



# The Catholic Women's League of Canada

## MEMO

**DATE:** April 11, 2023  
**FROM:** Anne-Marie Gorman, national past president and chairperson of laws  
**TO:** Parish council past presidents  
**THROUGH:** Parish presidents and secretaries  
**CC:** Diocesan and provincial presidents and secretaries and life members  
(on request)

*“For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope” (Jer 29:11).*

It is my pleasure to greet you following your Lenten journey and the beauty of the Easter Triduum. Uplifting and hopeful, we enter the season of Easter as a time of renewal and joy that should bubble through all of us, especially when we reflect on Jeremiah's confidence.

As you come to the end of your term or will be on a hiatus until September, I want to thank you again for your support of your parish council and remind you of a few things:

- A proposed amendment will have already been voted upon in your council and is working its way to the diocesan, provincial and national levels, where the final vote will occur at the national annual meeting of members (AMM) in Saint John, New Brunswick, August 13-15. By way of review, the proposed amendment regards virtual meetings when in-person meetings are not possible.
- For information, officers will reach out to present the **Unity Outreach** to your council and find out what it needs from the diocesan level, (provincial level where no diocesan councils exist). The same has been or will be done with the diocesan executives. Look for information from your diocesan or provincial council on this valuable exercise.
- In the waning weeks and months of this membership season, it would be most valuable to review (perhaps with a group of members) the *National Manual of Policy and Procedure* to see if there are places where updates, additions and revisions may be suggested. Submit suggestions by December 1<sup>st</sup> of this year using form #551 (Appendix 4 in the manual).
- You have a golden opportunity to encourage the use of the many products uploaded to the national website. Choose what speaks to your members. The materials will surely bear fruit.
- For those who have assembled a parish council policy manual, I guarantee it will be a valuable tool. If your council has yet to create one, you will be of great help in completing this worthwhile task in the next season.

As past president, you have kept the story of your council. The work assembling reports, minutes books, scrapbooks and photograph albums will be a lasting legacy for future councils. Keep all in a safe place using acid-free containers.

It has been my privilege and honour to serve this magnificent national organization. I look forward to seeing it grow and flourish and be made stronger and healthier by this sisterhood as members continue to be *Catholic and Live It!*

God is good, all the time. May God's love be upon you now and always.