



# The Catholic Women's League of Canada Edmonton Diocesan Council



**TO:** Parish Council Presidents  
Diocesan Officers  
Honorary Life Members  
Life Members  
Members

**FROM:** Jean Ashdown, Edmonton Diocesan President

**SUBJECT:** **103<sup>rd</sup> Annual Convention of the Edmonton Diocesan Council**

Dear Sisters in the League,

It is my pleasure to invite you to the 103<sup>rd</sup> Annual Convention of the Edmonton Diocesan Council to be held at the **Polish Hall Conference Centre, 10960-104 St NW, Edmonton, AB on May 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025!** The theme of our convention is **"Hope in the Lord"**. This theme relates to the Jubilee Year that we are currently celebrating. We look forward to our Convention as a time to gather with the members in our diocese to be inspired and renewed, to look back on the previous year and look forward to the future, and to come together in prayer.

**Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>:** This day will begin with a short opening ceremony followed by a theme address given by Fr. Curtis Berube, our Diocesan Spiritual Advisor. An executive meeting will be held and the Spiritual Advisors for CWL parish councils will have a roundtable discussion with Fr. Curtis. The Doreen Melton Scholarship will be presented to a seminarian studying for the Archdiocese of Edmonton. In the afternoon, Fr. Susai Jesu will discuss walking together through pilgrimage specifically highlighting the Lac Ste. Anne pilgrimage. Belinda Halbach will talk about leadership. We will attend St. Joseph's Basilica for mass and the reaffirmation of our diocesan officers. You may wish to learn how you can get a Jubilee indulgence when you visit the Basilica - [Jubilee - caedm](#)). Then we will return to the Polish Hall for our banquet supper. Fr. Jim Corrigan, Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Edmonton, will join us and address sharing our faith with our children and grandchildren who may not be practising Catholics.

**Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup>:** We start this day with our Memorial Service for our deceased members and then we will have our Annual Meeting of Members (AMM). This is when we review what we did in 2024 and discuss resolutions which define where we stand on issues. In the afternoon, Dr. Rebecca Hudson Breen will speak on hope and its connection with good mental health. Following the annual meeting there will be a short post-AMM executive meeting.

Regarding the terms 'Convention' and 'Annual Meeting of Members' - "National, provincial and diocesan councils must hold an "annual meeting of members" where voting and accredited delegates chosen to represent their regions meet to transact necessary business and vote on matters of policy. Often councils use this annual gathering as an avenue to invite all members and provide them with social, inspirational and educational opportunities which the members at large may participate in. These expanded gatherings are called "conventions"." (Guide to Hosting Diocesan/Provincial Conventions). So, our two day gathering is a Convention and will include the Annual Meeting of Members.

We will also be holding an Executive meeting on Saturday and a short Executive meeting following the AMM. Parish council presidents are part of the Executive so it is an important responsibility that they (or a designate) attend the Executive meetings as well as the AMM.

**Spiritual Advisors:** Please invite your council's Spiritual Advisor to attend on Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Fr Curtis Berube, will facilitate a roundtable discussion which we would like all CWL Spiritual Advisors to attend. The round table will be held at 10:30 am to be followed by the Doreen Melton scholarship presentation to a seminarian studying for the Archdiocese of Edmonton and lunch. Be sure to invite them to both the round table and lunch or they are welcome to attend the whole day. Fr Curtis will send a special invitation to all of the parish Spiritual Advisors. Please complete and submit a registration form for your Spiritual Advisor. Note: Each CWL council is to cover the cost of their Spiritual Advisor's lunch. There is no registration fee for Spiritual Advisors.

**Registration:** can be done online using this link: <https://forms.gle/j7Qegcssuy2AwVA4A>  
Paper registration forms are available for those who are not comfortable completing an electronic form. A credential form must be submitted for parish councils to indicate the Voting and Accredited Delegates. **All registrations and credential forms are due by April 18, 2025. Payments must be received no later than Apr. 23, 2025.**

**Hotels:** The convention planning committee has arranged for blocks of rooms at two local hotels: Chateau Louis Hotel and Conference Centre, 11727 Kingsway Ave, Edmonton T5G 3A1 (\$121-162 depending on room type), and Best Westen Plus City Centre Inn, 11310-109th St NW, Edmonton T5G 2T7 (\$161 double occupancy). The Group Block cutoff date is April 3<sup>rd</sup>. More details are available on our website.

I look forward to seeing you in Edmonton!  
Many blessings,



Jean Ashdown