**

*The Catholic Women’s League of Canada*

*Edmonton Diocesan Council*

*Spiritual Development Chair Communique # 9*

*August 31, 2021*

My League Sisters, I trust this communique finds you well and keen to get back to the work of the League. God only knows what the future holds but in the words of Julian of Norwich *“All shall be well, all shall be well, and all manner of things will be well.*” I bring you good news of a board decision to support a recommendation of one of the Implementation Committee working groups to institute a *National Faith Day* for celebration across the country. In support of this announcement, I include the following from our National Spiritual Development Chair, Cathy Bouchard:

The Catholic Women’s League of Canada has dedicated, hard-working and spiritual members from across Canada. Members are invited to come together once a year to celebrate sisterhood and thank the Blessed Lord and League patroness for the graces granted to members to serve in all they say and do.

**Proposed Date: Third Saturday in September annually (September 19, 2021)**

**Suggested theme, Welcome Back! or All are Welcome Because All Belong\***

\*“God’s house isn’t holy because all are welcome, God’s house is holy because all belong” (Pedro Rubalcava)

**Program:** To be developed by the local council executive and spiritual advisor; engage members who have shown an interest, innovative members, parishioners who are not yet members, youth, musicians and others at their discretion.

**Suggested Event Publicity and Communications:**

* League social media platforms
* parish bulletins, local radio stations and newspapers
* Local Councils’ Involvement:
	+ - standalone
		- joint with adjacent councils
		- community event

**Possible Event Ideas:**

* + - Group rosary with members reciting a decade in their first language.
		- Host a multilingual Lectio Divina or prayer reflection followed by group discussion.
		- Host a guest speaker, a parishioner perhaps, to share her League journey and/or international

**Catholic cultures and customs:**

* Host a novena either as a group or at home and have everyone join together on day nine. Consider beginning a novena together to Our Lady of Good Counsel (praymorenovenas.com/lady-good- counsel-novena) or to Our Lady of Guadalupe (praymorenovenas.com/our-lady-of-guadalupe- novena), which can be prayed for any reason, at any time.
* Have the local youth ministry assist or have youth help to organize activities for the children of members/parishioners wishing to attend.
* Have an event open to other parishioners.
* Prepare snacks or lunch with food from different cultures.
* Include music such as “All are Welcome (All Belong)” by Jesse Manibusan or “All are Welcome” by Marty Haugen.

• Incorporate music in other languages, such as Andrea and Virginia Bocelli’s “Hallelujah” duet in Latin and English and “Here I am, Lord” in Spanish.

Sr. Susan Scott

Edmonton Diocesan Spiritual Development Chair