



The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Alberta Mackenzie Provincial Council



PRESIDENT

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

FAITH SERVICE SOCIAL JUSTICE



Jesus! Mary! Joseph! Over 2000 years ago a visit from an angel to a young woman changed her life and the life of the world forever. "Will you be the mother of my son?" God asked through the angel. With some pondering she responded, "Let it be done to me according to your word." Thus, Christianity was conceived. As it is today with each Christian as they are asked "will you birth Christ into your community?" Will you be a reflection of the Holy Family on your life journey? Will you be like Mary and Joseph who heard God's word through an angel and be willing to go where God leads you? Will you be like Jesus sharing his words, which are the words of his Father, to all you encounter? Will you make his words living words? Will all see the face of Christ in your actions?

As Catholic women who are part of the League, we are asked to reflect the Christmas story in all our works. Faith, service and social justice are central to the story that was birthed so long ago. We are privileged to be members of a woman's organization that puts faith at the heart of their work. To be a believer is key to everything we do. To live the belief through service to the church and others and to make social justice a key ingredient to that service is a true reflection of the story. Another important ingredient comes into play as the story unfolds and is essential to our work as League members - the gift of forgiveness. So often the Holy Family forgave – the mockery of having your betrothed pregnant, the no room at the inn, King Herod's decree to kill the babies; the need to leave their homeland; the betrayal of their friends; the betrayal of the elders of the Church; being a widow; the crucifixion all called for forgiveness. Forgive them for they do not know what they do are some of Christ's final words.

So, as we put our own crèches up and approach the crèche in our church let us place ourselves in the story. Let us love through the example of the Holy Family by building lasting relationships through faith, service, social justice and forgiveness. Let us do this one-cup of tea at a time.

Have a very Blessed Christmas as you continue to birth Christ in your family, your community and the League. May 2020 be the year you experience the gifts and the fruits of the Holy Spirit in a new way as you work for God and Canada and remember, "This is the day the Lord as made; let us rejoice and be glad in it" as its truly the only day we have.