



**THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA**  
**Ottawa Diocesan Council**  
**Spiritual Development Standing Committee**



*Inspired by the Spirit, Women Respond to God's Call*

**COMMUNIQUE #1**

**JUNE 2017**

**TO:** Parish Spiritual Development Standing Committee Chairpersons  
**From:** Nancy Grimshaw, Diocesan Spiritual Development Chairperson

I would like to introduce myself. I have been a member of the CWL for 30 years. During that time I held the position of education chair, 1990-92, then became less involved for many years. I became more active with the CWL ten years ago when I accepted a position on my parish council's executive. Two years ago I was elected to the Ottawa Diocesan Council and given the position of education and health chair, and now have the position of spiritual development chair. Spiritual Development is a new chair for me, and I expect I will learn and grow spiritually, in this position.

**Role of Women in the Church**

In August 2015, Pope Francis spoke of the changing role of women in society whereby we need to be listened to, that our voices have real weight, and that we have a recognized authoritativeness.

We are encouraged to find our place in the church through our Blessed Mother Mary. We are to strive to follow her model to change the world through faith and love. We can also find our place in the church through reading of the lives of women of the bible. Two books suggested on these topics are "My Soul Magnifies the Lord: A Scriptural Journey with Mary" and "The Women of the Gospels: Missionaries of God's Love". (Both books can be found at The Word Among Us [www.wau.org](http://www.wau.org)). We are also called to serve in the League by being an active participant in your CWL council, serving in a church ministry or serving in your community.

**Spiritual Growth of Members**

The celebration of the Centenary Anniversary of the Apparition of Our Lady of Fatima began with a mass at The Good Shepherd on May 13th. Masses/events are planned for the 13th of each month, currently I have:

Tuesday, June 13, at St. Michael's, Fitzroy Harbour at 7pm,

Thursday, July 13, St. Clement's, 528 Old St. Patrick St. at 7pm

Sunday, August 13, at St. George's, 415 Piccadilly Ave. at 7pm

Wednesday, Sept 13, the Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima will be at Holy Spirit Parish in Stittsville. The celebration will conclude with activities the weekend of Oct 13/14, with a procession of the Statue of the Blessed Mother Mary. The start of the procession has yet to be determined, but procession will end at Notre Dame Cathedral on Oct 13, with a mass at 7:30 presided by his Grace, the Most Reverend Terrence Prendergast. A reception will follow.

On October 14, there will be a mass at St. Maurice Church, followed by a procession of the authentic Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima from St. Maurice church to St. Gregory School, where there will be a luncheon banquet with guest speakers. It is expected that there will be a cost of approximately \$10-\$12 to cover expenses for this event.

The Marian Congress 70th Anniversary celebration invites the Bishops of Canada to consecrate the country to the Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary, as part of the celebrations marking the 150th anniversary of the Confederation, on July 1, 2017. The consecration will be preceded by a Novena for the healing of Canada, printed below, promoted by the Knights of Columbus, beginning June 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### ***Novena Prayer for the Healing of Canada***

*O Holy Virgin Mary, our most merciful Mother, we your children humbly prostrate before you,  
implore your grace and help.*

*With confidence we come to you, O Queen of the Holy Rosary; to you do we turn our eyes.*

*Bestow on us, we beg you, this special favour for the healing of our country, Canada.*

*Grant us health of body and purity of soul;*

*increase our faith and love so that we may know your divine Son better and serve Him ever faithfully.*

*O tender and merciful Mother, intercede for those who are dear to us.*

*Heal the sick, comfort the dying and have pity on the faithful departed.*

*Protect our families; guard our country; and keep holy Mother Church safe from all evil.*

*Our Lady of the Cape, Queen of Canada,*

*may we love you more and more, so that one day united with you in heaven,*

*we may praise your Son eternally.*

*Amen.*

Here are a few apps that you can download on your phone giving you access to prayers at anytime.

- *"Living with Christ (Novalis)"* has a free app, for daily readings, prayers and images for reflection.
- *"Jesuit Prayer (Society of Jesus)"* a free app with daily readings, reflections and virtual prayer cards.
- *"Magnificat"* has a charge to download its app, but also has daily mass prayers, scripture readings, daily morning, evening prayers, and a spiritual reflection.

Please continue to support seminarians through prayers and/or financial offerings, or contact our local seminary to ascertain their needs.

### **The Study of Catholic Teachings**

*"Unleashing the Power of Scripture - A Guide for Catholics"* by Mark Hart. This book offers insights and exercises to allow us to experience the transforming power of God's word (ISBN 978-1-59325-297-7 The Word Among Us).