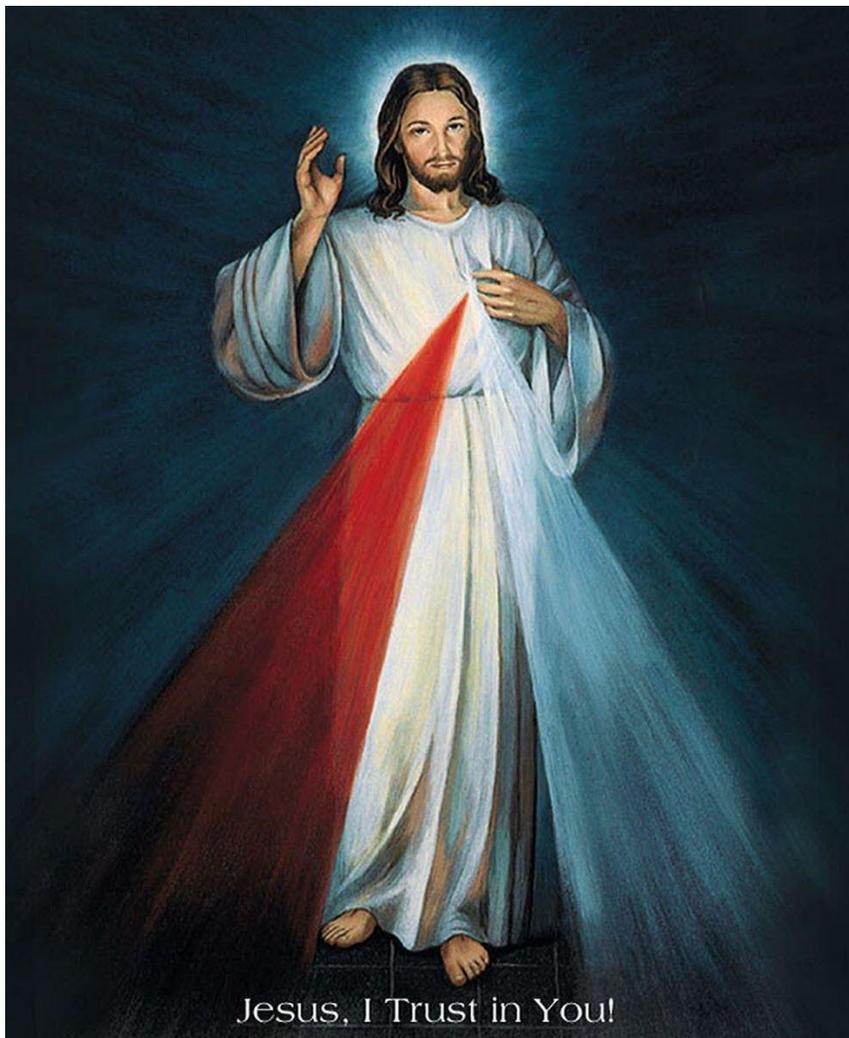
I was curious. Who is this Polish sister who so touched the heart of John Paul II?

So, I read her diary, cover to cover. Then, I read about the devotions connected with Divine Mercy – the promises, novena, and, yes, the Chaplet. What I discovered was like a lightning bolt zapping my heart.

I was especially “zapped” by what Jesus had told St. Faustina about the chaplet.

“Say unceasingly the Chaplet that I have taught you. Whoever will recite it, they will receive great mercy at the hour of death. Priests will recommend it to sinners as their last hope of salvation. Even if there were a sinner most hardened, if he were to recite this chaplet only once, he would receive grace from My infinite mercy.” (Diary, 687)

I still do pray the Rosary daily, and often, a number of times throughout the day. That’s a mainstay in my spiritual schedule. But the Divine Mercy Chaplet has become a mainstay as well.



## Video



<https://youtu.be/7jW7mts6AUo?feature=shared>

Pray Unceasingly | 11 min 10 sec

## Video



<https://youtu.be/5c8ToKiGSxo?feature=shared>

WorshipNOW | 16 min 50 sec



### ***Deceased Members:***

- a) **Shirley Caylor**—Date: February 9, 2025—Parish: St. Mary & St. Anne, Hagersville—Years of Service: 56 years  
<https://www.rhbandersonfuneralhomes.com/cms/obituaries/shirley-caylor/>
- b) **Sheila Fronk**—Date: March 8, 2025—Parish: Star of the Sea, Port Dalhousie  
<https://dartefuneralhome.com/tribute/details/10032/Sheila-Fronk/obituary.html>



## Just a Gentle Reminder!

When a CWL member passes away, there is a completed form that needs to be sent to **Debbie Pine**: [debbiepine@royalpage.ca](mailto:debbiepine@royalpage.ca) as well as to National. Please also send to **Elizabeth Angotti**: [elizabethangotti@gmail.com](mailto:elizabethangotti@gmail.com) and **Katherine Kehoe**: [k.keho88@gmail.com](mailto:k.keho88@gmail.com) by the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month.  
Any questions, contact Debbie.

### FORM FOR REPORTING DECEASED MEMBERS

PLEASE PRINT INFORMATION CLEARLY AND CORRECTLY  
AS RECORDED ON THE PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP LIST

Name of deceased \_\_\_\_\_  
(as shown on membership list)

Membership number \_\_\_\_\_

Also known as: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's name (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Full address \_\_\_\_\_  
(as shown on membership list)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date deceased \_\_\_\_\_

CWL parish council \_\_\_\_\_

Council code \_\_\_\_\_

Diocese \_\_\_\_\_

#### IMPORTANT NOTE:

**Parish councils are asked to forward a copy of this completed form to national office immediately upon notification of death, with a courtesy copy to diocesan and provincial chairpersons of faith.**

**Please do not submit this form if your council has submitted a notification of death through the online membership program.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(date)                      (signature of council president and/or chairperson of faith)                      \_\_\_\_\_  
(telephone number)

Mail, e-mail or facsimile to: The Catholic Women's League of Canada  
C-702 Scotland Ave., Winnipeg, MB R3M 1X5  
Email: [info@cwlc.ca](mailto:info@cwlc.ca)

| Revised September 2023



# Important Diocesan Dates

**Saturday, May 31--10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.**

- **Steering Committee Speakers' Forum**  
**St. Alfred Parish, St. Catharines**  
**Registration Deadline: May 28**





St. Thomas Aquinas Parish  
316 Queenston St., St. Catharines  
Parish Hall

# Catholic Women's League Dessert & Games Social

**Wednesday, April 30th, 2025**

**1:00 p.m.**



**Tickets \$10.00 each**  
(Must be purchased in advance)

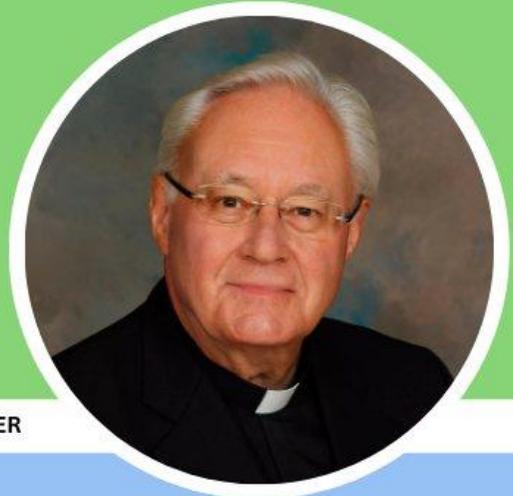
**Bring your Cards & Games**  
**Desserts, Door Prizes, 50/50 Draw**

For tickets contact the Parish Office from April 7 to 25,  
Office Hours: Monday~Closed,  
Tues./Wed. 9-3pm      Thurs./Fri. 9-2pm  
or call 905-687-6971

Tickets are also available following the  
Saturday 5:00 p.m. and Sunday 10:00 a.m. Masses  
from April 5 – April 27

**Proceeds to the "Out of the Cold Program"**  
**Everyone Welcome!!**

Messages of  
**HOPE**  
Speaker Series



QR CODE TO REGISTER

**Fr. Peter Rowe**

*Pastor, St. Vincent de Paul Church  
Diocese of St. Catharines*

**SPEAKER**

**TOPIC**

*The Council of Nicaea*

**DATE**

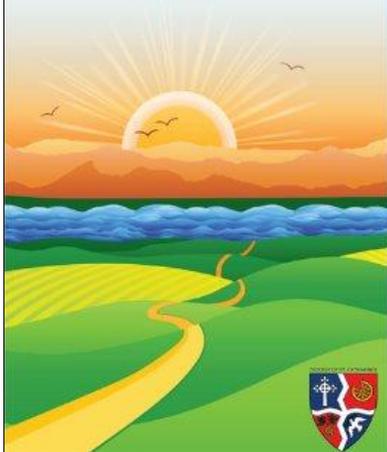
*April 30, 2025*

**TIME**

*6:30 PM*

**LOCATION**

*St. Vincent de Paul Church  
73 Picton Street, NOTL*



# Mini Retreat for Women

“EMPOWERED IN HIS NAME,  
ROOTED IN HIS LOVE”



“...and that Christ may dwell in your hearts  
through faith; that you, being rooted and  
grounded in love....”

*Ephesians 3:17*

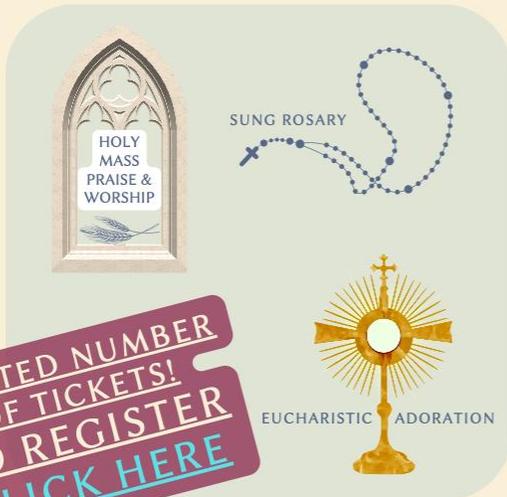
**Saturday**  
**May 3, 2025**

**8:30 AM - 1:30 PM**



**St. Helen Parish**  
**4106 Mountain St**  
**Beamsville, ON**

## Retreat Highlights



**LIMITED NUMBER  
OF TICKETS!  
TO REGISTER  
CLICK HERE**

## Inspirational Speakers:



**Christina Perera**  
*Encounter School of Ministry*

A powerhouse of passion, she is dedicated to sharing the Father's heart with everyone she encounters. As Campus Director of the Toronto Satellite Encounter School of Ministry she teaches, equips activates and deploys disciples across the Archdiocese of Toronto



**Lisa Canning**  
*The Possibility Mom*

A dynamic and enthusiastic mom of 10, Catholic coach, and author of *The Possibility Mom*. Lisa is also the President of the Guiding Star Project. She authentically lives her faith, empowering her clients to fully trust in the Lord and embrace their calling; proving that you CAN root yourself in God alone.

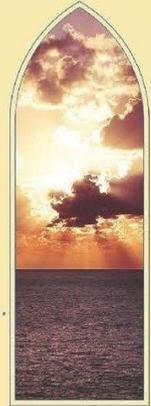
**\$40 REFRESHMENTS AND LUNCH INCLUDED**

# Horizons of Hope - Palliative Care Toolkit for Parishes

Released by The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops



**Interested Parishes!**  
**Come join us with your pastor  
and fellow parishioners to discover  
a culture of LIFE, COMPASSION & HOPE!**



Thank you to Toronto Diocesan CWL member Shirley Christo for her efforts in offering these sessions. The Ontario Provincial Council is honoured to play a supporting role in facilitating the zoom sessions and communication of registration details through its networks.

## During National Hospice Palliative Care Week St. John Fisher (Toronto Diocese) presents:

**Dr. Moira McQueen**

Executive Director of Canadian  
Catholic Bioethics Institute



**Modules 1 & 2**  
**May 6 & 7, 2025**

**Shirley Christo**

CWL Life Member  
Parish Nurse



**Ronald Perinpanayagam**

Unity Health Toronto  
Catholic Healthcare



**Modules 3 & 4**  
**May 13 & 14, 2025**

**Margaret Smith**

St. Elizabeth Palliative Care  
Parish Nurse



**All sessions are from 7:00 - 9:00 pm**

**Attendance is encouraged for all four modules**

**You can attend in person or virtually!**

**Location: St. John Fisher Parish Hall-300 Balmoral Dr.  
Brampton, ON L6T 1V6**

**REGISTRATION DETAILS: Register here by clicking on the link**

**below or via the QR Code:**

*(All must register in advance)*

**<https://tinyurl.com/rutfe4yu>**

**Once registered, a link will be sent via email**

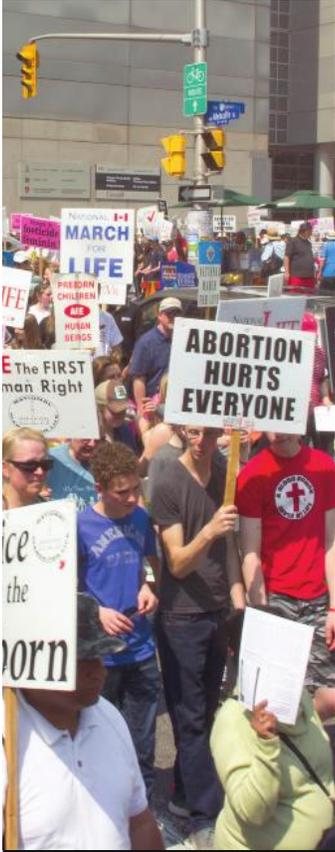


**Please monitor the following sites for more details as the event draws closer:**

**[www.cwl.on.ca](http://www.cwl.on.ca)**

**[OPC Facebook Page](#)**

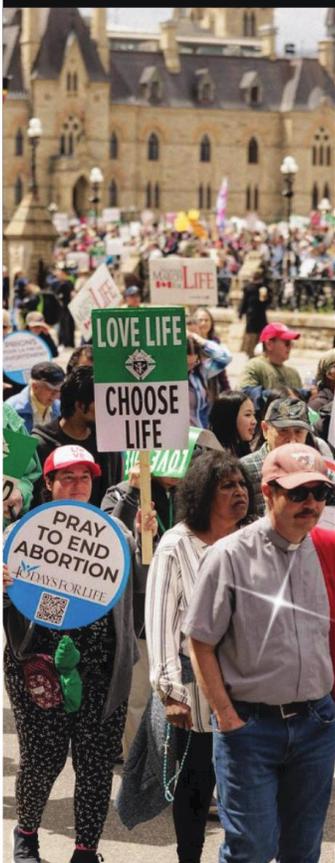




# NATIONAL MARCH FOR LIFE

**MAY 8, 2025**

**PARLIAMENT HILL,  
OTTAWA**



For full schedule and  
more details, visit  
[marchforlife.ca](http://marchforlife.ca)



# The Marian Movement of Priests

May 10, 2025  
Saturday

*Retreat Day for Laity  
at the Mount Carmel  
Spiritual Centre,  
Niagara Falls Ontario*

**Venue:** Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre  
7020 Stanley Avenue, Niagara Falls, ON

**Date:** Saturday May 10, 2025

**Time:** 8:30 am to 4 pm

**Fee:** \$40 per person (lunch included)

**Registration:**

Contact Kathy at (905) 650-1409 or email her at [kabbruscato@protonmail.com](mailto:kabbruscato@protonmail.com) by Monday May 5, 2025. Pay at the retreat, cash or cheque.

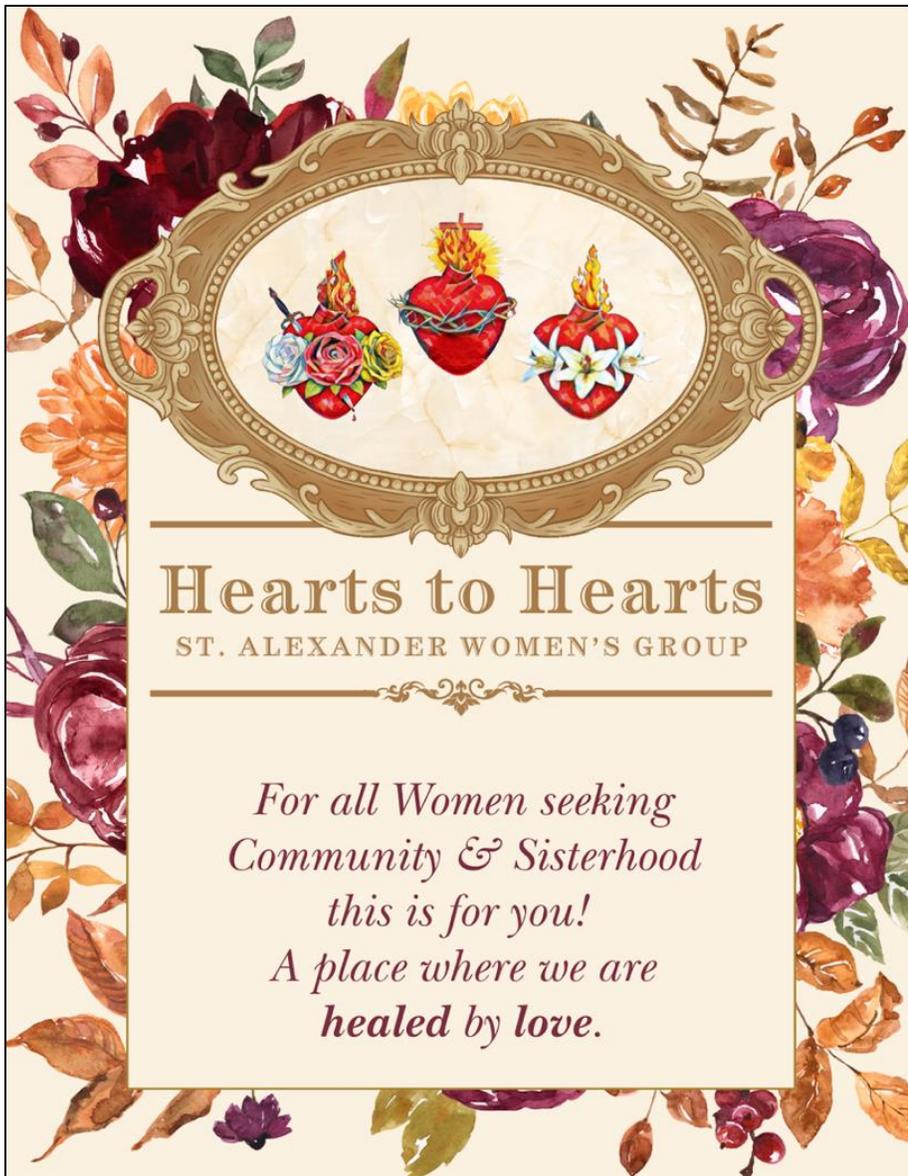


Holy Mass/ Holy Rosary  
Eucharistic Adoration  
Divine Mercy Chaplet  
Meditation  
Questions & Answers

[mmpcanada.ca](http://mmpcanada.ca)

[mmpcanada1930@gmail.com](mailto:mmpcanada1930@gmail.com)

416-900-4392



***Hearts to Hearts*** is a small-groups experience where we come together as women of faith, drawing close to Mary, as she shares the recipe for growing in virtue together. This Catholic study on Mary will breathe new life into your everyday, beginning right in Mary's home.

**Gathering Options:**  
Welcome to attend the day that works best for you. All meetings will be in our Vision Café.

***Meetings will resume after Easter.***

***For more information and upcoming meeting dates, click [here](#).***

**WELLAND PORT COLBORNE PRO-LIFE  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
AND DINNER**

St. Mary's Church Hall  
90 Griffith St, Welland

**Saturday June 7, 2025**

Featuring: **FR. DANIEL CORSO**



Doors Open at 6pm  
Dinner at 6:30pm

**To purchase tickets call  
905-735-3666 or email  
rocca\_josie@hotmail.com**

**Tickets:  
\$40 per person**

Last day to purchase  
tickets: May 23, 2025.  
No tickets at the door

COME  
JOIN US!

THE ONTARIO PROVINCIAL COUNCIL OF  
THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA

*Here I Am Lord, Send Me  
Joyfully!!*

## 78th Annual Provincial Convention

**JULY 6 - 9, 2025**  
FOUR POINTS BY SHERATON  
1150 WELLINGTON ROAD SOUTH,  
LONDON, ON

GUEST SPEAKER



Dr. Jospehine  
Lombardi

All Convention Details  
& Registration Information  
can be found at this link:  
<https://cwl.on.ca/conventions/>

To cherished members, future members, and spiritual advisors,  
we extend a heartfelt invitation to you for our 78th Annual Provincial Convention.

Come, let us unite in the spirit of our sisterhood, sharing stories,  
strengthening bonds, and reigniting our commitment to Christ.

This convention promises to be a powerful opportunity for spiritual growth,  
meaningful fellowship, and the renewal of our shared mission.

*We eagerly await the joy of your presence!*

# SAVE THE DATE!

## 105<sup>TH</sup> NATIONAL ANNUAL CONVENTION TORONTO, ONTARIO | AUGUST 10-13, 2025

Mark your calendar! The national convention of The Catholic Women's League of Canada returns to the vibrant, multicultural city of Toronto, August 10–13, 2025. Near Eaton Centre, the host venue's location offers easy access to shopping, restaurants and sightseeing.

The convention promises to be unforgettable, with enriching sessions, unique events and opportunities to connect with sister members. There will be something for everyone! Some exciting highlights include a keynote address by a renowned author and recipient of a Governor General award, dinner theatre, a Jukebox Dance Party, a

Sea and Sky Tour and the election and installation of new national officers. While at the convention, participate in the World Union of Catholic Women's Organisation's North American Regional Conference before Opening Mass on Sunday, August 10<sup>th</sup>!

The planning committee cannot wait to welcome you to this extraordinary gathering. Stay tuned for a complete program and registration information in the spring edition of *The Canadian League*, but for now, save the date and start planning to *Come to Toronto... and Meet the World!* †



Toronto, Ontario. ©Destination Toronto

### 105<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

#### SATURDAY, AUGUST 9

Evening Program Dinner and Theatre, Famous People's Theatre

#### SUNDAY, AUGUST 10

Day Program WUCWO Regional Conference  
Evening Program Opening Mass and Reception, St. Paul's Basilica

#### MONDAY, AUGUST 11

Day Program Keynote speaker Dr. Gerry Turcotte, President of St. Mary's University  
National Officer Luncheons  
Resolutions Dialogue Session  
Standing Committee Q&A Session  
National Spiritual Advisor Q&A Session

Evening Program Juke Box Dance Party

#### TUESDAY, AUGUST 12

Day Program Plenary Session with Brothers of the Good Shepherd  
Life Members' Luncheon  
Spiritual Advisors' Luncheon  
Break Out Sessions facilitated by Provincial Presidents

Evening Program Provincial Dinners

#### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14

Day Program Annual Meeting of Members, including election of officers  
Closing Mass & Installation of Officers, St. Michael's Cathedral

Evening Program Gala Banquet

#### THURSDAY, AUGUST 15

9:15-12:30 p.m. Sea and Sky Tour (ticket required)



**Separated & Divorced Healing Ministry**  
Diocese of St. Catharines  
PO Box 875, St. Catharines, ON L2R 6Z4

The Diocesan Separated & Divorced Healing Ministry Support Group meets every second and fourth Monday of the month (except holidays) from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre, 7020 Stanley Avenue, Niagara Falls, Ontario.

For information or to participate via Zoom, email [separatedanddivorced@saintcd.com](mailto:separatedanddivorced@saintcd.com) or call 905-356-4113 or 905-684-0154.

**PROGRAM SCHEDULE FOR WINTER/SPRING 2025 (Jan - June)**

January 13, 2025	The Catholic Faith and Divorce Fr. Paul MacNeil, Presenter
January 28, 2025 ( <i>Note date change to Tuesday</i> )	Embracing the New Year
February 10, 2025	Overcoming Loneliness
February 24, 2025	Understanding Loss and Grief
March 10, 2025	Facing Fear
March 24, 2025	Asking for God's Grace Deacon Gunther Eyer, Presenter
April 14, 2025	What is Forgiveness?
April 28, 2025	Learning to Forgive
May 12, 2025	Navigating Change
May 26, 2025	Self Esteem
June 9, 2025	Who Am I Now?
June 23, 2025	Loving and Respecting Yourself
❖ No meeting July and August	
❖ Next meeting September 8, 2025	

# Indigenous Teachings Book Study

First Monday of the Month - 2—3:30 p.m. ET

Facilitated by Donna McGreal

Are you interested in learning more about Indigenous Truth and Reconciliation? Consider joining our book study. Each month participants discuss the suggested book or film and then join an online discussion. Indigenous guests may be present for some discussions.

## 2024-25 Schedule

- September 3: *The Reason You Walk* by Wab Kinew (Premier of Manitoba from Onigaming First Nation, Northwestern Ontario) (NB: This is a Tuesday since Monday is Labour Day)
- October 7: *Split Tooth* by Tanya Tagaq (Inuk, Cambridge Bay, Nunavut)
- November 4: *The Clay We are Made Of: Haudenosaunee Land Tenure on the Grand River* by Susan M. Hill. (Haudenosaunee – Mohawk-Wolf Clan- Six Nations of the Grand River, Ontario). Readers may also want to read: *The Puzzle of the Haldimand Tract* – Phil Monture
- December 2: *Medicine Walk* by Richard Wagamese (Ojibwe, Wabaseemoong Independent Nations, Northwestern Ontario)
- January 6: *Film- Rumble: The Indians Who Rocked the World* (Documentary narrated by the late Robbie Robertson of Six Nations. (Cayuga/Mohawk, Six Nations of the Grand River, Ontario)
- February 3: *The Berry Pickers* by Amanda Peters (Mi'kmaq, Maritimes)
- March 3: *My Conversations with Canadians* by Lee Maracle (Stó:lō Nation, British Columbia)
- April 7: *Valley of the Birdtail: An Indian Reserve, a White Town, and the Road to Reconciliation* by Andrew Stobo Sniderman & Douglas Sanderson (Swampy Cree, Beaver Clan, Opaskwayak Cree Nation, North Manitoba)
- May 5: *Come Dance with Me: A Medicine Wheel Practice of Anishinaabe Catholic Interculturation of Faith* by Sr. Eva Solomon, CSJ, ssm. (Henley Inlet First Nation)
- June 2: *Laughing With the Trickster* by Tomson Highway (Barren Lands First Nation, Manitoba) OR 2022 CBC Lecture - *Laughing with the Trickster*



Facilitator Donna McGreal received her Combined BA in English and Cultural Studies and Indigenous Studies at McMaster University. Working on Indigenous Reconciliation is her passion and vocation.



Concerned  
Lay Catholics

To register and for a list of links to books send an email to

[concernedlaycatholics@gmail.com](mailto:concernedlaycatholics@gmail.com).

We will send a Zoom invitation along with further details.

## The Meuse to The Seine: Catholic and Cultural Heritage Sites -- North of France, Benelux, Germany

May 12-23, 2025 with Fr. Peter T. Rowe



Dear Pilgrims, Parishioners, and Friends:

To find ourselves in close proximity to the holy touches something that is essential to our humanity. Along the way, you may find places that tug at your heart more deeply than others. On the whole, the fruits of the journey will be inestimable!

For you who have been on a pilgrimage with me before, you'll find this one to be very compact in terms of distances covered. If you haven't journeyed with me before, I sure welcome you to the adventure! You'll meet many wonderful people, and we'll traverse four (and more) major river basins: the Meuse, the Mosel, the Somme, and the Seine – all crossroads of European history.

We begin in the Netherlands. In its southeast is Limburg, our base for visits into eastern Belgium and Germany. While perhaps not as well-known as more famous Marian shrines, nonetheless Banneux and Beauraing in Belgium are worth a prayerful visit. The German cities of Aachen and Trier are saturated with historical significance, from Rome's empire to Charlemagne's. Nearby Luxembourg beckons, too.

Our pilgrimage complements Pope Francis' own pilgrimage to Catholic Belgium and Luxembourg (2024) and looks back to St. John Paul being in the Benelux countries forty years earlier (1985). For a small country, Belgium has a remarkable number of cities of art: among them, Brussels, Gent, and Brugge introduce us to the Flemish Masters. We commemorate the sacrifices of so many "in Flanders fields" as we take in Ieper (Ypres), Passchendaele, and Vimy. After traversing the north of France to behold its great cathedrals, we arrive in Paris for an enjoyable couple of days in the city and vicinity.

A phenomenal Jubilee Year pilgrimage awaits you, Pilgrims of Hope!



(Fr.) PETER T. ROWE  
Parish Priest / Pastor  
St. Vincent de Paul,  
Niagara-on-the-Lake

# PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE, PADRE PIO AND ROME CELEBRATING THE HOLY YEAR OF JUBILEE 2025

WITH THE SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP OF FATHER STEPHEN BRUZZESE, PASTOR OF ST. DENIS PARISH, ST. CATHARINES.....JULY 7 TO 18, 2025

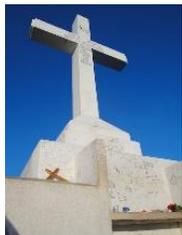
## ITINERARY

**DAY 1, MONDAY-JULY 7** **FLIGHT TO DUBROVNIK**  
We fly to Dubrovnik via Vienna. Relax and enjoy your flights. Complimentary meals and in-flight movies on transatlantic flight only. Group seating for our flight will be pre-assigned by the airline.

**DAY 2, TUESDAY-JULY 8** **MEDJUGORJE**  
After landing in Dubrovnik airport and collecting our luggage, we meet our guide and depart for Medjugorje. We will arrive at our hotel and get some rest after the long journey. Each evening, we will attend the parish evening programme which begins with the Rosary followed by Holy Mass and depending on the day, we finish with adoration.  
**Overnight: Medjugorje** **Dinner**

*Since 1981, in this small village of Medjugorje in Bosnia-Herzegovina, the Blessed Virgin Mary has been appearing and giving messages to the world. These years that She is spending with us are a time of special Grace granted by God. In Her own words She tells us, "I have come to tell the world that God exists. He is the fullness of life, and to enjoy this fullness and peace, you must return to God".*

**DAYS 3 TO 5, WEDNESDAY TO FRIDAY-JULY 9 TO 11** **MEDJUGORJE**  
During our stay, you will experience the beauty and peace of this simple village and have the opportunity to share your faith with pilgrims from all over the world. Here are some of the activities planned for our visit:  
**Daily Mass:** Each morning at St. James Church for Mass.  
**Climb Apparition Hill:** Recite the Rosary while climbing the hill to the place where the visionaries first encountered Our Lady.



**Climb Cross Mountain:** In 1933, the villagers built a 30' high cross atop a mountain to commemorate Jesus' passion and death on the cross. Climb to the top, stopping 14 times along the way to rest and Pray the Stations of the Cross.

**Apparitions:** Join the villagers and fellow pilgrims in praying the Rosary in St. James Church and stay for the apparition of Our Lady to the visionaries and Blessing of the Sick immediately following.

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:** Our Lady has always called us to be close to Her Son. Join fellow pilgrims for Adoration every afternoon at St. James Church.

**Meetings with the Visionaries:** Pending their availability, the guide will arrange meetings with the Visionaries.

**Visit to the Community of Cenacolo:** Founded by the Sisters of Charity, Cenacolo is a community for young men and women who have lost their way in life and are on the road to recovery. We will hear their inspirational words about their journeys back to Jesus Christ.

**Prayer at the Statue of the Risen Christ:** Pray at the bronze statue located on the grounds of St. James Church and witness the droplets of water that miraculously seep out of Christ's right knee.

**Overnight: Medjugorje** **Breakfast, Dinner**

**DAY 6, SATURDAY-JULY 12** **MEDJUGORJE-DUBROVNIK**  
We travel to Croatia and arrive in Dubrovnik. Enjoy a walking tour of the old city, under UNESCO protection, for more than 30 years. During our visit we will see Stradun, dive into the history of Rector's Palace, St. Francis Church, explore Sponza Palace, Orlando's Column, the first pharmacy in Europe inside the Franciscan Monastery, as well as interesting churches and city streets. Enjoy some free time to stroll on your own and dinner at our hotel.  
**Overnight: Dubrovnik** **Breakfast, Dinner**

**DAY 7, SUNDAY-JULY 13** **DUBROVNIK-SAN GIOVANNI ROTONDO**  
Today we travel by ferry across the Adriatic Sea towards the city of Bari in Italy. We disembark and head towards **San Giovanni Rotondo**, home to our beloved **St. Padre Pio**, where he spent a lifetime of prayer, penance and self-denial through intense pain. We get settled in our hotel, enjoy dinner and retire for the evening.  
**Overnight: San Giovanni Rotondo** **Breakfast, Dinner**

**DAY 8, MONDAY-JULY 14** **SAN GIOVANNI ROTONDO: ST. PADRE PIO**  
This Morning we pray at the Old Church, tour the sanctuary and view the crucifix, in front of which St. Padre Pio received the stigmata. We also see the humble saint's confessional from where St. Padre Pio spent an innumerable number of hours listening to the faithful's confession. Later visit to the Grotto of St. Michael the Archangel in Cagnano Varano.  
**Overnight: San Giovanni Rotondo** **Breakfast, Dinner**

**DAY 9, TUESDAY-JULY 15** **SAN GIOVANNI ROTONDO-LANCIANO-ROME**  
We say goodbye to Padre Pio and depart towards Lanciano, where we see the greatest Eucharistic Miracle – a consecrated Host that turned into human flesh and has remained so for centuries. Carol Wojtyla, then Cardinal of Krakow, visited the SS. Relics of the Eucharistic Miracle on November 3, 1974. On the guestbook the Supreme Pontiff John Paul II expressed his devotion so: "Let us always believe more in you, have hope in you, love you." Continue our journey to Rome and check-in at our hotel for the last 3 nights of our pilgrimage.  
**Overnight: Rome** **Breakfast, Dinner**

**DAY 10, WEDNESDAY-JULY 16** **ROME: VATICAN CITY**  
This morning we arrive at St. Peter's Square where we are blessed by the Holy Father (providing His Holiness is in residence). Following the Papal Audience, we have free time to eat lunch and shop for religious souvenirs before embarking on a visit to the incomparable Sistine Chapel. We end the day at St. Peter's Basilica, built on the site where St. Peter was martyred, and we join pilgrims from all over the world in celebration of Mass.  
**Overnight: Rome** **Breakfast, Dinner**

**DAY 11, THURSDAY-JULY 17** **ROME**  
Our last day of Pilgrimage. Enjoy a guided tour of Rome visiting the major Basilicas: St. John the Lateran, (the oldest Basilica in Rome and the official ecclesiastical seat of the Pope) and across from it, the Holy Stairs (regarded as the stairs climbed by Jesus on his way to face Pontius Pilate). Next, St. Paul Outside the Walls, the Trevi Fountain where we throw 3 coins to ensure our return to the Eternal City and stop by the Colosseum - for a memorable picture. We end the day at the St. Mary Major, one of the oldest shrines dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, which contains a relic from the manger of the infant Jesus.  
**Overnight: Rome** **Breakfast, Dinner**

**DAY 12, FRIDAY-JULY 18** **FLIGHT TO TORONTO**  
Sadly, our pilgrimage has come to an end. We depart for the airport for our return flight to Toronto. Arrival at Pearson Terminal 1.  
**END OF OUR PILGRIMAGE.** **Breakfast**

### PRICE PER PERSON IN DOUBLE ROOM

**\$ 5,990.00 CAD**

Price includes Fuel Surcharge & Airport Taxes \$ 917.17 CAD – Taxes are subject to change without notice until time of ticketing. Staying in individual room Pay \$ 1140 CAD supplement. See next page for complete list of inclusions.



*Blessed are those whose strength is in you, who have set their hearts on pilgrimage (Psalm 84)*

**To register and for more information please contact:**



30 Wertheim Court # 20, Richmond Hill, ON L4B 1B9  
(905) 889-1681 Toll-Free 1-800-268-0900 Ext. 233  
[edgar@gateways-international.com](mailto:edgar@gateways-international.com)  
TICO Reg. #2171876

# PILGRIMAGE TO GREECE & TURKEY

“In the Footsteps of St. Paul” - Featuring a cruise ship.

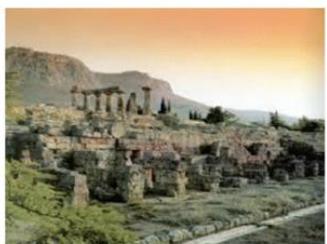
Under the spiritual leadership of **Father Rico Passero**

**Pastor of St. Joseph Catholic Parish in Grimsby, Ontario**

**Sep 02 – 13, 2025 12 days - \$ 5,595.00** (Toronto Dep. incl. all taxes and tips)



Sep 2 Afternoon departure from Toronto to Athens on Air Canada direct flight  
Sep 3 Upon arrival in Athens, you are met by your guide and bus driver. Transfer to your hotel. There will be a walking tour with Mass at the Cathedral. Dinner, then free time - overnight at the hotel.  
Sep 4 Today we visit Athens, we see the ruins of the Parthenon, the Erechtheum & the Propylae. We will ascend Mars Hill where Paul spoke to the ancient Athenians about the one & only God. From here we have an excellent view of the ancient agora, former center of the Athenian public life. Afternoon you will visit the Olympic Stadium, where they were first held in 1896 and then also a tour of the current Olympic Stadium. Afterward free time in Plaka before returning to the hotel. Dinner and overnight.



Sep 5 This morning you will board the ship and sail to the world-famous island of **Mykonos**. The town is a small architectural miracle, with its gleaming, white-washed buildings and windmills, and one of the most cosmopolitan places in the world.

Sep 6 In the morning you will arrive in **Kusadasi**, Turkey, and drive to **Ephesus**, there we will have Mass at the House of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The impressive remains of Ephesus include the **Agora**, the **Theater**, the **Stadium**, the **Library of Celsius**, the ruins of the **Temple of Diana** (one of the “Seven Wonders of the Ancient World”) and many more. Later, you will sail for the island of **Patmos**, where you can choose to visit the **Monastery of St. John**, on one of the island’s highest points. From there, you will walk down to the **Grotto of the Apocalypse**, the site of the apocalyptic Revelations of St. John the Divine.



Sep 7 In the morning arrive at Heraklion, Crete, where you can choose to visit the Minoan Palace of **Knossos**, home to king Minos and his legendary beast, the Minotaur. Then, sail north to the isle of **Santorini**, the most breathtaking of all the Greek islands. The exquisite, whitewashed villages, including the town of **Fira**, or Thira, cling to volcanic cliffs, accessible by cable-car, or mule.

Sep 8 You arrive in **Pireaus**, Athens, early in the morning and, after breakfast, you disembark and begin your trip to **Meteora**, which has particularly impressive scenery Continue to the Meteora Monasteries, perched upon the summits of gigantic rocks, which have been etched into variety of strange shapes. Dinner and overnight at our hotel.



Sep 9 We become acquainted with this great city, the “Queen of the North”, where Paul wrote two epistles to the ancient **Thessalonians**. Our city tour takes us to the Arch of Galerius on the Via Egnatia, where we look over the second largest city of Greece from the Old City ramparts.

Sep10 We visit the beautiful city of **Kavala** (ancient Neapolis), and from there on to **Philippi** which was a Roman garrison town and the chief city in the province of Macedonia. Next, we visit the Panagia Eikosifinitsa Monastery. We return to Thessaloniki for dinner and overnight.

Sep11 We continue to **Veria** (Beroea) where we visit the monument dedicated to Paul; we see the Bema where he stood and preached to the people of Veria. Then to Vergina is where Philip built a massive palace and a theatre. The tomb of Philip was found here undisturbed in 1977, full of treasures that are now on display in Thessaloniki’s Archaeological Museum. Enjoy a wine tour and wine tasting at a local winery. Continue to Athens. Tonight, you will enjoy a cooking demonstration on Greek cuisine and will enjoy a farewell dinner at a local Greek restaurant.



Sep12 We board our coach for **Corinth**, taking the coastal road along the Saronic Gulf to the Corinth Canal, which connects the Aegean Sea with the Ionian Sea. Short stop for pictures and continue to the site of ancient Corinth, Paul’s beloved city and site of his most extensive ministry. Time for leisure at the port of Cenchrea. Before taking the way back to Athens we will stop to a Greek traditional olive oil farm! You will see how the olive oil is made and taste it. Dinner and overnight at our hotel.

Sep13 Transfer to Athens International airport for your Air Canada direct flight to Toronto

**Travel arrangements by:**  
**INTERNATIONAL**  
**HERITAGE TOURS**

877-999-8868  
416-444-6666  
905-886-9769 (fax)

For information and registrations call:  
Henry – ext. 367 [henry@ihtours.com](mailto:henry@ihtours.com)  
Liliana – ext 324 [liliana@ihtours.com](mailto:liliana@ihtours.com)



## Enter through the Holy Doors with Most Reverend Gerard Bergie

**October 16 - 24, 2025**



Dear Pilgrims of Hope:

His Excellency Bishop Gerard Bergie extends an invitation to join him on pilgrimage to Rome and to enter through the Holy Doors of St. Peter's Basilica, the Archbasilica of St. John Lateran and the Basilica of St. Mary Major during the 2025 Jubilee Year.

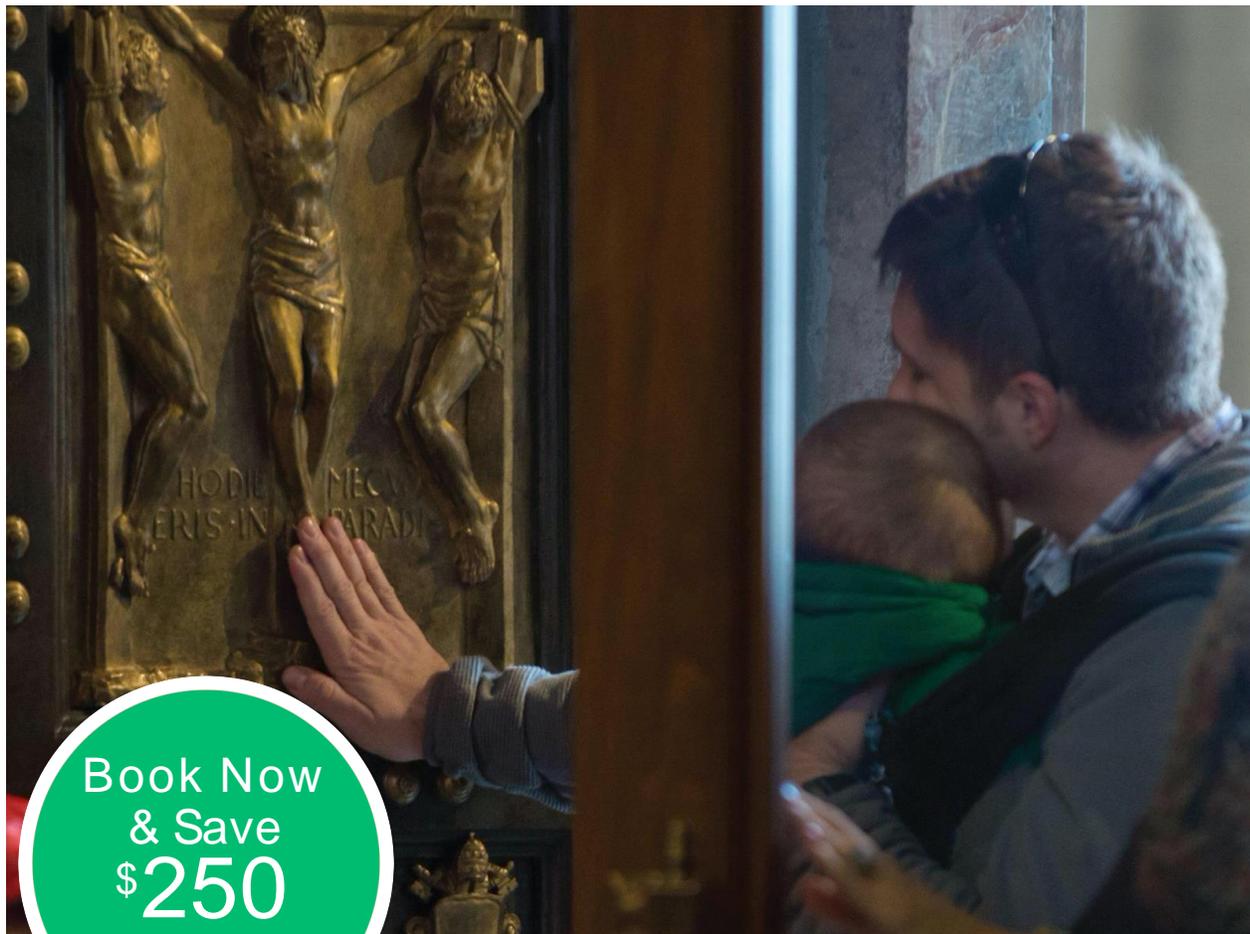
This Spiritual Journey starts on October 16<sup>th</sup> with a Toronto flight to Rome and coach to Assisi where we honour and pray at the tomb of Blessed Carlo Acutis. The tour continues with a full day tour in Assisi. On the way to San Giovanni Rotondo (Shrine of Padre Pio of Pietrelcina) we stop in Lanciano (Eucharistic Miracle of Jesus.) Via the Montecassino monastery, we reach Rome, enter through the Holy Doors and receive a Papal Blessing. The return flight is scheduled for October 24.

Reservations are accepted on a first come, first served basis, until the max. of 42 passengers has been reached. Please complete the attached booking form. For more information contact Ineke Brinkman, Travel Advisor for Direct Travel and Organizer of Pilgrimage Tours since 1993 at [ibrinkman@dt.com](mailto:ibrinkman@dt.com) or call Ineke at 905.988.1313.

The Catholic Women's League of Canada presents...

## 2025 Jubilee: The Holy Year

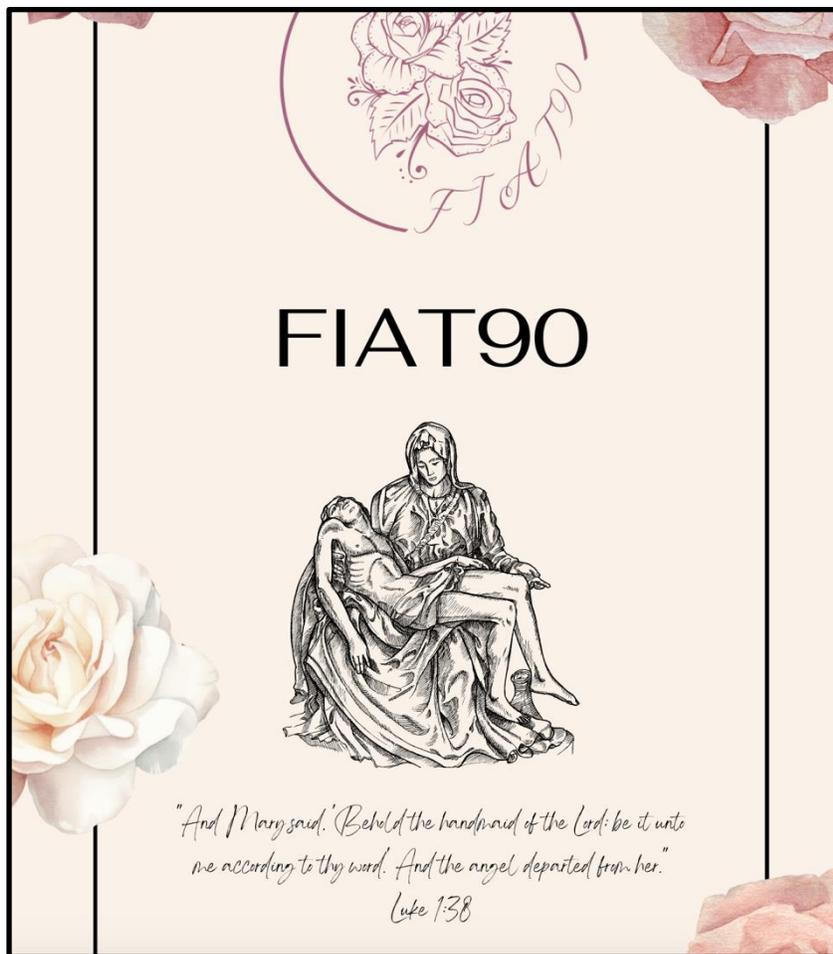
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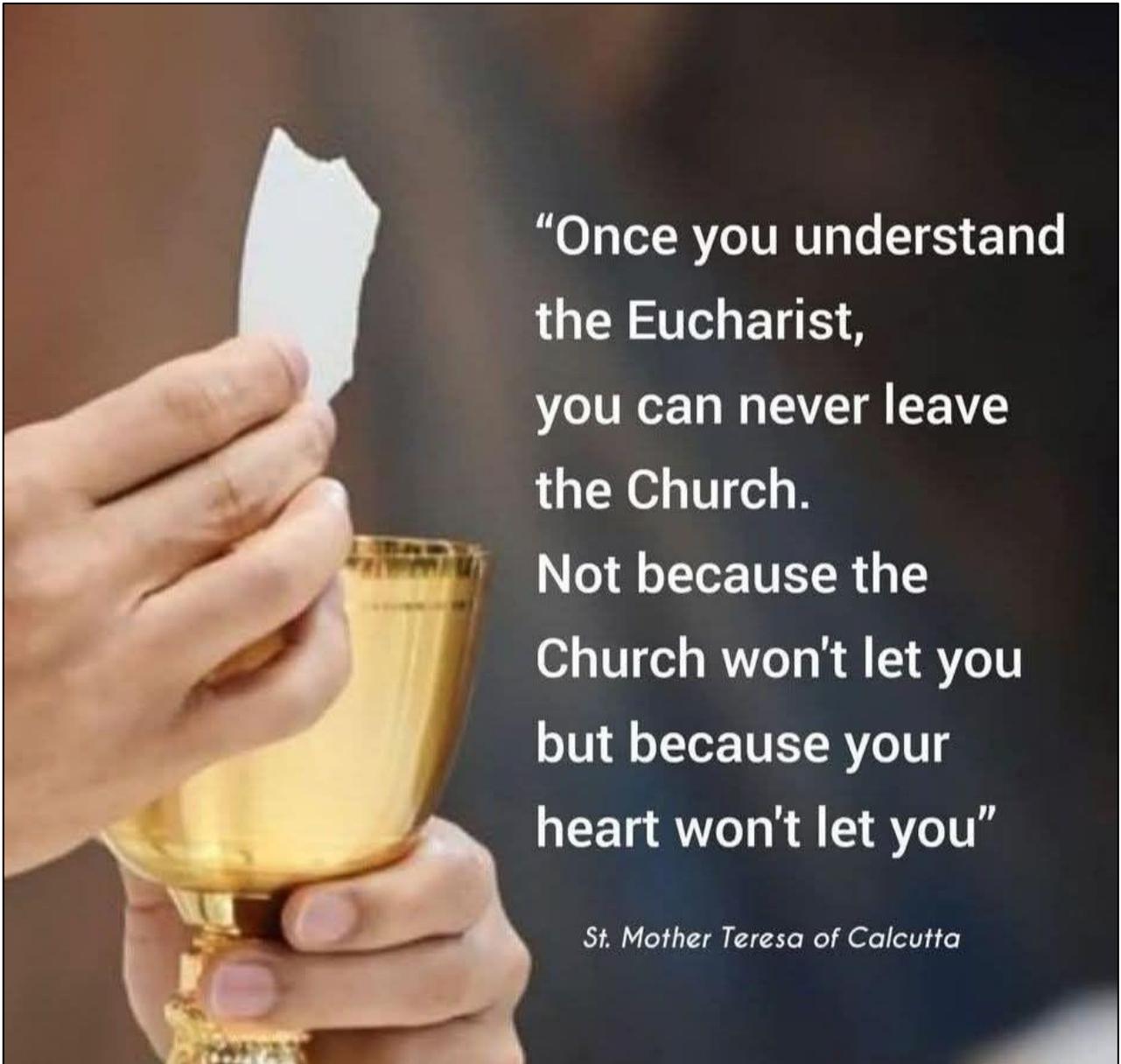
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**FIAT90 2025 | January 20 to April 20, 2025**

Download the booklet here: [fiat-90.com](https://fiat-90.com)

FIAT90 is a 90-day Catholic program for women seeking to grow closer to Christ by embracing the virtues of Mary — faith, humility, and devotion. Inspired by Mary's "fiat", her wholehearted "yes" to God, this transformative journey combines daily prayer, fasting, and intentional lifestyle sacrifices to create space for God's grace and deepen spiritual growth. With the support of an accountability partner (anchor) and small group community, participants are invited to simplify their lives, strengthen their faith, and model Mary's trust and obedience in their walk with Christ. Whether you are a beginner or experienced in your faith, FIAT90 offers an opportunity to say "yes" to God in a profound and life-changing way.



**“Once you understand  
the Eucharist,  
you can never leave  
the Church.**

**Not because the  
Church won't let you  
but because your  
heart won't let you”**

*St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta*

# Catholic Resources

We would like to provide CWL members with a list of Catholic resources, which include apps, podcasts, articles and more.

To access them, click on the links below:

## [Community Library](#)

**Resources**

We would like to provide Catholic resources to deepen our faith journey as CWL members. Please feel free to suggest any content to our team!

**Catholic Apps**



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**The Church lists the corporal works of mercy as follows:**

1. **Feeding the hungry**
2. **Giving drink to the thirsty**
3. **Sheltering the homeless**
4. **Clothing the naked**
5. **Visiting the sick**
6. **Visiting the imprisoned** (sometimes listed as “**ransoming the captive**”)
7. **Burying the dead**

**The Church lists the spiritual works of mercy as follows:**

1. **To instruct the ignorant**
2. **To counsel the doubtful**
3. **To admonish sinners**
4. **To bear wrongs patiently**
5. **To forgive offenses willingly**
6. **To comfort the afflicted**
7. **To pray for the living and the dead**

