

Christian Family Life

November 2, 2021

Communique # 8

Care for Our Common Home

TO: Diocesan Chairpersons of Christian Family Life

CC: Provincial Executive (for information)

National Chairperson of Christian Family Life Dorothy Johansen

FROM: Marielle Rigaux, Manitoba Chairperson of Christian Family Life

ENCL: EPC Resource List

Dear sisters in the League,

Marriage and Family,

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) has established a standing committee for family and life, which replaces the former Canadian Organization for Life and Family (COLF). The CCCB still has a few resources available: however, new materials are available or are being developed for use. (from National CFL communique)

CCCB will be welcoming Pope Francis to Canada on a Historic Pilgrimage of Healing & Reconciliation. (date to be determined, more information at the Archdiocese of Wpg. and the CCCB website www.https:cccb.ca)

Archbishop Murray Chatlain of the diocese of Keewatin-Le Pas, has on their web site the letter “ **Statement of Apology**” as written by the Bishops of Canada and his own letter.

St. Boniface Archdiocese has marriage preparation “**Better Together**” starting Nove.25th. for the upcoming newlyweds check it out by contacting shawnda@mmoc.ca (more info on the Archdiocese website)

NEW- fertility health Awareness Seminar starts Nov. 25th via ZOOM. Contact Sophie (mfl@archstboniface.ca) or Nadine (mfl2@archstboniface.ca)

Life's Vision currently has two women who are in need of help but for different reasons.

The first woman is a mother of 2 sons. She has MS and is in need of a good wheelchair.

The 2nd woman also has two sons and is leaving an abusive situation and is in need of financial help for rent etc. to help her get back on her feet. If any of you are capable of helping please visit the Life's Vision web page go to the **donate page** and select "**Women in Crisis**" from the dropdown menu.

Ministry of Care : a workshop to hear about "lived" experiences of loneliness, grief etc. during Covid. If interested contact Julie Turenne Maynard at 204-235-3136 or visit the Archdiocese site to register.

Celebrate Manitoba 150th with Sara Riel on Nov. 4th. Tickets \$40.00, includes lunch, presentation and entertainment. (more information on the Archdiocese website.) The presentation is in regards to mental health and wellness.

Ministry to Youth, Disabled, Seniors, Widowed, Separated, Divorced

In a global advertisement campaign, Pope Francis said "Being vaccinated with vaccines authorized by the competent authorities is an act of love. And contributing to ensure the majority of people are vaccinated is an act of love—love for oneself, love for one's family and friends, love for all people" (National communique #2 D.J.).

Throughout Canada there are people who are at risk due to their circumstances, living alone, distance, misinformation etc. We are encouraged as CWL members to reach out to those wishing to be vaccinated and helping them access a clinic. Those dying of Covid have received at least one shot but for the most part "no shot" (by choice).

Vocations : A website, vocations.ca has information on the types of vocations and listing of communities & dioceses that may be of interest. (National communique #2 D.J.)

Marielle Rigaux Manitoba CWL Chairperson of Christian Family Life

The Catholic Women's League of Canada Manitoba Provincial Council Christian Family Life		
Date; Oct 28, 2020		Communique #7
<i>Care For Our Common Home</i>		
TO: Diocesan Presidents (for information and forwarding to Parish Councils) Diocesan Chairpersons of Christian Family Life CC: Provincial Executive (for information) CC: Pat Deppiessie, National Chairperson of Christian Family Life (for info) FROM: Marielle Rigaux, Provincial Chairperson of Christian Family Life ATT:		

Dear Sisters in the League,

I feel an emptiness in my heart when I think of you as I miss the getting together, the camaraderie, the faith we share and the devotion we have. I pray that you are all well and Covid free. The rural areas are basically absent of Covid but it's out there and we do take every precaution even avoiding going to some appointments in the city unless it's an absolute have to. COVID: "This too shall pass" in HIS time, not ours.

I have included Pat Deppiesses' communique as it is what I have been reading about in the newsletters I receive.

1. Euthanasia Prevention Coalition link is epcc.ca. This organization is led by Alex Schadenberg
A petition to oppose the expanding of Euthanasia by Bill C-7 (link) citizengo.org
2. Citizengo.org is led by James Schadenberg and deals with Pro-Life and Pro-Family.
3. You can subscribe to their free newsletter and always be current on what is going on that which we don't hear about in the press.

Always check out the Arch Diocese of St. Boniface, Arch Diocese of Winnipeg and Arch Diocese of Keewatin/LePas weekly bulletin. We may not be able to attend but there are articles there to reflect on.

St. Boniface Diocese: under **Family Life** “Spend time everyday thinking of reasons you love your spouse. You’ll never struggle to remember why you married him or her.” Very soon it will be my 47th anniversary. I know why I married him, (because I asked him) and through the years I have loved him for all kinds of reasons, marriages are not made in heaven so like everything else you have to work at it and give 100%.

Winnipeg Diocese: under “**The Universal Church Section**” “What Pope Francis actually said about civil unions”. I heard it on the news, couldn’t believe my ears and then read the article here. I still need some clarification.

Keewatin/LePas: has a great directive for their parishioners on the procedures of Catholic sacraments during Covid. These could be personally followed in every Diocese.

I have just received the latest Catholic Women’s League magazine and the back was the first part I saw with the prayer to **Mary Our Mother**. There is not a day that goes by that I don’t pray for my children and implore our Mother that same request “And lead them to Jesus through you”.

A new liturgical year is about to begin, we look forward to Christmas, but not so much to the diminished gathering of family. I do wish you all the very best, may you find Joy in the little things that you do, may you be blessed with health and happiness in 2021. May Covid be afraid of **you** and be diligent in not letting depression and loneliness come in the back door.

Blessings to all

Marielle Rigaux

The Catholic Women's League of Canada

Manitoba Provincial Council

Christian Family Life

August 10, 2021



Communiqué 6

Care For Our Common Home

TO: Diocesan Presidents (for information and forwarding to Parish Councils)
Diocesan Chairpersons of Christian Family Life

CC: Provincial Executive (for information)

CC: National Chairperson of Christian Family Life (for information)

FROM: Marielle Rigaux, Provincial Chairperson of Christian Family Life

Dear Sisters in the League,

Covid is still with us, it keeps mutating so it shall remain a big part of our lives for some time to come. I miss our interaction at the meetings, Celebration of Life, Conventions and other CWL sponsored events. I'm looking forward to having my CWL enthusiasm jolted as it seems it's been a long absence.

At this time of year I am in the "canning" phase of the year and very much looking forward to the "quilting" phase when the supply of tomatoes, cukes and beets have finally finished producing and I can finally say "enough". Being harvest time I also get to throw in the odd meal in the field.

I have met on paper my National CWL counterpart and our connection centers around the League and quilting.

This is just a reminder to all members to peruse the 3 Archdiocese Bulletins weekly.

St Boniface has in the way of Family a “Fertility Health Awareness Seminar” in regards to natural family planning coming as an online Fall session.

Nov. 25 (6:30 – 9PM)

Nov. 30 (6:30 – 9PM) Registration deadline is Nov. 15, 2021

More information available online from the Archdiocese of St Boniface bulletin.

Currently there are 3 Marriage, Life and Family Teams in the St. Boniface diocese. Printable brochures are available to view about the MLF teams. Again, this can be found on the St. Boniface bulletin.

Winnipeg Archdiocese has “Growing in Wisdom: Seeking Generativity.” A time to look back on the life we have lived, look at new vistas, our own mortality and the grace we find in this part of our lives. This seminar will be held on **ZOOM**, Sept. 14th & 18^t, for more information call Nancy @ 204-470-9431 or by email dnphil@mymts.net

Keewatin-le Pas there was nothing in the bulletin at this time.

Marriage and Family: (taken from D. Johansen report)

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) has established a standing committee for family and life. Two of the purposes of this committee are to assist the CCCB in responding to the pastoral needs of married couples and families and helping it affirm and strengthen the domestic church in every household and proclaim the Christian teachings on marriage and family. Resources are available to assist you in preparing for participating in events during the National Week for Life, which coincides with the United Nations International Day of Families on May 15th each year.

Sanctity of Life: (D. Johansen)

The other purposes of the family and life committee are to assist the CCCB in responding to new questions raised by contemporary ethical debates, such as medical assistance in dying and promoting the dignity and sacredness of human life at all stages of life, from conception to natural death. (Check the

CCCB website for resources that identify government legislation on life issues and responses from the church.)

Campaign Life Coalition organizes the National March for Life to be held on May 12, 2022. Hopefully the March for Life won't be cancelled as it has been in the past two years.

Euthanasia: (D. Johansen)

National council affirmed its support for Euthanasia Prevention Coalition through a motion to continue the temporary national voluntary fund until August 31, 2022. Please ask your diocesan counterparts to consider informing members about this fund and direct them to the resources available to enhance their knowledge about preventing euthanasia at epcc.ca/

World Youth Day:

World Youth Day will be held in August 2023 in Lisbon, Portugal. I would hope that every parish encourages and supports their youth in attending. My daughter attended in 2000 (in Rome) and stood 15-20 feet away from Pope John Paul. I spoke with her this morning and after all these years you can hear the joy and excitement in her voice when relating the experience. Such a positive effect it had!

National Senior's Day on October 1st is the day you can celebrate older adults. (that be me and most CWL members) let's celebrate and acknowledge the contributions our seniors have made to society. Let seniors know that they are valued as contributing members of society and much appreciated.

A brochure written in plain language "An Annulments Today, Merciful and Just" is available from CWL national website (cwl.ca).

Vocations

Please encourage parish councils to check in at the diocese and see if there are any special requests to support vocations.

Marielle Rigaux

MB Prov. Chairperson of Christian Family Life

<p>The Catholic Women's League of Canada</p> <p>Manitoba Provincial Council</p> <p>Christian Family Life</p>		
<p>Date; Oct 28, 2020</p>		<p>Communique #5</p>
<p><i>Care For Our Common Home</i></p>		
<p>TO: Diocesan Presidents (for information and forwarding to Parish Councils) Diocesan Chairpersons of Christian Family Life</p> <p>CC: Provincial Executive (for information)</p> <p>CC: Pat Deppiessé, National Chairperson of Christian Family Life (for info)</p> <p>FROM: Marielle Rigaux, Provincial Chairperson of Christian Family Life</p> <p>ATT: _____</p>		

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Blessings to all

Marielle Rigaux

The Catholic Women's League of Canada Manitoba Provincial Council Christian Family Life		
Date; May 25, 2020		Communique #4
<i>Care For Our Common Home</i>		
TO: Diocesan Presidents (for information and forwarding to Parish Councils) Diocesan Chairpersons of Christian Family Life CC: Provincial Executive (for information) CC: Pat Deppiesse, National Chairperson of Christian Family Life (for info) FROM: Marielle Rigaux, Provincial Chairperson of Christian Family Life ATT:		

It's been four months since CWL Day of Celebration. It was a wonderful day in a lot of ways, I laughed, I cried. The program was wonderful and thought provoking thanks to our National President and to Fr. Paul. I was also blessed with being presented the Belle Guerrin Award by two fantastic and dedicated women of the League. I had no clue whatsoever of whom they were speaking of. I thought "oh, someone else who's been in as long as I have". Janet and Crystal, you did a fantastic job and you managed to get my husband in on the secret and joining in the presentation and for lunch. Thank-you Margaret Silverthorne for nominating me and to Prov. Executive for approving the nomination. I'm ever so grateful.

A lot has happened in the past few months. Amazing how life can be disrupted and become an inconvenience and scare us all, all because of Covid 19. When you think of the countries that have been denied practicing their Catholic faith, of receiving the sacraments for decades, we have had but a small taste of what that is. We long after only this short time to go back and celebrate God. All of Easter season will have gone by with no church attendance. We have participated in virtual mass, we have done Novenas, Spiritual Bouquets and recited the Rosary daily during the month of May. Covid19 gave us time to pray, reflect and realize that faith and family are most important.

WALK FOR LIFE: All organizations cancelled their planned activities. The Walk for Life became a virtual walk as we join with Ottawa, online and participate in the walk that way. I look forward to next year when we can hopefully join, participate and support the Walk.

FAMILY LIFE: Covid 19 proved deadly in other ways. It affected the elderly, they could not see family and many succumbed to the illness "alone". How terribly sad and tragic for the patient and their families.

The pandemic has wreaked havoc in family life for a great many people throughout Canada. There has been an “epidemic of domestic abuse” during this pandemic (Free Press April 15/20). The Crown Attorney states that there have been up to that date an “unprecedented number of cases of domestic and child abuse. There has been an escalation of abuse due to tension in the homes. All this togetherness gets on some people’s nerves. Some live in crowded conditions, lost jobs, shortage of food in the home, mostly a shortage of patience and coping skills. Those who suffer the most are the children. Funding and Resources to shelters have been reduced and social distancing in shelters are a concern. We as CWL are at the front line against domestic violence and child abuse. We must keep working to stop this epidemic. Through the years the CWL has been very generous in supporting these issues (shelters, food banks, soup kitchens) and are called to support more so now than ever.

VAPING: The CWL had “Resolution 2014.02 Electronic Cigarettes” which was presented to gov’t in regards to vaping. It continues to be an attraction to secondary students. It presents severe respiratory health issues and even death in young people.(lung transplant in an 18 yr. old State side due to his vaping). Vaping may increase severe symptoms and complications in people infected with Covid 19. More work has to be done to prevent the growing use of vaping products. “Vaping has more than doubled since 2017” (Free Press) In a survey taken, 40% reported daily or near daily use of the products used in vaping. Increased vaping and its unknown consequences threaten the health of our youth: it has been linked to higher risk of progression to cigarette smoking when it was introduced as a means to quit smoking. Vaping is a catastrophe in the making. To read the full version of this article go to “Winnipegfreepress.com” or “the conversation.com/ca

Have a wonderful summer, know that I think of you all. I miss my friends and pray we all stay safe and healthy so we can all meet again in the fall.
Our Lady of Good Council be with you always,

Blessings,
Marielle

Christian Family Life

Date: April 10, 2020

Communique #3

CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME

TO: Diocesan Presidents and Provincial Executive (for info)

BCC: National Chairperson for Christian Family Life

FROM: Marielle Rigaux, MB. Prov. Chairperson of Christian Family Life

Being from a small rural community, living through this crucial time in history, with COVID-19 appears to me to be easier than in an urban center. We are already distanced from socially interacting a lot as there's no place to go and we tend to be stocked up and learned a long time ago to make do. It's easier to follow the rules set up for us.

On the website CCCB, cccb.ca you will find the beautiful "Hope, Gratitude and Solidarity: A Message to Canadians from Religious Leaders in Canada in Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

(from my Prov. Council chairperson)

On vaticannews.va is the following message "The Dicastery has also proposed a votive Mass "specifically to implore God to end this pandemic." The opening prayer reads:

"Almighty and eternal God, our refuge in every danger, to whom we turn in our distress: in faith we pray, look with compassion on the afflicted, grant eternal rest to the dead, comfort to mourners, healing to the sick, peace to the dying, strength to healthcare workers, wisdom to our leaders and courage to reach out to all in love, so that together we may give glory to your holy name."

Sanctity of Life

The CCCB issued its response to Bill C-7 An Act to amend the Criminal Code (medical assistance in dying) which tabled on Monday, February 24, 2020

In response, the bishops expressed concern with Bill C-7 which "seeks to expand the eligibility criteria for euthanasia and assisted suicide by removing the "reasonable foreseeability of natural death criterion in the Criminal Code and by loosening some of the existing 'safeguards' allowing patients whose death is 'reasonable foreseeable' to waive final consent to receiving euthanasia by making an advance directive"

In voicing strong opposition to the proposed legislation, the bishops call upon “all Canadians who also oppose the new Bill to make their voices heard” and urge members of Parliament to acknowledge the giftedness of life as an inalienable right not to be taken away by others, the importance of compassion for the ill and dying, as well as the responsibility to protect the most vulnerable.”

Archbishop Richard Gagnon (Winnipeg), president of the CCCB, asks the League to encourage members to send individual letters to their members of parliament. This need not be a complicated affair. A convenient platform is available on the Coalition for HealthCARE and Conscience [website, canadiansforconscience.ca](http://www.canadiansforconscience.ca). An electronic letter to one’s respective member of parliament automatically generated after the required contact information fields are filled.

March for Life

I await further instruction here in Manitoba in regards to the March for Life to be held in May. Things may change a lot from now till then due to COVID-19.

Social Justice

Many still volunteer at food banks while still practicing “social distancing” and fewer donations are being made.

Christian Family Life

Due to churches being closed the 3 archdiocese have “ facebook.com links to access mass on Sundays which are being livestreamed or on “youtube.com”. Please check your archdiocese as to the times available.

Salt & Light TV is free in Manitoba till May 1st on Shaw Cable and Shaw & Bell MTS for daily Mass.

Marriage Family Life

April 18th: New National Week for Life and the Family will be Live Streamed, Online Catholic family Conference for families while exploring the theme “Our Children: Embracing God’s Gift of Love – A Gift within our Church Village & Family.

Saturday April 18th from 2 pm.-4:45.

Guest speaker: Keith Dunn

Registration required : online at <http://tridiocesan.rsvpfy.com> free

Ministry to Youth

World Youth Day to be held in Lisbon 2022, with the theme “Mary arose and went with haste (Lk 1:39)” All councils are encouraged start planning how they can help the youth of the parishes to attend this International event.

As this is the League's Centennial year, watch cwl.ca for updates on this event. With all conventions cancelled at all levels of the CWL, things may have changed; however, members will still have this celebration at some point.

Hope you all have had a joyous Easter despite what our "Common Home" is going through. Let us pray that this is the darkest of times we will ever live through.

Marielle Rigaux

Provincial Chairperson/Christian Family Life

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA
MANITOBA PROVINCIAL COUNCIL
CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME

March 3, 2020

Communique #2

TO: Diocesan President (to: Parish Council Diocesan chair of Christian Family Life

Provincial Executive (for info)

National Chairperson of Christian Family Life

From: Marielle Rigaux, MB. Provincial chairperson of Christian Family Life.

Marriage and family

There will be a “**Fertility Health Awareness Seminar**” held at no cost

April 23 at 6:30 to 9:30 in the St. Boniface Cathedral Hall. Registration is required.

Family Faith Encounter is a 2 day conference held June 12-13th in Duck Lake Sask.

Speakers are Tim Staples and Bishop Albert Thevenot. (if you are wanting a road trip) more info can be found on the St. Boniface archdiocese newsletter.

Youth: **World Youth Day** will be held in Lisbon, July 2022. Now is good time to help sponsor someone in your community to attend. It is quite the spiritual experience so I'm told.

Please get information out to the younger kids who would love to go to camp about **St. Malo camp**. Sending kids to another denominations camp aka: Winkler Bible camp is a fun time but not a good alternative as the kids are not learning their own faith.(especially if the family is not practicing)

Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops

As a response to the tabling of Bill C-7 which would amend the Criminal Code (MAID). The Bishops express their concerns with this bill that seeks to expand the eligibility criteria for euthanasia and assisted suicide by removing the “reasonable foreseeability of natural death” criterion in the Criminal Code and by loosening some of the existing “safeguards” allowing patients who are close to death to waive final consent to receiving euthanasia by making an advance directive.

We must continue to challenge Bill C-7, show the government that good “palliative care” is very much available in our hospitals and respite homes.

I have included the National chairs communique along with this report.

Sanctity of Life: The March for Life will be held Thursday, May 14th. Please encourage your CWL members to come and participate. I am aware that for many of us who are on the other side of 70 that this walk is more than likely challenging. The program is just being finalized this past week. Included with this report is the necessary information for the where, when and the route being taken for the March.

Be My Voice ;

“SOMETHING NON HUMAN DOESN’T

BECOME HUMAN BY GETTING OLDER AND BIGGER. WHATEVER IS HUMAN IS

HUMAN FROM THE BEGINNING” Randy Alcorn

Blessings,

Marielle

You got to start thinking like you’re blessed, talking like you’re blessed, and acting like you’re blessed. That’s how your blessing get activated.

The Catholic Women's League of Canada

Manitoba Provincial Council

August 25, 2019

Communique #1

Care for our Common Home

TO: Diocesan Presidents (for information & forwarding to Parish Councils),

Diocesan Chairpersons of Christian Family Life

CC: Provincial Executive (for information)

National Chairperson of Christian Family Life (for information)

“We are all dependent on one another, every soul of us on earth”

(George Bernard Shaw)

Hello from rural Manitoba. This is my favorite time of the year because of harvest, when we reap what we sow. This year is proving to be a challenge but God provides and so he shall in “his time”. It’s like writing reports at the end of the year, we gather all of our works, pray it has made a difference and we share.

I’m starting my 4th term on Provincial Council, I am what I consider a recall. I am a now retired farm wife but am busy in our community. I have one loving husband, 2 daughters (1SIL) 1 son (1DIL) and 6 grandsons. I was a nurse and have done palliative care here in our hospital.

Christian Family Life is new to me but I will give it my all and try to provide you with the latest in the area are relevant to Christian Family Life.

Ministry to Seniors, the Disabled and Youth:

Pat Deppiesse, our National Chairperson of Christian Family Life encourage us to watch the clip from a meeting at the UN Status of Women Conference which you can find at [“lifeneews.com/2019/04/22/watch-lila-rose-slams-abortion-at-the-un-its-never-right-to-intentionally-take-a-human-life.](http://lifeneews.com/2019/04/22/watch-lila-rose-slams-abortion-at-the-un-its-never-right-to-intentionally-take-a-human-life) “

Speaking of a “human life”, how many of you this summer had the opportunity to see the movie “**Unplanned**”? For those us who had the opportunity, speaking for myself it was emotionally disturbing and I cried. It reminded me of when as a young woman, I worked at the Vancouver General Hospital and there were marches back then against abortion and the lawn in front of the hospital was covered in bouquets of Baby Roses in remembrance of all those tiny lives taken.

I will provide the date for “March for Life” when contacts and plans have been made.

Euthanasia: We are encouraged to read “LifeCanada’s” article, “The Current Situation of MAID in Canada” at lifecanada.org to learn about the status of medical assistance in dying. In comparing other countries in the world, Canada has an unusually high number at over 4000 deaths since legalization in 2016.

Please check out the “National CWL” website and read the communique from Pat Deppiesse, there is far more information there and I do not do her communique justice by giving you small snippets.

Ministry to Separated and Divorced:

In the spring issue of the Canadian League magazine there is an article on the “Annulment Process”. It used to take years to get an annulment in the Catholic Church. The process was long, required people vouching for you etc. and if you had the money you could speed things along. With approximately half the marriages ending in divorce the process has been revised. At the Fireside Chats with Fr. Caruso in Mesa, Arizona, he related to us that the process should only take 18 months (in the U.S) Fr. Caruso sat on that committee so was knowledgeable about the topic.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any problems or questions that I could help you with or find information for you. I am here to serve and do my best.

Reminding everyone that annual reports will be due, never too early to get a start and please remind your members that your memberships are also due. Time to recruit.

We could also use some help at Provincial Council as there are a few vacancies. I’m a “recall” you are “called”.

Blessings to all and pray for those who “in the League” are facing and struggling with illness, health issues in their families and for those who are struggling with family faith issues.

Respectfully,

Marielle Rigaux