



The Catholic Women's League of Canada

MEMO

DATE: April 11, 2022
FROM: Dorothy Johansen, national chairperson of Christian family life
TO: Parish chairpersons of Christian family life
CC: Parish presidents, diocesan presidents, provincial presidents and life members (upon request)

Dear chairpersons of Christian family life,

I hope this memo reaches you as we may be able to meet in person and start to serve others in person as well. The information provided is to assist you in your role, and you can choose to do what meets the needs of your parish council.

Marriage and Family

“The 10th World Meeting of Families (WMF) will take place in Rome, June 22-26, 2022, under the theme, *Family Love: Vocation and Path to Holiness*. Pope Francis has announced that this event will be held in a new way; celebrated not only in Rome, but in all dioceses and eparchies across the world. Organized by both the Diocese of Rome and the Dicastery for the Laity, Family and Life, the WMF coincides with the close of the ‘*Amoris Laetitia* Family Year.’” The website romefamily2022.com has resources suitable for all ages to prepare for and take part in the WMF.

Many other resources are available, including a national online rosary scheduled for June 19th. More information on the WMF and activities for the Year of the Family is available also from the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (ccc.ca) under Faith & Moral Issues – Family and Life.

Sanctity of Life

The 25th National March for Life is May 12th. Information is available at marchforlife.ca.

The League has a pro-life informational pamphlet (#305) available online and two workshops on euthanasia (#809 and #825) to help inform members about these topics and the League's position on them. Resources are also available from the CCCB (ccc.ca) and Euthanasia Prevention Coalition (epcc.ca).

Ministry to...

Youth: World Youth Day is an international gathering of young people aged 16-35, though all are welcome to attend. It will be held August 1-6, 2023, in Lisbon, Portugal. Councils are encouraged to support youth in their parish to participate in this gathering.

Disabled: The CCCB has information on how to include the disabled in the faith community. Read *At Worship with the Disabled* at cccb.ca/document/at-worship-with-the-disabled/.

Seniors: National Seniors Day on October 1st is an occasion where members can join in celebrating older adults. Please encourage members to acknowledge seniors and their contributions to society and how much they are appreciated.

Widowed: Does your parish host grief counselling sessions such as Grief Journey (griefjourney.com)? Are there other programs your parish uses that you could share with members?

Separated, Divorced: The *Annulments Today, Merciful and Just* (#311) brochure is written in plain language and is available from the national website (cwl.ca) for distribution to members and in your parish with the approval of your spiritual advisor. There is also a recording of a session at St. Theresa's Parish (Edmonton, Alberta) on annulments that members might find informative. View the recording at youtube.com/watch?v=5mmr-KGL5p4.

Vocations

Each council is encouraged to ask their spiritual advisor if there are any specific ways to support vocations to ordained ministry and to consecrated life in their parish. Also, look for resources for World Day of Prayer for Vocations on May 8th.