



THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA
TORONTO DIOCESAN COUNCIL
MOIRA STE. MARIE MEMORIAL LECTURE SERIES

Background

Mary Hawkley, Life Member, Toronto Diocesan President, 2011-2013, initiated the Moira Ste. Marie Memorial Lecture Series in honour of Moira Ste. Marie, Toronto Archdiocesan President, 1991-1993 who passed away in 2011. Mary in her term as Past President, 2013-2015 consulted with Moira's family on their wishes and the executive of the day on its feasibility and structure. Among other input from the executive, Fr. Robert O'Brien, Spiritual Advisor suggested hosting the Lecture Series every second year.

The Lecture Series was named in honor of Moira because she had contributed greatly to the League in her service at the Parish, Region, Diocesan, Provincial and National levels. During Moira's term, she saw the establishment of the Education Awards which honour three past presidents: The Mary Matthews Public Speaking Award, The Mary Dobell Pro-Life Awards for Poetry and Essays and the Jean McCann Youth Award. She helped implement many programs in the League development for members and took an active role in shaping many resolutions which found their way to the national table and on to government where our national executive presented our concerns. She also was highly involved in her community.

Purpose

- To inform members and non-members of issues around family, politics, education, health and social issues.
- To call members and non-members to act at the personal and council level to address these issues.
- To provide funds from the hosting of the Lecture Series to organizations and individuals on the presented topic(s).

Summary of Previous Lectures

Year/ Anniversary	Topic	Past President
2014 – 1 st (Wed. Oct. 8)	<u>Topic:</u> Are One's Religious Beliefs the Only Reason to be Anti-Euthanasia? <u>Guest Speaker:</u> Dr. Margaret Somerville, Full Professor and Founding Director, Centre for Medicine, Ethics and Law. Samuel Gale Chair in Law	Mary Hawkley (2013-2015)
2015 – 2 nd (Wed. Oct. 7)	<u>Topic:</u> Hospice Palliative Care an Alternative, Not a Precursor, to Euthanasia <u>Guest Speakers:</u> Dr. Mary Anne Huggins Tracey Human Rami Shami <u>Location:</u> University of Toronto, The Co-op	Mary Capobianco (2015-2017)

**Year/
Anniversary**

Topic

Past President

(St. Michael's Campus, 81 St. Mary Street,
Toronto

Donation: The Dorothy Ley Hospice

2018 – 3rd
(Wed. Oct. 10)

Topic: Holistic Health – The Spiritual
Dimension.

Shirley Christo
(2017-2019)

- Existing spiritual care in today's health care system
- Gaps in policy for reclaiming the Spiritual Dimension of Holistic Health
- Innovative possibilities of addressing Holistic health needs inclusive of the Spiritual dimension

Guest Speakers: Nancy Lefebvre,
Judith Shamian, Fr. Mark Miller

Location: Father Madden Hall, Carr Building
100 St. Joseph's St. - University of St.
Michael's College University of Toronto

2021 – 4th
(Wed. Oct. 20)

Topic: Catholic Education “Rebuild, Restore,
Renew Together”

Ann D'Souza
(2019-2022)

Guest Speakers: Barry White, Founding
member of the Catholic Teachers Guild of;
Anne O'Brien, Director of Catholic Education
Ontario Catholic School Board Trustees'
Association; Patrick J. Daly, President of
Canadian Association of Trustees and
President of Ontario Catholic Trustees

Location: Virtual

Donation: Mikinakoos Children's Fund for
Indigenous children in northwestern Ontario

2023 – 5th
(Mon. Sept. 25)

Topic: Addressing Food Insecurity

Hilarion Mitchell
(2022-2024)

Guest Speakers: Yonge Street Mission
(Angie Peters, President, CEO; Ann Mary
Nakayima, Food Bank Supervisor and
Sandra Seaborn, Senior Director Programs)

- Budget & Systemic, including advocacy and awareness
- Client Stories
- Call to Action

Location: Virtual

Donation: Yonge Street Mission and The
Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Toronto