

**St. Patrick's
Catholic Women's League
(CWL)**



Orientation Booklet

Welcome

Dear Sister,

Thank you for joining the St. Patrick's Parish Catholic Women's League. It is our great honour to welcome you and for you to join us as we journey together in a sisterhood of faith, fun and fulfillment.

May our Lady of Good Counsel bless you and may your membership be challenging and fulfilling.

Enclosed in this booklet is an overview of the League to get you started.

If you have any questions feel free to contact either one of us.

Lalita D'souza

CWL President &

Communication Chair

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Tania De Souza

Vice President &

Organization Chair

League Prayer

We humbly prayer 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 fulfill
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

Our Lady of Good Counsel



The Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel is celebrated on April 26. We pray through the intercession of Our Lady of Good Counsel, the patroness of the League, who is our model to be imitated.

In 1910, the World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations (WUCWO) was organized in Brussels, Belgium. Following the organizational meeting of the League on June 20, 1920 in Montreal, an invitation was received from WUCWO inviting the League to affiliate with the world-wide federation. Historical records indicate Mary, under the title of Our Lady of Good Counsel, had been chosen as the patroness of WUCWO. Subsequently, at the annual national convention in 1923 in Halifax, a resolution was passed to adopt Our Lady of Good Counsel as the League's patroness. In a small Italian village of Genazzano, some 30 miles from Rome, is the shrine of the Marian painting. The old sanctuary was given by Prince Colonna to the Augustinians in the 15th century and the monks set about rebuilding their church. A wealthy woman named Petruccia came to their support in the restoration of the old church, Our Lady of Good Counsel. The work ran into difficulty and the villagers mocked the efforts of the monks. Before her death, however, Petruccia saw the opening of the church on April 26, 1467, at which time the picture of Our Lady of Good Counsel was unveiled. The people stood in wonder before its beauty! Mostly peasants, they were convinced it had come from paradise. They were reluctant to accept the story that the beautiful fresco had come from the walls of a church in Scutari, Albania. A recent discovery seems to confirm the Scutari origin. Restoration work was done on the famous painting by Professor de Compos between 1957 and 1961. At the time, letters were noticed on the edge of the child's robe that seemed to be a signature. They were deciphered as reading: "A. Vivanini made this"

De Compos concluded that the fresco was the work of the illustrious Antonio Vivanini, a master of the Veronese School of Art in the first half of the 15th century.

St. Patrick's Parish CWL Executive Members?

Position	Name	Phone	E-Mail
Spiritual Advisor	Fr. Dominic Barber	905-294-5955	fr.dominic@stpatrick.on.ca
President & Communication Chair	Lalita D'souza	416-209-6491	stpatrickscwl@gmail.com
Vice President & Organization Chair	Tania De Souza	416-729-6074	stpatrickscwl@gmail.com
Treasurer & Community Life	Kathleen Koyama	905-415-0012	stpatrickscwl@gmail.com
Secretary	Cherylon Mendes		stpatrickscwl@gmail.com
Spiritual Development & Christian Family Life	Gloria Remedios		stpatrickscwl@gmail.com
Historian Past President & Resolution Chair	Marlene Mogado		stpatrickscwl@gmail.com
Education & Health	Cindy Sisti		stpatrickscwl@gmail.com
Parish Activity	Kellie Hilliard		stpatrickscwl@gmail.com

Our Mission

The Catholic Women's League of Canada is a national organization rooted in gospel values calling its members to holiness through service to the people of God.



League Promise

For the glory of God and the good of God's people, I promise as a Catholic woman to honour, invoke and imitate our patroness, Our Lady of Good Counsel.

I promise to be a loyal member of the Catholic Women's League of Canada and to promote its interest and growth in every way.

I promise to cooperate with officers in all programs under their direction and to conform to the best of my ability to the bylaws of the organization in all League activities.

League Objects

The objects of the League shall be to unite Catholic women of Canada:

- to achieve individual and collective spiritual development.
- to promote the teachings of the Catholic church.
- to exemplify the Christian ideal in home and family life.
- to protect the sanctity of human life.
- to enhance the role of women in church and society.
- to recognize the human dignity of all people everywhere.
- to uphold and defend Christian education and values in the modern world.
- to contribute to the understanding and growth of religious freedom, social justice, peace and harmony.



League Crest

Words: The Catholic Women's League of Canada "For God And Canada." The name and motto of the League, in an unbroken circle, is symbolic of constant service to God and Canada.

Cross: Symbolic of faith. As Catholic women, we strive to be a symbol of Christ.

Leaves: Ten maple leaves, symbolic of the provinces of Canada

Colours: The colours of the crest are blue, white and gold: blue for our patroness, Our Lady of Good Counsel; white and gold for the papacy.

Blue symbolizes loyalty and faithfulness | White symbolizes purity and joy | Gold symbolizes the kingdom and royalty

Organizational Structure

The objects of the League shall be to unite Catholic women of Canada:

- The League is composed of councils at the parish, diocesan, provincial and national levels.

National Council

11 Provincial Councils

44 Diocesan Councils

Over 1,300 Parish Councils

- Each of the four levels has its own executive.
- Each council has a spiritual advisor who guides the council's spiritual development by his/her special advice and assistance.
- There are a number of standing committees, through which the chairpersons provide leadership and direction to members.
- If necessary, some flexibility is allowed in deciding which standing committees are required in individual councils. It is through the standing committees, that we fulfill the Objects of the League.

Why am I Member?

The Catholic Women's League of Canada is a powerful vehicle representing more than 99,000 Catholic women, expressing their concerns and acting upon issues of the present time.

To a member, the League is a gift of faith, friendship, leadership development, support and affirmation.

The League is the blueprint for all Catholic women. Through standing committees, members feel the pulse of what is happening in church and society. The resolutions process promotes the rights and dignity of all persons.

The League gives members the opportunity to serve as Beatitude women "For God and Canada."

Together we share our gifts and watch wonderful works happen.

What to expect?

Our council meets every 2nd Wednesday of each month.

The meetings usually last 2 hrs.

Depending on the activities planned, members are asked to participate and be engaged.

You will soon be receiving The Canadian League, our national magazine, which will be mailed out to you three times a year. Our province/diocese periodically publishes a newsletter which you may also receive.

While your presence at meetings is important, we realize that in this busy world, it may not always be possible for you to attend. Be assured that your interest and support are as important as your presence.

Enclosed are names and contact information of our Executive Committee. Feel free to contact us.

Links

<p><u>St. Patrick's CWL - Markham</u></p>	<p>Our council's website. For information and upcoming events.</p>	<p><u>www.stpatrickscwl.ca</u></p>
<p><u>Catholic Women's League of Canada- National Website</u></p>	<p>Promotes the teachings of the Catholic church throughout the provinces. Includes information about workshops, events, executive profiles, ...</p>	<p><u>www.cwl.ca</u></p>
<p><u>CWL Ontario</u></p>	<p>The Catholic Women's League of Canada - Ontario Provincial Council.</p>	<p><u>www.cwl.on.ca</u></p>
<p><u>CWL Toronto</u></p>	<p>The Catholic Women's League of Canada Toronto Diocesan Council</p>	<p><u>http://www.cwltoronto.ca</u></p>
<p><u>Archdiocese of Toronto</u></p>	<p>Promoting Catholics to be active and present in the community in many different ways.</p>	<p><u>www.archtoronto.org</u></p>
<p><u>Vatican: The Holy See</u></p>	<p>Official Vatican web site. Several languages supported. News services, Church documents, information on the Popes and departments of the Roman Curia.</p>	<p><u>www.vatican.va</u></p>
<p><u>Catholic Missions In Canada</u></p>	<p>Catholic Missions In Canada exists to keep the Catholic Faith in remote and poor mission communities across Canada</p>	<p><u>www.cmic.info</u></p>

Notes

CATHOLIC
and **LIVING IT!**

Thank You

The Catholic Women's
League

