



The Catholic Women's League of Canada Toronto Diocesan Council Annual Meeting of Members, April 29 and 30, 2024

One hundred and eighty voting and accredited delegates from across the Toronto Diocese gathered for their annual diocesan meeting of members at the Ajax Convention Center. In total 390 members attended the two day event on April 29 and 30. The theme was *Here I am Lord; send me.*

Members attended fruitful meetings, ceremonies and activities. The meeting began with the opening Eucharistic celebration with Rev. Fr. Liborio Amaral as the celebrant, along with several regional and parish spiritual advisors.

Sue Lubowitz, Diocesan President, welcomed members. National President and Chairperson of International Relations Shari Guinta brought greetings on behalf of the national council and national spiritual advisor Most. Rev. Wayne Lobsinger. The 103rd diocesan meeting of members opened with reports presented by regional chairs and diocesan officers that conveyed the many works and activities members across the diocese have completed over the past year. Their oral reports along with the written reports are now available on the diocesan website.

Diocesan council adopted TDC 2024.01 National School Food Program. The resolution urges the federal government to prioritize the implementation of a long-term National School Food Program. We thank St. John Fisher for gifting this resolution and Connie Cristinziano (Resolutions chair) and her committee for their work on this resolution.

Youth Awards were presented on the evening of April 29th to winning participants in this yearly contest. The Youth Awards booklet is now posted on the diocesan website. Thank you to all Youth Award committees for continuing to support this initiative.

The keynote speaker on Monday evening was Kathleen Ancker who spoke on her experience with the Catholic Women's Leadership Foundation (CWLF) as part of a yearlong learning experience. Kathleen was also featured in the April 12 blog of the foundation. The CWLF was jointly founded by the Sisters of Service and the CWL as a way through the education and training of Canadian Catholic Women to serve as transformational leaders. The Catholic Women's Leadership Foundation is an independent charitable foundation.

Tuesday brought the presentation of Milestone Certificates by President-elect/Organization chair Kate O'Quinn to councils celebrating increases in membership of ten or more or to councils celebrating milestone anniversaries. Our

Lady of Good Counsel icon was presented to our newest council, the Swahili Catholic Community CWL.

Hilarion Mitchell (Past President/Historian) presented the 2024 Patricia Beattie Annual Memorial Mentoring Award. The parish level recipient was Mary Grossi, St. Margaret Mary Council (Humber Valley Region) and the auxiliary level recipient was Philomena Menezes, Precious Blood Council (Scarborough Region).

The diocesan election was held on Tuesday afternoon. The League welcomes a new slate of officers to the diocesan executive, including Diocesan President Kate O'Quinn, Vice-President Connie Cristinziano, Secretary Andrea Tjioe, Past President/Historian Sue Lubowitz, Chairperson of Faith Amelia Hazell, Chairperson of Service Gabriella Di Pietrantonio, and Chairperson of Social Justice Christina Boyle.

The closing mass was held after the elections with Most Rev. Ivan Camillieri, Auxiliary Bishop of Toronto as the celebrant. Fr. Liborio Amaral and other spiritual advisors in attendance were concelebrants. Prior to the final blessing, the installation of the diocesan officers and the re-commitment of the diocesan spiritual advisors were held.

Toronto Diocesan Executive 2022-2024

