

2021 Provincial AMM Oral Report

Madame President,

Eight years ago I attended my very first Provincial Convention in Thunder Bay, Ontario as a Parish President. Now I am humbled to be the Diocesan President. Our Diocese has had the tradition of having a different colored T-shirt for the Convention so that the President would know where her members were in the hall. Today I am wearing my black t-shirt that we would have worn last year to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of The Catholic Women's League in Canada. I know that my members are watching and giving me support as I give my report.

We were asked how COVID has affected the way our Council has done things. It definitely has been a learning curve. We were asked to STAY HOME AND STAY SAFE.

Communication was important, either by telephone or by email to keep everyone informed. At the beginning of COVID, we helped out in making masks for the nurses in the hospital. We continued with our project that our Community Life chair had brought to us by helping the Mental Health clinic with each council collecting peanut butter, crackers and brown beans and bringing it to the hospital. With restrictions in place at the hospital, some councils dropped off their donations to the liaison's home who in turn brought it to the hospital. She was very appreciative of our efforts. On June 29th, 2020, a red maple tree was planted at Our Lady of the Angels Parish in Moose Creek with some members present masked and social distanced. This was in honor of the 100th Anniversary of The Catholic Women's League. We had a successful in person Diocesan Executive meeting at the end of September at Our Lady of the Angels in the church, masked and social distanced. It was wonderful to see everyone and the comradery was evident. We were all praying that COVID would end soon. Thanksgiving weekend, there were 3 locations that held Rosary Rallies. Of course, we were masked and social distanced, but being together saying the Rosary was a beautiful way to spend some time together. Our Diocese did meet our financial obligations to the different charities. Technology did play a factor as we learned new ways to communicate. Our Diocese has met this year through Zoom and as it is not the same as in person, it does help to see and talk to people. Prayer requests have been asked of us so much through this time and they helped. However, some members have lost loved ones. A Life Member from our Diocese passed away in May of this year. Her Spiritual Advisor gave her a beautiful send off by having an outdoor funeral mass in the parking lot. Technology is amazing. Our Diocese, 8 years ago, started praying for Vocations to the Priesthood. Prayers have been answered and even through COVID, there will be a Priest Ordination and 3 Transitional Deacons ordained next month. We are so thankful.

Madame President, this concludes my report.

Angela Gaudet
Alexandria-Cornwall Diocese