



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



**Christian Family Life Chair
Communiqué # 6
May 4th, 2021**

TO: Diocesan Christian Family Life Chairpersons, Diocesan Presidents
CC: Provincial Executive (for information)
CC: National Chairperson of Christian Family Life (for information)
FROM: Celine Berlinguette, Provincial Chairperson of Christian Family Life

My dear sisters in Christ,

History should serve as a tool to ensure that undesirable events of the past not repeat themselves. Between 1933 and 1945 during the “Nazi Regime” millions upon millions of men, women, children, people with disabilities and people who were deemed as “inferior” were killed at the hands of Hitler and his followers. Because the Nazi’s advocated killing children of unwanted groups, children were especially vulnerable.

I think of the atrocities that took place and wonder, “How could this have happened?”

Even one death at the hands of another is ‘in my mind and belief’ one death to many. Looking at the 2019 statistics on the number of abortions and medically assisted deaths in Canada (at the hands of another) is unbelievable. Eighty-three thousand, five hundred seventy six abortions were performed and five thousand six hundred thirty one individuals died through medical assistance in dying.

Looking at these two scenarios, one might wonder “what is the difference between one and the other?” Well, the way I see it; the deaths that took place some seventy five years ago were not by personal choice whereas the deaths that occur by abortion and by medical assistance in dying are direct results of personal choice.

As Christians we believe that human life is sacred and is a gift from God that must be respected and protected. The Bible also teaches us that human beings are created in the image of God and we also believe that only God should choose when life begins and ends.

My dear sisters, for years the Catholic Women’s League has worked on prolife issues, promoting a culture of life. We have passed several resolutions, written countless letters to our Prime Ministers, MLA’s and other Government Ministers, and have signed petitions in the promotion and protection of all human life. We must remain diligent in our actions to protect the vulnerable.

There are many Pro-Life organizations, all working for the same end result - an end to useless killings. “March for Life” is a Pro-life event that takes place on a yearly basis to promote life. May 13th is the date that the Edmonton March for Life will take place. This year, because of the COVID-19 Pandemic, the “March” will take place virtually. The event will start with a live-streamed Mass from St. Joseph’s Basilica at 10:30 A.M. with Celebrant Archbishop Richard Smith (Catholic Archdiocese of Edmonton) and Concelebrant Bishop David Motiuk (Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Edmonton). Please sign on to the March for Life website at: www.albertamarchforlife.com at 1:00 P.M. for an amazing lineup of speakers, videos and pictures.

As of today, May 5th, the Province has imposed very strict rules in its attempts to curb the pandemic. However, one area that is very concerning is the accessibility to “death on demand”. COVID – 19 has not slowed that down.

My dear sisters in Christ, we cannot gather in person to support this cause, but we can show our support by signing on to the website and participating virtually. Please continue to pray for all the vulnerable people who have died and will continue to die at the hands of others.

*“The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil
is for good men to do nothing.”* – Edmund Burke

Yours in Christ,

Celine