



**Timmins Diocesan Council
The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Spiritual Development Standing Committee**



Care for our Common Home

Directive #8

Pages: 2

January 2019

Attachments: Spiritual Bouquet Template

To: Parish Spiritual Development Standing Committee Chairpersons
From: Annette Kelly, Diocesan Spiritual Development Standing Committee Chairperson
cc: Parish Presidents, Diocesan Officers, Provincial Spiritual Development Standing Committee Chairperson Anna Tremblay, Sub-committee members: Yvette Van Lankveld and Paulette Piquette

The following information came in a directive from Anna Tremblay, Provincial Spiritual Development Standing Committee Chairperson:



Spiritual Bouquet for Archbishop O'Brien: Each year ***all CWL members across the province*** are invited to participate in a Spiritual Bouquet for our Ontario Provincial Spiritual Advisor, a tradition we will continue this year. The Spiritual Bouquet will be presented to Archbishop Brendan O'Brien at the Ontario Provincial Convention in July in Kingston (hope you've already registered to attend). Archbishop O'Brien will complete his two-year term of office at this convention. He has been a source of inspiration and support to the Ontario Provincial Council.

Members may participate by offering: **Masses, Rosaries, Stations of the Cross, Chaplets of Divine Mercy, and/or Other Devotions.**

Please invite all your members to participate and have their prayer offerings to me (i.e. Annette Kelly) no later than May 5th, 2019. I have attached a template that you may find useful to record the offerings.



Care for our Common Home, our new national theme, became effective on January 1st. There are wonderful resources at <https://www.cwl.ca> under Care for our Common Home that include the theme logo, a beautiful placemat (which includes our updated Mission Statement, League Prayer, Objects of the League and a traditional Grace Before a Meal), as well as a theme PowerPoint Presentation. I encourage you to incorporate prayers that touch on our new theme, at your meetings and upcoming diocesan convention. But remember copyright laws, when doing so.



February 8th, the feast day of **St Josephine Margaret Bakhita, FDCC**, is **an annual day of prayer and awareness against human trafficking**. Born in 1869 in what is now western Sudan, St Josephine was known to have led a carefree life until, at around age seven, she was seized by Arab slave traders.

She suffered greatly in slavery. She was known for her smile, gentleness and holiness. She died in 1947. Adopted as the patron saint of Sudan and human trafficking survivors, St Josephine's legacy shows that transformation is possible through suffering. She was beatified in 1992 and canonized in October 2000 by Pope John Paul II. I encourage you to learn more about this extraordinary woman at https://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint_id=5601 and share her story with your members, even if your meeting is after her feast day.

World Day of the Sick ~ February 11th reminds us that service to the sick and suffering cannot be neglected. It recognizes the great efforts of doctors, nurses, health care institutions and pastoral care givers, to restore health to those afflicted with illness and disease.

World Day of Prayer ~ Friday, March 1st: This program was written by women in Slovenia, one of the smallest countries in Europe and a relatively young committee, in the WDP movement. This year's theme is: *Come – Everything is Ready!*, based on Luke 14.15-24. More information, including how you can participate, can be found at <https://worlddayofprayer.net/slovenia-2019.html>

Important Dates:

Ash Wednesday: March 6th

Feast of Saint Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary: March 19th

World Day of Youth: April 14th

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord: April 14th

Easter Sunday: Solemnity of the Resurrection of the Lord: April 21st

Divine Mercy Sunday: April 28th

Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel: April 26th

International Workers' Day: May 1st

World Day of Prayer for Vocations: May 12th

Timmins Diocese information:

Any parish council that has been collecting rosaries, bibles, etc. for the **prison ministry** may send these items to the chancery in Timmins and they will be forwarded to Fr. Pierre Mafanda Mahuma (Matheson) who is currently working at the prison in Monteith (unless it is convenient for you to bring them to Matheson).

Preparations for our annual **Diocesan Convention**, May 4/5 are taking place and we ask for your prayers to guide us in our planning. Perhaps you might include the convention prayer at your monthly meetings.

Parish Presidents – if you do not have a Spiritual Development Chairperson, please share this with whoever looks after your spiritual program.