



CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE NEW ZEALAND

Te Ropu Wahine Katorika o Aotearoa.

REPORT TO WELLINGTON REGIONAL MEETING

IN ST THERESA'S CHURCH FOYER , KARORI

19TH FEBRUARY, 2020

May the New Year bring us all blessings of peace , good health, courage and new strength to be the best we can be, to do the best we can do, with love and compassion.
It seems such a short time since the lovely Advent celebration led by the Tongan community with such confidence and enthusiasm.

CWLANZ Board has met in January, 2020.

The Hutt Valley Branches are working together to arrange the Archdiocesan Conference & AGM in Upper Hutt on Monday 16th March. The Council has arranged Speakers to inspire us - Cardinal John

National President - Susan Dickson

National Mission Convenor- Jenny Muschamp

A Panel - Kitty McKinley from Challenge 2000

Leola Malama a young Rotary Leader for change

Raewyn Richardson a health & wellbeing professional

And of course the AGM which will include calls for nominations for Council, from 2020.

Missions Jenny will travel to Tonga this year,

Jenny stepping down this year. We need a person to take on the Mission Convenor position.

As part of Jenny's Report to the Board the National Mission total was

MISSION GIVING

The total National Mission giving for the year ending 30 September 2019 was \$155,768. This is an amazing amount of money Members raised in the name of "Faith and Service" to support others. Some Branches are small in numbers. I am in awe of the work they do.

<u>Dioceses</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
Auckland	21,776	24,184
Hamilton	48,145	58,309
Palmerston North	11,247	9,782
Wellington	20,788	22,972
Christchurch	45,358	40,383
Dunedin	8,453	17,031

National Conference will be held in July, 2020 in Rotorua. Branches have information for you including Registrations. Let's have a good representation from the Wellington Archdiocese. National Conference 2022 will be in Invercargill.

The Archdiocese has organised **Mission Expo** on Saturday 14th March at Viard College to raise awareness of the Mission in the Pacific and throughout the world, as initiated by Pope Francis. CWL will have a booth at this Expo – please visit us and if you have photos and items of your Mission Communities, please let us copy the photos to display.

Archd. Council is in the process of arranging Day of Reflection with Joy Cowley in June or early July..... a busy year ahead

May the Lord bless all working with the current threat to health, guiding them to discovering all that is necessary to curtail the spread of the virus and protect all people, remembering that 50,000 people have caught it and survived.

May God bless all of you and all you do for others.

In Faith and Service with Action and Aroha

Christine Paterson
Archdiocesan President

CWL Onslow Branch Report to the 2020 Regional Meeting
Tuesday 26 February at St Teresa's Church Foyer, Karori, at 7.30pm

We currently have 35 members and 1 life member. There are now 9 committee members.

We held our Christmas celebration in November ~~2019~~²⁰¹⁸, commencing with reflections and hymns. A sales table of homemade goodies was a great success and raised over \$330 for our funds.

The following February the CWL Regional meeting was held at St Benedict's on **February 26th**, commencing with reflections and hymns. There was a good turnout from both Otari and Onslow branches.

The Archdiocesan Conference followed in **March** and was well-organised and run, with an excellent address by Cardinal John on 'Don't call me Father'.

May brought the annual celebration of WUCWO, and we were again joined by our fellow members from Otari.

June was a quiet, but nonetheless successful, home meeting, where our members were asked to bring something 'home-made' to share with the group. A plate of home-baking was very acceptable.

In **July** members were invited to join with the branch at Our Lady of Grace in Heretaunga to hear Robyn Twemlow speak about the difficulties of life for and with people with Tourette's Syndrome, and what their support group is doing to try and make life better for both sufferers and their families. The talk was a great success and was reinforced by the TV series following the lives of a group of NZ people with Tourette's.

August was the St Margaret Clitherow Mass, which actually turned into a liturgy, owing to the unavailability of a priest – thus highlighting one of the challenges of a parish run without a full-time parish priest!

October brought us the Annual General Meeting, with an excellent talk given by Geraldine Dai on her experiences of living in Hong Kong and her historical research for a Hong Kong-based conservation architect.

With plans all made for our pre-Christmas service and social in December, we found ourselves with a problem; the death of the mother of the Parish housekeeper and her family's wish to be with the body overnight in the Church on that evening. After much consultation with each other and trying to think of alternative plans, we agreed that the funeral requirements took absolute priority and we had no option but to cancel, which was a shame.

It is not possible to deliver this report without the mention of the sad loss this month of two of our most stalwart members of the CWL and, over the years, of the committee. Ann Corcoran and Vivienne Soldera both died on February 3, and their funerals were held in St Benedict's. We will all miss their friendship, their goodness, their warm personalities and their sound judgement. Rest in peace, Ann and Vivienne.

Donations: During the year November 2018 – October 2019 we made the following donations: \$930 to Lomary, \$50 to WUCWO, and \$300 to the At Home Appeal (Tourettes)

September - Marie night - fabulous
Chinese Marie - \$1000

We have now moved to having three Anointing Masses a year in the parish, one in each parish church.

Our experience of parish life with the Leadership Formation Team continues to develop. We have been most fortunate to have had the services of several Marist priests over the last year, in addition to Fr Pete Roe. However, we have been informed that this situation will be unlikely to continue, as the priests age or move to different areas of work, and this may well mean fewer Masses, with a possible change to more Liturgies of the Word. This is the reality of parish life as the number of vocations decreases. Groups from the 3 parish churches continue to form new relationships with one another to pool and share resources. The CWL has tried to encourage women from Sts Peter & Paul and St Andrew's to join with us to attend meetings but, it has to be said, so far with limited results!

Onslow CWL Committee
19 February 2020

Otari Branch Report to Wellington Regional Meeting 19 February 2020

As the Church Year follows a certain sequence of events and celebrations, League seemingly follows the same trajectory, to some extent. Our 2019 year opened with a Regional Meeting, followed by the Archdiocesan Conference in **March** by which time Lent had come around, and Otari League was expected to lead the Stations of the Cross on Wednesdays until Easter arrived.

May as usual was flower posy-making for Mother's Day distribution. **June** was First Communion time for St Teresa's school pupils – League gave each child a Holy Card and met some of them before the 10.00am Mass each week - this was acknowledged by the Parish. **June and July** are morning meetings facilitated by Susan Crisp [Spiritual Director] and attended by parishioners from the 9.30am Mass. July also saw Diane talk about League at the 10.00am Mass, Ethne at the 5.30pm and Vonnie at St Thomas More followed by a spiel on the whole back page of the Otari Newsletter – over \$700 was collected from the three churches but no new members sadly.

In **August** we travelled to Heretaunga for a most informative talk on the Tourette Syndrome, joined Onslow for St Margaret Clitherow celebration, and thanks to League and the 9.30am Mass goers generosity, gave 300 Rosaries to Stella Maris [Mission to Seamen]. **September** Father's Day chocolates were much appreciated, and our *Buy Your Lunch* stall after the 10.00am Mass raised over \$300 for the Mary Potter Hospice. **October** was our AGM, and the teaching of the Rosary to St Teresa's school pupils, again with the help of 9.30am Mass goers. We ended the year in **December** with our Christmas Party for the Parish which was more lively and better attended thanks to Kiki and his Tongan Children's choir.

Missions: We have had long running saga with our Mission Community Nabala Fiji trying to trace money sent to them for a fridge. Meanwhile their CWL Branch is trying for funds to repair their Church, which is on the same site as the Nabala School and hostel, run by the nuns – fortunately Anne Lumb is now in contact by telephone and will undoubtedly solve all problems.

WUCWO: We are keeping in mind the four resolutions adopted at the General Assembly in Dakar regarding a healthy planet depending on us, taking care of the family in difficult situations, the elimination of violence against women, and the call to self holiness. We will be hosting a WUCWO evening here on Wednesday 20th May.

Social Issues: We have been involved with the proposed changes in the abortion law and the euthanasia proposition for a long time now. Euthanasia is to be voted on in a referendum. Abortion changes are in the hands of the Government – there is to be a pro-abortion march to Parliament on Tuesday 18th February. Meanwhile Kath Cain's emails help to keep us informed, of the many varied issues, which gives us a chance to get involved and perhaps do something about them.

Mission Report from Otari Branch, CWL to the Wellington Regional Meeting, Feb 19th 2020

At the last regional meeting Otari reported that they were having problems contacting their Mission Community (SOLN who run the girl's boarding hostel at Nabala Junior High School in Fiji) and were looking for confirmation that the funds from the branch for a fridge had arrived. This is a progress report.

I tried to get back in touch with the nuns, writing to the SOLN Regional House and emailing the sister who's email address appears on their website. I involved the Wellington and National Mission Secretaries. None of us have had any response.

In July a letter arrived from the President of CWL in Holy Rosary Parish asking for our help to repair their church. Photographs of the damaged parts and a list of intended repairs was included. Later correspondence confirmed that the church is on the same site as Nabala Junior High School. By mid-September we had an account number for the CWL and an email for Sekola Simololo the president. We sent \$200 NZD as start up money and offered to put in an application for more if they sent a quote. The November letter said it was on a separate sheet but that was missed out. More emails followed and one produced a phone number. I rang in January and found out the names of the nuns and a promise to check the kitchen for the fridge. The builders quote appeared by email mid February which was too late to include it in an application to the National Mission Project Fund. It is an itemised quoted and seems reasonable. The total is \$6022 and I have explained that we will not be able to raise that amount but will do what we can to help.

To sum up we now have a contact, more information than we had, a new fund raising objective but still no information on the fridge money.

Other mission activities of Otari Branch:- 2 big parcels of stamps have been sent to the Sisters of St Joseph in Dunedin, 63 slippers knitted for St Pius Xth School and rosary beads supplied to Stella Maris for the Filipino seamen.