



Ontario Provincial Council of The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Spiritual Development Standing Committee

Directive #1

November 20, 2019

To: Diocesan Spiritual Development Standing Chairpersons

From: Emma Rose Rayburn, Ontario Provincial Council, Spiritual Development Chairperson

Sub-Committee: Lisa Fillingham, Anne Vincelli

cc: Archbishop Prendergast, Diocesan Presidents, Provincial Officers, Diocesan Spiritual Development Chairpersons, Sub-committee chairperson

God does not choose the qualified, He qualifies the chosen.

Hello all! I can't believe we are mid November I've been wanting to send out an introduction to you all but I think I'm still in shock. I'm honoured to be a CWL member and to now be part of the Provincial team - Wow! I am humbled and proud to be part of this awesome call from God. I have been speechless (hard to believe - I know!) Being a firm believer that if God brings you to it he will bring you through it, so when we say "Yes with God's help" at our installation it is with great confidence He is with us in the works we accomplish in the name of The Catholic Women's League. If you would like to know a bit more about me you may find my bio on the provincial website and if you ever want to chat I'm just an email or a phone call away.

I am excited to see where God will lead us in our journey together. Our Provincial President Colleen Perry has entrusted me with Spiritual Development Chair and with God's help and your prayers we are going to take good care of our common home. Colleen has asked us to work on ways we can alleviate the growing epidemic of loneliness, I encourage you to share any ideas or prayers you may have which will help us all grow and learn on our journey. We have put together an Advent Calendar that I hope you will all give it a try - I shall share that soon.

The one thing I hold very dear to me as a member, is the sisterhood we have. I've always wanted a sister - just one I use to pray!! Well God is a great God - I thank him for all the sisters he has granted me. All in His time.

As I started my journey with the CWL I adopted the mantra ~ If it doesn't challenge you, it doesn't change you. I pray, that in our two years together, we may rise to any challenges that may come our way and that we overcome them with great dignity and love. And that the change we create will be for the betterment and glory of God. Together we can make a difference.

Colleen shared with us that she is grateful to the CWL as it is through the league that she has fallen in love with the rosary. This has become the symbol Colleen has chosen for her communications and it is a powerful symbol. Many answers, anxiety, and worries can be healed by praying the rosary daily. It is **important** because Our Blessed Lady, herself, came from heaven and asked us to unite ourselves with her Son through this prayer each day. I invite you to pray the rosary at your meetings, before Mass (with your priest's approval) lead the parishioner through the rosary 15-30 minutes before Mass begins or start a group to pray together after Mass, perhaps a rosary group at the local school or nursing home or seniors residents or group homes and/or where ever God may lead you. The power of prayer is amazing. I know that many councils throughout our Province will be seeking members to take on a chair/committee let us offer our prayers to Christ for all members that if today they hear God's voice harden not their hearts.

Your sister in Christ,

Emma

