



Catholic Women's League New Zealand

Te Ropu Wahine Katorika o Aotearoa.

Wellington Archdiocesan Council

Presidents Newsletter, February 2020.

Dear CWL Members As we approach the end of February, I acknowledge that this is no longer a New Year, yet our Branches are just getting into gear and accelerating into 2020. May this be a year of progress, energy & new vitality for us all, especially as our Lent Faith journey begins.

Conference is the word for this year, with our **One Day Archdiocesan Conference & Annual General meeting on Monday 16th March**, at the Upper Hutt Bowling Club in Exchange Street, Upper Hutt, to be hosted by the Branches of the Upper Hutt Valley. The theme is Women Welcoming Change.

Have you Registered as an Individual to be with us all to be part of this day?
Please, enrol to support us as soon as possible.



Speakers to inspire us are Cardinal John Dew, our esteemed Archbishop, National CWLANZ President, Susan Dickson, CWLANZ National Mission Convenor, Jenny Muschamp and a Panel of Kitty McKinley Challenge 2000, Leole Malama-Prasad, who led change for Rotary members, and Raewyn Richardson, a health and well-being expert who works in an Upper Hutt

Pharmacy. Remits (already distributed) and a Soap box session are also on the Agenda. The Conference Collection will be our contribution to the Apostleship of the Sea.

At our AGM, Nominations for Council are required for –
President - 4 years completed May, 2020
Social issues - 4 years completed May, 2020
Mission Convenor - 4 years completed March 2020

Let us all do our best to keep CWL vital and strong in our community and our Church of Aotearoa New Zealand.

Nomination Forms are attached to this newsletter, so pray, and discern the wonderful women in our Branches for possible Council Members from April 2020. All present Council members offer every support to new, interested and prospective Council Members. Our time for nominations does not comply with the CWL Handbook due to illness and change in family circumstances. We apologise for this, but will consider some flexibility, including two people to share a position, if necessary.

MISSIONS are a focus requested by Pope Francis for 2020. Cardinal John has arranged **Mission Expo for March – Wellington on the 14th March at Viard College, Porirua from 10am to 4pm,** and on the 21st In Nelson. The Council has reserved a booth at the Wellington Expo at Viard College. We will be delighted to have CWL



members support us with a visit and /or help. **If your Branch has photos of your Mission Community in Oceania, or photos of your contributions to schools, Colleges, teen Mums, knitters in action, baking, raffles etc, please let us know by 10th March,** as copies of these will be made to for our display at the Mission Expo.



2019 National contribution to Missions in Pacific and Oceania amounted to an amazing \$155,768. This amount exemplifies the Faith and Action of all branches devoted to supporting need in Aotearoa / New Zealand and the Pacific Islands / Oceania and includes At Home, Mission Education Project and the Jubilee Fund.

A Day of Retreat and Reflection open to all CWL members is currently being arranged for July. Joy Cowley is willing to lead us in retreat, probably in the Upper Hutt Valley. The date and topic are being negotiated. You will be notified of this.

Days for Girls will be the **CWLANZ At Home Appeal from July.** Our Kapiti Branch was the first of the CWL Branches to support the needs of girls in a nearby Catholic college by donating money for sanitary protection in 2016, when it was realised that the cost of these items was beyond the family budget for many girls in low decile colleges resulting in days missed from their studies. Girls' learning opportunities and their dignity are really important and to be valued. Days for Girls provides kits of washable pads and shields, soap and knickers with instructions for laundering and care, and is an International as well as National organisation, supporting the WUCWO Objective for women & families.

Regarding the National Conference in Rotorua, Air New Zealand are currently offering special air fares from Wellington to Rotorua but we would need to be quick to make bookings. The **National Conference** will be held in Rotorua, hosted by Hamilton Diocese, from July 22nd to 25th at Rydges Hotel. \$176 twin share without breakfast. Fridges in rooms. Full registration \$140. Opening Mass will be at St Michael's Church. Plus, optional activities - Dinner \$40, a scenic bus trip \$15.

We are all aware of the many ways we all benefit, personally, as members of the Catholic Women's League, and also being a vital influence, contributors to our Parishes, and nationally to the Church of Aotearoa New Zealand, especially with regard to addressing social issues. CWL remains the largest lay organisation within the Catholic Church of NZ. The CWLANZ Board is endeavouring to support us to find ways to continue to thrive in numbers, strength, awareness and contributions to social need in NZ.

May the Spirit bless us with courage, in Faith and Service with action.

*Christine Paterson,
Archdiocesan President, Wellington.*

