

## **Administrative Assistant Oral Report to OPC Convention 2022**

Your oral reports will **HIGHLIGHT one event** in the diocese that demonstrated the provincial theme **and/or the sisterhood of the League**.

I was once told that the Administrative Assistant is the glue of the provincial council, and in many ways that is an accurate description of my duties. It seemed I was constantly sending emails to Team OPC which consists of Archbishop Damphousse, provincial officers and diocesan presidents. The majority of communications were keeping the necessary contact lists up-to-date. In addition, there would be occasions when prayer requests and other news would be distributed, sympathy and 'thinking of you' cards needed to be sent, certificates and congratulatory letters were requested, virtual meetings to attend and reports to be completed, etc. Before every meeting activity reports would be distributed and before convention oral reports were also distributed. At convention time there would be added duties corresponding with vendors. Working closely with the President to carry out all administrative functions ensures there is a cohesive relay of information from her to all officers and beyond.

In the course of these duties, it is understandable that I may spill a little glue and things can get a bit sticky. Fortunately, it was usually just a few drops and the spilled glue was quickly wiped away. One day, however, I spilled half the bottle and really made a mess. Not only did I send information to some who should never have received it. I even sent the information to national office. What a mess!

Now that wasn't the end of the world but my good old Catholic guilt had my stomach in constant turmoil. Some of you may know that awful feeling. In an attempt to clean up the spilled glue I emailed all involved and asked them to please ignore and delete those emails. But that didn't resolve the guilt and it was like the glue had begun to dry and crack, so I offered to resign. That is when I experienced first-hand the sisterhood of the League.

Thankfully, our provincial president immediately dismissed the offer to resign. Others at this table must have known how I would feel because I started receiving emails with messages of support: "Don't sweat the small stuff." "We all make mistakes." "it's not the end of the world." "You're doing a great job." "I know how you feel." These messages of support and affirmation humbled me. The love and presence of sisterhood warmed the glue and restored its bonding power.

This is the CWL that I love, the friendships that I cherish. Like true blood sisters, we pick each other up when one falls. No one is ever left behind struggling alone.

My prayer for you is this: if you ever spill any glue, that you will be picked up by the loving arms of your CWL sisters and know that even in a mess, you are never alone.

Respectfully submitted