



The Catholic Women's League of Canada  
London Diocesan Convention / AMM  
April 28 – 30, 2025



The Councils of the Huron Perth Region of  
The Catholic Women's League of Canada  
Invite you to the:

# 105<sup>th</sup> Annual London Diocese Convention / Annual Meeting of Members

April 28, 29, 30, 2025

Meet us at  
Best Western Plus The Arden Park Hotel  
552 Ontario Street, Stratford, ON



Information and Registration Package

*This Conference is Scent-Free!*





**The Catholic Women's League of Canada  
London Diocesan Convention / AMM  
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My Dear Sisters in The Catholic Women's League,

A warm welcome to our 2025 Convention/AMM. These gatherings are always an opportunity to experience Faith, Service and Social Justice, with each of our councils being given the opportunities to share with others our unique ways of exploring the three pillars. I encourage you to reach out to someone you do not know so that you can learn something new from them. Also please approach members of the executive to get to know them.

We really enjoyed the chance to meet and listen to you at the Fall Regional Days. It was a wonderful opportunity to see your smiling faces.

We are planning our Keynote speaker, Linda Staudt, to speak on Synodality, Kathy Furlong on Truth & Reconciliation, and Frances Taylor on Mental Health in Elders.

We will also be having special draws on Tuesday and Wednesday for those who wear their CWL pin(s). Please plan on attending our Convention/AMM. This is election year. I look forward to meeting and sharing with you.

Blessings,  
Mary Bannon  
Diocese of London Catholic Women's League President

January 2025



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Dear Friends in The Catholic Women's League:

It is with great joy that we welcome you to the 105<sup>th</sup> London Diocesan Convention and Annual Members' Meeting. We have planned three days of learning, activities, and sharing our faith, which we hope you'll enjoy.

We actually began planning back in 2019 for the convention to be held in Stratford in 2022; however, COVID-19 intervened, so sadly, everything had to be cancelled or put on hold. Now, finally, it is our turn to welcome you warmly to The Arden Park Best Western Hotel in Stratford. During these three days, we will have the opportunity to visit four of our beautiful local churches and to participate in Mass in three of them.

Monday, April 28<sup>th</sup> will be a day to reconnect with friends whom you have met at previous conventions or perhaps at regional days, or it may be a wonderful opportunity to meet new friends. Perhaps your council will encourage someone new to The Catholic Women's League of Canada to attend. The activities on day one include a tour, workshops, opening Mass, and dinner, followed by Fun Night back at the hotel.

Tuesday, April 29<sup>th</sup> will feature three highly recommended speakers who will share information about the Synod on Synodality, the London Diocese's progress with the implementation of Truth and Reconciliation, and good news about mental health issues. Bishop Fabbro will join us to celebrate Mass (please bring your council's donation to support the three chosen charities). The evening will be rounded off with a marvellous banquet (remember to invite your Spiritual Advisor to join you for Mass and the banquet).

Wednesday, April 30<sup>th</sup> will be another busy day! Various reports will be presented, which will share important information and helpful tips for you and the members of your council. This is an election year for the London Diocesan Executive – watch for the information packages about our CWL colleagues who have stepped up to serve in various leadership roles. Discuss this information in your parish CWL council and help your president by giving her an instructed vote to bring to this Convention/AMM. After the voting, the Mass celebrated on this day will include the installation of the new executive.

We eagerly look forward to welcoming so many of you who never miss the opportunity to attend the London Diocese Convention/AMM and to those for whom this will be your first experience. We hope you will enjoy what we have planned.

Sincerely in Peace, Love and Joy,

Mary Barnes & Shirley Ann Beecroft, Co-Chairs

January 2025



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Dear Sisters of the Catholic Women's League, Spiritual Advisors, delegates and guests. Christ is Risen. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Once again, we are gathered in the blessed season of Easter to rejoice in the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus and His loving Victory over sin and death. It is fitting that our Diocesan convention gathers during this season, as it is always a time to pray, discuss, and celebrate together with new eyes and new life as we discern ways to serve and continue the mission of the Catholic Women's League.

This particular year of 2025 marks a special Jubilee Year with the theme "Pilgrims of Hope." In a time where there seems to be much to pray for in our world and equally within our Church, this theme reminds us that no matter what, our hope is unfading because it is found in the Person of Jesus, the One who dwelt among us in His desire to be intimately connected to His beloved creation, both in the joys and trials of our life. Bishop Fabbro is calling on all of us to enter a special time of prayer, asking for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on our Diocese so that we ourselves may receive new risen life in Christ and be beacons of hope to all we encounter on this earthly pilgrimage.

In these days of gathering, I pray that each of us will be an answer to St. Paul's prayer to the Romans: "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit" (Rm 15:13). May this hope guide us as we continue our mission as the Body of Christ in our various parishes and communities.

On behalf of the Diocesan Catholic Women's League executive, I want to welcome each of you to our Annual Meeting of Members.

I pray that God will continue to bless the good work you have been doing in years past, and I pray these days together bring all of you renewal in the joy and love of our risen Lord!

In Christ,  
Father Paul Kim  
London Diocesan Spiritual Advisor

January 2025



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## Tentative Agenda

### Monday, April 28, 2025

- 8:00am Registration Opens
- 9:00am Board bus for St. Marys Tour & Lunch
- 11:00am Executive Meeting
- 2:00pm Workshops at The Arden Park Hotel:  
Joy of Membership OR Creating Resolutions
- 3:30pm Prepare for and travel to Mass (approx. 20 minutes)
- 4:30pm Opening Mass and Ceremony at St. Patrick's Church, Kinkora
- 6:00pm Dinner at St. Patrick's Community Centre, Kinkora **(Limited to 150)**
- 8:00pm Fun Night at The Arden Park Hotel – "Prom Throughout the Years"

### Tuesday, April 29, 2025

- 7:00am Breakfast: On Your Own
- 7:30am Registration Opens
- 8:45am Opening Prayer
- 9:05am Land Acknowledgement  
Greetings: President  
Spiritual Advisor  
Introduction of the Executive Council and Guests
- 9:30am Speaker: Linda Staudt – *Synod and Conversation of the Spirit*
- 10:30am Health Break / Vendors' Room
- 11:00am Speaker: Kathy Furlong – *Truth & Reconciliation*
- 11:45am Angelus, Grace and Lunch – Vendors' Room
- 12:00pm Buffet Lunch / Life Members' Lunch in The Porch
- 1:00pm Crowning of The Blessed Virgin Mary
- 1:30pm Speaker – Frances Taylor *Mental Health in Elders*
- 2:30pm Health Break / Vendors' Room
- 3:00pm Report from National Representative



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- 3:30pm Closing Prayer  
4:30pm Gala Mass at St. Joseph's Church, Stratford (carpooling – approx. 10-minute drive)  
6:15pm Banquet at The Arden Park Hotel

**Wednesday, April 30, 2025**

- 7:00am Breakfast: On Your Own  
8:00am Registration Opens  
8:45am Opening Prayer  
9:05am Business Meeting
  - Welcome
  - Credentials Report
  - Reading of the Rules of Order (Motion to Accept)
  - Agenda Presented (No Motion)
  - Minutes Approved by the Executive (Corrections/Additions – Motions Needed)9:45am President's Report  
10:00am Spiritual Advisor's Report  
10:15am Correspondence  
10:30am Health Break  
11:00am Treasurer's Report  
11:30am President-Elect Address  
11:45am Angelus, Grace, and Lunch  
1:00pm Afternoon Prayer  
1:15pm Provincial Representative Report  
1:45pm Invitation to 2026 Convention/AMM Chatham  
2:00pm Elections  
3:00pm Closing Mass and Installation of the New Executive at Immaculate Conception, Stratford (approx. 10 min. drive). No special collection.



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### Daily Details

This Convention is Scent-Free  
No Outside Food Allowed in Conference Rooms

#### Monday, April 28, 2025: Fun Day

##### **Breakfast On Your Own.**

The Arden Park has a nice restaurant (let us know if you'll be eating there so they can bring in extra staff), eat at a nearby restaurant (pick up a map in the Registration area), or skip breakfast and catch an extra 40 winks!

##### **9:00am Shopping Trip in Downtown St. Marys, Tour of Holy Name Church & Lunch**

*Limited to the first 56 registered.*

Visit some of St. Marys' unique shops, including Troyer's Spices (imported fresh spices from growers around the world), Zenfire Pottery (unique gifts and classes), the Cheese Shoppe (cheeses from around the world), The Chocolate Factory (mint smoothies and other chocolate made on-site), Eclectic Treasures (antiques and curiosities), M&M (craft supplies and hosts "Newborn Doll" classes), Artisan Crafts (tax-free handmade items from local crafters), Lauren Whitney (a variety of gift ideas), and the Quilt Shop (beautiful fabrics and quilting tools). Next we'll tour Holy Name of Mary, a beautiful church made from local stone with lovely stained glass windows, which was blessed and opened on September 11, 1892. Then you'll enjoy a Build Your Own Sandwich Bar luncheon served in the adjoining Parish Hall, which includes a selection of bread and rolls (including gluten-free) and a variety of fillings, salads, fresh fruit, and delectable sweets with coffee/tea.

**2:00pm** – Two workshops at The Arden Park Hotel.

Choose from A) The Joy of Membership B) Creating Resolutions

##### **4:30pm – Opening Mass and Dinner**

The opening Eucharistic celebration will be held at St. Patrick's Parish, Kinkora (use 5198 Line 42 Perth East for GPS). Please carpool. Following the opening celebration, dinner will follow in St. Patrick's Community Centre.

##### **6:00pm – Pre-Prom Dinner (Limited to the first 150 registered)**

Buffet-style dinner at St. Patrick's Parish Hall, Kinkora, includes coleslaw, garden salad, roast beef and gravy, garlic Parmesan chicken, potatoes, green beans, a medley of fresh broccoli, carrots, and cauliflowers, herb bread, and a variety of cheesecake and fresh fruit for dessert with coffee/tea. No cash bar. Gluten-free options available.

##### **8:00pm – Fun Night 2025: "Prom Throughout the Years"**

At The Arden Park Hotel. Choose any decade for something fun to wear to Prom! Hunt the thrift stores, raid your friend's and relative's closets or tickle trunks to find your Prom attire. Old bridesmaid dresses, costumes, or a fancy gown – tacky or classy – it's your choice! Live entertainment by Johnny Borton. Snacks will be available. Cash bar.





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We also ask you to bring a NEW teddy bear or stuffy as your date to donate to the Children's Hospital in London. They will give them to our “kids, grandkids, and children facing life-threatening illness or accidents.” These items make a definitive difference in a child's life.

**Tuesday, April 29, 2025 (*This Convention is Scent-Free*)**

**Breakfast on your own.**

**Coffee Breaks:** Morning includes coffee, tea, and muffins. The afternoon break includes coffee and tea with veggies and dip. Breaks are \$10 each.

**Lunch: Soup & Sandwich Board Buffet**

Includes soup, a selection of sandwiches, salads, and assorted bite-sized desserts with coffee/tea.

**“Crowning of Mary” Ceremony**

Each parish will select its favourite charity to collect items for donation. Bring 1 (one) small sample bag of the items collected and labelled with your Council's name and the name of your charity.

**Mass with Bishop Fabbro & Collection**

Prepare to carpool and depart by 4:00pm. Mass will be held at St. Joseph's Parish, 96 Huron Street, Stratford, N5A 5S6, at 4:30pm. Collection for charities during Mass will be distributed between Tanner Steffler Foundation dealing with mental health and/or addiction in youth in Huron & Perth Counties (50%). The other 50% will be divided between the two women's shelters in Huron & Perth counties, respectively, Huron Women's Shelter and Optimism Place.

**Banquet: Select 1 (One) Option on Your Delegate Registration Form**

Choice of Arden chicken, filet of salmon, or butternut squash ravioli (vegetarian) with seasonal vegetables and garden salad. For dessert, warm apple blossom served with vanilla ice cream and coffee/tea. Cash bar available. Banquet seating will be random, based on Convention Registrants first and Banquet Only as space allows.

**Wednesday, April 30, 2025 (*This Convention is Scent-Free*)**

**Breakfast on your own.**

**Coffee Break:** Coffee, tea, and fresh-baked cookies. There will only be one break offered on this day for \$10.

**Lunch: Pizza Party**

A selection of salads, assorted fresh, home-baked pizza, buttermilk chicken fingers with plum sauce, and assorted bite-sized desserts with coffee/tea.

**Mass & Installation** of the new executive will be held at Immaculate Conception, 50 Well Street, Stratford, N5A 4L7.



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## General Convention Notes/Reminders

1. If you have your name tag holder from previous conventions, please bring it with you to the Stratford Convention.
2. Breakfast is on your own at this convention. The hotel has a restaurant for convenience. Please indicate on your registration form if you will be eating at the restaurant so we can give them a rough idea of numbers so that they can better staff the mornings to accommodate.
3. Wear your pin and/or name tags for chances to be entered into draws throughout the convention.
4. **If you have any allergies or mobility needs**, please indicate on your delegate registration form. We will have persons to assist at mealtimes with getting your plate ready, if needed.
5. No outside food is allowed inside Conference rooms as per The Arden Hotel policy.

## Thank You to Mary Barnes

Mary Barnes, with her cheerful attitude and expertise, has assisted me every step of the way to bring this Convention/AMM to life. She reached out to invite and encourage many CWL members in the Huron-Perth Region to step up and develop leadership skills as they worked on various parts (registration, hospitality, fun night, menu planning, decoration, etc.) of this convention experience. At the end of November, Mary called me to say that her husband, Jim, was in hospital with kidney failure and would need dialysis on a regular schedule for the rest of his life. Mary, obviously, needed to step away from her many CWL activities.

Mary, we will all miss you! We are grateful for your friendship, your expertise in so many areas, your leadership, your encouragement, your cheerful attitude, your organization, and your love of all things CWL. Thank you! We are praying for Jim and for you as you fight kidney disease and adapt to a life of frequent dialysis.

Shirley Ann Beecroft



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**Accommodation Booking Information**

**Location:** Best Western Plus The Arden Park Hotel  
552 Ontario St, Stratford, ON N5A 3J3

**Phone:** 519.275.2936 x 0

**Rates:** \$169.00 +tax Standard 2 Queen  
\$169.00 +tax Standard 1 King  
\$199.00 +tax King Suite (King bed with a living room)  
\$199.00 +tax Queen Suite (2 Queen beds in bedroom plus a living room)

Rooms must be booked prior to March 11, 2025  
Mention you are with the CWL Convention for this rate

**Breakfast:** Breakfast will not be a part of the convention, however, there is a restaurant at The Arden Park Hotel for your convenience. If you wish to eat breakfast here, please indicate on your registration form so we can provide the venue with numbers to staff accordingly to accommodate us.





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## Directions

**To the Best Western Plus The Arden Park Hotel**  
For GPS: 552 Ontario Street, Stratford, ON N5A 3J3

### Directions from Windsor

- Take Hwy 401E to Exit 222 Embro Road (the next exit after Ingersoll)
- Follow County Road 6 north to Hwy 7

*Alternately:*

- Take Hwy 401E to the Ingersoll Exit instead of Exit 222
- Follow County Road 19 North through Ingersoll to Hwy 7 East to Stratford
- Hwy 7 becomes Erie Street. Follow Erie Street toward downtown
- Turn right at Ontario Street
- The Arden Park Hotel is at the 4<sup>th</sup> light on your left at Romeo Street

### Directions from Sarnia

- Take 402E to Exit 65 at Strathroy
- Follow Hwy 81 north for 3 km to County Road 19
- Head north to Ailsa Craig, then follow Hwy 7 east to Stratford
- Follow Erie St. (Hwy 7) to the downtown
- Turn right at Ontario Street
- The Arden Park Hotel is at the 4<sup>th</sup> light on your left at Romeo Street

### Directions from London

- Take Adelaide St N to Elginfield Rd/ON-7
- Turn right onto Elginfield Road/ON-7
- Continue straight onto Erie Street (Hwy 7)
- Turn right onto Hwy 8E/ON-0/ON-E (signs for Kitchener)
- Turn left onto Romeo Street

### Directions from Ingersoll

- Head northwest on Oxford St toward Charles St W/County Road 9
- Turn right onto Charles St. W/County Rd 9
- Turn left onto 37<sup>th</sup> Line/Foldens Line/Oxford County Road 6
- Continue onto Perth Road 113
- Continue onto Embro Road
- Turn right onto Erie St/ON-7
- Turn right onto Hwy 8E/ON-0/ON-E (signs for Kitchener)
- Turn left onto Romeo Street



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**From the Best Western Plus The Arden Park Hotel**

**To St. Patrick's Church, Kinkora:**

For GPS: 5198 Line 42 Perth East, ON N0K 1X0

*Note: Do not take Line 145, which runs past the church, as it is gravel most of the way.*

- From The Arden Park Hotel, turn left onto Ontario Street/Hwy 8, then a quick left onto Romeo Street
- Take Romeo Street to the end and turn left onto Vivian Street
- At stop sign, turn right onto Road 119
- Turn left onto Line 42 (second road on the left)
- Follow Line 42 to the second stop sign, which will be the Kinkora intersection

**To Immaculate Conception Church**

For GPS: 50 Well Street, Stratford, ON N5A 4L7

- From The Arden Park Hotel, turn right and go 2 blocks to Queen Street
- Turn left on Queen Street and go 2 blocks to Brunswick Street
- Turn right, go 2 blocks to Bay Street
- Turn left. Halfway down the block is the church parking lot

**To St. Joseph's Church**

For GPS: 96 Huron Street, Stratford, N5A 5S6

- Turn right onto Hwy 8W/ON-7, continue on Hwy 8 for 2 km
- Turn right onto St. Vincent Street N
- Turn right at the 1<sup>st</sup> cross street, onto Hibernia – the church will be on the right



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## Registration Process Instructions

### General Enquiries:

Shirley Ann Beecroft      [beecrofter@gmail.com](mailto:beecrofter@gmail.com)      226.661.0164

### Registration Enquiries:

Margrit Breuer      [margrit.breuer@gmail.com](mailto:margrit.breuer@gmail.com)      519.238.5119

### Printing / Completing Forms:

- Print one individual form per delegate attending.
- Have each participant complete a form and submit it to their parish council with their registration payment.
- Print one Parish Council Summary Form and fill in the summary based on what delegates have entered.
- Remember to invite your Spiritual Advisor.
- Bring your name tag holder from previous years.

### Instructions for Remitting Payment:

1. Have all individuals remit payment to their respective parish CWL.
2. Parish council to remit package per parish containing:
  - a. One Parish Council Summary Form containing parish totals.
  - b. All corresponding Individual Registration Forms.
  - c. Mail one cheque to the address below. Payable to “Huron Perth Regional CWL” for the total amount due from your parish. Memo line: 2025 Convention Registration.

### Mail One Package From Your Parish To:

Margrit Breuer, PO Box 634, Grand Bend, ON, N0M 1T0

### Key Deadlines:

March 11      Ensure all required rooms are booked. Rates are based on availability.  
April 1      Registration packages must be received by the convention committee.



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**Parish Registration Summary Form – One Per Parish Council**  
Registration Deadline: April 1, 2025

Parish Council Name \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Is Your President Attending? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Is Your Spiritual Advisor? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Select Your Region     Essex    Huron/Perth    London    Sarnia    Ingersol    Windsor    Chatham/Kent

<i>No outside food allowed in conference rooms.</i>	QUANTITY	AMOUNT	TOTAL
<b>Convention Registration Fees Summary:</b>			
Whole Convention	_____	\$50	_____
Tuesday Only	_____	\$25	_____
Wednesday Only	_____	\$25	_____
Monday St. Marys Town Tour & Lunch		\$60	
Workshop: Joy of Membership Creating Resolutions	_____ _____	\$0	_____ _____
Monday Pre-Prom Dinner Tickets		\$50	
Monday Fun Night: Prom Throughout the Years		\$5	
Tuesday Morning Coffee/Tea Break		\$10	
Tuesday Afternoon Coffee/Tea Break		\$10	
Tuesday Lunch: Soup & Sandwich Board Buffet		\$45	
Tuesday Life Members' Lunch in The Porch		\$45	
Tuesday Banquet Tickets:			
Arden Chicken	_____	\$75	_____
Filet of Salmon	_____	\$75	_____
Butternut Squash Ravioli (Vegetarian)	_____	\$75	_____
Wednesday Morning Coffee/Tea Break		\$10	
Wednesday Lunch: Pizza Party		\$45	
Printed Annual Report Book (optional) <i>(Available for free download on website)</i>		\$25	
<b>Late Fee: After April 1, 2025 (Per Delegate)</b>		\$25	
<b>Grand Total Amount</b> (Please write one cheque per parish for the grand total.)			







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**Individual Registration Form – One Per Delegate**  
Registration Deadline: April 1, 2025

Parish Council Name \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

Delegate Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Select Your Region    Essex    Huron/Perth    London    Sarnia    Ingersol    Windsor    Chatham/Kent

Select Your Designation    Voting Delegate    Accredited Delegate    Life Member    CWL Member    Banquet Only  
 Spiritual Advisor    Past Spiritual Advisor    President    First-Time Attendee    Guest

***NOTE:** Full or one-day convention attendees will have priority registration for the banquet. All Banquet Only registrations will be waitlisted until available numbers are determined. This conference is scent-free.*

<i>No outside food allowed in conference room.</i>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>Convention Registration Fees Summary:</b>		
Whole Convention <input type="checkbox"/>	\$50	
Tuesday Only <input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday Only <input type="checkbox"/>	\$25	
Monday St. Marys Town Tour & Lunch	\$60	
Workshop: <input type="checkbox"/> Joy of Membership <input type="checkbox"/> Creating Resolutions	\$0	
Monday Pre-Prom Dinner Tickets	\$50	
Monday Fun Night: Prom Throughout the Years	\$5	
Tuesday Morning Coffee/Tea Break	\$10	
Tuesday Afternoon Coffee/Tea Break	\$10	
Tuesday Lunch: Soup & Sandwich Board Buffet	\$45	
Tuesday Life Members' Lunch in The Porch	\$45	
Tuesday Banquet Tickets:		
Chicken <input type="checkbox"/> Salmon <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetarian <input type="checkbox"/>	\$75	
Wednesday Coffee/Tea Break (morning only)	\$10	
Wednesday Lunch: Pizza Party	\$45	
Printed Annual Report Book (Optional) <i>(Available for free download on website)</i>	\$25	
<b>Late Fee: After April 1, 2025 (Per Delegate)</b>	<b>\$25</b>	
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b> (Write cheque to <b>YOUR Parish Council</b> for total amount.)		

**Allergies / Mobility Needs**

Please list any allergies or mobility needs we must know to ensure your safety and comfort.

**Gluten-Free Host for Mass**  

**I choose to eat breakfast at the hotel restaurant.**

Mon    Tues.    Wed