

## The Objects of the League as we *Love One Another*

**Song:** “We Will Love with Open Arms” (first two verses)

**Leader:** Let us pause and take a moment of silence to still our hearts and become conscious of God speaking within and among us.

**Reader 1:** John 15:12-17

**Leader:** This afternoon, we will reflect on the Objects of the League and how we strive to attain them as we *Love One Another*. The Objects of the League shall be to unite Catholic Women of Canada **to achieve individual and collective spiritual development.**

**Reader 2:** As we take the time from our busy schedules to “be still and know that [You are] God,”

**All:** Lord, guide and sustain us.

**Reader 3:** In our efforts to help others experience spiritual development and growth,

**All:** Lord, guide and sustain us.

**Song:** “We Will Love with Open Arms” (verse 3)

**Leader:** **to promote the teachings of the Catholic Church**

**Reader 4:** As we live out our call to be evangelizers in our homes, families, parishes, work places and communities,

**All:** Lord, guide and sustain us.

**Reader 5:** In our roles as catechists, lay ministers, facilitators and workshop leaders,

**All:** Lord, guide and sustain us.

**Song:** “We Will Love with Open Arms” (verse 10)

**Leader:** **to exemplify the Christian ideal in home and family life**

**Reader 6:** As we strive to be role models for children and youth,

**All:** Lord, guide and sustain us.

**Reader 7:** When we fight against evil forces which attack our family values,

**All:** Lord, guide and sustain us.

**Song:** “We Will Love with Open Arms” (verse 4 and 6)

**Leader:** to protect the sanctity of human life

**Reader 8:** In all we do to protect the unborn,

**All:** Lord, guide and sustain us.

**Reader 9:** In the battle to protect the vulnerable from euthanasia and assisted suicide,

**All:** Lord, guide and sustain us.

**Reader 10:** As we work to educate ourselves and others in developing a culture of life,

**All:** Lord, guide and sustain us.

**Leader:** to enhance the role of women in church and society

**Reader 11:** As we encourage and empower women to assume leadership roles in church and society,

**All:** Lord, guide and sustain us.

**Leader:** to recognize the human dignity of all people everywhere

**Reader 12:** As we struggle to deal with issues such as trafficking and inhumane labour practices which dehumanize people,

**All:** Lord, guide and sustain us.

**Reader 13:** In our attempts to reach out to the marginalized in our society,

**All:** Lord, guide and sustain us.

**Song:** “We Will Love with Open Arms” (verse 8)

**Leader:** to uphold and defend Christian education and values in the modern world

**Reader 14:** In all our struggles to uphold the sanctity of marriage, to keep Christ in Christmas and to safeguard our religious practices,

**All:** Lord, guide and sustain us.

**Leader:** to contribute to the understanding and growth of religious freedom, social justice, peace and harmony

**Reader 15:** As we work in solidarity with our brothers and sisters to make our world a better place,

**All:** Lord, guide and sustain us.

**Reader 16:** As we devote ourselves to being peacemakers wherever we go and in whatever we do,

**All:** Lord, guide and sustain us.

**Reader 17:** In fulfilling our commitments as members of WUCWO,

**All:** Lord, guide and sustain us.

**Reader 18:** As we journey with our companions, whoever they may be, and become salt of the earth and light of the world,

**All:** Lord, guide and sustain us.

**Reader 19:** As Jesus' brothers and sisters, obeying the commandment to *Love One Another*,

**All:** Lord, guide and sustain us.

**Song:** "We Will Love with Open Arms" (verses 5 and 7)

#### **Closing Prayer**

**All:** God, Creator of each human being in Your image and likeness, help me to see the face of Christ in friend and stranger alike. Give me an open, listening mind and an understanding heart, so that I may be a true companion to everyone I meet, as I try to answer Christ's call to *Love One Another*. May Your Holy Spirit guide my thoughts and actions and those of my sisters in The Catholic Women's League of Canada so that, through us, Your light will illumine our world. I ask this in the name of Jesus, Your Son, our Lord. Amen

**Song:** "We Will Love with Open Arms" (verses 6 and 9)

## WE WILL LOVE WITH OPEN ARMS

(used with permission of Dan Perry)

- #1: We will love with open arms.  
We will call the stranger friend.  
We will welcome all as guest.  
We will love with open arms.
- #2: We will grow in unity.  
We will sow the seeds of peace.  
We will spread the Spirit's fire.  
We will love with open arms.
- #3: We will place our trust in God.  
We will ground our lives in prayer.
- We will follow Jesus' way.  
We will love with open arms.
- #4: We will reach beyond ourselves.  
We will hold our neighbours dear.  
We will form a lasting bond.  
We will love with open arms.
- #5: We will turn from selfish ways.  
We will go to those in need.  
We will offer helping hands.  
We will love with open arms.
- #6: We will comfort aching hearts.  
We will take the time to care.  
We will share in other's pain.  
We will love with open arms.
- #7: We will look to those afar.  
We will seek to know their way.  
We will honour their deep faith.  
We will love with open arms.
- #8: We will strive for what is just.  
We will stand with those  
oppressed.  
We will work for human rights.  
We will love with open arms.
- #9: We will fan the flames of hope.  
We will serve with joyful hearts.  
We will give not counting cost.  
We will love with open arms.
- #10: We will love with open arms.  
We will join with all the world.  
We will sing salvation's song.  
We will love with open arms.