



**THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF ENGLAND &
WALES CIO**
CHARITY WORK LOYALTY
NEWSLETTER



OCTOBER 2023

Message from the National President

After a relatively quiet month in August, I have sprung into life again and am so grateful to all the wonderful members who have made me welcome on visits around the country. During the past few weeks, I have been to Southwark's pilgrimage at the shrine to Our Lady in Haverstock Hill, to the Ladywell Shrine on the outskirts of Preston with Lancaster Branch, to Southwark Branch's 95th anniversary celebrations in Bromley and, by the time you read this, to York to see the lovely ladies in Middlesbrough Branch. In between there have been meetings with PACT and visits to set up potential Sections. We have huge potential and I'm really heartened by the positive response I get from parish priests.

So, what's next? Apart from our forthcoming AGM and pursuing recruitment opportunities, I'm bracing myself for the biggest challenge of the year so far sewing a Cross in Pocket! If you knew just how awful I am at sewing, you'd appreciate the task ahead! So many of our members have made hundreds and I'm mentally preparing myself to make one! We all have our talents, but mine certainly don't lie in the field of arts and crafts!

Wishing you all a very happy month ahead and safe travels to all attending our AGM at High Leigh.

Siobhan x

Dates for your diary

AGM and Autumn Conference

Monday 30th October

- Wednesday 1st November 2023

A few places left. Do come and join us!

Prisoners' Sunday

Sunday, 8th October.

This day...with me ... paradise'

"Pact gave me hope when I thought I would never be able to see my son in prison. They were like a light in what was a really dark time." *Mother in custody*

With the support of our bishops, Pact invites parishes across England and Wales to bring people in prison and their children and families, before the Lord in prayer on Prisoners' Sunday, 8th October.



Message from the National Secretary

- Jean needs to be informed of deceased members' names to be included in the *Liber Defunctorum* for mass at the AGM. Members who have died since 2022 – advise Jean by mid October.
- Newspaper Articles – as soon as possible, please.
- If the Section is taking Pact Backpacks to the AGM then please let Jean know so that collection can be arranged by Pact.
- If you wish to extend an invitation to a wider audience for any of your events then please let me know and it can be posted on the website.
- Also, look on the website under 'What We've Been Up To' to see how busy we all are. When speaking with potential members always give a bookmark pointing out the QR code which will take them straight to the website.

Thank you to all those members who have booked for the AGM. It is looking to be a great few days. There are just a couple of rooms available and it would be great if these could be snapped up to prevent us having to pay a penalty for not fully meeting our contract. Also, I'd like to let you know that there will be the facility to make purchases at the AGM via card payments. See you there!

Thank you. **Christine**