



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



**Directive #1**

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**Date:** September 3, 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: Christian Family Life Diocesan Standing Committee Chairs Listing**

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**IMPORTANT:** Always respond to emails so I know you have received the information. I suggest hitting reply then typing 'ceived' after the RE.. quick and easy.

## **INTRODUCTION**

In this my first directive, I would like to introduce myself to all of you working diligently at the Diocesan level to promote The Catholic Women's League of Canada and the duties of the Christian Family Life standing committee. You can see my bio on line on the provincial website at <http://www.cwl.on.ca/executive-profile> ;scroll down until you see my name, Colleen Martin. In a nut shell, I have been a member since 1992 and have fulfilled various roles at the parish, diocesan and provincial levels including treasurer, communications, corresponding secretary, spiritual development, organization, president and historian, resolutions and Christian family life. I was elected 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President of the provincial council in July and was gifted the Christian family life standing committee by the provincial president.

Honoured to take on this new role, my goal will be to hopefully provide tools and resources that may assist you in inviting members to stand up and speak out for sanctity of life, promote vocations and address the challenge of loneliness.

As we journey together, I am hoping you will consider joining me in bi-annual teleconferences so that we can support each other through sharing successes, challenges and solutions. To join the teleconference, you dial into a toll free number and enter a number known only to participants. Once I join the teleconference as chair, all attendees will be joined on one teleconference line so they are able to speak to each other directly. I will act as a Chair for our meetings and call on you individually to verify you are on line prior to proceeding with our agenda. I will try to keep the calls to an hour. If you have a phone with a speaker and mute button, it works best; however, any phone will work. I hope to have our first teleconference in October and will use Tuesdays unless I hear from you that another day is better.

## **THEME**

The national theme is *Care for Our Common Home*. Our Provincial President has added to this the topic of *loneliness*.

Within the various vocations, loneliness attacks the mental well being of individuals for different reasons. However, the impact of mental illness knows no boundaries. I will be meeting with my sub-committee members to review and update, with a lense on loneliness, a Christian family life resource kit created by other members many years ago. This will be shared with all of you as an enclosure with my next directive in mid-October after our fall Ontario provincial council meeting October 3-5. Please keep all of us in your prayers at that time so our deliberations are guided by the Holy Spirit.

## EXPLORE CORNER



In the meantime, you can explore resources in the Executive Handbook on the National website here...

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

or on loneliness here:

<https://catholicmomvibes.com/ways-to-combat-loneliness/>

<https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/library/view.cfm?recnum=6661>

<https://catholicmissionarydisciples.com/news/the-quiet-epidemic-of-lonely-catholics>

Submitted By

*Colleen Martin*

Colleen Martin, Christian Family Life Standing Committee Chairperson  
Ontario Provincial Council of The Catholic Women's League of Canada