



**Review
Volume 57 No 1
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**“Be Merciful just as the
Father is Merciful”**

P r e s i d e n t ’ s M e s s a g e

Happy New Year to you all and may 2017 bring many blessings to your families and our CWL ‘Family’. I was very thrilled to receive a personal card from National President, Anne Marie Clark, wishing all our CWL Tasmania members a happy and holy Christmas and many blessings for the new year.

My wish for us all is to become more united and grow from strength to strength. I would dearly love to increase our membership and perhaps we can encourage a friend to join us as she would be welcomed with open arms. We must not lose our CWL through lack of members, the league is so important to us all. Our Anima girls are very special and we welcome them at every opportunity, they are our hope for the future. As our secretary Judy mentioned in her December report, Judy, Roseanne and I would be very happy to visit your meetings to share a cuppa and chat to get to know each other better. We are about to hold our first meetings of the year and looking forward to being with our ‘CWL friends’ again and the companionship they bring.

May God grant us good health and strength to continue with our many interests and good deeds as in the past years. I know we are all getting older but still have many talents to contribute. Looking forward to meeting you all again soon.

Deirdre Reid



Hello Review Readers this is Judy, your new State Secretary.

Welcome to our new year 2017. Let's make our dreams **into plans** for a wonderful year.

Ttogether

E....everyone

A.....achieves

M....more.

Looking forward to hearing from you & meeting up with you soon.

"May God be glorified in all we do".

Reminder : " I tell you solemnly, if two of you on earth, agree to ask anything at all in my name it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven" Matt 18 : 19-20

"Redefining Marriage"Prayers Please!

Prayer in time of need.

I need you every day Lord
but **this day** I need you more than ever.
I need your helping hand to give
me courage and to overcome my
fear.
By myself, I cannot bear the
burdens of the hour
and so, Dear Lord,
I pray - take hold
of my outstretched hand
and be with me today.
Amen.

**Thank you to the Australian Christian Lobby
(Managing Director Lyle Shelton)** for alerting us to
our right to put our views to our elected Senators,
in regard to Redefining Marriage.

I did ..did you?

Hopefully, by doing this , we were able to help
politicians understand that there would be
unhealthy changes & consequences, if the bill were
passed.

one example : In Canada, a father lost the right to
remove his child from a radical sex education
program, which became compulsory after marriage
"was redefined".

Now..... prayers are needed so that the Senate Committee will understand that injustices
will occur and freedoms will be lost, if this comes about.

Judy Gibbens



In Memoriam

VALE – ILA VERONICA CASHION

The Catholic Women's League was shocked and saddened at the sudden passing of beloved member, Ila. Our sincere sympathy to her husband George and the family.

Ila was a long serving and loyal member of the Launceston Branch, who was always willing to undertake any role asked of her. She was the Social Hostess for many years, always remembering members' birthdays and presenting them with a holy picture.

Her quiet and unassuming manner belied her inner strength and enabled her to carry out her duties with success.

Holy Mass was celebrated in her honour at the Church of Apostles with many members present. Members recited the Rosary prior to the Mass of Christian Burial in the Church of Apostles held in Ila's honour, with many members present.

May she rest in peace.

State Treasurer

The donations for the Mercy Memorial for aborted babies are steadily flowing in with some contributions coming from the mainland.

Also an early reminder that membership and review subscriptions are due at the next AGM in May.

Jan Lawler

Reflection

February/March

(Written by a Catholic Priest)

In the 2002 film, 'My Big Fat Greek Wedding', the main character Toula falls in love and ends up marrying a man, Ian, from outside her Greek community. During the preparation for the wedding Toula's mother Maria, who'd done a lot of persuading to convince Toula's father to accept the union, tells her that 'the man is the head [of the family], but the woman is the neck and she can turn the head any way she wants'.

In today's Western society many people struggle to understand the dynamic between men and women. To many people it is clear that men and women have both an equality and a difference, though some people do tend to emphasise one aspect to the point of even denying the other.

Toula's mother came close to the idea of Catholic theology but still missed a vital point. She tried to describe the roles of man and woman using the analogy of the head and the neck. While this shows that there is a difference, it is in danger of making one think that the women is inferior and needs to use manipulation to make the man see her way.

The analogy of Catholic theology sees the roles of men and women as being the head and the heart. In this way we see that there is equality between the two though their difference isn't in a relationship of tension, but one of a beautiful complementarity. The women then is not at all inferior and has no need to manipulate the head to get her way. By her primacy of love she gently draws the head to follow where she leads, and at the same time respects and follows the leadership of the man in his primacy of governance.

This is no small point of theology, as Pope Pius XI spoke about in his encyclical on Christian Marriage (cf. *Casti Cannubii*, 27) the relationship between men and women reflects the relationship of the Blessed Trinity Itself in a complimentary dynamism of life giving love. This is the relationship that gives rise to the next generation and the very future of humanity. What will our children be like? Look at the families they are raised in.

It is no wonder that Christian marriage and the harmony of a complementary relationship between men and woman is attacked so much by the Prince of Darkness.

However, Christ came bringing Good News not bad. He saves us by being born into a family and so starts by saving the human family. And so we look to the Holy Family as our model. Our Lady, the greatest human being (Christ is a divine being, with both a divine and human nature), accepted God's mission for her as a Mother making it the greatest of all human roles (cf. Lk 1:38). St Joseph, though he knew he was unworthy to be the head of such a family, accepted God's call to be the protector and carer of the Blessed Virgin and her divine Child (cf. Mt 1:24).

DISCUSSION

I have borrowed some questions for reflection from Michaelann Martin, author of 'Marriage Matters'. (cf. Michaelann & Curtis Martin - 'Marriage Matters', 25-34).

'Read Ephesians 5:21-32. Realise that Ephesus was one of the most anti-family cultures of the ancient world. Ephesus was the home of the Temple of Artemis (Diana), one of the seven wonders of the ancient world and a centre for cult prostitution. Saint Paul's teaching that each spouse is called to serve the other was as countercultural then as it is now.

How does Christ ultimately serve His Bride, the Church?

What do husbands need to be willing to do for their wives in imitation of Christ?

How are wives called to love their husbands, just as the Church submits to Christ's authority?'

From the Southern Vice-President

I would like to wish all members and their families Peace, love, good health and happiness for the year of 2017.

Like the three wise men who were guided by a star to find Jesus, may we be guided by the faith, strength and friendship of members of the CWL.

Let us find the courage to reach out to strangers and offer them friendship.

Sometimes the greatest gift we can give is a friendly smile.

Let 2017 be the year of a friendly smile.

Roseanne Way

Northern Vice-President

Happy New Year to you all and to your families.

I hope everyone has had the chance to gather with family and/or friends over the Christmas/New Year season. I have just returned to Melbourne on my way home from three weeks holidaying with my husband's family in New South Wales and thank God for the blessings family can bring! I had a wonderful time, which included shopping, dining and relaxing with my wonderful sister-in-law and her friends and my two delightful nieces in and around Sydney and a three day visit to the beautiful and historic Blue Mountains towns of Katoomba, Blackheath, Leura and Springwood. However, it will be nice to get home and get back into my "home life" routine.

Prior to my going away, I enjoyed a lovely lunch, organised by Lilydale-Karoola branch which we again shared with the ladies from George Town and Scottsdale and some visitors also from Launceston. In spite of the rain we had a lovely meal in a delightful garden setting. I do love to catch up with you all and experience the friendship that exists between members. Thank you to the organisers and all who attended.

Due to the rush I had between end of year events (not all C.W.L.) and going away on holiday, and the fact that I will not be home until after the due date for my Review

report, I have not yet decided on a project for 2017, so if anyone has any ideas for a project for the northern area, please let me know. It would be great if we could do something in which all northern branches could participate for the benefit of our local region.

I would just like to say, I hope all members who were unwell at the end of 2016 have now recovered and I pray that God grant us a grace-filled and successful year, full of peace, happiness and good health.

May God be glorified in all we do.

Wendy Fittler

Social Issues and Bioethics

On the 13th of January 2017, submissions closed to the Select Committee on the Exposure Draft of the Marriage Amendment (Same Sex Marriage) Bill.

The following submission was written by Pat Gartland for Anna Matuszek and the Catholic Women's League:

Catholic Women's League Tasmania Inc. (CWL Tas.) was established in 1941 with the addressing of social and ethical Issues one of our primary tasks. Therefore we welcome the opportunity to take part in this inquiry.

We affirm that:

- 1. Same sex marriage should not be legalised in Australia**
- 2. In the event of moves to redefine marriage everyone should have a say by means of a plebiscite or referendum with funding to facilitate public discussion.**
- 3. Were same sex marriage to become law, the resulting conflict with Australia's religious communities would be untenable in spite of exemption clauses in the legislation.**

4. Challenges to exemptions by recourse to anti-discrimination laws are inevitable.

5. Freedoms of speech, religion and association that Australians value would be lost by the legalisation of same sex marriage.

Opening statement - Nature and purpose of marriage

Marriage is an institution established in response to nature's design, the foundation of the family unit, which is in turn the primal cell of society. It is from the union of a male and a female that the next generation comes. Love and commitment are part of many human relationships but marriage is not just about adult bonding, it is a union which is different from all others in its nature and purpose. It is by means of the continuation of this union that children receive the years of nurturing necessary to develop as mature, well functioning adults. Our society recognises its importance for the health and stability of our country and accords it special status, proclaiming it in law as 'marriage', 'Mum, dad and the kids' is an expression that contains the essence of the marriage bond. Certainly these conditions are subject to disruption. Some marriages break down, some children are raised by grandparents or others, one parent may die and some couples have no children either because of infertility or choice.

A few countries have taken the path of legalising same-sex marriage, but 'follow the leader' is not the game to play with marriage. We must leave marriage alone.

Evidence of loss of freedoms resulting from Canada's Civil Marriage Act.

We submit that as the Canadian experience reveals, no exemptions in the Exposure Draft of the Marriage Amendment will prevent encroachment upon freedom of religion, of conscience and expression of beliefs.

Canada's Civil Marriage Act stipulates:

3.1 For greater certainty, no person or organization shall be deprived of any benefit, or be subject to any obligation or sanction, under any law of the Parliament of Canada solely by reason of their exercise, in respect of marriage between persons of the same sex, of the freedom of conscience and religion guaranteed under the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* or the expression of their beliefs in respect of marriage as the union of a man and woman to the exclusion of all others based on that guaranteed freedom.

But in spite of these words in the law, and their intent, evidence points to considerable erosion of the rights of Canadian citizens whether they follow a religious faith or not.

It is considered discriminatory to say that marriage is between a man and a woman or that every child should know and be raised by his or her biological married parents where possible.

If a person's beliefs, values, and political opinions are different from those of the state, they risk losing their professional licence, employment or business.

Teachers can be disciplined or lose any chance of tenure by making comments supporting man-woman marriage in their social networks, letters to editors, public debate.

Gender-neutral language is legally mandated with use of gender terms to describe husband and wife, father and mother, Mother's Day and Father's Day, and 'he' and 'she' is being steadily eradicated in Canadian schools.

Wedding planners, rental halls, bed and breakfast owners, florists, photographers, and bakers have their freedoms eroded. Business owners may not legally permit their conscience to inform business practices or decisions, if those decisions are not in line with the government's sexual orientation and gender identity non-discrimination laws.

Freedom to assemble and speak freely about man-woman marriage, family, and sexuality is now restricted. There is pressure on faith communities to assume a politically correct stance to avoid fines and loss of charitable status.

Canadian media outlets are restricted by the Canadian Radio, Television, and Telecommunications Commission, airing material ruled as discriminatory can lead to fines and revocation of broadcasting licences.

Anna Matuszek, Social Issues Convenor,
Catholic Women's League Tasmania Inc.

The following piece was also submitted to the Select Committee by one of our Anima Members, Kazia Chodasewicz:

“When I took my baby for her six month check up, in conversation with the nurse I mentioned that my husband had said that our baby never gets as excited when he walks in the room as she does for me. The nurse responded with “Yeah, there’s nothing quite like Mum”.

The reason I start with this story is that if SSM is legalised, stating a simple, long recognised fact that a mother is important to a baby will be deemed hate speech since it is considered offensive because it implies that the union of two men is incomplete and any children they may raise are missing out on an important part of growing up.

The same goes for saying that fathers are important in the lives of their children. It is considered offensive to lesbian couples because it implies that there is something missing in their union.

So for the sake of not offending same sex couples who make up less than one percent of the population, we will be forced to deny the importance of mothers and fathers to children.

We have been seeing an erosion of fatherhood over many years. Many youths in the justice system report having very little fatherly input in their lives. We need to build up the importance of fatherhood and encourage all men to be the fathers their children deserve.

Both mothers and fathers are important in the lives of their children. For the sake of all children we must reinforce this fact, not deny it.”

Mass Crusade

February: Devonport Diocesan members and those who receive Review only.

Prayer Intention

Universal: **Welcome the needy.**

That all those who are afflicted, especially the poor, refugees and the marginalised, may find welcome and comfort in our communities.

March: Lilydale/Karoola

Prayer Intention

Evangelisation: **Help persecuted Christians**

That persecuted Christians may be supported by the prayers and material help of the whole Church.

April: Richmond

Prayer Intention

Evangelisation: **Youth**

That young people may respond generously to their vocations and seriously consider offering themselves to God in the priesthood or consecrated life.

World Day of Prayer

Theme: "Am I being unfair to you" From Philippines

Venues – World Day of Prayer Friday 3 March 2017

Hobart: St. Mary's Cathedral 11.00 am

Hobart Northern Suburbs: St. Paul's Anglican Church Main Rd. Montrose 11.00 am

Launceston: Information not available. Contact June Tyson from the Salvation Army

Riverside: St. Oswald's Anglican Church Bain Terrace, 10.00 am

Devonport: Salvation Army 1.30 pm

Ulverstone: Salvation Army 1.30 pm

Sorell: St Thomas Catholic Church 2.00 pm

Lindisfarne: Catholic Church of the Incarnation 10.00 am

LIST OF STATE EXECUTIVE

State President

Mrs Deirdre Reid

77 William St

Brighton 7030

Ph 6268 0907

deidrereid@outlook.com

State Secretary

Mrs Judith Gibbens

5 Horfield Crt.

Bagdad 7030

Ph. 6268 6026

judithgibbens@gmail.com

State Treasurer

Mrs Jan Lawler

65 Main Rd.

Sorell 7172

Ph. 6265 2321

anne.sutcliffe2@bigpond.com

Southern Vice-President

Mrs Roseanne Way

6 Raminea Rd.

Lindisfarne 7015

Ph. 0417 677 969

Northern Vice-President

Mrs Wendy Fittler

14 Burnett St.

George Town 7253

Ph. 6382 1816

wfittler@bigpond.com

International Secretary

Mrs Mary Walsh

18 Toogood Drive Fairway Rise

Lindisfarne 7015

Ph 6246 7277

mary.walsh971@gmail.com

Immediate Past President

Mrs Sandra Harvey

65b Jetty Rd. Old Beach 7017

Ph. 6249 5504

harveysandra@exemail.com.au

SPECIAL OFFICERS

Social Issues and Bioethics Convenor

Mrs Anna Matuszek

1422 Huon Rd.

Neika 7054

Ph. 6239 6117 mob: 0417 066 297

Annamatuszek1422@gmail.com

Archivist

Mrs Lillian Deane

58/131 Hill St.

West Hobart 7000

Ph. 6234 9878

lillipet@bigpond.com

Craft Office

Mrs Lola Phillips

21 Walker St.

Sorell 7172

Ph 6265 2268

Review Editor

Mrs Anna Matuszek

1422 Huon Rd.

Neika 7054

Ph. 6239 6117

annamatuszek1422@gmail.com

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