

The Catholic Women's League of Canada
St. Paul Diocesan Council
Fall Executive Meeting
Past President's Report
October 03, 2015
Pickardville, AB
One Heart, One Voice, One Mission!

I've spent the past couple of months learning what the role of the Past President encompasses. So far, from my research, the role is a background position. The main duties involve keeping up the history and archives of the Diocesan Council. Another role is to be a mentor. This mentoring includes offering encouragement and support, guidance, providing direction and answering questions when consulted. I've also cleaned out the Past President's box and discovered that we are a bit behind on the albums. If you have any photos of events from your parish or when you hosted a Diocesan Executive meeting, Convention or the Provincial Convention, please forward copies to me by email or snail mail.

There have already been questions asked regarding what we need to keep in our archives. The Provincial Past President, Dorothy J., advises us to keep anything that is created by us and is relevant to our particular councils. We need to keep our original Charter, minutes of our meetings, financial records, annual reports, convention reports booklets, reports about meetings we may have with our MP, MLA or community government, including letters to and from them. Keep membership lists as well as lists of executive and who your Spiritual Advisors have been over the years. Awards and thank you letters are also important. Put your photos in albums or scrapbooks, but don't use glue! It's also a good idea to save your photos on a CD. We do have the Provincial Archives of Alberta that will accept our materials and will even sort them for us. These archives are accessible to us at any time we may need to retrieve something. Don't forget to make your albums and scrapbooks available for members and parishioners to look at.

In April 2016, the St. Paul Diocesan Council of the Catholic Women's League will celebrate its 60th anniversary. We will also be hosting the Alberta Mackenzie Provincial Convention in Westlock in June 2016. Now is the ideal time to update your archives and history.

To help showcase all our councils, I'm asking each council to prepare a small binder of the history of your council. It should include a copy of your Charter, your first executive, a list of charter members, and if you have one, a list of all of your members past and present, plus a presidents and spiritual advisors list. Include the names of members who have served at other levels of the League. If you do this, your history will be pretty much up-to-date and easy for you to stay on top of in the coming years. You don't need to include photos in this history, but by all means prepare a photo album or scrapbook to bring along as well.

This concludes my report,
Betsy F.

St. Paul Diocesan CWL Past President