

The Catholic Women's League of Canada



Antigonish Diocesan Council

Here I am Lord, send me!

TO: Parish Council Vice-Presidents
FROM: Diocesan Vice-President Laurena Greencorn
DATE: October 18, 2025
SUBJECT: A Call to Serve: The Rewarding Experience of Volunteering
MEMO: # 4 (2024-2026)
CC: Parish Council Presidents, Diocesan Officers, Life Members, Provincial Secretary (for distribution to provincial counterpart)

Sisters in the League:

As the vibrant colours of fall begin to paint our surroundings, we're reminded of the changing seasons—not just in nature, but in our lives and communities. With the return of school routines and the start of a new season, many volunteer groups are gearing up for another year of meaningful work.

Volunteering is more than just giving time; it's about making a difference, building connections, and finding fulfillment in service. Whether it's organizing events, supporting local initiatives, or simply lending a helping hand, every contribution matters.

We especially encourage younger members of our community to consider joining a volunteer organization. The experience is deeply rewarding, offering opportunities to learn, grow, and be part of something greater than oneself. As beautifully expressed in the poem *The Tired Saints*, our seasoned volunteers have paved the way with dedication and grace. Now, they invite new voices to rise and carry the torch forward.

Let's honour their legacy by stepping up, showing up, and continuing the quiet fight for good.

The Tired Saints

(Our Older Catholic Women)

We've lit the candles, swept the floors,
Held open wide the parish doors.
We've baked, we've stitched; we've fed the poor—
And now we stand, tired to the core.

The hymns we know by heart still ring,
Though now our voices barely sing.
Our backs are bent from years of grace,
Still showing up, still holding space.

We've seen the pews grow thin with time,
Heard fewer bells, and lessened chime.
Yet still we come, though few arrive—
The flame burns low, but still alive.

Oh, daughters, sisters, where are you?
The ones for whom we prayed and grew?
The ones we hoped would take the light,
And carry on the quiet fight?

We do not ask for much in turn,
Just hearts that seek, and souls that burn.
To kneel beside us, not ahead—
To listen close to what we've said.

Come walk the aisles where saints have stood,
Come learn our strength, and share our good.
For tired hands have tilled this ground—
Now let new voices rise and sound.

Yours in Christ,

Laurena Greencorn,
Antigonish Diocesan Council Vice President