

## HOW YOU CAN HELP

To make a donation through the National Office, please fill out the “National Voluntary Fund Remittance Form”, where you can find Catholic Near East Welfare Association listed. Together with your cheque made payable to *The Catholic Women’s League of Canada*, please send the form to the National Office located at C-702 Scotland Ave., Winnipeg, MB R3M 1X5.

For individuals who would prefer a tax receipt, please donate directly to CNEWA Canada: by mail at 223 Main Street, Box 80, Ottawa, ON, K1S 1C4, phone 1-866-322-4441 (toll-free) or visit [cnewa.org/ca/donate](http://cnewa.org/ca/donate).

In addition, we truly appreciate the support from League councils and members for CNEWA’s work in Ukraine, which helps provide humanitarian aid to displaced families who have had to flee violence. [cnewa.org/ca/what-we-do/ukraine](http://cnewa.org/ca/what-we-do/ukraine) Many thanks as well for your generosity towards the League’s *Care for our Common Home* initiative in India and Ethiopia. To learn more how the League has made a difference, please visit [cnewa.org/ca/cwl-common-home](http://cnewa.org/ca/cwl-common-home).

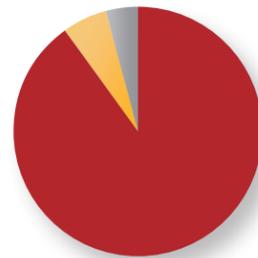
### ABOUT CNEWA

An agency of the Holy See, CNEWA works for, through and with the Eastern Catholic churches throughout the Middle East, Northeast Africa, India and Eastern Europe. Founded by Pope Pius XI in 1926, CNEWA provides pastoral and humanitarian support to the churches and people of the East.



### GIVE WITH CONFIDENCE

**90¢** of your donation goes towards CNEWA’s program and directly benefits those in need. Visit [cnewa.org/ca](http://cnewa.org/ca) for more details.



■ Programs	90%
■ Fundraising	6%
■ Administration	4%

*OUR PROMISE TO YOU: When you give to CNEWA Canada, your personal information is held in the strictest confidence.*

Charitable registration#: 86775 7502 RR0001

## CNEWA Canada

*a papal agency for humanitarian and pastoral support*

Catholic Near East Welfare Association Canada, 223 Main Street, Box 80, Ottawa ON K1S 1C4  
www.cnewa.ca • 1-866-322-4441

2023-2024 Update



**Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA)**  
**In partnership with The Catholic Women’s League of Canada**

**A big thank you to the Catholic Women’s League of Canada for your ongoing and generous support of the work of Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA) through your donations from CWL councils and members. Thank you also for your prayers.**

**For more information, please visit [cnewa.org/ca/catholic-womens-league](http://cnewa.org/ca/catholic-womens-league) or email [canada@cnewa.org](mailto:canada@cnewa.org)**



## HELPING WOMEN AND FAMILIES IN THE HOLY LAND

Our partnership with the Catholic Women's League of Canada began with "Velma's Dream" almost 10 years ago. Together, we continue to strengthen and support Christian families in Israel and Palestine, to encourage Christians to remain in their homeland and thus keep a vital Christian presence there.

The two supported projects are at **Shepherd's Field Hospital** in Beit Sahour near Bethlehem in Palestine, and the **Infant Welfare Centre** located in the Old City of Jerusalem.

### SHEPHERD'S FIELD HOSPITAL

Your continual support gives essential health care to pregnant women in need, and monitors the health and development of more than 100 babies each year. This is done by providing blood tests and important supplements such as iron and Vitamin D, and essential maternal health care for very poor families. The hospital also provides health education and consultation for these mothers, post-birth.

### INFANT WELFARE CENTRE

The Infant Welfare Centre was closed for a year and a half due to severe restrictions and three lockdowns in Jerusalem, which had a negative effect on children's well-being. The staff adapted and found ways to improve the mental health of children and their parents, which included workshops for parents with a counsellor and hands-on activities for kids, like cooking, science experiments, and more. The Centre also resumed its remedial education programs, focusing on academic support for teens.

### HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE

Beginning in 2013, CNEWA staff have accompanied dozens of Catholic Women's League members on an annual pilgrimage to holy sites in Israel and Palestine, and to meet with Holy Land Christians and CNEWA projects. CNEWA has put the pilgrimage on hold for now, but we hope to resume in 2024 or beyond.

### PRAYER DAY FOR PEACE

On September 21 each year, you and your council are invited to join us in praying for peace in the Holy Land and the Middle East. Please visit [cnewa.org/ca/prayer-day-for-peace](https://cnewa.org/ca/prayer-day-for-peace) for more details.

## OTHER AREAS WHERE CNEWA IS WORKING

### UKRAINE

**Thank you to the CWL councils and members that have already donated to CNEWA for Ukraine!** CNEWA has been working with Ukrainian Greek Catholics since its beginning in 1926. Since the invasion of Ukraine on February 2022, CNEWA has been collecting funds for humanitarian aid (food, water, shelter, etc) for displaced Ukrainians. To learn more, please visit [cnewa.org/ca/what-we-do/ukraine](https://cnewa.org/ca/what-we-do/ukraine).

### INDIA AND ETHIOPIA

**Thank you for your support and for caring for our Common Home through CNEWA.** In 2020 we were able to repair a water well at Pieta Bhavan (House of Mercy) in Kerala, India – a Christian home caring for approx. 60 women with disabilities. The excess funds helped feed hungry children at schools and parishes of the Adigrat diocese in Ethiopia. Learn how you made a difference: [cnewa.org/ca/cwl-common-home](https://cnewa.org/ca/cwl-common-home)

## FROM NATIONAL CHAIRPERSON OF SERVICE JOLINE BELLIVEAU



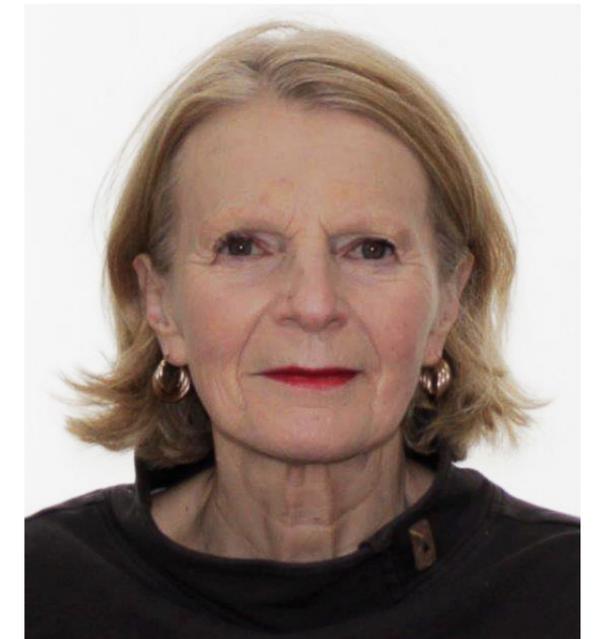
Velma's Dream was first envisioned by Velma Harasen, an honorary life member of The Catholic Women's League of Canada, after she had visited the Holy Land and became determined to make a difference for Christians living in this part of the world. Currently, 1% of the population in the Holy Land are Christians. They are in danger of disappearing altogether as the Middle East is constantly in turmoil, at times erupting into violence. In 2015, the League and the Catholic Near East Welfare Association partnered to establish Velma's Dream, one of the League's national voluntary funds.

The aid given through this partnership is vital for the presence of Christians in the Holy Land. It is there that Jesus Christ lived, died and rose from the dead. There is a strong need for an awareness of the Christians' daily struggles there. Many League members have made pilgrimages to the Holy Land and have been greatly touched by what they experienced.

*"Let us stay close to them! Let us pray for them, and for peace in the Holy Land and in the Middle East. May the prayer of all the Church also support the path to full unity between Christians, so that the world may believe in God's love that in Jesus Christ came to live among us"* (Pope Francis).

National President Shari Guinta chose for the 2024-2025 national theme, *Here I am Lord, send me*. Financial support can make a significant difference in the lives of infants and young people. It could mean the difference between hope and despair. Please take the time to become familiar with the tremendous work Catholic Near East Welfare Association is undertaking in the Holy Land under terrible circumstances.

May we continue to pray to the Holy Spirit and Our Lady of Palestine for peace, justice and reconciliation for people in the Middle East.



Joline Belliveau  
National Chairperson of Service  
The Catholic Women's League of Canada