



What Should I Know About the League?

- Awareness of the fact that the League goes beyond parish level will help you understand the potential, the boundaries in decision making and the scope of the organization.
- The *Constitution & Bylaws* provides the overall policy of the League. The *National Manual of Policy and Procedure* and the *Handbook for Spiritual Advisors* will be helpful to you.
- Assistance is available to any council, officer, or spiritual advisor through the president or spiritual advisor at the next level.
- Programs and guidelines set out by other levels are often part of the work of the standing committees in the parish council. Your cooperation with such programs will help the council.
- Action on social issues or resolutions is often called for by other levels. The encouragement of spiritual advisors in carrying out these action plans is important.
- The fiscal year for finances, budgets and membership is January 1st to December 31st for all councils.
- The Catholic Women's League of Canada was organized nationally in 1920 and is recognized by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops as a national private association of the faithful (2005).



The Role of the Spiritual Advisor



The Catholic Women's League of Canada

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Why Spiritual Advisors?

Spiritual advisors play a vital role in advancing the cause of The Catholic Women's League of Canada.

By their presence, advice and support, they guide members as they pursue their call to holiness through service to God's people.

By active participation they demonstrate the value of the League in the life of the parish.

By promoting League membership and activity they help the council achieve success.

By giving their support they aid in developing communication and fellowship among members and parishioners.

By encouraging League activities they enable women to develop skills and abilities they will use in serving others in the name of God.

What is Expected of Me as Spiritual Advisor?

As a spiritual advisor you will:

- i. Provide advice and guidance for the spiritual program
- ii. Receive due notice of all executive and general meetings and conventions and shall participate in such when possible, in an ex-officio capacity.

(Constitution & Bylaws, Article IX)

Councils anticipate that you will:

- Take an interest in the spiritual life of members and the council by consulting with the president and chairperson of spiritual development
- Maintain open communication with the president on all League matters, making her aware of your concerns and being updated if you have missed a meeting.
- Give a message of encouragement and support at all meetings
- Promote League membership drives and other projects by speaking frequently and positively to the parish about the League
- Assist the League to avoid conflicts in dates with other parish events
- Recognize the value of a League representative as liaison on the pastoral council
- Be familiar with League protocol for a deceased members including a mass offering, honour guard, and prayer service at the funeral home, luncheon, etc.

- Serve on the nominations and elections committee
- Prepare for your role in the installation or reaffirmation of officers and if possible conduct these in the context of a Sunday liturgy
- Attend meetings and conventions at the next level whenever possible and participate with members
- Honour the patroness of the League, Our Lady of Good Counsel, by celebrating with the members on her feast day of April 26th
- Use the League motto "For God and Canada" when speaking of the League.

We are grateful for your commitment and we appreciate

- Your celebration of the Eucharist
- Your presence at our meetings
- Your kind words of encouragement
- Your support of our work