



London Diocesan Council
Of
The Catholic Women's League of Canada

One Heart, One Voice, One Mission

To: All Parish Presidents, Christian Family Life Chairpersons

CC: London Diocesan Council

From: Elisabeth Duggan, London Diocesan Chairperson, Christian Family Life

Date: September 8, 2015

Directive # 7

Marriage and Family

Our summer is over and a new school year has already begun. Lots of excitement and new sports and activities schedules are out. Parents become overwhelmed with all of this. Please make an effort to be present to your children. Take an interest in their school work and ask what they learned in school today.

As well as their curricular activities please also remember that evening prayer with the children or as a family is so important. The definition prayer in the Catechism of the Catholic Church states: **Section 2685** "the Christian family is the first place of education in prayer. Based on the sacrament of marriage, the family is the "domestic church" where God's children learn to pray "as the Church" and to persevere in prayer. For young children in particular, daily family prayer is the first witness of the Church's living memory as awakened patiently by the Holy Spirit."

This upcoming October the Synod of Bishops will gather.

"Pope Francis has announced an Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops for October 2015 on topics related to the family and evangelization.

On Oct. 4-25, this year's ordinary synod will reflect on the theme "Jesus Christ reveals the mystery and vocation of the family" will gather more than 200 Bishops and representatives from all over the world.

Pope Francis requested:

"I ask all of you to pray, through the intercession of Mary, Mother of the Church, that the Synod process will result in pastoral decisions truly beneficial to the family, the Church and society,"

Committee: Christian Family Life

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Excerpts taken from the Catholic News Agency

How precious is the family as the privileged place for transmitting the faith!

Please take time as a family for prayer and plan a time and prayer place. Ask the children for input and set up an area that all will know is the gathering place.

Remember the old saying "A family that prays together stays together."

May Our Lady of Good Counsel Guide you and bless you

Elisabeth Duggan

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