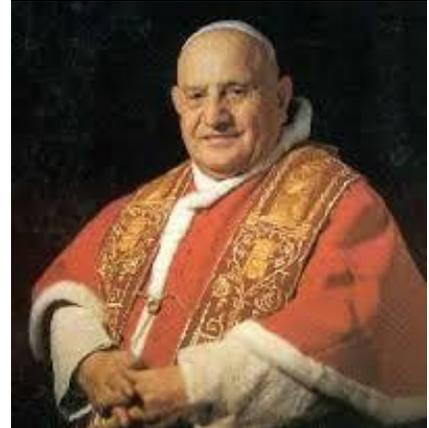


Resolutions Standing Committee

Resolutions are a powerful tool that The Catholic Women's League has for making a difference in the lives of others.

One of the Beatitudes states:
"Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
For they shall be satisfied."



Isn't that what resolutions attempt to do? Members of the League recognize a wrong, study the issue, write the resolution, determine the course of action and ask for change. Over the last few years the League has address issues such as clean water for First Nation communities, missing and murdered aboriginal women, housing for the chronically mentally ill, early intervention for mental health services, environmental concerns, identifying the needs of all God's people and caring for His creation, speaking for righteousness.

In order for resolutions to pass from member, to parish council, diocesan, provincial and national, there need to be women willing to chair the resolutions standing committee at each of these level. For some reason, people are afraid of resolutions. In fact, they will take anything but resolutions. They say, "It is IMPOSSIBLE for me to do resolutions." Let me tell you about the word impossible. If you take it apart it actually says, "I'm possible." Yes, you can do resolutions with the help of many knowledgeable members who are willing to give their assistance and of course with God's help, too. Just do it!

St. John XXIII is the chosen saint of the resolutions committee. During his lifetime he was quoted for many profound statements. My favourite is,

"Consult not your fears but your hopes and dreams,
Think not about your frustrations, but about your unfulfilled potential.
Concern yourself not with what you tried and failed in,
but with what it is still possible for you to do."

I visited Rome several years ago and spent a long time in St. Peter's in the chapel where Pope John XXIII's body is on display in a glass casket. He was known for making a difference in the Church and in the world.

Being a resolutions chair is rewarding! I know some of you are sitting there in disbelief. But imagine being able to step into the office of the minister who writes the laws and being able to tell him/her face-to-face "This resolutions committee represent 46,000 CWL members and we would like to discuss the concerns that our members have identified."

This year the resolution committee met with five government officials and covered a plethora of issues relating to resolutions over the last few years. Since it was May 4th and the Day of Prayer for Hospice and Palliative Care, we even took time to hold a prayer service in a quiet dining area since there is no chapel at Queen's Park. A full report of this year's government visit is available on the provincial website and a summary with several pictures was in the May issue of the ON-Line Newsletter.

Linda Squarzolo,
Resolutions Chairperson