

**BLESSED SACRAMENT
CATHOLIC WOMENS' LEAGUE**

**2019 ANNUAL GENERAL
MEETING**



Agenda for 2019 Annual General Meeting

1. Welcome and call to order President
2. Opening prayer Spiritual Development Convenor
3. Approval of minutes of 2018 AGM..... Secretary
4. 2019: Annual Reports President
5. 2019: The Year in Review.....Historian
6. 2019: Financial Summary..... Treasurer
7. ElectionsPast President
8. Adjournment.....President

Minutes of 2018 Annual General Meeting

1. The Annual General Meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm on November 13, 2018 by Mary Lou Hills.
2. Kelly Neville led us in the League Prayer.
3. Minutes of AGM November 14, 2017 – Minutes were reviewed, and a motion made to accept with revisions. Moved by Ann Leclair, seconded by Sue MacDonald. CARRIED
4. The 2018 annual reports were reviewed. Mary Lou Hills thanked everyone for their hard work and support over the past year.
5. The 2018 Financial Summary was reviewed, and a motion made for approval. This will be appended to the 2018 Annual Report. Moved by Kelly Neville, seconded by Mary Garrah. CARRIED
6. A further motion was made to amend the Financial Report, changing the amount allocated for charitable donations to \$1,000.00. Moved by Bernadette Veitch, seconded by Kelly Neville. CARRIED
7. Elections were held for the positions of President Elect, Secretary, Treasurer and Membership. The position of President will be filled by Donna Guiney, currently President Elect. Results of elections:
 - President elect: Kelly Neville (by acclamation)
 - Secretary: Shirley McDonald (by acclamation)
 - Treasurer: Danna Dobson (by acclamation)
 - Membership: Margaret Barker (by acclamation)
8. Closing – Gail Raymond moved that the AGM be closed, seconded by Kelly Neville. CARRIED.

2019 Annual Reports

PRESIDENT (Donna Guiney)

The Blessed Sacrament Catholic Women's League has demonstrated service, lovingly and freely. To look at all the good works over the past year that have been accomplished is truly magnificent.

Our CWL members came together, coordinated, bought groceries, baked muffins, loaves, prepared fruit trays, cheese trays, and served breakfast for over 400 Catholic Women's League members (at one of the breakfasts) at the 72nd Provincial Convention. They went above and beyond what was called for and delivered an excellent meal fit for a Queen.

At our Diocesan Presidents' meetings, we learned more about the homeless and at the annual Development Day. We updated our policies and procedures of the Catholic Women's League, so we can run our meetings more efficiently.

The Provincial and Diocesan Conventions were an excellent occasion to take stock and rejoice. Several of our members attended both conventions, and they returned to our council renewed and determined to continue with a new energy.

The theme "Care for our Common Home" was enthusiastically embraced by our council in so many ways, helping to focus on the homeless and those who have less than we do. A strong underlying reason is the sisterhood and the caring of the lonely and poor, which moves from caring to action. Poverty and homelessness; human trafficking; the environment; social justice; and the dignity of every single person became paramount to our council. The theme encouraged members to look beyond one's own self and embrace the less fortunate.

"The Catholic Women's League of Canada calls its members to grow in faith and to witness the love of God through ministry and service," which our council succeeded well beyond imagination.

COMMUNICATIONS (Margaret Wilson)

The National Communications chair informed us of a new Mission statement approved at the 2018 Convention: "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."

Provincial Council had us involved with a new initiative, called "Warmth and Comfort". We were asked to donate to the homeless in our area.

In the 2019 winter League magazine, there was an article issued from the National President announcing a new theme called "Care for our Common Home". The focus is to be on conserving water for future generations.

In early spring the National Chair of Communication announced changes are coming to the League. The website cwl.ca has available resources for the "Implementation of the Strategic Plan 2018-2022". Effective June 2019, the National Executive has decided to discontinue the 1-888 phone number. Information, concerns and inquires should start with the parish council, the Diocesan, Provincial and then National.

A message from Pope Francis encouraged the faithful to pray for our common home beginning September 1st with the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation and ending October 4th with the feast of Saint Francis of Assisi.

A well-known factor for effective communication is good communication, which unlocks all doors and leads to success.

Our council members are informed about our Parish functions through the church bulletins and the meeting minutes are published on our web site. Members are also contacted by phone for certain events, sent birthday cards, sympathy cards, get well cards and Mass intentions.

The Catholic Women's League magazine, the Journey, our CWL website and Facebook page are a wealth of information for us to follow and to be able to communicate to others.

COMMUNITY LIFE (Carol Daigle)

We participated in the H.U.G. Centenary Committee Project 2019 from National to collect items for homeless shelters for women and children who live in poverty. National's goal was 2,019 packages of items for all of Canada. We collected enough to make up 51 very generous packages which were taken to Interval House in Kingston.

Care boxes were sent at Easter to local military members serving out of Canada. We had two members of the Regiment speak at the Parish Beef Dinner in June.

We continue to collect used stamps that are taken to Ottawa for sale to stamp collectors. The money raised is sent to a Canadian Doctor who sends food, clothing and school supplies to local missionaries in Third World countries.

Winter coats, boots, scarves, mittens, socks etc. were donated to the Kingston Street Mission. As usual, our parishioners were very generous.

Birthday cards are sent out to our CWL members on their birth month with Masses celebrated for their intentions.

We celebrated the August birthdays of the residents of the Helen Henderson Care facility. Our ladies bring cupcakes and cakes and help with the party. It's a fun afternoon.

EDUCATION (Jayme Joyce)

OLMC requested that CWL members assist with some of their projects, and our members enthusiastically agreed to assist whenever needed.

Grade 8 graduation awards were presented to two students from Our Lady of Mt. Carmel School from our CWL council. Each award was \$150.00.

HISTORIAN (Mary Lou Hills)

The purpose of an Annual General Meeting of a not-for profit organization is to demonstrate to the public how the organization fulfills its mission and role for the betterment of a community not only financially, but in an organization such as The Catholic Women's League of Canada, spiritually and socially. The women of Blessed Sacrament Catholic Women's League Council are a dedicated, hard-working and fun-loving group of fantastic women that continue to provide service to Blessed Sacrament Parish, the Amherstview and the Kingston communities. The list of activities and the charities that we continue to support is amazing.

We began 2019 in February by obtaining cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and automated external defibrillator (AED) training for 14 parishioners. Through the continued leadership of Carol and Roger Daigle of "Project Homeland", we continue to support the men and women of the

Canadian Forces. Theresa Shanks held cross stitching lessons as CWL members replenished the supply of “Purple Crosses” for use during Lent, so that parishioners could share, through prayer, the sorrows or crosses of fellow parishioners. Each April we assist Birthright by hosting our annual baby shower. We continue to work with the Knights of Columbus with the annual Garage and Bake Sale in late April or early May. Our annual spring potluck dinner was held in June this year. This year, leading up to the meeting/dinner, we were able to deliver toiletries, food items, socks, toys such as teddy bears and other stuffed animals that members and parishioners donated as we reached out to Women’s Shelters in the Kingston and Napanee area.

The above are works of mercy, but we also grow spiritually through the continued practice of honouring our Blessed Mother on Mother’s Day each year, as our President, or another member of the Council, crowns her statue. In April, we continue to acknowledge her as our patroness as Our Lady of Good Counsel by a special means – this year by attending Mass and then adjourning to the Parish Hall for coffee, tea and muffins.

We didn’t rest this past summer, but with the financial assistance of two Brockville area Councils, we provided a continental breakfast to 425 registrants in attendance at the Provincial Council Convention that was hosted in Kingston by the Kingston Diocesan Council.

Members hosted a Murder Mystery Night in the fall. Along with members of the Knights of Columbus, the CWL also hosted a Beef Dinner. As well, our members provide funeral lunches to help families through the grieving process.

During our December potluck supper, to which the Parish is also invited, we honoured two very special members of the CWL: Anne Nichols and Susan Aubin. These dedicated women were awarded Certificates of Merit for their tireless assistance to the League, to the Kingston Community and through their Spirituality. Anne is a faithful lector at daily Mass and Susan volunteers at the parish bingos. Both of these fine ladies help with funeral luncheons.

In closing, it is a privilege for me to continue to be a member of such a spiritually moving and beautiful group of women such as the Blessed Sacrament council of The Catholic Women’s League of Canada.

RESOLUTIONS (Danna Dobson)

The *Canadian League* magazine continues to inform the membership on Resolutions passed and acted upon at the National level. In addition, we make sure the members are aware of activities happening within the Diocese and Province in order to offer our voices and support in accordance with the wishes of the members.

LEGISLATION (Danna Dobson)

The *Canadian League* magazine continues to inform the membership on Legislation passed and acted upon at the National level. In addition, we make sure the members are aware of activities happening within the Diocese and Province in order to offer our voices and support in accordance with the wishes of the members.

MEMBERSHIP (Margaret Barker)

Our Annual Membership Drive started at the Potluck Supper in December 2018 and continued into the New Year. Members of the Executive spoke after two Masses to encourage membership renewals and to solicit new members. Sadly, we lost five members this year and

we had two members transfer out. We did however have two members transfer into our Council. We have a total of 66 members, including Father Shea.

A committee was set up to review the Blessed Sacrament Policy Manual, with the goal of updating the policy in 2020 to amalgamate Membership responsibilities under the same section and to include specific activities carried out by the Membership Convenor.

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT (Kelly Neville)

We began our meetings with the Prayer of St. Francis to remind us of the national theme of the year, "Care for our Common Home". We finished our evenings with the prayer for our council's prayer partner. Highlights from this year include the Crowning of the Statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary on Mother's Day, and participation from our council in the World Day of Prayer.

We also continued what has become an ongoing Corporal Act of Mercy by sponsoring one person or family that is financially in need through our Parish Assistance Fund. We provide a donation box at all meetings, where members can donate money as well. The individual or family that is sponsored is known to only a select few to protect their privacy and dignity.

ORGANIZATION (Kelly Neville)

In 2019 our President attended our Diocesan Spring Convention, where she voted on several important resolutions. Among the resolutions were Canadian Support for the United Nations' Treaty of the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and increasing the funding for long-term care beds to 30,000 by 2025 instead of the 2030 deadline the province has set.

2019: The Year in Review

FEBRUARY: Review and discussion of 2019 budget and charitable donations. CWL organized CPR re-certification for parishioners. Earlybird draw for CWL membership was won by Anne Nicholls.

MARCH: *Pornography Hurts* postcards made available this month. Members attended the annual Diocesan Retreat.

APRIL: Celebration mass and social for Our Lady of Good Counsel. Birthright baby shower was held.

MAY: Liz Guiney spoke about her recent mission trip to New York. Several members attended the annual Diocesan Convention. A successful bake sale was held on May 4th and the Crowning of Mary ceremony was held on May 12th. Members provided refreshments following Confirmation.

JUNE: Spring Potluck Dinner was held. Our council donated items to the HUG Centenary Committee for women's shelters.

JULY: Members from our council supplied breakfast at the provincial convention held in Kingston.

AUGUST: A successful Helen Henderson Care Centre Birthday party was held on August 29th.

SEPTEMBER: Members participated in a Spiritual Bouquet for Diocesan Spiritual Advisor, Father Dale Wright.

OCTOBER: A Pie Making Bee was held on October 30th to prepare frozen pies for the Bazaar. Members participated in a Spiritual Bouquet for Archbishop Mulhall.

NOVEMBER: Chris Eggink presented "Recycling Made Easy" at our meeting. Our annual Snowflake Bazaar was held on November 16th. A Coat Drive for the Kingston Street Mission was organized by members.

DECEMBER: Christmas Potluck Dinner was held with presentation of member awards. Commencement of 2020 Membership Drive.

AWARDS AND PINS

Our Council presented the following awards and pins in 2019:

25-year pin:	Doreen Thirnbeck Susan Aubin
20-year pin:	Maureen Birdsell Cathy Splinter
15-year pin:	Johanna Boon
10-year pin:	Ellen Gervais Kelly Neville Diane Raffael
Certificate of Merit:	Susan Aubin Anne Nicholls Ann Leclair

CHARITIES

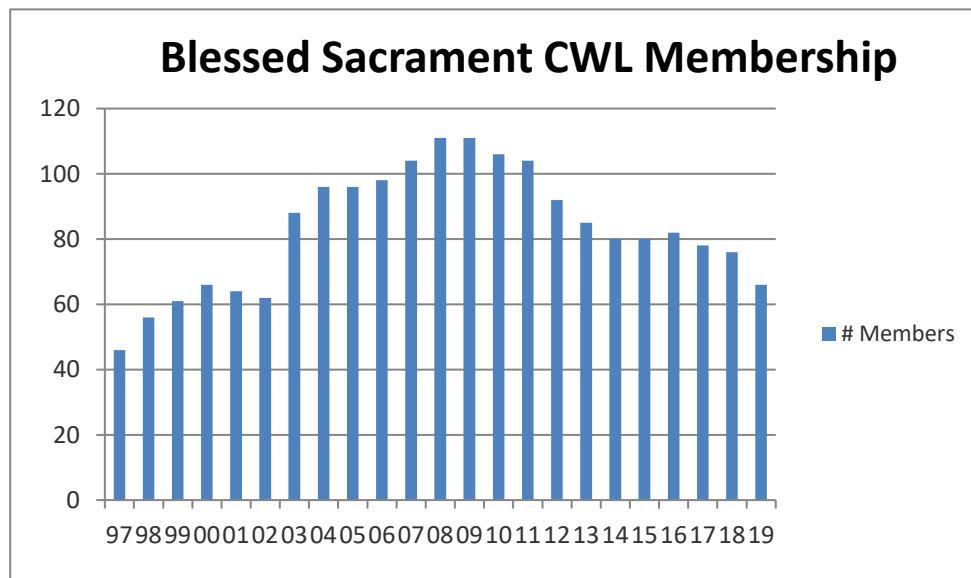
Diocesan Level:

- Hope Fund
- Birthright
- Billings Life

Parish Level:

- 8th Grade Graduation bursaries
- Food Bank (Amherstview Lions Club)
- Loonies for Pesos
- Life After Loss
- Parish Assistance/Foster Family
- Kingston Street Mission

2019 Membership Growth Chart





2019 APPROVED CHARITABLE DONATION LIST FOR ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT

Name of Organization	Amount
Birthright	Fundraising Event
Hope Fund	\$200.00
Pennies for Pesos	\$200.00
Billings Life Natural Family Planning	\$100.00
Life After Loss	\$100.00
Blessed Sacrament Parish	\$1,500.00
Discretionary	\$500.00
Lion's Club	\$100.00
Martha's Table	\$100.00
Food Bank	\$100.00
Catholic Christian Outreach	\$200.00
Kingston Street Mission	Fundraising Event
TOTAL approved for Year end Report	<u>\$2,600.00</u>