

Settling in to the second year of covid-19 our councils were getting more comfortable with Zoom meetings. The familiarity with using them as a tool to communicate was a God-send for our diocese.

When I took on the presidency last year my goal was to have more fun in the CWL and also to focus more on spirituality. My goal fit in well with both the provincial theme and the national. Of course, I wasn't thinking that most of my term would be affected by covid.

Perhaps it has been a bit difficult to have more spirituality in person but we have had myriad chances online through the generosity of other dioceses and organizations to participate/attend their online presentations. I would like to thank Colleen Martin in particular for her efforts with the many invitations for praying together.

We were once again able to hold our annual Lenten retreat online. This year our focus was on the title, who was Mary? It was a great success with women from all over our diocese. It was evident from the chatter both before and after the retreat how much we all missed seeing each other.

Our Legislation chairperson presented a workshop online and also reminded everyone of their responsibility to vote. I was very pleased with the number of questions that were garnered from that workshop. We recorded the workshop and put it on our website for others who missed it or just to review.

We held an online fun night in March. Our theme was "Pretty in Pink" and we were encouraged to wear pink, drink pink and laugh and enjoy till our cheeks were pink. Some of our members gathered with others in their homes or parish halls so that they celebrated together.

We decided that our members were not ready to meet in person for our AMM and it was held online. I wanted the executive to all be present but I hadn't really planned for the problems that would come with it. The best laid plans of men and mice often go awry. It seemed to me to be a comedy of errors, but I kept my cool and at least we were all having fun. The women of our diocese were very happy to be able to vote on the amendments and per capita increase.

We were fortunate enough to be able to have our executive meetings for the most part in person. Our regional chairs kept us apprised of what was happening at the parish council CWL level.

I was delighted with the response I got for news and photos of events and happenings for the June edition of the provincial newsletter. We don't have a communications chairperson so we are missing having our newsletter published.

I am looking forward to holding fall regional meetings this year. It has become very obvious to me that leadership training is needed. I hope by doing so that it will take the fear out of holding an executive position.

