



**HONOURING OUR PAST.  
FORGING OUR FUTURE.**

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS  
1910 ~ 2010

### **Diocesan Women's Cathedral League Prayer**

O God, who dwellest invisible in the heavens, and yet for the salvation of men dost manifest Thy power upon the earth, pour down on the Cathedral the light of Thy Countenance and grant that all who enter it to seek Thy Face may attain the satisfaction of Thy merciful love. Amen.

### **The Cathedral 2010 Prayer**

**A**lmighty God, we give you thanks for one hundred years of your continual presence here among us in word, sacrament and community. Bless us now, we pray, with the same vision and determination as those who built and sustained this Cathedral Church of All Saints in years past. As we look to the future, let your Holy Spirit continue to work in us and through us, so that we may grow in grace and in the knowledge of your truth.

Grant us courage and hope, increase our faith, and knit us together in the bonds of love, that our fellowship and witness may be a godly example to all people; this we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

**100th Anniversary of the Cathedral League  
Sunday, November 2, 2008**

**PURPOSE**  
**ANGLICAN CHURCH WOMEN**

To unite all women of the Diocese in a fellowship of worship, study, and offering, with the aim of deepening and strengthening their individual spiritual lives and of awakening a greater desire for Christian service in the parish, community, and the world.

**PRAYER**  
**ANGLICAN CHURCH WOMEN**

Almighty God, we give thanks to you for having sent Your blessed Son to become the Saviour of the world; grant to us a deep sense of gratitude for Your grace and mercy towards us. Enable us by your Spirit to reveal Your love in all our actions so that Your salvation may become known to all peoples and Your name glorified throughout the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

## Cathedral League of the Cathedral Church of All Saints

The women of the Church are ever to the fore in every good work. . . No parish or mission can afford not to give its women their share, even if their means make it of necessity a small share, in the work of building our great Cathedral to the honor and glory of God.

The Cathedral and the Women of the Church, *Church Work*,  
Halifax, N.S. April 22, 1909

So wrote A.M. Payne in an edition of the *Church Work* dedicated to telling the story of All Saints Cathedral and *our oldest colonial diocese*. Payne was commenting on the incredible fundraising efforts of the then year-old *Diocesan Women's Cathedral League* for the procurement of the magnificent *Casavant Freres* pipe organ for the Cathedral: *The ladies of the League are determined not to allow the interest to flag nor to relax in their efforts until the whole of the required amount is raised" (p.8)*. Such was their success that the organ was played for the Cathedral's opening service on September 10, 1910. Donations for this first gift to the Cathedral of the *Diocesan Women's Cathedral League* came from the various parishes in the Diocese, while the first fundraiser that the *Cathedral League* undertook as a diocesan organization was a Tea and Sale in 1909 that yielded \$1,648. This was to become an annual event and its proceeds, combined with other diocesan and individual donations, ensured a total of \$10,362 in the Organ Fund by 1911.

However, the *Diocesan Women's Cathedral League* did not stop there. Inspired by the *Cathedral Prayer*:

O God, the strength of all that put their trust in Thee, mercifully accept our prayers, and grant us the help of Thy grace, that we who desire to raise a Cathedral for this diocese to the glory of Thy great name, the honor of Thy holy church and the welfare of Thy people, may be blessed in our endeavour, and enabled to bring it to perfection, through Him who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

the officers of the *Diocesan Women's Cathedral League* were happy to address the members of the Church of England in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island in 1918 at the Diocesan Synod regarding *the National Memorial Window to commemorate all Nova Scotians and Prince Edward Islanders who have made the supreme sacrifice for their God, their King and their Country. Not wish[ing] to press the matter unduly*, the *League* officers reminded their audience that the aim was *to have the window erected and, if possible, unveiled at the great National Thanksgiving Service to be held in the Cathedral when peace has been finally declared*. The tireless work of the *Diocesan Women's Cathedral League* resulted in the *Great Window* above the high altar being unveiled on the Patronal Festival, All Saints' Day, in 1921.

More diligent work on the part of *Cathedral League* members went into the compilation of the *Book of Remembrance*, housed in a glass case in the Cathedral. As the names for this book were unavailable from Ottawa, the compilation work involved writing to newspapers in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. By 1925, 1,002 names had been collected. The *League* officers noted the national nature of this undertaking and confirmed that *no one, whatever his faith, [would] be excluded from the list of heroes*.

More gifts from the *Cathedral League* followed: the richly carved oak *Reredos or Screen* at the high altar, the *Clerestory Window* on the north side of the organ depicting the Ascension, the *Altar Rail*, *Credence Table*, *Bronze Tablets* commemorating the *Bishops and Deans of Nova Scotia*, *Furnishings for St. Stephen's Chapel*, and *Vestments* for the clergy. By the time the *Cathedral League* celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 1958, it had contributed gifts valued at over \$82,000 to the Cathedral.

The *Diocesan Women's Cathedral League* was founded in 1908, while the construction of the Cathedral was underway, as a diocesan organization, with representatives from the various parishes. The *Prayer* of the *Diocesan Women's Cathedral League*, while reflecting a sensibility of a century ago, carries a timeless entreaty:

*O God, who dwellest invisible in the heavens, and yet for the salvation of men dost manifest Thy power upon the earth, pour down on the Cathedral the light of Thy Countenance and grant that all who enter it to seek Thy Face may attain the satisfaction of Thy merciful love. Amen.*

It is later in the history of the diocese that the *League* ceased to be a diocesan organization, coming instead under the umbrella of the *Cathedral ACW* as one of the Cathedral Women's Groups. The *Cathedral League's* mandate has been and continues to be one of beautifying the interior of the magnificent stone English Gothic structure that we know as the Cathedral Church of All Saints.

Despite changing circumstances and an aging membership, small in numbers (about 16), the *Cathedral League* has stayed true to its mandate to beautify the Cathedral. Money is raised now through such activities as monthly dues, a bake sale, and small auction. Bequests from deceased members have enabled the *Cathedral League* to make several major gifts in more recent years. In the late 1990's, the *Cathedral League* presented *Four Vestments in Liturgical Colours*, donated \$5,000 towards the *Organ Restoration Fund*, and contributed to a *Sound System* for the Cathedral. Its most recent gift is the *Brass Plates* depicting the *Names of the Saints* featured in the windows in the north and south aisles. These brass plates are currently in storage, pending the refurbishing of the Cathedral interior.

The senior age of many members of the *Cathedral League* has not prevented this dedicated group of women from thinking of the future. These women realize that the current arrangement is not suitable to take the Cathedral into its next 100 years. With forethought, the *Cathedral League* would like to see the birth of a Cathedral Foundation – *Friends of the Cathedral* – in the centenary year of the Cathedral, 2010. Such an initiative will require research, but there are many Cathedrals that the *Cathedral League* and other interested persons can draw on for guidance and advice for this exciting possibility. The *Cathedral League* would be happy

to forward any assets it has in 2010 to a fledgling *Friends of the Cathedral*. In so doing, it would pay homage to the founders of the *League* while living out the Cathedral's centenary theme: *Honouring Our Past, Forging Our Future*. tuned! So, as the *Cathedral League* celebrates its centenary this year and looks forward to that of the Cathedral in 2010, it reflects on the past with pride and a sense of accomplishment and looks to the future with confidence and faith.

Cynthia Pilichos, November 2008

## **Cathedral League Members 2008**

**Marjorie Ausitn (Recording Secretary)**

**Grace Banfield**

**Margaret Barnard (President)**

**June Butler**

**Barbara Collins**

**Betty Hartling**

**Gillian Keeping (Treasurer)**

**Nettie Lane**

**Marie Mills**

**Dorothy Neish**

**Mary Opie**

**Muriel Parish**

**Elizabeth Peters**

**Cynthia Pilichos**

**Joy Smith (Corresponding Sectary)**

**Vivian Whynacht**

## Acknowledgements

**Flowers on the Altar** are given today by *The Cathedral ACW* to the Glory of God and in loving memory of those *Cathedral League* women who served so faithfully. *Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them.*

The **Bulletin** for this special service of thanksgiving for *The Cathedral League* is sponsored by the *Cathedral League* and is in honour of the *Cathedral League's* 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2008.

The **history** of the *Cathedral League* for the Patronal Festival celebration of the centenary of the *Cathedral League* 2008 is written by Cynthia Pilichos.

The **flowers on the reception table** in Worrell Hall are a gift to the *Cathedral League* from the *Gordon Group* on the occasion of the *Cathedral League's* centenary. Thanks are extended to the *Gordon Group* for their gift on this special occasion.

The **Reception** following the service in Worrell Hall is hosted by the *Cathedral ACW*.

### Coming Soon to a Cathedral Near You . . .

Watch for a special **Cathedral 2010 Bookmark** highlighting key events for the Cathedral's centenary year. Coming soon, stay

Join us in 2010 for special worship & music events  
as we celebrate 100 years of Christian witness at the  
Cathedral

- **Love to Learn Lecture Series** \_\_\_Jan-Mar/10  
Featuring archives & architecture, vestments &  
vessels, woodwork & windows, music, melody,  
and more!
- **Tea in the Transept** \_\_\_\_\_ Apr/10  
An elegant afternoon tea, 1910 style
- **Cathedral Capers** \_\_\_\_\_ June/10  
Cathedral Hospitality Day for the children of our  
diocesan family
- **Cathedral Tours** \_\_\_\_\_ Jul/Aug/10  
In costume and drama
- **Grand Patronal Festival** \_\_\_\_\_ Nov/10  
Featuring a 1910 style dinner in the  
Cathedral and a majestic church service
- **Christmas at the Cathedral** \_\_\_Dec/10  
Pageant