



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



**Community Life Chair
Communiqué #3**

DATE: April 13, 2020

TO: Diocesan Chairpersons of Community
CC: Provincial Executive
CC: National Chairperson for Community Life (for information)
FROM: Theresa Hickey, Provincial Chairperson of Community Life

Today we are in a global crisis. In these unprecedented and uncertain times that are causing our churches to be closed, cancellation of our conventions and no social/business gatherings it is difficult to find ways to support all those in need.

Organizations such as Development and Peace, Catholic Missions in Canada and CNEWA all will feel the impact and will continue to need our support.

Development and Peace

Many churches across Alberta and the Northwest Territories support our brothers and sisters in the global south through Share Lent campaign of Development & Peace –Caritas Canada.

Although the National CWL is waiting for the outcome of the CCCB's audit of Development and Peace our National Community Life Chair Marie Rackley, in her Communiqué # 12 says many dioceses have chosen to continue to support Share Lent and for those councils who wish to continue should check with their local bishop to confirm a Share Lent collection is authorized. If you are a council that has continued to collect funds your contributions should be sent directly to Development and Peace with a note that none of the funds should go to the 52 partners that are under review.

Catholic Missions in Canada

Because of COVID -19 their office hours have changed with only essential personnel working to sort mail and do other essential office duties. Social distancing has had an impact on their work. Please continue to help by sending donations and subscribing to their magazine.

CNEWA –The Catholic Near East Welfare Association – an organization that National CWL supports will also be impacted by COVID-19. Please continue your financial support.

Agencies Closer to Home in Alberta and the Northwest Territories

Here are a few of our agencies that will continue to need our support- Food Banks in all our communities, Calgary Homeless Foundation, Habitat for Humanity of Yellowknife, Northwest Territories and Edmonton, the United Way in Alberta and St. Vincent de Paul (SSVP) an excellent organization that gives faithfully to the poor whenever the need arises and is very active across the Northwest Territories and Alberta.

May God keep our communities safe and protected in this time of crisis, keep the hungry fed and help those who are in need of supplies in our Global South.

God knows our concerns in this current crisis so let us lift up our prayers to Him:

Let us pray for the specific needs in our communities that God will take away our worries and turn them into prayers. Let us pray for the sick and infected that God will heal them and contain the spread of infection, for our elders especially our Catholic Women's League members who continue to answer God's call, for pastors and church leaders faced with the challenges of social distancing that God will help them in keeping them creative in their congregants and love of their church and people, for frontline workers and all essential workers who risk their lives everyday to help others.

God, we trust in you; teach us to be faithful people in this time of global crisis.

Help us to continue to follow in the footsteps of our faithful shepherd, Jesus, who laid down his life for the sake of love.

Dear God, we ask you to protect and bless all families especially fathers and mothers this blessed Easter Season.