

**THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA
OTTAWA DIOCESAN COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT BOOK 2017**



**95th
ANNUAL OTTAWA DIOCESAN CONVENTION
APRIL 28, 2018
OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH
OTTAWA, ONTARIO**

National Theme for 2017 / 2018



Inspired by the Spirit, Women Respond to God's Call

“The Holy Spirit symbolized by the dove comes down upon Jesus and remains in Him as the Spirit does in the purified hearts of all the baptized; the cloud and light occur together as the manifestation of the Holy Spirit in scripture; the rays of light illuminate the seven gifts the Spirit offers; the fire resting on the heads of the disciples symbolizes the transforming energy of the Holy Spirit’s actions; the 11 disciples represent members from every province, territory and the military ordinariate and are inspired by the Spirit with arms raised responding to God’s call with joyful service; and the cross, anchor and heart represent faith, hope and love – the foundation of Christian moral activity.”

CWL National President Margaret Ann Jacobs
Winter 2017 / The Canadian League

**The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Ottawa Diocesan Council
Message from the Editor**

It was a great joy assembling all your reports and inputs to produce the Annual Report Book 2017. I particularly loved reading the many highlights of council activities which occurred throughout the Ottawa Diocese this last year. I am definitely looking forward to seeing what 2018 is going to bring!

Spring is here, a time when nature bursts forth with energy and new growth. It is a time of optimism which inspires us to think about change. Last summer at the 2017 National Convention, the national executive updated the members on the progress of their strategic planning initiatives. The League is looking to inspire a new springtime of growth and a renewed sense of mission in a world that desperately needs Christ's help. Guided by Our Lady, it is time for us to be on the leading edge of change and allow the Holy Spirit to transform us into a sisterhood of love.

Our current Ontario theme is a focus on homelessness, so this is a golden opportunity to spread Christ's message of love. We can also spread His message in the small things. One of the sadder occasions in our lives is hearing the news that one of our sisters has passed away. When we don't actually know the person, there may be a tendency not to attend the funeral. Yet a funeral is so much more than mourning and consolation. It is a chance to celebrate a journey of faith that began with baptism. A chance that as we say farewell to our sister on her final journey to the Lord, she is lifted up by the prayers of our community, a sisterhood of love. Think how much you would want that sisterhood praying for you when you take your final journey.

Sometimes the small things can seem mundane. I am, however, so thankful for all the hard work that has gone on in the councils and in the background to make this report possible. It is so illuminating when all this information has been put together. It is evident that there is diversity in what we do across our diocese, a witness to the fact that *Inspired by the Spirit, Women Respond to God's Call*.

In responding to God's call, I would also like to welcome Rev. Jessimar Cavan-Tapia who has joined us as our new Ottawa Diocesan Spiritual Advisor as well as to thank all the Ottawa Parish Council Spiritual Advisors who provide us with spiritual food for our souls.

Love, Peace & Joy,
Lynn Lavictoire

OBJECTS OF THE LEAGUE

The objects of the League shall be to unite

Catholic Women of Canada

To achieve individual and collective spiritual development

To promote the teachings of the Catholic Church

To exemplify the Christian ideal in home and family life

To protect the sanctity of human life

To enhance the role of women in church and society

To recognize the human dignity of all people everywhere

To uphold and defend Christian education and

values in the modern world

To contribute to the understanding and growth of religious freedom,

social justice and harmony.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Catholic Women's League of Canada is a national organization rooted in gospel values calling its members to holiness through the service to the people of God.



FOR GOD AND CANADA

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Letter of Greeting from the CWL National President.....	5
Letter of Greeting from the Ontario Provincial President.....	6
Message from the Ottawa Diocesan Spiritual Advisor.....	7
Ottawa Diocesan Council Officers – 2017.....	8
Standing Rules for the Ottawa Diocesan Convention 2018.....	9
Diocesan Officers' Annual Reports 2017	
President's Report.....	11
Joint Secretaries' Report.....	13
Treasurer's Report.....	15 - 20
Past President/Historian Report.....	21
Dates to remember.....	23
Standing Committee Chairpersons' Reports 2017	
Organization Report.....	24
Community Life Report.....	26
Education and Health Report.....	28
Christian Family Life Report.....	30
Communications Report.....	32
Resolutions Report.....	34
Legislation Report.....	36
Spiritual Development Report.....	37
Life Member Liaison Report.....	39
Life Members 2017.....	41
Parish Council Highlights 2017	
Annunciation of Lord.....	42
Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.....	42
Divine Infant.....	42
Holy Spirit.....	42
Immaculate Heart of Mary.....	43
Our Lady of Fatima.....	43
Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal.....	43
Our Lady of the Visitation.....	43
Resurrection of Our Lord.....	44
St. Andrew.....	44
St. Basil.....	44
St. Bernard.....	44
St. Catherine of Siena.....	44

St. Clare.....	45
St. Ignatius the Martyr.....	45
St. Isidore.....	45
St. John the Apostle.....	45
St. Leonard.....	45
St. Margaret Mary (Cumberland).....	46
St. Martin de Porres.....	46
St. Mary's (Almonte).....	46
St. Maurice.....	46
St. Patrick (Fallowfield).....	47
St. Philip.....	47
The Good Shepherd.....	47
Ottawa Diocesan Council Members' Awards 2017.....	48 – 51
Deceased Members 2017.....	53 – 54
Convention Planning Committee.....	55

LEAGUE PRAYER

We humbly pray you O God our Father,
to bless the Catholic Women's League of Canada,
bless our beloved country, our homes and families.
Send your Holy Spirit upon us to give light to our minds
and strength to our wills, that we may know and
fulfill your great law of charity.

Teach us to share with others,
at home and abroad,
the good things you have given us.

This we ask through Our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the intercession of our patroness,
our Lady of Good Counsel.

Amen.



The Catholic Women's League of Canada

March 9, 2018

Dear Members of the Ottawa Diocesan Council,

I am delighted to bring greetings on the occasion of your 95th annual convention.

What a wonderful opportunity for members to gather together to celebrate faith, recognize the many achievements of such dedicated, selfless women, share fellowship and deepen their commitment to the League!

Many opportunities will be offered to encounter new ideas, foster new techniques and nourish new hopeful possibilities for the council to undertake. Then inspired by the spirit members can go forth with joy, courage and renewed enthusiasm to respond to God's call.

"Blessed are those whose hearts are ever open to God's inspiration; they will never lack what they need to live good holy lives or perform properly the duties of their state in life."
(St. Francis de Sales, *Treatise on the Love of God*)

May God continue to bless the council and all the lives touched with loving kindness and compassion.

Your sister in the League,

Margaret Ann Jacobs

Margaret Ann Jacobs
National President

MAJ/nb



ONTARIO PROVINCIAL COUNCIL
of
The Catholic Women's League of Canada

Greetings Ottawa Diocesan Members,

Conventions are an exciting time as your members come together to celebrate all the marvelous achievements you have completed over the past year. It is a time to become spiritually fulfilled, learn more about the League and the challenges that we face in society.

We are fortunate to experience the beautiful gift of sisterhood in the League and the strong bond of friendship as we socialize and enjoy our shared experiences.

Our national theme *Inspired by the Spirit, Women Respond to God's Call*, has encouraged members across the province, to act on their baptismal promises by addressing palliative care and the challenges of mental health.

I congratulate you on your many good deeds and efforts in helping the homeless. I know that you have made a difference in many lives.

We share the same goals, hopes and dreams for the future of the League as we move forward with our Strategic Plan and help shape the League into a viable organization.

Know that the prayers of your sisters from all across Ontario are with you at this time of convention and throughout the year.

Your president, Onagh, has represented you well at the provincial table, ensuring that your diocese has had a voice.

Congratulations as you celebrate the 95th anniversary of the League in your diocese.

May God bless you and our Lady of Good Counsel watch over you as you continue your humble service in the League. For God and Canada.

Blessings,

Anne Madden 

Message from Archdiocesan Spiritual Advisor

Under the guidance of Our Lady of Good Counsel, the Catholic Women's League (CWL) aims to unite all Catholic women to be an example of God's love and compassion. They do so through prayer, acts of charity, supporting the needy and respect for life.

On Saturday, March 3, 2018 – the First Saturday of the month – Pope Francis instituted a feast for Our Lady, Mother of the Church. It is symbolic that this announcement was made on the day reserved for the Blessed Virgin Mary. The liturgical memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church which is currently celebrated in Poland and Argentina, will now be celebrated throughout all the Catholic Church on the day after Pentecost Sunday. Cardinal Robert Sarah, prefect of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, said that the new feast emphasizes "the importance of the mystery of Mary's spiritual motherhood, which from the awaiting of the Spirit at Pentecost has never ceased to take motherly care of the pilgrim Church on earth."

It is very fitting that this new feast be celebrated immediately after Pentecost. Mary was present at Pentecost when the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles. Pentecost is the birth of the Church. Our Blessed Mother was with the Apostles when the Holy Spirit descended upon them. This symbolizes that the Virgin Mary is not only the Mother of Christ but the Mother of the Church since she was there for the birth of the Church.

Pope Francis' decree points out the need for the veneration of the Virgin Mary as the Mother of Christ and Mother of the Church. The decree points to the feminine dimension of the Church that the members of the Catholic Women's League exemplify.

Pope Francis ends his decree with the hope that "*this devotion might encourage the growth of the maternal sense of the Church in the pastors, religious and faithful, as well as a growth of genuine Marian piety.* He wants all the faithful to remember that "*growth in the Christian life must be anchored to the Mystery of the Cross, to the oblation of Christ in the Eucharistic Banquet and to the Mother of the Redeemer and Mother of the Redeemed, the Virgin who makes her offering to God.*"

To this end, I encourage all members of the Catholic Women's League to promote this feast of Our Lady, Mother of the Church.

Rev. Jessimar Cavan-Tapia
Diocesan Spiritual Advisor
March 2018

OTTAWA DIOCESAN COUNCIL OFFICERS – 2017

President	Onagh Dooley
President-Elect	Lynn Lavictoire
1 st Vice-President	Rosanne Nadon
2 nd Vice-President	Sandra Blais
Recording Secretary	Suzie Noaro
Corresponding Secretary	Suzie Noaro
Treasurer	Diana Baines
Past President	Joanna Sisk

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Organization	Lynn Lavictoire
Community Life	Rosanne Nadon
Education & Health	Sandra Blais
Christian Family Life	Teresa Psutka
Communications	Grace Buchmayer
Resolutions & Legislation	Dyann MacDonald
Spiritual Development	Nancy Grimshaw
Life Member Liaison	Heather Sisk
Spiritual Advisor	Fr. Jessimar Cavan-Tapia

Standing Rules for the Ottawa Diocesan Convention 2018

Registration

1. Each person attending this convention shall register at the convention registration desk and shall be required to wear the official badge for admission to all business sessions.
2. Registrants shall be classified as: voting delegates (parish presidents), accredited delegates (diocesan officers, parish accredited, honorary life members, and life members), Catholic Women's League members, hierarchy, spiritual advisors or guests.
3. The registration and credentials committee, at the beginning of the first business session, shall provide a credentials report summarizing the number of voting members registered at the convention. When adopted, the credentials report shall be the official roll of voting members. If additional voting members register after the report has been adopted, a supplementary report shall be given and adopted at the end of the day's business session.
4. A Catholic Women's League member registered as an accredited delegate may, upon proper clearance by the registration and credentials committee, be transferred from accredited to voting status at any time during the business sessions.

Seating Arrangements

5. The business sessions of the convention shall have a designated area in which all voting members will be seated. All members are requested to be in their seats at least five (5) minutes before the scheduled sessions open.

Voting

6. Voting cards shall be issued to voting members and these cards shall be exhibited when a member votes.
7. The chair shall ask for affirmative and negative votes only. A voting member wishing her abstention to be recorded in the minutes shall request same before the vote is taken.

Debate

8. Anyone wishing to speak shall use the microphone, which shall be available on the floor, take a place in line, and upon being recognized, state name, status, and parish.
9. When time is of the essence, voting members shall be given priority to speak over non-voting members.
10. No delegate shall speak more than once on the same motion, or longer than three (3) minutes, without permission of the assembly.
11. No delegate shall be allowed to transfer time for discussion to another delegate whose time has lapsed.

Motions and Resolutions

12. Members wishing to introduce new business to this convention shall submit the proposed motion on the proper form to the president or recording secretary at least one (1) hour prior to the business session at which it will be presented.
13. Only resolutions submitted to the resolutions committee before March 15, 2018 shall be considered for presentation to this convention.
14. Resolutions concerning urgent matters may be accepted after the deadline of March 15, 2018 for the presentation to this convention, at the discretion of the resolutions committee.
15. Copies of resolutions shall be made available to the delegates prior to the business sessions.
16. The procedure for presenting resolutions to the convention shall be:

- a) The resolutions chairperson shall read the resolution.
 - b) The president of the parish submitting the resolution shall move its adoption. If more than one parish has submitted the resolution, the parish presidents concerned shall decide prior to the meeting who will move its adoption.
 - c) The president(s) of the parish(s) submitting the resolution shall have the opportunity to speak first to the resolution or shall designate another person to speak in her place.
17. Amendments to resolutions shall be submitted on the proper form to the resolutions chairperson at the time they are presented.
 18. Final wording of titles and briefs shall be the responsibility of the resolutions committee.
 19. Grammatical or minor changes to a resolution may not need to be formally amended but may be given to the resolutions committee prior to the resolution being presented to the assembly.
 20. Adopted resolutions shall be posted to the Ottawa Diocesan Council of The Catholic Women's League of Canada website.

Minutes

21. The diocesan president shall appoint a minutes review committee to verify the minutes of the meeting of the convention.
22. The diocesan executive shall approve the minutes of this convention at its next convention meeting.

Publicity

23. Only the diocesan president, or someone designated by her, may grant official interviews about the work and the policies of the League.
24. All publicity shall be under the supervision of the diocesan president in co-operation with the diocesan chairperson of communications.

Miscellaneous

25. No materials shall be distributed at this convention without the prior approval of the diocesan president.
26. No appeals of support, collections or announcements of any kind shall be made without a written request, clearly stating the purpose and identifying the person making the request, having been presented in advance to the diocesan president and approved by the diocesan executive.
27. Any actions adopted at this convention shall become effective at the adjournment of the convention unless a specific date has been chosen by this convention for particular action to become effective.

For Information Only

These rules are not amendable as they are taken from the Constitution & Bylaws 2013

A. Voting Powers: (PART XV, Section 2)

- a) Voting delegates shall take part in all proceedings and shall have the power to vote on all questions.
- b) Accredited delegates may take part in the business sessions of the annual convention and vote on any question except the election of officers, amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws and increase in per capita fees.

(Note: Other CWL members and Spiritual Advisors may speak when recognized by the chair, but they may not introduce motions or vote.)

**The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Diocesan Standing Committee Annual Report
For the period from January 1 to December 31, 2017**

President's Report

Diocese: Ottawa	President: Onagh Dooley
Spiritual Advisor: Rev. Fr. Jessimar Cavan-Tapia	
Parishes Reporting: 16/25	Members: 1,485
Life Members: 9	Honorary Life Members: 1

This report reflected numbers based on the sixteen responses to the President Annual Report Survey 2017, as sent from National Office. It is not an accurate picture of our diocese with twenty-five councils.

Informed the membership via information gathered from

- Diocesan newsletters 94%
- National communiques 76%
- Parish bulletins 59%
- Provincial League websites or newsletters 59%
- *The Canadian League* magazine 94%

Introduced, discussed or acted upon current national priorities

- Conscience rights of healthcare providers 59%
- Home care 53%
- Limiting access to pornography 47%
- Palliative care 100%
- Physician-assisted dying 88%
- Refugee crisis 53%
- Rights of Indigenous offenders 53%
- Youth mental health 35%
- Invited speakers to meetings 53%
- Standing committee chairpersons 71%

Spiritual Advisor's role in councils

- Monthly meetings 65%
- Supportive of the CWL 82%

Resources used to preside at meetings

- *Constitution & Bylaws* 65%
- Council policy and procedure manual 82%
- *Executive Handbook* 76%
- *National Manual of Policy and Procedure* 41%
- National Theme and/or logo to focus on council activities 88%

At which events have you represented your council

- Diocesan meetings and convention 94%
- Church functions 100%
- Funerals 88%
- Pro-life events & Remembrance Day services 29%
- Retreats 41%
- World Day of Prayer 58%

Which events have you subsidized and by how much

- Diocesan convention – all expenses were paid 76%
- Provincial convention – all expenses were paid 25%
- Conferences – all expenses were paid 33%
- Workshops – all expenses were paid 40%

Executive Handbook

- Read the *Executive Handbook* 94%
- It assisted in overseeing operations of your council 94%

What sub-committees did your council have

- Annual events, such as teas, bazaars etc. 71%
- Fundraising 47%
- Catering 23%
- Social events 53%
- Visitation 53%
- Scholarship or bursary 29%

What issues have you spoken on for your council

- Membership 76%
- Palliative care 53%
- Local charitable projects 35%
- Council social events 35%
- Pro-life issues & Euthanasia 24%
- Scholarships, bursaries and other awards 29%

What/who provided the greatest assistance for you as president

- Former past president 65%
- Immediate past president 53%
- Diocesan 35%
- Life member 24%

Greatest challenges you faced when transitioning into role of president

- Keeping members interested 71%
- Not having a full slate of officers 53%
- Finding the time 47%
- Amount of paperwork, recruiting and inexperience 41%
- Meeting expectations 35%
- Public speaking 29%
- Resistance to new ideas 29%

**The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Diocesan Standing Committee Annual Report
For the period from January 1 to December 31, 2017**

Joint Secretaries' Report

Diocese: Ottawa

Parishes Reporting: 15/25

Chairperson: Suzie Noaro

Sub-chairperson: None

95% of 15 parish council secretaries responded to the annual survey for 2017 and 53% are acting as both recording and corresponding secretary.

RECORDING SECRETARY

100% of respondents have a recording secretary.

93% either have their own copy of the Handbook for Secretaries or have access to their parish council's copy.

60% have a motions book. 33% bring it to meetings.

60% are signing officers.

46% help their president to complete the annual report.

100% attend executive and general meetings of their council.

80% bring the minutes to all meetings.

53% distribute copies of the agenda.

80% know where the council charter is located.

86% maintain a list with updated contact information for their executive.

100% take the minutes at meetings.

93% take the roll call.

86% transcribe and distribute meeting minutes.

53% receive written reports from the executive.

80% distribute the minutes by email.

46% keep minutes in the minute book for three to five years before archiving.

86% take handwritten notes at meetings.

66% send minutes out in advance and ask for corrections at the meeting.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

40% of responding councils do not have a correspondence secretary.

55% have a copy of the CWL Personal Letter Writing Guide.

77% notify members of upcoming meetings and events by email.

100% provide a list of correspondence at meetings.

77% read out the correspondence at meetings.

77% are not responsible for sending occasion cards such as anniversary, sympathy, etc.

JOINT SECRETARIES SUMMARY & FINAL THOUGHTS

- Great team effort with our council.

- I have enjoyed my term as recording and corresponding secretary. It has been a wonderful year.
- I was flexible to the president's style of work.

DIOCESAN SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT

RECORDING & CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: Suzie Noaro

Recording:

Minutes were recorded and submitted for the meetings listed below.

Diocesan Officers Meetings: six (2017 – Jan 11, Mar 29, Apr 8, May 10, Sep 6, Nov 15)

Diocesan Executive Meetings: three (2017 – Jan 21, May 27, Sep 16)

League Development Day: one (2017 – Mar 25, 117 members attended)

Diocesan Annual Convention: one (2017 – Apr 29)

National Convention Town Hall, Remote Group Meeting: one (2017 – Aug 9)

Advent Retreat Meeting: one (2017 - Aug 21)

Advent Retreat Report: three-day event, 21 members attended (2017 – Dec 1 to 31). Report was written and submitted by Nancy Grimshaw, Spiritual Development Chair.

The above noted minutes are on file and available for review or consultation upon request.

Corresponding:

Correspondence sent and received between January 1, 2017 and December 31, 2017.

Sent: twelve

Received: four

The above noted correspondence is on file and available for review or consultation upon request.

Recommendations:

1. Put in lots of details from meetings. Let your president decide how much to keep.
2. Try to submit the first draft within two weeks of the meeting.
3. Try to distribute minutes to officers or members within 1 month of the date of the meeting.
4. Number your drafts. Clearly mark the final version.
5. Save on your computer and on a USB stick.

**The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Diocesan Standing Committee Annual Report
For the period from January 1 to December 31, 2017**

Treasurer's Report

Diocese: Ottawa
Parishes Reporting: 15/25

Chairperson: Diana Baines
Sub-chairpersons: None

Annual Report Survey

- Almost 87% had a copy of the *Guidelines for Treasurers*.
- Councils used cheque books (100%), bank statements (93%), deposit books (86%), and receipt books (86%) to keep track of receipts and disbursements. Councils used spreadsheets (40%), or manual ledgers (53%) to record transactions.
- All councils (100%) retained receipts and (93%) reconciled accounts monthly. Cancelled cheques or copies were returned to (33%) of councils.
- The majority of councils charged dues of \$20.00 or \$25.00 yearly and no changes planned. Most dues were collected in November (73%), December (67%), and January (40%). National office was unable to provide details on when memberships were submitted to them.
- Fundraising initiatives included bazaars, bake sales, silent auctions, Teas, and many more activities.
- Most councils (93%) paid all expenses by cheque. One council maintains a petty cash for small purchases. The majority of councils (80%) had three signing officers, usually the president, treasurer and secretary; others chose different signing officers for various reasons such as proximity to the bank.
- Annual budgets are prepared by (73%) of councils and most are presented in January or February.
- Financial statements are presented at monthly general meetings by (93%) of councils.
- Council books are examined yearly by 73% of councils by an individual who is usually an experienced bookkeeper (40%) or experienced in accounting (33%).

Recommendations

- Comments indicate difficulty in recruiting candidates for the treasurer's position at parish council level. Possibly more information and workshops would encourage more members to let their name stand for this position.
- All councils should have a copy of the *Guidelines for Treasurers*, available from national office.

Financial Statement

For the period January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017

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**Statement of Review of the Ottawa Archdiocesan CWL Council
2017 Accounting Records**

February 20 2018

At the request of the Ottawa Archdiocesan CWL Council Treasurer, I have examined the financial records for the year ending December 31, 2017 and have found them to be in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. The accounting records are entered using spreadsheets, and are comprised of monthly bank reconciliations, deposits and transfers, and paid invoices.

Two other signing authorities signed cheques payable to one of the signing authorities.

Deposited cheques were properly endorsed or stamped deposit only, as required. The bank provides pre-printed cheques. All bank statements, which include Bank deposit slips, ATM deposits and photocopied cheques on both sides, were reconciled on a monthly basis.

Review of Transactions

I have reviewed expense transactions for 2017, and supporting documentation was present for each. Expense receipts including travel were generally reasonable and original receipts attached to each claim.

In general, prudent financial and administrative practices are in place and executed as required.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.



Sandra Goldberg
47 Edgeware Drive
Ottawa, ON K2J 4X3

**OTTAWA DIOCESAN COUNCILS
DONATIONS REPORTED FOR PAST CALENDAR YEAR**

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**The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Ottawa Diocesan Council**

Approved Budget for 2018

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Approved Budget for 2018
(...continued)

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**The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Diocesan Standing Committee Annual Report
For the period from January 1 to December 31, 2017**

Past President/Historian Report

Diocese: Ottawa

Parishes Reporting: 11/25

Chairperson: Joanna Sisk

Sub-chairpersons: None

This report reflected numbers based on the responses to the Past President Annual Report Survey 2017, as sent from National Office. It is not an accurate picture of our diocese as percentages based on twenty-five councils with only eleven responses would not have given a true picture.

Serve in a Consultative Capacity

- Eleven of twenty-five councils had this position.
- Seven past presidents of eleven respondents (63.74%) were called upon at least once a month for advice; four (36.36%) were called upon less than once a month or never.
- Ten presidents (90.91%) felt supported and encouraged by their past president; one (9.09%) did not feel supported or encouraged.
- Eleven past presidents undertook other duties at the request of their council president.

Be Responsible for Archives and History

- Nine past presidents (81.82%) were responsible for the archives in their council.
- Seven councils (63.63%) stored their archives in their parishes.
- Four councils (36.36%) stored archives in their or another member's home.
- Ten councils (90.91%) knew the location of their council charter.
- Nine councils (81.82%) stored their archives in filing cabinets; seven (33.3%) used bankers' boxes; one (9.09%) stored them on DVD's; one (9.09%) on a CD; four (36.36%) used memory sticks to store archived information.
- Ten councils (90.91%) kept photo albums; two (18.18%) kept scrapbooks.
- Four councils (36.36%) kept annual reports indefinitely; two (18.18%) kept them for nine-ten years.
- Ten councils (90.91%) stored Books of Life indefinitely; one has not started as no one has died yet.
- Six councils (54.55%) kept deceased members' history indefinitely; one

- (9.09%) kept them for nine-ten years.
- Five councils (45.45%) kept financial information indefinitely; two (18.18%) kept them for nine-ten years.
- Seven councils (63.64%) kept past executive lists indefinitely; three (27.7%) for five-eight years.
- Seven councils (63.64%) kept membership renewal data indefinitely; two (18.18%) for five-eight years.
- Eight councils (72.17%) kept minutes of executive meetings indefinitely; two (18.18%) for five-eight years.
- Seven councils (63.64%) kept minutes of general meetings indefinitely; two (18.18%) for five-eight years.
- Nine councils (81.82%) kept records of pin and award recipients indefinitely; two (18.18%) for two-three years.
- Six councils (28.6%) kept executive members written reports indefinitely; two (18.18%) for nine-ten years.
- Eight councils (72.73%) kept years of service for members indefinitely; one (9.09%) for two-three years; two (18.18%) for four-five years.
- One council (9.09%) reviewed their archives annually; nine (81.0%) as needed.
- Six councils (54.4%) maintained a history book.
- Ten councils (90.91%) maintained labeled photo albums.

**Facilitate the Study and Implementation
of the
*Constitution & Bylaws 2013 (revised)***

- Eleven councils (100.00%) had a copy of the *Constitution & Bylaws 2013*.
- Four councils (36.360%) used it at least once a year; four (36.36%) never used it.
- Eight councils (72.73%) had their own manual of policy and procedure; three (27.27%) did not have one.

DATES TO REMEMBER

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA
71ST ANNUAL ONTARIO PROVINCIAL CONVENTION

SUNDAY, JULY 8 TO WEDNESDAY, JULY 11, 2018

TORONTO, ONTARIO

Join Us for Prayer, Fellowship, Resolutions, Business Sessions,
Eucharistic Celebrations and Guest Speakers!

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA
97th ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION

SUNDAY, AUGUST 12 TO WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15, 2018

WINNIPEG, MANITOBA

Join Us for Prayer, Fellowship, Resolutions, Business Sessions,
Eucharistic Celebrations and Guest Speakers!

**The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Diocesan Standing Committee Annual Report
For the period from January 1 to December 31, 2017**

Organization Standing Committee Report

Diocese: Ottawa

Parishes Reporting: 16/25

Chairperson: Lynn Lavictoire

Sub-chairperson: None

Recruit Members and Maintain Membership

- Fifteen councils, 93.8%, advertised in church bulletins.
- Ten councils, 62.5%, organized a "CWL Sunday."
- Nine councils, 56.3%, held ministry fairs, church bazaars, and had promotional displays.
- Two councils, 12.5%, gave memberships as a gift.
- Two councils, 12.5% arranged to have membership envelopes in their parish collection boxes.
- One council, 6.3%, invited parishioners to participate in CWL projects and distributed their council's newsletter (Spring & Fall).
- One council, 6.3%, arranged to have envelopes in the pews, contacted members by telephone, by email, and invited members to coffee to talk about their experiences in the League.
- One council, 6.3%, had a "Secret Sister" program.
- Nine councils, 56.3%, kept in touch with members by sending cards.

Leadership Development

- Six councils, 60%, participated in League Development Day workshop offered in our area.
- Ten councils attended the diocesan retreat and leadership workshops.
- One hundred members registered for the annual diocesan convention.
- Fifteen members attended the provincial convention in Thunder Bay.
- Thirteen members were at the national convention in Charlottetown, PEI.
- Five councils, 50%, reported being familiar about the Catholic Women's Leadership Foundation and what it offers women in leadership development.

League Resource Material

- Several councils, 75%, have the following resource material on hand:
 - *Ceremonies Booklet, Constitution & Bylaws, CWL Prays, Executive Handbook, Guidelines for Treasurers, Handbook for Organization Chairpersons, Handbook for Past Presidents, Handbook for Secretaries, Handbook for Spiritual Advisors, Leading the League, National Manual*

of Policy and Procedure, Parliamentary Procedure, Resolutions Supplement to the Executive Handbook, Canadian League magazine, and League Prayers.

- Twelve councils, 75%, have downloaded Online Resources.

Annual Reports

- Annual Reports were submitted by 16 out of 25 parish councils.
- Six councils, 60%, used guidelines to assist executive members to complete their reports.
- Seven councils, 70%, maintained monthly/regular record of activities.
- Six councils, 60%, met as a group.
- One council, 10%, assisted members who don't have computers.
- One council, 10%, planned a workshop.
- Four councils, 40%, reviewed their annual CWL council calendar.
- Seven councils, 70%, reviewed their minutes.

Life Membership

- The Diocese of Ottawa has one Honorary Life Member, nine Life Members and one Military Ordinariate Life Member living in Ottawa.
- Six councils, 37.5%, have a life member in their council.
- Of these six councils, 50%, reported that their life members have served as mentors, facilitated workshops, shared their knowledge through diocesan events, researched topics of interest to members, served as parliamentarian.
- On the diocesan level, our life members participated in sub-committees, e.g., Leadership Development Fund, Life Membership Application Committee and Diocesan Resolutions Review Committee.

Diocesan Chairperson's Report

- Attended all officers and executive meetings. Wrote communiques and prepared reports. Maintained an up to date list of diocesan officers, parish presidents, standing committee chairs and spiritual advisors.
- Attended the diocesan, provincial and national conventions as accredited delegate.
- Attended a workshop on our national theme held in Cornwall.
- Submitted an article for the September 18, 2017 On Line Newsletter.
- Chaired the September Executive Potluck Lunch Meeting.
- Installed Fr. Jessimar Cavan-Tapia as our Diocesan Spiritual Advisor.
- Attended the Archbishop's Annual Charity Dinner on behalf of the diocesan council.
- Sat as a member of the diocesan convention planning committee.

**The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Diocesan Standing Committee Annual Report
For the period from January 1 to December 31, 2017**

Community Life Standing Committee Report

Diocese: Ottawa
Parishes Reporting: 14/25

Chairperson: Rosanne Nadon
Sub-chairpersons: None

Dignity and Rights of Persons

- 70% (seven out of ten councils) were familiar with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
- 57.14% (eight out of twelve councils) provided a donation to an agency helping the homeless.
- 14.9% (two out of twelve councils) invited a guest speaker to come and speak about the issue of homelessness and supported by volunteering at an agency helping the homeless.
- 43.86% (six out of eight councils) provided a donation to an agency helping those suffering from domestic violence.
- 14.29% (two out of eight councils) volunteered at an organization helping with domestic violence.
- 78.57% (eleven out of fourteen councils) provided a donation to an organization helping those suffering from poverty.
- 21.43% (three out of fourteen councils) volunteered at an organization helping those suffering from poverty.
- 50% (five out of ten councils) became aware of laws and what is being done in the fight against human trafficking.
- 100% (five out five councils) shared this information with their council members.
- 35.71% (five out of fourteen councils) supported the resolution 2017.01 Full Implementation of the Supreme Court decision in R. v. Gladue for Indigenous Offenders by monitoring the federal government's response to the request.
- 14.29% (two out of fourteen councils) supported the above resolution by writing to the prime minister, minister of justice and local members of parliament urging them to become aware of the need to fully implement the decision.

Social and Economic Justice

- 80% (eight out of ten councils) encouraged members to participate in the work of organizations caring for those in need.
- 36.71% (five out of fourteen councils) gave financial support to a clothing drive.

- 42.86% (six out of fourteen councils) volunteered at a clothing drive.
- 42.67% (five out of twelve councils) gave prayerful support for emergency shelter for those experiencing domestic abuse.
- 21.43% (three out of twelve councils) volunteered at an emergency shelter. 62.50% (five out of eight councils) gave prayerful support for anti-poverty campaigns.
- 90% (nine out of ten councils) were familiar with restorative justice programs and prison ministry.

Refugees, Immigration and Citizenship

- 30% (three out of ten councils) were informed about Canada's official immigration and refugee policies so that it could be explained to others.
- 30% (three out of ten councils) rated their understanding as fair to good, the needs of immigrants and refugees concerning the availability of employment services; availability of English language courses; financial assistance for food and rent that is offered.
- 60% (six out of ten councils) rated their understanding fair for the number of immigrant and refugees in their communities.
- 50% (five out of ten councils) rated their understanding fair for the countries of origin of immigrants and refugees.
- 60% (six out of ten councils) were able to explain the difference between a temporary foreign worker, immigrant and refugee.
- 90% (nine out of ten councils) participated in a Remembrance Day service.
- 90% (nine out of ten councils) supported the Poppy Campaign.
- 40% (four out of ten councils) wore red on Fridays in support of Canadian troops.

Canadian Catholic Organization for Development & Peace (CCODP)

- 42.86% (six out of fourteen councils) promoted the League's 1% program.
- 35.71% (five out of fourteen councils) promoted the Education and Fall Action campaign.
- 14.29% (two out of fourteen councils) promoted the Share Lent campaign.

Developing Countries

- 28.57% (four councils) were made aware of the letter National President Margaret Ann Jacobs wrote to the prime minister on our behalf to express concern about the 650 million taxpayer dollars provided by the federal government to support sexual and reproductive health programs, including abortion to developing countries.

**The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Diocesan Standing Committee Annual Report
For the period from January 1 to December 31, 2017**

Education and Health Standing Committee Report

Diocese: Ottawa

Parishes Reporting: 12/25

Chairperson: Sandra Blais

Sub-chairpersons: None

**Catholic Education
Catholic Schools and Catechesis**

- Seven councils (78%) were informed about the quality and availability of Catholic religious instructions in their parishes and local schools.
- Four councils (44%) actively encouraged parental participation in all areas of school activities.
- Ten councils (56% each) identified and met the needs of scholarships or bursaries and assisted in sacramental development.
- Four councils (22% each) were involved in the breakfast or lunch program and clothing drives.
- Three councils (33% total) were active in supplying school supplies and tutoring.

Rites of Christian Initiation

- Two councils (22%) were involved in sacramental initiation programs in their parishes, however, there were thirty Catholic Women's League members involved in these programs.

Literacy and Continuing Education

- One council (11%) assisted those wishing to improve their literacy skills.

Scholarships and Bursaries

- Eight councils (67%) provided a list of scholarships and bursaries and made them available to Catholic women to further their education.
- Six councils (50%) provided scholarships or bursaries to high school students while three councils (25%) provided a scholarship or bursary to elementary aged children. NET Ministries of Canada benefited from two councils (16%).
- Coady International Institute was supported by 22% of councils. The total funds reported as being given to Coady International Institute for 2017 was \$75.00.

Wellness and Sickness

- Two councils (16% studied the Heart & Stroke 2017 Report on the Health of Canadians, entitled "The kids are not alright."
- Two councils (17%) provided information to the members and parishioners on the initiative for Mental Health's "Right By You" campaign (Resolution 2015.01).
- The reporting councils focused on the health and wellness of Canadians as follows: by supporting the Alzheimer Society; Canadian Cancer Society; Canadian Red Cross; Relay for Life and by a smaller degree twenty other organizations.
- Nine councils (75%) reported that the topic of Warning Labels on Food and Drug Products for all Inactive Substances and Additives was that it was not a priority at this time (Resolution 2016.03).
- Nine councils (75%) reported that the topic of Eating Well with Canada's Food Guide was not a priority at this time (Resolution 2016.02).
- Twelve councils participated in *12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care* on May 4, 2017 in various forms.

Environment

- Six councils (50%) reported they addressed the issue of recycling; four councils (33%) reduced the use of styrofoam cups and three councils (25%) eliminated plastic water bottles. Nine councils (76%) reported on reducing the use of paper at meetings; increased the use of the green bins, environmental awareness and reading *Laudato si'*.

Genetics

- Six councils (33%) rated their knowledge in regards to the advantages and disadvantages of technological development in light of the teachings of the Catholic Church between fair and poor. No council subscribed to the *Canadian Catholic Bioethics Institute Newsletter*.

Diocesan Chair Report

- Attended three diocesan officers and executive meetings.
- Attended the Catholic Education Foundation and the Catholic School Boards Annual General Meetings.
- Information from the Ontario Provincial Education and Health Committee Chair was added to the four communiques to be forwarded to the parish councils.

**The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Diocesan Standing Committee Annual Report
For the period from January 1 to December 31, 2017**

Christian Family Life Standing Committee Report

Diocese: Ottawa
Parishes Reporting: 13/25

Chairperson: Teresa Psutka
Sub-chairpersons: None

Marriage and Family

Councils that accessed suggested resources to assist chairs in planning:
"The Joy of Love" at the Heart of the Family publication 20% (two)
Prayers and Rituals for the Home booklet 20% (two)
Programs for family enrichment promoted by councils:
Programs to support happily married couples 20% (two)
Promoted Next World Meeting of Families in 2018 30% (three)
Chairs/members attended workshops/seminars on family life: 20% (two)
Councils that celebrated/organized events: Father's Day 30% (three)
Mother's Day/anniversaries 50% (five) National Family Week 10% (one)

Sanctity of Life

Councils that held membership in a local pro-life organization: 30.8% (four)
Council members attended: 40 Days for Life 76.92% (ten)
Life Chain 46.15% (six) March for Life 84.62% (eleven)
Pro-Life dinners 30.77% (four) Pro-Life Walks 53.85% (seven)
Pro-Life Masses 46.15% (six) Pro-Life Vigils 23.08% (three)
Councils donated money/gifts to: Priests for Life 23.08% (three) Campaign
Life Coalition 30.77% (four)
Euthanasia Prevention Coalition 23.08% (three)
Pregnancy and Family Support Services 30.77% (four)
Councils that lent support to pro-life legislators 30.77% (four)

Ministry to Youth

Councils participated in young people programs 53.85% (seven)

- encouraged young people to share their gifts in ministry 69.23% (nine)
- sponsored youth events/youth ministers in their parish: Catholic Christian Outreach (CCO) 7.69% (one) NET Ministries of Canada 15.38% (two)
World Youth Day 15.38% (two)

Youth conferences 15.38% (two) Sunday school 23.08% (three)
Councils that purchased subscription to Catholic magazines/videos/books for use in local community, school or parish libraries 23.08% (three)

- promoted the Vatican's Online Questionnaire for Youth 20% (two) six youth participated

Ministry to Disabled

Councils ministered to the disabled and invited them to take part in liturgical celebrations 30% (three)

- organized/participated in support groups/respice for caregivers 30% (three)
- assisted disabled persons living on their own 53.85% (seven)
- urged communities to make churches/other public buildings more accessible 30% (three)
- supported shelters/programs for the disabled 40% (four)
- members reached out and brought communion/prayed 53.85% (seven)
- gave special occasion gifts/visited or called 30.77% (four)
- provided transportation to 23.08% (three) sent cards 38.46% (five)

Ministry to Seniors

Chairs/committee members brought communion to seniors 61.54% (eight)
Councils gifted senior members with membership 46.15% (six)

- invited newly retired women to join their council 23.08% (three)
- invited them to: CWL events 69.23% (nine) organized social events 53.85% (seven)
- prayed with them in their home 46.15% (six)
- provided respice care for caregivers 23.08% (three)
- provided transportation for them 38.46% (five)
- sent cards of encouragement 61.54% (eight)
- shared a meal 23.08% (three) and visited/called them 38.46% (five)

Ministry to Widowed

- arranged memorial services and/or funeral lunches 46.15% (six); encouraged them to participate in parish programs 23.08% (three)
- ensured there was a bereavement program in the parish 23.08% (three)
- gifted them with prayer shawls 15.38% (two)
- invited widows to attend CWL meetings and events 30.77% (four)
- provided prayers/support after the death of the spouse 53.85% (seven)
- sent cards of condolence 61.54% (eight), visited/called them 38.46% (five)

Ministry to Separated and Divorced

- invited them to join group outings 15.38% (two)
- asked what the League could do to make them feel more welcome in the League/parish 15.38% (two) offered their time 30.77% (four)

Vocations

- promoted religious vocations councils adopted/supported seminarians 23.08% (three)
- encouraged families to invite priests and religious into their home 15.38% (two) participated in prayers for vocations 30.77% (four)
- hosted luncheons for priests and religious 23.08% (three)
- invited priests and religious to speak on vocations/offered mass for vocations 15.38% (two) sent spiritual bouquets 69.23% (nine)

**The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Diocesan Standing Committee Annual Report
For the period from January 1 to December 31, 2017**

Communications Standing Committee Report

Diocese: Ottawa
Parishes Reporting: 11/25

Chairperson: Grace Buchmayer
Sub-chairpersons: None

STATISTICS

- Is this position vacant? Seven councils said no, four said yes.
- Are you completing this survey on someone else's behalf? Five councils said no, two said yes, four did not say.

The Canadian League Magazine

Ten councils found the magazine a good to excellent resource for advocacy/action, resource for new ideas, and a spiritual resource. Eight councils found it good to excellent as an educational tool.

Articles published in the Winter 2017 edition that resonated: *President's Message and Resolutions - Inspired Women Responding to God's Call* were the most popular. In the Spring 2017 edition *Palliative Care* was popular.

Media: for Evangelization

Nine councils promoted faith-oriented programs and none promoted World Communications Day (first Sunday in June).

Nine councils supported media other than: CCCB, EWTN, and mass for shut-ins, *The Catholic Register*, and *Vision TV*.

Six councils did not know and four did not watch the 2017 national convention speakers available for at-home viewers by live-feed on cwl.ca.

Media: to Promote the League

Ten councils encouraged members to use cwl.ca for current information, three encouraged members to visit the CWL on facebook or twitter, four made use of local media to advertise their council's activities and events, seven organized a telephone committee to invite members to events, two prepared news releases for their council, and one urged their council to set aside a budget for publicity.

Ten councils used their church bulletin, nine used email and bulletin boards, and eight used bulletin inserts.

Eight councils did not view *CWL's Testimonials Video* and six did not view *Salt and Light's Woman on a Mission*. The remainder rated them good to excellent.

Media: Evaluation and Promotion of Good Content

Five councils encouraged members to monitor media content. Six councils said yes, four said it was not a priority, and one didn't hear about national asking members to voice their objections on the series *Mary Kills People* to Global Television Network and the Canadian Broadcasting Standards Council.

Media: Newsletter and Bulletins

Six councils produced a newsletter. Three were produced by the communications chairperson, the remainder by other members. One was annual, two were quarterly, two were bi-annual, and one was monthly; four used email, one used mail, and the remainder used other methods to distribute their newsletter.

Media: Relations

Nine councils said they haven't worked with the local media, one submitted material for publication and one advertised.

Pornography

Six councils read articles, four reviewed legislation, two attended events, one contacted agencies, and four took no steps. Ten councils chose not to participate this year and one did so in April. Ten councils chose not to view the film *Over 18*. Three councils contacted members of parliament and requested the federal government to enact laws to prevent minors from accessing pornography, five encouraged members to become educated on Internet safety and responsible and appropriate technology, five made members aware of the lack of age verification controls on adult websites and three monitored the federal government's response to the issue.

Diocesan Communications Convenor's Report

Assumed administration of the diocesan website. Managed the release of the diocesan newsletter and posted on the website. Posted the diocesan communiques on the website. Coordinated and posted the Christmas card from the diocesan officers for all members in the diocese.

**The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Diocesan Standing Committee Annual Report
For the period from January 1 to December 31, 2017**

Resolutions Standing Committee Report

Diocese: Ottawa
Parishes Reporting: 11/25

Chairperson: Dyann MacDonald
Sub-chairpersons: None

Research and Preparation of Resolutions and Briefs

- Workshop for fall of 2017 was cancelled due to lack of attendance. One council had expert support and advice from a Life Member.
- Three (27.27%) councils referred to communiques and/or annual reports at all levels. The other councils did not respond.
- In 2017 councils were passionate about: Abortion - three (27.27%); Euthanasia and assisted dying - two (18.18%); palliative care - three (27.27%); pornography -one (9.09%); convicted Indigenous women sentencing as stated in the *Corrections and Conditional Release Act* resulted in a resolution - one (9.09%); other -one (9.09%); no – one (9.09%).
- One council prepared a resolution as a result of pursuing an issue. Eleven councils gave these reasons for not initiating resolutions: council too small; we had no issues; no chairperson; no one interested; elderly members; president taking several chairs; significant progress made at other levels.
- Resolutions. New resolution titles were presented to diocesan council.
- One council submitted a resolution which was adopted at the conventions of diocesan, provincial and national councils (2017.01 Full Implementation of the Supreme Court's Decision in R. vs Gladue for Indigenous Offenders).

Study and Implementation of Resolutions Passed by Other Levels

- Five (45.45%) councils became familiar with and acted on provincial resolutions in 2017, while six (54.55%) councils did not.
- Specific actions taken by councils on adopted resolutions:
 - Arranged for a guest speaker - two (18.18%).
 - Members awareness through meetings, e-mails, newsletters - six

- (54.55%).
 - Met with local Member of Parliament - one (9.09%).
 - Other: one council (9.09%) participated in the White Ribbon Against Pornography campaign. The signed ribbon was sent to their member of parliament with a CWL Pornography Hurts postcard.
 - Signed petitions- three (27.27%).
 - Wrote letters to federal or provincial governments - three (27.27%).
 - Councils that did nothing - three (27.27%).
- RESOLUTION 2017.03 Zero-Rated Status Under the Goods and Services Tax Provisions of the Excise Tax Act for Child Safety Products.
 - Twelve (100%) of the councils had not acted on this resolution at this time.
- RESOLUTION 2017.04 Coercion of Conscience for Healthcare Professionals. Councils response to action plan:
 - Educated members and community about “right of conscience” - five (41.67%).
 - Supported Healthcare workers who did not perform procedures in opposition to their conscience - one (8.33%).
 - Wrote letters to prime minister and attorney general and sent copies to local Member of Parliament to make it an offence - two (16.67%).
 - Councils that did not act on this resolution time - six (66.67%).
- RESOLUTION 2016.05 Amend the Canada Health Act to Include Home Care as an Insured Health Service. Councils response to action plan:
 - Co-ordinated assistance to disabled and elderly (housework, cooking, appointments, shopping etc.) - two (16.67%).
 - Supported local hospices financially or volunteering - three (25%).
 - Studied the *Parliamentary Committee on Palliative and Compassionate Care Report* - one (8.33%).
 - Invited speakers to educate members and the community on home care services available in the community - two (16.67%).
 - Monitored federal government’s response to the request in the resolution - one (8.33%).
 - Others held *12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care* - one (8.99%).
 - Signed Petition e-673 - two (16.67%).
 - Wrote the prime minister and federal health minister urging them to include home care in the Canada Health Act - one (8.33%).
 - Councils that had not acted on any resolution at this time - six (50.00%).

**The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Diocesan Standing Committee Annual Report
For the period from January 1 to December 31, 2017**

Legislation Standing Committee Report

Diocese: Ottawa

Chairperson: Dyann MacDonald

Parishes Reporting: 12/25

Sub-chairpersons: None

Monitor and Study Legislation at All Levels of Government

- Four (33%) chairpersons reported knowing the name of their municipal and provincial representatives while three (25%) reported knowing their provincial representative.
- Four (33%) chairpersons received federal and municipal mailings while three (25%) received provincial mailings.
- One (8.03%) chairperson attended and supplied information sponsored by government to their council on these issues: palliative care, medical marijuana, and right to life.

Briefs and Position Papers

- Knowledge of issues at all Levels of Government

	Extremely Well	Well Informed	Somewhat Informed
Federal	1 (8.03%)	2 (16.6%)	1 (9.03%)
Provincial	0 (0.0%)	3 (25%)	1 (8.03%)
Municipal	1 (8.03%)	2 (16.6%)	1 (9.03%)

- PETITION "specifically identify hospice palliative care as a defined medically service covered under the Canada Health Act so that provincial and territorial governments will be entitled to funds under the Canada Health Transfer system to be used to provide accessible and available hospice palliative care to all residents of Canada in their respective provinces and territories."
 - Seven (58.33%) circulated and participated in this petition.
 - Five (41.67%) did not circulate and participate in this petition.
- Passage of Bill C-16 An Act to amend the Canadian Human Rights Act and Criminal Code.
- Bills monitored in Ontario Provincial Legislation - one council (8.03%) responded to action: Bill 33 – An Act to amend the Human Rights Code with respect to gender identity and gender expression.
- Councils who have accessed Hansard – none (100%) - four councils responded to the question.
- One council studied legislation from Ministry of Public Safety and "60s Scoop" concerning issues surrounding Indigenous offenders and women.

**The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Diocesan Standing Committee Annual Report
For the period from January 1 to December 31, 2017**

Spiritual Development Standing Committee Report

Diocese: Ottawa

Parishes Reporting: 15/25

Chairperson: Nancy Grimshaw

Sub-chairpersons: None

Spiritual Growth of Members

- Nine councils (60%) studied the theme *Inspired by the Spirit, Women Respond to God's Call*. Eight councils (53.3%) used prayer services or workshops available on the national website. Eight councils (53.3%) reflected on the theme at meetings, five councils (33.3%) prepared prayer services, three councils (20%) invited a speaker and one council hosted a workshop (6.7%).
- Ten councils (66.7%) spent one-third of their time on the spiritual aspect of membership.
- Nine councils (64.3%) used *CWL Prays*, seven councils (50%) used *CWL Ceremonies Booklet* to develop liturgies and spiritual programs. Other resources used included, Alpha course, Catholic Digest website, *CWL Day of Peace & Hope Activities Kit*, *Rediscovering Catholicism: A Spiritual Guide to Living with Passion and Purpose* and *Marian Helper Magazine*.
- As part of their spiritual liturgy and programs, eleven councils (78.5%) organized masses and recited the League prayer, twelve councils (85.7%) led the Stations of the Cross and ten councils (71.4%) said the rosary. Other events were audio/musical events, adoration, Crowning of Mary, deceased member service and funeral guards, scripture readings, and seasonal prayers.
- Spiritual Advisors attended some meetings, twelve councils (80%).
- Thirteen councils (86.7%) celebrated the Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel with a mass, one council (6.7%) held a luncheon.
- Ten councils (66.7%) planned meetings before or after a mass.

Study of Catholic Teachings

- Five councils (33%) reviewed the protocol on burial of the deceased and the conservation of ashes for those cremated. Two councils (13%) included the pastor as part of discussion.
- Two councils (13.3%) studied *Evangelii Gaudium*.
- Six councils (40%) encouraged members to enroll in groups promoting, *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (two councils, 14%), lay formation programs (four councils, 28.6%), Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) website or the Vatican website (one council, 7.1%).

Role of Women in the Church

- Five councils (33.3%) studied women in scripture. Ten councils (71.4%) promoted awareness of women's place in the church and society and found in scripture.
- Working towards personal development members took on leadership roles. Members served on parish pastoral council, eleven councils (73.3%) as parish committee chairpersons, and five councils (33.3%). Other roles included serving on diocesan council/committees, parish finance committees, or as pastoral associates, and a canon lawyer. Four councils (28.5) shared "a reflection on the joy of service" with members.
- Three councils (21.4%) had spiritual development chairs who joined the parish liturgy committee.

Evangelization and Mission Assistance

- Six councils (40%) supported the Keep Christ in Christmas campaign.
- Seven councils (46.7%) subscribed to the *Catholic Missions In Canada* magazine and offered support through donations of money, food, clothing and school supplies.
- Esk-Omi Missions is supported by one council (6.7%)

Lay Ministries

- Spiritual Development chairs served in lay ministries as Eucharistic ministers six, (43%) and hospitality eight, (53.3%).
- Council members served in various ministries. Fifteen (100%) had members who were Eucharistic ministers, eleven (73.3%) who were sacristans, choir members or who helped decorate. Fourteen (93.3%) had members who were lectors. Members also served as catechists, facilitators, ushers or cleaned.
- Members chaired parish ministries, the most notable were decorating (57%), eight councils, choir (50%), seven councils, Eucharistic minister, sacristan, and cleaning (42%), six councils.

Ecumenism and Interfaith Endeavours

- Seven councils (60%) reached out to women of other faith by inviting them to meetings or hosting a social event.
- Six councils (40%) reached out to include other churches.
- Thirteen councils (87%) promoted World Day of Prayer. Four councils (26.6%) promoted the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. One council (6.7%) promoted the Fellowship of the Least Coin, and the World Union of Catholic Women's Organization (WUCWO) day of prayer.

Diocesan Chairperson Report

- Prepared opening and closing prayer services for all meetings.
- Gave a presentation on the Spiritual Development Chair.

**The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Diocesan Standing Committee Annual Report
For the period from January 1 to December 31, 2017**

Life Member Liaison's Report

Honorary Life Member: 1
Life Members: 9
Life Member Liaison: Heather Sisk

In 2017 Life Members from the Ottawa Diocese attended two luncheon meetings. They shared fellowship and were updated on League activities by the diocesan President and President-Elect.

Throughout the year Life Members were kept informed by email or snail mail and were sent cards on their birthdays and on other special occasions. February 2017 marked the passing of Life Member Phyllis McIntomny.

In 2017, in addition to answering the frequent requests for prayers, serving in the various pastoral ministries in their parish, and attending various diocesan CWL events, our Life Members assisted where needed:

- Several attended honour guards for deceased members when requested.
- One served as Parliamentarian for the Ontario Provincial Convention.
- One served as provincial 1st Vice-President and Chair of Education & Health and was elected as provincial President-Elect and Organization chair for the 2017-2019 term.
- One served as privacy officer for the Ontario Provincial Council.
- One served on the provincial sub-committee for Education & Health.
- One served as Ontario East fundraising representative for the Catholic Women's Leadership Foundation.
- Two served on the diocesan League Development Fund Committee.
- One served on the diocesan Policy & Procedure Manual Amendment Committee.
- One served as President of her parish council.
- One served as Past President of her parish council.
- One served as Treasurer and Organization Chair of her parish council.
- Two served as Nominations & Elections Chairpersons for their parish councils.
- Two served on the diocesan Nominations & Elections Committee.
- One spoke at the Alexandria-Cornwall diocesan general meeting about the Catholic Women's Leadership Foundation program.

- One gave a leadership talk at St. Bernard's Parish in Finch.
- Two helped organize their parish council's 40th anniversary celebration.
- Two served on committees to revise their parish council's Policy & Procedure Manual.
- Two prepared presentations for "Wisdom Tables" on League Development Day which was cancelled.
- One served on her parish council's Resolution Committee and helped form a resolution.
- One presented a mini workshop at the diocesan executive meeting in January.

**The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Ottawa Diocesan Council
Life Members 2017**

Honorary Life Member

Joan Chesser

Life Members

Shirley Bernier

Moira Matthews

Kay May

Edith Mockler

Jane Munro

Colleen Perry

Colleen Shirley

Heather Sisk

Anida Simurda

Military Ordinariate Life Member Living in Ottawa

Marilyn Olsen

**The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Parish Council Highlights
For the period of January 1 to December 31, 2017**

Annunciation of the Lord

President Rita Lemay
Spiritual Advisor Fr. Dennis Hayes, CC
154 Members
1 Life Member

We held a PaintNite Fundraiser. We had an artist come and guide us as we painted our own masterpiece. We had 30 members in attendance. We purchased 20 new CWL blue aprons with the funds.

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

President Tina Kuchciak/Joan Lepage
Spiritual Advisor Fr. Pedro Arana
76 Members

We collected men's socks for the homeless and donated to the Shepherds of Good Hope.

Divine Infant

President Teresa Mouchet
Spiritual Advisor Fr. Waldemar Podlasz
84 Members

Parish Fashion Show was our highlight! Ruth Benwell and her committee organized the event. Clothes were purchased from the Salvation Army and ensembles were chosen with the models in mind. Following the presentation, all clothing was available for purchase as well as donated gently used clothing, shoes, jewelry and other accessories. We had 14 models of all ages, including university and high school girls. The event was followed by a reception.

Holy Spirit

President Claudette Langdon
Spiritual Advisor Msgr. Joseph Muldoon
93 Members

Our greatest highlight was the Social Justice work completed to help improve the lives of incarcerated Indigenous women in Canada. We developed and received approval from the diocesan, provincial and national levels on our resolution: "Full Implementation of the Supreme Court Decision in R. v. Gladue for Indigenous Offenders."

Immaculate Heart of Mary

President Moira Matthews

Spiritual Advisor Fr. Stephen Liang

23 members

2 Life Members

We awarded five bursaries to graduating altar servers who remained active in our parish. We honoured the memory of our long serving member, Dorothy Newton, by making a donation to the "Catholic Women's Leadership Foundation" in her name. We helped the organizing committee set up a Knights of Columbus Council in our parish. We worked diligently for the campaign to support conscience protection for Doctors and Nurses in Ontario.

Our Lady of Fatima

President Jennifer Jones

Spiritual Advisor Fr. Bosco Wong

41 Members

The project that stands out the most for 2017 was our Christmas donation to St. Joe's Women's Centre. We provided \$300.00 in various gift cards to Loblaws and the Dollar Store. We also provided four large boxes of personal care products such as feminine care products, shampoos and soap, etc.

Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal

President Pat Redsell

Spiritual Advisor Fr. Robert Masternark, SDS

75 Members

1 Honorary Life Member

2 Life Members

In February, we held a Round Table Discussion on Palliative Care and Dr. Agnès Tanguay was our guest speaker. In May, our council celebrated its 40th Anniversary.

Our Lady of the Visitation

President Amanda Blais

Spiritual Advisor Fr. Bill Penney

28 Members

We led the Stations of the Cross during Lent, held a World Day of Prayer Service, offered our Pastor a Spiritual Bouquet in celebration of his 30th Anniversary of Ordination, and hosted three CWL Sunday masses on top of the countless prayers and reflections that were said for members of our community.

Resurrection of Our Lord

President Wilma Murzello

Spiritual Advisor Fr. Tadeusz Jordan

38 Members

On May 4th, for *12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care*, we and our parishioners signed up for each hour. We developed a handout focused on the related issues and pertinent prayers. The day commenced with mass. The Blessed Sacrament was exposed all day and concluded with Benediction. Petitions were signed and delivered.

St. Andrew

President Linda Lovelace

Spiritual Advisor Fr. Frank Brewer

20 Members

We started in the fall with a focus on our CWL theme "Homelessness." We organized a project for The Ottawa Mission. We collected along with our parish 18 large boxes of winter mitts, hats, socks and scarves.

St. Basil

President Marilyn Adair

Spiritual Advisor Fr. James Raphael

28 Members

One highlight from our activities last year was a joint dinner meeting with the Knights of Columbus catered by our Syrian refugee family. The purpose of the dinner was to explore ways to collaborate. Collaboration and communication were identified as priorities at St. Basil Parish.

St. Bernard

President Joan Gray

Spiritual Advisor Fr. Eslin Pereira, CMF

43 Members

1 Life Member

Our 12 hour Day of Prayer was held on May 4th. It was a great success that included many parishioners participating along with at least one CWL member covering each hour. It concluded with a short video on assisted suicide and its ramifications on physicians and other health personnel.

St. Catherine of Siena

President Beverley-Lynn Rowan

Spiritual Advisor Fr. Anthony Hannon

20 Members

In May, our council came together with the entire parish to pray for, and offer encouragement to, Jonathan Pitre (also known as Ottawa's Butterfly Child due to his medical challenges with EB). We created beautiful shaped

butterfly cards and made them available to our members and to the entire parish who wrote messages of support and offered prayers of healing. Many cards were collected and sent to Jonathan in hospital. We sponsored a mass for Jonathan.

St. Clare

Presidents Ada Gorrie & Tilly O'Connor
Spiritual Advisor Fr. Bob Poole

No report.

St. Ignatius the Martyr

President Lilian Martineau
Spiritual Advisor Fr. Jeremiah Budau
40 Members

Last year, to help the homeless palliative care patients, our council had two collections. The first was during Lent, was in October. A variety of new items e.g., towels, clothing, hygiene items, blankets and amputation cozies were collected and donated to the Ottawa Inner City Health Inc. for The Ottawa Mission.

St. Isidore

President Jennifer Bowler
Spiritual Advisor Fr. Virgil Amirthakumar
23 Members

Last year St. Isidore council held our Annual Palm Sunday Bean Supper and our CWL Christmas Tea and Bazaar.

St. John the Apostle

President Joan Doherty
Spiritual Advisor Fr. Lindsay Harrison
60 Members

Our highlight was hosting the Ottawa Diocesan Annual Convention in April. There was a lot of preparation, organization, meetings and negotiating with a caterer to make the event successful. There were over 100 of our CWL sisters in attendance. The day concluded with a three-course dinner served by our Knights of Columbus outfitted in their tuxedos and white gloves.

St. Leonard

President Carol Dailey
Spiritual Advisor Fr. Titus Egbueh
38 Members

We held a special mass for the 100th Anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima on October 13, 2017. At this celebration, we held Investitures of the Brown

Scapular for nine people, including a priest. The blessed evening was celebrated with a social gathering.

St. Margaret Mary (Cumberland)

President Marie-Claire Patterson (acting)

Spiritual Advisor Fr. Gerald Monaghan

Spiritual Advisor Deacon Tom Donohue

26 Members

1 Life Member

St. Margaret Mary Cumberland Council's Spring 2017 project, we collected and filled over 150 new and gently used purses for the women at Cornerstone shelters. This project was an excellent way to bring together members and non-members within the parish.

St. Martin de Porres

President Christine Beelen

Spiritual Advisor Fr. Brian Hennessey

88 Members

The women of St. Martin de Porres council were truly crafty! Several women worked together – both an opportunity for fellowship and creativity – knitted or crocheted 36 lap blankets for the 100th Anniversary project. This was in addition to many prayer shawls, hats and mitts for children in need and other crafts produced for the parish bazaar.

St. Mary's (Almonte)

President Gerda Franssen & Cindy Zorgel

Spiritual Advisor Fr. Paul J. Gaudet

115 Members

Our fall tea and bazaar were our highlights. Most of our members either donated, worked the day, purchased or just had tea, it was a time of socializing with our own group as well as the community. Not the least worth mentioning is that it raised around \$8,000.00 that we in turn donated to charities close to our hearts.

St. Maurice

President Nellie Gervais

Spiritual Advisor Fr. John Likozar

123 Members

1 Life Member

We had a very successful bazaar allowing us to support hospice and palliative care. I believe a highlight was the CWL petition for palliative care and letter signing initiative to protect health care professionals' conscience rights. We were successful in obtaining 300 signatures and 250 letters which were delivered to local MPP's.

St. Patrick (Fallowfield)

President Cathy Gasper

Spiritual Advisor Fr. Paul Shepherd

85 Members

One of our greatest highlights was our Christmas Stocking Campaign. We appealed to the generosity of our parishioners and we took pride in the fact that we were able to support many missions in our city as well as our own parish community.

St. Philip

President Sheila Hearne

Spiritual Advisor Fr. Bob Poole

70 Members

Last year our annual bake sale and our high tea were great fundraisers to help provide money for charities and the needy in Richmond as well as our parish, St. Philip.

The Good Shepherd

President Hilda Chow

Spiritual Advisor Fr. Shroff

70 Members

Our highlight was the bursary we instituted to assist one of our young parishioners who is moving forward for post-secondary education. This bursary is based on involvement in the parish and assistance and/or involvement with our Catholic Women's League and not academic achievement.

Ottawa Diocesan Council Members' Awards 2017

Maple Leaf Service Pin

St. Bernard:	Florence Johnston
St. Ignatius the Martyr:	Freddie Walsh
St. John the Apostle:	Pat Berdnikoff, Teresa Wong
St. Maurice:	Dolly Clarke

70 Year Service Pin

St. Catherine of Siena:	Rosemary Moriarity
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65 Year Service Pin

Annunciation of the Lord:	Pat Lepine
St. Margaret Mary (Cumberland):	Edith Nolan

60 Year Service Pin

Annunciation of the Lord:	Pierrette Wieczorek
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55 Year Service Pin

St. Margaret Mary (Cumberland):	Betty Nunan
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50 Year Service Pin

Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal:	Ann (Johanna) Van Dam
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45 Year Service Pin

St. Catherine of Siena:	Bea Moss, Dora Nooyen, Joanne Toonen, Jean Wade
St. Margaret Mary (Cumberland):	Kay May, Marie Melvin

40 Year Service Pin

Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal:	Diny Achtereekte, Cherry Bekkers, Coby Bols, Joan Chesser, Wilhemina Langens, Hendrika Melenhorst
Our Lady of the Visitation:	Sandra Blais
St. John the Apostle:	Tina Martin
St. Martin de Porres:	Maureen Kelly

35 Year Service Pin

Holy Spirit: Ann Ryan
Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal: Irene Verdurmen, Bep Versteeg
St. Margaret Mary (Cumberland): Lorraine Chilibeck, Ardith Harris,
Claire McNeely, Pauline Murray
St. Martin de Porres: Joanne Doucet, Elizabeth Landry

30 Year Service Pin

St. John the Apostle: Del Condon, Deborah LaRicca
St. Margaret Mary (Cumberland): Paulette Beaudette, Bernadette Johnson,
Diane Lathrop, Patti Smith MacDonald

25 Year Service Pin

Divine Infant: Mary Lou MacKinnon
Holy Spirit: Lorraine Scott
Our Lady of the Visitation: Viola Turner
St. Bernard: Mary Dawn Johnston
St. Catherine of Siena: Madeleine Smith
St. John the Apostle: Adella Edwards, Jackie Henderson,
Joan Proctor
St. Margaret Mary (Cumberland): Joan Boag, Joan Hawley
St. Martin de Porres: Hazel Poirier, Eileen Slobodian,
Claire VanderWalt

20 Year Service Pin

St. Catherine of Siena: Joyce Taylor
St. Margaret Mary (Cumberland): Sheridan Brace, Helen Schulte
St. Martin de Porres: Emily Boileau, Dorothy Bowmeester,
Louise Cornoyer, Arlene Jamieson,
Louise Mullins, Dorothy Quinn,
Grace Soucie

15 Year Service Pin

St. Catherine of Siena: Bev Rowan, Gert Simser
St. Margaret Mary (Cumberland): Barbara Gietz
St. Martin de Porres: Helen Bissonnette, Linda Bowie,
Janet Pokoj

10 Year Service Pin

Annunciation of the Lord: Beverly Cossette
Divine Infant: Brigitte de La Bastide, Pauline Drouillard,
Ellen Fadoul, Marlene Holt
Our Lady of the Visitation: Magdalena Yrenaya
Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal: Harriet Clarke, Denise Cousineau,
Connie Gallant-St. Clair, Jessica St. Clair
St. Bernard: Marina Dooley, Sylvia Lafrance
St. Catherine of Siena: Desneiges Amyot
St. Martin de Porres: Edith Barkley, Margaret Bolton,
Olga Fielding, Kay Gale, Renee Galioto,
Lisa Hall, Claire Harris, Ellen Hart,
Janice Lemire, Barbara Morneau,
June Petrie, Janet Prevost,
Sharon St. Jean

5 Year Service Pin

Holy Spirit: Christine Banks, Jean Barton,
Margaret Beaudry, Louise Beggs,
Julie Beingessner, Joyce Blackburn,
Catherine Brazier, Teresa Cardeal,
Marian Charbonneau, Barbara Denis,
Teresa Derouin, Solange Duffy,
Donella Gabriele, Donna Gagnon,
Mary Jane Gillier-Symes, Krys Hughes,
Sharon Labbe, Gaye Lalonde,
Claudette Langdon, Bianca Lolli,
Claire Moore, Glenna Mossman,
Cori Nash, Lynne Newman, Ann Oberlin,
Shirley Pipkins, Marion Poyner,
Barbara Purdy, Elizabeth Rhodenizer,
Shyla Rodericks, Ann Ryan,
Doreen Sauve, Lorraine Scott,
Carmel Scrim, Doreen Skorenky,
Joan Turner, Mary White
Our Lady of the Visitation: Amanda Blais, Cheryl Bunda,
Evangeline Downey, Theresa Goodyear,
Kay Johnston, Phyllis MacFarlane,
Vicki Njui, Cathy Philpott,
Immacolata Scaini, D'Arcine Thompson,
Rochelle Tuzo, Doris Watson
St. Catherine of Siena: Josie Sullivan Ernst
St. Margaret Mary (Cumberland): Marie-Claire Patterson

St. Martin de Porres:

Barbara Baldock, Christine Beelen,
Teresa Dokken, Lorraine Dore,
Marybeth Ellis, Gail Everest,
Patti Floysvik, Vi Freeland,
Marlene Gramann, Cathy Hammond,
Fern Hutt, Patricia Kavanagh,
Karen Maher, Rosanne Nadon,
Anne Marshall, June McCarville,
Michele Melowski, Colleen Morin,
Joanne Perron, Sue Primeau,
Mary Schlievert, Harber Skof,
Nicol Szeideman, Janet Uyeda,
Ruby Weber, Maureen Wood

Certificate of Merit

Divine Infant:
The Good Shepherd:

Ruth Benwell, Laura Kiraly, Linda Wright
Hilary Als, Anna May O'Carroll

and a BIG welcome to ALL our new members in The League!

Congratulations!

Prayer of Blessing for our Deceased Members 2017

Ever loving and gracious God.
We thank you for the gift you gave your church
In the women whose names are inscribed on these pages.
You called them
To be the salt of the earth
And a light to the world.
In their families and in their parish
They let their light shine before all
So that their good works
Gave glory to you
And were an example and encouragement for all of us.
As we hold close to our hearts
The memory of the women whose names are inscribed here,
We ask you to bless those members of
The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Whom we honour on these pages.
We ask this blessing through Jesus Christ
And through the intercession of our patroness,
Our Lady of Good Counsel.
Amen.

Prayer for the Book of Life

Adapted from the Catholic Women's League Ceremonies Booklet, Page 16

**The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Ottawa Diocesan Council
Our Deceased Members 2017**

Annunciation of the Lord

Anne Gignac
Patricia Kelson
Catherine Peel

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Frances Garvey
Justina Kuchciak

Divine Infant

Anne Collins

Holy Spirit

Nina Sullivan

Immaculate Heart of Mary

Aline Marie Brennan
Patricia Burrows
Phyllis McIntomny

Our Lady of Fatima

Florence Durham
Marion Labonte

Resurrection of Our Lord

Mary Hayes
Denise Nugent
Helen Rodrigues

St. Catherine of Siena

Rosemary Moriarity

St. Ignatius the Martyr

Jean Taylor
Mary Yelle

St. John the Apostle

Marnie MacNab

St. Leonard

Evelyn Valadares

St. Margaret Mary

Reta Morris
Christine Nooyen

St. Martin de Porres

Frances Gloade
Angela Larouche
Elizabeth Anne "Betty Anne" MacDonald
Eleanor Sheedy
Eileen Slobodian
Wendy Valliant
Margaret Yurack

St. Mary's (Almonte)

Bernadette Barr
Mary O'Keefe

St. Philip

Imelda Connors

May the souls of the faithfully departed rest in His peace.
Our Lady of Good Counsel, *Pray for us.*



APPRECIATION

Coming together for the 95th Annual Ottawa Diocesan Convention was a chance to meet with members from all across the diocese, to pray together, laugh together and to enjoy the whole experience. The convention did not happen without countless hours or meetings, organizing, planning, physical effort, and much more! To all those who offered up their dedicated time and efforts for a successful convention, the Ottawa Diocesan Officers offer up a huge:

THANK YOU!

Convention Planning Committee

Convention Convener: Jean Anderson

Liturgy: Nancy Grimshaw, Jean Anderson

Registration: Diana Baines, Barb Devine, Moira Matthews, Jane Munro

Our Lady of Fatima Planning Committee:

Dianne Foley, Helen Kelly, Linda O'Reilley, Mary Sweeney,

Rhea Dalton, Catherine Swimmings

Parish Council President Jennifer Jones

Ottawa Diocesan Council:

President Onagh Dooley

Past President Joanna Sisk

President-Elect Lynn Lavictoire

May the blessings of our Lord always be upon you.



May our Lady of Good Counsel
continue to guide and intercede for us
as we carry on our faith filled endeavours
for God and Canada.