

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.



The Catholic Women's League of Canada



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www.cwl.ca

Why Join the League?

- A sisterhood of support and understanding
- A way to act on important social justice issues
- An opportunity to serve the community, country and God
- A chance to live your faith with those who share it

Faith – Service – Social Justice
Sisterhood





Sisterhood

When asked, many women say they joined the Catholic Women's League for friendship and a chance to deepen community.

Let members and would-be members know that the League is a national organization with councils in participating parishes in every province and the military. In joining, they will belong to a group of women, not just within their parish but across the country—a sisterhood of faith and action. People are better together. Members are friends who support each other and create a sense of community. Together, they serve the church and country.

To encourage the social aspect that is so important to many, presidents can stress the need for sisterhood and encourage interaction. For example, having ice-breakers at the start of meetings, wearing nametags and having coffee/tea times can help members get to know one another.

In addition, using the three pillars of the organization—faith, service and social justice—we can encourage members that doing good work together is both socially and spiritually enriching. In fact, they can be areas of common interest and can cultivate the desire for sisterhood while also serving God and others.

If members wonder how they can combine their hope for sisterhood and friendship with the three pillars, the following are some examples.

Service

Some of the members' most gratifying times can be when they volunteer their time and talent in the company of their sisters in Christ.

- Members could join your parish council's planning committees for fundraisers such as the annual Christmas Market. They will get to know their sisters in a different way and have some fun in the process!
- Along with other members, they could volunteer for parish ministries together. Hospitality, support of refugee families, seminarian assistance, pandemic support, bursaries to high school students, prayer shawls; the opportunities to serve with their sisters in Christ are limitless!
- Especially for ministries that involve social interaction, this act of service will also foster their own enriched community life.

Faith

Growing in friendship while strengthening members' faith can be achieved in several ways.

- Members could join a bible study or small group. Over time, sharing faith journeys can lead to deep and authentic friendships.
- They could volunteer to bring the Eucharist to shut-ins or join a prayer or rosary circle with other members. This sharing may bring them closer to Christ and allow friendships to blossom.
- Members could participate in or help organize the League's faith development offerings, such as reflections, discussions on matters of faith, retreats, tributes to Mary, etc.

League Prayer

We humbly pray You,
O God our Father, to bless
The Catholic Women's League of Canada.

Bless our beloved country,
our homes and families.

Send Your Holy Spirit upon us
to give light to our minds
and strength to our wills
that we may know and fulfil
Your great law of charity.

Teach us to share with others
at home and abroad,
the good things You have given us.

This we ask through our Lord Jesus Christ
and the intercession of our patroness,
Our Lady of Good Counsel.

Amen

Social Justice

Whether it is saving the environment, combatting racism, protecting human life, ensuring safeguards against access to pornography or many other social justice issues, members often feel called to act. And it is easier and more enriching to do so when others accompany them on the journey.

- Members could investigate League resolutions and, with their sisters in Christ, enact an "action plan."
- They could join or organize a gathering to write letters to government on an issue that is particularly important to them.
- Together, they could research and write a resolution about an issue they feel passionate about.
- Especially for ministries that involve social interaction, this act of service will also foster their own enriched community life.

