



THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF (C)
TORONTO DIOCESAN COUNCIL
102nd Convention Oral Report
April 24 and 25, 2023
Ajax Convention Centre, 550 Beck Road
"Called To Serve"



Name: Hilarion Mitchell
Office: Past President/Historian
Share the Word: Mentorship

Madame Chair,
MENTORSHIP

Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up the other; but woe to one who is alone and falls and does not have another to help. (Ecclesiastes 4:9-10)

The past president/historian is associated with mentoring having fulfilled many executive positions including the president's role. However, this position is not the only mentor as every member can be a mentor to others through the League core values of faith, service and social justice.

Mentors are important in the development of mentees and support them not in their own likeness but encourage them to find their own identity.

For current and potential members, there may be hesitancy to become more involved in the League for a variety of reasons. On the Sisterhood Map, "*Mentorship includes guidance, inspiration and encouragement. The Catholic Women's League is a sisterhood of mentors willing to walk with you. Come be part of the journey.*"

That journey involves informal mentoring through supportive relationships outside of organized positions or activities such as friendships, attending mass and helping at social events, etc. Formal mentoring is more structured such as the triage positions of president, president-elect and past president, serving on committees, etc. Mentorship is a natural mutualistic symbiotic relationship where both parties benefits.

Mentoring Recognition

Members are recognized in the League for being mentors at all levels where faith, fun and fulfillment are the benefits of sisterhood.

- The **Maple Leaf Service Pin** members 7-10 years who have served the League in an exceptional manner.
- The **Bellelle Guerin Award and Pin** members with 25 years, who do not qualify for life membership and served at the parish, diocesan and provincial executives.

- The **Life Membership** members with at least 10 years and have been a diocesan or provincial president.
- The **Social Justice** members with five years with extraordinary community service in social justice issues.
- The **Patricia Beattie Award** recognizes members who encourage the growth of members with the 2023 recipients to be awarded shortly.

I have had many League mentors who continue to help in my 25-year formation. These individuals were instrumental during my presidency dominated by the evolving pandemic where uncharted decisive decisions had to be made which were not always popular. Carole Pitcher, on asking me to be Peel Regional Chair 2007-2009, said that "there is always someone to help and you're never alone".

"A mentor is someone who sees more talent and ability within you, than you see in yourself, and helps bring it out of you." — *Bob Proctor*

Two goals for the upcoming year.

- Moira Ste. Marie Memorial Lecture Series on Food Insecurity on Mon. Sept. 25th. Speakers from the Young Street Missiona Christian organization which works with individuals to remove barriers such as poverty, housing, etc.
- COVID-19 Chronicles: Get councils to record their experiences during the pandemic.

My written report with recommendations is on pages 10-11 of the 2022 annual report book.

Catholic and Living It! Called to Serve
 Hilarion Mitchell, Past-President/Historian
 Toronto Diocesan Council
 The Catholic Women's League of Canada