BLESSED SACRAMENT
CATHOLIC WOMENS' LEAGUE

2026 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
with
2025 SUMMARY REPORTS

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AGENDA FOR 2026 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

1. Welcome and call to order ..... President
2. Opening prayer ..... Faith Committee Chairperson
3. Approval of Agenda for 2026 AGM ..... Secretary
4. Approval of Minutes of 2025 AGM ..... Secretary
5. 2025: Annual Reports ..... President
6. 2025: Membership Summary ..... Secretary
7. 2025: Financial Summary ..... Treasurer
8. 2025 Year in Review ..... Secretary
9. Adjournment ..... President

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MINUTES OF 2025 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

1. Donna Guiney welcomed the members and opened the Annual General Meeting of February 11, 2025 at 6:37 pm. There were 14 members in attendance and two members were on Zoom.
2. Anne Nicholls led us in prayer to Our Lady of Good Council.
3. Motion was made by Mary Lou Hills to accept the minutes of the Annual General Meeting of February 13, 2024. Motion was seconded by Shirley McDonald. →CARRIED
4. Donna Guiney asked the members to look over the Annual Reports.
5. Motion to accept the Annual Reports was made by Heather Matthews. Motion was seconded by Gail Raymond. →CARRIED
6. Donna Guiney adjourned the Annual General Meeting at 6:40 pm.

2025 ANNUAL REPORTS

PRESIDENT (Donna Guiney)

The theme: "*Here I am, Lord, Send Me*" was the national theme for the Catholic Women's League for 2024-2025. Our CWL put this theme into action once again this year! As I look back over 2025, this theme was evident, as the members brought their gifts of prayer, service, kindness, and acts of love! I am truly edified with all their good works! Our members volunteered to serve God with faith and readiness to go wherever He called them! No matter if it was a coat drive or praying for palliative care or bringing a birthday cake to Helen Henderson, a birthright baby shower, making cookies, it was all done to serve God. Our members volunteered to serve with faith and willingness to go wherever they were called.

Being President of Blessed Sacrament's Catholic Women's League was truly a gift! Once again Blessed Sacrament's Catholic Women's League surpassed all my expectations! Thank you for a wonderful year!!

PAST PRESIDENT: (Kelly Neville)

My primary responsibility this year was serving as Chair of the Election Committee. Thank-you to everyone who allowed their names to stand for election.

The Policies and Procedures Committee completed the remaining policies. The two that were new this year were the Helen Henderson Birthday Party and Archives. As your Past President, I gave Donna a photo of me meeting the Pope for placement in our new archives' storage.

As I reflect on the last seven years - three as Vice President/President-elect, two as President and two as Past President - it has been an absolute honour to serve in the League. And although for personal reasons I have to step back from the executive, I am not leaving. I will still help out when I can. Thank-you from the bottom of my heart for all your support during my time on the executive.

VICE PRESIDENT: (Shirley McDonald)

A successful membership drive was conducted in 2025, with the addition of three new members and renewal of all but one of the previous year's members (remaining member moved away). A full membership report follows.

FAITH STANDING COMMITTEE: (Liz Ford)

Once again, we had a faith-filled year! I began each meeting and ended each meeting with a prayer. For First Communion and Confirmation I made sure we had enough gifts from the CWL and medals for all those Baptized at Blessed Sacrament. Other activities: made sure someone was present to present graduation awards, First Communion and Confirmation gifts, someone was present on Mother's Day to do the Crowning of the Blessed Virgin Mary Statue, Coordinated Birthright Shower, World Day of Prayer representative for Blessed Sacrament, ensured Masses for members and others of the parish. I also ordered St. Carlos Acutis medals for the Christmas boxes that were put together.

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SERVICE STANDING COMMITTEE: (Danna Dobson)

What a year of continued learning! Service Committee members worked closely with Social Justice members in recommending how to allocate the approved funds for community donations as well as identifying target audiences for our regularly scheduled food and winter clothing drives. We provided support to communities and people in need of shelter, warm clothes, food and mental health services. Information from Social Justice members connected us with schools, churches, Loyalist Sharing Centre, St. Vincent de Paul, Food Banks within our Township, to identify appropriate distribution channels for goods, services and cash to help those in need of assistance. In total we donated $2,600; $2,050 to the Parish and Parish programmes, $550 to community organizations and $100 to the HOPE fund.

We worked on the start of a plan for the CWL to formally adopt/acknowledge some regular activities and to identify new ones and/or one-time events that would maximize community outreach and impact. With the formation of the Parish Council, the CWL and the Knights of Columbus agreed it was time to return the operational oversight for the Food Bank Program to the Parish level. We did agree to make sure that the CWL had a representative on the new committee for transition and ongoing support.

The winter clothing drive – hats, coats, scarves, socks mitts and gloves - was successful for another year, with donations distributed through several organizations. Next year we would hope to work more closely with the Sharing Centre to see if some of the seasonal change over donations can go to St. Vincent de Paul and not just to Value Village.

On Mother's Day, CWL members distributed carnations to all women attending mass. Some women who were not mothers were a bit confused, so perhaps another date should be considered next year. This specific date prompted us to hold strawberry social Coffee House on Father's Day.

Anyone for Coffee and Conversation? In addition to lessons learned from last year, we hosted an event on Father's Day complete with live entertainment and strawberry-themed sweets. There were approximately 30 people in attendance. We want to continue to look at different time slots over the course of the next year, with the hope of reaching a larger group of people and increasing attendance to our events. We seem to have the volunteers willing to help make it happen.

Missing You…Thank you to members who donated items and the shoeboxes for us to remember our fellow Sisters of the League that we don't get to see too often. We prepared and delivered 18 shoeboxes of holiday treats, small gifts, and a Christmas card to let the women know we think of them and hope we will see them out to a few meetings and/or events in 2026. Perhaps it is time to reflect on who else we can acknowledge with a shoebox of goodies - any time of the year!

As we become more familiar with the scope of opportunities and responsibilities for this Committee, we will look to see how we work collectively across all committees to maximize our impact to the benefit of our members, parishioners and the community at large.

Is it time for a survey?

SOCIAL JUSTICE STANDING COMMITTEE: (Gail Raymond, Danna Dobson)

The Social Justice Committee works closely with the Service Committee regarding recommendations on how to allocate the approved funds to support the less fortunate in our community and to raise community and parish awareness on several significant areas of interest.

Although not absolutely related to several national resolutions, we looked locally to provide financial and material support to communities and people in need of shelter, warm clothes, food

and mental health services. We connected with schools, churches, Sharing Centre, St. Vincent de Paul, local Christmas Hamper campaigns, and Threads of Hope to identify appropriate distribution channels for goods, services and cash to help those in need of assistance.

In addition to direct services, we advertised within the parish and our CWL about information sessions on domestic partner violence and human trafficking, to raise awareness. Each year we purchase and distribute the Stop Pornography postcards and encourage members and parishioners to mail them to MPs and MPPs at no cost, and to other organizations of influence.

Other informational topics touched on this year included an update on the status of the Medical Assistance in Dying (MAID) legislation, and the federal legislation looking to change the capability of smaller, not-for-profit organizations to remain as charitable organizations. In March we had a guest speaker on "Internet Safety". Thank you to Liz Ford who helped coordinate a "Birthright" shower in the spring.

As with many of our issues and concerns, we must look to see how to reach a broader audience within parish and community with the hope of influencing change – more of it and sooner.

2025 MEMBERSHIP SUMMARY

MEMBERSHIP REPORT (Shirley McDonald)

There were 67 members in 2025 (*see chart following*), which included three new members. A successful membership drive was held, with two Early Bird draws - one for members who renew by January 31st and one for new members who join by February 28th. We continue to support our members who reside in nursing homes by assuming their membership fee. In 2025 we lost two of our longtime members. Their names will be added to our deceased CWL member plaque, which now hangs in our church hall. A new plaque honouring our Presidents was installed this year to celebrate our council's 30th anniversary.

AWARDS AND PINS

Our council presented the following pins in 2025:

25 Years' Service:	Nickie Lake
20 Years' Service:	Mary Grace Amann, Eleanor Wagar
10 Years' Service:	Linda Boese

In March, Father Charles Ogbuagu was presented with the Spiritual Advisor's pin and stole.

The Maple Leaf Service Pin was presented to our Treasurer, Danna Dobson, at our December meeting. Also in December, our council presented Certificates of Appreciation to our altar servers.

MEMBERSHIP FEES/DUES

Membership fees increased to $30.00 in 2025.

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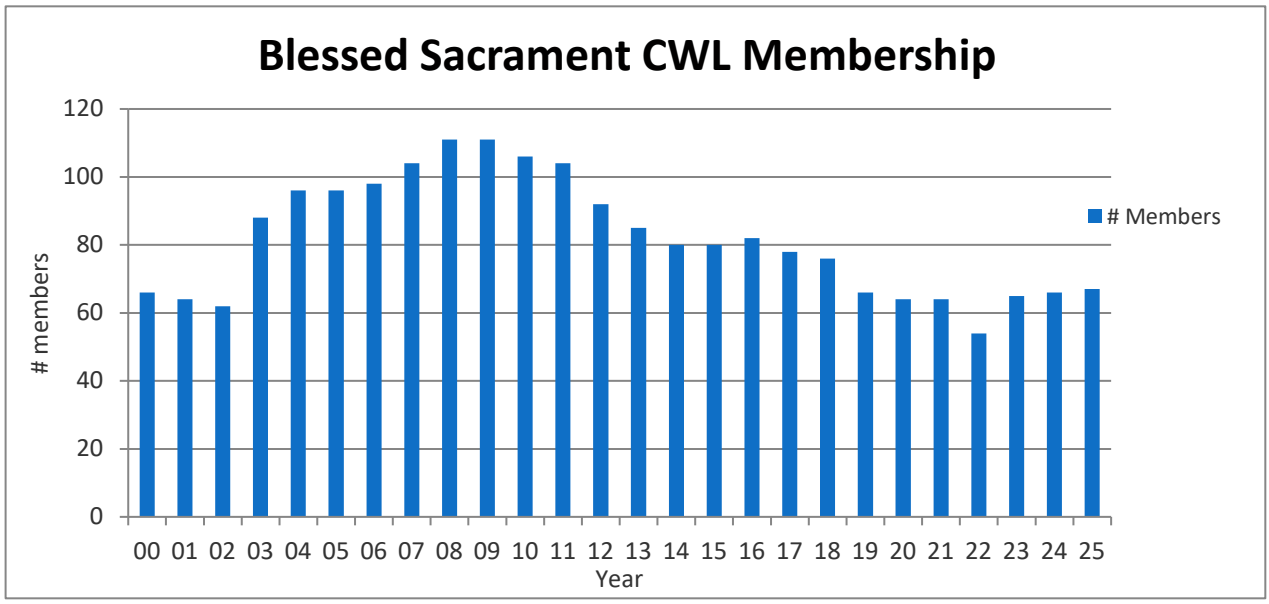

2025 FUNDRAISING

SPRING BAKE SALE

Our annual Bake Sale was held in May 2025 in conjunction with the Knights of Columbus Garage Sale. This year we trialed a "no-pay" sale, with baked items being available by donation and no pricing on the items (except for large items such as loaves and pies). Final totals indicated that the amount raised was considerably more than what would have been raised had we priced the items individually. The decision was made to do this for all bake sales in the future, as it is also less work and requires fewer volunteers.

VIRTUAL SILENT AUCTION (Shirley McDonald)

A Virtual Silent Auction was held on September 22nd, 2025, with a profit after expenses of $1,737.00. Participation was up from the previous year. This continues to be a very successful fundraiser for our council.

FUNDSCRIP (Danna Dobson)

We continue to run a gift card campaign twice a year. Revenues from these campaigns are mainly used to offset the membership dues gap owed at National and Diocesan levels. For more information, refer to the Treasurer's Report.

SNOWFLAKE BAZAAR (Donna Guiney)

Our annual bazaar was held Saturday, November 15th from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm and was attended by many guests and parishioners. People come back year to year to catch up with old acquaintances and stop by our luncheon room for some Soup 'n Sweets.

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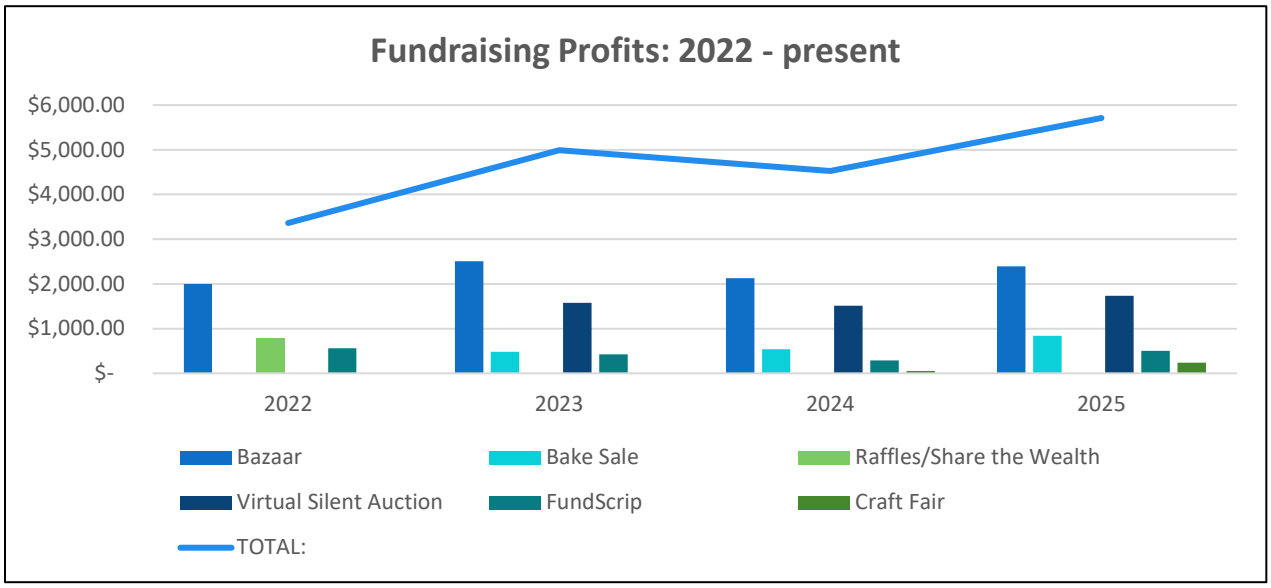
Where's Elfo? Was a hit this year! As well, we had a successful bake sale and pie sale!!! Our Christmas Shoppe had many gifts, and familiar faces greeted our customers with Christmas Spirit and good returns.

In 2025 we trialed a small craft fair, with seven vendors. Our vendors had many customers! The vendors expressed satisfaction with the fair and provided important feedback towards our larger craft show planned for April, 2026.



TREASURER'S REPORT (Danna Dobson)

1. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

A shout-out of thanks to the members that led fundraising activities this year.

Revenues from the two FundScrip campaigns ($504.20) are mainly used to offset the membership dues gap owed at National and Diocesan levels. Although we raised our membership fee to $30 in 2025, this increase still left us short by $8.50 per member. We continue to pay full rate of $38.50 for our spiritual advisor/ priest, our RHSJ sisters and our members in Long-Term Care.

In addition to our specific fundraising events, our operating capital received donations from several parishioners. On behalf of all of us at our Council, thank-you very much. We pray that you find a way to remain supportive in the years ahead, so that we may continue to invest in our community.

Even though the approved budget forecasted a "manageable" deficit, subject to changing circumstances we ended 2025 on the positive side, allowing us to donate more money to our parish and our priest for his extended visit home. We ended the year with a positive bank balance of $8,565.42; with approximately $1,400 being unavailable. These funds comprise $485.50 of 2026 membership dues collected and deposited early in support of an earlybird draw

and donations paid out late in the year. to allow. An unaudited financial statement, and a detailed donations report are provided separately for the AGM report.

This being the second year of a near balance budget (revenue~ $600), after fundraising changes, the 2026 Executive and membership will consider a balanced budget, expecting a limited number of special motions to support committee activities and additional donations; or a similar deficit budget that acknowledges where extra costs are likely; and have it approved by the members at the outset of the year, subject to changing circumstances.

The supplied financial statement is not an audited one, nor is it accurate for total costs of operations. The CWL Bake Sale as well as the Snowflake Bazaar are benefactors from donations of baked goods and raw materials to prepare frozen pies, Tea Table goody trays, and prizes. In addition to these hidden costs, the volunteer time is priceless.

2. CHARITABLE DONATIONS

2025 Charitable Donations List

Name of Organization	Amount
Amherstview Lion's Club - Holiday Baskets	$100.00
Blessed Sacrament Parish	$1,800.00
Blessed Sacrament Parish Assistance	$100.00
Blessed Sacrament Parish Families	$100.00
Blessed Sacrament Parish Life After Loss Program	$50.00
HOPE Fund	$100.00
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel School Food Programme	$200.00
St. Vincent de Paul Kingston	$100.00
Threads of Hope	$50.00
Total for 2025	**$2,600.00**

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3. FINANCIAL ACTUALS FOR 2025 BUDGET YEAR:

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CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

2025 Financial Report

Income	Approved 2025	2025 Year End
Paid Membership	$ 1,800.00	$ 2,048.50
Fundraising Income	$ 4,500.00	$ 6,021.63
Bake Sale	$ 500.00	$ 865.00
Funeral Lunches	$ 400.00	$ 100.00
Craft Vendor table rental	$ -	$ 235.00
Donations	$ 500.00	$ 533.07
other		
Total Income	$ 7,700.00	$ 9,803.20
	Approved 2025	2025 Year End
Office	$ 200.00	$ 957.41
Kitchen	$ 50.00	$ 22.60
Bazaar	$ 600.00	$ 549.78
Fundraising	$ 150.00	$ 128.10
Funerals	$ 400.00	$ 86.53
Conventions***(2 policy max +5?)	$ 577.00	$ 438.00
Guest Speakers	$ 50.00	$ 25.00
Standing Committees	$ 500.00	$ 540.33
Baptism Pins	$0.00	
Communion/Confirmation Gifts	$0.00	$ -
Grad gifts	$ 300.00	$ 300.00
Mbrs Pins/Awards/Gifts	$ 25.00	$ 73.75
Clergy BD Anniversary Gifts	$ 50.00	$ 50.00
Clergy Christmas Gifts	$ 75.00	*$ 150.00*
Masses	$ 400.00	$ 420.00
Charitable Donations	$ 550.00	$ 550.00
HOPE Fund	$ 100.00	$ 100.00
Life After Loss	$ 50.00	$ 50.00
Parish Assistance	$ 100.00	$ 100.00
Donation - Church	$ 800.00	$ 1,800.00
CWL Memberships	$ 2,496.00	$ 2,656.50
Bank Charges	$ 30.00	$ 36.00
Other	$ 100.00	$ 822.62
Total Expenses	$ 7,603.00	$ 9,856.62

Dec Balance **$8,565.42**

Forecasted year end balance $ 7,234.53

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2025: THE YEAR IN REVIEW

JANUARY: No meeting.

FEBRUARY: Our Annual General Meeting was held on February 11th, followed by a general meeting. The Council approved the purchase of a Spiritual Advisor's stole and agreed to send two accredited delegates to the 2025 diocesan convention and pay registration fees for five additional members to attend. Denise Ford won the Earlybird member renewal prize.

MARCH: Guest speaker on Secrets to Staying Safe on the Internet. Three new members joined our council. Our council presented the following pins at the March meeting: 25 Years Nickie Lake; 20 years Eleanor Wagar, Mary Grace Amann; 10 years Linda Boese. Father Charles was presented with his CWL stole.

APRIL: A baby shower for Birthright was held prior to the General Meeting. At the General Meeting, plans were made for the upcoming Bake Sale, Mothers' and Fathers' Day, Easter and 12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care.

MAY: On May 4th, members marked 12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative care by setting aside an hour for prayer at home. Suggested prayers were provided to those who has signed up. For Mothers' Day, we distributed carnations to all women after each Mass on Mother's Day weekend. Planning for our council's 30th anniversary is underway. Approval was given for purchase of a commemorative plaque listing our council's Presidents. A FundScrip drive was held in May as well as a Bake Sale in conjunction with the Knights of Columbus garage sale.

JUNE: The Service Committee organized a Father's Day Coffee House with music and snacks. The Social Justice Committee coordinated the Helen Henderson Birthday Party on June 19th.

JULY: No meeting.

AUGUST: No meeting.

SEPTEMBER: On September 6th our council celebrated 30 years in conjunction with the Knights of Columbus (30 years) and parish (45 years) anniversaries. An anniversary Mass was held and refreshments and cake were available outside the church. On September 14th our ladies and others in the parish joined in the Central Deanery Jubilee celebration at St. Mary's Cemetery. Planning was begun for a CWL-sponsored Craft Fair in April, 2026. A successful Silent Auction was held on September 27th.

OCTOBER: Life Member Bernadette Burgess spoke to our Council on "The Joy of Leadership", a discernment exercise in preparation for our elections in November. The Faith Committee provided rosaries to parishioners. A FundScrip campaign was started in October, to end at the Bazaar in November.

NOVEMBER: At our General Meeting on November 11th, we elected a new Council for 2026-27. On Saturday, November 15th, we held our annual Snowflake Bazaar, coordinated by Donna Guiney and Mary Lou Hills. A small vendor fair was trialed successfully with seven vendors. Winter clothing drive commenced in November.

DECEMBER: A short meeting (with pizza) was held followed by a Christmas party with games and prizes. We also filled Christmas "shoeboxes" for our members who find it difficult to come to meetings. Certificates of Appreciation were presented to all of our altar services on the weekend of December 13/14. Our Treasurer, Danna Dobson, was awarded the Maple Leaf Service pin.