

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

**COMMUNITY LIFE - COMMUNIQUE #03 (December 2010)**

Advent Blessings and Christmas Greetings!

As the New Year is soon upon us, let us focus on the new national theme (Centred on Faith & Justice) with a particular emphasis on poverty. So, as it was said at National, "WAP"- Women against poverty. With the League mission of service and justice, let us focus on the many aspects of violence against women, which embodies the many issues of poverty.

The campaign across Canada is to address poverty in our communities. We believe that freedom from poverty is a human right, that all people are entitled to social and economic security and we need to work to eliminate poverty as a faith commitment.

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) has invited all Canadians to join them in calling on our federal and provincial governments to develop a national anti-poverty strategy.

The Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace has asked for support for water justice by taking the bottled water free zone pledge at <[www.devp.org](http://www.devp.org)> and encouraging city, provincial and federal institutions to become bottle water free zones. This is to prevent the sale of our precious water sources by bottled water companies.

I encourage everyone to buy as many FAIR TRADE products as possible. By doing your part you can help farmers and producers to live a life of dignity. Many items are now available at grocery stores; e.g. Camino chocolate and fair trade coffee.

On concern for refugees, we need to read the Message of His Holiness John Paul II for Lent 1990 at

<[http://www.vatican.va/holy\\_father/john\\_paul\\_ii/messages/lent/documents/hf\\_jp-ii\\_mes\\_19890908\\_lent-1990\\_en.html](http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/john_paul_ii/messages/lent/documents/hf_jp-ii_mes_19890908_lent-1990_en.html)>.

This message will reaffirm and highlight universally-recognized human rights and asks that the effective recognition of these rights be guaranteed to refugees.

Please remember to collect the 1% donations for Development and Peace. It is a small way we can help.

May God Bless You and Yours Family this Christmas Season.

*Yvette F.*  
Community Life Standing Committee Chair