

# Christian Family Life Annual Survey - 2019

ID. Council Code (e.g. SSM-001)  
name

## Introduction

Thank you for participating in the annual report survey. As parish council Christian family life chairpersons, your report adds value to our diocesan, provincial and national perspective.

The form is very comprehensive and broken into each sub-heading. Please do not feel daunted by the length of the survey. There are many options, but we understand that each council has unique gifts to them which drive their priorities. It is perfectly okay to leave questions unanswered if your council has not pursued a certain topic.

Thank you for completing this form, It will help us to know better what your council is doing and what interests your members.

Pat Deppiesse, National Chairperson of Christian Family Life

## About You

Q1

Parish Council Name:

Q2

Parish Council Registered Town:

Q3

Parish Council ID number:

Q4

Reporting to:

Q5

What is your name?

Q6

Is this position filled or vacant?

☐ Filled

☐ Vacant

Q7 If filled, was the position filled by election or appointment?

☐ Election

☐ Appointment

## Leadership Profile

As the implementation committee begins its research into leadership in the League, your input into the profile of leadership is important. We invite you to answer the following three questions. (Note: Responses are voluntary.)

Q8 How long have you been a member?

☐ Less than 5 years

☐ 6-10 years

☐ 11-15 years

☐ 16-20 years

☐ 21-25 years

☐ more than 25 years

Q9 Have you held this position previously?

☐ yes

☐ no

Q10 What is your age?

☐ under 18

☐ 18-24

☐ 25-34

☐ 35-44

☐ 45-54

☐ 55-64

☐ 65-74

☐ 75-84

☐ 85+

## Marriage and Family

"The family is the basic cell of society. It is the cradle of life and love, the place in which the individual 'is born' and 'grows'." (*Christifideles Laici*)

Q11 Which programs for family enrichment were promoted by your council?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> encounter weekends for engaged couples | <input type="checkbox"/> programs for single parent families         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> marriage preparation courses           | <input type="checkbox"/> parenting courses                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> marriage encounter weekends            | <input type="checkbox"/> programs to support happily married couples |
| <input type="checkbox"/> natural family planning methods        | <input type="checkbox"/> Our emphasis was on other topics this year. |

Q12 Does your council have a way to support people suffering from domestic abuse?

- ☐ yes ☐ no

Q13 If so, how?

Q14 Did you or your council members attend workshops or seminars on the topic of family life?

- ☐ yes ☐ no

Q15 Did your council celebrate or organize events for:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> National Family Week                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Father's Day          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> liturgical celebrations for married couples | <input type="checkbox"/> special anniversaries |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mother's Day                                | <input type="checkbox"/> none of the above     |

## Sanctity of Life

The Catholic Women's League of Canada believes in life from its beginning to its natural end.

Q16 Does your council hold membership in a local pro-life organization?

- ☐ yes ☐ no

Q17 Have your members attended any of the following:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 40 days for life                         | <input type="checkbox"/> pro-life masses          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> life chain                               | <input type="checkbox"/> pro-life walks           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> march for life                           | <input type="checkbox"/> pro-life vigils          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> national week for life and family events | <input type="checkbox"/> other                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> pro-life dinners                         | <input type="checkbox"/> We haven't participated. |

Other, please describe.

Q18 Has your council sponsored or attended a presentation on Pope John Paul II's Theology of the Body?

- ☐ yes ☐ no

Q19 Has your council donated money or gifts to any of the following organizations that advocate for sanctity of life?

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Birthright                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Pregnancy and Family Support Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Campaign Life Coalition         | <input type="checkbox"/> Priests for Life                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Euthanasia Prevention Coalition | <input type="checkbox"/> local pro-life organizations          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LifeCanada                      | <input type="checkbox"/> No, we haven't.                       |

Q20 Does your council ensure every member has a copy of the current pro-life brochure available from national office?

- ☐ yes ☐ no

Q21 Does your council have copies of the current pro-life brochure available in your church vestibule?

- ☐ yes ☐ no

Q22 Has your council met with pro-life legislators?

- ☐ yes ☐ no

Q23 Has your council written letters to inform legislators of CWL resolutions on abortion and euthanasia?

☐ yes

☐ no

Q24 Does your council regularly pray for the protection of life?

☐ yes

☐ no

Q25 In August 2019, national council adopted the resolution Canada to Honour Its Commitment to the United Nations *Convention on the Rights of the Child*, which urges the federal government to provide legal protection to children before birth. Which aspects of the action plan have been address by your council?

- ☐ Write to the prime minister and minister of justice urging legal protection to children before birth.
- ☐ Educate members on the importance of legal protection for unborn children.
- ☐ Educate members on the importance of understanding United Nations documents as they apply to lives of Canadians.
- ☐ Raise awareness of the day of prayer for the legal protection of unborn children, held annually on January 22.
- ☐ Monitor the federal government's response to this resolution.
- ☐ Our emphasis was on other topics this year.

## Ministry to Youth

Young people are the church, the people of God. Youth today have much to share, an exchange of ideas between generations is a source of growth and renewal for all.

Q26 The next World Youth Day will be held in Lisbon, Portugal in 2022. Have you begun promoting this event in your parish? Please skip this question if the position is vacant.

☐ yes

☐ no

Q27 Have you participated in programs for young people in your parish?

☐ yes

☐ no

Q28 Have you encouraged young people to share their gifts in ministry? .

☐ lectors

☐ serving at events

☐ ushers

☐ cleaning

☐ choirs

☐ gardening

☐ catechists

☐ other

Q29 Is there a Catholic Girls League in your parish?

☐ yes

☐ no

Q30 If yes, does the Catholic Girls' League serve in the parish? the community?

☐ yes

☐ no

Q31 Has your council sponsored youth events or youth ministers in your parish community, excluding initiation and bursaries? Please check all that apply.

☐ Catholic Christian Outreach

☐ Sunday school

☐ Girl Guides of Canada

☐ World Youth Day

☐ leadership camps or retreats

☐ youth conferences

☐ NET Ministries

☐ youth fairs and festivals

☐ Stuebenville

☐ other

☐ summer camps

☐ No, we haven't.

If other, please specify.

Q32 Has your council purchased subscriptions to Catholic magazines, videos or books for use in the local community, school or parish library?

☐ yes

☐ no

# Ministry to Disabled

The aim of each council is to create an attitude that regards disabled individuals not only as people to be loved and served, but as responsible partners in the church's mission.

Q33 Have you invited disabled persons to take part in liturgical celebrations? Please skip this question if the position is vacant.

☐ yes

☐ no

Q34 Has your council organized or participated in support groups and respite for caregivers?

☐ yes

☐ no

Q35 Has your council urged communities to make churches and other public buildings more accessible?

☐ yes

☐ no

Q36 Has your council arranged for a special designated space with ease of access for wheelchairs in your church?

☐ yes

☐ no

Q37 Has your council supported shelters or programs designed to assist the disabled?

☐ yes

☐ no

Q38 In what ways have your council members reached out to the disabled?

- ☐ brought communion
- ☐ gave gifts on special occasions
- ☐ organized special events
- ☐ prayed
- ☐ provided transportation

- ☐ sent cards
- ☐ visited or called
- ☐ other
- ☐ We haven't focused on this ministry.

Other, please specify.



## Ministry to Seniors

Seniors provide a gift to society of tradition and heritage acquired through a lifetime of experience.

Q39 Has your council done any of the following with seniors in your community?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> brought communion                          | <input type="checkbox"/> provided respite care                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> gifted them with membership                | <input type="checkbox"/> provided transportation              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> initiated social programs and celebrations | <input type="checkbox"/> sent cards of encouragement          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> invited newly-retired women to join        | <input type="checkbox"/> shared a meal                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> invited them to share their faith story    | <input type="checkbox"/> called                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> involved them in intercessory prayer       | <input type="checkbox"/> visited                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> involved them in CWL events                | <input type="checkbox"/> other                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> organized social events                    | <input type="checkbox"/> We haven't focused on this ministry. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> prayed with them                           |   |

Other, please specify.

## Ministry to Widowed

By the sharing of their gifts in church and society, the widowed may find their personal fulfilment in reaching out to others.

Q40 Has your council done any of the following with widows and widowers in your community?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> arranged memorial services and/or funeral lunches          | <input type="checkbox"/> invited widows to attend CWL meetings and events          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> encouraged participation in programs offered by the parish | <input type="checkbox"/> provided prayer and support after the death of the spouse |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ensured there is a bereavement program in the parish       | <input type="checkbox"/> sent cards of condolence                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> gifted them with prayer shawls                             | <input type="checkbox"/> visited   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> included them in family outings                            | <input type="checkbox"/> called  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> invited them to attend community events                    | <input type="checkbox"/> other   |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> We haven't focused on this ministry.                      |

Other, please specify.

## Ministry to Separated and Divorced

Many single and divorced people face the responsibility of raising children alone. The need to express the message of hope by offering assistance can be very beneficial.

Q41 Has your council offered any of the following to separated and divorced persons?

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> access to counselling or support groups | <input type="checkbox"/> your time, should they need a confidant      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> babysitting services to allow free time | <input type="checkbox"/> Our council hasn't focused on this ministry. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> invited them to join group outings      |   |

Q42 Has your council asked what help or service the League can offer to make separated and divorced persons feel more welcome in the parish?

- ☐ yes ☐ no

Q43 If yes, what was their response?

Q44 Has your council sponsored or attended any informal presentations on the annulment process?

- ☐ yes ☐ no

Q45 Has your council purchased copies of the new brochure "Annulments Today - Merciful and Just" to make available in your church vestibule for those who may need this advice?

☐ yes

☐ no

## Vocations

Religious vocations "are a gift from God" and "they are born in communities of faith..." (*Ecclesia in America*)

Q46 A variety of options are available to promote religious vocations. Has your council undertaken any of the following?

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> adopted or supported seminarians                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> participated in prayers for vocations          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> encouraged families to discuss vocations with their children        | <input type="checkbox"/> sent spiritual bouquets                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> encouraged families to invite priests and religious into their home | <input type="checkbox"/> supported discernment events for youth         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> hosted luncheons for priests and religious                          | <input type="checkbox"/> supported priestly retirement funds            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> offered mass for vocations  | <input type="checkbox"/> supported Serra                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> invited priests and religious to speak on vocations                 | <input type="checkbox"/> supported travelling chalice/crucifix programs |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> other  |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> We haven't focused on this ministry.           |

Other, please specify.

Q47 Did members of your council:

- ☐ read and share Pope Francis' prayer for 2019 World Day of Prayer for Vocations?
- ☐ visit the World Day of Prayer for Vocations website?
- ☐ watch the video on the YouTube site regarding the call to serve God through a vocation to the ordained ministry and religious life?
- ☐ none of the above

## Summary and Final Thoughts

Q48 Do you have any new ideas, projects, workshops you have used under this standing committee that have had good results?

☐ yes

☐ no

Q49 If yes, what would you like to share?

Q50 What was your greatest challenge in completing this survey?

Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey. Your council's initiatives will be added to the strong voice of Catholic women across Canada.

**Before pressing the "submit" button, please "print" the survey responses for your records.**

**To "print", ensure that pop-ups are enabled. If you are unsure how to enable pop-ups, please contact Ingrid at national office for assistance.**

**WARNING: Once "submit" has been pressed, the "print" function is no longer available.**