

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

## **Community Life**

# Inspired by the Spirit, Women Respond to God's Call

Directive #3 Pages: 2

**Date:** October 20, 2018

**To:** Parish Council Community Life Chairs

**From:** Bernadette Veitch, Diocesan Community Life Chair **CC:** Diocesan Executive, Provincial Community Chair

"Although homelessness can happen to anyone, it just wasn't expected".

Linda Lewis

#### **Homelessness**

At the Ontario Provincial Council meetings in September a list of initiatives was formulated for the continued project on homelessness. It was suggested that under Community Life there would be a directive issued to introduce an initiative to collect socks, peanut butter and boxes of crackers (aware that some have allergies to peanuts, but it is a food item always in demand). The need for socks continues to be an ongoing request. It was suggested that we collect socks for men, women and children to be donated to homeless, shelters, drop in centers, clothing banks, safe houses, hospital palliative care units, emergency departments and senior homes all over Ontario. The goal would be to donate at least 2019 pairs of socks between now and January 2019. They would be distributed in the diocese that they were collected in. This project "Warmth and Comfort" begins October 1st and continues until the end of December. Please send pictures and stories of your projects to our Provincial Communications Chairperson. These would then get featured on Facebook etc.

# <u>211 Ontario</u>

211 is the source Canadians trust when seeking information and services to deal with life's challenges. 211's award-winning telephone helpline (2-1-1) and website provide a gateway to community, social, non-clinical health and related government services.

I have included a fridge magnet and bookmark, left over from the convention, for your information.

## **Development and Peace**

Every minute, 31 people are forced to leave their homes. The majority of them live in the poorest countries in the world under extremely difficult conditions. Armed conflict, climate change, development megaprojects, persecution... The causes of forced displacement are multiple, interwoven and complex. It is time to step up! In solidarity with the 68.5 million forcibly displaced children, women and men around the world, we will walk a total of 40,075 km, the equivalent of the Earth's circumference, by August 31, 2019.

Most of us living in Canada today can only imagine what it would be like to be forced to leave our homes. Yet, many of us have our own histories of migration, our own journeys. Who welcomed us or our ancestors? Who was it who encountered us on our own journey of migration?

When Pope Francis launched the Share the Journey campaign in 2017, he invited us to open our hearts to hope and to spread a culture of encounter. But how do we do this? Where do we start? Jesus said, "I was a stranger and you welcomed me" (Mt 25:35). In saying this, he invited us to welcome migrants and to share their journey.

I have included resources for the Fall 2018 Campaign of Development and Peace, which is meeting at St. Joseph Parish Hall on October 20, 2018.

"We are all migrants in this world, we are all just passing through." – Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle, President of Caritas International.

Respectfully submitted.