

**CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA
MANITOBA PROVINCIAL COUNCIL
SERVICE**



HERE I AM LORD SEND ME!

DATE: 09-15-24

COMMUNIQUE # 1

TO: DIOCESAN PRESIDENT to be forwarded to councils' parish presidents.

CC: Manitoba PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE (FOR INFORMATION)

FROM: Marielle Rigaux

SERVICE; in the Bible means to "Serve"

Why do we feel good to serve, because we are hard wired to serve. We look for a purpose in life. (it's an inflammatory marker).

1. Serving makes us healthier. (our interleukin levels lower when serving)
2. Serving makes us happier. (our stress levels come down).
3. Serving makes God happier.

It is not self-serving to help others because of the benefits that we derive from it. God made us to serve.

"Your attitude must be like my own, for I, the Messiah, did not come to be served, but to serve and give my life as ransom for many". (Matthew 20:28)

The Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA)

Is a papal agency established in 1926 and dedicated to giving pastoral and humanitarian support to Northeast Africa, the Middle East, Eastern Europe and India.

It's "mission" is to "build up the church, affirm human dignity, alleviate poverty, encourage dialogue and inspire hope".

CNEWA helps the church by funding seminaries, religious houses of formation, university chaplaincies, lay catechists and formation programs. It

also helps repair churches, fund local church programs, youth programs and initiatives for refugees.

CNEWA also responds to HUMAN NEEDS with child care initiatives such as schools, orphanages, food programs, centers for children with special needs and child health care practices. It helps the marginalized funding hospice care programs, programs for refugees and immigrants and initiatives for the elderly, abandoned and neglected. Helps provide emergency relief food and medical supplies etc. CNEWA is involved in funding long-term programs (vocational and sustainable programs).

The CWL through one of the National Voluntary Funds supports two programs in the Middle East- The Infant Welfare Centre in Jerusalem for at risk teenagers so they stay in school. The Shepherd's Field Hospital in Beit Sahour (near Bethlehem) provides health care to the poorest mothers and babies.

1st. Project

The Catholic Women's League is at this time supporting two projects with the 1% partnership with Development and Peace.

1. Food and nutritional security and climate change in the Sahel (country: Burkina faso, Mali and Niger)
2. Inclusive governance project for Kasenga women through functional Literacy (Democratic Republic of Congo)

The first project is designed for reforestation and village forest management in Burkina Faso. The Sahel is the world's most affected areas by climate change. The program hopes to build, maintain, and protect forest with reforestation efforts, providing income-generating activities based of bee-keeping and forest products, creating job opportunities, restoring degraded land, restoring food production. Also stabilizing dunes in Mali which will provide protection against advancing deserts, and protecting river banks from silting in Niger.

2nd. Project

Literacy:

#1. Participating women know how to read, write and calculate (10 functional literacy circles were established and 165 learners completed the program in 2023).

#2. Participating women carry out income-generating activities to help themselves (women in the literacy group organized income generating activities in gardening, baking saponification (making soap), fish sales, small business and most of them were involved in credit and business groups

#3. Participating women got increased access to information in three areas in 2023: health (vaccinations, mosquito nets): environmental protection: Human rights and women's political rights (informed of their political right and right to vote).

Jolene Beliveau (National Chair of Service) also has a very good memo on Literacy Facts and Statistics.(according to the ABC Life Literacy Canada).

Annual Day of Reflection, Saturday, October 5, 2024

Please Register by September 30th. cost is \$30.00

I will see you there!

Sept 21-World Gratitude Day Sept. 29- International day of Awareness of Food & Waste
Sept. 30 – National day for Truth and Reconciliation (Orange shirt Day)

Oct. 1- National Seniors Day	Oct. 1- Breast Cancer Awareness month
Oct. 4- Feast of ST. Francis Assisi	Oct. 8- National Depression Screening Day
Oct.14- Thanksgiving Day	Oct.21- Waste Reduction Week
Oct.28- Canadian School Library Day	

The month of October is also a Marian month (pray the Rosary)