

**CWL bench dedication at St. Joseph Cemetery on Saturday October 9th 2021
To commemorate the 100th anniversary of the CWL National League.**

Opening words of welcome by Femia Streefkerk, President Holy Trinity CWL Council;

GOOD AFTERNOON EVERYONE AND WELCOME. I AM GLAD TO SEE YOU ALL HERE!

Fr. Joselito and Zyg Slinko and I see some more gentlemen! Welcome and thank you for being here too!

Today is the 20th anniversary of our Council so what a perfect day for us to come together in friendship and in the fellowship that is so strong within the organization of the Catholic Women's League of Canada.

As you all know the National CWL Council celebrated 100 years of service in 2020!! We were not able to celebrate in person at the special convention in Montreal but we found ways to still be a part of it through zoom speaker events and special prayers.

We did however, for this special anniversary, gather at the Willow Park Natural Area in Stony Plain last fall and again this spring, where we did a beautiful job of planting 100 trees

Our Motto: 100 trees for 100 years.

We also had a wish to plant a tree, here at the St. Joseph Cemetery, along with a bench that would have a commemorative plaque on the backrest! So together with Zyg Slinko, who has been SO very helpful in the entire process, we did just that! He helped find the perfect spot for the tree and where Gerald, my husband, planted it in June of this year. Zyg helped with the ordering of the plaque AND for supplying us with a bench to be used. Thank you so very much Zyg!! **Show tree and unveil the bench!!**

Sr. Susan would you like to proceed now with the prayer and then we ask Fr. Joselito to give a blessing.

(Sr. Susan)

God of all goodness, Christ whom we follow, gentle Spirit moving in our lives, we gather in this sacred place, on this special day to commemorate the forming of Parkland Holy Trinity Council of The Catholic Women's League of Canada. Twenty years ago today, the women of two councils became one in anticipation of the building of their new home – Holy Trinity Parish. Over these twenty years we have sought to live the ideals of the League as we have given and continue to give ourselves in service to your people. We remember those women who have left us to join you in eternity, and we implore that they continue to pray for us moving forward as we renew our League through the implementation of the strategic plan. Let this plaque and this tree, remind

those who come here to rest and pray, that our League, is now 100 years young. Blessed by throngs of women who have gone before us and modeled for us how to be faithful disciples of Jesus we ask your guidance as we move into the next 100 years of our envisioned future where we are a vital participant in the church, a valued partner for social justice, a respected advocate at all government levels and connected to the world. Our mission statement “calls its members to grow in faith, and to witness to the love of God through ministry and service.” Let us pray together our League Prayer:

We humbly pray You, O God our Father,
to bless The Catholic Women's League of Canada.
Bless our beloved country; our homes and families.
Send Your Holy Spirit upon us to give light to our minds and strength to our wills that we may know and fulfil Your great law of charity
Teach us to share with others at home and abroad the good things You have given us.
This we ask through our Lord Jesus Christ and the intercession of our patroness,
Our Lady of Good Counsel. Amen.



