

Messages to Fort McMurray, from CWL Provincial President, and Others

May 05, 2016

[Provincial President Cathy B.] has sent our prayers and thoughts to Fort McMurray CWL:

Pat - CWL members across Canada want to send your our prayers and best wishes.

Please let us know what we can do to help.

When High River and area experienced the flood, Gift certificates were purchased for the CWL members and their families.

Please let us know whatever you can.

[Fort McMurray Past President Pat F.] replied:

Hello Cathy,

Thank you all for the prayers and concerns. We are all in shock and trying to stay calm as possible. With the grace of God we will get through this tragedy.

I have sent this email to our new president Anne S. I am sure there will be members in need.

There is such a wonderful out-pouring of help from all over Canada . What a blessing.

Take care and God bless.

Pat and Jim F.

Dioceses around the province are requesting special collections to be sent to the St. Paul Diocese.

A letter from Bishop Terrio of St. Paul Diocese is at:

<<http://www.dioceseofstpaul.ca/images/docs/News/FortMcMurray-WILDFIRES.pdf>>.

From Archbishop Richard Smith, Catholic Archdiocese of Edmonton:

<<http://caedm.ca/PastoralScene/entryid/407.aspx>>

*"We are all shocked and saddened by the sudden destruction caused by the wildfire in Fort McMurray," the Archbishop wrote in a message to parishes Wednesday. "At this time, it is so **important that we lift up urgent prayers for our sisters and brothers in the Diocese of St. Paul.***

The situation is grave and still developing, but Bishop Paul Terrio has advised that the flames were threatening the St. Paul Parish Church in Fort McMurray, and of course we know many homes have been destroyed.

*We ask that you forward the proceeds directly to the **Diocese of St. Paul at 4410 – 51 Ave., St. Paul, AB T0A 3A2, marking the cheque for Fire Relief.** The Diocese of St Paul will split the proceeds in half, between the Fort McMurray parishioners and the Fort McMurray Ministerial Association to be distributed to any local residents in need.*

Bishop Terrio advises that any monies received by St. Paul Diocese for this relief effort will be accounted for and their use indicated.

Please let our members know they can also donate directly to relief for fire victims through the Red Cross.

I am aware that some of our parishes have already joined the efforts to collect goods and clothing to donate to the displaced Fort McMurray residents, and I am grateful for your generous efforts. We understand that the immediate need for evacuees is for personal toiletries, diapers, and bottled water. Corpus Christi Parish in southeast Edmonton is hosting a drop-off station where these items will be retrieved by Edmonton Transit for delivery to evacuees. We will be happy to share any other parish initiatives through the archdiocesan Twitter and Facebook accounts.

In the meantime, here in our own Archdiocese, wildfire has also broken out near the Alexis Nakota Sioux First Nation, and evacuations have begun. Please keep our people at Alexis in your prayers as well; we will keep you posted on that situation as it develops.

Sincerely in Christ,

+Richard W. Smith
Archbishop of Edmonton

[CWL] Members from the Calgary Diocese who were effected by the flood noted that it was so important to CWL members that they know their sisters in the CWL are thinking of them. Gift certificates were given at that time. We will wait to organize that option.

We will continue to keep you informed as you will continue to pray for our brothers and sisters affected by fires in Alberta.

God bless.

Cathy B.
Provincial President
Alberta Mackenzie Provincial Council
The Catholic Women's League of Canada

ONE Heart, ONE Voice, ONE Mission

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