

Convention Report President-Elect/Organization Committee July 2022

The Organization Committee has several responsibilities including the education of members and League resources. Over the years many wonderful resources have been provided to us in the past for the use of councils. How often have we used the ***Ceremonies Booklet***, ***CWL Prays*** or ***Leading the League***? In more recent times newer programs have been developed and are being used more and more, like the ***Revised Resolution Guide***, the ***Welcome Program*** and the ***Executive Orientation Workshops***.

Over the last few months several new programs have become available on the national website. As they were introduced, I was interested to read and learn about the information they provided. Most of them can be found in the 600 or 800 series of resources. Get your pen and paper ready as I give you the titles and a brief synopsis of these documents.

The first time I ever heard of Catholic Social Teaching was when I joined the social justice committee in my parish several years ago. The document, ***Catholic Social Teaching Resources***, gives great information about social justice, including a list of documents, links to publications, prayers, websites and biographies of people who worked for social justice.

Another document relating to social justice is a ***Calendar of Social Justice / Catholic Social Teaching***. This resource lists the commemorative days that have been declared by the Church, the United Nations, The Catholic Women's League of Canada and other organizations. Councils and standing committees are encouraged to plan activities around these dates.

The third reference on social justice is called ***Existing Programs and Courses on Catholic Social Teaching***. Information is given about courses offered by colleges, universities or religious groups and includes details about content, costs and location of the institution.

In order to work with women of faith from all cultures and ages, the document ***Embracing Diversity: Tools for Council Use*** was developed. When we invite women to become members, we don't just think of what they can do for the League but what we can do for them.

If anyone is looking for some mini-workshops to explain what the League is really about, I urge you to check out ***League Misconceptions: Telling the real story***. The workshops offer information about working together to achieve a common goal, encouraging women of all ages to become involved and other topics.

Lastly, the publication that offered the greatest inspiration to me, personally, was ***The Joy of Leadership***. The purpose of this guide is to inform councils about leadership and encourage and support members in taking on leadership roles as service and ministry. Leaders are just ordinary people who are able to accomplish

extraordinary things. Leaders use their skills, talents and interests to live out their baptismal call to serve others through League activities. Whether leaders take on elected positions or short-term projects, their contributions are invaluable. I urge you to read this excellent document.

The future of the Catholic Women's League depends on attracting new members and having members who are educated about all aspects of this faith-based organization. I encourage every member here today to find these publications, read them and to share the information with others.