



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"

Name: Iris McNulty

Standing Committee: Spiritual Development

St. Paul, in his letter to the Corinthians recognizes the importance of faith, hope and love to make Christ present in the world. "Set your hearts on spiritual gifts, especially the gift of proclaiming God's message" and "the one who proclaims God's message speaks to people and gives them hope, encouragement and comfort." (1Cor. 14:2-5.)

I share with you on how the role of Spiritual Development Chair has impacted me in the development of my faith.

As people of faith, we bring hope to others particularly in a broken world. This hope is revealed in Scripture. As Spiritual Development Chair, I had opportunities to proclaim God's message of hope to my League sisters. The day when our diocesan president provided me with the opportunity to serve in the role of Spiritual Development Chair, left me wondering: *why me? Is there someone else, God who you could ask? How would I fulfill the responsibilities without a blueprint or resources at my fingertips?*

Coordinating a mass for National Indigenous Day provided me with an opportunity to grow in understanding of Indigenous spirituality. The occasion made me realize that I could pray with and pray for my Indigenous sisters to help foster hope and reconciliation. I could also use my voice to help others understand and appreciate the beauty of Indigenous spirituality.

Assuming responsibilities on behalf of League sisters at Rosary Sunday at Martyr's Shrine was a memorable experience. Amidst the backdrop of the holy grounds that martyrs to the faith walked upon centuries before, I was reminded of their witness and commitment. I was walking upon the sacred grounds where they witnessed to Christ by bringing the Gospel message to those around them. I have not suffered the torments nor persecutions they experienced but I could play a part in being a witness to the same faith through prayer, daily observances and participating in public devotions. I came to realize the importance of sharing expressions of the faith publicly with others to keep it alive; to use it as a compass, to help others see its beauty. I could walk with others on a journey of renewal and evangelization.



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"

Through the preparation of the spiritual program for meetings and webinars I had the opportunity to research prayers, readings and reflections. My understanding of Catholic teachings was deepened. The preparations motivated me to become more familiar with Church documents and encouraged me to reflect more closely on Catholic teachings. I journeyed along a road of discovery.

Praying with League sisters has demonstrated how integral faith is to my daily life. I am a part of a global movement of like-minded women; committed to reflect Christ in daily life through prayer, reflection, good works and compassion. Faith defines how I think and act on moral issues. It is prayerful service in action; I am a pilgrim on a journey using the tools of my faith with God at my side.

League sisters were present to me in a very touching way these past three years. Faced with family health challenges, I was supported through their compassionate words, prayers and check-ins. The sea of blue scarves at the celebration of my husband's life remains imprinted upon my mind. We are a part of each other's lives. League sisters walked with me and made the journey more bearable. Likewise; I need to be a vessel of compassion, support and comfort for others.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as Spiritual Development Chair. I no longer wonder: Why me, Lord? Instead, I think: *Here I am Lord, Send Me.*