

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

CHRISTIAN FAMILY LIFE
Communiqué # 3



One Heart, Once Voice, One Mission

Date: November 1, 2016
To: Diocesan Chairpersons of Christian Family Life
CC: Parish Council Chairpersons of Christian Family Life, Provincial Executive,
National Chairperson of Christian Family Life
From: Gladys B., Provincial Chairperson of Christian Family Life

Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide

On November 25th and 26th, 2016 there will be a conference entitled "**Hope in Times of Ethical Dilemmas**" being held at the Providence Renewal Centre, 3005-119 Street, NW, Edmonton Alberta.

The guest speakers will be Peter Stockland, a national journalist, and Margaret Somerville, a global voice on ethics, health care and the law, to explore the role of hope in decisions related to living and dying in today's world. Topics that will be covered are: 1) How do we navigate these sensitive issues? 2) Where do we find hope? 3) How do we maintain hope? There will be a public lecture on November 25th: **Hope's Notes: Why We Must Be Not Afraid** Friday 7:30p.m.-9:00p.m. and a Lecture/Dialogue on November 26th: **Are "Progressive Values" A Response To A Loss Of Hope?** Euthanasia as a case study; Saturday from 10:00a.m. to 4:00p.m. Questions to ponder: 1) What are "progressive values"? 2) How do they contrast and conflict with conservative or traditional values? To register call 780-701-1854 or e-mail <retreats@providencerenewal.ca>. This conference is being sponsored by Newman Theological College and for more information, check <www.newman.edu/ethicslectureseries>.

The Euthanasia Prevention Coalition <www.epcc.ca> has produced *The Euthanasia Deception*, a 55 minute film that features people who have been directly affected by euthanasia and assisted suicide. It is very important that all people of all faiths have the opportunity to view this important film. The DVD is available from the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition or the council may contact the Edmonton Diocesan Council via <cwledm@cwl.ab.ca>.

Also, the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition is requesting letters be written expressing your concerns, fears or personal reaction to the attack on conscience rights for medical professionals. An example of the letter: I am an older Canadian who is concerned that, with the legalization of assisted dying, I may someday be subtly pressured to die a premature death. My physician told me that he/she will not participate in euthanasia and assisted suicide. This comforts me.

Sign your letter with your address, your telephone number and your e-mail address. Send your letter to the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition and they will share them with the legal team that is working to protect conscience rights for medical professionals in Canada. The address is Euthanasia Prevention Coalition, Box 25033, London Ontario N6C 6A8.

In closing: Be strong and courageous for God is with you wherever you go and whatever you do!

For God and Canada,
Gladys B.