



**The Catholic Women's League of Canada  
Diocese of Edmonton**

**95<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention**

## **Spiritual Program**

**Corpus Christi Parish  
Edmonton, Alberta  
April 21st to 23rd, 2017**

**League Prayer**

We humbly pray you, O God our Father,  
To bless The Catholic Women's League of Canada.

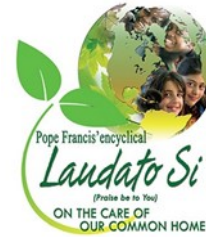
Bless our beloved country,  
our homes and families.

Send your Holy Spirit upon us  
to give light to our minds  
and strength to our wills  
that we may know and fulfill  
your great law of charity.

Teach us to share with others  
at home and abroad,  
the good things you have given us.

This we ask through Our Lord Jesus Christ  
and the intercession of our patroness,  
Our Lady of Good Counsel.

AMEN



**Friday April 21**  
**Morning Prayer**  
**Praying For Our Common Home**

**Leader:** We gather today, to rejoice in the creation of the world. God in his infinite compassion has lovingly formed our planet and all that live within it. He declared creation good and entrusted us to care for it along with each other.

Sometimes in our everyday lives, we forget our responsibility to care for our common home. Today, as we reflect on the marvels and wonders of creation, let us renew our commitment as good stewards of the earth.

**Fr. Jozef:** We begin by signing ourselves with the sign of our faith:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**Hymn:** I Sing the Mighty Power of God (page 20)

**Fr. Jozef:** God of All Creation,  
 You call us to be stewards of our common home,  
 instill in us a deep love for all of creation and for each person for you call us to love our neighbour and creation as we love ourselves bringing honor and glory and praise to you, who lives and reigns with Jesus our Savior and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever. Amen.

**Reading:** Genesis 1: 1-30; *adapted by Lisa Freemantle and Les Miller*

## Offering of Gifts:

### Reader 1: Globe

We present a Globe to remind us of our Creator God, who in your time this world was put in place, and in your time became beautiful, through the craftsmanship of your love. Remind us always as we look at sunrise, landscape or tiny child, to look beyond the artist brush or created thing, to the artist and Creator. Let us remember that your creativity calls us to share ours.

### Reader 2: Water

Water is the source of all life. It is pure and refreshing. It flows, cleans, and nourishes. Water is a vital element we must take care of. Through the water cycle we are intimately connected to all of creation. As we present this vessel of water, let us remember how essential it is to all life on our planet. Let us strive to always care for it, use it wisely, and help keep it clean of pollutants.

### Reader 3: Soil

We present this pot of soil to remind us of all the minerals and unseen resources it harbours within. Sometimes we forget that the earth we walk on is, like water, another source of life. From it, plants, trees, and all living creatures are nourished. We harvest its minerals and rocks to build our homes and cities. Let us remember to care for our earth and harvest its resources in moderation.

### Reader 4: Seeds

As we present these seeds, we are reminded of the potential they possess. Seeds, if cared for lovingly and properly, grow, mature, and bear fruit. Like the seed, we too need to be loved, cared for and nurtured by all those around us in order to grow to our full potential as disciples of Christ. When we look at these seeds let us remember not only our potential, but that we need to love and care for others as well.

## Celtic Alleluia

Refrain      *Alleluia, alleluia.*  
                 *Alleluia, alleluia.*

Speak, Lord, your servant is list'ning.  
Speak your words of wisdom,  
for the words you speak  
are everlasting life.

Refrain:

Even if you have to die,  
close to my Word keep faithful:  
for your faithfulness  
I will give you the crown of life.

Refrain:

Hail Mary, full of grace,  
Mary, most blessed among women;  
who believed that it  
would be as God promised.

Refrain:

Father of all, you are blessed,  
creator of earth and heaven,  
for the mysteries  
of the Kingdom shown to children.

Refrain:

*(music reprinted with copyright permission)*

## Women of the Church

Refrain:      *Women of the church,  
How rich is your legacy!  
Women of the Church,  
How great is your faith!  
Women of the church  
Well springs of integrity  
Lead us in the way of Peace*

Women at the foot of the Cross  
Fearless and truly faithful friends  
First ones to see the risen Lord of Life  
And the first to tell the good news.

Refrain:

Companions and disciples of Jesus  
Chosen and called by name  
Witness of wisdom, weavers of the Word.  
Lead us in the ways of truth.

Refrain:

Living songs of service and strength  
Hands of healing and hearts of love  
Women of vision,  
Voices for the voiceless,  
Lead us in the ways for hope.

Women of compassion and care,  
Bearers of God's life of giving light  
Centered in prayer while  
Working for justice,  
Lead us in the ways of peace.

## Reader 5: Plant

In the scripture reading, we heard how God appointed us to take care of the earth and rule over the plants and animals. We realize that we are integrally connected to all living things through the food chain and the elements of the earth. As we present this plant, let us remember to make wise decisions and treat all living creatures with kindness.

## Reader 6: Hand

This is what God the Lord says – the Creator of the heavens, who stretches them out, who spreads out the earth with all that springs from it, who gives breath to its people, and life to those who walk on it: 'I, the Lord, have called you in righteousness; I will take hold of your hand.' (Isaiah 42:5-6) As we present the image of a hand let us remember that God's hand is always outstretched into our lives and we are called to offer ours to our brothers, sisters and all of creation.

## Reader 7: Cross

This cross reminds us of the profound love of God. Through His compassion, He gave us life and made our beautiful world. Let us remember to give thanks to Him always and praise Him for His wondrous creation.

## Litany: Living in Harmony

(Adapted from Les Miller & Melinda Rapallo-Ferrara)

**Leader:**      May we share the world's resources with love,  
humility, and thoughtfulness, without guilt, without  
fear, without waste.

## Refrain:

Glory and praise to our God  
Who alone gives light to our days  
Many are the blessings He bears  
To those who trust in His ways

**Leader:** May we live together with animals with which we share this planet, being careful not to harm them or their habitats.

Refrain:

**Leader:** May we respect the life in our lakes, rivers and oceans, being careful and being mindful in our efforts not to pollute them.

Refrain:

**Leader:** May we learn to live within our means, by reducing our waste and continuing to reuse and recycle all that we can.

Refrain:

**Leader:** May we plan to leave the world in a state that all future generations will be able to enjoy, ensuring that it is filled with resources, life, and kept healthy and clean.

Refrain:

**Leader:** May we always be heralds of the dignity of creation and for all of human life.

Refrain:

**Closing Prayer:**

**Fr. Jozef:** As we strive to live in harmony with the earth and all of creation we pray for strength and courage in the words our Savior taught us...

**All:** Our Father

**Fr. Jozef:** Lord God,  
Creator of all living things,  
Help guide our daily actions and thoughts to become better stewards of the earth.  
Guide us to act responsibly, care for the earth you gave us, and guide us to make wise choices in our everyday living.

**Sing Out Earth and Skies**

Come, O God of all the earth;  
come to us, O Righteous One.  
Come and bring our love to birth;  
in the glory of your Son.

Chorus

*Sing out, earth and skies!*  
*Sing of the God who loves you.*  
*Raise your joyful cries,*  
*Dance to the life around you.*

Come, O God of wind and flame;  
fill the earth with righteousness.  
Teach us all to sing your name;  
may our lives your love confess.

Chorus

Come, O God of flashing light;  
twinkling star and burning sun.  
God of day and God of night;  
in your light we all are one.

Chorus

Come, O God of snow and rain;  
shower down upon the earth.  
Come, O God of joy and pain;  
God of sorrow, God of mirth.

Chorus

## **I Sing the Mighty Power of God**

I sing the almighty power of God,  
that made the mountains rise,  
that spread the flowing seas abroad,  
and built the lofty skies.  
I sing the wisdom that ordained  
the sun to rule the day;  
the moon shines full at God's command,  
and all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the Lord,  
who filled the earth with food,  
who formed the creatures thru the Word,  
and then pronounced them good.  
Lord, how thy wonders are displayed,  
where'er I turn my eye,  
if I survey the ground I tread,  
or gaze upon the sky!

There's not a plant or flower below,  
but makes thy glories known,  
and clouds arise, and tempests blow,  
by order from thy throne;  
while all that borrows life from thee  
is ever in thy care;  
and everywhere that we can be,  
thou, God, art present there.

We ask this through Christ our Lord who lives  
and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit for ever  
and ever. Amen.

As a sign of our communion with all of creation  
and with each other let us offer a Sign of Peace.

**Closing Hymn:** Sing out Earth and Skies (page 21)



## **Pre-Convention Meeting**

### **Opening Prayer**

**Fr Jozef:** Creator God, we thank you for all of creation.  
We ask your forgiveness where we have failed to  
be just stewards  
And now we ask for your guidance in restoring  
the face of the earth.  
May we learn to live in harmony, safety and just  
sharing of resources among all  
so that we may achieve the kingdom of God.

**Reader:** God of the Universe, fill us with peace.

**All:** that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming  
no one.

**Reader:** Help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of  
this earth.

**All:** So precious in your eyes

**Reader:** Bring healing to our lives

**All:** that we may protect the world and not prey on it,  
that we may sow beauty not pollution and  
destruction.

**Fr. Jozef:** Peace be to this community.  
Peace be to this land.  
Peace be to all people.  
In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**All:** Amen.

**Leader:** Let us together recite the League Prayer (page 25)

### **Pre -Convention Closing Prayer**

**Leader:** Let us pray

**All:** Gracious God, thank you for revealing yourself to  
us through our friendships. You support us and  
affirm us through the warmth of other human  
beings.  
We find you in a friend's loving look and tender  
embrace.  
We find you in shared soul-searching moments of  
deep connection we find in the beauty of the  
earth.  
Thank you for being a God of Love who has  
shown us our place in this world and whose  
incarnate love sustains us. Help to be good  
friends and stewards of the earth, to be selfless  
and freeing, honest and real, open and faithful.  
Amen

**Leader:** Our Lady of Good Counsel

**All:** Pray for us.



### **The Angelus**

**Leader:** The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary  
**All:** *And she conceived of the Holy Spirit  
Hail Mary... ..*

**Leader:** Behold the Handmaid of the Lord.  
**All:** *Be it done unto me according to thy word  
Hail Mary... ..*

**Leader:** And the Word was made flesh  
**All:** *And dwelt among us  
Hail Mary.....*

**Leader:** Pray for us O Holy Mother of God  
**All:** *That we may be made worthy of the promises of  
Christ!*

### **Let Us Pray:**

*Pour forth we beseech thee O Lord, your grace  
into our hearts, that we, to whom the incarnation of  
your Son, was made know by the message of an angel,  
may by his passion and cross be brought to the glory of  
his resurrection, through the same Christ, Our Lord,  
Amen*

### **Grace Before Meals:**

*Blessed are you, who have brought us together as sisters and  
friends. Be present to us; continue to work in us the wonder  
of your grace, forming us as your people committed to justice  
and mercy, healing and compassion, in a world burdened by  
violence, injustice and indifference.*

*Bless this food we are about to share, a sign of your good-  
ness to us, bless those who prepared it and who serve it, and  
keep us ever mindful of those who go hungry this night.*

*May this meal and our sisterhood nourish our bodies and  
strengthen our will that we may fulfil your law of charity. We  
ask this through Our Lord Jesus Christ. AMEN.*



**Leader:** For grateful hearts everyday,

**All:** We beech you gracious God.

Let us together recite the League Prayer: (page 25)

**Closing Prayer**

*(WUCWO Prayer 2017- Suffering Women)*

**Leader:** Let us pray.

**All:**

Lord, you call us to share your table and also  
your cross of anguish with our sisters who are  
suffering.

We pray for all who are being abused, violated,  
oppressed, and in situations that deprive them of  
their dignity.

We pray for mothers yearning for adequate, clean  
drinking water and proper sanitation, sufficient food  
and health care for their families.

We pray for those struggling for survival, those  
broken and alienated, refugees and visible  
minorities experiencing repeated discrimination,  
bearing the brunt of indifference and oppression.

We pray for the day when women who are equal in  
ability have equal rights and can live in peace, joy  
and harmony.

We ask all this with the hope that only You  
provide.

AMEN

**NOON**

**Angelus and Grace before Meals** (page 19)

**Friday Convention Closing Prayer:**

*A Prayer for our Earth by Pope Francis*

**All:** All-powerful God, you are present in the whole  
universe and in the smallest of your creatures.  
You embrace with your tenderness all that  
exists. Pour out upon us the power of your love,  
that we may protect life and beauty. Fill us with  
peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters,  
harming no one. O God of the poor, help us to  
rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth,  
so precious in your eyes. Bring healing to our  
lives, that we may protect the world and not prey  
on it, that we may sow beauty, not pollution and  
destruction. Touch the hearts of those who look  
only for gain at the expense of the poor and the  
earth. Teach us to discover the worth of each  
thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation,  
to recognize that we are profoundly united with  
every creature as we journey towards your  
infinite light. We thank you for being with us  
each day. Encourage us, we pray, in our  
struggle for justice, love and peace. Amen.

(Laudato Si')



**Saturday April 22, 2017**

**Opening Prayer**

***Prayer to Saint Kateri Tekakwitha***

*First Indigenous Canadian Saint Feast Day April 17*

**Leader:** Let us pray.

**All:** Saint Kateri, Star of the Native People  
And Bright Light for all!  
We thank God for your heroic  
courage, constant perseverance  
and deep love of the Cross.

Pray for us that our love  
for Christ may deepen.  
And we may imitate you  
in following God's Will  
even when difficulties arise.  
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

**Leader:** Let us recite together the League Prayer: (page 25)

**MEMORIAL FOR DECEASED MEMBERS:**

**Opening Hymn:** *"Women of the Church"* (page 22)

**Invitation to Prayer:**

**Fr. Jozef:** In the name of the Father, and of the  
Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**All:** Amen

**Fr. Jozef:** The grace and peace of God, Our  
Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be  
with you.

**All:** And with your Spirit .

**Post-Convention Meeting**

**Sunday, April 23, 2017**

**Opening Prayer**

**Leader:** As we gather, today, let us pay particular  
attention to God's many blessings upon us,  
especially those we so easily take for granted in  
the course of our busy lives. The rapid, hectic  
pace of our lives, the multitude of activities we  
are engaged in, the frenetic movement from one  
thing to the next, the preoccupations of the  
moment and our planning for the future, the  
demands placed upon us and the demands we  
place on ourselves: all this blurs our vision of  
what surrounds us and exists within us. We  
pause from all our distractions to be mindful of  
the abundant blessings that envelope us.

**Leader:** For that you have given us,

**All:** We thank you, gracious God.

**Leader:** For eyes to see, ears to hear, noses to smell,  
hands to touch and hearts to appreciate the  
abundant blessings that surrounds us,

**All:** We beseech you, gracious God.

**Leader:** For wonder and awe at each new day and for  
attentiveness and awareness to all that we  
encounter and experience during the  
course of each day,

**All:** We beseech you., gracious God.

confidence among League members.

**A**

**Il:** The Lord bless you and keep you! The Lord let His face shine upon you and be gracious to you!  
The Lord look upon you kindly and give you peace.

**Leader:** Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord and each other.

**All:** Thanks be to God who sends us forth. Amen

**(Flag Recession Silence)**



**Leader:**

Dear God,

We gather today to honour the members of the Catholic Women's League of Canada who have gone from this life to their eternal rest in Christ. In the world today, perhaps as never before, the church needs enlightened and faithful laity. Members of the Catholic Women's League of Canada live their faith by serving others and thus discover Christ through relationships with others.

The members we honour today made a commitment to be a witness of Christ, carrying out the mission of Christ at home, in the parish and in the Archdiocese.

We recall their service to others, and we pray that the God of all joyously welcomed them into the fullness of life, where they rest in peace.

**Opening Prayer:**

**Fr. Jozef:** Gracious God, hear our prayers on behalf of your faithful servants whom you have called to be with you in paradise. May they be welcomed joyfully into the presence of the angels and the saints.  
We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

**All:** Amen

**Scripture Reading:** John 17:24–26

**All:** Thanks be to God.

## Memorial Roses and Lighting of the Candles:

**Fr. Jozef:** We now honour the members of the Catholic Women's League who have died during the past year. A candle will be lit and a rose placed to honor their memory and to remind us of their life in Christ.

*(After each name is read and response is given the Zone Chair will put a rose in the vase and light a candle in memory of the deceased sisters from her zone.)*

### ZONE 1:

Carole	Zaharia
Jean	Chiesa
Marge	Callihoo
Victoria	Sentes

**Zone Chair:** Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord

**All:** And may perpetual light shine upon them.

### ZONE 2:

**Zone Chair:** Let us pray for all our deceased members.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord

**All:** And may perpetual light shine upon them.

### ZONE 3:

Irene	Quinn
Nellie	Kaluzny

**Zone Chair:** Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord

**All:** And may perpetual light shine upon them..

## Final Blessing

**Fr. Jozef:** May the peace and love of God be with you always.

**All:** And with your spirit.

**Fr. Jozef:** May Almighty God bless you, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

**All:** Amen

**Fr. Jozef:** Let's us conclude by offering each other a sign of peace.

**Closing Hymn: "Celtic Alleluia" (page 23)**

## NOON

**Angelus and Grace before Meals (page 19)**

## Saturday Convention Closing Prayer:

**Leader:** Lord, be with us as we celebrate the work we have completed. We rejoice and are grateful for the good that has been accomplished in Your name. There were times when we were doubtful and frustrated because of the task ahead of us. But, with the wisdom and guidance of Your Spirit, we found joy in our work – Your work. And so, Father, we celebrate and give You thanks. Let us pray to our Father in the words Jesus taught us to say:

**All:** Our Father...

**Leader:** Father, hear our needs and remain with us as we go forth with even greater enthusiasm and

**Zone Chair:** Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord

**All:** And may perpetual light shine upon them.

**Leader::** We add a rose to honour all of our deceased  
Spiritual Advisors.

**Fr. Jozef:** Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.

**All:** And may perpetual light shine upon them.

### **Prayer of Blessing for the Book of Life**

**Fr. Jozef:**

Ever loving and gracious God, we thank You for the gift you gave your Church in the people whose names are inscribed in this Book of Life. You called them to be the salt of the earth and a light to the world. Their good works gave glory to you and were an example and encouragement for all of us. We ask you to bless this Book of Life. We ask you to bless those members of the Catholic Women's League of Canada whom we honour in this Book. We ask this blessing through Jesus Christ and through the intercession of our patroness, Our Lady of Good Counsel.

**All:** Amen

(Sprinkling of the Holy Water)

### **Concluding Prayer**

**Fr. Jozef:**

Mary, our mother, gave herself completely to you. Blessed is she who gave humanity to Jesus and blessed are our sisters who spent their lives serving others in God's name. We join Mary in proclaiming your greatness and thank you for giving us life through the death and resurrection of Jesus.

**All:** Amen

### **ZONE 4:**

Emilia	Raab
Florentina	Walz
Leda	Landry

**Zone Chair:** Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord

**All:** And may perpetual light shine upon them.

### **ZONE 5:**

Anna	Anonson
Celestine	McIntyre
Donna	Urkow
Eva	Marcil
Isabelle	Zimmer
Margaret	Dooleage
Marie	Dabbs
Marie	Farebrother
Mary	Banack
Matilda	Feddema
Suna	Smith

**Zone Chair:** Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord

**All:** And may perpetual light shine upon them.

### **ZONE 6:**

Elsie	Elvin
Marie	Kubinec
Theresa	Gascon
Velma	Weis
Yvonne	Braconnier
Yvonne	Van Cauwenberge

**Zone Chair:** Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord

**All:** And may perpetual light shine upon them.

**ZONE 7:**

Clara	Donovan
Evelyn	Hein
Germaine	Maga
Grace	Bolander
Helen	Armitage
Helen	Russell
Henrica	Rondeel
Josie	Friend
Marie Lynn	Hollman
Mary	Metzger
Pat	Forsythe

**Zone Chair:** Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord**All:** And may perpetual light shine upon them**ZONE 8:**

Claire	Gerwing
Dolores	Zelinski
Helen	Hemingson
Kathy	Zuchotzki
Margaret (Marge)	Dashney
Mary	Kotnyek
Stella	Kozial

**Zone Chair:** Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord**All:** And may perpetual light shine upon the**ZONE 9:**

Agnes	Helstein
Sr. Annata	Brockman
Beatrice	Tudel
Bernie	Tait
Cecilia	Petrusek
Claudette	Vague

Diane	Redmond
Doreen	Langley
Doris	Goetz
Doris	Lees
E J (Jo)	Berglund
Evelina	Duperron
Florence	Pollard
Georgette	Moser
Geraldine	Willett
Germaine	Marchand
Giselle	Carrier
Hazel	Fehr
Hilda	Kowalski
Isabelle	Gorman
Joan	Charrois
Joan	Hejnar
Joan	Roberge
Joanne	Kuprowski
Joyce	Radke
June	Seidel
Kathleen	Devlin
Kathleen S	Johner
Krista	Gallant
Louise	Wilk
Margaret	Allen
Margaret	Fulkerth
Marian	Bobachyk
Marie	Godfrey
Marina	Williams
Mary	Meagher
Noreen	Damm
Rita	Krausert
Rosa	Vocioni
Stella	Krysko
Ute	Toal