



The Catholic Women's League of Canada  
London Diocesan Council



To: All London Diocesan Presidents  
CC: London Diocesan Council; OPC Colleen Perry, President  
From: Rebecca McCarrell, President  
Date: Nov 2019

Directive #9

*“O come, O come, Emmanuel.”*

It is an exciting time of year as we prepare for the coming of Christ. Wrapping up our year with annual surveys, parties, gifts and prayers. And...looking forward to our 100<sup>th</sup> year of celebrations within the London Diocese!

We thank you for the wonderful response to our call to the well at the Fall Regional meetings. We did have a hiccup in Wingham with the tech issues but the information shared was valuable. St. Thomas presented better and Comber we over came those difficulties. Thank you to all the councils and ladies involved in these days of education, engagement and empowering.

In January, our diocesan wide project on loneliness will be presented at each of the 7 regional meetings. Please be prepared to attend to hear Alex Schadenberg present on his newest project: “Compassionate Community Care”. He will have many ideas on how to reach out to those in your communities to lessen the burden of loneliness.

Save the date for our Lenten Retreat! Saturday Feb 29, 2020, and it will be located in the London Region at St. John the Divine Parish. Watch for more information coming soon.

Our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Convention and Celebration will happen April 27 – 29<sup>th</sup> at the Bradley Center in Chatham. The full convention package will be available in January. Final plans are happening now!

2020 also is our election year. Angela Pellerin will be contacting anyone eligible for allowing their name to stand for executive positions shortly. Please consider taking on this role as the League moves into a new exciting phase of its journey. Remember, too, when electing someone, to study their skills and vote for the best person to hold the various positions.

A reminder that the membership fees have increased for 2020. The fee will be \$13 for National; \$3 for Provincial; \$5 for Diocesan and 50c for insurance. This is a total of \$21.50 to be submitted for each of your members. Please make sure your dues are at least partially paid by Dec 31<sup>st</sup>, followed by the remainder before Feb 28, 2020. **IF YOUR COUNCIL HAS NOT PAID MEMBERSHIP FEES BY FEB 28, 2020, THE COUNCIL WILL BE UNABLE TO VOTE AT THE CONVENTION.**

Following is a synopsis of an article I read on celebrating Advent. I hope you will consider these points in your councils and homes.

## Seven Reasons to Celebrate Advent

1. Advent reminds us we are NOT the center of the universe...God's grand plan stretches beyond you, me and our small circle of family and friends. All the worldly emphasis on gift giving has shrunk our gaze. Advent reminds us to open our circle and embrace the larger scope of God's plan. (Revelations 13)
2. Advent gives us the opportunity to imagine the arrival of the long wait for the Messiah. In today's world we look for instantaneous gratification. Patience is taught in awaiting the Messiah. (John 8; Hebrews 11)
3. Advent gives us the opportunity to imitate the faith of those who came before us. Wisdom comes by listening to the saints who have faithfully served before us. (Hebrews 13)
4. Advent provides the opportunity to slow our pace. Remember the deliberateness of God. He completed his promise "in the fullness of time". (Galatians 4)
5. Advent teaches us patience. God grows patience in our hearts by showing us He is patient. By remembering the longing for Christ's first coming, we see God's mercy (2 Peter 3)
6. Advent models Christian discontentment. As our forebearers longed for the coming of Christ, we too lament over the 2<sup>nd</sup> coming of Christ (Revelations 6)
7. Advent strengthens confidence in the promises of God. Confidence in the second coming of Christ inspires missions (Matthew 24:14), enables Christian fellowship and mutual encouragement (Hebrews 10:25), and equips us for joyful suffering (Hebrews 10:34).

Let us join the refrain of those who came before us in the refrain, "O come, O come, Emmanuel!"

From my home to yours, wishing you a season of patience, anticipation and joy as you celebrate Christ's arrival with family & friends!

Blessings to all,

Rebecca McCarrell  
President



Environment Care



"BLESSED IS SHE WHO BELIEVED THAT THE LORD'S WORD TO HER WOULD BE FULFILLED, THEN MARY SAID: "MY SOUL MAGNIFIES THE LORD, AND MY SPIRIT REJOICES IN GOD MY SAVIOUR!" LUKE 1: 45 - 47

WOULD YOU BE QUICK TO DO THE SAME???