



CATHOLIC
and **LIVING IT!**

The Catholic Women's League of Canada

London Diocesan Council

To: All Parish Presidents, All Parish Past Presidents
CC: London Diocesan Council, Colleen Perry, OPC Past President
From: Theresa Ryan, London Diocesan Past President
Date: November 2023

Directive # 2

Saint John Vianney “Consider then...the magnitude of these sufferings which the souls in Purgatory endure; and the means which we have of mitigating them: our prayers, our good works, and, above all, the holy sacrifice of the Mass”

Thank you for allowing us to be with you for the unity project in your individual councils. Getting to know you better and meeting with many women we would not have seen otherwise has been a pleasure. It has been interesting to see how each council though different shares the reason for being, “for God and Canada”

One of the things we learned is that our membership in W.U.C.W.O. is not well known. As a member of the C.W.L., we are automatically a member of the World Union of Catholic Women’s Organizations. More info about this can be found at <https://www.wucwo.org/index.php/en/>. Although the CWL talks about diversity, sadly we don’t see much of it in our diocese. We need to make an effort to reach out to women of other cultures welcome them and tell them about the CWL and maybe they share about their culture.

As I stated in my first directive I will attempt to go through the constitution & bylaws to help you understand it better.

Part VI of the Constitution & Bylaws talks about the Spiritual Program. I hope that we are still having prayerful meetings. It is wonderful to do the business part of the meeting but we must do more than just the opening and closing prayers. There are many resources available.

Part VII Membership Did you know that you don’t have to be Catholic to be a member of the CWL? There is a classification called “Associate Member” that has voting privileges but simply cannot hold office.

Part VIII Organization Section 1 Composition of Councils

- a) *Parish Councils*- this is where it all starts with the grassroots members.
- b) *Diocesan Councils* are composed of its officers, and parish council presidents. In our case, because it is such a large diocese (90 councils) we have *Regional Committees* where someone is appointed by the diocesan president to be the chairperson of that region who will represent the presidents of that region. We have 7 regions in our diocese.
- c) *Provincial Councils* consist of its officers and the presidents of the dioceses in their province (we have 12)
- d) *National Council* consists of its officers and the presidents of each province

As we near the Advent season let us remember our faithfully departed and pray for their souls.