MINUTES
CWL General Meeting
March 10th, 2026 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: Shirley McDonald, Danna Dobson, Fr. Charles Ogbuagu, Anne Nicholls, Susan Aubin, Bernadette Veitch, Gail Raymond, Margaret Wilson, Gisele Van Putten, Theresa Shanks, Pat Hoobin, Liz Ford, Donna Guiney, Myrna Greenwood, Nathalie Beliveau-Scott, Mary Lou Hills, Andrea Glover

By Zoom: Kelly Neville

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

THE 2026-2027 EXECUTIVE WAS INSTALLED PRIOR TO THE MEETING

1. INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

a) Welcome (Shirley McDonald)

Shirley opened the meeting at 6:43 pm and welcomed everyone.

b) Opening Prayer (Andrea Glover)

Andrea said a welcoming prayer.

c) Approval of the Agenda of the March 10th, 2026 General Meeting (Shirley McDonald)

Note a change to the calendar: Garage & Bake Sale will be held on Saturday, May 9th instead of May 16th.

MOTION to approve the Agenda for the General Meeting of March 10th, 2026 as distributed was made by Danna Dobson and seconded by Susan Aubin. **CARRIED**

d) Approval of the Minutes of the February 12th, 2026 General Meeting (Shirley McDonald)

MOTION to approve the Minutes of the February 12, 2026 General Meeting as distributed was made by Liz Ford and seconded by Gail Raymond. **CARRIED**

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2. OFFICER REPORTS

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

Fr. Charles expressed his hope for a fruitful Easter season. Lenten confessions will be on Palm Sunday at 2:00 pm. Father praised the work of the subcommittees which are moving along well. He spoke briefly about the June retreat, pilgrimage and Corpus Christi procession.

b) President's Report (Shirley McDonald)

No report.

c) Treasurer's Report & 2026 Budget Review (Danna Dobson)

The final 2026 draft budget was circulated for discussion.

MOTION to approve the 2026 budget as distributed was made by Danna Dobson and seconded by Mary Lou Hills. . **CARRIED**

d) Past President's Report (Donna Guiney)

Donna, Mary Lou Hills and Theresa Shanks attended the recent World Day of Prayer, which had a Nigerian theme. Mary Lou spoke about the event and the wonderful food. Next year is a centennial year, "United in Prayer for Justice and Peace", and our parish is hosting this. It was agreed that this is an event that should be organized by the Parish Council with assistance from us and the Knights of Columbus as needed.

e) Membership Report (Andrea Glover)

We currently have 65 paid members. There are three new members – Nathalie Belliveau-Scott, Amanda Allen and Johanna Whittaker/Marks. Andrea introduced Nathalie and presented her with her insignia pin. The winner of the New Member draw was Amanda Allan.

Milestone pin recipients were:

10-year pin: Liz Ford

20-year pin: Mary Grace Amann, Sister Emery, Betty Hutchinson, Shirley Jaynes, Shirley McDonald, Jane McGrath

30-year pin: Marg Beneteau, Myrna Greenwood, Donna Guiney, Pat Hoobin, Jane McKenna, Anne Nicholls, Rose Reid, Mary Seifred, Ann Tobin, Margaret Wilson.

60-year pin: Eleanor Taggart

3. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no standing committee reports this month.

4. STANDING ITEMS

There were no standing items this month.

There was one item of correspondence, a thank-you from Cathy Splinter and Margaret Wilson for the funeral luncheon for Father Stan Alanen.

5. OLD BUSINESS

a) 2026 Diocesan Convention – April 25/26 (Shirley McDonald)

Copies of the convention package are available at the door and in the church. Refreshment breaks are complimentary this year and the registration fee will be paid by our council. Just complete the registration form with your information and complete the meal form, then return with your meal payment to Blessed Sacrament **by March 18th**. Cheques should be made out to *Blessed Sacrament CWL*. E-transfers should be sent to Danna Dobson: eggdob2020@gmail.com. The keynote speaker on Saturday is from the Order of St. Francis.

b) Prayer Room

If you have anything to share in the Prayer Room at the convention, please bring to Donna before the April meeting. This might include prayer cards, pictures, rosaries, flameless candles or inspirational materials.

c) Presidents' Meeting

Shirley passed around information from the recent Presidents' meeting, held at Blessed Sacrament. A huge thank-you to everyone who helped set up and host the meeting, particularly Donna who covered for Shirley as our council's representative. The Diocesan council provided a freewill donation of $50.00.

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6. NEW BUSINESS

a) Birthright Baby Shower – April 14 (Mary Lou Hills)

The shower will be held on Tuesday, April 14th at 6:30 pm and will be open to the parish. A draft poster has been developed. A short meeting will follow.

b) First Communion – March 22 (Donna Guiney)

Anne Hanley will present CWL gifts to our First Communion celebrants on Sunday, March 22nd at 11:00 am (the 9:00 am mass will be held at St. Linus).

c) Corpus Christi – June 7 (Shirley McDonald)

A 4-day event in June is being planned by the Liturgy Committee around the feast of Corpus Christi. There will be a 2-day retreat (June 4-5), a pilgrimage to St. Joseph's parish on June 6th (for plenary indulgence), and a final Corpus Christi Mass and Procession on Sunday, June 7th. This will be an outdoors procession around the church with music, ending at the church steps with Benediction. Refreshments will follow. A coordinator is required to guide the procession around the church. Refreshments may be provided inside or outside by CWL members. Volunteers will be requested at the April meeting.

INSTRUCTED VOTE: At this time, the general meeting was paused to proceed with an instructed vote from CWL National. Votes were counted by Donna Guiney and Andrea Glover. Mary Lou Hills completed the voting forms.

7. ADJOURNMENT AND CLOSING PRAYER

The meeting closed at 8:14 pm. Donna Guiney led us in prayer.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 14th at 6:30 pm.