



**Ontario Provincial Council  
The Catholic Women's League of Canada**

**Recording Secretary**



Communiqué #3

August 31, 2021

To: Diocesan Presidents and Diocesan Recording Secretaries  
From: Joanne Hough, Ontario Provincial Recording Secretary  
Cc: Archbishop Marcel Damphousse, Ontario Provincial Council Executive and National Secretary-Treasurer

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**Pray with us for our indigenous  
friends, family, and neighbors**



Gracious God we give thanks and praise for this wondrous world in which we live.

Beauty and diversity surrounds us. All of creation beholds amazing wonder.

You, O God, gave life to all peoples, animals, plants and the earth. We are all so closely related and connected.

Lead us to a deeper understanding of the indigenous people who have shared their wisdom and understanding of this connectedness. Help us to heal the fractured relationships of the past so that honor, reverence and dignity can bind us together.

The indigenous people believe deeply "we are all related," may we strive to believe and live in that spirit.

Amen.



[www.notredamesisters.org](http://www.notredamesisters.org)

It is a pleasure to welcome everyone back to a new year of action and celebration. You have been in the thoughts and prayers of many as you manage all the challenges of COVID. I chose a prayer for Indigenous peoples as there will be recognition of a National Day for Truth and Recognition on September 30<sup>th</sup>. It is meant to be a day for Canadians to spread awareness of and reflect on the tragedies experienced by Indigenous people as a result of the country's former residential school system. According to the Orange Shirt Day website, Sept. 30 was selected for being around the time that those children were taken from their homes. As this is a day of awareness and commemoration, the day "may present itself as a day of quiet reflection or participation in a community event," according to the Canadian government. Please share this information with your president and spiritual development chair. Hopefully parishes will be recognizing this day this year.

Many parish councils will continue to use an outdoor or electronic format for executive and monthly meetings for the next few months. I hope the suggestions provided in Directive #1 were helpful. You can find the previous directives on the new webpage for the provincial council at [www.cwl.on.ca](http://www.cwl.on.ca) . Holding regular meetings does keep everyone engaged. If you have had the vaccine and/or are comfortable meeting with others, invite a member who finds the computer a challenge or has poor internet connection to join you for a meeting.



There have been many blessings during this challenging time. Access to prayer meetings, mass on-line, retreats, speakers and memorial services have increased significantly. Facetime kept the family members connected but nothing replaced the hugs and laughter of grandchildren this summer in outdoor meetings, vaccine and mask in place.

For consideration...

- Encourage your executive members to send you their reports in advance of the meetings
- Make sure your spiritual advisor is on the e-mail list for notice of meetings and minutes of meetings
- Ensure that the archived minutes of your meetings have recorded all the good work you do and the challenges you have faced. Ensure that dates, attendees and locations of meetings are included in the recorded minutes.

Welcome to new recording secretaries throughout the province! If at any time I can be of assistance, please feel free to contact me at [hough.jandb@gmail.com](mailto:hough.jandb@gmail.com) or 1-705-324-4491.

Be well and enjoy the beauty of Fall!

## God of Seed and Harvest

We bless you,  
God of Seed and Harvest  
And we bless each other  
That the beauty of this world  
And the love that created it  
Might be expressed through our lives  
And be a blessing to others  
Now and always.

Author Unknown

