



MINUTES

CWL General Meeting

April 26, 2021 at 7:00 PM

Blessed Sacrament Parish, Amherstview, Ontario

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.

Attendance by Zoom (6): Shirley McDonald, Margaret Barker, Susan Aubin, Shirley Jaynes, Theresa Shanks, Sue MacDonald.

Attendance In Person (5): Donna Guiney, Danna Dobson, Anne Nicholls, Margaret Wilson, Mary Lou Hills.

A Quorum was NOT achieved at this meeting.

This meeting was preceded by a Mass to celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel. Following Mass, Donna presented Father Shea a birthday and anniversary gift (47 years).

Executive Reports

1. Welcome and call meeting to order (Donna Guiney)

Donna called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

2. Approval of Agenda (Donna Guiney)

MOVED by Mary Lou Hills to approve the agenda of the general meeting of April 26, 2021 as distributed.

Seconded by Margaret Wilson. **CARRIED.**

3. Approval of Minutes (Donna Guiney)

MOVED by Margaret Barker to approve the minutes of the general meeting of March 9, 2021 as distributed.

Seconded by Susan Aubin. **CARRIED.**

4. Spiritual Development Report (Bernadette Veitch)

Donna read Bernadette's report about Our Lady of Good Counsel. The full report is attached.

5. Treasurer Report (Danna Dobson)

The opening balance was \$4,649.83 and the closing balance was \$4,114.83. Approximately \$500.00 is unavailable. We have an approved budget that is predicated on some income through creative fundraising! We have prioritized our "expenses" for our birthday masses, for the parish, for Parish Assistance and for Fr. Shea (birthday and anniversary) and stamps so we can stay in touch with each other.

We have donated to the Hope Fund. Birthright is a likely candidate, especially since we are not able to collect donations of gifts and money from face to face get togethers. Going forward, each meeting we will spend no more than 5 minutes considering a candidate for a portion of our approved funds. If we don't spend it all this year, that is okay too. Remember we need some income to offset our expenses and maintain some contingency. Bring your ideas.

In the absence of a quorum, discussions about donations to Birthright were deferred to the May meeting.

6. Past President's Report (Mary Lou Hills)

Mary Lou reported that the Diocesan convention to be held in May for council presidents only, has been deferred to a June date to be determined, due to the COVID lockdown.

Closing Prayer and Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 p.m. Donna led in the League Prayer.

Meetings 2021: May 11, June 8, September 14, October 12, November 9, December 14

CWL General Meeting

April 26, 2021

FULL TEXT OF SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT REPORT:

If you put all the love of all the mothers into one heart, it still would not equal the love of the heart of Mary for her children. - St. Louis Grignion de Montfort.

Today is the Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel, the patroness of the Catholic Women's League of Canada. In 1923 in Halifax, a resolution was passed to adopt Our Lady of Good Counsel as the League Patroness.

It is interesting to note, that the title Mother of Good Counsel had been inserted into the Litany of the Blessed Virgin on April 22, 1903 by Pope Leo XIII including the invocation "*Mater boni consilii*" in the Litany of Loreto.

Our Lady is rightly honored under this title, for she is the Mother of Christ, whom Isaiah with prophetic vision called "Wonderful Counselor" (Isaiah 9: 5: L) she lived her whole life under the guidance of the "Spirit of Counsel", who "overshadowed" her, she "gave herself wholeheartedly to God's wise and loving plan for renewing all things in Christ" (Ephesians 1:10), "generously God poured out" on her "the gifts of the Holy Spirit", most importantly, the "spirit of wisdom".

Our Lady is enlightened by the gift of counsel, is honoured as Mother and teacher, who willingly shared with children and disciples of Christ that they must before all else do what Christ has told them to do.

The mediation of the Mother of Jesus as Co-redemptor of all graces, and Advocate for the people of God is contained in the teachings of the Church.

We can find the heart of Mary in scripture. Though she says little, her words mean much. She is constant in her trust in the Lord and in her surrender and gives us an example of the perfect disciple.

Mary is a gift from the Lord. She has a love and heart for you because she knows how much Jesus wishes a relationship with you. She's just waiting for you to ask for her intercession.

God can come to us without Our Blessed Mother. But sometimes, we need help. That's where she comes in. In John 19:26 Jesus says to John, the beloved disciple, "behold your mother". In that moment, Jesus was giving all of us a gift - a heavenly mother to watch over us and lead us to Him. She takes all of our failures and faults and intercedes for us and pleads for the grace we need to move forward in our faith journey. Mary joins the angels in protecting us from evil and as the spouse of the Spirit bestows special graces upon us. At the wedding in Cana, Our Blessed Mother tells the servants to "Do whatever He tells you". We know the rest of the story. He turns the jars of water into wine. Are we ready, with Our Blessed Mother's help, to "Do whatever He tell us"?

Our life, although it doesn't feel like it right now, is like a wedding banquet. Let us fill our jars with water, share our love with others. Our Blessed Mother will help us to "Do whatever He tell us."

In Closing,

REMEMBER, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly to thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother; to thee do I come; before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.