

Communication 2018

By Mary Maxwell

“And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth” 1John 5:6

Through my study of the Acts of the Apostles this year, I was reminded about how the Holy Spirit inspired Paul in his ministry and how he was commissioned to travel to spread the Good News to all that he encountered in his journeys. This resonated with me in my work as the communication chairperson this year as we work with the theme “Inspired by the Spirit, Women respond to God’s Call.” If we are confirmed Catholics, we have received the power of the Holy Spirit to be his witness. As women, we can respond to this call by spreading and defending the faith. The goal of our communication committee is to “announce and communicate, by words and action, the Good News of the gospel.”

Through the Canadian League magazine, we encounter many women from our National Executive who have been inspired by the spirit and who testify to us in their articles. With their inspiration, we begin to use our own God given talents to proclaim to others about our League. With this magazine, we can encourage members to read articles, contribute articles and use ideas as a resource for our League activities. **The national website** is also a great resource for up-to-date information and to promote our council activities through **On the Spot**

Since the written word is a visible means of publicity, many of our councils are active in creating newsletters and bulletins. There are so many ways to promote our League to others such as bulletin inserts, phone committees and bulletin boards at the parish. Some councils have even begun to use social media such as Facebook to promote League activities to their members. Our own newsletter the League Lingo has seen an increase in subscriptions and in articles contributed by our councils. Our own website: [cwillondon.ca](http://cwillondon.ca) provides our members information about our diocesan activities.

Media for evangelization includes being aware of World Communications Day, the first Sunday of June, which this year is June 5<sup>th</sup>. Our Holy Father Pope Francis always has a message for all on this occasion. Watch for this and publicize it to your members.

Media evaluation and promotion of good content is an area of great responsibility in our society today. When we promote Catholic media, we support the message of our church. In Acts 17:16 when Paul was in Athens, his “**spirit was provoked**” by the prevalence of idols. Today our spirits should be provoked by music, television and movies which is contrary to the gospel and we **should** have a response to it. We can make our opinions known to producers, advertisers, and the Canadian Broadcast Standards Council

In Paul’s letter to the Ephesians, his advice was to be strong in the strength of the Lord. We need to put on our armour, the shield of faith and the sword of the spirit to deal with the topic of pornography. I applaud the many councils who have done research to become more aware of the influence of pornography in our society. We need to continue our efforts to make our politicians aware of our concerns through letter writing and the use of the Pornography Hurts postcards. There is a new copy of the postcard called Over 18 Pornography Hurts available under the resources tab on the provincial website. You can get them printed at Vista Print. Each diocese and parish can choose an appropriate time to send these postcards in to the government.

Paul’s last advice to me and that I share with you is to always “pray on every occasion as the Spirit leads...keep alert and never give up;”

Madame President, this concludes my report.