



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



Name: Ciscily Winkler
Standing Committee: Christian Family Life
Share the Word: Healing

Madam Chair,

My chosen topic is Healing. Healing implies woundedness, pain, hurt, sorrow, despair, and the desire for recovery. Healing can be spiritual, physical, psychological, ecological or economical. Healing can intercept joy and happiness being observed in the Paschal Mystery, seasonal changes, recovery from illness, and going from darkness to light by turning failure into success or doubt into confidence both literally and figuratively.

The League's Strategic Plan offers transformations aimed at giving equal opportunity to all members, leaving none behind. This will include a healing process especially for those members reluctant to take on active roles, those hesitant to maintain their membership status or even to encourage others to join the League. As a matter of fact, there can even be healing for disbanded councils. My current and vibrant council is a testament to such healing! Surely, it takes one courageous woman along with a supportive spiritual advisor to start this healing process. As *Catholic(s) and Living It*, we are called to *Go (and) Make a Difference* in faith, service and social justice to all God's peoples and creation.

As the current Toronto Diocesan Council (TDC) Christian Family Life (CFL) Chairperson, as well as all other CFL Chairs, it remains our responsibilities to include the themes of faith and service as they relate to marriage and family, sanctity of life, ministry to those who are seniors, youth, widowed, disabled, separated and divorced, singles, and equally important to religious vocations.

The League offers so many educational programs, virtual or in-person and with all relevant information just at a fingertip away online. At the TDC Development Day workshop in February, I was privileged, among others, to share the Seventh Beatitude, *Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.* (Matthew 5:9), its impact on us today, especially in light of injustice and the healing that is required among human beings. As Catholic Women's League members, we help to heal injustice through advocacy, illness through prayers, hate through love and loneliness through care. This is a continuous process that needs



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the heart, hands and feet of Jesus. You may just be the one that is needed to make a difference in continuing this healing process!

My upcoming plan for the League is to serve councils through the introduction of the League's *Unity Outreach Program* that aims to bond parish councils with members from a higher level of the League. This, we hope, will encourage all members to take this opportunity to listen, share, learn and act on issues that interfere with each woman achieving her maximum potential in life. Healing starts with love, caring and compassion through contact, communication and cooperation. Let's us show all of these as *Catholic and Living It!*

This concludes my report.

My complete report can be found on pages 17-18 on the online 2022 Annual Report Book.

Respectfully submitted,

Ciscily Winkler
TDC Christian Family Life Chairperson (2022-2024)