



**The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Diocese of Sault Ste. Marie
Organization Standing Committee
*Catholic and Living It!***

CATHOLIC
and **LIVING IT!**

Directive #1

Pages: 2

Date : September 25, 2022

To: Parish Council Organization Chairpersons
From: Patricia Clizia, President Elect-SSM Organization Chairperson
Cc: Parish Presidents, Diocesan Executive, Provincial Organization Chairperson

"You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name." Jn 15:16

We are Catholic women who are answering our baptismal call through membership in the League ... and we are living it!

We are invited by Provincial President, Linda Squarzolo to *"Go make a difference."* Every prayer, every act of service, every welcoming smile, kind gesture, encouraging word, helpful hand and warm invitation makes a difference. Additional information will follow in the coming months that will invite us to embrace this theme and identify opportunities to live it out in faith *with* each other and *in* service to others. I look forward to journeying with you over the next two years; with a sprinkling of joy and hope!

Life Membership

Congratulations to Karen McDonald, Life Member from our Diocese who was recognized with a formal presentation at the Diocesan Convention this year. Karen continues to serve on the Ontario Provincial Council as 2nd Vice President and Community Life Chairperson.

League Membership

Under the direction of Colleen Martin, Provincial Organization Chairperson, Diocesan counterparts are meeting over Zoom to review League membership and identify creative ways to recruit, retain and re-energize membership in councils. It is a wonderful group of women representing councils across Ontario. More information to follow!

Member Development and Resources

There is an offering of *zoom development sessions* being hosted by the Provincial Organization Chairperson. Please see the information included in the OPC directive which is *also attached to this Directive*. Select the sessions you wish to attend, and email to confirm your participation.

The Welcome Program was established by members for members, and is intended to assist in welcoming members, to affirm and to encourage their efforts.

Councils are encouraged to review the information and consider implementing the various tools to better engage members and support their interests.

<https://cwl.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Welcome-Program-2020.pdf>

<https://cwl.ca/welcome-program-video/>

<https://cwl.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/313-Welcome-Program-Brochure-2020.pdf>

The Joy of Leadership was launched in 2022 and is an excellent guide to engage members in activities and committees to share and encourage leadership. For more information and to access the guide visit <https://cwl.ca/launch-of-the-joy-of-leadership/>

Did you know? There is a *Handbook for Organization Chairpersons* to complement the Executive Handbook! It includes practical information as well as self reflection and group activity/workshop suggestions.

<https://www.cwl.ca/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/organization-handbook.pdf>

Annual Reports

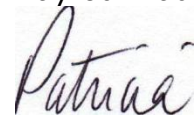
Each year, we are invited to complete an annual report survey. This year, the digital survey link will be made available in mid October. Consider a gathering of your parish council executive to complete the report and celebrate all the works your councils have undertaken in the year. Food is always a welcome guest at these gatherings!

Transition

As the new structure for councils is implemented, the standing committee of Organization will transition to the Vice-president. This includes responsibilities pertaining to recruitment and retention of members, Leadership Development, League Resource Material, Annual Reports and Life Membership.

I look forward meeting with you all in person during the course of the next two years, and working with you as we transition during this period of change to continue to build the League for the future. I can be reached by email at pclizia@persona.ca.

May our Lady of Good Counsel continue to guide us all in the way of truth and love.



Patricia Clizia
SSM Diocesan Organization Chairperson
President Elect