



MINUTES CWL General Meeting

May 13, 2025

6:30pm.

Blessed Sacrament Parish, Amherstview, Ontario in the Church Hall and by Zoom

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: Fr. Charles Ogbuagu, Shirley McDonald, Mary Lou Hills, Susan Aubin, Margaret Wilson, Mary Myers, Gail Raymond, Bernadette Veitch, Danna Dobson, Andrea Glover

Regrets: Donna Guiney

By Zoom: Liz Ford, Kelly Neville

Guest: Elizabeth Goodman

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

OFFICER'S REPORTS:

1. **Welcome:** **Shirley McDonald**
2. **Opening Prayer: We recited a Hail Mary** **Liz Ford**
3. **Approval of the Agenda:** **Shirley McDonald**
Gail Raymond moved the approval of the agenda for the May 13th, 2025 General meeting. Andrea Glover seconded the motion. **CARRIED**
4. **Approval of the minutes of the April 8th, 2025 General meeting:** **Mary Lou Hills**
A motion to approve the minutes of the April 8th, General Meeting was made by Margaret Wilson. Those present requested that we speak to the issue of the time the meeting was held. The meeting began at 3:00 pm. Discussion regarding this was deferred to the June 10th meeting and, as such, added to today's minutes. The motion was seconded by Sue Aubin. It was also noted that Anne Nicholls did not attend the April 8th meeting. **CARRIED**
5. **Faith Committee Report:** **Liz Ford**
Liz's Report will be attached to the minutes of the meeting. Topics covered were the Birthright Baby Shower, Confirmation, Mother's Day Flowers, Crowning of Mary's Statue, 12 Hours of Palliative Care.
6. **Spiritual Advisor's Report** **Fr. Charles**
Father thanked all those who attended Holy Week Services. Much was planned and all went well. At the Saturday Easter Vigil 2 people were Baptised and 2 were Confirmed. Twenty-nine children received their First Communion.

STANDING ITEMS/OLD BUSINESS

7. **Policies and Procedures:** **Kelly Neville**
 - a) **Archives:** This policy was based on National's Policy and Procedure manual. All Secretarial records are held indefinitely due to their historical significance. They are never destroyed.

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Financial records are destroyed after seven years. Mary Lou Hills Moved the adoption of this policy. It was seconded by Andrea Glover. **CARRIED**

- b) **Funeral Honour Guard:** The procedures were modified as per consultation with members on April 8th. We need to consult with the priest as to where the Honour Guard stands/ meets. The motion to adopt this policy, with the amendment, was made by Susan Aubin and Seconded by Danna Dobson. The Executive extends special thanks to the committee. In the past 2 years, in particular, Blessed Sacrament's Policy and Procedure manual was brought up to date to include changes in the organizational structure of the organization updating existing policies and procedures and have added new policies and procedures. Our Policy and Procedures Manual is complete and up to date. A huge undertaking sincerely appreciated.

8. Fundscrip:

Danna Dobson

Gift cards will be available for Father's Day. Forms will be available for 2 week and need to be returned to Danna by June 2nd.

9. Anniversary Buttons:

Danna Dobson

Members are to continue to think of ways we can sell display them at events such as Father's Day, Bake sales, Snowflake Bazaar? 40 Buttons were purchased and donated as a fundraising event to assist us with Anniversary events and costs. We have sold 10 at \$5.00 each.

10. Bake Sale:

Shirley McDonald

Shirley is proposing that we try a new approach. We will only price large items such as pies and fruit/nut loafs. Everything else will be by donation only. Shirley had spoken with another group that had tried this and it was met with great success. A better return with less work. We still need volunteers on Friday to assist Coordinators with accepting baked goods and to help sell on Saturday. Hours are 10-3:00; 3:00 until 5:30. Theresa Shanks will call members without email.

11. 30th Anniversary of CWL and Knights of Columbus

Shirley McDonald

We will be inviting the parish to attend on September 6, 2025. Cake and other goodies will be served. A tent will be erected in the Church parking lot as has been previously done when Father Americo left. The Anniversary Committee presented a motion to approve the purchase of a plaque – one that names can be added on - if possible –for past and current presidents. Estimated cost is \$325.00. **It was moved by Andrea Glover and seconded by Margaret Wilson that a plaque to purchase to commemorate the 30 years of the CWL.** The plaque will hold all past and current Presidents of the Blessed Sacrament Council and as such will have room to add future presidents. The Knights will not be purchasing a plaque.

CARRIED

COMMITTEE REPORTS

12. Service Report:

Danna Dobson

- a) Father 's Day - Coffee House/ Music has been arranged /snacks will be provided by members, members to donate "all things Strawberry". The social will run from 10:00am to 12noon. An email will be sent requesting helpers to serve, set up on Saturday and clean up on Sunday.
- b) Moose Hide Tags – Violence Against Women - Campaign Day was May 15th.

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13. Social Justice:

Gail Raymone

- a) Letter and Petition regarding protection of charitable status of faith organizations and pro-life organizations were presented. All information and the form of the letter was provided to members by the National Office.
- b) Letter and Petition concerning advanced requests for Medical Assistance in Dying as well.
- c) After discussion members suggested that letters, and possibly petition, would be left for the president to decide as to whether a petition would be available for parishioners to sign. The other suggestion was that the President write a letter to our Member of Parliament with our concerns.

Adjournment and Closing Prayer

Shirley McDonald

Dates of Next Meetings: June 10th, 2025. Meetings will resume on September 9th.