

The Catholic Women's League of Canada London Diocesan Council

Here I am Lord; send me!

To: All Parish Presidents, Chairpersons

CC: London Diocesan Council, OPC Chairperson

From: Nelly Kelders, Secretary

Date: January 2024

Directive #3

Happy New Year!

2024 begins with the introduction of a new national theme: *Here I am Lord; send me!* Let us continue to pray that 2024 brings a renewed interest in the work of the Catholic Women's League of Canada in all our parishes and that women of all age groups will feel the call to join this sisterhood in faith and good works.

I was privileged in the fall of 2023 to meet many of you in Huron/Perth and Chatham/Kent through the National Unity Project. Thank you again for allowing me the time to ask my questions but more importantly for sharing your thoughts, concerns and pride in your councils. In reflecting on what I heard; I have created a template that may be of use to some councils to help organize your year and help you to see how all your pillars can be used, using one theme. An organization chart can take away some of the stress of feeling overwhelmed.

The chart is a table that can be added to or deleted as the year progresses. Ideally, the executive would begin the process in December and then work with the membership in January to complete it. (Some things can't be planned such as funerals or surprise events and then you have to be flexible with your calendar.)

Step 1: fill in everything you normally do in a year under each heading. (Not all blanks have to be filled.)

Step 2: add new initiatives you would like to undertake (Learning about artificial intelligence and how it will affect our society and our faith)

Step 3: look for topics that can be addressed under all three pillars (homelessness, Truth & Reconciliation, human trafficking, palliative/hospice care etc.)

Step 4: review your organization calendar. Do your activities meet the goals of the CWL? Is it doable? Do you need to reduce some activities? (If there are not enough people to carry out the idea, it may have to be eliminated.) Have you missed anything?

Step 5: communicate your organization calendar so all your partners know what you have committed to for the year.

Step 6: review at each meeting to determine what planning has to happen for upcoming events.

I hope this tool will be of some help to help you in your work in 2024. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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