



The Kingston Diocesan Council of The Catholic Women's League of Canada

[Organization Chair]

*Catholic and Living It!
Go Make a Difference
Reconnect*

Directive #3
Date: Oct. 14, 2023

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To: Parish Council Organization chairs
From: Maureen Vincentine, Diocesan Organization Chair
CC: Parish Presidents, Diocesan Executive, Provincial Organization Chair

I am pleased to continue to serve on the diocesan council as appointed Chair of Organization. I continue to enjoy working closely with Lyne and the other great ladies on the council to serve all members of the Catholic Women's League in the diocese of Kingston. I am also happy to work with Colleen Martin, our president – elect and organization chair on our Ontario Provincial council.

Lyne's sub theme "Reconnect" is an important focus for us as we discuss and act upon initiatives to retain and increase our membership in the League. With the past difficult years behind us, we are beginning to meet and plan for a successful year ahead. Each of you will soon be collecting membership dues. This is an important time for us. Fees have increased; Covid has given us less opportunity to truly recognize each other as sisters in the League, working, praying and having fun together; our members are aging and we are not easily recruiting new members. Some suggestions as you begin your membership drive:

- Call members and potential new members
- Advertise your membership drive: bulletin, pulpit, coffee reception
- Hold a CWL information session
- Have your spiritual advisor speak to the importance of the League
- Do something for the ladies in your parish: a social, a guest speaker, an advent retreat. Invite all ladies.
- Offset the increase in fees with a fund raiser perhaps. Be sure to let members know where their funds are going and why the increase is necessary.
- Direct members to our national CWL site. I am very impressed at the available resources. Be sure your members are aware of the many new workshops, liturgies and resources that have been constructed and made available to us. National has been busy! Peruse and distribute their Fall mailings to get ideas and information. These will be sent to your president. They will also be put on the National website soon.
- Diocesan council wants to help! Invite your members to attend the development day in November. Be sure your council is represented at the presidents' meeting, October 21. Call your diocesan contact, or any of us. We would be happy to come to a meeting, or help in any way we can. We too wish to reconnect!

One of the mailings your president has recently received, is a document on mentorship produced by a national working group and distributed through our National Organization chair, Betty Colaneri. It has become evident that members across Canada are seeking help with various aspects of the League's work. It is also evident that we have ladies with the expertise, we may just not know who they are! The mentor sheet lists ladies from across Canada (some nearby, others not so close) who are willing to help us in a mentoring role. The program will work as follows: If a member (or group) would like help in any area, for example, developing a manual of procedures, or help with planning effective meetings, they will peruse the mentorship sheets and choose someone they might wish to reach out to. They will send a request to National asking for the assistance. National will contact the mentor and the mentor will reach out to offer her assistance. This might be via phone calls, emails, or in person if in the same area. More information on this program can be found on the National website.

Of course, your diocesan officers and the life members in our Kingston diocese are always happy to help where they can as well!

Respectfully submitted.