



**The Catholic Women's League of Canada  
Diocese of Sault Ste. Marie  
Spiritual Development Standing Committee**

**Directive #6**

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**January 16, 2024**

**To: Parish Spiritual Development / FAITH Chairpersons**  
**Through: Parish Presidents and Parish Secretaries**  
**From: Betsy Currier, SSM Diocesan Spiritual Development Chairperson**  
**Bcc: SSM Diocesan Spiritual Advisor Father Pat Woods, Regional Spiritual Advisors, Sr. Pat Carter, Ruth-Ann Ingram and Carol Williams-Boegel, SSM Diocesan Officers, and Provincial Spiritual Development Chairperson Wilma Vanderswaag**

*Here I am Lord, send me*

*Go Make a difference!*

*J.O.Y.!*

In last Sunday's first reading 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel Chapter 3: 3-10, God calls Samuel and he responds, "Speak for your servant is listening."

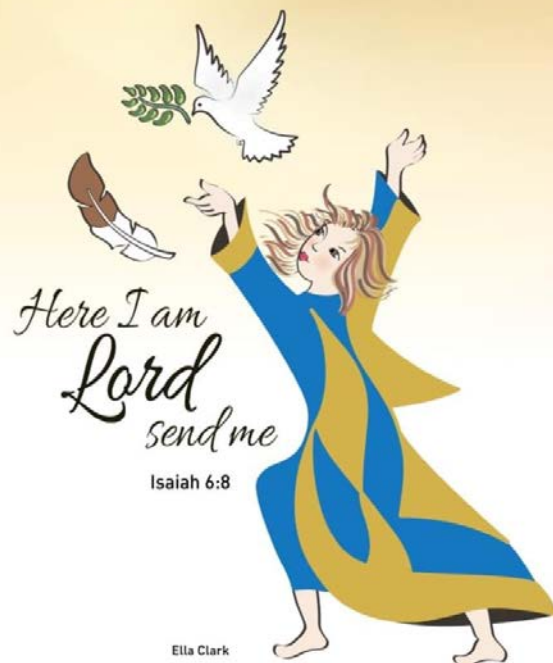
We also listen for God's call. God calls us through what we see, hear and feel. We each must make an important decision on what our response will be. We are challenged to decide how important God will be in our lives. How we respond affects everything else that we think or do within our own relationships with God, our family, parish, community and beyond. God is calling us today, at this moment. Let our response be, "Here I am Lord, send me." Isaiah 6:8

**Here I am Lord, send me.**

Heavenly Father,  
Through the ages, you have called many to serve you.  
Abraham, Sarah and Samuel; Martha, Mary and Elizabeth,  
As well as countless men and women throughout the ages.  
All were different, and each brought unique gifts to your service.  
Now today, we too hear your call to come and follow, to bring our gifts to your service.  
Help us, O Lord to make our reply, "Here I am Lord, Send me" with full and generous hearts,  
in order that we may be your instruments in the building of your Kingdom.  
We ask that you hear and answer our prayers through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Bishop Wayne Lobsinger



The holy season of Lent is less than one month away. We will celebrate Ash Wednesday on Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>. Lent is a time to renew and purify our hearts. These forty days offer us an opportunity to prepare for Easter by deepening our spiritual intimacy with God and to reflecting on the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross.

On behalf of our diocese of Sault Ste. Marie, I am presenting **a virtual spiritual reflection on Monday, February 12th at 7:30 p.m. (EST)**. Many of you have volunteered to be readers – my thanks.

Join by clicking the link below or copy and paste into your web browser:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86370566495?pwd=MnljZU1FODBZME91eW9MSXNjemJrZz09>

**You do not need to register to attend.**

Please pass it along to the person who is responsible for faith/spiritual development in your council. This is a wonderful opportunity to be with sisters in the League from across the diocese/province/country without having to leave your home! Perhaps plan a gathering at someone's home or at the church so those who are unfamiliar with computers/ZOOM may participate.

Please spread this message - broadcast this widely so that many can take advantage of some Lenten spiritual nourishment. Put up the poster (which I have attached), put an announcement in your parish bulletin, do an email blitz to your members and/or activate your calling list.

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You recently received a national FAITH communiqué #05 from Rolande Chernichan which has some great information. Please read it in its entirety. I will only highlight some of her items. Some of the dates mentioned are very close so please make note of these.

a) This week, beginning January 18<sup>th</sup> and ending January 25<sup>th</sup>, is The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. We are encouraged to consider inviting and welcoming women of other faith beliefs to our meetings.

b) The World Day for Consecrated Life is on February 2<sup>nd</sup>.

c) The World Day of the Sick is February 11<sup>th</sup>.

d) Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent, is February 14<sup>th</sup>.

e) Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup> is the World Day of Prayer, prepared by women in the Holy Land.

f) Pope Francis encourages us to prepare now for the 2025 Jubilee year with the theme of "Pilgrims of Hope" through prayer and the study of the four constitutions (key documents) of Vatican II:

Sacrosanctum Concilium - the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy

Lumen Gentium - Light of the Nations

Dei Verbum - Word of God

Gaudium et spes - the Church in the Modern World

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*Blessings and hugs, Betsy*

Betsy Currier, SSM Diocesan Spiritual Development Committee Chairperson

Attachments: 1

