

Oral Report Organization
71st Annual Ontario Provincial Convention
The Catholic Women's League of Canada Diocese of Toronto
July 9 – 12, 2018

Madame Chair,

Mother of the Church is the title officially given to Mary during the Second Vatican Council by Pope Paul VI. He pronounced the title at the closing of the third phase of the council calling Mary **Model of the Church** in light of her faith, love and complete unity with Christ and **Mother of the Church** because she gave birth to Christ. On March 3rd, 2018 the Vatican announced that Mary and her role as Mother of the Church would be celebrated each year on the Monday after Pentecost.

As Catholic women we rely daily on Mary and her constant help with our many intentions and her tireless willingness to intercede for us with the Trinity.

A big part of this committee is annual reports. We talk about them, we host training sessions, we gather information from calendars, minutes and photos and then we get together to discuss how we want to put those experiences in writing so that they become history as part of our annual reports. This practice is good for members, good for councils and good for the league. We should celebrate all we do. It is in those celebrations that we fulfill the objects of the league. Invite everyone to become part of the process. Often, in our hurried lives we forget the good times because they no longer require our attention. In my own council we sat around the table with tea and coffee and really reminisced about what we have done – both good and bad. The conversation was lively and animated.

This year, National office upgraded their survey software. The biggest challenge came when trying to extract the information the parish councils had so diligently input. Everyone persevered and in the end was successful at putting together annual report books at every level of the league. Nobody likes paperwork, but it is necessary to maintain our organization's status. Make it a joyful act.

As we continue to celebrate our members over the next day or so let us be reminded that we all hold an equal stake in our ministry in the league. Seek the council of Mary and the Holy Spirit through prayer, discern what you feel called to do and then take action. Whether it is an executive position at any level or a letter writer or a prayer partner, all members are called to service in some way.

Membership in the Catholic Women's League of Canada is a gift - a gift to be cherished and shared. Why did you join? Is there a parishioner or family member who could benefit from membership? Invite them to the next meeting. Share your joy of the League wherever you can. Call on the Holy Spirit to show you other ways to be visible. Wear your pin. Perform random acts of kindness. Expect nothing in return and you will reap the gifts of the Spirit in abundance.

This concludes my report.