



**Ontario Provincial Council of  
The Catholic Women's League of Canada  
Christian Family Life Standing Committee**



**Directive #1**

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**Enclosures ( 1 )**

**Date:** October 24, 2019

**To:** Diocesan Christian Family Life Standing Committee Chairpersons  
**From:** Colleen Martin, OPC, Christian Family Life Standing Committee Chairperson  
**cc:** Ontario Provincial Officers, Diocesan Presidents, Archbishop Prendergast, and National Christian Family Life Standing Committee Chairperson  
**Sub-Committee:** Pat Weller and Shelley Tamas  
**Enclosure: 10 WAYS YOU CAN LIVE LAUDATO SI' for Families**

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**IMPORTANT:** Please reply to my email so I know you received the directive.

**THEME**

The national theme is *Care for Our Common Home*. Our Provincial President has added to this the topic of *loneliness*. Work on a Christian Family Life toolkit for addressing these themes is underway by our CFL team. The goal for distributing the kit remains spring 2020.

**LAUDATO SI' PLEDGE (See Urgent bulletin at [www.cwl.on.ca](http://www.cwl.on.ca) for more information)**

Laudato Si' is Pope Francis' historic encyclical on care for creation and our common home. It challenges us to "hear the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor" through ecological conversion, changes in lifestyle and society, and strong political action.

The Laudato Si' Pledge is a worldwide campaign by the Global Catholic Climate Movement (GCCM) and its member organizations to raise awareness of the Laudato Si' message and to encourage the Catholic community to take action with the urgency required by the climate crisis.

Consider holding a workshop for families to review the questions in the attachment to this directive. Have families sign the pledge, to receive resources on how to #LiveLaudatoSi and to connect to a global movement coming together to care for our common home, and provide it in a format for them to visibly display in their home.

You can find more information on this group and its activities at the website listed in the Explore Corner below.

**PETITION FOR ONE MILLION: (See Urgent bulletin at [www.cwl.on.ca](http://www.cwl.on.ca) for more information)**

<http://petitionofonemillion.ca/sign-petition/>

If your councils have not yet conducted a blitz to obtain signatures for this most important of petitions, please encourage them to do so.

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***This work should be conducted quickly as the petition will be presented to government on the International Day of Human Rights; that is, Tuesday December 10, 2019.***

The petition can be downloaded from the website above in both English and French. The address to return petitions to is also on the site.

### **POPE FRANCIS' ADVICE TO FAMILIES**

1. To spouses – fight all you want, let the plates fly, but always go to bed with peace in your house; a caress, forgiveness and acknowledgement tomorrow is another day.
2. To families – the bible is not to put in a bookshelf for show; rather, it should be near you always for direction in life. Read the bible often and your family will move forward in the light and power of God.
3. To engaged couples - to move forward you must work at the relationship, married life can be difficult at times but that is life!
4. To married couples - throw yourself into the adventure of parenthood, it is turbulent but can be full of fulfillment; take time to play with your children.. go on vacation explore nature, be care free.
5. To family – life can be frantic at times. Some parents confess they do not have time for family due to work. Leave when children are sleeping and the same when come home. This is a sin, you must take time to be with your children
6. To children and young people – do not let technology take over your life. It is meant to make life easier but it distracts us from what is important.
7. To grandparents – one of most beautiful things in the life of a family, in our lives is to caress grandchildren.
8. The family unit is only successful when everyone in the family unit takes time to be together and to build relationship with each other.

## **EXPLORE CORNER**



Remember to refer, from time to time, to the Executive Handbook on the National website here....

<https://www.cwl.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/606-Executive-Handbook-2014.pdf>

Care for Our Common Home here: <http://livelaudatosi.org>

Loneliness here: <http://alexschadenberg.blogspot.com/2019/09/loneliness-is-epidemic-that-is.html>

Submitted By

*Colleen Martin* Colleen Martin, Chair, Christian Family Life Standing Committee