

Reception of New Members

Opening Hymn

Introduction

Spiritual Advisor: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen

Spiritual Advisor: 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 your Spirit.

Opening Prayer

Spiritual Advisor: Let us pray:

Blessed are You, loving God, You have made a covenant with Your people: from all eternity
You called us to be Your holy people, to sing Your praises at all times.

Bless us in our work and our prayer, “For God and Canada,” and grant that our lives may give
You glory through our words, our witness, and our worship.

We give You praise, gracious God, through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, in the communion of
Your Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever.

All: Amen

Scripture Reading

Reflection on the Word of God (or silence)

Invitation to New Members

Chairperson of Organization: I invite the following new members to come forward.

Instruction

President: We welcome all new and current League members and visitors. We pray that your
membership will be most challenging and fulfilling.

As Christians, we have been given a great mandate. As expressed in the documents of the
Second Vatican Council, the laity “must assist one another to live holier lives even in our daily
occupations. In this way, the world is permeated by the Spirit of Christ and more effectively
achieves its purpose in justice, charity and peace.

The laity have the principle role in the universal fulfilment of this purpose.” (*The Church, No.
36*)

As members of The Catholic Women's League of Canada, we are guided and inspired by our Mission Statement. "The Catholic Women's League of Canada is a national organization rooted in gospel values calling its members to holiness through service to the people of God."

Chairperson of Organization: Today, as never before, the church needs an enlightened and dedicated laity. Through the League, you will acquire greater knowledge about our faith. You will become involved in a supportive community. The Catholic Women's League of Canada is an organization which will help you grow in your relationship with Christ and the church.

Through the League's standing committees you will be able to carry on the work of Christ at home, in the community and throughout the world.

Intercessions

President: Christ cared for us so much that He laid down His life for us, conquered death and thus sanctified our life's work. May Christ teach us how to love!

All: Those who belong to Christ will be known by what they do.

President: While on earth, Christ reached out in compassion and healing to all those in need. May we be inspired by the Holy Spirit to reach out to the needy in our own community and in our world.

All: Those who belong to Christ will be known by what they do.

President: The mission of Christ continues on earth through each of us. Christ teaches, comforts and shows mercy through all of us who profess His name. May Christ strengthen us to be faithful disciples.

All: Those who belong to Christ will be known by what they do.

Symbol

President: You have been given lighted candles as a reminder of the candle you received at your baptism. Let your light shine before all, so that your good works may give glory to God.

Please join in the League promise.

All: For the glory of God and the good of God's people, I promise as a Catholic woman to honour, invoke and imitate our patroness, Our Lady of Good Counsel. I promise to be a loyal member of The Catholic Women's League of Canada and to promote its interest and growth in every way. I promise to cooperate with officers in all programs under their direction and to conform to the best of my ability to the bylaws of the organization in all League activities.

The spiritual advisor then blesses the League pins.

President: Wear this emblem with pride, honour and loyalty.

(The new members return to their places after all have received their pins.)

Concluding Prayer

Spiritual Advisor: In support of one another, and in communion with all the saints in heaven, let us now pray with one heart and one voice. Our Father ...

Blessing

Spiritual Advisor: May God bless us and keep us. **Amen**

May Jesus Christ graciously smile upon us. **Amen**

May the Holy Spirit, Giver of life, grant us peace. **Amen**

Sign of Peace

Spiritual Advisor: Let us conclude our celebration by offering one another a sign of peace.