



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

Education and Health

Care for our Common Home

Directive #3

Pages: 3

Date: May 2020

To: Parish Council Education and Health Chairs

From: Colleen Hill, Diocesan Education and Health Chair

CC: Diocesan Executive, Provincial Education and Health Chair

Attachments: (names, addresses, email for Premier, Min. of Health, Opposition Leader)

"May the God of Hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." (Romans 15:13)

This is the scripture quote for the theme of Catholic Education Week 2020.

In this surreal time of pandemic with the necessary isolation, I wish you all good health and peace – of mind, body and spirit. Since we could not gather at Convention, please take time to re-ignite your personal CWL objectives through prayer and periods of introspection. In Christ, we have **hope** for the future.

Wellness/ Sickness (1) URGENT REQUEST – CUTS TO MEDICAL COMPENSATION

The Ontario Medical Association has released a bulletin indicating that "since March, the Ontario government's focus has been entirely on pandemic management and that's good. Now though they need to broaden that perspective to the rest of the **healthcare system...(our system) relies entirely on physician offices staying open. This is now at risk.** Background information can be found at:

<https://icareforhealthcare.ca>

Please send emails or letters to Premier Ford and Minister of Health Christine Elliott" to keep family doctors and specialists offices open.

(2) Euthanasia Prevention Coalition invites us to sign a petition against Bill C-7 which would give Canada **the most permissive MAiD (medical assistance in dying) regime in the world.** Here's a quick summary of the consequences if Bill C-7 passes in its current form:

- **Euthanasia can be allowed by advanced request.** This means that incompetent people who have previously been approved for euthanasia will be lethally injected.
- **The ten-day waiting period will be waived for those deemed "terminally ill".** This would mean that someone could request euthanasia on a bad day and can die from lethal injection that same day. Studies have shown that the "will to live" fluctuates over time.

- **No requirement that someone's death must be "reasonably foreseeable" to be euthanized.** Because MAiD is permitted for "physical or psychological suffering that is intolerable to them and that cannot be relieved under conditions that they consider acceptable", **Bill C-7 will not prevent MAiD for those with mental illnesses** (because mental illness has no legal definition and causes psychological suffering)

Sign the petition to warn David Lametti, the Minister of Justice, and Patty Hadju, The Minister of Health, that Bill C-7 is dangerous and is the wrong approach to treating vulnerable Canadians, and that it is not what is best for Canada.

Catholic Education

The theme of 2020's Catholic Education Week (was May 4-8) was '**Igniting Hope**'. Our children and youth are seeds in the Father's garden, eager to grow and develop to their full potential. Together with parents and the parish, our Catholic teachers need our prayers and support to fulfill their role in making the path of salvation known to their students. The Resource Kit that was available to schools included a list of books that promote HOPE. Go to: www.ocsta.on.ca for a link to Catholic Education Week 2020 Elementary Resource Kit Book List. These include titles of: *Ordinary Mary's Extraordinary Deed, Ada's Violin, Saint Brother Andre, Emeline the Cat, Imagine a World, and others... all with a theme of 'hope'*. Might your Council co-ordinate with the school to see if you could provide copies of some of these titles to their library?

The scripture quote above also makes us consider another aspect of our parish life of our youth. I encourage your Councils to pray for your parish Confirmandi of grades 7/8 who may have their Sacrament of Confirmation postponed to the fall or later. Perhaps members could create cards or letters of support to these youth (with permission from your pastor and the school administration) and send them to the school for distribution.

Environment

The Ontario Provincial Council newsletter includes a reference to a very important issue – our need for pure water and our use of it. London Diocese invites us to view an educational video at this link:

<https://wellingtonwaterwatchers.nationbuilder.com/saynotnestle>

It is something to share with your children, friends and others in your community. Pope Francis reminds us of our interconnectedness with, and our responsibility to the earth in his encyclical 'Laudato Si'.

Genetics

The CANADIAN CATHOLIC BIOETHICS INSTITUTE at <http://www.ccbi-utoronto.ca> provides many articles in bioethics and genetics; now they offer support during Covid-19, including an article on 'Our Elderly – Individual Dignity, Common Good, the Future and More'. Sign up for their newsletter.

Respectfully submitted.