

**PRAYER:**

Mary, be with us today. As Christian women of The Catholic Women's League, we are called to serve, **to hear** the Word, **to live** the Word, **to believe** the Word, and **to be** the Word. We are called to know that we are deeply loved and this spirit of love is within us to share. You are waiting for our "**Yes Lord**", help us to respond so we may be filled with grace - God's power released in love. Teach us, Mary, to be fully open, loving, and forgiving. Help us to serve each other in all we do. Amen

**Scripture:** Luke 1:46-55

**Praise to Mary:**

As patroness of The Catholic Women's League, Our Lady of Good Counsel guides our work for God and Canada. We trust that she will be with us now as we unite our hearts to pray in her honour.

Side 1: It is truly fitting, Mary, that we should honour you, for God chose to honour you by making you the mother of His Son

Side 2: The prophets of old spoke your praises and called you "**the Glory of Israel**" and "**the Glory of all womanhood**"

Side 1: The angel bowed in reverence as he addressed you, you were chosen to be the Mother of God

Side 2: And all generations have called you blessed

Side 1: So joyfully Mary we praise you

Side 2: We praise you in your spotless chastity, which made you worthy to bear the Saviour of the world

Side 1: We praise you in your virginity, which you kept so precious together with your motherhood

Side 2: We praise you in your openness to God's will for your life, and in your perfect following of that will

Side 1: We praise you in your courage in facing hardships, misunderstandings, and criticisms your vocation brought upon you

Side 2: We praise you in the honour you have brought to motherhood throughout the ages, and for your example you give to Christian mothers in a sinful world

Side 1: We praise you in your motherhood which, by God's decree, has made you the mother of us all

All: Yes, always and at all times and in all places, we will praise and bless you, as it is proper to do, Holy Mother of God, ever Blessed Virgin, Our Lady of Good Counsel.

**Reflection:**

**Intercessions:**

**Response: Loving Mother, Pray for us**

1. For our senior citizens. May they be God's witnesses in our parishes and communities. May their hearts remain young and peaceful. We pray to the Lord.....
2. For all parents. Under Our Lady's protection, may they live in harmony and teach their children faithfulness to God. We pray to the Lord.....
3. For all who have a role to fulfill in the church. May they be courageous in finding ways to bring the Good News to all. We pray to the Lord.....
4. For the young people. May they find in their life models of faith and charity. May they find witnesses of Christ who help them in their Christian vocation. We pray to the Lord.....
5. For the sick. May God stretch out His hand and gently touch them with the Holy Spirit of healing, giving their suffering over to God. We pray to the Lord.....
6. For all who have died. May they be reaping the rewards of eternal life with the Trinity above. We pray to the Lord.....
7. For all of us here and our special intentions.....We pray to the Lord.....

Lord, we turn to you with confidence. In union with Our Lady of Good Counsel, we ask you to listen to our prayers with tenderness and mercy. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

**Prayer:**

Loving God, you know that our thoughts on earth are full of fear and uncertainty; through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary send us the Spirit of counsel to teach us how to know your will and to guide us in all we do. Grant this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen

**Song:**

Immaculate Mary

Immaculate Mary your praises we sing, you reign now in heaven with Jesus our King.

Ave, Ave, Ave Maria, Ave, Ave, Ave Maria

In heaven the blessed, your glory proclaim; on earth, we your children invoke your fair name

Ave, Ave, Ave Maria, Ave, Ave, Ave Maria

Your name is our power, your virtues our light; your love is our comfort, your pleading our might

Ave, Ave, Ave Maria, Ave, Ave, Ave Maria

We pray for our mother, the Church upon earth, and bless dearest lady, the land of our birth

Ave, Ave, Ave Maria, Ave, Ave, Ave Maria

**REFLECTION:**

**A CAPABLE WOMAN**

**~ Catherine McAuley~**

**The truly capable woman – who can find her?  
She is far beyond the price of pearls.**

**She selects wool and flax  
She does her work with eager hands.**

**She sets her mind on a field, then she buys it;  
With what her hands have earned she plants a vineyard.**

**She puts back into her work  
And she shows how strong her arms can be.**

**She knows that her affairs are going well;  
Her lamp does not go out at night.**

**She sets her hands to the distaff,  
Her fingers grasp the spindle.**

**She holds out her hands to the poor,  
She opens her arms to the needy.**

**Snow may come, she has no fears for her household,  
With all her servants warmly clothed.**

**She makes her own quilts,  
She is dressed in fine linen and purple.**

**She is clothed in strength and dignity,  
She can laugh at the day to come.**

**When she opens her mouth, she does so wisely;  
On her tongue is kindly instruction.**

**She keeps good watch on the conduct of her household,  
No bread of idleness for her.**

**Her children stand up and proclaim her blessed,  
Her husband, too, sings her praises.**

**Many women have done admirable things,**

**but you surpass them all.**