MINUTES
CWL General Meeting
November 11th, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.
Blessed Sacrament Parish, Amherstview, Ontario in the Church Hall

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.

In Attendance: Donna Guiney, Shirley McDonald, Mary Lou Hills, Andrea Glover, Bernadette Veitch, Gisele Van Putten, Margaret Wilson, Susan Aubin, Gail Raymond, Liz Ford

By Zoom: Kelly Neville, Theresa Shanks

A Quorum (at least 7 members) WAS achieved at this meeting.

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1. INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

a) Welcome (Donna Guiney)

Donna opened the meeting at 6:34 pm.

b) Opening Prayer (Donna Guiney)

Liz led everyone in a Remembrance Day prayer.

c) Approval of the Agenda for the November 11th, 2025 General Meeting (Donna Guiney)

MOTION to approve the Agenda for the General Meeting of October 14th, 2025 was made by Andrea Glover and seconded by Susan Aubin. **CARRIED**

d) Approval of the Minutes of the October 14th, 2025 General Meeting (Shirley McDonald)

MOTION to approve the Minutes of the October 14th General Meeting was made by Bernadette Veitch and seconded by Andrea Glover. **CARRIED**

2. ELECTIONS

Kelly Neville reported on the results of recent elections. The following positions have been filled for the 2026-2027 term:

President: Shirley McDonald

Past President: Donna Guiney

Treasurer: Danna Dobson

Membership Convenor: Andrea Glover

Faith Chair: Anne Hanley

Service Chair: Danna Dobson

MOTION to accept the new Executive was made by Susan Aubin, seconded by Andrea Glover. **CARRIED**

The positions of **Vice President, Secretary** and **Social Justice Chair** were not filled. Kelly asked if anyone would like to volunteer to fill these positions, but was unsuccessful in filling them. Mary Lou Hills explained the two roles of Secretary. There is the corresponding secretary role, which receives and sends emails, acts as co-signer on cheques, and acts as the official liaison with the Diocesan council. The other role is that of recording secretary, who takes minutes of meetings. Mary Lou offered to be secretary in name for official purposes and carry out the duties of a corresponding secretary.

3. OFFICER REPORTS

a) Spiritual Advisor's Report (Fr. Charles)

No report.

b) Treasurer's Report (Danna Dobson)

No report. The bank balance for October was $5,543.28.

c) President's Report (Donna Guiney)

- Donna expressed gratitude to our members and to the Executive for being such a help to her during her term as President.
- Donna introduced some of the archdiocese's promotions in celebration of its upcoming 200th anniversary. There will also be special Journey magazines issued.
- Our Blessed Sacrament council will be hosting the winter Diocesan Presidents' meeting February 28th, 2026 as a new venue was required for this meeting. Food is catered, and there is a small gratuity provided to both the parish and the host CWL council. Donna and Shirley will be the lead on this project.

d) Membership/Vice President's Report (Shirley McDonald)

Shirley reminded everyone that they could renew their membership for 2026 at the Bazaar and be entered into the draw for the Earlybird prize (refund of membership fee).

4. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Faith Committee (Liz Ford)

- Liz provided copies of the Diocesan Advent calendar.
- The Kingston Diocesan Council is hosting Advent reflections on Zoom - "Longing for Light in the Darkness" - on November 25th (7:00 pm) and 27th (1:00 pm). To participate go to:

  https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86478460935?pwd=jPbHr9fEJFGSIYwhlGXjaFpOTFYhPg.1

  Meeting ID: 864 7846 0935

  Passcode: 211689

b) Service Committee (Danna Dobson)

- Floats for the Bazaar have been given to Donna.
- FundScrip campaign ends November 17th.
- Clothing drive continues.
- A social event is being planned for January or February.
- A meeting of those who volunteered to assist with the shoeboxes (Donna Guiney, Gail Raymond, Anne Nicholls, Gisele Van Putten, Margaret Wilson) is needed to complete the list of items that will go into the boxes and to have them available for the December meeting.

c) Social Justice Committee (Gail Raymond)

No report.

5. STANDING ITEMS

a) Policies & Procedures – N/A

b) Fundraising

i. FundScrip (Danna Dobson)

Orders are due back by November 17th.

ii. Snowflake Bazaar – November 15, 2025 (Donna Guiney)

- Donna & Mary Lou are co-chairing the Bazaar. Margaret is looking for additional volunteers to cut up vegetables and provide soup. Cathy's grandchildren will be helping with service. Gisele volunteered to make soup.
- Donna gave an overview of the volunteers who have signed up for the Bazaar.
- Theresa Shanks has called members to request baking.
- Table setup is Friday afternoon between 2:00 and 4:00 pm. Baking can be brought in at that time and between 7:00 and 9:00 pm.

c) Correspondence

- Thank-you card was received from Susan Aubin for birthday card and wishes.

6. NEW BUSINESS

a) 2026 CWL Diocesan Convention (Mary Lou Hills)

The convention will be held April 25th and 26th, 2026 at the Quality Inn, Kingston. Mary Lou discussed areas that need volunteers, such as hospitality, decorations, prayer room, transportation. CWL councils are asked to assist where able.

Donna suggested that our council look after the prayer room. This will be discussed further at the December meeting. Sue, Gail, Liz, Donna volunteered to work on this. Mary Lou will inform the Diocesan council of our interest.

b) Certificate of Appreciation (Donna Guiney)

It was suggested at the CWL executive meeting that our altar servers be awarded a certificate of appreciation at one of our Saturday masses. Donna will present these to the servers at mass. After discussion, it was decided to include Sunday servers as well. Bernadette Veitch will present these.

c) Baby Blankets

A resident of Briargate knits baby blankets and has a number to donate. It was suggested that she contact Birthright. Donna also suggested that a blanket could be given to each new baby being baptized. Shirley will forward these suggestions.

d) Life After Loss (Donna Guiney)

A Life after Loss mass will be held on November 25th at 7:00 pm. A signup sheet was passed around.

7. ADJOURNMENT AND CLOSING PRAYER

The meeting closed at 7:55 pm.

Liz led us in a birthday prayer for Bernadette and Sue.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, December 9th at 6:30 pm. Pizza and refreshments will be provided!