



THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA
Ottawa Diocesan Council
Christian Family Life Standing Committee



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

COMMUNIQUE #2

SEPTEMBER 2017

TO: Parish Christian Family Life Standing Committee Chairpersons
From: Teresa Psutka, Diocesan Christian Family Life Chairperson

Since my last communiqué in June, it has been quiet at the parish and diocesan levels. However, at the provincial and national levels, the annual conventions have taken place.

In Thunder Bay in July, the provincial convention hosted 298 delegates. Many events and speakers incorporated our Indigenous sisters. In August, at the 97th National Convention in Charlottetown, P.E.I., there were 936 delegates, one of the highest attended conventions. As always, I was fascinated at how punctual our sisters in the League are. Sometimes sessions were running behind schedule but before you knew it, we caught up and were ahead of schedule.

At the national convention, I had the opportunity to attend the Christian Family Life luncheon with National Chairperson Doreen Gowans. It was a pleasure to meet her. I learned that she has organized and taught marriage preparation. Along with her husband and another couple, they hold weekend retreats for happily married couples, entitled "Together Forever". There were only ten of us at the luncheon, which made it very personal. We did a round table and told of our work in the League. No specific topic was discussed but Archbishop Albert Legatt of St. Boniface who was with us, said that we, as the Catholic Women's League of Canada, need to do more in conjunction with our dioceses. They need to know we exist.

One of the convention speakers, Ken Yasinski, from Saskatchewan, father of four, was very inspirational. He shared with us stories of how his children, each with their own personality, teach him something about life and himself.

At the closing mass, the refrain of the hymn "Women of the Church" by Carey Landry kept playing in my head. "... women of the church, how rich is your legacy; women of the church, how great is your faith; women of the church, well-springs of integrity, lead us in the ways of peace. ". Surrounded by the fine marble work in St. Dunstan's Basilica Cathedral, a feeling of pride came over me, as a member of the League. We are a unique group of women, who; learn from those who have gone before us, are able to share our faith and do God's will in a moral and honest way. As our theme says, "Inspired by the Spirit, Women Respond to God's call", we are asked to do so in joyful service to God and Canada.

In closing, peace be with you and remember the elderly and the lonely in your parish and community. Keep them in prayers; show them love, support and care.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel pray for us and keep us well - in mind, body and soul.