



**THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA
TORONTO DIOCESAN COUNCIL
104th Convention Oral Report**

April 28 and 29, 2025
Ajax Convention Centre
550 Beck Road

***Here I am Lord, send me
Pilgrims of Hope***



Name: Connie Cristinziano

Position: Vice President

Madame Chair

As we look at the Jubilee Logo: Pilgrims of hope and as one pays close attention to the image, it illustrates the pilgrim's journey, not as an individual, but rather communal, marked by an increasing energy leading one ever closer to the cross. The cross in the logo is by no means stable, but it is also active. It bends towards humanity, not leaving human beings alone, but stretching out to them to offer the certainty of its presence and the security of hope.

As we embrace the theme, Pilgrims of Hope, I find myself reflecting deeply on what it means to me, not just as a phrase for a Jubilee Year, but as I continue by CWL journey. It is a calling that shapes how we live, serve, and lead in the Catholic Women's League. It's about walking together, with purpose, with faith, supporting each other in love and unity. This deepens our connection with fellow members, encouraging mutual encouragement, mentorship, and a unified action. In our League, the journey of hope becomes real and tangible. Through our outreach, advocacy for justice and dignity, compassion and sisterhood, we embody that hope. We become women who carry Christ into the world, not just in words but we demonstrate that our hope can make a difference in society.

As women of faith, your journey influences those around you especially younger women and future CWL members. Being a pilgrim of hope means setting an example of courage, faith, and vision. You help prepare the way for others to follow.

Every journey comes with hardships. Being a pilgrim-of hope gives you the strength to face those challenges with resilience and joy and always trusting that our labour in the Lord is not in vain. This might look like persevering through slow change, difficulties recruiting, retaining or engaging members, filling executive roles, conflict, or burnout.



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In my role of Vice President, the CWL has given me more than a platform, rather it has given me a place to grow, to lead, to be challenged, and to lift others up. Together, we encourage one another. We remind each other that our mission is not finished. That God still has work for us to do.

As we continue as pilgrims of hope, let us pray together. serve together, be the voice of the voiceless, uplift one another with joy. And never forget: the world needs our hope. Our Church needs our hope. And God is walking with us every step of the way.

My written report can be found on pages 14 to 16 in the online annual report book.

This concludes my report.

Connie Cristinziano
Vice President