



The Catholic Women's League of Canada

MEMO

DATE: March 25, 2019

FROM: Anne-Marie Gorman, national president

TO: Parish council presidents

CC: Diocesan presidents, provincial presidents and life members (on request)

"Represent yourself and the League in the best way possible. Because you are a model of what the League believes, people will form an opinion of the League based on your interaction with others" (*Executive Handbook*).

As parish council president, you have a huge responsibility. Nothing in The Catholic Women's League of Canada is more important than what occurs at the parish level, more often referred to as the grassroots. Your importance to the parish cannot be underestimated for the maintenance and development of the organization across Canada. Almost 80,000 members believe part of their role in the church fosters, supports and provides leadership in parish and communities at large. The need to ensure the organization remains viable after the centenary in 2020 is upon us.

Congratulations on accepting leadership roles this year! Elections or reaffirmations are complete and terms have begun or are into the second year. Please keep the following basics in mind and be gentle with yourselves as the League moves forward in the implementation phase of the strategic plan.

- The *National Manual of Policy and Procedure* is for everyone's use. Encourage each standing committee to review it at cwl.ca or through a printed version. The manual is updated every year. Recommendations for changes may be submitted by any member by December 1st.
- Learn something new from any of the League's many resources. Challenge executive members to bring a new piece of information to each meeting and share it.
- Celebrate being Catholic women whose strong faith development assists in work times or fun times.
- Celebrate council members through continued extraordinary hospitality, service awards and friendship.
- Review the duties of a president beginning on page 19 of the *Constitution & Bylaws*. Each president (or executive officer for that matter) wants to be the best she can be. Being able to put a check mark beside each duty builds confidence.

You are the League! May God bless all the good works in 2018-2019, whether attending conventions, celebrating accomplishments or educating yourself. You have earned a well-deserved summer break. I look forward to seeing many of you at the 99th annual national convention in Calgary, Alberta, August 18-21, 2019.

May the care shown towards our common home put a smile on God's face, and through the intercession of Mary, may we continue to have the stamina to work "For God and Canada".

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anne-Marie Gorman". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the left of the typed name and title.

God bless,
Anne-Marie Gorman
National President