



The Catholic Women's League of Canada

Archdiocese of Edmonton

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL, PRAY FOR US

Community Life Communiqué November 2015

ONE HEART
VOICE
MISSION

To : Community Life Standing Committee Chairs
Council Presidents
Zone Chairs

I am pleased to be here to serve & assist you and do hope that you will feel free to contact me. I would like to offer my prayers for our successes, especially as we enter the Advent Season.

A Day in the Life of a CWL Member

Saturday, November 21 has been designated as A Day in the Life of a CWL Member. Perhaps a very appropriate day as the church celebrates the Presentation of Mary. Snap a shot of whatever you are doing that day and post it to the national Facebook page with the hashtag #dayinthelife. Many will be able to enjoy the varied activities of our members from coast to coast! Think of all the women who in this One Mission project will be made aware of the CWL and potentially pursue the opportunity to become a member

Development & Peace

In addition to what we have received about the 1% Program for Development & Peace, which now is included on the Voluntary Fund Commitment form used by CWL councils, we are receiving a great deal of information focusing on the upcoming Climate Change meeting in Paris. Some parishes held prayer vigils in the month of October, to reflect upon and pray for climate change. Did your parish participate? If so, please include information about your vigil in your 2015 Annual Report. Many events are being sponsored by D & P and Citizens for Public Justice. If your Council would like information and/or ideas, the websites are <http://www.devp.org/en> and <http://www.cpj.ca> or feel free to contact me and I will be happy to assist you.

Catholic Missions in Canada (CMIC)

This has been a voluntary fund of the Catholic Women's League since 2000. In the past 14 years members have donated \$345,000 towards the CMIC as it struggles to "keep the faith alive across our great country!" In 2015 CMIC hopes to provide \$3,500,000.00 in grants to assist 26 dioceses across Canada. There is a moving short film called "Great Need, Great Hope" which demonstrates the amazing work the CMIC is able to do, thanks to members' generosity. The film is available through CMIC by contacting their General Inquiries – info@cmic.info. I received a 16 minute DVD about the initiative of Catholic Missions in Canada (CMIC), please let me know if you would like to borrow this DVD to show it at your council meetings or events.

Responding as Catholics to the Refugee Crisis

Our National President, Barb Dowding, requested that we provide the documents from the CCCB to our Community Life Chairs as well as to anyone who may be interested in spearheading or is in the process of sponsoring Refugees within our parish communities. The CCCB has stated Canada has and needs to do more with sponsoring refugees and making them welcome. These documents will be posted to the Edmonton Diocesan Council website at <http://edmontoncwl.org> or please feel free to contact me to obtain copies of the materials.

World Day of Migrants and Refugees

Pope Francis has declared January 17, 2016 to be the next World Day of Migrants and Refugees. The theme will be Migrants and Refugees to Challenge Us. "The Response of the Gospel of Mercy".

Human Trafficking

This is an issue that must remain an ongoing concern for our membership. We must look for ways to help end human trafficking. For good suggestions and information, I suggest subscribing to Hope for the Sold – hopeforthesold.com. This is an organization very much in the forefront of trying to bring the issue of human trafficking to an end.

Magdalene House

This recovery home, in our Diocese serves people exploited by trafficking. Located in Red Deer, the house continues to provide the necessary services to assist people exploited through human trafficking in overcoming and becoming survivors. Please encourage your councils to become informed through their website www.magdalenehouse.ca. One way you can make a difference is by taking out a Magdalene House Society membership or by making a tax deductible donation and do not forget the power of prayer.

Gloria Ducharme
Community Life Chair