



The Catholic Women's League of Canada **Sault Ste Marie Diocesan Council** **JOY**

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To: Community Life Standing Committee Chairpersons
From: Debbie Mattiazzi, Diocesan Community Life Chairperson
Cc: Diocesan Executive, Parish Presidents, Secretaires, Provincial
Community Life Chairperson

What is the service quote from saints?

"If we wish to serve God and love our neighbor well, we must manifest our joy in the service we render to Him and them. Let us open wide our hearts. It is joy which invites us. Press forward and fear nothing."

Dear Sisters in the League

In 2024 our Diocesan Council will transition to the new structure as recommended in the five-year strategic plan. I know the changes are already in place with some of the councils. Service is one of the three pillars -Faith Service and Social Justice.

The Toolkit for Service (637) on the national website <https://www.cwl.ca/manuals/> provides an invaluable tool in assisting councils while developing a service ministry that will benefit everyone involved. The Toolkit provides guidance for setting service goals and developing council resources, programming ideas, and suggestions for activities and projects. A brain storming activity which is included to help determine, focus, for example

"What areas of service could be considered?" Helping others, the elderly, the hungry, the homeless, the bereaved and grieving.

Also included is Works of Mercy Prayer Service, an opportunity to live

your faith through action, to practice the great law of charity and connect with each other and those in need.

October 10th is World Homeless Day and World Mental Health Day

I have concluded with the prayer for the homeless

Prayer for the Homeless

Hear our prayer today for all the men, women and children
Who are homeless today.
For those sleeping under bridges, on park benches,
In doorways or in bus stations,
for those who can only find shelter for the night
but must wander during the day,
for families broken because they could not pay rent,
for those who have no relatives or friends who can take them in,
for those who have no place to keep possessions that remind them of
who they are,
for those who are afraid and hopeless,
for those who have been betrayed by our social security net.
Jesus,
help us to see your face in the eyes of every homeless person we
meet,
so that we may be empowered through word, deed and political means
bring them justice and peace.
Amen

"Your smile is your logo; your personality is your business card. The way you make others feel is your trademark." Jay Danzie

Blessings,

Debbie Mattiazzi
Diocesan Community Life Chairperson