

Convention Oral Report
London Diocesan Convention
April 23-25th – 2018
Lamplighter Convention Centre – London Ontario

How have I been inspired by the Spirit and Responded to God's Call in my position?

As I reflected on this question different thoughts came to mind. How did I become Past-President – I wasn't elected ...I didn't ask for it...I just fell into this position after a succession of many other positions. Was I called to do this? Was it Spiritual Inspiration or a Divine Plan?

Over 25 years ago, I attended a meeting that was called by our Pastor to see if there was any interest in Forming a CWL. At that time, I was working full time for a big corporation, I had a family with 3 growing children and I was going to University at night, working on my Bachelor's Degree. This meeting was probably the first time that I was inspired by the Holy Spirit on my CWL journey.

Our President at that time was unable to attend **the first** convention, (it was tax time) so in retrospect I was inspired by the Spirit to say that I would attend in her place. I took vacation time and by myself, off I went to attend my first convention in Chatham.

At that time they had assigned seating...so being a new council, they had forgotten to assign a seat for me. ...Well talk about Divine intervention, wasn't I fortunate enough to be invited to sit with the Life Members at their table. What a great experience that was as they explained to me what was going on...why they were doing things a certain way, what to do and when and where to go! It was just marvelous! It was an election year, and I remember the controversy over sending in your instructed vote and why you had to be at

convention to make it count etc. The resolutions Dialogue brought forth ideas that I never considered and the discussion that followed was very enlightening!

I was so motivated that I grabbed every piece of information I could put my hands on...from the tables, the display room, and took copious notes, as is my habit, and brought it all home. I put it in a binder and brought it to our next meeting....I was just so much on a high that I wanted to share this experience with everyone....just like a good recipe, you want everyone to have a taste of it.

My point is, that the Inspiration from the Holy Spirit, doesn't always come to us at a designated time and place.....in retrospect, it was over 25 years ago and the Spirit just kept supporting me through all the positions I held and the work that I did for the League....the skits I put together, the directives, the resolutions, the presentations and just about anything that I put together to grab your attention. The inspiration is not always direct....The Spirit inspired me through the face and the eyes of my Sisters in the League;the Spirit inspired me through the speakers that I listened to and The Spirit definitely inspired me through my prayers.

I can definitely say that once we are called, the Spirit does not abandon us.....the thing is....we have to be opened to His call...be opened to His prompting...listen with an open heart.

I look back on the road I have traveled and I know that the only reason I was able to make it this far, the only reason I am still here today, is the fact that God was walking the road with me every step of the way!

My journey with the CWL does not end at the end of this convention. I am fortunate enough to continue to serve at the Provincial level and will continue to do so as the Spirit prompts me.

As I complete this term I have been inspired by the Spirit to give you a message.

As Past President, we are responsible for the archives, we mentor others and we study and implement the Constitutions and By-laws. My parting gift to you is a letter....not one I wrote...but one which has taken some research, comes from some very old records, gives us rules to live by and good information...for all those who are opened to be the Spirit. ...I will put them at the end of the tables so you can grab one as you go out or leave....

Please inspire everyone to listen, reflect, pray and give thanks to God who works through each of our lives! Just remember that if you want to give light to others you have to Glow yourself!

I will always be grateful for your support and your prayers and wish you well as the Holy Spirit inspires you on your CWL journey!