



November 20, 2023

Welcome to our Diocesan Monday Message. This forum will seek to keep you informed of events and activities pertaining to your parish and our diocesan councils. You are encouraged to share with all members either by email or a printed version. We will try to keep it to one page (double sided).

This is a proposed format, let's see how it evolves.

CWL Information Sessions

On Saturday, November 18th, we held information sessions at 4 locations across the archdiocese in which over 60 sisters participated. Based on the evaluation forms and verbal feedback, the content and format was well received. Thanks to all who took the time to attend and to the 4 councils who hosted us: Holy Rosary in Belleville, St Patrick's in Napanee, St Francis de Sales in Smiths Falls and St Mark's, Prescott out of their sister church hall in Cardinal. Last but not least, huge appreciation goes to our wonderful presenters: Margie, Maureen, Colleen, Bernadette Burgess, Karen, Bernadette Veitch, Geraldine, Stephanie, Annette, Nancy and Mary Lou - great job!

Presentations are available on our diocesan website: www.kingston.cwl.on.ca under Resources > Learning Resources. If you were not able to attend or you want to review, please check them out.

2023 Annual Report

Access to complete the annual report has been open since November 1. Please do not delay in filling it out as a council.

2 major changes this year: Deadline for submitting, online or paper copy, is **December 15th** (not into January). Also, when you submit online and provided your email, the system automatically sends you a PDF version of your answers (no need to remember to print before submitting).

When you submit, the diocesan president receives an email notification that your council has completed the survey however, we do not get a copy. Please send the PDF results when you receive them to kingstondiocesancwl@gmail.com. We will then be able to use the information for our Diocesan Annual report book. Kudos to St James Major, Sharbot Lake, Sacred Heart of Mary, Madoc, St Peter in Chains, Trenton and Our Lady of Lourdes, Kingston - they have all completed the task. Who will be next?

New National Theme

Effective January 1, 2024, Shari Guinta, National President, has chosen "*Here I am Lord, Send Me*" as our National theme for 2024-2025. Our provincial president attended the Fall National Executive meetings a few weeks ago and learned under this new theme, *Mental health will be the priority focus for the organization. Councils will be encouraged to choose a more specific focus on a mental health issue predominant in their region (the unhoused, veterans, MAiD, lack of mental health specialists, seniors, Indigenous, youth, etc.). Provincial and diocesan presidents may wish to engage their executives in determining a specific mental health focus.*

Food for thought as we plan events for next year. National will certainly be providing additional information starting in January.

MaiD Postcards

National will be making MAiD postcards available for councils to use when speaking against MAiD with federal and provincial governments. The postcards will be released in a few weeks. Councils should watch for news on cwl.ca as to their availability.

League Magazine

Printed copies of the League magazine are sent out to all members. We would like to remind parish councils to keep the contact information for members updated and sent to national. This can be accomplished with the online membership tool or by filling out the proper forms (on cwl.ca) and sending them via Canada Post. When our provincial president Linda was in Winnipeg and visited the national office, there were stacks of magazines that had been returned because of incorrect addresses. Although the numbers have not been completed for the fall issue, the spring issue had **670 returned magazines**. With the cost of postage, this represents a huge waste of money. Let's make an effort to improve this.

Mini Workshops

At the Ontario Provincial Convention this past summer, we were offered 'Mini Workshops' on a variety of subjects from Membership Ideas to Tips for Letter Writing; Secret Sister Program and Building Relationships with your Spiritual Advisor. 23 in all! Each workshop lasted only 15 minutes and provided a handout. Those handouts were compiled and are now available on the provincial website www.cwl.on.ca under Resources > Forms & Other Assets > Workshops: July Mini workshop booklet annual convention. Be sure to check it out for ideas to present at your parish meetings.

Feedback is appreciated – please send to kingstondiocesancwl@gmail.com

God bless

Your Kingston Diocesan Council