



THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA  
TORONTO DIOCESAN COUNCIL  
**103rd Convention Oral Report**  
**April 29 and 30, 2024**  
**Ajax Convention Centre**  
**550 Beck Road**  
**"Called To Serve"**

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Madame Chair,

As the corresponding secretary, it is my privilege to address you. I wholeheartedly appreciate the power of service, especially in our virtual world. Despite these challenging times, our commitment to service remains unwavering. Serving in this role has enabled me to contribute to our mission and experience personal and spiritual growth.

When I first joined the League, I was eager but uncertain, unsure of the impact I could make or the role I would play. However, as I immersed myself in our shared work of service and community building, I discovered a profound sense of purpose and belonging.

We are all aware of the vital role that communication plays in our organization and society. It is through our words, both spoken and written, that we share our message of hope and renewal with the world. But communication is not merely a means to an end; it is a powerful tool for service and outreach.

In our correspondence with members, communities, and partners, we have the opportunity to amplify the voices of those in need, to advocate for justice and equality, and to spread the message of God's love and mercy. Whether it's through letters, emails, or social media, every word we write has the potential to uplift, inspire, and transform lives.

In this age of digital connectivity, our League has embraced the power of virtual meetings to continue our mission of service. Through the wonders of technology, we can transcend physical barriers and come together in spirit, if not in person. Virtual meetings have become platforms for inspiration, collaboration, and collective action.

In today's world, virtual meetings have kept us connected, highlighting our resilience and dedication. They're a chance to share ideas and support each other. In this virtual space, sisterhood remains strong, uniting us toward our common purpose. Let's embrace these opportunities for collaboration, learning, and growth. Remember, behind every screen is a sister who shares our values and aspirations.

I leave with a few recommendations as the last executive to hold the Corresponding Secretary role on the Toronto Diocesan Council.

1. Keep personal touch: Send cards for special occasions via mail or hand delivery.
2. Balance technology: Mix virtual and in-person gatherings.
3. Be sustainable: Reduce printing, use fillable PDFs, and DocuSign, and minimize emails.

As we go forth from this gathering, let us carry with us the words of Isaiah: *"Here I am, Lord, send me."* May these words be our guiding light, inspiring us to serve with humility, compassion, and love. For in our service to others, we encounter the presence of God and experience the true meaning of discipleship.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to service, and may God bless you abundantly.

My written report can be found on page 6 of the 2023 Annual Report Book.

Shaila D'Souza,  
Corresponding Secretary