



# The Catholic Women's League of Canada

## VANCOUVER DIOCESAN COUNCIL

### Communiqué

*Diocesan Theme – Restore All Things in Christ*

**Committee:** Service

**Date:** September 13, 2025

**Chairperson:** Noli Buyco

**No:** 3 of 4

Galatians 6:9 “Let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due time we shall reap our harvest, if we do not give up.”

In her May Memo, Joline Belliveau National Past Service Chairperson highlighted three key areas of service where CWL members are encouraged to become actively involved:

1. The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) <https://www.cwl.ca/may-2025-national-memo-service-1/>
2. The Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy - <https://www.cwl.ca/may-2025-national-memo-service-3/>
3. Taking care of ourselves as we age. <https://www.cwl.ca/may-2025-national-memo-service-2/>

Joline quotes Pope Francis and encourages all CWL members to see acts of kindness not merely as charitable tasks but as a reflection of our deeper union with Christ. She asks: What if every person performed just one act of mercy daily?

As we welcome our new service chairs, I extend my heartfelt thanks to Laura Esposito, my counterpart at the provincial level, and Joline Belliveau, at the national level. Thank you both for your inspiration, your deep commitment to the League, and your unwavering support for service projects across the country. Your leadership has been a true blessing to so many. May God continue to guide and bless you in all that lies ahead.

### **Welcoming New Executives at Provincial and National Levels**

The months of **June** and **August** marked a season of renewal as we welcomed new executives at both the **provincial** and **national** levels.

It is truly exciting to read the thoughtful and inspiring memos from my counterparts:

- **Victoria Oppertshauser**, Provincial Chairperson of Service
- **Madonna Clark**, National Chairperson of Service

I encourage you to take time to read their messages, which offer insight, guidance and encouragement as we move forward in service together.

### **Suggested Service Projects- October to December 2025**

As we look ahead to the fall and early winter, several important observances offer meaningful opportunities for CWL members to engage in service, prayer and advocacy.

October 1- National Seniors Day.  
October 13- Thanksgiving Day (Canada)

These two dates offer a meaningful opportunity to show appreciation and care for our homebound members and parishioners.

Suggested activities include:

- Creating and sending Thanksgiving cards to seniors and those who are homebound
- Making a friendly phone call or arranging a home visit.
- Donating blankets, slippers or warm socks to local care homes.

Let's make a special effort to reach out and remind our elders that they are loved, remembered and valued.

Other dates are as follows and suggested service acts can be posted on the monthly newsletter.

- October 10 World Mental Health Day
- October 19 Purple Thursday – Domestic Violence Awareness month. (Purple symbol of courage, peace and survival, and wearing it helps to show survivors that they are not alone and that there is a supportive community). A fall webinar is in the planning stage.
- November 11 Remembrance Day
- November 16 World Day of the Poor
- December 6 National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women/ White Ribbon Day
- December 18 International Migrants Day
- December 28 Feast of the Holy Family

Parish councils are encouraged to select a service project and collaborate with the Chairperson for Faith or Social Justice, as responsibilities often overlap. This is a great way to promote member engagement and shared leadership.

Below are resources found at [cwl.ca](http://cwl.ca) as suggested by National Service Chair.

614- Handbook for Chairpersons of Faith, Service and Social Justice  
627- Faith, Service, and Social Justice Brochure  
633- Option for the Poor and Vulnerable  
637- Toolkit for Service  
638- Community and Common Good  
641- Call to Family, Community, and Participation and Subsidiarity  
643- Rights and Responsibilities  
646- Walking Together with Indigenous Catholic Women  
806A- Community Life and Social Teaching (Power Point)  
806B- Community Life and Social Teaching (Presenter's Notes)

As each parish council is unique, feel free to adopt whatever approach works best for your members. May Our Lady of Good Counsel continue to intercede for us.

Respectfully submitted