



THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA

Alberta Mackenzie Provincial Council

Spiritual Development Standing Committee
Communiqué #2, November 2012
"Prepare ye the way of the Lord"

Advent: a time of renewal, anticipation and preparation; a time to look back at what we have done and a time to look ahead to the coming of our Saviour Jesus Christ. Our theme of "Women Centred on Faith and Justice" is rapidly coming to a close and we anticipate our NEW theme "We Have Seen the Lord." We can look at this theme as an extension of being centred on faith and justice. This is the action phase. How will we "see" the Lord? In whom will He appear? What will we do to show Him to those around us? These are questions we should begin to ask ourselves as we journey through Advent and into the celebration of Christmas. This year of Faith affords us the opportunity to study our Catholic faith; to evangelize, to share with others our own commitment to this Catholic religion that sustains us in our everyday lives. As you prepare your Advent celebrations at your meetings think of inviting other Christian communities to share /participate in your celebrations. We can learn so much from one another. Take your meeting out to a nursing home/seniors lodge and share your program with those unable to organize their own celebrations. Encourage everyone to focus less on the buying and the hustle and bustle and more on the reason WHY we celebrate this wonderful season. Encourage everyone to purchase the religious stamps for their Christmas cards and other mailings. AND do not forget to wish everyone "MERRY CHRISTMAS" and NOT Happy Holidays when the day finally arrives.

Elsie Yanik Award: it is time to send in your nominations for the Elsie Yanik award. Please get all nominations in to **ME** by the end of **December 2012**. I will be forming a committee to help chose the winner. The committee wants to be VERY busy perusing the large numbers of nominations this year. I encourage **ALL** councils to send in a nomination; we have so many wonderful, talented, and dedicated women that need to be recognized in this way.

Council Activities Contest: please remember to begin thinking of how you will display your most wonderful activity in the theme of Centred on Faith and Justice or the new theme of We Have Seen the Lord. You can prepare a poster; a display; or any other method of showing us your special projects. Bring these displays to Provincial Convention 2013 for all to see. There will be a prize for the three most innovative/interesting projects. So put on your thinking caps and get started.

Books: you might like to read "An Adult Christ at Christmas" by Raymond E. Brown ... Liturgical Press
Daily Reflections for Advent & Christmas ... Liturgical Press
Word Made Flesh... Daily Reflections for Advent 2012... Word Among Us
Read the Christmas story to your children and grandchildren... Infancy narrative of St. Luke for example.

Things to remember:

- 1) Remember to get your **annual reports** in to me NO later than February 15th 2013
- 2) Remember to send a card to your Pastor/Associate pastor thanking them for their work in your parish.
- 3) Remember to send a card to your Spiritual Advisor thanking them for their dedication to your council (this applies to ALL Levels)
- 4) Remember your sisters in the League (i.e. secret sister, etc.) acknowledging their dedication to your council and their friendship to you.
- 5) Remember yourself... be kind to yourself. Take time away from the activities of preparation to reflect, ponder and pray.

I wish that you all have a most Blessed Advent and Christmas season filled with health, love and joy. May Our Lord continue to bless you as you work for God and Canada in the League.

Pam DeL.

Spiritual Development Standing Committee Chairperson

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