

**Ontario Provincial Council of
The Catholic Women's League of Canada**

**AMM, July 12, 2021
Oral Report**

For as long as I can remember, Hearst Moosonee Sisters in the League have been working tirelessly to reach out and help others who have been afflicted with Loneliness in every shape or form. Loneliness that comes from being alone, loneliness that comes from being misunderstood, and loneliness that comes from not knowing the love of our Saviour Jesus Christ just to name a few.

We have had food drives, clothing drives, spiritual classes, meeting, Bazaars and Teas, all events that would help with many types of loneliness.

Then Covid hit and our world changed – no more meetings, no more social events, no more contact, no more hugs, and the list goes on and on.

We stood powerlessly against a virus that no one had ever heard of, with no cure in sight. That is when the incredible CWL members of the Diocese of Hearst-Moosonee showed their true colors.

Even though we were all going through the same thing those who were stronger got the ball rolling and started calling the others in their councils. That empowered even more women, who then started calling members. Some made sure there were supplies getting to the elderly around them, and of course there was prayer over prayer over prayer.

Before long we were searching for ways to connect as a group and get as much normality back into our lives as we could muster. We began meeting on Messenger and Zoom. When permitted we had social distancing meetings. We taught each other how to navigate the internet and made deliveries of minutes and bulletins to those who are not in the Internet world.

Every effort is made to ensure no one is left out. Is it perfect? Nope – but what is?

Our Diocesan Council purchased a year subscription to Zoom and meetings are back to their regular time slots. Induction of new members and installation of new Chairs are happening in a new way, but nonetheless still happening. We are stronger together and we are together again! Loneliness is an ongoing battle that we are ready and willing to fight. Covid may have changed our path but it did not change our conviction to “grow in faith, and to witness to the love of God through ministry and service.”

Respectfully Submitted by

Liz McInnis

Diocesan President for the Diocese of Hearst-Moosonee