



CWL

St. Catharines Diocese

Saturday, March 16, 2024

CWL Catholic Connections

National CWL: cwl.ca

ON Provincial CWL: cwl.on.ca

St. Catharines CWL: stcatharinescwl.ca

CWL
President's Message

Dear Members of the CWL,

The month of March is dedicated to St. Joseph. We are a league of women and our focus is on Our Lady of Good Counsel with masses and celebrations. This continues into May, the month of Mary. We should also remember St. Joseph, the significance he made to Our Lord and Mary. Maybe we could celebrate a special Mass, meet to say the rosary, have a coffee Sunday in honour of St. Joseph. As with everything in our lives, we remained focussed on what we do all the time. Maybe we could think out of the box and celebrate or learn about a saint a month. Do something to remember all who contributed to Catholicism.

--Lisa Fillingham, St. Catharines CWL President

Messages From Deedee Alexandre:

Quote for the Month:

By nature, each one of us is enclosed in our own personality, but supernaturally, we are all one. We are made one body in Christ, because we are nourished by one flesh. As Christ is indivisible, we are all one in him.

St. Cyril of Alexandria

Good Day Ladies!

My sincere apologies for the delay in sending out the Catholic Connections. Just a couple things to keep in mind!

- 1. CWL AMM: March 21** is the deadline for registration to be received by Dina Marchionda. Please phone or email Dina to let her know your numbers--regardless of when you mail the registration and cheque.
- 2. Catholic Connections:** At the AMM, as many of you know, I will be the new President of the St. Catharines Catholic Women's League of Canada. Consequently, April will be the final edition of the Catholic Connections. **UNLESS!** someone steps forward and would like to continue this monthly newsletter. Please let me know!
- 3. Diocesan Executive Meeting: May 29, 2024--St. Alexander at 6:30 p.m.--dessert bar and coffee!** All Diocesan Executive Officers and Parish Council Presidents **and** the Faith Chair, Social Justice Chair, and Service Chairs at each parish are invited to attend!!!
- 4. "Happy New Year" / Meet and Greet--2nd annual:** St. John's Ukrainian Catholic Church--doors open at 5; dinner at 6 p.m. Cost--\$25.00. Advanced tickets only! None available at the door.

Deedee Alexandre

**The Catholic Women's League of Canada
St. Catharines Diocesan Council**

**66th Annual Diocesan
Annual Meeting of Members
(Convention)**



**Holiday Inn and Suites Parkway
Conference Centre
327 Ontario Street, St. Catharines, Ontario**

Tuesday, April 23, 2024

| | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Guest Speaker | CWL ON-President | CWL National President | Banquet Keynote Speaker |
| Adelaine Nohara | Linda Squarzollo | Shari Quinta | Josephine Lombardi |



AMM Registration: 7:45 a.m.-8:45 a.m. Tuesday, April 23, 2024

\$40.00: registration +

- lunch and day meeting = \$85.00
- banquet only = \$110.00
- full day--including banquet = \$150.00

**TO REGISTER,
PLEASE CONTACT
your
Parish Council
President!**

Please note: Vendors will be at the AMM Convention. The only **beverages** provided pre-AMM, at breaks, and at lunch are water, coffee, and tea; **no** juices, etc.

Registration Deadline: Thursday, March 21, 2024



Choose Life Niagara
**ANNUAL
DINNER EVENT**

SPEAKER: BLAISE ALLEYNE

SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2024

RECEPTION 5:00 P.M. DINNER 6:00 P.M.

CLUB ROMA

125 VANSICKLE RD, ST. CATHARINES

TICKETS:

ADULTS \$60

STUDENTS \$30



Pro-life speaker and co-author of *A Guide to Discussing Assisted Suicide*, Blaise Alleyne, has had thousands of conversations about abortion and euthanasia with people from all walks of life and trains people in effective pro-life apologetics.

**PURCHASE TICKETS AT
CHOOSELIFE.CA/EVENTS**

See you there!

CWL Lenten Retreat: Father Michael Basque

Father Michael Basque was the speaker at the CWL Lenten Retreat that was held on February 17 and 21. There were approximately 85 ladies in attendance on each the Saturday and Wednesday.

It certainly was an edifying and layered presentation. Father Basque took all of us on a brilliantly constructed Lenten journey including Biblical and historical references including key concepts. They assisted in answering: “How do the six points impact our lives?”

On January 21, Pope Francis declared 2024 the Year of Prayer. Father Michael

certainly assisted in helping those in attendance develop a deeper relationship with God. He encouraged us and helped us ask ourselves penetrating questions and take practical actions to cultivate that relationship.

Father Michael also heard confessions on both days and joined us for lunch. Fabulous Lenten Retreats!

Thank you, Father Michael!



Figure 1 Archbishop Leo of Toronto, Father Michael Basque, and Father Leo Huard

Mount Carmel--Lenten Retreats!























St. Joseph's, Grimsby--the largest contingent of ladies at the retreat!





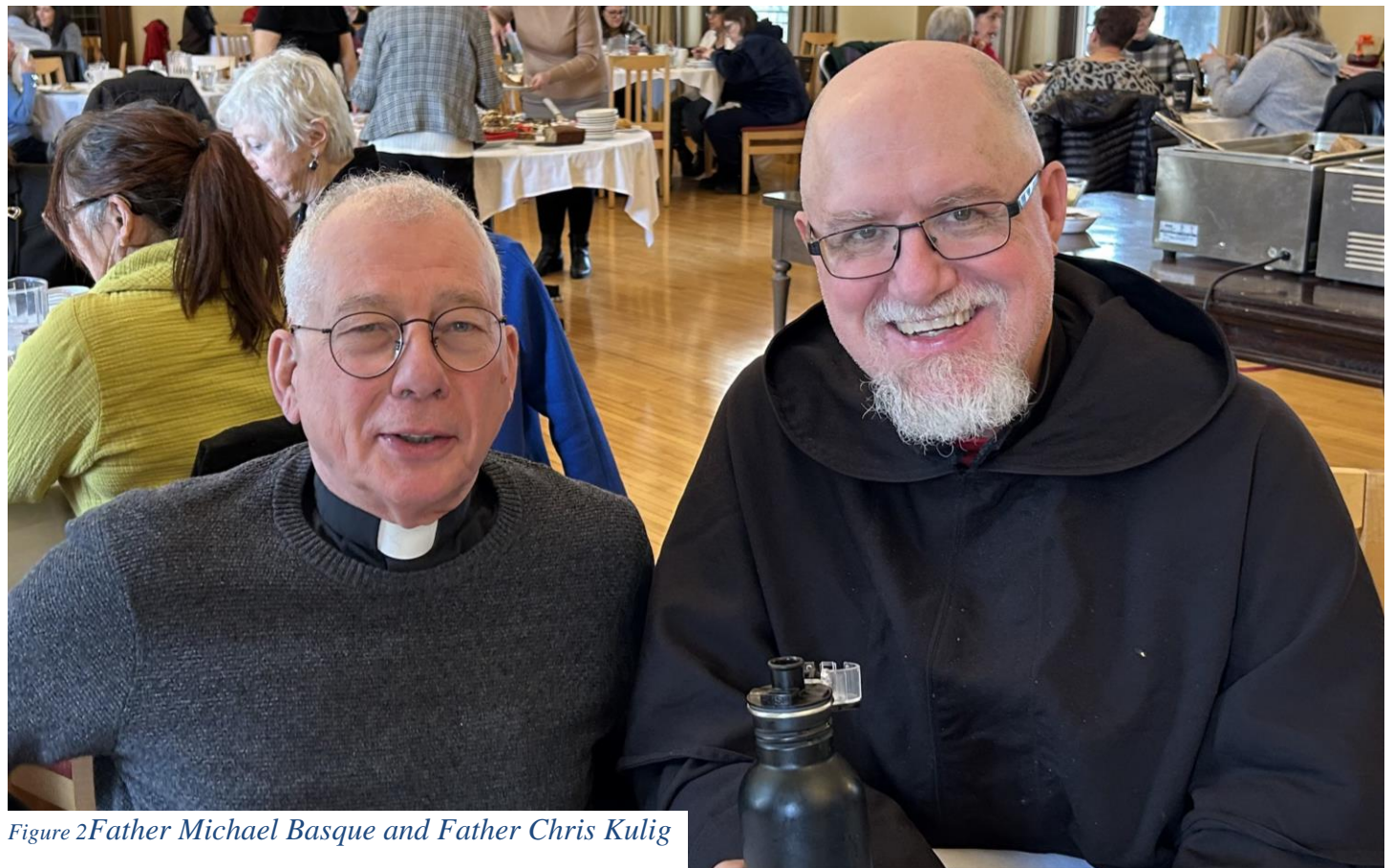
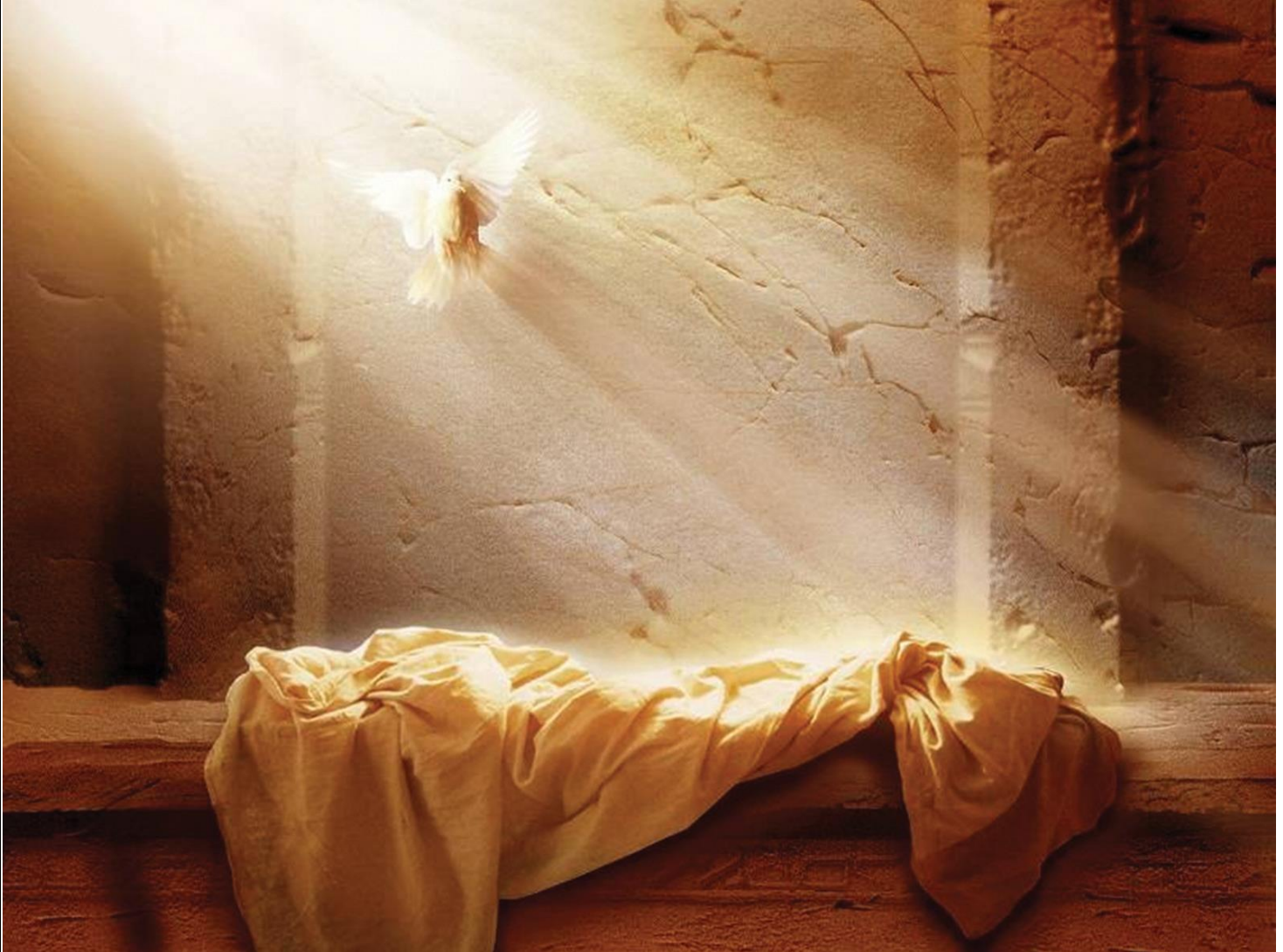


Figure 2 Father Michael Basque and Father Chris Kulig

Does Jesus' Resurrection really matter?

Sioux Falls-- Bishop's Newsletter

WPADMIN MARCH 27, 2023



Question: How can I explain to others the importance of the Resurrection for us as Catholics?

The resurrection of Jesus from the dead goes to the very heart of our faith. In fact, the first proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ by his followers was simply, "He is risen!" These are the words of the angel to the women at the tomb, these are the words of the Apostles to the disciples from Emmaus, and they remain the Easter greeting down to today: Christ is risen, he is risen indeed!

Recall also the words of St. Paul that “if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain, and your faith is in vain” (1 Cor 15:14). As the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) notes, “The Resurrection of Jesus is the crowning truth of our faith in Christ” (CCC 638). It was a real event, as indicated by the empty tomb and Jesus’ appearances to the disciples, recounted in the Gospels and in the Acts of the Apostles and referred to by St. Paul.

Like Jesus’ life and death, the Resurrection is neither myth nor fairy tale. It is a real, historical event—it really, truly happened. But what, exactly, is the Resurrection? There are a few points we can make to better understand this central teaching of our faith.

First, the Resurrection is not a purely spiritual reality: Jesus’ human soul and human body are really and truly reunited. In order to demonstrate this, Jesus eats fish in front of his apostles, and, even more vividly, he invites them to touch the wounds in his hands and his side. He is not a spirit or a ghost: he is flesh and blood.

But this is not merely a resuscitated Jesus either; he did not return to life the same way that Lazarus or other people who Jesus himself revived were brought back to life, for they came back in the same form of existence that they had before they died, as evidenced by the fact that they died again.

Jesus, on the other hand, was resurrected, not resuscitated. Although it was indeed the same body that returned, Jesus did not come back to the same form of existence that he had before the cross. Rather, his body was—and still is—glorified, and as such has the ability to be present how and where Jesus wills, unlimited by time or space. We see this in his appearances to the disciples. He often simply appears in their midst, even though the doors are locked, and sometimes he appears to them in such a way that they do not recognize him, often thinking Jesus is someone else.



Dr. Chris Burgwald holds a Doctorate in Sacred Theology from the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas in Rome. A second point about the nature and importance of the Resurrection is this: Jesus' resurrection acts as a confirmation of everything he did and taught. The catechism tells us, "All truths, even those most inaccessible to human reason, find their justification in Christ by his Resurrection has given the definitive proof of his divine authority" (CCC 651). We know that everything Jesus said and did is true, because he rose from the dead, because he promised his Resurrection as the verification of his words and deeds.

This applies in a particular way to Jesus' divinity. Throughout the Gospels, Jesus generally kept his identity hidden, not

only his identity as the Messiah but also his identity as the Son of God, the Incarnate Word. But there were occasions when he, in fact, did reveal this truth, particularly in various instances wherein he applied to himself the divine name, "I AM." These affirmations and the other more subtle hints at his divinity were confirmed and verified by the Resurrection.

Finally, Jesus' resurrection is the fulfillment and verification not only of his own promises, which he made during his public ministry, but it is also the fulfillment of the promises made throughout the Old Testament. In 1 Corinthians 15, St. Paul speaks repeatedly about how Jesus' actions—including his Resurrection—happened "in accordance with the Scriptures." Recall that for St. Paul, this phrase referred to the Old Testament alone, as those were the only Scriptures Paul knew; the New Testament of course was just coming into existence at the time, including the very letter in which Paul wrote these words! This highlights the fact that Paul understood Jesus' resurrection to be the fulfillment of those promises of the Old Covenant, in addition to those promises made by Jesus himself.

Jesus' resurrection, then, is not just a "happy ending" to his life and his ministry, it goes to the very heart of why he came: to save us from our sins and for heaven by conquering sin and death. As the ancient Easter greeting says, "Christ is risen, he is risen indeed!"



Passed Away:

a) Daphne Stockman--March 9, 2024--Star of the Sea; years of service: 21

b) Mary Frances De Rochie--March 11, 2024--St. Alfred--years of service: 67!

Just a Gentle Reminder!

When a CWL member passes away, there is a completed form that needs to be sent to Deedee Alexandre: deedeealexandre321@gmail.com and to debbiepine@royalpage.ca

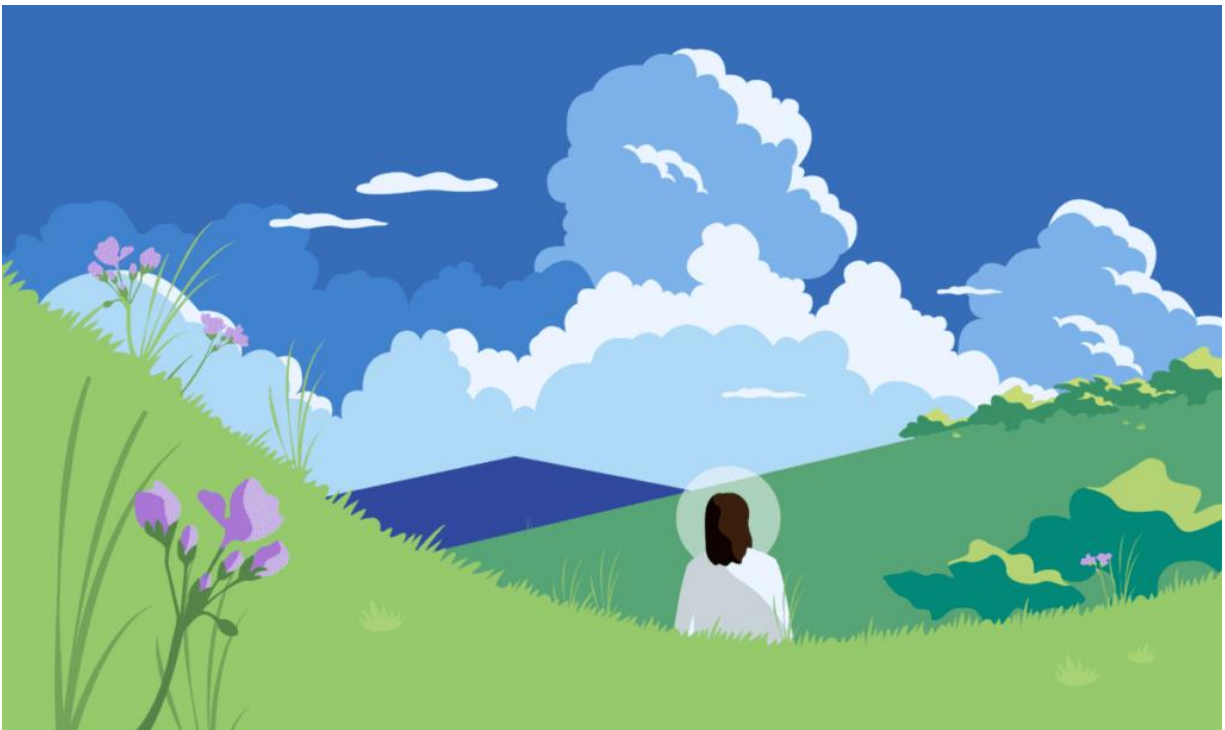
Thank you!



St. Patrick--March 17



St. Joseph--March 19



Happy Easter!

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**

CWL Executive: 2022-2024

President: Lisa Fillingham

Past President/Historian: Frances Murdaca

Treasurer: Dina Marchionda

Secretary:

President-Elect: Deedee Alexandre

Spiritual Development Chair: Deedee Alexandre

Service Chair: Diane Szydowski

Social Justice Chair: Sue Pellerin

Communications Chair: Theresa Murphy

Spiritual Director: Father Richard Kowalchuk

~the end~