



STAR OF THE SEA CWL GENERAL MEETING

Minutes

June 2, 2026

FAITH

SERVICE

SOCIAL JUSTICE

ATTENDANCE: Mary Marano, Karen Shakespeare-Eckstein, Susanne Honsberger, Karla Gilmore, Viz Werner, Carmela DeLuca, Rosalie Rescigno, Angela VanKralingen, Lidia Molinaro, Frances Prindiville, Elsie Pavelko, Linda Dirks, Angie Mannella, Kelli Steele, Lyn Bourret, Connie Tracey, Lora Jambrovic, Rose Dxugan, Maria Aranda, Audrey Chaput, Marion Battersby, Eileen McAuliffe, Lil Gialanella

Opening Prayers:

Mary opened with a prayer for the repose of the soul of Deacon Ed West, followed by:
Heavenly Father,

We come before You today with grateful hearts, thankful for the opportunity to gather together. We ask for Your presence to guide our thoughts, our words, and our actions during this meeting.

Grant us wisdom to make decisions that are fair and beneficial, clarity to see the truth in every matter, and unity to work together with respect and understanding. May our discussions be productive, our hearts be open, and our intentions be pure.

Bless each person here with focus, patience, and a spirit of cooperation. And when we leave this place, may we carry forward the good work we have begun today.

We place this meeting in Your hands, trusting in Your guidance and grace.

Amen.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT – Mary Marano

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA of: June 2, 2026 Moved by Karen

Shakespeare-Eckstein, seconded by Elsie Pavelko. **CARRIED**

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF: May 5, 2026 – note, minutes have been amended to include Karla Gilmore as being present. Moved by Susanne Honsberger, seconded by Frances Prindiville. **CARRIED**

SPIRITUAL REFLECTION – Linda Dirks. Linda led us on her 'Light a Candle For Me' journey, which she recently took through Europe – primarily behind the Iron Curtain. She showed us slides of the various beautiful churches that she visited, especially in Hungary, Budapest, Slovakia and Vienna – telling us about some of the history of the churches and their works of art, and their patron saints. In each of these churches, she lit a candle – especially in memory of her Dad, who had visited these churches – some with Linda – years ago. She finished with the lyrics of a song, written by her brother, Tymn.

CORRESPONDANCE – Connie Tracey Thank you notes were read from Mary Jane Stacey (for the prayer shawl and the get well card as she recovered from surgery) and from Westview Centre 4 Women, for the donation of \$475 that we recently sent to them.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Lidia Molinaro- as per the end of the month statement. Lidia explained some of the expenses.

SPIRITUAL ADVISOR – Father Richard Kowalchuk is on retreat

Business Arising from May 5, 2026:

1. **Hearts on Fire Bishop's Diocesan Campaign.** Our donation of \$800 was made on behalf of our parish.
2. **Westview Centre 4 Women Donation:** A donation of \$475 was made.
3. **School Graduations – June 2026**
Saint Francis – June 24, 6:00 p.m. at the Performing Arts Centre. Presenter will be Lyn Bourret.
St. Ann – June 18, 5:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn (Ontario Street). Presenters will be Karla Gilmore and Joanne Baranek-Feor.
St. Teresa of Calcutta – June 23, 5:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn (Ontario Street). Presenters will be Karen Shakespeare-Eckstein and Joanne Baranek-Feor.
Presenters were asked to please take photos of the winners (after receiving permission from their parents) – so that they can be put in the newsletter.
4. **The St. Carlos Acutis Challenge-** A \$200 donation was made for this cause.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Strawberry Social & BBQ – June 9 from 5-7 p.m.** We still need a few more volunteers. **Please sign-up by June 2.** [STRAWBERRY social and BBQ 2026 CWL VOLUNTEER Sign-up Sheet ..docx - Google Docs](#) We are still looking for items for the summer gift baskets that we will be raffling. **Please bring in as soon as possible!!**
2. **June Dinner and Service Pins Presentations- June 16, 5:30 p.m. Dalhousie Yacht Club.** **Ticket deadline is June 2, 2026.** Sign-up using this link: [CWL June Dinner June 16 2026 sign-up sheet - Google Sheets](#) We currently have 37 signed up to attend.
3. **Trivia Night Fundraiser: Friday, October 23, 2026 – Armenian Community Centre, Martindale Road.** A \$300 deposit has been made to reserve the hall. Travis Seetoo and his friend, both from the Shaw Festival, will organize the questions act as Trivia Masters for the evening. We need one or two people to coordinate the evening – so over the summer, please think about volunteering to help. This is a family event. Please mark your calendars!

4. Calendar updates for September – December 2026. No CWL meetings or Masses in July and August

CWL Masses: Sept. 6, 9:00 a.m. (we will be remembering Deacon Ed at this Mass); October 4, 11:00; November 7, 5:00; December 6, 9:00

CWL Executive meetings: Tuesday Sept. 1; Sept. 29; October 27; Nov. 24

CWL General meetings: Tuesday Sept. 8; Oct. 6; Nov. 3; No Dec. meeting; Jan. 5

REPORTS:

1. **ORGANIZATION**- Mary Marano reported that we currently have 141 members, 13 new members and only 4 non paid.
2. **FAITH** – Linda Dirks is absent
3. **SERVICE** – Karen Shakespeare-Eckstein – there were no new communiques from National, however Provincial is reminding us of the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, on Friday, June 12, 2026. This is significant for reconciliation efforts between the Catholic Church and Indigenous people in Canada, emphasizing love, solidarity with suffering and healing.
Diocesan – The CWL of St. Therese of Lisieux, Port Colborne, are hosting a rummage and bake sale on June 6, from 8:30-2:00.
Karen reminded us of the Strawberry Social, and our CWL dinner.
4. **SOCIAL JUSTICE** – Jayne Evans – no report as Jayne is absent.
5. **PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY** –Karen Lee – absent, but Connie Tracey mentioned that Karen has been in touch with our 3 schools, who are very enthused about our ladies teaching knitting and crocheting to some of the students in the fall. This follows a discussion held at our last CWL meeting about getting students involved. Karen is putting a plan together for the fall.
6. **TURBAN MINISTRY**- Marg Martin – absent, but Elsie Pavelko spoke about the wonderful article appearing in the Standard (and elsewhere) about our Turban Ministry. Several ladies had brought in copies of the article. The CWL council at St. John Bosco actually contacted our council to see how they could help us. It was suggested that the article be forwarded on to National – Karen Shakespeare-Eckstein will do that.
7. **A reminder from Angie Mannella that tickets for the Shaw to see ‘Funny Girl’**– Oct. 2 at 1:00 – are still available. Please give or etransfer the money directly to Angie – NOT LIDIA. Deadline for sign up is noon on June 5. Cost is \$65, and the play will be followed by dinner at Lina Linguini’s (each person will pay for their own dinner at that time).

OTHER BUSINESS:

Reminders:

Next Meeting Dates: Executive Meeting- Tuesday, Sept. 1 at 7:00 p.m.

General Meeting – Tuesday, September 8 , 2026 – 7:00 p.m.

CWL Mass: Saturday, June 6, at 5:00 p.m. The sign-up sheet for ministry positions at this Mass was available.

Connie Tracey asked the members to please give some thought over the summer break as to taking on an executive position. Upon our return in September, a nomination committee will be put together to find candidates for the November election.

50/50 Draw – \$42.50 was won by Elsie Pavelko

Closing Prayer:

Prayer for the League

Lord Jesus, we pray for The Catholic Women's League of Canada.

Thank you for the many gifts you have given women of the Church.

We are grateful for this beautiful parish of Star of the Sea, where Catholic women gather together in prayer and service.

Help our members to share their gifts in service to the League.

Teach us to be kind to one another.

Help us to listen to Your Word.

Lead us to act on Social Justice issues.

Give us brave voices to speak out and support the teachings of the Church.

Help us to sustain our membership by encouraging and welcoming all women to join the League.

We make this prayer to You and through the intercession of Our Lady of Good Counsel.

Amen