



London Diocesan Council  
The Catholic Women's League of Canada



To: All Parish Presidents, Education and Health Chairpersons

CC: London Diocesan Council

From: Denise Lalonde Morris, Education and Health Chairperson

Date: March 2018

### Directive #11

“Life is too short to wake up with regrets. So love the people who treat you right. Love the ones who don't, just because you can. Believe everything happens for a reason. If you get a second chance, grab it with both hands.” Is this not what the Lenten season is all about? Lent is a time to review and reconcile. How do our actions or lack of, affect the issues facing us daily?

**Health:** In January, 2018 Marketplace, after compiling 6 years of data investigated and found an average of 6 seniors are abused by their caregiver every day, The number of incidents was compared with the number of licensed beds in each home to calculate the rate of abuse. This information is part of Marketplace's yearlong investigation, Crying Out for Care. Do you know how the candidates running in the provincial election are planning to do to stop this horrible abuse?

Ontario Call for Conscience Campaign-Feb 1 to March 31, 2018 are asking us to participate. Go to the website [CanadiansforConscience.ca/Ontario](http://CanadiansforConscience.ca/Ontario). This is another issue to speak to your candidate about.

Canadian Catholic Bioethics Institute has made the video “Restoring Human Dignity: The Martyrdom of Public Faith” is available on the CCBI website: [www.ccbi-utoronto.ca](http://www.ccbi-utoronto.ca) Many of our councils do not consider these issues. Perhaps if your council needs a new focus, why not pursue this one?

The opioid crisis has devastated many areas of the country. To find out more visit <http://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada> Please pray for the too numerous persons affected by this issue.

It is hoped that councils will do something for the 12 HOURS of Prayer for Palliative Care on May 4<sup>th</sup> or on a day suitable to your council. How you do this is up to you! Any prayers, prayer services or spiritual presentations your council has composed can be compiled and sent to the Provincial Education and Health Standing Committee chairperson. This will enable her to collect all information and distribute to all Diocesan Presidents for future use. Send to Wilma Vanderzwaag at [rvandderzwaag@cogeco.ca](mailto:rvandderzwaag@cogeco.ca)

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**Education:** A lawsuit has been filed against the Catholic school boards of Canada. Do you know where the candidates in your riding stand on Catholic Education? You need to find out and let them know that this is an important issue to you. Without voicing our support of Catholic Education, it can be lost in this province as it has in British Columbia and Newfoundland.

The Auditor General 2017 Annual Report found that the Ministry of Education has failed to follow through on all the key recommendations. The report found that the benchmarks in the funding formula are out of date. As well, the Ministry does not assess whether students with similar needs receive the same level of support no matter where you live in the province. The Ministry does not confirm that special service funding goes where it is supposed to. The website [www.togetherinfaith.ca](http://www.togetherinfaith.ca) promotes Catholic Education in Ontario. This can be a great resource.

As I write this directive we have travelled through the first half of Lent. I hope you have had an enlightening journey. I hope all you will celebrate a Happy and Holy Easter Season!

May the grace of Our Lady of Good Council embrace you all. Hopefully many of you will travel to convention in April.

Happy Easter!

Denise Lalonde Morris

