



## **The Catholic Women's League of Canada**

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

WINNIPEG, MANITOBA, March 8, 2023—The national executive/board of The Catholic Women's League of Canada, consisting of national officers and provincial presidents representing members across Canada, met March 2-4 in Toronto for its annual winter meeting. Discussions were held with the national officers and provincial presidents on important issues of concern affecting members, Catholic women, their families and communities.

The board invited Dr. Josephine Lombardi, Ph.D., to conduct a retreat prior to the meetings. Dr. Lombardi is an award-winning author with vast experience as a parish and university campus minister, high school chaplaincy leader, teacher educator, professor of religious education, retreat facilitator, faith formation consultant, and program coordinator in the Diocese of Hamilton. Presently, she is an associate professor of pastoral and systematic theology and director of lay formation. She has also been an advisor to the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops in doctrine and Catholic-Muslim relations. Her "Becoming a Marian Successor in 12 Actions" presentation was moving and inspirational. Board members felt it was the perfect way to begin the days of meetings with reflection and prayer.

National President Fran Lucas began the meeting by welcoming members of the board. Over the course of two days, the business sessions dealt with significant issues of governance, operations and reports. Board members were pleased to hear of the success of delegates attending meetings with government officials on February 13-15 in Ottawa. Additional upcoming meetings with government officials will be conducted virtually.

The board was encouraged by the progress made by the implementation committee, the strategic plan initiatives and updates regarding social media platforms and initiatives.

The meeting was filled with important information and fruitful discussion that will be brought to the members at the 2023 national annual meeting of members in Saint John, New Brunswick.

#### **About The Catholic Women's League of Canada**

The Catholic Women's League of Canada, founded in 1920, is one of the largest organizations of women in Canada, with 60,000 members represented in every province, territory and the military. The League is organized and pledged to serve all citizens and has often received the commendation and keen appreciation of federal, provincial and municipal authorities for the voluntary services ably performed by its nationwide membership.