

Ephesians 4:11-14 says: So, Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

Sometimes it is very difficult to recognize what the Holy Spirit is trying to tell us. In my term, I have sought to seek his guidance and that of Our Lady of Good Counsel and to understand their direction daily.

We are living in extraordinary times! These last years have been a true test of our faith and our commitment to serving God's people across the country. The provincial theme of loneliness was born from a personal struggle as my father was entering into the beginnings of dementia. As we moved through the pandemic times I, once again, was amazed at how those subtle hints from the Holy Spirit became more and more relevant.

Nothing was clearer to me as when I began talking about "Sisters Calling Sisters". This provincial initiative was the brainchild of our own national president Fran Lucas. When we first started talking about it at the national board table she was filled with enthusiasm and excitement. Fran wanted a large number of volunteers to call sisters from across the country just to check up on them. We were not asked to talk about the proposed changes in our constitution or the proposed per capita fees increase, but just to see how they were. Just a sisterly hug through the phone.

The initiative met with resistance at the national level for several reasons and it was decided that it would not move forward. In Ontario however, after hearing from over 85 volunteers, we decided to move forward with a more intimate project. I asked all members across the province to pick up the phone and call as many members of their councils as possible. The initiative was deemed a success even though I don't have any details as to how

many calls were made. Counting on the power of prayer and the sisterhood of the League never lets me down.

I was able to participate in my first diocesan convention as provincial president this past April in person. It was a wonderful celebration and almost like old times. As members gathered together slowly and cautiously you could feel the momentum starting to build.

That sisterhood is what we long for. Sisters function as safety nets in a chaotic world simply by being there for each other. Sisters are different flowers from the same garden. A sister is God's way of proving He doesn't want us to walk alone.

I have two natural sisters that I am very close to, but I struggle, even with them, to describe the sisterhood of the League. Yes, there may be conflicts and yes, there may be disagreements, but as sisters we move forward from that place of discourse and respond as Jesus would without judgement or hatred.

This concludes my report

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