



## **Alberta Mackenzie Provincial CWL Council**

### **SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT Communique #2 – December 01, 2013**

Dear Sisters in the League:

Advent is indeed a time of anticipation. The word Advent derives from the Latin word meaning coming. The Lord is coming. We may reflect that every year at this time we celebrate His coming, so that in a sense we can lose the feeling of expectancy and joyful anticipation, because at the end of the season, everything seems to return to pretty much the same routine. If that is the case, then our preparation may have been lacking and we have therefore been robbed of much of the true meaning of this season.

During Advent we recall the history of God's people and reflect on how the prophecies and promises of the Old Testament were fulfilled. This gives us a background for the present. Today we can reflect on the past track record of God and so begin to understand what it means to us now for the sake of what is to come, in our own future and that of our world.

We tend to be so busy at this time preparing for Christmas, rushing here and there in order to get everything ready for that one important day, however, what we really need to do is take the time to truly understand God's message to us and the importance of spending this time preparing for the coming of Jesus.

Take time every day to spend some time in spiritual contemplation and prayer. I receive the "Living Faith" book that has daily Catholic devotions to read. Today at church I picked up two books entitled "Daybreaks" which have wonderful daily reflections for Advent and Christmas. One book is written by Father Ron Rolheiser, OMI and the other is written by Dianne Bergant, CSA. Both books provide a day by day journey through the seasons of Advent and Christmas.

#### **Deceased Members:**

I would like to remind you to be diligent in reporting deceased members to the CWL National Office. During this time of Advent, please say a special prayer for all the members that we have lost during this past year.

#### **Elsie Yanik Award:**

Do you have a member who has done outstanding work in your council, in your parish or in your community? Do you feel that they should be recognized for their dedicated service? If so, please consider nominating them for the Alberta Mackenzie CWL "Elsie Yanik" award. The criteria and form are available on the ABMK CWL website <[www.cwl.ab.ca](http://www.cwl.ab.ca)> and the deadline for submissions is December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2013. Submissions may be sent to our Provincial e-mail <[cwlabmk@cwl.ab.ca](mailto:cwlabmk@cwl.ab.ca)>.

In closing, I would like to share this prayer with you:

*“O God, open our hearts to prepare the way for the coming of Christ.  
Guide us in your ways of compassion  
So that we may extend your love and mercy to all people.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Eternal Word,  
Who lives with you and the Holy Spirit forever, Amen.*

Blessings for a joyous Christmas and all the best in the New Year!

*June F.*

Spiritual Development Chair  
Alberta Mackenzie Provincial CWL