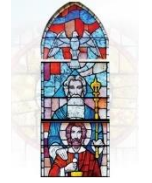




# Ontario Provincial Council The Catholic Women's League of Canada Community Life



## *Catholic and Living It!*

Communique #2 Pages: 2

March 2022

To: Parish Community Life Chairperson  
From: Kathleen Niro, Diocesan Community Life Chairperson  
cc: Diocesan Officers, Parish Presidents, Provincial Community Life Chairperson

---

*Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful...Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down and shaken together and running over, will be put into your bosom; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.* Luke 6:36-38

My dear Sisters,

Our province is opening, and life is picking up momentum, our CWL activities included. I have received several emails, some that I have forwarded and others with communiques that I will highlight below. Both Faith Anderson, National Council and Mary Capobianco Provincial Council have provided valuable information. I encourage your councils to respond as you feel comfortable to do so.

### **Resources:**

Take a moment to visit the national website at [www.cwl.ca](http://www.cwl.ca) for the new resources available. The strategic planning working groups have produced a number of new items. I especially want to draw your attention to the 600 series – MANUALS and the 800 series WORKSHOPS under the ORGANIZE tab.

Manual #622 - *Calendar of Social Justice/ Catholic Social Teaching in the Church*  
This document contains a calendar for the entire year and provides links to information and important dates to remember. Councils are encouraged to use this calendar as a tool to start your council's planning of yearly League activities.

Notable dates for March:

**March 21<sup>st</sup>** – International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

**March 23<sup>rd</sup>** – Diversity Thunder Bay Presents:

Jody Wilson-Raybould, *Taking Steps to Advance True Reconciliation*

Virtual event visit [www.cwl.on.ca](http://www.cwl.on.ca) , *Truth and Reconciliation – Upcoming Events* for details.

### **Human Trafficking**

*For Freedom Christ has Set us Free: A Pastoral Letter on Human Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation in Canada* has been issued by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB). The letter references the Palermo Protocol, which describes three components in the trafficking of human beings. Catholic social teaching (CST) includes several foundational principles which the act of buying sexual services violates every one of them. To review the complete document, visit <https://www.cccb.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/CCCB-Human-Trafficking-Pastoral-Letter-2021.pdf> Canada has a human trafficking hotline. If you suspect someone is being sexually trafficked or exploited, please call the 24/7 Canadian Human Trafficking Hotline at (833) 900-1010 or visit [canadianhumantraffickinghotline.ca](http://canadianhumantraffickinghotline.ca). Learn to recognize the signs of human trafficking.

## **Catholic Near East Welfare Association-Canada (CNEWA)**

"Every war leaves our world worse than it was before. War is a failure of politics and of humanity, a shameful capitulation, a stinging defeat before the forces of evil." (Pope Francis, Fratelli Tutti)  
There is an ongoing concern for the people of Ukraine and the need for support through various donation avenues. Our Diocesan President, Cathy McKinney has sent a separate email dated 2022-03-14 regarding the support requested. I have attached the CNEWA poster which can be printed and posted in your parish. Visit [www.cwl.ca](http://www.cwl.ca) for the complete communique from Faith Anderson, dated March 14, 2022.

## **Citizenship**

During these turbulent times it may be good for members to remember the simple truths of being Canadian citizens. For those members born in Canada, they have never had to take the oath of citizenship, but for the many people proudly entering into Canadian citizenship, they must declare the Canadian Oath of Citizenship. The full communique is can be found at [www.cwl.ca](http://www.cwl.ca) dated February 8, 2022.

## **Truth and Reconciliation**

The Truth and Reconciliation Bulletin was discussed at the recent OPC Executive Winter Meeting. The 1<sup>st</sup> issue was well received with very positive feedback. Going forward, we will be including a Truth and Reconciliation section in the monthly OPC on-line newsletter ([www.cwl.on.ca](http://www.cwl.on.ca)) effective with the March issue. The OPC Truth and Reconciliation working group continues to focus on the journey towards healing and reconciliation.

The CCCB has announced that the Holy Father is scheduled to meet with individual Indigenous delegations the week of March 28th and a final audience with all participants will take place on April 1st. Please encourage your councils to pray for a successful meeting. On February 1st, Vatican News reported "Canada's Catholic Bishops establish[ed] a new registered charity to support and advance healing and reconciliation initiatives. The charity is expected to manage the Indigenous Reconciliation Fund, [accepting] contributions from 73 dioceses across Canada." This is to fulfill the \$30 million financial commitment made by Canada's bishops.

## **Development and Peace**

For those of you not already familiar with the CWL Development and Peace 1% program, I've attached a power point presentation available on the national website, [www.cwl.ca](http://www.cwl.ca) .

In addition to the 1% program, D&P recently announced that all donations made between March 2<sup>nd</sup> (Ash Wednesday) and June 5<sup>th</sup> (Pentecost Sunday) will be matched by another donor. As well members are encouraged to consider making individual donations (minimum \$10) so they can be recognized as a member of D&P and increase their numbers for discussions with government.

Share Lent 2022 brings together the previous and new national themes Care for Our Common Home by putting *People and Planet First*, and Catholic and Living It! by giving members ways to put Catholic social justice teachings into action. See the CCODP website for more details.

In addition, CCODP has made an immediate allocation of \$75,000 to Caritas Ukraine to provide food, shelter, medical care and transport to safe locations. Donations can be made at [devp.org](http://devp.org) (select Emergency - Ukraine). Alternatively, donations by cheque made payable to Development and Peace and marked "Ukraine Emergency" can be mailed to Development and Peace, Caritas Canada, 1425 René-Lévesque Blvd. W, 3rd Floor, Montreal, Quebec H3G 1T7.

Yours in faith,  
Kathleen Niro

*"We are not called to be passive to our faith; we are called to give to our faith, to give of ourselves, to give time, to allow God to speak through us by giving the gift of ourselves. Respond to the call of mercy and compassion."*  
Father David Vard