



The Catholic Women's League of Canada  
London Diocesan Council

**CATHOLIC**  
and **LIVING IT!**

To: All Parish Presidents, Chairpersons  
CC: London Diocesan Council, OPC Chairperson  
From: Nelly Kelders, Secretary  
Date: September 1, 2023

**Directive #1**

Hello fellow sister secretaries. Welcome to the beginning of another year in the Catholic Women's League of Canada. I hope you have had a chance this summer to relax with family and friends as well as take some time for yourselves.

I am so pleased to be able to work with you for the next two years. These are exciting times for the Catholic Women's League as we continue to evolve, implementing change and bringing new ideas to our councils to continue to enrich the work we do.

My life's vocation has been in the field of education. I am a retired principal from the St. Clair Catholic District School Board which serves Sarnia/Lambton and Chatham/Kent. The last ten years of my 32-year career were spent in Toronto where I was the president of the Catholic Principals' Council of Ontario and then director of member services. I hope to be able to share my skills and knowledge in the areas of communications and conference planning to further the goals of our councils.

At the local level, I am one of the representatives of the Sarnia deanery to Bishop Fabbo's Pastoral Council. We meet four times a year with the bishop to share our hopes, dreams and ideas for a vibrant Catholic community in London Diocese. In the Sarnia Bluewater R.C. Family of Parishes, I am the communications chair. I work closely with the staff and communications committee to make sure we are getting our messages out to parishioners in all seven of our parishes. At the parish level, I take the Eucharist to homebound parishioners and I am the past-president of my CWL council at St. Michael in Bright's Grove.

My family also makes sure I'm never bored. I enjoy helping out with my great nieces and nephews and assisting my siblings when needed. I only have nine of those! To keep myself busy I like to golf, garden and read.

Enough about me. As this is my first directive, I would like to invite you read the description of the secretary's duties as outlined in the Handbook for Secretaries. Communications is an important part of the secretary's role in the council. It can be found on the National CWL website under Resources – Manuals – 612. I have also included it in this communique to you.

We'll be discussing more about what all this means to you, in the months to come.

I am looking forward to working with you to enhance the work we do in our councils for God and our communities. If ever you have questions, ideas or need help, please do not hesitate to reach out to me. Together we will do great things.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel always be an inspiration in all we do.

*Nelly Kelders, London Diocesan Secretary*