



THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA
TORONTO DIOCESAN COUNCIL
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Ajax Convention Centre
550 Beck Road
"Called To Serve"

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Madame Chair and sisters in the League,

I'm the type of person who says "yes" to a challenge without really exploring all the implications of my decision! When I was asked to be Regional Chair two years ago I said "yes" happily – after all – how hard could it be – wouldn't it be a lot like parish president but a bit more? Well . . . after the first TDC meeting, and taking in the excellent work going on, I thought "I just might be in over my head". That's when I learned to lean heavily on the Lord and His Mother. And they never let me down.

I had **faith** that the Lord would help me accomplish my goal of drawing closer to our Durham Region councils. I had the pleasure of visiting six of our 10 councils at their general meetings. I've made genuine new friends, in the region, and this was a bonus I hadn't hoped for. Many prayers resulted in the reactivation of Immaculate Conception Council in Port Perry. This council has been revitalized with an energetic and creative executive.

The Spiritual and Evenings of Reflections designed by Iris inspired and nourished me during this time. They are deep and beautiful - I've kept them all.

I was surrounded by women of **faith** at the TDC and I leaned on more than one for advice and guidance. Everyone was kind and generous with their time and talent. You are truly never alone in this wonderful organization. Our Regional Spiritual Advisor Fr. David Bollo was always available with his wise and gentle counsel.

The CWL could not exist or flourish without its foundation of **faith**. Before I took this position, I would have emphasized service or social justice. But I found out just how central **faith** is to my work and the work of the League.

If you are asked to serve, do as Pope St. John Paul II has said – "Do not be afraid" and "Put out into the deep". You will never regret it.

My written report can be found on page 30 of the 2023 Annual Report Book.