



London Diocesan Council
Of
The Catholic Women's League of Canada
One Heart, One Voice, One Mission

To: All Parish Presidents, Regional Chairperson, and Community Life Chairpersons

Cc: London Diocesan Council

From: Kathy Levesque, London Diocesan Chairpersons, Community Life

Date: January 23, 2016

Directive # 16

Happy New Year 2016! I hope your Christmas was peaceful with family and friends and we are now filled with peace, joy and love as we begin another year of good works in our Catholic Women's League. There was not much snow at Christmas, but it sure is here now! It looks so beautiful.

Thank you to the 62 Parish Councils who submitted a 2015 Community Life annual report. The results of your reports will be in the London Diocesan Annual report book published at the 2016 convention.

Living with limits, living well! Please find attached Directives 14 and 15. The following directives finish up my synopsis of "Living with limits, living well." I have found this manual a very informative way on how the economy of the world and the way we live can really destroy Mother Earth. We need to think of the poor who cannot help themselves. God made the wonderful planet, called Earth, for everyone. He gave us the plants, minerals, clean water and air so that we may live a good life. We need to "change" the way we work, live and help our fellow mankind, especially for those in need. Pope Francis said:

*"Please, I would like to ask all those who have positions of responsibility
In economic, political and social life, and all men and women of goodwill
Let us be protectors of creation, protectors of God's plan inscribed in
Nature, protectors of one another and of the environment."*

If we change one small thing every day, think what the Earth will be for our children and grandchildren. We all need to play a role to make it happen!

This resource is really a designed for small group discussion. It is a more of a self-contained kit for any group to use, comprising reflections, stories and resources on some key themes, for our world today. It is encouraged to use it in parishes, justice and peace communities, universities, high schools, etc. You can get a copy of Living with limits, living well at:
www.cccbpublications.ca.

You can also download it from Development and Peace for free at www.dev.org

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Development and Peace: Development and Peace is mobilizing to respond to the growing refugee crisis that is currently affecting Europe and the Middle East. The majority of refugees currently attempting to enter Europe are from Syria, where an ongoing civil war that began over four years ago has displaced 7 million Syrians within their own country and has created 4 million refugees. Funds collected will go towards humanitarian aid for Syrians living through the suffering of war and those who have fled to other countries, including Lebanon, Jordan and Turkey who are hosting the vast majority of Syrian refugees. Please continue to support Development and Peace through the 1% program.

Dignity and Rights of Persons: Pope Francis has declared January 17, 2016 as the next World Day of Migrants and Refugees. The theme will be *Migrants and Refugees Challenge Us. The Response of the Gospel of Mercy*. The prime minister announced 25,000 refugees from Syria, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey will be arriving in Canada by the end of February 2016. Members and councils wishing to take an active role in sponsoring refugees may contact Felisa Ponce, refugee resettlement project worker for Catholic Crosscultural Services at (877) 290-1701 or e-mail fponce@rstp.ca. Councils may also choose to raise funds to donate to a council or parish community that is in the sponsorship process.

Human Trafficking – On February 8, we recognize this date as International Day of Prayer and Awareness against Human Trafficking. Human trafficking denigrates the value of human life and obstructs its victims from reaching their God-given potential in live. As awareness grown of the modern day tragedy of human trafficking we are called to move into action. We must write letters and advocate to governments to continue to find ways to end human trafficking and provide services and support for its victims. Please take a moment of silence and pray for them. Together we can make February 8 a day against slavery.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel continue to bless us as we carry out our plans and actions in 2016 with One Voice, One Heart, One Mission.

Blessings to all of you,

Kathy Levesque