

**ST. EDWARD'S
CWL Newsletter
June, 2016**



*Life is about Growth
not Perfection*

Growth

is little
by little

is more about
the journey

is about
what happens
on the inside

is about who
we're becoming

Perfectionism

is all or
nothing

is all about
the goal

is about
outward
appearances

is about
what we do

Read more at: holleygerth.com

The 10 Commandments of Mercy:

1. Remember that mercy lies deepest in God's heart.
2. Remember that mercy is the essence of all true religion.
3. Remember that we all stand forever in need of mercy.
4. Remember that, having received mercy, we must show mercy to others.
5. Remember that only the practice of mercy sets us free.
6. Remember that mercy is not opposed to justice, but is its fulfillment.
7. Remember that only the practice of mercy will make God's Kingdom come.
8. Remember that mercy needs too to be practiced collectively.
9. Remember that mercy calls us to do works both spiritual and physical.
10. Remember that our lives are a dialogue between God's mercy and our weaknesses.

This year, 2016, Pope Francis has asked us all to live a year of mercy, to contemplate the mystery of mercy "as a wellspring of joy, serenity, and peace." Mercy, he believes, is the secret to putting a credible face to God, to putting a credible face to our churches, and to walking with steadiness inside our own lives.

Oblate Father Ron Rolheiser, theologian, teacher, and award-winning author, is President of the Oblate School of Theology in San Antonio, TX.

For the full transcript www.ronrolheiser.com.

E. Hoskins
Legislation and Resolutions

See our Betty and Carol. Be sure to read The Communicator, our BC Yukon CWL Newsletter online.

Why Don't All Members Attend Meetings?

1. What can we do to improve audio for those who don't come to meetings because they cannot hear??
2. What about those members who only want to be informed by email? Is all they want from us??
3. What if we deepened the idea of Care-For-Your-Neighbourhood-CWL sister? Offer a ride? Provide a meal? Share time and listen deeply? Pray together??

dear sisters

We rely on the moral force you bring to the world, to marriage, to family, to the church. We rely on the blessings you bring down from heaven by your prayers and faith. We pray for your security, welfare, happiness, and for your influence to be sustained.

Elder Christofferson

Let's do something about the third issue – BECAUSE WE CAN!

Let's be proud League members, acknowledging League Objectives:

- ✦ To enhance the role of women in the church and society,
- ✦ To recognize the human dignity of all people everywhere, and
- ✦ To uphold and defend Christian education and values in the modern world.

Francine Tournier
Organization, President-Elect

NEVER WORRY ABOUT
NUMBERS. HELP ONE
PERSON AT A TIME, AND
ALWAYS START WITH THE
PERSON NEAREST YOU.
~MOTHER TERESA

A Turtle's Life for Me

Once Upon a Mercy:

We have all been called to actively practice the Works of Mercy, some of us are trying really hard...

Ruthie is a petite woman, married to Bert, a tall and loud man, and they are the parents of three boys who love extreme sports and the outdoors. Ruthie accompanies them when they go sailing and fishing and she has learned quite a few things.

The other day she was in the bus to Victoria and overheard the conversation of two men seating behind her.

- Well I did not catch it!
- I think that the problem was your line.
- Do you think it was too short?
- I'm not sure. Probably it was the angle.

Ruthie, realizing that they were novice fishermen turned around and kneeling on her seat to be seen, said to them:

"Throw your line like you throw a baseball. If the plug crashes at your feet it means that you released the line too late."

Smiling she looked at her pupils and saw two rather solemn fellows wearing business suits, one was holding a laptop while the other had a paper of what looked like an electronic diagram. They were looking at her as if they had seen an alien.

Ruthie sank on her seat and buried her face in a magazine for the rest of what seemed a never-ending trip.

Sometimes, it's better to wait to be asked before trying to **Counsel the Doubtful**.

Blanca Stead



We've Come a Long Way Baby!

This is the story of Josephine Butler (1828 – 1906)

Josephine Butler was a passionate Christian woman who abhorred the sin of prostitution, but also regarded women as exploited victims of male oppression. She ministered to people at workhouses, tirelessly feeding and clothing the poor and this is where she experienced her first encounter with the despair of prostitution. The 1800's in Britain was not a 'kind society for women'... They literally belonged to their husband, nothing belonged to them. Women couldn't own land, their opinion was probably never sought nor valued, they had no civil rights and no recourse available to them, not even their human dignity. If you were poor, alone, a widow, or from a lower class, your chance of very survival was in serious jeopardy.

'Feminism' was in its early states in the Victorian era. The term 'feminist' was coined by Charles Fourness, (a French philosopher) in 1872, but in actual fact it was largely an Evangelical Movement, primarily concerned with basic

human rights and dignity. These pioneering women were actually **“Christian Moralists”**. In Britain, this movement’s focus of concern began with the **“Contagious Diseases Act”** (instituted in 1864).

The purpose was not an attempt to protect the prostitutes, but rather to control the high level of venereal disease, (at that time one in three sick cases in the army was caused by VD). This legislation allowed police officers to arrest prostitutes in certain ports and army towns and subject the women to compulsory checks for venereal disease. This law placed humiliating burdens of examination and potential imprisonment on prostitutes, while exempting from any such burdens, the men who hired them.

If a woman was declared infected, she was confined in what was known at the time, as a **“Lock Hospital”** for up to a year. In today’s terms we would call this **“JAIL”**. Unfortunately, these so called hospitals had deplorable human conditions. Women received little treatment or nourishing food. Also, they were seriously overcrowded, and hygienic conditions were non-existent with fleas and rats running rampant. In most cases there weren’t even enough cots for them to sleep on. Women were subjected to the added indignity of having to sleep 2 and sometimes even 3 per cot, without blankets or decent bedding and in some cases, had to sleep on the cold stone floor. All of these hardships contributed to serious life threatening conditions for these already fragile people **‘ Basically, they were ‘disposable women’, kept prisoner against their will, in deplorable situations!**

In 1869 the **Ladies National Association** was created by Josephine Butler for the repeal of this unjust law. Josephine began a national campaign to repeal the ‘Contagious Diseases Act’. One of her most famous supporters was Princess Louise (6th daughter of Queen Victoria) who kept in constant touch with the movement. After an active campaign involving hundreds of meetings, and with petitions totalling more than two million signatures, this depressive legislation was finally repealed in 1886!

Ladies, we enjoy the rights we have today because of the tireless battles waged on behalf of future generations of women, by so called ‘feminists’ of yesteryear.

..... **who, for the most part were none other than Christian Moralists !**

Submitted by E. Hoskins

Love the people
God gave you
because He will
need them back
one day.

Lessons from Being the New Person in a Community

Here are a few things our family learned in these last eight years of being the new people in a community.

1. On any given day we feel welcomed.
2. On any given day we feel isolated and alone.
3. On any given day we might feel #1 and #2 at the same time or within minutes of each other.
4. At some point down the road, though, we know we won’t feel new anymore, but just part of the community.
5. And #4 is what keeps us showing up, knowing that that day WILL come.

The impact of experiencing both isolation and welcome as a new community member is a significant one, and it changes the way I act as a member of any community I am part of. When I am the new person in the community, I remind myself of these five things daily. They encourage me to keep putting myself out there, to introduce myself, and to get involved. One day I will not be the newbie but the established community member.

When I am a person established in a community, I remind myself that there is always someone in my community who is

new and is experiencing one of the five points. This reminder makes me keep my eyes open for new faces, for people standing off in corners, or for those longing to be welcomed. For I know it is only through people of the community reaching out to them that these newbies will one day feel welcomed as we once did too, and then they will become the ones reaching out and welcoming others.

NB. From a blog found online.
Francine Tournier, Communications



PERSONAL & IDENTITY SAFETY - Not ALL thieves are stupid

LONG - TERM PARKING

Some people left their car in the long-term parking at San Jose while away, and someone broke into the car. Using the information on the car's registration in the glove compartment, they drove the car to the people's home and robbed it. So I guess if we are going to leave the car in long-term parking, we should NOT leave the registration/insurance cards in it, nor your remote garage door opener.

GPS

Someone had their car broken into while they were at a football game. Things stolen included a garage door remote control, some money and a GPS which had been prominently mounted on the dash. When the victims got home, they found that their house had been ransacked and robbed. The thieves had used the GPS to guide them to the house. They then used the garage remote control to open the garage door and gain entry to the house. The thieves knew the owners were at the football game, they knew what time the game would finish so they knew how much time they had to clean out the house. It would appear that they had brought a truck to empty the house of its contents. Something to consider if you have a GPS - don't put your home address in it. Put a nearby address (like a store or gas station) – the thief won't know where you live if your GPS were stolen.

CELL PHONES

This lady has changed her habit of how she lists her names on her cell phone after her handbag was stolen. Her bag contained her cell phone, credit card, wallet, etc. Twenty minutes later when she called her hubby, from a pay phone telling him what had happened, hubby says, "I received your text asking about our Pin number and I've replied a little while ago." When they rushed down to the bank, the bank staff told them all the money was already withdrawn. The thief had actually used the stolen cell phone to text "hubby" in the contact list and got hold of the pin number. Within 20 minutes he had withdrawn all the money from their bank account.

- a. Do not disclose the relationship between you and the people in your contact list. Avoid using names like Home, Honey, Hubby, Sweetheart, Dad, Mom, etc.
- b. And very importantly, when sensitive info is being asked through texts, CONFIRM by calling back.
- c. Also, when you're being texted by friends or family to meet them somewhere, be sure to call back to confirm that the message came from them. If you don't reach them, be very careful about going places to meet "family and friends" who text you.

PURSE IN THE GROCERY CART SCAM

A lady went grocery-shopping at a local mall and left her purse sitting in the children's seat of the cart while she reached something off a shelf. Her wallet was stolen, and she reported it to the store personnel. After returning home, she received a phone call from the Mall Security to say that they had her wallet and that although there was no money in it, it did still hold her personal papers. She immediately went to pick up her wallet, only to be told by Mall Security that they had not called her. By the time she returned home again, her house had been broken into and burglarized. The thieves knew that by calling and saying they were Mall Security, they could lure her out of her house long enough for them to burglarize it.

Edited by Francine



Immediate Past President Blanca Stead pinning new President, Maureen Ingram. Past Past President Kathy Weswick looking on.



Evelyn Rigby, Provincial President, placing a white rose in remembrance of deceased CWL spiritual advisors. A red rose was placed by Leanne for the St. Edward's Council deceased: Nora Selzler, Betty Anne Devitt, Marianne Leber, and Peggy Mudge.

Diocesan Convention 2016

All photos courtesy of Anna Kinsella.



Agnes Geiger proudly receiving the CWL Life Member pin from Bishop Gary Gordon

Our beloved Agnes Geiger was recognized for her amazing contributions at all levels of CWL. Her smile welcomes everyone as she shares her extensive knowledge. We love you Agnes!



Blanca listening as Vera Little, Ahousaht Catholic woman speaks of hope for a new church.

Bishop Gary Gordon challenged all CWL members to be missionaries to the far boundaries of our Diocese.

Cowichan Valley Garden Tour

Cowichan Family Life started in the Cowichan Valley in 1945. It is a non-profit charity that puts all its energy into the well-being of children and families and focuses on situations in the family that are happening in the present. They offer peer counselling, courses on different aspects of life, and also have a bus that has been transformed into a pre-school learning centre which travels to areas where the Strong Start program is not available. C.F.L. also has a Thrift Store on Canada Ave. near Coffee on the Moon.

Our garden tour usually takes place the first Sunday of June. It is the major fundraiser for C.F.L. This year marked the 22nd annual tour! It is a self-guided tour of six beautiful gardens in the area. One of the gardens is selected to host the tea during this event. In the past we've had as many as 600 visitors so it is a large undertaking.

First on the agenda is a visit to the garden that will host the tea, we meet the owners, tour the garden, check out kitchen facilities and seating possibilities. Next is to approach grocery stores for assistance through a gift card or donation of goods for supplies needed for the tea. We also order our urns for hot water and coffee. We serve coffee, a variety of teas and iced tea. We next must approach workers for the tea, we have had a faithful core of helpers for this!! Supplies must be checked out from the year before to determine what we will need to buy for the upcoming tea. Table cloths must be laundered and ironed. We have an ever-faithful core of bakers (mostly friends) that bake their little hearts out for this occasion....bless their hearts!

For the past three years we have had our tea "by donation". This way seems to give

people a chance to give as much or as little as they might like to do. We have raised as much as \$748.00 just from the tea which is our figure from last year! Workers in the kitchen are busy setting out three pieces of baking on each plate which are then situated near the beverage centre. The tea has become a very social get-together....friends meeting friends or bumping into old friends...some people spending an hour or two just catching up!! They couldn't ask for a nicer setting for their visit! The tea runs from 10:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. so a large window to enjoy refreshments!! Clean-up at the end of the day and we have had another successful tea!!

We had our Garden Tour wrap up last evening....our way to say thank you to the gardeners and the various committee heads!! I'm happy to report that our profit from the Garden Tour this year approached \$11,500.00. The tea by itself brought in nearly \$500.00.

Perhaps I've "whetted your whistle" for next year's C.F.L. Garden Tour and Tea. Hopefully we'll see you there!!

Submitted by Binkie McLean



From Our President

As we begin our two month recess, I am sending you wishes for a lovely summer. I am proud of the things we have accomplished this term, and also HOW we accomplished them... in an efficient, sisterly way, with loads of fun and love along the way. Decorating, enjoying an impromptu song and dance from our beloved Blanca (I wish you all could have seen that!!), watching CWL teams prepare, produce, serve and clean up after large events, and gather 'round to support those worrying, those suffering, and those grieving. Sisterly love at its best! May our Lady of Good Counsel protect and bless each one of you until we gather again in the fall.

Leanne



A Simple Hug

There's something in a simple Hug,
That always warms the heart,
It welcomes us back home,
And makes it easier to part.

A hug's a way to share the joy,
And sad times we go through,
Or just a way for friends to say,
They like you 'cause you're you.

Hugs are meant for anyone,
For whom we really care,
From your grandma to your neighbor,
Or a cuddly teddy bear.

A hug is an amazing thing,
It's just the perfect way,
To show the love we're feeling,
But can't find the words to say.

It's funny how a little hug,
Makes everyone feel good,
In every place and type,
It's always understood.

And hugs don't need new equipment,
Special batteries or parts,
Just open up your arms,
And open up your hearts.

*As shared by Harriet Duncan, Reflection Day,
June 6, 2016*