

In its simplest form, homelessness is a person without a home. In 2012, Canada broadened its definition of homelessness to contain the phrase “at risk to be on the street.” This risk includes spiritual isolation and social impacts. The League’s resolution process creates space for change that minimizes social impacts that place individuals at greater risk, and the League’s 1st object is to achieve individual and collective spirituality.

During this past year parishes across the province have been studying resolutions and taking action to ‘create a space for change’. Much activity focused on reconciliation with Indigenous peoples of Canada. Members encouraged the use of ‘Gladu reports’ to consider an Indigenous person’s life experiences prior to sentencing, supported the voice of Indigenous youth, connected with their Indigenous sisters through sharing of

culture and reached out to Indigenous communities in order to respond to their expressed needs.

Other areas contributing to individuals at risk were studied and acted upon including: affects of wind-turbines on health, conscience rights for health care workers, mandatory age verification for adult pornography websites, euthanasia and assisted-dying, hospice/palliative care, enhancement of the Canada Health Care Act, immigration-equal access for permanent residence, abortion, supporting Ontario's first responders experiencing PTSD, and the inclusion of registered nurses in Provincial Bill 163.

To conclude my report, Madame President asked each committee to connect its action to a title of our Blessed Mother. I chose *Our Lady of Guadalupe*.

In 1953, a poor 57-year-old Indigenous widower, who lived in a small village near Mexico City, was on his way

to attend Mass in honor of Our Lady. As Juan walked by a hill called Tepeyac he heard beautiful music like the warbling of birds. A radiant cloud appeared, and within it stood an Indian maiden dressed like an Aztec princess.

The lady spoke to him in his own language and sent him to the bishop of Mexico to tell him to build a chapel where she had appeared. Eventually the bishop told Juan to have the lady give him a sign. About this same time Juan's uncle became seriously ill so Juan was distracted.

Nevertheless the lady found Juan, assured him that his uncle would recover, and provided roses for Juan to carry to the bishop in his cape or tilma. When Juan Diego opened his tilma in the bishop's presence, the roses fell to the ground, and the bishop sank to his knees. On the tilma where the roses had been appeared an image of Mary exactly as she had appeared at the hill of Tepeyac.

Quoting from Franciscan Media:

Mary's appearance to Juan Diego as one of his people is a powerful reminder that Mary—and the God who sent her—accept all peoples. Our Lady of Guadalupe cries out to us that God's love for and identification with the poor is an age-old truth that stems from the Gospel itself.

Let us be forever mindful that “there, but for the grace of God, go I” and, through the resolutions process, let us continue to create space for change that embraces all peoples.

Madame President this concludes my report.