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# CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE HISTORY

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## FOUNDED IN 1906

**The Catholic Women's League was founded in England in 1906 by Miss Margaret Fletcher. Membership is Catholic women over the age of sixteen and includes associate members that are non-Catholic.**

## The Catholic Women's League (CWL) of Canada

Although The Catholic Women's League had been around since 1906, it would take another 14 years before the Canadian National Council would be formed in the year 1920.

The Catholic Women's League of Canada is a national [service organization](#) of women who are members of the [Roman Catholic Church](#), and who work together to promote Catholic values and to carry out volunteer and charitable work. In 2016 the CWLA had about 83,000 members in over 1,200 parish councils across [Canada](#). The League's national office is in [Winnipeg, Manitoba](#); it is federally incorporated, and is a registered [not-for-profit](#) membership association. The League does not have registered charitable status.[\[1\]](#)

This historical extract was quoted from the '[The Catholic Women's League of Canada - Handbook for Organization Chairpersons - Supplement to the Executive Handbook](#)'  
*Published date is not found within the document.*

## Catholic Women's League (CWL) St. Joseph, Bowmanville, ON

This St. Joseph Bowmanville Ontario Council was established on September 24, 1935, under Certificate of Organization #770, by our first **Spiritual Director** Rev. James McGuire with the approval of the **National President** Fanny P. Coffey.

Fr. McGuire consented and ordained our St. Joseph Parish Council's:

- **First President:** Mrs. Frank Taylor
- **First Treasurer:** Mrs. F.T. Tighe

As of today, we have been serving our Bowmanville community for over 88 years, and on September 24, 2025, we will be celebrating our 90th Anniversary.

Our membership is strong, and our team is tight, consisting of hard working, tolerant, caring, and loving women of all Nationalities, Cultural backgrounds, and Ages.

**\* ORDER YOUR SOFT COVER COPY OF THE CWL HISTORY BOOK for \$10.00**

Members of CWL St. Joseph Parish Council, to order your soft copy, please call Hazel DeGazon at 905-419-1901.

Arrangements can be made to pick up your copy at the St. Joseph Catholic Church in the Sacristy after the 9:00AM or 11:00AM Masses, or you can pick up your copy at the next Tuesday meeting which runs every third Tuesday of the month after the 7:00PM Mass.

### **Methods of payment:**

1. **Via Cheque or Cash** place the \$10.00 cash or cheque into a sealed envelope and dropped the envelope into the Offertory basket during any Mass you attend.
  - Ensure the envelope is sealed and that it is addressed with ***your full name and contact information*** and print on the envelope and cheque, that the payment is for the ***CWL HISTORY BOOK***.
2. **Via E-money** pay \$10.00 to the beneficiary email: [stjoesbcwl@outlook.com](mailto:stjoesbcwl@outlook.com) in the comment field enter ***CWL History book***. It will be automatically deposited into our CWL account.

Thank you,

***CWL St. Joseph Team***