



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

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Directive #3

January 31, 2015

Spiritual Growth of Members

The first object of the League is to unite Catholic women to achieve individual and collective spiritual development. What is meant by spiritual development? John Collins, a writer for Our Sunday Visitor, summarized the thoughts of Father Benedict Groeschel CFR on spiritual growth as follows, "We grow through our awareness of Christ's constant presence, of his constant love for us. We grow as our trust in him grows. We grow as our will becomes one with his. We grow as we repent the many little ruptures in our relationship with him that our sinfulness has caused. Spiritual growth becomes spiritual—a surrender to infinite love. We surrender to the One who gave himself for us out of love. We grow through becoming closer to Him."

Growth depends on our encounters with Jesus Christ through prayer life, sacraments, spiritual reading and our neighbours. Our way of life constantly embodies the sacraments, celebrating the sacraments in a special way at church but living the sacraments every moment of our lives in encounters with one another. This living is rooted in Jesus Christ.

Lay Ministries

Many women act as lay ministers: pastoral assistants; lay hospital chaplains; youth, children's and adult ministers, parish administrators; readers; Extra Ordinary Eucharistic Ministers; art and environment ministers; music ministers; sacristans.

Pope Francis says, "We can count on many lay persons, although still not nearly enough, who have a deeply-rooted sense of community and great fidelity to the tasks of charity, catechesis, and the celebration of the faith...We need to help others to realize that the only way is to learn how to encounter others with the right attitude, which is to accept and esteem them as companions along the way." Better yet, it means learning to find Jesus in the face of others, in their voices, in their pleas.

The above excerpts were from Anne M, Gorman, National Chairperson of Spiritual Development Communique #02 dated November 25, 2014.

"Lord give me the courage to say yes when you call and to believe that you will provide the wisdom, strength and ability to do your will."

Have a Holy and Blessed Lent and Easter.

Respectfully submitted

Wilma Turcotte
Spiritual Development Chairperson