



The Catholic Women's League of Canada Edmonton Diocesan Council



President's Report 97th Annual Diocesan Convention April 27, 2019 St. Anthony, Lloydminster

Dear Sisters in the League,

Serving as your Diocesan President during the past two years and working with a team of talented and faith-filled Officers has been a challenging but rewarding experience for which I thank you. I continue to learn about myself as well as the League and the great gift that it represents for all of us.

During the past year, it has been an honor and a pleasure to visit many Councils, attend Zone meetings and spiritual retreats which provided an opportunity to meet many CWL Sisters throughout the Diocese.

We kept a Calendar of Events chronicling the various gatherings we have participated in over the past year which is available for anyone who is interested to view.

The Edmonton Diocesan Priorities for 2017–2019 were established with input from members attending 2017 Annual Diocesan Convention. The priorities fell under the following headings: 1) provide support to Parish Councils, 2) increase membership, 3) modernize CWL processes at the Diocesan level, 4) enhanced spiritual development at meetings and 5) support women and families in need. The top 4 National priorities that were introduced by parish councils to act upon were; excluding medical assistance in dying from palliative care/hospice facilities, requiring age verification mechanisms for adult pornographic websites, protecting the conscience rights of healthcare professionals and removing Canada Summer Jobs program attestation.

The National theme “***Inspired by the Spirit, Women Respond to God's Call***” was embraced by our councils over the last 2 years and has been an inspiration for meetings, retreats and workshops including the Midwinter, Convention and Fall Meetings. At the Diocesan level our speakers focused on being empowered by the spirit to be women of faith.

Our Midwinter meeting was held at St. John Bosco Church on February 2nd. Those that braved the snow storm conditions were rewarded by a wonderful day. The theme was “**Care for Our Common Home**” and speakers were Sr. Susan Scott who gave a snippet of the work being done by the Implementation Committee and Dr. Bob McKeon who spoke about the deep theological and spiritual foundations of “Laudato si” that are both ancient and new and he explored the ethical challenges associated with living out this challenging and transformative teaching here in Alberta. The talks were both engaging and generated many questions.

I hope that Our Lady of Good Counsel will guide us during the coming year and that we receive the Lord’s blessings in abundance as we continue to share our time, talents, treasures and faith with our League Sisters in our councils, our families, our parishes and our communities in service For God and Canada.

May God bless you for sharing your gifts with your Sisters in the League and may you continue to serve your council with kindness, love and generosity!

This concludes my report. Are there any questions?

Respectfully submitted,
For God and Canada

Cheryl Boom
Edmonton Diocesan President