



The Catholic Women's League of Canada

MEMO

DATE: April 11, 2023
FROM: Fran Lucas, national president and chairperson of international relations
TO: Parish presidents
THROUGH: Parish presidents and secretaries
CC: Diocesan and provincial presidents and secretaries and life members (upon request)

I hope your Easter was a time to rejoice in the Lord and show thankfulness for all the blessings He bestows upon us. Spring is in the air, bringing an eagerness to be more active in various ways and make things happen, including in League work. To new council presidents, thank you for serving in this important capacity. Include others in the many good works your council will perform. It gives others the opportunity to share their skills and passion and helps lessen your to-do list.

A member of your diocesan, regional or provincial executive will soon be (if has not already), visiting your council as part of a National Unity Outreach to *listen* to members. Please invite every member to participate so they can be heard on what your council's greatest need is. Then, specific help will be brought to you.

As I visit various conventions, please introduce yourself to me. I would very much enjoy a conversation on how you and your council are managing.

The Catholic Women's Leadership Foundation has paused its 2023-2024 leadership program and plans to relaunch it for the 2024-2025 year.

Please keep those travelling in May to Assisi, Italy, for the World Union of Catholic Women's Organisations' General Assembly, including Canadian youth representative Isabella Sheptak from Edmonton, in prayer. On May 13th, Pope Francis will meet with all attending the assembly. What exciting times!

If you are looking for something to read as you sit outside enjoying the daffodils, crocuses or tulips bursting forth, I recommend *Joining the Divine Conversation: A Guide to Listening to the God Who Speaks* by Anne Jamieson or *Holy Moments: A Handbook for the Rest of Your Life* by Matthew Kelly.

Catholic and Living It! I have spoken many times about the building of relationships. This can easily begin in each council by getting to know each other. What is your council doing to encourage that to happen? Let me know, as I would love to hear the creative ways being utilized and then share them with others. Your annual reporting was filled with the excitement of returning from a long drought of inactivity. What is your council doing to bring life back to your membership? Ask and listen to members on what they would like to be doing. Then ask for volunteers to help make their ideas happen. Let's continue to show *Catholic and Living It!* can occur with each of us every day.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel guide your works always.