



The Catholic Women's League of Canada

MEMO

DATE: April 2, 2021

FROM: Pat Deppiese, national chairperson of Christian family life

TO: Parish chairpersons of Christian family life

CC: Parish presidents, provincial presidents, diocesan presidents, life members (upon request)

Dear League sisters, we have come through a challenging year, many in isolation, all of us physically distancing. The COVID-19 pandemic and its variants have certainly taken their toll, and I offer sincere prayers for all those affected. Vaccination will be available soon to everyone throughout the country, and I urge members to get it as soon as they qualify.

On a recent walk, I noticed some snowdrops, crocuses and yes, even daffodils blooming and buds on the trees (I am in Vancouver), and it reminded me spring weather is just around the corner! God is so good and gives us hope to carry on.

Christian Family Life Resolutions

While you may still have some time on your hands, I thought you might take this time to review the current resolution under the Christian family life standing committee and participate in the action plan.

2019.01 Canada to Honour its Commitment to the United Nations *Convention on the Rights of the Child*

Last year several resolutions were archived for outdated language, new scientific processes in place, old reference material and statements considered incorrect today. This includes many life issues:

2011.01 Prohibition of Practices re Human Reproductive Material
2004.01 Protection of Human Life
1995.02 Abortion Funding
1992.05 Support Services for Pregnant Women
1975.02 Abortion Counseling
1971.04 Action on Abortion Issue

Consider picking up these resolutions from the national website and investigate to see if your council might be interested in re-writing them, bringing them up to date and current.

If you are involved in writing a new or replacement resolution, refer to the memo in this package from National Chairperson of Resolutions Cathy Bouchard, regarding the procedures to be followed going forward with resolutions. “At the 2021 combination of virtual and in-person annual meetings, members will only consider necessary business. Resolutions will not be presented. Any resolutions, unless they are urgent, will be deferred to 2022.” This process allows for plenty of time to prepare a good resolution. Involve four or five members to get the research started, and feel free to invite parishioners or others who have expertise in the subject to participate.

Bill C-7 *An Act to amend the Criminal Code (medical assistance in dying)*

I have passed over my responsibilities regarding Bill C-7 *An Act to amend the Criminal Code (medical assistance in dying)* to National Chairperson of Legislation Betty Colaneri as it is now a legislative matter. The bill received royal assent on March 17th.

Vocations

Might I suggest your parish council discuss adopting a seminarian to support? In my parish, the parish council made a prayer card in his name and say the prayer at every meeting. Birthday, Easter and Christmas cards and money to purchase equipment or warm clothing he might need have also been gifted, along with cookies to share with other seminarians. These are just a few of the things my council did to help support him. It is particularly important for seminarians to realize members are thinking and praying for them so that they come to understand what a friend they have in the League!

May God bless you and keep you safe until we can meet again.