

Timmins Diocesan Council
The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Spiritual Development Standing Committee

Care For Our Common Home
Loneliness

Directive: #3

Pages: 3

Date: February 11, 2020

To: Parish Presidents for Spiritual Development Chairpersons

From: Marie Black, Diocesan Spiritual Development Chairperson

bcc: Diocesan President, Annette Kelly; Diocesan Officers; Provincial Spiritual

Development Chairperson, Emma Rose Rayburn; Life Member Liaison, Anne Plaunt; Sub-committee member, Maggie Mowbray

Greetings from your Spiritual Development Chairperson!

I hope this finds you healthy and happy during this cold and flu season. Personally, I am just getting over my second cold since the beginning of January. With my first cold I had laryngitis for about 6 days. I don't think I have to tell you what my husband said! Thankfully, I have not had the flu (touch wood)!

Below you will find updates, prayer suggestions, prayer requests by provincial, etc. If you have any questions, please let me know.

1) I finally completed the list of **deceased members** in our diocese and have sent it to Mary Ellen Villeneuve, the Provincial Keeper of the Book of Life. Thankyou to each parish for confirming that I had the information and spelling correct.

2) Make sure to check out the **Ceremonies Booklet**. Some of you might have a hard copy but if you don't, you can access it online at National. It contains useful ceremonies such as, Reception of New Members, Prayer Service for Deceased Members, Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel on April 26, Ceremony for the Presentation of Service Awards, Installation or Reaffirmation of CWL Officers, etc.

3) As you already know, **Lent** is just around the corner. I am sure most parishes will be providing extra study and prayer materials and opportunities during this Lenten season. However, I will still mention some sites you

might be interested in accessing.

- My provincial counterpart suggested a) getfed.com/eight-new-years-spiritual-resolutions-6309/ (8 Spiritual New Year's Resolutions for Catholics); b) bustedhalo.com/ministry-resources/7-saints-help-keep-new-years-resolutions (Patron Saints that can help us.).
- Development and Peace has a good Stations of the Cross which relates to our theme *Care of Our Common Home*. You might already have the material, but if not, go online to Development and Peace.
- Anne Plaunt sent this link to Dynamic Catholic. She says Matthew Kelly is easy to understand and enjoyable. Go to info@dynamiccatholic.com for an incredible journey through Lent with daily video reflections.

4) Emma Rose Rayburn, my provincial counterpart, has suggested that across the province we join each other in prayer.

“May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else...May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.” **1 Thessalonians 3:12-13**

She states that each diocese has its struggles but also much to celebrate. With prayer, we can build each other up. She has asked the spiritual development chairs to contact the diocese of the month to find out if there is a special request for prayers. I will check into this, but meanwhile, you can simply **pray for the needs of the diocese of the month**. This could be done by individual members and/or at the general meetings.

She also has a request for a **prayer** at the beginning of each month regarding the **successful amalgamation of the Dioceses of Alexandria-Cornwall and Ottawa**.

“Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him – a threefold cord is not quickly broken.” **Ecclesiastes 4:9-12**

Alexandria-Cornwall and Ottawa	-	January
Hamilton	-----	February
Hearst – Moosonee	-----	March
Kingston	-----	April
London	-----	May
Pembroke	-----	June
Peterborough	-----	July

Sault Ste Marie -----	August
St, Catherines -----	September
Thunder Bay -----	October
Timmins -----	November
Toronto -----	December

5) Please continue to promote **prayers for our diocese** (last day of the month) and our **priests**.

6) Please continue to focus on the **monthly Diocesan Priority** through to June. Use the cards provided for each month at your monthly meetings. The Introduction, Word of God, Sharing and Prayer are intended to guide us in a better understanding of faith lived through the sacraments. As listed in Directive #2, February is Sacrament of the Sick, March and April are the Eucharist, May is Holy Orders and June is Matrimony.

7) Upcoming dates:

Ash Wednesday – February 26

World Day of Prayer – March 6

Easter – April 12

Divine Mercy Sunday – April 19

Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel - April 26

World Day of Prayer for Vocations – May 3

National Hospice and Palliative Care Week – first full week of May

12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care - May

World Communication Day – May 2

World Day of Prayer for Priests – June 19

8) I just received the Winter 2020 edition of *The Canadian League*. On P.11, Shari Guinta, National First Vice-President of Spiritual Development, has an article entitled, *Protection of Minors... A Serious Issue*. In this article she speaks about the document, *Protecting Minors from Sexual Abuse: A Call to the Catholic Faithful in Canada for Healing, Reconciliation, and Transformation* issued by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCCB). You can access the document at cccb.ca, the CCCB website. Shari wrote a **Reconciliation Prayer** which can be used in personal prayer and at meetings.

9) Please submit suggestions ASAP for the **spiritual retreat day** this September.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel continue to bless and guide us in our service

to God and Canada.

God bless you all.

Marie