

**Pembroke Diocesan Council of the Catholic Women's League of Canada
Annual General Meeting, May 29, 2021, Oral Report
Carmel Rumleskie, Past President/Historian**

“History is not a burden on the memory but an illumination on the soul.”

Lord Acton

During this pandemic, many members have been able to bring their council's history books and other information up to date. Congratulations!! Now you will be ready to share your work with all in your membership and parish community when we can meet together again. Looking back, we realize all the amazing service given by women in our Diocese over the last 100 years. May the next generation carry on the torch for a Catholic presence of Faith in Action.

Some councils are preparing for elections this fall. Please use the National Manual of Policy and Procedure and the Constitution and Bylaws to help you. They were created to serve the members and form a strong foundation for our organization. These documents are the first source of information and all members should endeavour to follow the guide as much as possible. Each council must always strive to follow the law as best they can but at all cost follow the spirit in which the law was created to continue the orderly administration of League affairs. The women of the past developed the foundation, guidance and direction for the future. The League is a gift from God to our parishes and our communities; let our actions continue to demonstrate that!

From what I hear and see, I know members who have taken on leadership roles in their parish councils have grown in faith, confidence, skills and knowledge about the League and all it offers to us. May I encourage you to consider serving in your council. You have the support of many members to guide and lead you. Pray to know God's plan for you!

As members let us protect the beauty of our common home and as Pope Francis said, "Our heritage is never deprived of physical contact with nature." Our Lady of Good Counsel, pray for us. Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns you wish to share with me.

Sincerely withy Mary's guidance,

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