



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

Directive #3 SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

SEPTEMBER 27, 2014

The following excerpts are taken from the Catholic Women's League National website and its summary report on the national convention of 2014 and Father McNally's diocesan retreat hand outs.

Keynote speaker, Bishop Robert Morneau, reminded delegates that Our Lady did two things in her life as a disciple of the Lord

- listen
- respond

"Mary was silent; she listened and she had the silence within her.

She let God's will take precedence over her own; she listened to what God asked of her and responded." As fellow disciples of the Lord, delegates were reminded not just to listen but to respond, as Mary and the Good Samaritan did, even to the calls unspoken.

Bishop Morneau talked about **discipleship**, which is following the Lord Jesus. It is grounded in **five baptismal calls**:

- to maturity**
- to holiness**
- to community**
- to service and**
- to generosity**

He then explained **stewardship** as:

- a disciple's response of receiving God's gifts gracefully,**
- nurturing God's gifts responsibly,**
- sharing God's gifts responsibly,**
- sharing God's gifts justly and sacrificially,**
- and returning God's gifts in abundance.**

Delegates were asked to consider what their unique gifts were and to think about when they felt most happy and alive.

"Everything that has been given to us is surely a gift. We shouldn't take anything for granted.

The Holy Spirit enlightens, enkindles and empowers us.

The **five T's of friendship**, he noted, are:

- **time**
- **talk**
- **tenderness**
- **trust**
- **thoughtfulness**

He asked delegates to treasure these aspects of friendship on the journey.

Most Reverend Bishop William McGrattan gave a beautiful homily as he spoke of Mary, the model of evangelization."

Addressing the members he said, "Your hearts are humble, your hearts are tender.....and that is what Pope Francis is calling for."

Referencing Micah 6:8, he urged members to **"act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with our God" throughout life and all its endeavors.**

I ask you to make note of these suggestions and how it can apply in your own membership.

**"Show me your hands. Do they have scars from giving?
Show me your feet. Are they wounded in service?
Show me your heart. Have you left a place for divine love?"** Words of Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen.

Your Sister in Christ,

Wilma Turcotte
Spiritual Development Chairperson