

Timmins Diocesan Council
The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Organization Standing Committee

Directive #2

To: Parish Organization Standing Committee Chairpersons; Parish presidents, Diocesan Standing Committee Chairpersons, Diocesan President, Provincial Organization Chairperson

From: Irene Gregorcic, Timmins Diocesan Council, Organization Chairperson

Dear Presidents and Organization Chairpersons,

With God in our midst, let us pray for the year 2018, to be full of new opportunities and an abundance of warm people among us.

A New Year's Prayer

**May God make your year a happy one!
Not by shielding you from all sorrows and pain,
But by strengthening you to bear it, as it comes;
Not by making your path easy,
But by making you sturdy to travel any path;
Not by taking hardships from you,
But by taking fear from your heart;
Not by granting you unbroken sunshine,
But by keeping your face bright, even in the shadows;
Not by making your life always pleasant,
But by showing you when people and their causes need you most,
and by making you anxious to be there to help.
God's love, peace, hope and joy to you for the year ahead.**

Anonymous

Thank you so much to the councils who filled in their online annual reports. For many it was a difficult experience. I was very pleased to see the results. Next year, I hope that 100% of our councils participate. Soon it will be up to the Diocesan Chairpersons to write up their part of the 2017 Annual Reports.

At the present time we are all collecting memberships from our members and encouraging more women to join our councils. Good questions to ask ourselves now are, "What inspires women of the League to continue saying "yes"? Or to say "yes"? " We must continue to maintain and increase our memberships.

Anne Gorman, National President-Elect and Chairperson of Organization (in the **Canadian League Volume 93/No. 1/Winter 2017**) reminded us that “The League is, first and foremost, a spiritual organization. Every woman has the thirst to belong—in a family, a social group or an organization where her presence makes a huge difference.

Consider all the women in the parishes who are just waiting to be asked to belong. .. A good place to begin to understand the importance of belonging is to return to the basics and review what the League is and what guides its members. Do members really know the Objects? To review, they are as follows: 1) to achieve individual and collective spiritual development; 2) to promote the teachings of the Catholic church; 3) to exemplify the Christian ideal in home and family life; 4) to protect the sanctity of human life; 5) to enhance the role of women in church and society; 6) to recognize the human dignity of all people everywhere; 7) to uphold and defend Christian education and values in the modern world; and 8) to contribute to the understanding and growth of religious freedom, social justice, peace and harmony. I ... offer the suggestion that each member learn League history, which is quite amazing,”

In the same magazine, were suggested things that could be included in a New Members’ Kit. A New Members Kit is something each council should have.

- Letter of Welcome from the National President/ Or Welcome Letter from Provincial President Anne Madden (Check the Provincial Website)
- Letter of welcome from the council president
- Welcome brochure (national office supplies)
- The League Prayer bookmark
- A brief story of the League
- Our Organizational Structure (cwl.ca [website printable])
- Copy of the Constitution & Bylaws 2013
- League Prayers booklet (national office supplies)
- CWL lapel pin (national office supplies)
- One or more Gratitude Postcards (national office supplies)

Our Provincial Organization Chair, Colleen Perry, congratulations us on our council membership drives. She also reminds us “that membership fees should be sent to national office as soon as they are received. The sooner this is done, the sooner the provincial and diocesan portions get sent to that level”.

As you can tell from this directive and the previous one, I enjoy reading The Canadian League. Articles in it always give me suggestions as to what we can do to increase our membership or which applies to other committees. I encourage all of you to read the magazine when it is delivered to your home. Also, always check the web sites on Web Wednesday. Pass the information on to your members.

*Remember to be welcoming to one and all.
Make all our members feel like they belong.*