

## *Memorial Service for Deceased Members*

### **Hymn**

### **Invitation to Prayer**

**Leader:** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**All:** Amen

**Leader:** The grace of Jesus Christ and the love of God and the companionship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**All:** And also with you.

### **Instruction**

**Leader:** We gather tonight as members of The Catholic Women's League of Canada to honour the memory of... [number] members of N... council, who have gone from this life to their eternal rest in Christ. We welcome the family members who are with us to join in the memorial for our departed sisters: ... [read names].

In the world of today, as perhaps never before, the church needs an enlightened and faithful laity. Dedicated members of The Catholic Women's League of Canada live their faith by serving others and thus discover Christ through relationships with others. The members we honour today openly made a solemn commitment to be witnesses of Christ, carrying out the mission of Christ at home, in the parish and in the whole community. We recall now their service to others, and we pray that the God of all has joyously welcomed them into the fullness of life, where they rest in peace and love.

### **Opening Prayer**

**Leader:** Gracious God, to whom mercy and forgiveness belong, hear our prayers on behalf of Your faithful servants whom You have called into the light of Your presence. May they be welcomed joyously into heaven. We ask this through Christ, our Redeemer.

**All:** Amen

### **Scripture Reading**

### **Reflection on the Word of God**

### **Individual Memorial Rose**

**Leader:** God is the glory and joy of each of our departed members whose memory we celebrate today. A rose, a symbol of life in Christ, will now be presented as a living memorial for each one.

### **Chairperson of Spiritual Development**

(optional): *N ...*, we thank God for the gift of ... that You shared with us.

**All:** Amen

### **Hymn**

### **Closing Prayer**

**Spiritual Advisor:** Compassionate God, Mary, the mother of Jesus, gave of herself completely. Blessed is she who gave humanity to Jesus, and blessed are our sisters who spent their lives serving others in God's name. We join Mary in proclaiming Your greatness and in thanking You for giving us life through death and resurrection of Jesus. We proclaim Jesus and the gift of Your life-giving Spirit.

**All:** Amen

**Leader:** Eternal rest grant unto them.

**All:** And let perpetual light shine upon them.

**Leader:** May they rest in peace.

**All:** Amen

### **Final Blessing [Form 'A']**

**Spiritual Advisor:** May the peace of God, which is beyond all understanding, keep our hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and in the grace of Jesus Christ.

**All:** Amen

**Spiritual Advisor:** May almighty God bless you, the Creator God, Jesus our Redeemer, and the Holy Spirit.

**All:** Amen

### **Final Blessing [Form 'B']**

**Spiritual Advisor:** May the love of God and the peace of Jesus Christ, bless and console us, and wipe every tear from our eyes: in the name of our Creator God, Jesus our Redeemer, and the Holy Spirit.

**All:** Amen

**Sign of Peace**

**Leader:** Let us conclude our celebrations by offering one another a sign of peace.