

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

COMMUNICATIONS - October 2018

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



TO: Diocesan Chairpersons of Communications
CC: Provincial Executive (for information)
CC: National Chairperson of Communications (for information)
CC: Webmaster (for information)
FROM: Annette deBoer, ABMK Provincial Chairperson of Communications

Keeping Christ in Christmas

With all the cold weather and snow we have been receiving, it does start to feel and look a bit like Christmastime. So, it's not too early to urge you to remember to promote the Keep Christ in Christmas theme.

Christian themed **Christmas cards** seem to becoming harder to find in stores, but Life Cycle Books (<http://www.lifecyclebooks.com/store/canada/christmas-cards.html>) is a great site to order Christmas cards and support pro-life. The more cards you order, the lower the cost per package. Use it as a council or parish fund raiser, or just sell at cost to keep Christ in Christmas.

Don't forget to purchase your **Christmas theme stamps** from the local post office or online at www.canadapost.ca . The Christmas stamps "The Adoration of the Shepherds" from 2017 are still available (Product # 113867) and the 2018 stamp should be available around the beginning of November. Nothing says that Christmas stamps can't be used all year around – I buy enough at Christmas to last me the whole year and help to keep the demand up so the post office will keep producing them.

Check with your local Knights of Columbus council to find out what they are doing to keep Christ in Christmas. The Knights have several good programs available. Working together with your local K of C to spread the message is good for both councils and the parishes.

Other ways to keep Christ as the center of our Christmas preparations:

- † Find out the real meaning of the symbols of Christmas and share them with others – the Christmas tree, holly, gifts, bells, etc. A couple sites I found are the links below, but you can easily search the internet for more information.
http://www.celebratingholidays.com/?page_id=1491 and
<http://www.stjohnvianneykamloops.ca/meanings-of-christmas-symbols-and-traditions/>
- † A Christ themed Advent Calendar for the children in the family.
- † Christmas books – be sure to read the story of Christmas in children's and adult books. Read the story from the bible.
- † Make the Christmas Nativity the central Christmas decoration set up in your home. Let the kids set up their own nativity scene and teach them about Jesus's birth while helping them set it up.
- † Let your outdoor decorations continue the theme – try to find an outdoor nativity – or set up your indoor nativity in a window with lights to spotlight it.
- † Adopt a needy family or elderly person and do special things for them to make their Christmas (and yours!) more meaningful and joyous.
- † Choose to play music what reminds us of the "Reason for the Season"
- † Watch TV programs that are about the real meaning of Christmas.
- † Decorate your tree with the true meaning of Christmas in mind.
- † Say "Merry Christmas" to those you meet, clerks in stores etc.

Start preparing now to have a joyous, Christ filled Christmas.