



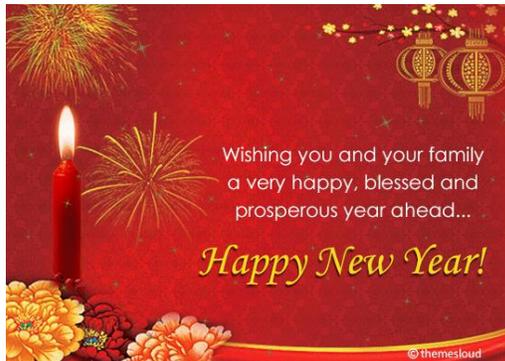
Timmins Diocesan Council
The Catholic Women's League
"Care for our Common Home"



DIOCESAN NOTES

JANUARY 2020

"If it doesn't challenge you, it won't change you" (Fred DeVito)



As we start the new year 2020, the following quote from Henri Nouwen was an inspiration for me and I share it with you:

We must learn to live each day, each hour, yes, each minute as a new beginning, as a unique opportunity to make everything new. Imagine that we could live each moment as a moment pregnant with new life. Imagine that we could live each day as a day full of promises. Imagine that we could walk through the new year always listening to the voice saying to us: "I have a gift for you and can't wait for you to see it!"

We must open our minds and our hearts to the voice that resounds through the valleys and hills of our life saying: "Let me show you where I live among my people. My name is 'God-with-you.' I will wipe all the tears from your eyes; there will be no more death, and no more mourning or sadness. The world of the past has gone" (Revelation 21:2-5).

May 2020 be full of 'God surprises' as we actively look for his presence in our families, work, play and prayer!

The **2020 Diocesan Convention** plans are in full swing. Our host council, Holy Trinity in Englehart, are preparing for our arrival and have sent around a poster for your bulletin boards. We hope you will encourage your members to set aside **May 2 & 3** to attend this convention; if your councils can help with finances, this is usually a big incentive for the ladies to come.

Presentations will be given on 'Zack's Crib', 'Recycling, etc. – Care for Our Common Home' and 'Loneliness'. The **collection at Saturday's mass** will be for **Zack's Crib**.

Please **pray** for the soul of Jean Millions, mother-in-law of Sacred Heart co-president, Armida Millions, who died on January 10th. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to LESSARD-STEPHENS FUNERAL HOME. Our sympathy and prayers go out to Armida and her husband Graham as they mourn the loss of his mother.

The **Provincial Winter Meeting** takes place Jan. 30-Feb. 1 in Toronto. If you have any concerns you would like me to bring to the provincial table, please contact me as soon as possible. Please pray for a successful meeting.

Shirley Gravel (Organization) and Colleen Landers (Resolutions/Legislation) will attend a **provincial workshop** in Toronto Feb. 6-8. There are changes coming to how resolutions are handled and we look forward to this new information and other news at our March meeting. Please pray for safe travels and a successful workshop for these members of our Diocesan Council.

LONELINESS..... Peterborough Diocese shared their brainstorming. Look these ideas over and see whether your council would like to do something like this.

First Worksheet **“Who are the Lonely?”**

- Students from foreign countries
- Students
- Me
- Those starving for affection
- People whose relationships are only through technology
- Parents of children with developmental disabilities
- People with mental health problems
- Those living with addictions ~ alcohol, work, pornography, sexual, technology, drugs, gambling,
- The Bullied (any age)
- Someone with no brothers and sisters
- Seniors
- People in Nursing homes
- Homeless
- No relationship with God!
- Long care folks in hospitals
- Those in jail or prisons
- New Canadians

Second Worksheet **“What can we Offer or Do?”**

- **ADDICTIONS**

Co – Programs for families
 COPE ~ 12 steps
 Fourcast ~ helps with referrals
 ~ On spot help counsellor
 All family feel lonely

• **DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

Invite them to participate
Inclusion in community events
Listen
Offer assistance
Educate ourselves
Support at mass if parents are alone
 Give children things to do at mass
 "Pew" babies for Kids

• **NEW CANADIANS**

Invite to CWL meeting
Pot Luck
ESL ~ teach ~ seek some one who speaks their language
Cultural exchange
Welcome wagon contact list
Lunch 'N' learn (brunch) about their history
Offer to drive them

• **Students**

From foreign countries - care package made up - include missal, holy cards, pizza coupon, contact information of local business
Mentor with same age as students and student buddies
Pet therapy
Introduce sports
Neighbourhood watch program

• **ONLY CHILDREN**

Join Big Brother and Big Sister
Invite to family gatherings
Friendly visiting ~ meet once a week
 ~ invite to dinner
 ~ remember their birthday and special occasions
Join Groups
Out of the Cold ~ fellowship while dining participation
Grandparents adopt spend time with them
Community lunches ~ hot meals delivered

• **SENIORS**

Pen pals with schools
Take them to mass
Small gifts
Contact centres to volunteer
Visit nursing home and clean their glasses, do their nails, write a letter for them
Make prayer shawls

• **HOMELESS/NO RELATIONSHIP with GOD**

Connection ~ visitation for the living of deceased relatives
 Join community groups to help
 You be present in their lives and be there

• **STARVING FOR AFFECTION/ME**

Send post card
 Someone in need
 Involve relatives of deceased during mass
 After each meeting send out a note to those who didn't attend

• **TECHNOLOGY**

No conversation with family or love ones
 Tech Free Zones (especially at meal time)
 Rules for Grandkids (visiting)

• **JAIL/PRISON/HOMELESS**

Ministry to visit the super jail, prison
 Prayer request
 Send cards at holidays times ~ through the jail co Ordinator
 Visit as a parish (training is required)
 Make up bags for those being released ~ basic hygiene products

Footnotes
 Always remember the 211 number, over 290 language available

Important Dates to Remember:

OPC Winter Meeting Toronto	Jan. 31 – Feb. 2, 2020
Diocesan Spring Meeting – Kirkland Lake	March 21, 2020
86 th Annual Diocesan Convention, Englehart	May 1-3, 2020
OPC Convention, Kitchener	July 4-8, 2020
National 100 th Ann. Conv., Montreal	August 9-12, 2020

You will be asked to send in your reports prior to the March 21st meeting; I will send you guidelines for these reports as I did for the fall meeting. They will then be sent around for everyone to read prior to the meeting so that we have more time for other business.

Instead of reading reports at our conventions, we have added in commentaries about the saints or other religious themes. Do you have a 'great idea' for this year's convention? Let me know.

Our Lady of Good Counsel, pray for us,

Annette Kelly, Timmins Diocesan President