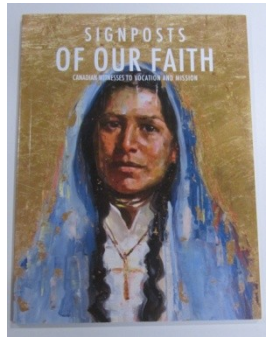


**The Catholic Women's League of Canada  
Alberta Mackenzie Provincial Council  
Christian Family Life Standing Committee Communiqué  
December - 2011**

**Ministry to the Widowed**

This may seem to be a strange choice of topic at this time of the year but for those of us who have been widowed and especially for the newly widowed, Christmas is the hardest time of the year. Please be aware and be kind. With prayer, patience, compassion and empathy we can help those who are grieving the loss of a loved one through the Christmas season. Encourage them to take part in activities but do not push. We all grieve in our own way and must be allowed to find that way. Be there with a prayer, a warm smile, or a hug; sometimes that is all that is needed.

**Vocations**



Fr. Myles Gaffney, Director of Vocations for the Diocese of Calgary has written a book titled, *Signposts of our Faith – Canadian Witnesses to Vocation and Mission*. Books may be purchased for ten dollars from the Office of Vocations, Lisieux House, 830 – 21 Avenue SE, Calgary, AB T2G 1N1. Phone: 403-245-2753. Website address: <http://www.vocationoffice.com/>. Of special interest is Page 19 – Ways to Love – The Dedicated Single Life which highlights the vocation of Katherine Hughes and her role in forming The Catholic Women’s League in Canada.

We are at the mid-point of the season of Advent. Christmas parties, concerts, shopping – we are all busy, going in different directions, trying to get ready for Christmas. My prayer for you this Christmas is to find time to slow down and welcome the gift of Christ’s presence in one another with kindness, hospitality, and joy.

Many blessings,  
*Gloria L.*