**President-Elect’s Report**

**96th Annual Diocesan Convention April 21, 2018**

**Normandy Room, Fort Saskatchewan**

Madame President,

What is about walking into a CWL meeting or event! There is such warm and inviting atmosphere! Is it our Faith, our Sisterhood, our Friendship, or all three? Reading the summary report from the Organizational Chairs members tell us there is that feeling and commitment to work for the league and to each other. Councils recognize members for their years of service by presentation of service pins and certificates of merit. For members unable to attend they are sent cards, meeting minutes and newsletters. Councils held study and reflection days.

As organization chairs we are responsible to recruit, retain and remember our sisters. What is it we are not doing to recruit new members and to retain members?

In the Winter 2018 edition of “The Canadian League Magazine”, National President-Elect, Anne Gorman writes about how an organization chair discovered the wealth of information contained in the resource material entitled Leading the League. She said the material made it so easy to become a member and showed how to market the great value of the belonging. So ladies, what is stopping us? Have we become complacent? Have we forgotten what inspired us to join? Have we just not taken the time to use the resources available to us? In our annual reporting only 20 of our 67 councils reported owning a copy of Leading the League!

An exercise from Catch the Fire, asks everyone to write a bulletin announcement inviting women to join the CWL. At each session the participants wrote inspiring announcements! One spiritual advisor attending the session, remarked, they were too good for the bulletin, the ladies needed to put the announcement in the local newspaper. Sadly, when questioned

later, councils indicated they never did use the announcement! Why?

Why don’t we focus on members who have not renewed? Why not personally invite them to join you for the March for Life walk, for an hour of prayer for Palliative Care, to join your prayer shawl group or attend an event as your guest. Isn’t the personal invitation the best? Remind then they are needed and we miss them. Talk to them after Mass, make a phone call or send a note.

On your table is a note card and envelope. Write a personal note and either hand deliver or mail to the person you would like to recruit or to maintain membership. How hard would this be? What have you to lose? What do we have to gain?

Take the time to review the Leading the League Manual and other resource manuals.

*Inspired by the Spirit: CWL Members responded to God’s Call!*

This concludes my report. Are there any questions?

Respectfully submitted,

For God and Canada

Mary Molloy

President-Elect

Organization Standing Committee Chair

Edmonton Diocesan Council