



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



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

Directive #2

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October 21, 2017

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

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**Attachments: Prayer for Timmins Diocese  
Prayer for Homeless People**

"Let us be 'protectors' of creation, protectors of God's plan inscribed in nature, protectors of one another and of the environment." —Pope Francis

Greetings Sisters in the League,

Provincial Spiritual Development Chairperson, Anna Tremblay refers to the quote chosen above from *Laudato Si'* to point out that **care of the environment** will be a strong focus during this term. Pope Francis has made it clear that it is the responsibility of each and every one of us to safeguard creation. Since the issue of *Laudato Si'* in 2015, Pope Francis has called on all mankind "to care for the earth so that it may continue, as God willed, to be a source of life for the entire human family." To that end she encourages us to read "Living Out *Laudato Si'*: A Commentary and Practical Resource for Canadian Catholics." The 30-page document, which is available only online, can be accessed on the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) website at [www.cccb.ca/site/images/stories/pdf/Living\\_Out\\_Laudato\\_Si\\_En.pdf](http://www.cccb.ca/site/images/stories/pdf/Living_Out_Laudato_Si_En.pdf). It is well organized into six parts that could easily be studied individually or as a group at meetings. Consider bringing this document to the attention of all members and/or having copies available at meetings for those who may not have Internet access.

Provincial president Anne Madden has asked us to focus on **homelessness** during her term. Parish councils are being encouraged to learn and discuss what causes a person to be homeless and perhaps study what options are available. Homelessness has many faces: youth, women with children, seniors or First Nations. Each area of the diocese has unique and individual needs and issues.

Please choose what will have a significant impact in your community. Some websites that address homeless with suggestions for action are:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/programs/communities/homelessness/understanding.html>  
<http://homelesshub.ca/>  
<http://homelesshub.ca/CommunityProfiles>  
<https://www.thestar.com/opinion/commentary/2017/05/31/common-misconceptions-about-homelessness.html>

On September 16<sup>th</sup>, we held our first **"annual" retreat day** and were pleased to have about 45 women in attendance. Several topics were suggested for our next retreat day (Sept. 2018) and we will look into these:

- Euthanasia - catholic understanding & perspective
- Practice of Lectio Divina workshop
- How you can become a disciple and not be a consumer
- Evangelization of Women in our church
- Meditation - different types
- Bible - Introduction to
- Spirituality - What it is
- Myers Briggs & Prayer
- Speakers: Deacon Larry Duke; Deacon Stan Cor with the full *Life in the Spirit* seminar; someone from the Companions of the Cross; Father Ben St. Croix

If you have any other ideas for the convention and/or the retreat day, we would appreciate if you would let Audrey or myself know. The plan is to hold this retreat in Timmins or Matheson next year.

Our diocesan president, Audrey Shelton received a communiqué from Bishop Serge Poitras asking that the C.W.L. **pray for the needs of the Timmins diocese** on the 31<sup>st</sup> of each month. I have prepared a short prayer service that could be used, in part or whole, if you wish and it is attached to this directive. Members might wish to offer up a Mass, rosary, Liturgy of the Hours, etc. as well or in place of these prayers.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel guide and support us as we journey together, responding to God's call, inspired by the Spirit.

Your sister in service,

*Annette*

N.B. Parish Presidents please share this with whoever is looking after Spiritual Development