



**Kingston Diocesan Council
of
The Catholic Women's League of Canada**

The Rosary prayer was said to have been given to Dominic Guzman in 1206. It was intended to give ordinary people the opportunity to reflect on the mysteries of their faith in a contemplative way while praying the prayers they were familiar with. How important the rosary is still! As I reflect on Mary, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, I know Mary prays with us each time the rosary is said. I belong to Queen of the Most Holy Rosary parish. This is where I received my training as a Catholic Women's League member. In working through the responsibilities of Diocesan president, I pray the rosary and know that I am blessed to have so many opportunities to ask Mary, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary to pray with me. We are taught to reflect on the mysteries of our faith while praying, but I believe Mary is happy to reflect and discuss with us Catholic Women's League agendas, reports, initiatives and responsibilities. How fortunate we are to have daily CWL meetings with Mary, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary.

In February, we had our Presidents' Winter Meeting. While the officers met in the morning, Terrilee Dunford of Cornerstone Landing, talked to the parish presidents about youth and homelessness. In the afternoon, presidents and officers discussed projects to address the issues of homelessness in their communities.

In April we had our League Development Day. This year, ladies arrived with laptops and meeting notes, prepared to spend the day designing or updating their own council's Policy and Procedure handbook. There was a great deal of collaboration and much was accomplished.

Our annual convention, held in May was planned around the theme of homelessness. Five presenters from Providence Care in Kingston, spoke on the various aspects of mental health and homelessness. It was a very moving and powerful presentation!

Councils brought backpacks and a variety of items which were dispersed to shelters and to groups helping those in need. I was so pleased at the

response from councils! On display was the Presidents' Report Book, highlighting projects undertaken by individual councils to help the needy in their home communities. We will continue to display this report book at our meetings this coming year.

We were honoured to have our own Anne Madden present with us for the weekend. Anne presented her workshop on mentoring which the ladies very much appreciated. Anne Gorman represented National council and presented the strategic planning workshop. The diocesan members are excited about the upcoming changes.

It is always an honour to be part of member recognition celebrations. Two members received the prestigious Bellelle Guerin award. It was also my great honour to present Stephanie Spinelli with her Life Membership scroll and pin following closing Mass at our convention.

In May, councils participated in the 12 hours of Prayer for Palliative Care. Many gathered together with neighbouring councils to provide opportunities for their parishioners to pray through a greater variety of prayer liturgies. Once again, we thank National for the wonderful prayers and services that are being made available to us.

We have begun meetings for Provincial Convention 2019 which will be hosted by Kingston diocese. We are excited and with the great leadership of Life Members, Bernadette Burgess and Kathy Huffman, we know our committee will be ready next July to offer you a prayerful, fun and informative celebration of the Ontario Council of the Catholic Women's League of Canada.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Vincentine

President, Kingston Diocesan Council