



Sault Ste. Marie Diocesan Council

COMMUNITY LIFE STANDING COMMITTEE



DIRECTIVE # 2

January 2020

TO: Community Life Standing Committee Chairpersons
FROM: Debbie Mattiazzi, Diocesan Community Life Standing Committee Chairperson
CC: Diocesan Officers, Parish Presidents, Provincial Community Life Standing Committee Chairperson

The first service one owes to others in a community involves listening to them.

Just as our love for God begins with listening to God's Word, the beginning of love for others is learning to listen to them. God's love of us is shown by the fact that God not only gives God's Word, but also lends us God's ear...We do God's work for brothers and sisters when we learn to listen to them. (Dietrich Bonhoeffer)

Firstly, I would like to thank all the Community Life Standing Committee Chairpersons from our diocese for sharing the activities and projects taking place in your parishes.

I have since sent the information to Mary Capobianco, Provincial Community Life Chairperson. Mary shared how wonderful it was to hear all the caring and thoughtful ways our diocese is reaching out to the lonely and those less fortunate. Good Work!

In keeping with the **loneliness theme**, I am including a copy of a report on the Seniors Summit I participated in. We were presented with the following topic: What are the Main Issues Facing Seniors. Loneliness was on the top of the list. I hope you can take the time to read the report I am including and look forward to your thoughts and concerns on this subject.

At the national executive/board meeting held November 1 and 2, it was agreed that the League would partner with Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA) to support the Pietra Bhaven (House of Mercy) Project. Pietra Bhaven, located in Kerala, India, is a Christian home for more than 60 women with intellectual disabilities. Currently, Pietra Bhaven has an open well in need of repair. It is vital to have suitable wells to keep water clean and drinkable for daily use.

As this is the second year focus for **Care for Our Common Home**, all councils are asked to take part in this project, with a need for a drinking water well.

All members/parishes are asked to please report donations to myself who will in turn provide that total to our provincial community life chair.

Colleen Perry, our provincial president will inform the national community life chairperson on the total amount donated from Ontario by August 1,2020.

Cheques are to be made payable to the Catholic Near East Welfare Association and sent directly to the attention of Melodie Gabriel, 1247 Kilborn Place, Ottawa, Ontario K1H 6K9.

How can you celebrate each New Year? Include in your plan seeking the Lord and asking Him what He desires to do in and through you. Then trust Him to do it.

Bill Thrasher

Blessings

Debbie Mattiazzi

