



London Diocesan Council
The Catholic Women's League of Canada



To: All Parish Presidents, Christian Family Life Chairpersons

CC: London Diocesan Council

From: Kathy Levesque, London Diocesan Chairperson, Christian Family Life

Date: November 19, 2016

Directive # 3

“Every child who, rather than being born, is condemned unjustly to being aborted, bears the face of Jesus Christ, bears the face of the Lord, who even before he was born, and then just after birth, experienced the world’s rejection. And every elderly person...even if he is ill or at the end of his days, bears the face of Christ. They cannot be discarded, as the ‘culture of waste’ suggests!” “Let’s say ‘Yes’ to life and ‘No’ to death.” Quote from Pope Francis

Sanctity of Life: The 40 Days for Life, which was held in many areas over the Diocese between September and November, was a great success. Many men and women walked to promote respect for all human life from conception until natural death. They support only peaceful means to uphold the dignity and equality of human life. I have been told by one of the workers with Right to Life that many abortions have been stopped due to this event and the workers who perform abortions have quit.

In a memo from Doreen Gowans, she states that Resolution 2004.01 Protection of Human Life urges the federal government to recognize that human life begins from the process of fertilization and to enact legislation prohibiting the termination of human life at any stage of development. She encourages CWL members to write letters to the prime minister, federal ministers of health and justice and their member of parliament (MP) and members of the legislative assembly (MLA). With euthanasia and medical aid in dying, the timing is extremely important. Councils can do letter writing campaigns.

Ministry to Seniors: Resolution 1999.01 Elder Abuse/Assault Awareness asks members to become aware of programs available from the federal and provincial governments that are in place for elder programs in the community. There has been so many scams going around and it is the elderly that are becoming the targets. As a council, we can educate our seniors by having guest speakers come and speak to them on how they could protect themselves.

Youth: How many of our councils support the youth of your parish? We could support them by asking for their assistance to help at parish events such as setting up tables and chairs at social events, washing dishes, participating in walks. We could also support them with a monetary donation for work done at special events as conventions or World Day of Prayer, Remembrance Day services, etc. By our supporting the youth it makes them feel wanted and respected.

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Disabled, Widowed, Separated and Divorced: The Acts of the Apostles record how the community of faith was involved in making sure that the distribution of food and the care of widows and others in need were exercised correctly with attentive fairness for the needs of all.

As councils, how can we make the disabled, widowed, separated and divorced feel welcomed during the holiday season? We can invite them to an Advent Tea, sharing our time with them, visiting at nursing homes, taking them shopping, singing Christmas Carols and bringing happy cheer to them. As the cold and snowy weather approaches, we could offer to give them rides to meetings, to church and other events.

By the time you receive this directive, we will be preparing for the advent season. I would like to wish you all a very merry, holy and joyful Christmas season. May God, bless you and your families. May our Lady of Good Counsel, guide you always.

Kathy Levesque