



The Catholic Women's League of Canada

Dear New Member,

Welcome to The Catholic Women's League of Canada, the largest Catholic women's organization in Canada with approximately 56,000 members, and parish councils in every province, as well as Yukon, the Northwest Territories and the military. The national executive/board is composed of 11 provincial presidents and seven elected officers. With your membership, you will receive *The Canadian League* magazine, published three times a year, as well as access to the national website and social media to keep you informed about League happenings. Besides connecting you with like-minded women coast to coast, the League also connects you with women worldwide through the World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations. You are now part of a community of women who, in addition to your efforts within your parish, are held in the hearts of those women who represent you at all levels of the League.

Since 1920, the League has been working "For God and Canada" while helping members deepen their spirituality. Take time to get to know this tremendous organization as reflected in our mission statement: "The Catholic Women's League of Canada calls its members to grow in faith, and to witness to the love of God through ministry and service." As a national organization, a delegation meets annually with the federal government in Ottawa to present resolutions generated by members like you at the parish level—women who recognize social justice issues and are willing to lobby for change. Our work is done "at home and abroad" with our national voluntary funds supporting Catholic Missions In Canada, Catholic Near East Welfare Association, Development and Peace—Caritas Canada and Coady International Institute.

Conventions are a wonderful opportunity to experience sisterhood from across Canada and to be inspired by the enthusiasm of other women. Experience the faith, fun and fulfillment that you can take back to rejuvenate and strengthen your parish council. Friendships will be made that forge into a sisterhood that can last a lifetime.

The national theme, *Ignite Your Passion, Empower His Mission*, is a call to action. We have been called—we are His chosen people. God's words ignite a spiritual fire within us to love and share His love. It is this passion that fuels us to become advocates and compels us to speak His truth, even when it's difficult, and inspires us to act. It also moves us to reach out to those in need, to show compassion and convey the joy of serving the Lord.

Thank you for joining The Catholic Women's League of Canada! Membership is a special gift to yourself on your faith journey. It will give you the opportunity to embrace your purpose and use the unique gifts God has given you to bring about positive change in the world. "Be who God meant you to be, and you will set the world on fire" (St. Catherine of Siena).

May God bless you, and the Holy Spirit set your heart ablaze with the fire of God's love.

From my heart to yours,

Betty Colaneri
National President