



The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Alberta Mackenzie Provincial Council
Community Life
Communique # 5



Inspired by the Spirit... Women Respond to God's Call

DATE: January 27, 2018
TO: Diocesan Chairpersons of Community Life
CC: Provincial Executive (for information)
CC: National Chairperson of Community Life (for information)
FROM: Sr. Susan Scott, Alberta Mackenzie Provincial Chairperson of Community Life

Happy Feast day of St. Angela of Merici, Italy who wrote to her sisters over 460 years ago: "Have hope and firm faith that God will help you in all things." Angela is the patroness of my religious community, a woman of vision and distinction founding the first teaching congregation of women in the Church and the first "secular institute". Her passion for educating girls and young women in the faith and as future mothers was received with great enthusiasm in her community.

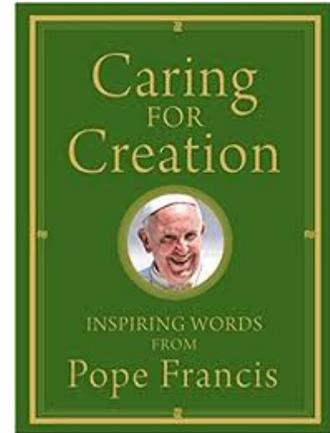
As you can see from the image above, the Share Lent 2018 campaign has been launched by Development & Peace with the theme *Together for Peace*. The resources can be accessed and ordered by clicking on this link [Share Lent 2018 Materials](#) or *google search Development & Peace Share Lent 2018 materials*. This is a time sensitive action as Ash Wednesday is just around the corner and you want to have the resources in hand so that your council can prepare in a timely manner.

Good news from the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops! At a time when our federal government has made poor decisions and priorities that conflict with our commitment to follow Christ, we welcome news that the federal government is establishing the position of **Canadian Ombudsperson for Responsible Enterprise**. It is to focus on corporate social responsibility by Canadian corporations working abroad, and will include not only authority to investigate complaints, but to recommend federal sanctions. For several years, the Bishops have called attention to concerns and complaints involving Canadian-based and/or Canadian-registered companies that operate in other countries. They and other Canadian Catholic groups, including *Caritas Canada - Development and Peace*, have joined Pope Francis in advocating for better protection of surrounding communities, Indigenous rights, local workers and the environment from being harmed by commercial projects often involving international investment. Pope Francis, as well as a number of Canadian Catholic groups, including the *Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace*, has advocated for better protection of surrounding communities, Indigenous rights, local workers and the environment from being harmed by commercial projects often involving international investment. Please share this with

your ladies!

We traditionally identify actions that we can take during Lent to better align our lives with the characteristics of God's reign – the building of the kingdom here, today. To that end, I encourage you to consider choosing to purchase your coffee from a Canadian company called **Level Ground** at this link. [Level Ground Fair Trade Coffee](#) They have very reasonable prices, ship directly at no cost if you order a minimum of \$90, deliver very quickly, but perhaps most importantly, they buy **DIRECTLY** from the growers! My council made the decision to purchase all our coffee from them a number of years ago (we buy the 5 lb. boxes) and have served their coffee at all our CWL functions including our funeral lunch ministry. We often, have people comment on the high quality of the coffee and post signs to educate people about the social justice focus of the company.

The last item that I would like to share with you is a wonderful collection of reflections from many sources, when Pope Francis has spoken about his deep concern for Creation. We are responsible to step up and change our actions to better support God's call to everyone to heal the great gift that nourishes and sustains us and the many generations of unborn. The reflections as both brief and thought provoking and appropriate for personal reflection and prayer, but also in groups. The book is available in Kindle and hardcover format.



May God bless you abundantly with courage and fortitude as we move forward. In the words of St. Angela, "Blessed are those who sincerely take up the work of serving God's people".

Your sister in Christ & the League,

Sr. Susan Scott

Alberta Mackenzie Provincial Council
Community Life Chair