



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 #2

SEPTEMBER 2017

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

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you invited Me in; naked and you clothed Me; I was sick, and you visited Me." (Matthew 25:35-36)

With our new Provincial theme of Homelessness, this seems an appropriate biblical passage as we strive to, or continue, to help those who are disadvantaged.

It was encouraging to watch the Live Feed from the National Convention in Charlottetown, P.E.I. and hear the presentation of Dr. Reginald Bibby. He stated that Catholicism remains the largest religion in the world despite the fact that only 15% of Catholics attend weekly mass, and 49% attend Christmas Service. Dr. Bibby suggested that people are short on time, money and resources, yet if they were to find activities worthwhile for personal, spiritual or family growth, that they would be more interested in the church. He suggested that our challenge as Catholic Women's League members is to provide faith opportunities, fun, and a sense of fulfillment.

Spiritual Growth of Members

Our Lady of Fatima Centenary

The celebration of the Centenary Anniversary of the Apparition of Our Lady of Fatima continues for the month of September and then concludes in October. Events are planned as follows:

- Wed Sept 13 the Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima will be at Holy Spirit Parish in Stittsville. A Rosary will be said in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, and Eucharist at 0900.
- The Most Reverend Terrence Prendergast will celebrate mass at Our Lady of Fatima parish at 4:30pm on Saturday October 14th, 2017.
- The tentative schedule for the conclusion of the celebration the weekend of Oct 13/14, organized by The Legion of Mary, is as follows:
 - Mass will take place at Notre Dame Cathedral on Oct 13, at 7:30pm presided by his Grace, the Most Reverend Terrence Prendergast, and a reception will follow.
 - On Oct 14, the celebration will begin at St. Maurice Church
 - 0800-name tag distribution to paid registrants
 - 0900 will be recitation of the Holy Rosary
 - 0930 will be Mass with Auxiliary Bishop Christian Riesbeck presiding.
 - Following the mass there will be a procession of the authentic Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima from St. Maurice church to St. Gregory School.
 - At 11:30, first guest speaker.
 - 12:30pm will be lunch
 - 1:30pm will be a second guest speaker
 - 2:30pm closing with consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, followed by the Chaplet of Mercy
- The fee to register which includes lunch is \$15. Payments must be received by September 25, 2017. For reservations: Call Angela Beimers at (613) 829-0320.

YOUNG ADULTS - CALLED & GIFTED SPIRITUAL GIFTS SEMINAR Friday Sept 15 and Sat. Sept 16. This seminar, run in conjunction with the *Catherine of Sienna Institute*, is an opportunity to discover God's plan for your life. This discernment process will give you a new perspective on your life and will lead to more fulfillment in work and

relationships. Info at fymottawa.com or contact Krista (kwawrykow@archottawa.ca, 613-738-5025 x 222.

Advent Retreat:

This year we are having an advent retreat at Maison Notre Dame De La Province, Orleans, the weekend of Dec 1-3. The theme will be "Women Responding to God's Call", with Sr. Linda McIssac csj, and Anna Tremblay, CWL Provincial Spiritual Development Chairperson, as facilitators. Space is limited, and the deadline to register is November 3, 2017. Registration forms have been sent to Spiritual Development Chairpersons that have provided an email address, and council presidents will also have forms. The cost is \$225.

September 21st is the International Day of Peace. If your meeting falls around this time, consider looking online for a prayer service to include at your meeting to commemorate this day.

Evangelization and Mission Assistance

As councils are starting up in September, remember to support our missions. Catholic Missions in Canada(CMIC) is one of the CWL's permanent national voluntary funds. Approximately \$3.46 million is needed annually to provide living and transportation expenses to missionaries, to repair churches and rectories, and to provide religious education programs to children, youth and adults in the mission communities. If your council does not support CMIC, consider introducing this mission to them. DVD's about CMIC are available, I have several copies that I would lend out for your own learning, or to play at a meeting.