

# The Catholic Women's League of Canada

## Toronto Diocesan Council

### Annual Report 2023



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# The Catholic Women's League of Canada

## TORONTO DIOCESAN COUNCIL

*Spiritual Advisor*  
**Fr. Liborio Amaral**

*President*  
**Sue Lubowitz**

Dear Sisters in the League

As we celebrate the achievements of 2023, we give thanks to God, first and foremost, for all good things come from Him.

As you reflect on your achievements this past year, I am sure you will remember the hard work and the many hours you have given to make your CWL councils alive in the Spirit. But I hope that in your reflection of these achievements you will also remember the joys of fraternity that you received. One of the key elements of joy and satisfaction of being a member of the League is to share fellowship with other sisters, united under the banner of Christ our Lord and his Mother Mary.

In my encounters with you, I have witnessed the joy you share in being together as sisters of the League. We are not called to be loners in life; God has called us to community and the CWL makes this a reality. This is why we need to do all we can to bring more women into the League, so that they too can come to know this fraternity.

We priest also experience a special fraternity when we gather together. One of my joys, as I gather with you for the various events, is the joy to encounter your spiritual advisors and parish priests. This allows me to experience my own unique fraternity that we have among the clergy.

As we look forward to the coming months, let us continue to do our part to bring the joy of being a CWL member to those women you encounter in the parish. Remember, a tap on the shoulder of a woman you see sitting in the pews in your parish and a gentle invitation to have them consider joining the CWL, can have a great impact in their discernment to decide to join the CWL in your parish.

Finally, I would like to thank by name our Regional Spiritual Advisors in a special way, who have supported you this past year:

Fr. David Bollo (Durham)  
Fr. Donatello Iocco (Humber Valley)  
Fr. Boniface Perri (North York)  
Fr. Michael Simoes (Peel)  
Fr. Laurence Léger (Northern)  
Fr. Peter Marr (Scarborough)  
Fr. Patrick Ezimora (Toronto)

This thanks is also extended to the many priests of our Archdiocese who serve as your spiritual advisors for their local parish councils.

Please continue to keep your parish priests in your prayers and if you can add an extra one for me, I would be most grateful. Be assured that you will be in my prayers.

Blessings,  
Fr. Liborio  
Spiritual Advisor  
The Catholic Women's League of Canada  
Toronto Diocesan Council

## **Report of the President**

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*Sue Lubowitz*

Regions: 7

Members: 5951

Councils: 96

Honorary Life Member: 1

Life Members: 14

Fifty-two of ninety six councils returned the annual report survey.

### **Changes to the League Structure**

Councils that moved to the new structure of the League in 2024 prepared by incorporating the League's core values of Faith, Service and Social Justice at meetings, in agendas, in visuals and promoted those values at Ministry Fairs held in parishes. For those councils that made use of newsletters, articles were headed with the core values. To help members better understand the changes, a concerted effort was made to explain the roles in detail at monthly meetings in a variety of ways, including information handouts.

### **Unity Outreach**

The Unity Outreach presentations required a coordinated effort from the diocesan executive, regional chairs and council presidents. The project was launched in our diocese in March 2023, after a presentation by the provincial past-president at an executive meeting. Once equipped with this information, three virtual sessions were led by the diocesan president for council presidents. These virtual sessions were held at three different times in order to instruct as many council presidents as possible. Following these sessions, diocesan executive members were tasked with visiting councils to roll out the presentations. Seventy-five councils were visited from April 2023 to November 2023 with a final virtual session for all those who could not attend any of the in-person sessions. At that session, an additional 56 members were in attendance. Responses received were encouraging as members took pride in their experience of the League as well as sharing some concerns regarding the reluctance of members to take leadership roles.

Members related that they welcomed the opportunity to connect with the League at the national level as well as with diocesan executive. They also expressed their satisfaction that their perspective and feedback was being taken into consideration with the expectation of new programs to come forth from the national executive.

### **Projects**

Many councils had specific projects or focuses for the year that touched on all pillars and some were new to the diocese. Food drives and food insecurity were addressed by a special project at one council. Prior to the food drive, the council screened the documentary film on Mother Teresa entitled "No Greater Love". Approximately 75 parishioners took part. Another council held a monthly food drive and over the year was able to collect 1300 lbs of food and over \$2600 in donations. This was in addition to their back pack program in the summer months, in which two car loads of school supplies were delivered to the food bank. Another council hosted a luncheon in honour of International Women's Day and opened it to the community. Over 175 people attended. One council held a "rosary hike" in the summer to pray for Our Lady's intercession in their efforts against the Medical Assistance in Dying Bill. One council

had a variation of the “speed dating” game in order to get to know each other better as well as collect female sanitary products as part of their Period Poverty Project. For New Year’s Day, one council dropped off all the required ingredients for a pancake breakfast at their local family shelter.

Two councils joined forces to combat human trafficking by holding an awareness evening and successfully petitioned the local municipal government to declare a Human Trafficking Awareness Day. Another council requested that the municipal government allow seniors to ride local transit at no charge two days a week and this was implemented in their city.

### **Toronto Diocesan Council 2023 Highlights**

The 102<sup>nd</sup> Diocesan Convention (April 28 and 29) had as its theme “Catholic and Living It – Called to Serve” with 355 members in attendance for the business sessions.

A final closing mass collection of \$3,018 was allocated equally between Indspire, a national Indigenous group that invests in the education of First Nations, Inuit and Metis, and St. Augustine Seminary, the major seminary of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Toronto, in recognition of His Eminence Thomas Cardinal Collins’ service to the League, upon his retirement. One resolution was adopted. Keynote speakers included Nicole Ferrante, Campus Ministry (St. Michael’s College at University of Toronto) for the first evening and on day two Kaityln Ranasinghe, of BridgeNorth, on human trafficking and signs to look for in young women we know. This presentation was an eye-opener for many of our members.

Ann D’Souza, retired past-president, was presented with her well-deserved Life Membership at the banquet dinner. Newly appointed Archbishop Francis Leo was the keynote speaker at the banquet. The CWL was represented at his installation on March 25, by Honorary Life Member Margaret Ann Jacobs, Christian Family Life Chair Ciscily Winkler and myself as Diocesan President.

At a St. John Vianney Parish Council meeting, I was able to present Nancy Joncas with a Bellelle Guerin pin for which her council nominated her. Nancy was instrumental in the formation of several councils in her years with the CWL. Only five Bellelle Guerin pins were awarded nationally in 2023.

Special Events during the year included Development Day with special speaker, Honorary Life Member, Barb Dowding, speaking on *The Art of Accompaniment* as well as an author’s evening with Harry and Jennifer McAvoy, who spoke about their book *Faith, Love and Loss* and their journey as a couple in difficult times.

This has been a very busy executive term, as councils are fully engaged once again to meet in-person, celebrate their accomplishments with each other and the parish community. There is a renewed interest in the League as we continue to build the League of the future. The diocesan council was very much a willing participant in these endeavours.

### **Recommendations**

- ❖ Use of all resources available, including budgetary, is recommended to assist and encourage members to take on leadership roles.
- ❖ Continued use by the Diocesan team of CWL Wednesdays is encouraged.
- ❖ Mentoring of Vice-Presidents and other executive members is crucial to ensure the viability of the League.

## **Report of the Recording Secretary**

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*Zenora Mahabal*

Fifty-two of the 96 councils submitted their report and of the 52, 48 councils completed their recording secretary annual report survey for 2023. Twenty-seven of the secretary positions were elected, 17 were appointed and four were vacant.

Ninety-six percent of the councils reported that members are kept apprised of upcoming events, projects and monthly meetings, through email, phone trees and in-person interaction.

In an effort to save time at meetings, some councils distributed the minutes via email to members prior to their meetings, for review. Members without emails were given a hard copy.

It was noted that emailing minutes after the general meeting is most important, as these minutes should contain reports, updates on events and reminders.

Councils noted the importance of the following: secretaries to give a clear expression of ideas to the members; executive members submit a written report to the secretary to help with the preparation of minutes and executive and general meetings presentations and minutes be recorded and archived.

### **Recommendations**

- ❖ Secretary needs to form a committee to assist with correspondence and communication.
- ❖ Keep a motion book with motions presented, for easy reference.
- ❖ Training sessions be offered to council secretaries by diocesan level.
- ❖ Make sure secretary signs off on the minutes, along with the president.
- ❖ Make sure minutes are sent to members at least one week prior to general meeting to prevent reading of minutes at meeting.
- ❖ Secretary to have access to council membership from national to ensure council membership list is up to date.

## **Report of the Corresponding Secretary**

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*Shaila D'Souza*

Fifty-two of the 96 councils submitted the annual report survey in 2023. Of the 52, 48 councils completed the annual report survey for the secretary position. Twenty-seven councils reported the position elected, 17 were appointed and four were vacant.

Ninety-six per cent of the councils kept their members informed about special events and 67% indicated they were responsible for sending cards and letters to members for significant life events. The top three methods of communication used by councils were emails, 98%, meetings, 80% and telephone, 63%.

Several councils gave feedback on the corresponding secretary position. Some councils reported that the corresponding secretary position was vacant, and the duties were being handled by the president or other members of the executive team. The main concern was that there were too many emails to manage and process. The corresponding secretary's responsibilities included sending cards by mail to all members for occasions such as illness, bereavement, executive birthdays, and 'thinking of you' cards for support. The corresponding secretary also sent milestone birthday and anniversary cards.

### **Toronto Diocesan Council Corresponding Secretary 2023 Accomplishments**

Maintained the parish information list which contained the contact for each parish president, spiritual advisor, and treasurer.

Collaborated with the president to streamline and circulate correspondence from the diocesan, provincial, and national levels to reduce the number of emails to councils and members.

Created and circulated the Zoom links for diocesan executive meetings and other meetings and events as requested by the president, other executive members, and sub-committees. Also, managed admitting registrants and breakout rooms during meetings and events.

Received registration for virtual events (i.e., Development Day, CWL Wednesdays, National Indigenous Peoples Day, Moira Ste Marie Lecture Series, Unity Outreach. Received and deposited monies for virtual events such as Development Day and Moira Ste Marie Lecture Series.

Mailed birthday cards to life members, mailed Christmas cards to the auxiliary bishops, and regional spiritual advisors, and circulated emails to members.

Updated the elections register eligibility list by removing ineligible members and adding eligible members for three consecutive terms for the 2024 diocesan elections.

### **Recommendations**

The following recommendations will be helpful with the new executive structure.

- ❖ Utilize a sub-convener for the duties previously assigned to the corresponding secretary (i.e., email distribution, mailing cards, and phone calls, parish information list, elections register eligibility list, etc.,
- ❖ Presidents using generic emails are to provide their personal emails after their term to ensure they are included on the elections register.
- ❖ Maintain the personal touch by sending cards through Canada Post or hand delivered for birthdays, service milestones, sickness, bereavement, Christmas, etc.



## Report of the Treasurer

*Lolita Perry*

Fifty-two of 96 councils participated in the 2023 annual report survey. Of the 52 councils, 48 councils reported on the Treasurer position. Thirty councils reported this position was elected and 18 were appointed.

The total donations to voluntary funds as reported are as follows:

Catholic Missions in Canada	\$4,502.00
Catholic Near East Welfare Association	\$2,050.00
Coady International Institute	\$1,050.00
Development and Peace – Caritas Canada	\$2,387.00
Total Donations to all charities in 2023	\$188,510.00

The reports not only indicate the amount of donations made by each council, they also reflect the hard work and efforts of all its members who made these generous donations, listed by standing committee. The data also includes the donations made to the National Voluntary Funds.

The total donations to National Voluntary funds and Standing Committees are detailed below.

<b>National Voluntary Fund</b>		<b>% of Total</b>
Coady International Institute	1,000.00	0.88%
Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace	1,570.00	1.38%
Catholic Missions in Canada	1,950.00	1.72%
Catholic Near East Welfare Association	1,210.00	1.07%
National Bursary Fund	650.00	0.59%
<b>National Voluntary Fund Sub-total</b>	<b>6,380.00</b>	<b>5.64%</b>

<b>Standing Committees</b>		
Spiritual Development	8,270.00	7.31%
Organization	2,620.00	2.35%
Christian Family Life	7,930.00	7.01%
Community Life	26,540.00	23.47%
Education and Health	8,675.00	7.69%
Communications	875.00	0.75%
<b>Standing Committees Sub-total</b>	<b>54,910.00</b>	<b>48.58%</b>

<b>All Donations</b>		
National Voluntary Fund Sub-total	6,380.00	5.64%
Standing Committees Sub-total	54,910.00	48.58%
Parish Donations	51,770.00	45.78%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>113,060.00</b>	<b>100 %</b>

In 2023, the Toronto Diocesan Council, received donations towards its Voluntary Funds, namely: St. Michael's Scholarship Fund and Margaret Ann Jacobs Catholic Children's Aid Scholarship Foundation. Thank you for the continued support.

Listed below is a breakdown of donations received and disbursements made for the Toronto Diocesan Voluntary Funds for 2023

<b>National Reference Numbers</b>	<b>Council Name</b>	<b>Region</b>	<b>St. Michael's Scholarship Fund 2023</b>	<b>Margaret Ann Jacobs-Catholic Children's Aid Foundation Fund 2023</b>	<b>2023 TOTAL</b>
T013	Annunciation	Scarborough	200.00		200.00
T015	Good Shepherd, Thornhill	North York		100.00	100.00
T005	Guardian Angels, Orillia	Northern	100.00		100.00
T001	Holy Family, Whitby	Durham	100.00	50.00	150.00
T011	Holy Martyrs of Japan	Northern		50.00	50.00
T129	Holy Rosary	Toronto	125.00		125.00
T127	Holy Spirit, Barrie	Northern	100.00		100.00
T022	Nativity of our Lord, Etobicoke	Humber Valley		100.00	100.00
T 024	Our Lady of Lourdes, Elmvale	Northern		250.00	250.00
T034	Precious Blood, Scarborough	Scarborough	100.00	100.00	200.00
T123	St. Aidan's, Scarborough	Scarborough	50.00	50.00	100.00
T043	St. Barnabas, Scarborough	Scarborough	100.00		100.00
T054	St. Edward the Confessor, Willowdale	North York	100.00	100.00	200.00
T118	St. Francis Xavier, Mississauga	Peel	250.00		250.00
T067	St. Ignatius Loyola	Peel	100.00	100.00	200.00
T060	St. John Chrysostom, Newmarket	North York	100.00	150.00	250.00
T068	St. John Evangelist, Whitby	Durham	50.00	100.00	150.00
T066	St. John Fisher, Peel	Peel	100.00	100.00	200.00
T069	St. John Vianney, Barrie	Northern	100.00	400.00	500.00
T071	St. Joseph Highland Creek	Scarborough	100.00	100.00	200.00
T072	St. Joseph's, Streesville	Peel	100.00		100.00
T130	St. Leo the Great	Durham	50.00	50.00	100.00
T078	St. Margaret Mary, Woodbridge	Humber Valley	320.00		320.00
T113	St. Martin of Tours	Peel	150.00	100.00	250.00
T087	St. Mary of the People, Oshawa	Durham	50.00		50.00
T114	St. Patrick, Wildfield	Peel		500.00	500.00
T144	St. Rose of Lima	Scarborough	100.00		100.00
T108	St. Timothy, North York	North York	50.00	40.00	90.00
T110	Transfiguration of Our Lord	Humber Valley	50.00		50.00
Other	TDC Donation			250.00	250.00
Other	Anonymous Donation			100.00	100.00

	Total Donations		2645.00	2790.00	5435.00
	Less: Disbursements		-3000.00	-2000.00	
			-355.00	790.00	
	Net Donations				
	#Donors		24	20	

**Recommendations:**

- ❖ Membership fees should be submitted to the National Office in a timely manner as received.
- ❖ Monthly per capita report received from the National Office should include council's T-reference numbers (e.g. T001 – name of Parish).
- ❖ Monthly per capita report received from the National Office should include number of new numbers and renewals.
- ❖ Complete and submit the yearly Treasurer's Annual report and participate in On-Line Survey. This is an engaging way to share the good works of your council with all the levels of the league and equally important to put forward suggestions your councils may have.
- ❖ Continue to support the St. Michael's Scholarship Fund and the Margaret Ann Jacobs Catholic Children's Aid Foundation.
- ❖ Email transfer should be added to the National Policy and Procedure as an added form of payment.

## **Report of the Past President/ Historian**

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*Hilarion Mitchell*

Fifty-two of the 96 councils completed the annual report survey for 2023.

### **Consultation**

Past presidents reported that they were consulted on the new League structure, preparing their council policy manual, nomination and elections process, past council events, running meetings using Zoom and planning their council's anniversaries.

A few of the past presidents assisted in roles not typical for the position. For example, they helped with their council's Christmas dinner, online membership, fundraising events, supporting the spiritual development chair, etc. A couple of the past presidents had to return to the president's role when the position became vacant.

### **Archives and History**

Half of the past presidents indicated that they had updated their council's archives during the year. A current past president had another member who was responsible for their photo albums, and history books. Archives were in the form of physical documents, electronic files, pictures, PDFs, blogs and Google docs. Generally, no specifics were provided on the location of their archives. None of the past presidents shared a copy of their parish council history book with the national office. A few reported that they participated in the diocesan COVID-19 Chronicles Project.

### **Constitution and Bylaws**

Seventy-nine percent of past presidents shared one or more of the most recent amendments to the *Constitution and Bylaws* at their meetings with members. This included the duties of officers, meetings and quorums and virtual meetings. Slightly less than half had updated their policy and procedure manual during the year which is recommended to be done every two years.

### **Toronto Diocesan Council 2023 Past President Highlights**

Parish Council Manual of Policy and Procedure: A presentation was provided for CWL Wednesday on January 25, on preparing a parish council manual. It included the purpose of the *Constitution and Bylaws* and the national *Policy and Procedure* manual, benefits, do's and don'ts for writing manuals and examples of parish council policies. Also, a parish council manual of policy and procedure template was circulated in March.

2023 Patricia Beattie Annual Memorial Mentoring Award: The 18<sup>th</sup> award was given at 102<sup>nd</sup> annual convention. The parish level was awarded to Maryse Ristuccia, St. John's Council, Kingston Rd, Toronto Region. The auxiliary level was awarded to Lucia Vacca, St. Joseph, Highland Creek Parish Council, Scarborough Region.

5<sup>th</sup> Moira Ste Marie Lecture Series: It was held on September 25 on *Addressing Food Insecurity*. There were over 200 virtual and in-person in attendance. The guest speakers from the Yonge Street Mission spoke on the systemic causes, advocacy, awareness, provided client examples and call to action. Individuals and councils donated \$1,440 plus

\$500 budgeted for planning the lecture. The combined \$1,940 was shared with the Yonge Street Mission and the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Toronto.

TDC 2024 Manual of Policy and Procedure: The executive met on October 28 to review the draft 2024 manual. Updates included removal of the previous executive positions and replaced with the new executive officers and the three standing committees chairpersons. Additions included the Moira Ste. Marie Lecture Series, Indigenous Mass, Ordinandi Dinner and the spiritual bouquet collection, brief TDC council history, storage locker, land acknowledgement, duties for the newsletter editor, website host and administrator, Police Records (PRC), liability insurance and annual report process.

COVID-19 Pandemic Chronicles: There were 43 submissions from the seven regions and 36 of the 96 parish councils. The submissions included the unique highlights, challenges, activities, photos from March 2020 to April 2022. The summary included meetings and events, the League 100<sup>th</sup> anniversaries (national and Toronto), surveys conducted during pandemic, etc.

2024 Diocesan Elections: In 2023, prepared and circulated discernment files to 170 eligible members (past parish council presidents, past and current executives and regional chairs) on December 2, with the assistance of the corresponding secretary.

Toronto Diocesan Council Archives: Started the process in 2023 to archive our 2011-2021 records. The archives will include minutes, financial, convention programs and annual report books.

### **Recommendations**

The role of the past president/historian is very important so the following recommendations will further assist them in fulfilling their responsibilities.

- ❖ Use the Handbook for Past Presidents (611), *Constitution and Bylaws* (604) and other resources to fulfill the responsibilities of the position.
- ❖ Ensure that the past president annual report summary includes actual work completed in the calendar year (January 1 to December 31).
- ❖ Focus on preserving the council's archives with hard copy files/resources that are stored in a secure and fire-retardant cabinet at the parish.
- ❖ Prepare a council P & P manual if none exists and update it at least every two years.

## **Report of the Standing Committee Chair of Spiritual Development**

*Iris McNulty*

Fifty-two councils out of 96 completed the 2023 annual report survey. Forty-eight of the 52 councils submitted a Spiritual Development report. Twenty-two reported the position was elected, 21 appointed and five vacant.

### **Spiritual Growth of Members**

Councils reported using a variety of prayer styles at meetings. Seventy-four percent reported using online prayer services and webinars to assist members in their communal and personal prayer life. Sixty-five percent of the councils organized or promoted retreat days or days of reflection. Resources such as *Toolkit for Faith and Prayers* and Spiritual Programs from the national website were used by councils to support faith development. Seventy-nine percent of councils shared information from Catholic sources to foster their members' spiritual growth and knowledge of the Catholic faith. New forms of prayer and spirituality that were introduced in councils included the Sisters of Faith retreat; using Our Lady of Good Counsel prayer service from the National website; participating in religious quizzes; singing songs of a spiritual nature; reading spiritual poetry; having spiritual musicians; praying using the five finger prayer method; meditation using art pieces and attending an exposition of the relics. Liturgical programs undertaken by councils included Crowning of Mary; World Day of Prayer; Rosary for Peace; World Prayer Service for Peace; Divine Mercy Chaplet and Holy Hour. Councils celebrated Our Lady of Good Counsel by organizing a Mass or by accessing the taped Mass from Loretto Abbey. Many members studied "Bible in a Year" online, while some studied "Catechism in a Year".

### **Study of Catholic Teachings**

Twenty-four councils scheduled speakers on religious topics. Councils reported on the progress of The Synod on Synodality. Some encouraged study of the Catechism of the Catholic Church and read encyclicals by Pope Francis. Few studied/read Vatican II documents.

### **Ecumenism and Interfaith Endeavors**

Councils hosted World Day of Prayer and numerous members attended the World Day of Prayer service along with women from other denominations. Further ways used to connect with ladies of other denominations included participation in a community soup luncheon, providing food to joint food banks, and preparing and delivering shoe boxes filled with daily essentials. Some members assisted with sorting food donations in a central location and distributed them to those in need. A few members attended an ecumenical prayer breakfast. One region promoted awareness of the Byzantine Church by visiting the Church and celebrating Divine Liturgy.

### **Role of Women**

The most noteworthy role that women undertook in the church was through their participation in the various ministries associated with the celebration of the Mass. They served as lectors, Eucharistic ministers, ushers, altar servers, hospitality ministers and prepared the altar for Masses. Women also served on the parish pastoral council, finance council and funeral committees. Some acted as catechists.

### **Summary and Final Thoughts**

League development occurred online at the diocesan level through CWL Wednesdays and they were well attended. A variety of topics were captured. The presentation always began with the League Prayer and a reflection and ended with a closing prayer and the Prayer to Our Lady of Good Counsel. The Diocesan Spiritual Development Chair acted as a support for several of the presentations. Development Day included a spiritual component which was provided by the Spiritual Development Chair. Members continue to use ZOOM to carry out devotions such as the rosary and praying together. They support each other through special prayer intentions for one another and reaching out to each other during challenging times. A high degree of participation by women supporting the parish through serving in the various ministries has been observed. Members continue to seek out opportunities for spiritual development through innovative ways such as church visits, book clubs and inspiring speakers during Days of Reflection. The support and contribution of spiritual advisors within some councils was recognized. Members expressed a desire for continued involvement with them to foster increased spiritual growth. It was noted that few councils studied/read papal encyclicals or Vatican documents and were unfamiliar with them. Councils continue to remember League members in memoriam by holding special Masses and prayer services and by submitting their names to the Book of Life.

### **Recommendations**

- ❖ Training workshop for Faith chairs to incorporate and adapt new structure of the League
- ❖ Compile collaborative list of online and offline resources and themes for prayer services and reflections
- ❖ Prepare for the Great Jubilee through prayer and study of Vatican II document(s)

## **Report of the Standing Committee Chair of Organization**

*Kate O'Quinn*

Members: 5951

Regions: 7

Councils: 96

Inactive Councils: 1

Honorary Life Member: 1

Life Members: 14

Fifty-two of 96 councils participated in the national 2023 annual report survey. Of the 52, 48 councils answered on the position of Organization/Vice President. Nineteen councils reported that this position was elected, 15 were appointed and 14 were vacant.

Diocesan council received official notice of disbanding for St. John the Evangelist, Humber Valley Region, St. Columbkille, Northern Region and Our Lady of Fatima Shrine, Scarborough Region. St. Mary, Victoria Harbour, Northern Region, disbanded December 31, 2022. Although Immaculate Conception, Durham Region made the decision to become inactive in 2022, 18 members remitted their membership dues in 2023. Diocesan officers revisited this council in the fall of 2023 and started the reactivation process. As of December 31, one council had not paid their per capita fees, and 139 membership fees were paid in 2023 for 2022.

### **Recruit Members and Retain Membership**

Members reported that they hold an annual Membership Drive, which included the following ways: setting up membership tables at Parish Advent Evening, Harvest Your Talent campaign, luncheons, Hospitality Saturday and Sunday, Parish Ministries Fair and Coffee Sundays; member testimonials were delivered from the pulpit; information was posted on webpage; early bird draw for free membership and involvement of Spiritual Advisor. One council reported they put a new poster board at the door of church that read "CWL Sisters Touch Lives. Join Us!"

One hundred percent of the councils responded that they encourage members to invite prospective members.

To promote the League with current members, councils reported the following ideas: communicate special events; send cards/letters for significant life events; schedule visits to the sick and special prayers said for the sick at meetings; special prayers at visitations and honour guard at funerals; build fellowship, e.g: go out together for breakfast/lunch, craft group; planned excursions both faith and fun; prayer groups; annual retreat; carpool; informative meetings with guest speakers; open and consistent communication; recognition at meetings; part of meeting has social aspect; updates on initiatives from all levels of the League, at general meetings and through newsletters, bulletin boards, Facebook page, phone tree and church bulletins; promote attendance at CWL Wednesdays, Development Day and Convention; offer subsidized rates for Convention, Development Day and Ordinandi Dinner; wear CWL pins/name badges to Mass; touch base with homebound members and members in senior's home with phone calls and visits and member involvement in other ministries in the church.

To promote the League with prospective members, councils reported the following strategies: "Hobby Hour with CWL" with all parishioners invited; personal touch, invite to join members at special events; use the Welcome Program; promote national website for information and recruitment; share committee reports; coffee Sundays; staying in



touch; invite women from the Young Adults Group and invite all parishioners to support events/fundraisers, such as monthly food drive.

Eight-eight percent of the councils encourage members and prospective members to visit the national website for information and resources as an instrumental tool.

In addition to promoting the League, councils reported these additional strategies used to retain their membership: reduced membership dues for members 80 years of age and over; have executive sit at different tables among members for personalized engagement; first Sunday of the month is CWL Sunday, where pews are reserved at front of church so members can sit together and one council started a newsletter that serves as an excellent platform to involve members by having them share their talents and their experiences in the League through the “Reflections of a CWL Sister” column.

The greatest challenges with membership included: aging members; members letting their names stand for executive positions; attendance at general meetings; attracting younger members; timely payment of membership dues and increase in membership fees.

Eighteen councils reported having no members under the age of 35 and only three councils had more than five percent of their members under the age of 35.

The most popular times councils reached out for advice to the different levels are as follows: diocesan level was semi-annually (18); provincial level was semi-annually (seven); national level was annually (ten) and national office was semi-annually (18).

### **Leadership Development**

The Toronto Diocesan Development Day was held virtually on February 11, 2023, with over 300 members across Ontario in attendance. The theme was centred on the Provincial theme, “Go Make a Difference”. The morning session featured keynote speaker Honorary Life Member, Barbara Dowding, who spoke on “The Art of Accompaniment. Some of our Toronto Diocesan Life and Honorary Life Members shared their stories about who has accompanied/mentored them on their CWL journey. The afternoon session focused on The Beatitudes; Putting the Beatitudes into action, challenging us as members to “Go Make a Difference”. Presenters were the TDC Standing Committee Chairs.

### **2023 Council Anniversaries**

Fifteen councils celebrated milestone anniversaries in 2023. Some councils chose to receive their certificate at a general meeting or special event while others chose to receive their certificate at the 2024 convention. Anniversary years are based on the charter date and actual paid years of service. Councils that had lapses in membership fees or were disbanded are not credited for unpaid years.

5 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	St. Luke, North York Region
15 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	Holy Spirit, Northern Region
20 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	Immaculate Conception, Humber Valley Region
	St. Padre Pio, Humber Valley Region
	St. Aidan, Scarborough Region
25 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	St. Mary, Nobleton, North York Region
40 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	Precious Blood, Scarborough Region

55 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	St. Patrick/St. Noel, Northern Region
65 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	St. Mary of the People, Durham Region St. Gregory, Humber Valley Region
70 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	St. Andrew, Northern Region St. Mary, Brampton, Peel Region St. Timothy, Peel Region St. Dunston, Scarborough Region St. Joseph Highland Creek, Scarborough Region

### **2023 Charter Councils**

Toronto Diocesan Council welcomed one new chartered council in 2023, St. Charles Borromeo, Humber Valley Region.

### **2023 Leadership Development and Highlights from TDC Organization Chair**

The following Leadership Development Workshops were prepared and presented: *How to Prepare Council P and P Manual*, *Effective Meetings*, two *Parish Executive Training Sessions*, *Welcome Program*, *Actively Engaging New Members and Homebound Members* and assisted with *Exploring Our Faith Journey in the CWL* and *National Indigenous Peoples Day*.

I delivered the Unity Outreach Program to 10 councils and was Guest Speaker at St. Edward the Confessor's Communion Brunch.

### **Recommendations:**

- ❖ Councils are encouraged to use resources on the national website.
- ❖ Councils are encouraged to reach out to the Diocesan Vice President when they are experiencing challenges with membership or leadership development.
- ❖ Diocesan Vice President to continue to offer workshops based on initiative requests from the annual report.
- ❖ Continue diocesan leadership presentations, such as *Parish Executive Training*, *Effective Meetings* and *The Welcome Program*
- ❖ Diocese should look to offer workshop on *Attracting Younger Members*
- ❖ Awareness and emphasis from National that memberships are due the end of February and for councils not to wait until all memberships are paid at council level to send in money.

## **Report of the Standing Committee Chair of Christian Family Life**

*Ciscily Winkler*

The 2023 annual report survey was submitted by 52 out of 96 councils. The Christian Family Life position was submitted by 48 councils. Twenty-two reported this position was elected, 17 appointed and nine vacant.

### **Sanctity of Life**

Councils and members upheld/advocated for the Sanctity of life in the following ways: 29 councils promoted pro-life events and encouraged member participation; 22 councils participated in the 12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care; 21 councils participated in March for Life or similar public Pro-Life gatherings; 19 councils donated to Pro-Life causes; 13 councils included Pro-Life prayers and reports in meetings; 12 councils wrote letters to the government against abortion and/or medical assistance in dying (MAiD); 12 councils wrote letters to government advocating for more palliative care funding and accessibility; eight councils participated in 40 Days of Life prayer vigils and six councils participated in Pro-Life webinars or guest speakers' events.

*Horizons of Hope: A Toolkit for Catholic Parishes on Palliative Care* was promoted through webinar/guest speakers by seven councils. Dr. Moira McQueen and Shirley Christo are mentioned presenters.

### **Unique Call to Sanctity**

One council invited a Catholic coach to share interactive sessions with members; individual and group activities were used to help members gain clarity on their unique vocation and purpose, reflecting on areas of giftedness, passion and mission. Fr. Michael Corpus, Assistant Rector of St. Augustine Seminary spoke on the topic *What happens now? After the Resurrection of Jesus Christ*. Two Seminarians spoke of their faith journey. Fr. Kappler of Southdown Institute led a Lenten Retreat.

### **Faith**

Councils organized a rosary hike in the summer months to pray for Our Lady's intercession that the senate may rule against medical assistance in dying (MAiD) legislation for mental health. A council introduced the prayer jar in which the names of murdered and missing Indigenous women and girls were added to the prayer jar and members were asked to include the women and girls in their prayers.

### **Ministry to Seniors**

One council celebrated its 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary with the theme, "Remembering the Past, Looking to the Future", at which clergy and selected seniors were invited as honorary guests.

Some councils sponsored members who were unable to pay their membership fees, or fees were reduced to \$35 for seniors over 80 years. Seniors who were in homes for the aged were honoured by keeping them on the council's list.

One council proposed holding meetings on Sunday afternoon during the dark winter months since many members have expressed concerns about driving at night, and even offered to pick up members who have driving challenges. Council members prepared lunch, packed and delivered to the homebound and live-alone senior members, and shared the "Outreach Program", which consisted of visiting the sick and homebound. One

council, in celebrating its 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary, included the “Bee Compassion into Action Challenge- homelessness”. Members sent out Get-Well and Sympathy cards on behalf of the League.

### **Ministry to Youth**

Councils were active with their youth groups by engaging them in activities which made them more aware of endeavours in their parish; youth from a secondary school assisted with a council’s 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Councils continue to reach out to the younger generation in order to keep their councils active. A council worked on a food-drive project for the inner youth in the greater Toronto area, and donated 30 bags, 292 pounds, of food stuff to the native Child and Family services in Toronto. A Period-Poverty project was worked on in which council members collected sanitary products for women. Another council invited members from the young-adult group to join/support youth groups with the Totus Tuus project.

### **Religious Vocations**

Twenty councils supported or donated to a Seminary fund; 10 councils supported consecrated women religious through prayer and/or donations; six councils invited a guest speaker on the role of women in the church and four councils invited a guest speaker on vocations to ordained ministry and consecrated life. One council hosted a Social Sunday in May and assisted the Knights of Columbus in honouring their pastor’s ordination.

### **Recommendations**

- ❖ Advocate for Horizons of Hope program in your parish
- ❖ Encourage support for religious vocations
- ❖ Advocate for improved palliative care.
- ❖ Ministry to youth and elderly could benefit each other through inter-generational interaction.
- ❖ Partner active members with home-bound members.

## **Report of the Standing Committee Chair of Communications**

*Nenita MacKenzie*

Fifty-two of the 96 councils submitted a 2023 annual report survey. Forty-eight of these councils completed the Communications/Secretary position. Twenty-two were elected, 16 appointed and 10 were vacant.

### **The Canadian League Magazine**

Councils reported *The Canadian League* magazine as one of the invaluable educational resources for members. It is financially feasible to produce the Fall, Winter and Spring issues of the magazine in hard copy format once again, for members who preferred this type of delivery. The magazine can be viewed online at the National website, <https://cwl.ca>.

### **Media to Promote the League and League Resources**

Facebook (22) and websites (21) were the most popular social media used by councils to promote their activities and events. Five councils used Instagram and one council used Pinterest.

Email (49) was the most popular method of communication councils used to become informed of resources at all levels of the League, followed by meetings (40); telephone (32); word of mouth (28); communiques/directives/memos (20) and websites (14). Only one council used Instagram as a method of communication.

Councils used the National website to obtain the most updated information on manuals and handbooks; for prayers and spiritual retreat information; events, and used the resources as a recruitment tool. Members also used the website for promotional brochures, ordering supplies, researching resolutions, forms and membership remittances.

Only six councils reported accessing [catholicwomenunite.ca](http://catholicwomenunite.ca), the League's marketing tool to attract new members to the League.

### **Communication from all Levels of the League**

Councils reported their satisfaction with communication they receive from the levels of the League. From national, usually was highest response with 24; from provincial, usually was highest with 19; from diocesan, always was highest with 29 and from regional, always was highest with 22.

### **Media Newsletter and Bulletins**

Seventeen councils reported producing a council newsletter.

### **Toronto Diocesan Council Communication Highlights**

Submitted council photos to be posted at the National website "Spotlight". Contacted the Catholic Register for complimentary giveaways to members for TDC convention. Coordinated the submission to the OPC On-line Newsletter as Toronto Diocesan Council was featured last September. Participated virtually at the Toronto Diocesan Council Development Day. Facilitated the Unity Outreach Program. Coordinated the Welcome Ad with the Catholic Register for the newly installed Archbishop of Toronto, His Grace

Archbishop Francis Leo. Submitted the 102<sup>nd</sup> Annual TDC convention information to the Archdiocese of Toronto calendar of events. Continued to assist the website coordinator in updating the website.

**Recommendations**

- ❖ Councils are encouraged to produce monthly parish council newsletters
- ❖ Council are encouraged to develop websites to be used as a form of communication to members
- ❖ Promote council activities on diocesan and national websites
- ❖ Set aside a budget to promote and utilize the use of social media in promotion of the League.
- ❖ Councils are encouraged to access the marketing tool [catholicwomenunite.ca](http://catholicwomenunite.ca) to attract new members.

## **Report of the Standing Committee Chair of Community Life**

*Elizabeth P. Joseph*

Fifty- two of the 96 councils in the Toronto diocese completed the annual report survey for 2023. Eight councils reported this position was elected, three were appointed and three were vacant. Thirty-four councils transitioned to the new structure and reported on Service and Social Justice. Sixteen councils reported the Service position was elected, 12 were appointed and six were vacant. Fifteen councils reported the Social Justice position was elected, 15 were appointed and four were vacant.

### **Dignity and Rights of Persons**

One council initiated and supported its Refugee Outreach Committee by donating items to refugees and food to the Scarborough Feed-Rouge Park Food Bank. Two councils supported the Open-Door Outreach Ministry by partnering with the organization, contributing financially, and providing items for the basic needs of the refugees visiting the facility.

Four councils sponsored new immigrants from Kenya. In addition, a parish sponsored a Ukrainian family of four to come to Canada. Council members supported the Society of St. Vincent de Paul and Good Shepherd initiatives that assist refugees in Canada. Members assisted immigrants with settling into the country by furnishing a refugee's home. Some councils donated food, clothing, bed linens, furniture, personal care items and household supplies through their Parish Outreach Committee.

Two councils sourced clothing and furniture for refugees; specifically for African immigrants who slept on Toronto streets and were relocated to a Christian church. Individual councils assembled a shared table of used clothing and collaborated with the Knights of Columbus for furniture and household supplies. A council member contributed clothing, linen and food to Canadian Ukraine Congress Thrift store.

Five councils conducted food drives. Individual councils hosted weekly food drives, donated food and money to a food bank. For one Saturday, over five months, council members sorted and distributed food items to nine new families. Members donated Tim Hortons and Walmart gift cards; and provided ethnic meals for Kenyan refugees at the Open- Door Ministry. One council prepared and delivered lunch packs to the homebound and fed hot lunches to the homeless twice monthly.

Two councils invited newcomers to parish and Catholic Women's League events and paid the first year CWL membership for refugees. A new member organized 'Mannahelp' at their parish level, a not-for-profit organization in Canada and Nigeria. Two councils discussed plans on how to support refugees in the coming year; and one council responded to Communique #4 on Homelessness and planned to support refugees in the future.

### **Social and Economic Justice**

Councils supported the Food Insecurity Outreach project through the Society of St Vincent de Paul in Oshawa, and distributed food at a barbecue held at Gate 316 Outreach Centre. One council conducted a food drive for inner city youth in the Greater Toronto Area and donated 30 bags-292 lbs of food items to the Native Child Family Services in Toronto. A parish contributed 1300 lbs of food in conjunction with the 'Backpack'

program and distributed school supplies to Newmarket Food Pantry. Another council conducted the ‘Period Poverty Project,’ and sanitary products were distributed through the community food bank.

A council participated in Prison Fellowship and focused on addressing Loneliness. Other councils offered presentations on World Water Day and on Sex-Trafficking, and shared information on human trafficking. Individual councils collected and donated items to Rose of Sharon Shelter for Women and Children and St Clair Women’s Shelter. Members knitted burial blankets for babies, blankets for premature infants and the homeless. Some councils participated in a signature campaign with Change.org for government to enhance the Boil Water project for First Nations.

Councils attended the food insecurity webinar and shared information on the topic, and one council composted food scraps to protect the environment. Members wore pink to a general meeting to celebrate pink shirt day to promote anti-bullying. This council organized an outing to a local cinema to watch the screening of the movie ‘Sound of Freedom’ and attended a virtual presentation on ‘Human Trafficking’ hosted by Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board Trustees. Individual councils conducted the ‘Bee Compassionate Challenge’ on homelessness, invited a speaker to present on homelessness, learned how to support the homeless population and donated sleeping bags.

### **Refugees Immigration and Citizenship**

One council participated in letter writing to ‘Call All Canadians to Make a Difference in the Congo’. Members’ reports indicated their awareness of the needs of refugees and immigrants in their communities, specifically Kenyan and Ukrainian.

### **Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace (CCODP)**

Forty-nine councils donated to Development and Peace Caritas.

### **Developing Countries**

Forty-nine councils donated to Catholic Near East Welfare Association.

### **Recommendations:**

- ❖ Work on the Action Plan from Resolution 2022.01 *Enact Legislation to Reduce Food Loss and Waste.*
- ❖ Consider subscribing to ‘DonateTO’, a city program that offers available units and property at or below market rate for asylum seekers.
- ❖ Consider participating in ‘Prison Fellowship’.
- ❖ Access #614 *Handbook for Chairpersons of Faith, Service and Social Justice.*
- ❖ Consider becoming a committee member to assist the Service and Social Justice executive positions.



## **Report of the Standing Committee Chair of Education and Health**

*Andrea Smart*

Fifty-two of 96 councils submitted the annual survey. Of the 52, 48 councils completed the Education and Health survey questions. Twenty-one of these councils reported this position was elected, 15 were appointed and six were vacant. This is the last Education and Health Standing Committee annual report. Going forward, under the new structure, most of the duties will fall under the Service Committee.

### **Catholic Schools and Catechesis**

Councils supported the Rosary Apostolate and provided financial support. Funds were donated in support of a school's breakfast program. Councils invited students/families to participate in winter clothing drives for the homeless and refugees from Kenya and Ukraine. Members were reminded to make sure they selected Catholic school supporter on their property taxes. CWL members help with the Children's Liturgy and sacrament preparation in their parishes. Some members are the parish liaison for their school's Parent Council. In addition to assisting with sacrament preparation, gifts of rosary bracelets were given to first communicants and bookmarks to the confirmands.

### **Promotion of Catholic Education in Parish and Community**

Individual council members were leaders in RCIC/RCIA programs and sponsored RCIA candidates. One council promoted the Catholic Faith calendars which included scripture readings, saints feast days and prayers, liturgical feast days, days of fasting and abstinence, and a supplementary section on the ten commandments, preparation for confession and other precepts and tenets of the church.

### **Scholarships and Bursaries**

Councils provided financial support and promoted the St. Michael's Scholarship Fund and The Margaret Ann Jacobs Catholic Children's Aid Society Foundation Fund.

In addition to supporting the TDC Youth Awards, parish-based scholarships or bursaries were awarded to support elementary and secondary students in their parishes. Some examples were christian spirit award, christian living award, secondary school scholarships to graduates for christian values and community involvement.

### **Mental Health Awareness**

To raise awareness on mental health, councils: participated in *Bell Let's Talk Day* by promoting positive mental health and well-being by participating in self-care activities; encouraged members to wear pink to honour *Pink Shirt Day* to promote anti-bullying; attended virtual presentation and had guest speakers on human trafficking; donations made to Waypoint Mental Health facility; held workshops on mental health with guest speakers; hosted *Mental Health and Wellness* with Adrienne Sequeira, Fr. Stephan Kappler CEO and Chief Psychologist, Southdown Institute and facilitated a retreat, *Mental Health and Faith*; hosted guest speakers on euthanasia and assisted suicide.

### **Palliative Care Awareness**

Many councils participated in the Horizons of Hope webinar on May 8 and also made use of the *Horizons of Hope: A Toolkit for Catholic Parishes on Palliative Care*.

Donations were made to local hospice center and adult palliative care center. Members attended presentation regarding Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) legislation and hosted guest speakers. Activities during Palliative Care Week included mailing postcards to local MPs, inviting a guest speaker, praying the rosary, hosting day of prayer for all parishioners and participation in *12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care*.

### **Environment**

To promote caring for the environment, councils participated in the following activities: established a community garden with the food being donated to local food banks and parish community; eliminated paper/plastic dish use; replaced water bottles with jugs of water; turned off lights, unplugged non-essential electronics for Earth Hour and provided activities to take care of the earth; encouraged members to make bird feeders and send photos; promoted "Season of Creation" and Pope Francis' messages on *Care for our Common Home* at meetings and through council newsletters; carpooled; shared ideas for eco and conservation projects; showed video on World Water Day and discussed how to conserve water in daily lives and hosted guest speakers on the environment.

### **Women's Health Issues**

Women's health topics addressed by guest speakers were: cardiovascular disease; prediabetes (OPC presentation); brain fitness and health; nutrition and diabetes; regular dental check-ups; anxiety and uncertainty in COVID-19 aftermath; *File of Life Program* and use of naloxone. Awareness of period poverty was raised by asking members to donate personal hygiene products. Fresh fruits were provided at a Hawaiian feast instead of the usual high sugar desserts.

### **Toronto Diocesan Highlights**

Hosted a virtual Youth Awards Information Session to provide guidance on the Mary Matthews Public Speaking Contest, Mary Dobell Pro-Life Poetry and Essay Contests and Jean McCann Service Award. It was a good evening spent sharing ideas for our contests.

### **Recommendations**

- ❖ Encourage members to participate in workshops on mental health and palliative care when offered at all levels of the League.
- ❖ Councils encourage parish schools to participate in TDC Youth Awards Contest.
- ❖ Council who have never participated in one of the contests, are encouraged to choose one contest to get started.
- ❖ Horizons of Hope workshop to be offered at diocesan level.
- ❖ Encourage continued use of *Horizons of Hope: A Toolkit for Catholic Parishes on Palliative Care*.

## **Report of the Standing Committee Chair of Legislation**

*Mary Tuccitto*

Fifty-two of the 96 councils completed the 2023 annual report survey. Forty-eight of the 52 councils completed the survey for the Legislation/Social Justice Chair position. Nineteen were elected, 15 appointed and 14 vacant. Ten of these vacant positions were from councils still operating in the old structure of the League, in the roll of Legislation.

Councils have been active in their awareness of legislative information and bills at all three levels of government and showed a keen interest in their participation with government affairs by letter writing, emails, phone calls and in person visits. At the provincial level, in person visits to their MPP ranked the highest at 80% while 60% made phone calls, 64% wrote letters and 50% of respondents sent emails. These were all effective tools to contact MPs and other provincial officials. Councils monitored and also took action in federal government affairs with an overwhelming 80% making phone calls, 75% sending emails and 36% writing letters. Municipal government engagement by councils was down with only 40% making phone calls, 36% participating in letter writing and 33% sending emails.

### **Activities, Bills Monitored and/or Acted On**

Councils supported the growing immigrant and refugee population who have recently come to Canada and vulnerable people struggling with food insecurity by organizing food and clothing drives, collecting furniture and bedding, offering drives to medical appointments and making donations to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul and other outreach ministries both within their community and their parish. Newcomers were welcomed and encouraged to attend parish activities and invited to join the CWL, offering to subsidize their fee for their first year of membership.

Legislation concerning MAiD, improvements to long term care homes and the lack of affordable housing continue to be priority. Council members participated in letter writing campaigns at a rate of 86%, post card campaigns at 57% and 38% reported signing petitions as an action to these issues to federal, provincial and municipal levels of governments.

The depth of knowledge and awareness of important issues was evident by the reporting councils as they monitored or acted upon Bill C-39 *An Act to amend the Criminal Code (Medical Assistance in Dying)* and other Bills related to MAiD; Bill S-210 *An Act to restrict young persons' online access to sexually explicit material*; Bill C-22 *An Act to reduce poverty and to support the financial security of persons with disabilities by establishing the Canada disability benefit and making a consequential amendment to the Income Tax Act* and Bill 45: *Building More Homes on Major Streets and Transit Corridors Act*. These Bills ranked the highest priority to councils.

### **Toronto Diocesan Activities**

Development Day 2023, The Art of Accompaniment with Keynote Speaker, Barbara Dowding, Honorary Life Member, was presented via ZOOM. The Beatitudes – Putting the Beatitudes into Action to “Go Make A Difference” was presented by each of the TDC Standing Committee Chairs to explore how we each can make a difference in our councils, community and the world. I presented the fourth Beatitude: *Blessed are those*

*who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.* This Beatitude helps us trust in the Lord and lead us to action through the work of Legislation and to truly live our CWL Mission Statement to the fullest, so we may grow in faith and witness to the love of God through ministry and service.

Participated in Effective Meetings workshop and presented meeting Icebreaker Games to encourage member team building and was present for the live taping of Our Lady of Good Counsel Mass at Loretto Abbey.

I was privileged to visit and present the Unity Outreach program to councils in Toronto and Scarborough Regions and was humbled by the resilience and faithfulness of these councils. Participated in CWL Wednesdays; *Faith, Love and Loss*, *The Joy of Leadership* and *Actively Engaging New Members and Homebound Members*.

### **Keeping Legislation Active with the New League Structure Recommendations**

- ❖ Find creative ways to bring forward legislative information to council members through group research and presentations on legislation and Bills relating to CWL resolutions.
- ❖ A “Social Justice/Legislation” component should be placed on the agenda at every meeting and encourage group discussion and possible action.
- ❖ Encourage the use of federal, provincial and municipal websites, Federal Department of Justice website as well as newspapers and other resources.
- ❖ Promote the participation of members to attend the many workshops (virtual or in person) provided by all levels of CWL.
- ❖ Continue individual letter writing to federal and provincial government on the continued need for funding to improve care in Long-term Care Homes.
- ❖ Use of the *Personal Letter Writing Guide* item #173 - 100 Series from national for proper forms of address to our elected officials, helpful tips on letter writing and addresses.

## **Report of the Standing Committee Chair of Resolutions**

*Connie Cristinziano*

Fifty-two of the 96 councils completed the 2023 annual report survey. Of the 52 councils, 48 reported on resolutions. In the old structure, under resolutions, four councils reported the position was elected, one appointed and nine vacant. In the new structure, under Social Justice, 15 councils reported the position elected, 15 appointed and four vacant.

### **Councils Outstanding Activities**

Councils continued, despite some of the challenges that they faced in generating overall interest in resolutions, with their mission to advocate for social justice for all.

Under the provincial project “Faith into Action – Making a Difference”, councils engaged members as a group and carried out action plans on adopted resolutions from all levels. Many councils studied and acted on various adopted resolutions from all levels of the league through letter writing campaigns, inviting speakers or simply by bringing awareness to its members.

#### National:

2023.01 *Combating Textile Waste in Canada*. One council, in support to reduce clothing waste, organized a children’s item swap. Members were invited to donate clothes, books or toys and in turn select items that they can make use of. The event was suggested and organized by one of the members who is also a young mom.

2022.01 *Enact Federal Legislation to Reduce Food Loss and Waste*.

2018.03 *Legislate Designation of Hospice/Palliative Care Services in Facilities to Exclude Medical Assistance in Dying*.

2018.02 *Setting a Standard for Products Marketed as “Flushable”*.

2017.02 *Mandatory Age Verification Mechanisms for Adult Pornographic Websites*.

#### Provincial:

ON.23.01 *To Establish a Sustained Universal Intermittent Catheter Coverage* .

ON.22.02 *National Strategy for Loneliness*.

ON.22.01 *Improve Care in Long Term Care Homes*. In support of this resolution, members wrote letters to the Ontario Long Term Care Minister Paul Calandra and their local MPPs.

### **Use of Resources on National Webpage and Interest in Virtual Presentations**

Resources on developing resolutions on the national website that have been promoted or used by councils included: Resolutions Handbook, 26%; Resolutions Guide, 23% and checklist for reviewing resolutions, 21%. Nineteen percent were not aware of the resources and 45% reported their councils were not interested in the development of resolutions.

The likelihood of members of councils participating in virtual resolutions education through League webinars or workshops were as follows: somewhat likely, 45%; not likely due to lack of interest, 30%; very likely, 17% and nine percent reported not likely due to challenges with online technology.

### **Research and Preparation of Resolutions and Briefs:**

One resolution was prepared and presented at the 2023 Toronto Diocesan Convention for consideration by members. The resolution was adopted.

**TDC 2023.01.** *To Establish a Sustained Universal Intermittent Catheter Coverage* (St. Francis de Sales Council, Durham Region)

Individuals with conditions such as spinal cord injuries, multiple sclerosis and Parkinson's disease, to name a few, rely solely on an intermittent or indwelling catheter for bladder emptying. Due to inadequate funding from Ontario Disability Support that should cover monthly medical supplies, and without universal catheter coverage, patients reuse their URI bags and intermittent catheters.

This resolution requested action from the provincial government to establish a sustained universally funded intermittent hydrophilic-coated or gel reservoir catheter coverage for individuals for whom it has been diagnosed and prescribed as medically necessary.

This resolution was adopted at the 2023 Ontario Provincial Convention and became ON.23.01.

### **Toronto Diocesan Council Resolutions Chair Activity:**

Held a workshop on preparing a resolution as part of the convention resolutions dialogue. Each table was provided with a random resolution topic and an opportunity to formulate their own resolution. A short quiz was also provided where various myths and facts of resolutions were addressed. This was an opportunity to generate an interest in resolutions and reduce the apprehension in the writing of a resolution.

Members were encouraged to participate in the provincial project "Faith into Action - Making a Difference" and stressed the importance of the action plans.

Attended the 2023 Ontario Provincial as an accredited delegate for Toronto Diocesan Council and spoke to resolution TDC 2023.01. *To Establish a Sustained Universal Intermittent Catheter Coverage.*

Assisted in the formation of two new councils.

### **Recommendations:**

- ❖ Members should continue to be aware of the resolutions approved by all levels of the league and follow through with the action plans.
- ❖ Chair of Social Justice to explore creative ways that will enhance the study of all resolutions.
- ❖ Resolutions workshops and information sessions continue to be offered at diocesan level to generate a greater knowledge and interest in resolutions.
- ❖ Councils without Social Justice Chair, to share information with members through other committees.
- ❖ Social Justice Chair to form a resolutions committee to monitor current events, raise issues of concerns and submit lists of possible topics for resolutions.
- ❖ A resolutions reading committee is recommended to review resolutions submitted by councils.
- ❖ Members should utilize the many valuable resources available to them at all levels of the league.

## **Report of the Newsletter Editor**

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*Mary Antonio*

As of December 31, 2023, there were a total of 692 subscriptions which included the diocesan executive, life members, regional spiritual advisors, regional chairs, council executives, parish council Spiritual Advisors and members. This number represents a 2.37% increase from last year.

The articles prepared by the Toronto Diocesan executive officers and standing committee chairs are on current and upcoming initiatives, events and activities which apply to them based on the *Constitution and Bylaws*, Policy and Procedures, communiques and directives from other levels of the League. The Toronto Diocesan Newsletter raises awareness and promotes the work of the League. It is an extremely useful resource and a must for all council executives, Spiritual Advisors and members, in order to inform and assist them in acting on a variety of initiatives.

The newsletter is published three times per year, in the Spring, Fall and Winter. The following are the deadline dates for submissions from the TDC Executives. The newsletter highlights special projects, events, resolutions, council anniversaries and member milestone years of service and Maple Leaf Pin awards.

Spring January 30 (March to June - to arrive in the mail by March 1)  
Fall July 30 (September to November - to arrive in the mail by September 1)  
Winter October 30 (December to February - to arrive in the mail by December 1)

Any changes of new executives, addresses or deceased subscribers, should be sent immediately, in order to keep the data accurate and up-to-date. This will ensure that your newsletter information is accurate and is received on a timely basis. It will also reduce undue costs for undelivered mail.

### **Changes**

Due to increases in printing costs and postage, we have had to implement an increase to the annual subscription from \$12 per year to \$15 per year. This increase will be in effect for the 2024 subscriptions.

### **Recommendations**

- ❖ Subscriptions are to be renewed early in January to ensure uninterrupted delivery. Be sure to indicate unit or apartment number. Use the form on our website [cwltoronto.ca](http://cwltoronto.ca) and be sure to include the parish, the region, the contact name and the phone number.
- ❖ Budget a subscription of the newsletter for your executive and encourage all members to also subscribe. Consider subsidizing the cost for general members in your council to receive these newsletters.

## **Durham Region**

**Spiritual Advisor  
Chair  
Councils: 10**

**Rev. David Bollo  
Alys MacAlister  
Membership: 699**

Although Durham Region showed a decrease of 60 members in 2023, two of our councils showed an increase in membership: St. Francis de Sales, 17 members and St. Mary of the People, four members.

The Durham Region Councils were fully able to engage in their regular meeting schedule and activities in 2023. Lenten soup nights and pancake breakfasts were organized by several councils. Clothing drives were a popular way to fund raise for four of our councils. Christmas Bazaars or Vendor Fairs took place in seven councils. Holy Cross handcrafted orange t-shirt pins to sell for the Indigenous Reconciliation Fund. St. Leo prepared fruit, veggie, and sweet trays which they sent to four parish schools during Education Week. Sacred Heart conducted their 'Warmth and Comfort' initiative for the unsheltered in north Durham as well as assisting Fr. Pilon in displaying over 60 of his Nativity Scenes. St. Joseph the Worker conducted *12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care*. St. Francis de Sales held a raffle for Christmas gift baskets as well as reinstating their monthly senior's lunch. St. Mary of the People ran their popular card party evening. Congratulations to St. Mary of the People who celebrated their 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

On two Saturdays in June, CWL members from across the region served a hot lunch to the homeless at Gate 3:16 in Oshawa.

On October 28, a regional spiritual event was organized by Rita Jakym, Regional Spiritual Development Chair. We visited St. George's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Oshawa where we were introduced to the Divine Liturgy. This included a teaching Mass, with many pauses to explain the meaning of the artifacts used. The heavenly voices of the cantors sang the responses and prayers. We learned about the icons and their specific placement. We were all grateful for this unique and spiritual experience. Our sisters from the UCWL provided a full lunch with all their specialty foods. This event was well attended and appreciated by 75 members from across the Region.

In November, Immaculate Conception, Port Perry began their reactivation process. Kate O'Quinn, TDC President-Elect/Organization Chair, made the presentation, and the seventeen members in attendance voted in a full Executive. They will resume activities in 2024. Many thanks to Fr. Keith Wallace for his support.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel continue to guide our Durham members in our works for God and Canada.



## **Humber Valley Region**

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**Spiritual Advisor**  
**Chair**  
**Councils: 11**

**Rev. Donatello Iocco**  
**Karen McKeown**  
**Membership: 853**

Humber Valley Region welcomed a new charter council, St. Charles Borromeo, who held their installation at the noon Mass on Sunday, September 17, 2023. Swahili Catholic Women's League (St. Roch Parish), in December 2023, voted to join the League and also voted in a full executive. Work on becoming a charter council is in progress.

Although Humber Valley showed an overall decrease in membership of four members and saw St. John the Evangelist disband in October of 2023, five councils showed an increase in membership. Congratulations to Immaculate Conception (one), Our Lady of Miraculous Medal (six), St. Gregory (five), St. Margaret Mary (three) and St. Padre Pio (eight).

St. Padre Pio council did a presentation to the City of Vaughan and received permission to fly the Human Trafficking flag at Vaughan City Hall. Immaculate Conception hosted a workshop presented by the Ontario Provincial Police, on Human Trafficking, which was open to the parish and all regional members.

St. Gregory council hosted a Truth and Reconciliation workshop, on September 30, and the invitation to attend was extended to all region and diocesan members. Also assisting with the day were Transfiguration of Our Lord council, St. Margaret Mary council and Immaculate Conception council. Guest Speaker for the day was Julia Kozak. She displayed her handmade Prayer Cape, based on the '*The 7 Grandfathers Teachings*'. This two hour workshop was attended by 50 members. A social gathering followed the presentation.

Immaculate Conception council submitted their COVID-19 history for the COVID Chronicles project.

Fundraising by councils to support their charities included bake sales, bazaars, afternoon teas and women's day lunches.

Congratulations to three of our councils who celebrated a milestone anniversary: St. Gregory council (65 years), Immaculate Conception council (20 years) and St. Padre Pio (20 years).

*Catholic and Living It!* and *Go Make a Difference*, national and provincial themes, were very much alive and modelled by councils throughout the region.

## **North York Region**

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**Spiritual Advisor**

**Chair**

**Councils: 20**

**Rev. Boniface Perri**

**Elisabeth Quail**

**Memberships: 1052**

Congratulations North York Region councils who showed an increase in membership: Blessed Trinity (seven), Good Shepherd (five), Our Lady of Annunciation (one), St. Bernard de Clairvaux (three); St. Edward the Confessor (six), St. John Chrysostom (eight), St. John XXIII (nine), St. Patrick, Markham (three), St. Timothy (eight), Blessed Frederic Ozanam (13), St. Justin Martyr (13) and St. Luke (11).

Blessed Frederic Ozanam celebrated their 1<sup>st</sup> anniversary with a Mass in the school.

Blessed Trinity held a day of reflection, with three seminarians from St. Augustine's Seminary leading the session.

Good Shepherd supported St. Phillip Neri food bank for immigrants and refugees. Sacred Heart focused on hunger/food insecurity and made donations to the Food Bank.

Immaculate Conception/Our Lady of the Lake collected winter coats from parishioners and donated them to the outreach in Georgina.

St. Bonaventure focused on mental health and wellness as guided by Pope Francis, to overcome the stigma of mental illness. St. Timothy had a guest speaker, Dr. Brian Fitzgerald, a chiropractor who spoke about physical, mental and spiritual health.

St. Edward the Confessor held their annual communion brunch and presented service awards and pins. Guest speaker was Kate O'Quinn, TDC President-Elect/Organization Chair, who spoke on *The Faces of Mary*.

St. John XXIII held fundraising events to buy pizza for the youth of the parish. St. John Chrysostom held a food drive and collected school supplies and back packs.

St. Joseph the Worker held a cultural day featuring food from many communities. St. Luke collaborated with Knights of Columbus on many events.

St. Justin Martyr held an end of the year get together with a guest speaker from *360 Kids*, raising \$1,000.00

St. Mary Immaculate participated in a Mother's Day flower fundraiser.

St. Patrick Markham had a guest speaker from an Indigenous group who told her stories on how grandmothers and children were separated from their families.

St. Bernard de Clairvaux held a bake sale, where their homemade baked goods were well received.

## Northern Region

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**Spiritual Advisor**

**Chair**

**Councils: 14**

**Rev. Laurence Léger**

**Vacant**

**Membership: 958**

Councils of the Northern Region continued with activities that incorporated the National theme of being *Catholic and Living It!* The overall membership decreased by 157 members due in part to the disbanding of two long serving councils: St. Columbkille, Uptergrove and St. Mary, Victoria Harbour. Three councils experienced increases: St. Andrew, Brechin, of 13 members, St. Mary, Collingwood, of 10 members and St. Patrick/St. Noel, Stayner, of one member.

No Regional Chair was appointed at the completion of the previous chair's term as those who were asked felt that they could not take on the role. With the past regional chair assisting the diocesan president, the regional meetings were able to proceed as well as ensuring that communication between councils continued. It is hoped that after some time of discernment, a new regional chair will be appointed.

Councils continued to report on how they answered the theme of "*Called to Serve*" in many various ways. Guardian Angels Council, Orillia, responded to a request for items from the new hospice in their community. Members brought enough items to fill an SUV. Holy Spirit Council, Barrie, hosted a "Pot of Soup" fundraiser to address the current needs surrounding homelessness and food insecurity. Parishioners were able to purchase a bowl of soup and a roll after the Saturday evening mass. This was a new initiative and so successful that they planned a second one for 2024.

Our Lady of Lourdes, Elmvale (60 years) and St. Patrick, Phelpston (70 years) held a joint milestone anniversary celebration with a photo booth, dinner, special recognitions and service pins. Mass started the celebration and members were able to walk down a 'memory lane' of photos.

St. John Vianney, Barrie, started the New Year by providing the breakfast groceries to their local women's shelter. They also took on a social justice initiative by sending a delegation to their local city council meeting requesting a program that would allow seniors to ride free on city buses and were successful! Seniors now ride free two days a week.

St. Margaret, Midland, held their annual baby shower for Compassionate Place as well as their annual Thanksgiving food drive and Christmas gifts to the local senior's home.

St. Mary, Barrie reported that this year's Recognition and Pin Service recognized a member with 70 years of service to the League.

St. Paul the Apostle, Alliston, once again held their annual member fall dinner. The meal was catered and was a thank you to members. The evening included entertainment, a slide show by a member on her pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

St. Patrick/St. Noel, Stayner, reported the death of four prominent members but continue to be proud of the service they offer at funerals.

As the diocesan president writing this report, it is clear to me that Northern Region Councils have truly responded to their call to serve.

May our Lady of God Counsel continue to guide them in everything they do.

## **Peel Region**

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**Spiritual Advisor**  
**Chair**  
**Councils: 19**

**Rev. Michael Simoes**  
**Diana Gamboa**  
**Membership: 1427**

For 2023, Peel did show a slight decrease in overall membership, but we had six councils show an increase in membership: St. John of the Cross (25), St. Patrick, Wildfield (16), St. Martin of Tours (nine), St. Joseph, Streetsville (six), St. John the Evangelist (three) and St. Anthony of Padua (two)

2023 was the year for 19 Peel Councils to get into the new norm of zoom and in-person meetings. It was also the time to start adapting to the new League pillars of Faith, Service and Social Justice. Councils were happy with the new structure as there were fewer executive positions to fill.

As some members were still reluctant to attend in-person meetings there was a drop in attendance for some councils. To meet this challenge, one of our councils, Guardian Angels, ensured that meetings were project focused and the meeting time frame was respected.

Eleven councils, including the regional level, participated in the COVID Chronicles project, by documenting their experiences in keeping the CWL spirit alive during the pandemic.

Faith was evident in the two virtual reflections sponsored by the Peel Region team, which focused on *Forgiveness* and *The Importance of Saints in our Lives*. At the parish level, retreats, rosary recitations, memorial Masses, processions and Stations of the Cross were faith projects undertaken by St. Francis Xavier, St. Joseph, St. Leonard and St. John the Evangelist.

Service continued to be a big part of CWL life. The following projects highlighted the efforts of councils to be of service to their communities: Christmas Bazaar, St. John Fisher; Easter Lily Fund Raising, St. John the Evangelist; Christmas Hampers for the Poor, St. Ignatius Loyola; Christmas Gift Cards, St. Jerome; Coldest Night of the Year, St. Joseph, and Weekly Food Drive, St. Patrick, Wildfield.

Council's works in Social Justice included: writing letters to the parliamentarians, St. Anne and St. John of the Cross; *Fill Up the Empty Shelves*, St. Martin of Tours and joining the March for Life and Life Chain, supported by many councils.

The above projects showcased the value of CWL in the parish communities. Peel members were true examples of the League's national theme of "*Catholic and Living it!*"

## **Scarborough Region**

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**Spiritual Advisor  
Chair**

**Councils: 11**

**Catholic Girls League (1): St. Bartholomew**

**Rev. Peter Marr  
Patricia Lobo  
Membership: 689**

The wide range of activities undertaken by the councils in the Scarborough Region during 2023, highlight how integral these CWL councils are to their parishes, schools, and local communities. It was heart-warming to see council members attend and support activities of other councils in the Region.

Support of the parish was front and centre for all councils. Immaculate Heart of Mary Council's Mother's Day fundraiser featured home-made Mass cards for \$10 each that could be gifted, raising \$850 towards the restoration of the church's stained-glass windows. St. Dunstan Council provided a rosary, prayer card and an ice-cream cone treat to each of their first holy communion candidates and similar gifts to their confirmation candidates. Precious Blood Council, by hosting the Altar Servers Awards helped the Serra Club of Markham and Scarborough recognize these youth for their work in this important parish ministry. St. Maria Goretti Council sold Paschal candles on all Sundays in March, donating the proceeds to the parish ShareLife appeal.

St. Bartholomew Council did a great job promoting the CWL Youth Awards and working closely with parish schools, resulting in ten participants for their Mary Matthews Public Speaking Contest, as well as essay, poetry, and Jean McCann Service Award submissions. Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Council donated \$450 from 'Loose Change Sunday' to three local schools to pay for school trips and supplies for disadvantaged children.

Councils also continued their regular ongoing activities. St. Aidan Council arranged pizza and pop for monthly parish movie nights. St. Maria Goretti Council members made monthly visits to a Scarborough retirement and long-term care home, bringing music and cheer to residents. Almost all councils focused on reducing food insecurity. St. Barnabas Council donated to the Malvern Food Bank, St. Bartholomew Council to Native Child and Family Services of Toronto. St. Joseph's Highland Creek Council donated diapers for newborns to the Sisters of Life. Increasing membership was an important focus as well. St. Boniface Council ran a three-week 'bulletin blitz' featuring CWL fun facts followed by regular Coffee Sundays to raise awareness.

Strong leadership and project management skills were evident. St. Dunstan Council's fundraising trip to Elora and Fergus, St. Aidan Council's pilgrimage to four Quebec shrines, and Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Council's visit to Marylake Shrine were all great experiences. The high-tea parties organized by Precious Blood Council, St. Aidan Council and St. Joseph's Highland Creek Council were an absolute delight. Then there was St. Rose of Lima Council's fun summer fair and St. Boniface Council's lovely fall bazaar.

*Faith in Action* also showed a focus on prayer. The Region was well represented at Rosary Sunday at Martyr's Shrine. We prayed together at World Day of Prayer and the annual Regional Mass for Deceased Members. Many councils arranged Lenten and Advent days of reflection. All in all, there was a lot of warmth, love, caring and sharing in Scarborough Region.

## **Toronto Region**

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**Spiritual Advisor**  
**Chair**  
**Councils: 11**

**Rev. Patrick Ezimora**  
**Mary Jane Domingo**  
**Membership: 273**

Over the course of 2023, the Toronto Region has kept the momentum of the Catholic Women's League going in their councils. Although our overall membership was down, congratulations to five of our councils who had an increase in membership: Our Lady of Lourdes (six), St. Alphonsus (seven), St. Helen (three), St. John (one) and St. Matthew (three).

The Pancake breakfasts and supporting Parish's Coffee Sundays were upheld with great success by Holy Cross and Holy Rosary. Bazaars were also held. St. Pius X held their first bazaar since the pandemic and it was a great success. These events engaged parishioners and involved the communities, and funds raised were used to help those in need. St. Pius X made charitable donations to the Indigenous Reconciliation Fund, Sistering, Haven, Schizophrenia Society, St. Joseph's Health Centre (mental health unit), CAMH, Bloor West Food Bank, the Scott Mission and CNEWA, as well as their annual sponsorship of their Chalice Child in Zambia. Great job St. Pius X! The region applauds your dedication and perseverance. St. Alphonsus exemplified the provincial theme of 'Go Make a Difference', as they came together to gather must-have toiletries and donated them to Humewood House, a local women's shelter.

Toronto Region welcomed our new Spiritual Advisor, Rev. Patrick Ezimora from St. Thomas Aquinas parish.

All the councils did membership drives. The Regional Chair and members of the Toronto Diocesan Council assisted St. Matthew and St. Joan of Arc with their membership drives.

St. Thomas Aquinas participated with the Spanish community in their parish in the celebration of the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. The celebration included a beautiful procession and celebration of the Mass in Spanish. Information was shared among the women that day about the Catholic Women's League.

The highlight of the year was the great turnout for the Annual Living Rosary at Martyr's Shrine in Midland, September 9. Two buses were coordinated by the CWL councils of St. Helen and Holy Rosary. Members from St. Monica and Our Lady of Lourdes were also on the buses. The Toronto region councils proved what a wonderful working network they are: the members of Our Lady of Lourdes held seats for the outdoor mass and St. Helen's coordinated the participation in the Living Rosary that consisted of CWL members from the various councils. They truly exemplified what the CWL is all about - a sisterhood in faith and service.

Our Lady of Good Counsel, pray for us.

## Summary of Per Capita Fees as of December 31, 2023

### Paid by Parish Councils

	2023	2022R	2021R
<b>Total Membership</b>	<b>5951</b>	<b>6184</b>	<b>6367</b>
<b>Total Councils</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>102</b>

R Revised Membership Numbers for the current year

\* Re-Activated

\*\* New

<b>National</b>			2023	2022R	2021R
<b>Account#</b>	<b>Durham Region (10)</b>	<b>City/Town</b>			
T-008	Holy Cross	Oshawa	37	44	46
T-001	Holy Family	Whitby	83	100	97
T-014	Immaculate Conception	Port Perry	18	54	74
T-135	Sacred Heart of Jesus	Uxbridge	27	31	29
T-055	St. Francis de Sales	Ajax	65	48	38
T-112	St. Gertrude	Oshawa	62	67	70
T-061	St. Gregory the Great	Oshawa	30	30	44
T-068	St. John the Evangelist	Whitby	105	105	100
T-030	St. Joseph the Worker	Oshawa	111	123	147
T-130	St. Leo the Great	Brooklin	43	43	46
T-087	St. Mary of the People	Oshawa	118	114	118
	<b>Totals</b>		<b>699</b>	<b>759</b>	<b>901</b>

## Summary of Per Capita Fees as of December 31, 2023

### Paid by Parish Councils

<b>National</b>					
<b>Account#</b>	<b>Humber Valley (10)</b>	<b>City/Town</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022R</b>	<b>2021R</b>
T-122	Immaculate Conception	Woodbridge	91	90	88
T-022	Nativity of Our Lord	Etobicoke	99	111	110
T-026	Our Lady of Miraculous Medal	Alderwood	88	82	83
T-036	St. Ambrose	Toronto	59	60	64
T-148	St. Charles Borromeo**	North York	33		
T-059	St. Gregory	Etobicoke	89	84	85
T-031	St. John the Evangelist	Weston	0	33	40
T-078	St. Margaret Mary	Woodbridge	200	197	199
T-121	St. Padre Pio	Woodbridge	66	58	48
T-101	St. Roch	North York	77	82	91
T-110	Transfiguration of Our Lord	Weston	51	60	61
	<b>Totals</b>		<b>853</b>	<b>857</b>	<b>918</b>
<b>National</b>					
<b>Account#</b>	<b>North York Region (20)</b>	<b>City/Town</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022R</b>	<b>2021R</b>
T-147	Blessed Frederic Ozanam	Markham	31	18	
T-003	Blessed Trinity	North York	71	64	77
T-015	Good Shepherd	Thornhill	69	64	58
T-119	Immaculate Conception/ Our Lady of the Lake	Sutton/Keswick	24	26	35
T-049	Our Lady of Grace	Aurora	45	43	46
T-013	Our Lady of the Annunciation	Richmond Hill	23	22	8
T-032	Sacred Heart	King City	85	90	91
T-143	St. Bernard de Clairvaux	North York	8	5	5
T-047	St. Bonaventure	Don Mills	85	86	90
T-054	St. Edward the Confessor	Willowdale	76	70	66
T-060	St. John Chrysostom	Newmarket	83	75	93
T-136	St. John XXIII	North York	50	41	39
T-052	St. Joseph the Worker	Thornhill	30	31	31
T-063	St. Justin Martyr	Unionville	72	59	53
T-091	St. Luke	Thornhill	38	27	32
T-117	St. Mary	Nobleton	26	34	35
T-004	St. Mary Immaculate	Richmond Hill	94	105	116
T-132	St. Patrick	Markham	74	71	77
T-125	St. Patrick	Schomberg	13	21	23
T-108	St. Timothy	North York	55	47	53
	<b>Totals</b>		<b>1052</b>	<b>1009</b>	<b>1095</b>



## Summary of Per Capita Fees as of December 31, 2023

### Paid by Parish Councils

<b>National</b>					
<b>Account#</b>	<b>Northern Region (16)</b>	<b>City/Town</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022R</b>	<b>2021R</b>
T-005	Guardian Angels	Orillia	122	140	146
T-011	Holy Martyrs of Japan	Bradford	123	127	137
T-127	Holy Spirit	Barrie	46	49	56
T-024	Our Lady of Lourdes	Elmvale	51	51	54
T-033	Sacred Heart	Port McNicoll	11	16	18
T-037	St. Andrew	Brechin	33	20	20
T-053	St. Columbkille	Uptergrove	0	36	35
T-046	St. James	Colgan	39	46	38
T-069	St. John Vianney	Barrie	88	109	109
T-077	St. Margaret	Midland	59	59	61
T-082	St. Mary	Barrie	157	183	195
T-084	St. Mary	Collingwood	56	46	47
T-111	St. Mary	Victoria Harbour	0	52	47
T-093	St. Patrick	Phelpston	38	44	50
T-086	St. Patrick/St. Noel	Stayner	59	58	63
T-076	St. Paul the Apostle	Alliston	76	79	105
<b>Totals</b>			<b>958</b>	<b>1115</b>	<b>1181</b>

<b>National</b>					
<b>Account#</b>	<b>Peel Region (19)</b>	<b>City/Town</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022R</b>	<b>2021R</b>
T-141	Guardian Angels	Brampton	42	46	33
T-126	St. Anne	Brampton	72	74	88
T-115	St. Anthony of Padua	Bramalea	32	30	32
T-118	St. Francis Xavier	Mississauga	158	175	172
T-065	St. Ignatius Loyola	Mississauga	46	47	47
T-145	St. Jerome	Brampton	29	30	24
T-146	St. John of the Cross	Mississauga	64	39	
T-066	St. John Fisher	Bramalea	129	129	132
T-140	St. John the Evangelist	Caledon	22	19	13
T-072	St. Joseph, Streetsville	Mississauga	83	77	73
T-035	St. Leonard	Brampton	81	91	95
T-120	St. Marguerite d'Youville	Brampton	51	65	68
T-113	St. Martin of Tours	Mississauga	110	101	86
T-083	St. Mary	Brampton	85	88	79
T-057	St. Mary Star of the Sea	Mississauga	62	68	88
T-092	St. Patrick	Mississauga	85	90	93
T-114	St. Patrick, Wildfield	Brampton	27	11	31
T-107	St. Timothy	Orangeville	16	18	28
T-124	Sts. Peter and Paul	Mississauga	233	274	285
<b>Totals</b>			<b>1427</b>	<b>1472</b>	<b>1467</b>

## Summary of Per Capita Fees as of December 31, 2023

### Paid by Parish Councils

<b>National</b>					
<b>Account#</b>	<b>Scarborough Region (13)</b>	<b>City/Town</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022R</b>	<b>2021R</b>
T-013	Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	North York	20	27	24
T-020	Immaculate Heart of Mary	Scarborough	15	15	8
T-142	Our Lady of Fatima Shrine	Scarborough	0	2	10
T-034	Precious Blood	Scarborough	96	93	96
T-123	St. Aidan	Scarborough	71	66	73
T-043	St. Barnabas	Scarborough	54	59	65
T-039	St. Bartholomew	Scarborough	56	52	54
T-058	St. Boniface	Scarborough	30	21	16
T-050	St. Dunstan	Scarborough	19	22	31
T-071	St. Joseph Highland Creek	Scarborough	208	200	197
T-006	St. Lawrence Martyr	Scarborough	0	0	0
T-079	St. Maria Goretti	Scarborough	87	102	101
T-144	St. Rose of Lima	Scarborough	33	37	28
<b>Totals</b>			<b>689</b>	<b>696</b>	<b>703</b>

<b>National</b>					
<b>Account#</b>	<b>Toronto Region (11)</b>	<b>City/Town</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022R</b>	<b>2021R</b>
T-009	Holy Cross	Toronto	20	26	26
T-129	Holy Rosary	Toronto	26	26	26
T-025	Our Lady of Lourdes	Toronto	39	33	39
T-012	St. Alphonsus	Toronto	30	23	21
T-062	St. Helen	Toronto	9	6	7
T-064	St. Joan of Arc	Toronto	25	25	21
T-027	St. John	Toronto	41	40	48
T-051	St. Matthew	Toronto	13	10	11
T-089	St. Monica	Toronto	41	55	59
T-099	St. Pius X	Toronto	29	32	35
T-139	St. Thomas Aquinas	Toronto	0	0	11
<b>Totals</b>			<b>273</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>304</b>

## Toronto Diocesan Council

### Executive 2022– 2024

Spiritual Advisor	Rev. Liborio Amaral
President	Sue Lubowitz
Spiritual Development	Iris McNulty
President-Elect/Organization	Kate O’Quinn
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President/Resolutions	Connie Cristinziano
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President/Education & Health	Andrea Smart
Recording Secretary	Zenora Mahabal
Corresponding Secretary	Shaila D’Souza
Treasurer	Lolita Perry
Past President/Historian	Hilarion Mitchell
Christian Family Life	Ciscily Winkler
Communications	Nenita MacKenzie
Community Life	Elizabeth Joseph
Legislation	Mary Tuccitto
Newsletter Editor	Mary Antonio

### Regional Chairs 2023

<b>Region</b>	<b>Chair</b>	<b>Spiritual Advisor</b>
Durham	Alys MacAlister	Rev. David Bollo
Humber Valley	Karen McKeown	Rev. Donatello Iocco
North York	Elisabeth Quail	Rev. Boniface Perri
Northern	Vacant	Rev. Laurence Léger
Peel	Diana Gamboa	Rev. Michael Simoes
Scarborough	Patricia Lobo	Rev. Peter Marr
Toronto	Mary Jane Domingo	Rev. Patrick Ezimora

