

Community Life

May 24, 2020



Communiqué 3

Care For Our Common Home

TO: Diocesan Presidents (for information and forwarding to Parish Councils)
Parish Council Chairpersons of Community Life
CC: Provincial President and Executive (for information)
CC: National Chairperson of Community Life (for information)
FROM: Mavis McLaren, Provincial Chairperson of Community Life

Catholic Women's League of Canada
Manitoba Provincial Council
Community Life Chairperson

My dear Sisters and Fr. Paul,
Greetings and I hope you are keeping well.
We are living in challenging times due to COVID-19, but with our Heavenly Father, His Son, our Blessed Mother, and all the angels and saints, we'll ride out this storm. As we go forward being quarantined in our homes, let us be mindful of our brothers and sisters everywhere on this planet.

Those of us chairing Community Life can minister to our community in many ways, whether it be personally or as a CWL Member (providing it is in keeping with the mandate of the Catholic Women's League of Canada.)

Refugees, Immigration and Citizenship

We are reminded in Matt. 25 v 35 to welcome the stranger in our midst, so let's lend a hand to the newcomers. There are many locations in the city where the needs of newcomers and immigrants can be found, please seek these out but check as stated above with diocesan or provincial presidents if they are approved for support. Many new centres have sprung up geared towards feeding the needy in our town. These can be found in the local newspaper.

As much as you're able please support.

Canadian Catholic Organizations for Development and Peace (CCODP)

During this time of isolation because of COVID-19, many are not using much cosmetic products, as well as visits to the Beauty Salon, Gyms, Restaurants etc. are minimal at this time, why not donate the potential cost to Development and Peace (Individually we can do a lot). I am sure you're getting requests from many other charities as well.

Dignity and Rights of Persons

More than ever, we are reminded of our marginalized and homeless persons. The Charitable Organizations that support drop-in centers, food banks, children's centres, homeless shelters and our Northern Missions could do well with our help due to the necessity of the time we're living in. There is much to be done. Choose one or two and let's do our Corporal Works of Mercy.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel bless you and keep you safe.

Mavis McLaren

The Catholic Women's League of Canada <i>Manitoba Provincial Council</i> Community Life		
March 3, 2020		Communiqué 2
<i>Care For Our Common Home</i>		
TO:	Diocesan Presidents (for information and forwarding to Parish Councils) Parish Council Chairpersons of Community Life	
CC:	Provincial President and Executive (for information)	
CC:	National Chairperson of Community Life (for information)	
FROM:	Mavis McLaren, Provincial Chairperson of Community Life	

Dear Sisters in the League as we begin our Lenten journey let us be reminded of our duties as Community Life chairpersons which are:

- dignity and rights of persons.
- social and economic justice.
- refugees, immigration and citizenship
- Canadian Catholic Organization of Peace (CCODP).
- developing countries.

All of the above should be practiced throughout the year but the days of Lent could be a time to practice or begin to put emphasis on these obligations.

You don't have to do them all at once, select one and work on it.

For purpose of this communique I have chosen one area to highlight and that is our refugees, immigration and citizenship.

In my first communique I mentioned the meeting I had with personnel from Welcome Place that serves our newcomers. The Contact person is willing to give a presentation at your meeting or at Welcome Place located on Bannatyne St.

The contact person is Sunainan Malhotra. Email-sunainan@miic.ca

There are many immigrants that are willing to tell their stories as mentioned before, invite them in and you'll be surprised to be enlighten by their stories and thus develop empathy and understanding.

Recently I met and heard the personal story of a refugee who lost his fingers on both hands. Although I had seen this story on the Local News, hearing it from him moved me to tears and admiration for the courage demonstrated by him and his friend during this ordeal. There is much we can do to welcome the stranger in our midst. This is in keeping with the mandate and philosophy of our founding Sisters.

As you practice your Lenten Meditation May Our Lady of Good Counsel Guide and Bless you.

Mavis McLaren Community Life Chairperson

COMMUNITY LIFE

September 2019

Care for Our Common Home

To: Diocesan Presidents (For information and forwarding to Diocesan Chairpersons of Community Life and Parish Council)

CC: Provincial President (for information)

CC: Provincial Executive (for information)

CC: National Chairperson of Communication (for information only)

FROM: Mavis McLaren Provincial Chairperson of Community Life

Wherever there are people in need of food and drink, clothing, housing, medicine, employment and education; wherever (people) lack the facilities necessary for living a truly human life or are afflicted with serious distress or illness or suffer exile or imprisonment, there Christian charity should seek them out and find them, console them with great solicitude and help them with appropriate relief. This obligation is imposed above all upon every prosperous nation and person.

(Decree on the Apostolate of the Laity) Vatican II

The above is a profession of faith and a call to action by all of us. Remember the works of charity are rooted in Jesus. He reminds us that, "You are the salt of the earth." Matt.5 v 13.

Duties of the Chairperson are:

- dignity and rights of persons
- social and economic justice
- refugees, immigration and citizenship
- Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace (CCODP)
- developing countries

Dignity and Rights of Persons

We are encouraged to respect all people we encounter.

As Christian women and members of Catholic Women's League of Canada, we are called to play an active role in opposing discrimination in all its forms. We can play an important role in the work place and in all places that we interact with others. Also, in recent years we did much to bring awareness on issues such as human trafficking, it is still happening and we should seek ways to support organizations working with this tragedy, like the Joy Smith foundation. There is a wealth of information related to human trafficking if you just google Joy Smith Foundation. Check it out you won't be disappointed.

Social and Economic Justice

I attended a social justice workshop 3 years ago; the presentations were from leaders of the community dealing with marginalized individuals.

Presenters were from:

1. Main Street Project

2. Persons working with people who took up residence under the bridge.
3. Leader of house in St. Boniface. This project helps to send people back to school to get a better education and work-related skills.

Please support these projects whenever you can especially in the winter months.

There are many others in your area that you can access if you prefer ones closer to home.

As this is an election year both provincially and federally, let the candidates know your concerns, for e.g. minimum wage and health care are two issues that need to be addressed.

Refugees, Immigration and Citizenship

Pope Francis reminds us to welcome the strangers in our land.

Chairpersons, be informed about Canada's Refugee and Immigration policies.

In Winnipeg we have Welcome Place at 521 Bannatyne Ave. They have many programs for Immigrants. Donations can be sent to Welcome Place by directing it to Manitoba Interfaith Immigration Council (MIIC)

Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace

Development and Peace aim at promoting justice in developing countries. Please support Development and Peace whenever the opportunity arises. Combating poverty and social inequality should be practiced by all good Christians.

Developing Countries

The Chairperson could invite a guest speaker from developing nations or other people who have visited or lived in these countries to meetings. At this point we can lend support to the people of Bahamas by donating to Fundraisers aimed at bringing relief to people whose Island was devastated by Hurricane Dorian.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel bless you.

Also, will forward communique from National Chairperson for Community Life.

Mavis McLaren