



PRESS RELEASE
For General Release

The Ontario Provincial Council of the Catholic Women's League of Canada, representing over 32,000 women in Ontario, will gather at the Ottawa Conference and Event Centre, on July 10th through 13th, 2022 for the 75th annual provincial convention. The national theme of **"Catholic and Living It!"** and the provincial theme of **"Loneliness"** will be highlighted throughout the convention, where over 200 members representing 13 diocesan councils from across the province will come together for business sessions, guest speakers and to celebrate the joy of sisterhood.

The official opening will take place with a Eucharistic Celebration on Sunday July 10th at 2:30pm at Notre Dame Cathedral Basilica 385 Sussex Dr in Ottawa. The mass will be celebrated by Archbishop Marcel Damphousse, Archbishop of Ottawa-Cornwall, and the Ontario Provincial Spiritual Advisor.

On Monday, our keynote speaker will be **Fr. Mark Slatter**. Fr. Mark is an associate professor at St. Paul University in Ottawa. He will speak to us about **Loneliness; The Different Dances of Loneliness and Learning to Dance with Our Loneliness**.

On Tuesday, our guest speaker will be **Fr. Daryold Winkler**. Fr. Daryold is the pastor at St. Basil's Catholic Church in Ottawa. He will speak to the assembly about **His Reconciliation Journey**.

Elections will be held on Wednesday morning, with the installation of the new executive at the closing mass at 12:00pm at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church. The closing mass will be celebrated by Bishop Thomas Dowd, Bishop of Sault Ste. Marie, and the new Ontario Provincial Spiritual Advisor.

Our National President, **Fran Lucas**, will present her message on Monday afternoon.

Colleen Martin, 1st Vice-President and Christian Family Life Chairperson, will share a presentation from Our Lady of Guadalupe Circle on Monday afternoon as well. Our Lady of Guadalupe Circle is a Catholic coalition of Indigenous people, bishops, lay movements, clergy and institutes of consecrated life, engaged in renewing and fostering relationships between the Catholic Church and Indigenous Peoples in Canada. Colleen represents the Catholic Women's League of Canada on Our Lady of Guadalupe Circle.

Ontario Provincial President Colleen Perry will be available to speak with members of the press on Monday July 11th at 12:15pm following the business sessions.

Please contact the Ontario Provincial Communications Chairperson Ann D'Souza for more information and to arrange an interview. ant_dsouza@hotmail.com