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LOCAL



Mrs. Alf Brown, one of the oldest parishioners of St. Francis de Sales Roman Catholic Church, Colborne, pauses with Tass Corbier to admire a floral arrangement at the last mass to be held at the site last Sunday. The last mass to be held at St. Francis de Sales Roman Catholic Church in Colborne was an emotional time for church organist Jane Boreham. Granddaughters Sarah, left and Rebekah, right, always joined their grandmother after the Sunday service. Mrs. Boreham's mother, Anne Roddy, was the previous organist until 1974.

Looking back at the Colborne CWL

With the closing of St. Francis de Sales Roman Catholic Church, the Colborne chapter of the Catholic Women's League will be disbanding. Under the organization's constitutional bylaws, because the parish is amalgamating with St. Mary's in Grafton, only one CWL can exist.

The Colborne CWL was chartered January 14, 1953, with 16 members. Back then, membership dues were 50 cents per year. Today, there are an estimated 35 members who pay annual dues of \$12 each. The organization has actively supported the parish financially and through volunteer efforts. At the first tea and bazaar held at the Queen's Hotel, there was a profit of \$203.10. The same annual event has been held, now raising around \$1,000.

In 1960, rummage sales were begun and continued up until three or four years ago.

In the early 1960s, the ecumenical World Day of Prayer was organized and continues to have strong support from all local churches.

Behind-the-scenes work, such as collect-

ing clothing for Jesuit missions, donating time, money and volunteer hours to the Christmas hamper program and other community groups and service providers, holding retreats, fundraising for the parish, have all been within the mandate of the CWL.

Last Sunday's luncheon reception and organizational preparations for the final mass at St. Francis de Sales Roman Catholic Church, were under the aegis of the Colborne CWL.

The following is the list of St. Francis de Sales CWL Presidents:

- 1953-55: Mrs. F. Hart
- 1955-56: Mrs. Joe Barry
- 1956-57: Mrs. T. Pendergast
- 1957-60: Mrs. R. Harnden
- 1960-62: Mrs. Ed Barry
- 1962-64: Mrs. T. Pendergast
- 1964-66: Mrs. P. (Vera) Haley
- 1966-68: Mrs. John (Shirley) Carey
- 1968-70: Mrs. Vern (Christine) Wood
- 1970-71: Mrs. Don (Velma) McPherson
- 1971-75: Mrs. Ed Barry
- 1975-77: Mrs. Ann Hill

- 1977-79: Mrs. Christine Wood
- 1979-81: Mrs. Valerie Davis
- 1981-83: Mrs. Jackie Forhan
- 1983-85: Mrs. Anne Redegeld
- 1985-87: Mrs. Joan Fawcett
- 1987-89: Mrs. Barbara McKerrow
- 1989-91: Mrs. Tass Corbier
- 1991-93: Mrs. Rose Sheldrick
- 1993-94: Mrs. Rose Sheldrick
- 1994-95: Mrs. Judy Oakes
- 1995-97: Mrs. Tass Corbier
- 1997-98: Mrs. Jean Grol
- 1998-99: Mrs. Rose Sheldrick

Parish priests

- 1942-43: the Rev. John Ryan
- 1943-46: the Rev. P.P. Butler
- 1946-73: 1953-73: the Rev. H.A. Black
- 1973-75: the Rev. J. Lynch
- 1975-78: the Rev. Archambault
- 1978-82: the Rev. J. Lynch
- 1982-93: the Rev. John Keeler
- 1993-96: the Rev. Mark Buckley
- 1996-present: the Rev. Allan Hood

- MANDY MARTIN