

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

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

Communique # 1



Inspired by the Spirit... Women Respond to God's Call

DATE: September 17, 2017
TO: Diocesan Chairpersons of Spiritual Development
CC: Provincial Executive (for information)
CC: National Chairperson of Spiritual Development (for information)
FROM: Ruth Boden, Alberta Mackenzie Provincial Chairperson of Spiritual Development

As we all return to our busy lives after a summer hopefully filled with sunshine and laughter, we embrace the fall as a time to prepare for the coming winter months. We also begin to prepare for our CWL yearly cycle with planning for our meetings and activities for the coming year.

Our theme for this year ***“Inspired by the Spirit... Women Respond to God’s Call*** “is a particularly fitting one for members of the Catholic Women’s League as our patroness Mary, Our Lady of Good Counsel was the very first disciple.

In studying Mary’s words and actions throughout the Bible we see her joy and her sorrow, and through it all her unwavering faith in God. When Mary reached out to us in recent times, she beseeched us to pray for peace and for the whole of humanity. This can be done through praying our Rosary daily.

The Catechism of the Catholic Faith answers the question “What is Prayer” by quoting St. Thérèse of Lisieux when she says:

“For me prayer is a surge of the heart; it is a simple look turned toward heaven, it is a cry of recognition and of love, embracing both trial and joy”.

In the coming months, I will be exploring the light mysteries put forth by Blessed Pope John Paul II in 2013. “The Luminous Mysteries”, which reflect on the highlights of the

ministries of Jesus, *“are a compendium to the Rosary”* says Pope John Paul II. They are referred to as the “light mysteries” as they reflect the revelation of the true Jesus as he moved through his adult life to become the “light of the world”.

During the 97th Annual National CWL Convention held in Charlottetown, PEI in August, many of our religious spoke about our theme and how it relates to evangelization. The question we need to ask ourselves is *“What is God Calling Me to Do?”*.

Ken Yasinski, spoke on “A Catholic Identity Crisis” at Monday’s session of the 97th Annual National CWL Convention where he told us *“God is constantly calling us”, “we must listen and when we get an inspiration we should write it down”*. He told us to never stop asking ourselves *“How is God calling me to respond?”*

Catholic School Trustee elections are happening in October. We must keep our community leaders in our prayers as they discern about their roles in our governments and schools.

The League is also in need of our prayers as we embark on the “Strategy Planning” this fall and into the coming year. Our own actions need God’s guiding hand to ensure we are following his chosen path.

In the words of His Holiness, Pope Francis on the canonization of St. Teresa of Calcutta: (may she continue to be a guide for the world).

‘Today, I pass on this emblematic figure of womanhood and of consecrated life to the whole world of volunteers: May she be your model of holiness! She was committed to defending life, ceaselessly proclaiming that ‘the unborn are the weakest, the smallest, the most vulnerable’. For Mother Teresa, mercy was the salt which gave flavor to her work, it was the light which shines in the darkness of the many who no longer had tears to shed for their poverty and suffering.’

May Our Lady of Good Counsel guide us