

The Catholic Women's League of Canada  
Alberta Mackenzie Provincial Council

**CHRISTIAN FAMILY LIFE - COMMUNIQUE #03 (December 2010)**

Advent Blessings and Greetings.

As the New Year is soon upon us, let us work together as sisters to better the world with God's help.

As Catholic women we must continue to reach out to all forms of families with open minds and hearts. Marriage has changed drastically over the years and we must be Christian about our approach to those in different circumstances. We must research programs that are available to families in need.

Regarding the Respect for Life Sunday, which was held on October 3, 2010, there was a letter from the National Spiritual Advisor Archbishop Martin Currie titled "Fostering a Culture of Life – Pastoral Letter." It is not yet available on the national website, but this request has been made.

The Third International Symposium on Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide will be in Vancouver, June 3-4, 2011. Bill C-593, a National Strategy for suicide prevention, is up before the House of Commons but was tabled on November 5, 2010. The Health Minister is urged to take immediate action to establish such a strategy. Suicide is not a health issue; it is social and community issue and affects many people. It is preventable and we all need to be aware of what is happening in our country in this matter. I encourage all councils to subscribe or go to the website for the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition <[www.epcc.ca](http://www.epcc.ca)> to keep informed of their work.

We need to continue to support Pro-Life and be aware of programs in our respective areas that help women who are pregnant and contemplating abortion. We need to pray and be mentors as well.

A new Parliamentary Committee of Palliative and Compassionate Care was assigned to look at deficiencies in Canada's palliative care network. We hope that this will bring about positive changes.

We need to continue to support our youth; e.g. World Youth Day fundraising, support, Catholic Girls League, and any other way your Parishes work with youth.

As another year is coming, support for widows, separated and divorced women is very important ministry for the CWL.

Continue to pray for vocations and support your pastors with prayer and thanksgiving.

May God Bless You and Your Family this Christmas Season

*Yvette F.*  
Christian Family Life Standing Committee Chair