

Hamilton Diocesan Council of The Catholic Women's League of Canada



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

Communications Directive #2

January 2018

To: Parish Council Presidents, Parish Council Communication Standing Committee Chairs **From:** Patti Pagett, Hamilton Diocese Communication Standing Committee Chair

Dear Sisters in the League;

I hope that everyone had a wonderful Christmas and wish you and your councils all the best in 2018. I am sure you have already started a busy year.

I would like to pass on the following message, from Marie-Theresa Lamphier, Ontario Provincial Communication Chairperson; from her latest newsletter:

As we approach this time of the year, many councils are always thinking of different ways to help the less fortunate. You donate to the food banks, you give to St. Vincent de Paul Society and you create scarfs, mittens and hats to give to the homeless.

As the Provincial's theme this year is on homelessness and their needs, I would like to suggest that you give just a bit more than you normally would i.e. one more dollar, one more pair of socks, one more box of macaroni and cheese and maybe one more jar of peanut butter.

I also would like to suggest that you discuss in your councils some of the facts about homelessness and how it affects different classes of people i.e., the youth, the indigenous, the senior and those who are just down on their luck. Making people aware of the issues may encourage someone to be a little kinder towards the homelessperhaps smile a little brighter, talk a little longer or offer some assistance that would not normally come their way.

Some websites where you may obtain some information are as follows:

- You can Google "Facts about homelessness in Canada" for more info.
- Facts & Figures Raising the Roof: http://www.raisingtheroof.org/for-media/facts-figures/
- Just the Facts: http://www.cwp-csp.ca/poverty/just-thefacts/
- Facts About Youth Homelessness Eva's Initiatives for Homeless Youth <u>www.evas.ca/facts-about-youth-homelessness/</u>

The cold and the winter season is especially hard on the homeless. A warm cup of coffee and a nice warm meal will go a long way in making their day!

Patti Pagett, Communication Chair