



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



Inspired by the Spirit, Women Respond to God's Call

Directive #3

Pages: 2

January 2018

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: Paulette Piquette, Yvette van Lankveld

Attachments: 1 – Prayer for the Diocese

Happy New Year! May 2018 be filled with health and happiness, and may God pour His love and blessings on you.

In a recent directive, National Chairperson of Spiritual Development, Jacqueline Nogier, wrote: *"One of the most daunting tasks that chairpersons of spiritual development sometimes face can be finding or creating new prayer services. Many organizations post prayer services online. As long as you receive permission to use and reproduce them, you are not breaking any copyright laws. I have had great luck with the organizations from which I have requested such permission. Always remember that unless a prayer service is something that **you** have created in its entirety, permission must always be obtained before reproducing it in any way. It is important to source these types of services with the name of the organization and the URL."* She also reminds us *"Any songs (lyrics, musical arrangement, or audio) are protected by copyright. If we wish to use the written music or lyrics we must get permission to reprint or find items that are "creative commons" or copyright free. If you are looking at reproducing hymns in convention booklets these rules apply."*

The coming months are filled with many opportunities to enrich our faith life:

The ***Week of Prayer for Christian Unity*** was celebrated around the world ***January 18 – 25, 2018***; many of you will have participated in the events and liturgies in your community.

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on ***February 14, 2018***. Daily meditations will be available during Lent on the provincial website www.cwl.on.ca and on the Ontario Provincial Facebook page.

The **World Day of Prayer** takes place on **Friday, March 2nd**. Prepared by the women of Suriname, this year's theme is: *All God's Creation is Very Good*. For more information, including how you can participate, please go to <https://wicc.org/world-day-of-prayer/>

Easter Sunday: Solemnity of the Resurrection of the Lord: April 1, 2018

Divine Mercy Sunday: April 8, 2018

World Day of Prayer for Vocations: April 22

Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel: April 26, 2018

12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care: This year all councils have been asked by national to organize their own *12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care* on **May 4th**. Provincial President Anne Madden asks that *"all League members find some way to support this day of prayer. The prayer can take place within a parish church, a house of worship, a home or elsewhere. Participation may include a large congregation, a few friends or solitary prayer at home. It is recommended that parishioners, members of neighbouring churches and other faith groups be invited to participate. Where possible, it would be ideal to include the Knights of Columbus and any ecclesial movements or associations in your parish or diocese. The twelve hours can be designed around local schedules."*

Some suggestions for planning parish council events:

- Extend your invitation to neighbouring faith communities, family and friends.
- Plan your event in concert with *National Hospice and Palliative Care Week* (May 6 to 12th) events where possible. Supply brochures on palliative care facilities and services.
- Encourage participation in the 12 Hours of Prayer petition.
- Offer refreshments and a time for fellowship and information sharing.
- Welcome and support those who wish to share their own experiences of giving and receiving care.
- Take a free will offering for a local palliative care facility.
- Discuss ways that your council can assist in this important work.

Please encourage your members to continue to **pray for the needs of the Timmins Diocese on the 31st** (or whatever day is the last day of the month) as requested by His Excellency, Bishop Serge Poitras. I am sending the Prayer Service for Diocese once again for your use.

Father Wayne Mills, our Diocesan Spiritual Advisor, is still in need of our prayers as well as he recovers.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel continue to bless and guide us.

Yours in service,

Annette