



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



**PRESIDENT**  
**Communiqué #4**  
**DATE: May 4, 2020**

TO: Diocesan Chairpersons  
CC: Provincial Executive (for information)  
CC: National President (for information)  
FROM: Judy Look President

**Faith! Service! Social Justice!**

**Time for a Cup of Tea.**

From the Resurrection to Pentecost (50 days) we celebrate the Easter Season as a time of rebirth and renewal.

**Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!**

We may be thinking with all that is happening in our country and the world that we are not seeing a lot of rebirth or renewal. First the virus, then the cancellation of all social gatherings including conventions, shutting down our parishes for the celebration of the Eucharist, the tragedy in Nova Scotia and the flooding in Fort McMurray are examples that do not speak to us of Easter. Do you think this was the way the apostles felt after the crucifixion and death of Jesus? What's next? The next was the Holy Spirit. God never leaves His people. When we recommitted ourselves to the Lord through the renewal of our baptismal promises at Easter we strengthened our covenant with Him. . . Knowing this we can take on any challenge. Cardinal Collins in one of his homilies in this Easter season suggested we read the Acts of the Apostles. As we journey with them and all their challenges we will be given the gifts of courage, strength and hope for this journey that has been forced upon us. All of these gifts come to us through our relationship with Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit. In this period of "retreat" lets make this relationship a priority. Every relationship requires presence, time, conversation, reflection and action and our relationship with the Lord is no different. Presence and time is easy. Our conversation will be one of talking and listening. He will speak to us through the scriptures and we will respond to Him through our prayers, journaling his nudges and recommendations for action. This action will have many different forms but it will always be rooted in love for our neighbor. Presently this loving our neighbor is witnessed by our phone calls; meals prepared for shut-ins, masks made to protect our neighbors and ourselves; pictures drawn and displayed to lift the spirits of neighbors; inspirational and humorous emails sent to put smiles on the faces of others. On Friday April 24<sup>th</sup> action took the form of prayer as we prayed the Chaplet of Divine Mercy for our brothers and sisters in Nova Scotia and as we continue to pray for them let us add to our list our sisters and the people of Fort McMurray. Let's not stop there. Let's use this gift of time to make a difference in other areas that affect our Church and Community.

**Call to Action**

A few months ago, at my parish council meeting we had a presentation on abortion. This presentation was different as our inspired speaker mentioned to us that God has given us the answer to ending abortion through the foresight of Bishop Sheen. Bishop Sheen had suggested that each person spiritually adopt a baby and for 9 months pray for that baby that his/her life be spared and continue to live.

I am inviting all members in Alberta Mackenzie (just over 9000 of us) to adopt a baby right now, name the baby and say the following prayer everyday for the next nine months:

\*\*\*\*\*

**Bishop Fulton Sheen's Spiritual Adoption of Unborn baby**

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph,  
I love you very much.  
I beg you to save the life of the unborn baby that I have spiritually adopted,  
and am in danger of abortion. Mary, our Mother in Heaven, pray for us,  
and especially for your little ones in danger of abortion! Amen.

\*\*\*\*\*

When the nine months are complete adopt another baby. Make a note on your calendar the name of your baby, the day of adoption and the day of "birth".

Some of you probably have prayed this prayer; some are probably still praying it but I am asking all of us to commit or recommit ourselves to it. You may or may not know but abortion clinics are still open. The Culture of Death believes that they have had the final word but I believe we will have something to say about that through Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

• **Parish**

I also invite you to pray for your parish. I worked for a priest who said the most important gift to a parish is a group of people who are willing to pray for it. He invited the Martha Sisters to join our parish for that very reason. I am inviting you to be that group of ladies for your parish. Pray the St. Michael the Archangel prayer each morning for your priests, parishioners and the people who live in your parish boundaries.

• **Alberta Mackenzie Prays**

The final invite is to join me on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 to pray the Rosary on ZOOM. Each week I will send the ZOOM meeting ID and password to your Diocesan President who will fan it out to Parish Council Presidents who will fan it out to their members. I want to begin this on Wednesday May 13<sup>th</sup>. For you who do not want to ZOOM I ask that you set aside each Wednesday at 7:30 to pray it on your own.

**There are new communiqués full of wonderful information on our website.** If you haven't made a Catholic Personal Directive look at the one posted. Decide how you are going to participate in the 12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care. May is the month of Our Lady and all the bishops of Canada on May 1<sup>st</sup> dedicated their dioceses to Our Lady. Let us honour her by praying the prayer she gave to us. Send a thank you to your Bishop for their work in these unusual times. There are Masses being celebrated by our Bishops for the March for Life. Check out the dates. Stay in touch with the Diocesan and National Websites as well.

As we continue our journey let us always ask the questions: "Why is this happening for us?" Have I sipped from a new cup of tea? What am I learning about myself? Do others feel the presence of Christ through me? As we journey together let us give thanks for the wonderful gift of the Catholic Women's League of Canada and like the apostles with resolve and determination let us to work together for God and Canada for after all this is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Judy