The Catholic Women's League of Canada Calgary Diocesan Council Oral Report to the 68th Annual Provincial Convention Yellowknife, NT – June 6, 2015

Madame President:

## Glory be to Jesus Christ! Forever and ever.

It is my pleasure to extend greetings to the members of this assembly from your Sisters in the League of the Calgary Diocese. Our diocese extends from the US border to Airdrie and from the BC border to the Saskatchewan border. We have 5 regions, 52 councils, and 3931 members.

The 93<sup>rd</sup> Annual Calgary Diocesan Convention of the Catholic Women's League was held in Calgary at St. Luke's Church, May 1 to 3, 2015.

At the Pre-Convention Meeting on Friday, the speakers were Dr. Linda Dudar and Dr. Trent Davis form St. Mary's University in Calgary. In 1993, the Calgary Diocesan CWL took on a challenge to raise One Million dollars (\$1,000,000) to fund the 1st Chair for Catholic Studies in Canada at St. Mary's University. This goal was achieved on June 3, 2010. St. Mary's is the only Catholic university in Canada that prepares Catholic teachers. To date we have raised over \$1.4 million and continue to support St. Mary's. Dr. Linda Dudar and Dr. Trent Davis presented talks on our theme of "One heart, One voice, One mission." Linda led us through a presentation about St. Mary's University and what they offer Education students. Along with students and a retired teacher, we were presented with a special gift. A Song! It was about our theme. Dr. Davis talked to us about 'Our Mission' and how it relates to Catholicism. He gratefully thanked us for our donation to St. Mary's, especially as it provides a job for him!

Bishop Henry was the Friday afternoon speaker. He spoke to us about Pope Francis' program on Divine Mercy that begins December 8, 2015. He gave us many examples of Divine Mercy. He closed with "One heart, One voice, One mission: Divine Mercy – Make it happen"!

Our convention meeting began Saturday morning with the Deceased Members Service. Then the business of the day commenced.

The resolution that was brought forth to the convention floor by St. Bonaventure, Calgary was passed.

## 'Establish National Standards and Interprovincial Protocols with Respect to Child Welfare Interventions'

An Invitation to host the 2019 National CWL Convention in Calgary, Alberta was extended to Bishop McGratton, National Spiritual Advisor, by Bishop Henry. It was accepted. Judy Montes of St. Luke's, Calgary has accepted the position of Chair. She will be contacting ladies to act as co-chair and committee positions.

We have taken up the new theme of One Heart, One Voice, One Mission with great enthusiasm. We have a song, a bookmark and a quilt pattern.

The Fall Meeting will be held in Lethbridge on Saturday September 28, 2015. At this time we will adopt the revised *Policies and Procedures* of the Calgary Diocesan CWL. This document was revised in order to align it with national *Constitution & Bylaws* and the *National Manual of Policy & Procedure*. Under the guidance of Gloria L., Joan B., Gabrielle K., Janice B., Carol S., and Aurore M., numerous hours were spent on research.

The CWL councils in our diocese continue to flourish. Yes we have some councils that are struggling.

St Francis de Sales, High River council will be celebrating 90 years as a council. Our newest councils of St. Albert the Great, Calgary and St. Gabriel, Chestermere continue to grow.

With a new executive for the Diocesan Council, we look forward to new ideas, new challenges, laughs and tears of both happiness and sadness.

## <u>Come To the Edge</u>

Come to the edge, It's too high. Come to the edge, We're afraid. Come to the edge, We'll fail. Come to the edge, And they did. And He pushed them. And they flew.

With the help of our Lord, we will fly like the eagle.

This concludes my report. Respectivefully submitted,

Sharon M. CWL Calgary Diocesan Council President