

Administrative Assistant's Report
70TH Annual Provincial Convention
Thunder Bay, Ontario
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My task today is to speak to you about a fruit of the Holy Spirit that helps me to attend to my duties as Administrative Assistant for the Ontario Provincial Council of The Catholic Women's League. When I recite in my mind the twelve fruits That God gave us, I feel I would be talking to you about a fruit salad; because I try to use all of these fruits or blessings daily in my personal life and while working for God and Canada in my service to The Catholic Women's League.

I will focus on kindness. Last year, Tim McGraw wrote and sung a song and the first time I heard it, it really spoke to me, it was always on my mind; so much so that when I was corresponding to the executive and the presidents or even some of my personal emails I would type the salutation at the bottom of my email, "Always be humble and kind". Quite often I would receive an email back saying, "thank God you reminded me to be kind because the email I was working on wasn't very kind". The gifts we receive at confirmation help us to respond to the Holy Spirit in our lives to make good choices, and to serve God and others with kindness.

The dictionary says, "Kindness is the quality of being friendly, generous and considerate" and a synonym for kindness is gentleness. Whether, I am making phone calls, composing letters, maintaining the infamous lists for every committee, answering emails, making certificates, cards, even doing this report while always taking my direction from the president, I try very hard to always be considerate and kind.

We know that the moral life of all Christians is sustained by the gifts of the Holy Spirit. When we open ourselves to these gifts through the sacraments of the Catholic Church, we then receive the graces; these are the Fruits of the Holy Spirit. With divine grace, the Holy Spirit purifies and deepens them when we perform deliberate acts of kindness and a desire in each of us to do well. Infused with His gifts, we respond to the prompting of the Holy Spirit to be disciples called to "holiness through service to the people of God."

Last year, I said to you, "never underestimate the power of prayer" this year I say to you, "Never underestimate the power of kindness". We will see kindness spread when we are kind to everyone we encounter. Please keep smiling, smiling is a very easy act of kindness.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeannie Coleman

