

## Introduction

**thank you for participating in the testing of a new annual reporting system. As parish Christian family life standing committee 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 report. There are many options, but we understand that councils will focus on just a few of the priorities listed. It is perfectly okay to leave questions unanswered if your council has not pursued a certain topic.**

**Thank you for completing this annual report. It will help us to know better what your council is doing and what your members interests are.**

\* 1. Name of Chairperson:

\* 2. Name of Parish Council:

\* 3. Parish Town:

\* 4. Diocese:

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Antigonish                | <input type="radio"/> Mackenzie            | <input type="radio"/> Saint John       |
| <input type="radio"/> Alexandria-Cornwall       | <input type="radio"/> Military Ordinariate | <input type="radio"/> St. John's       |
| <input type="radio"/> Bathurst                  | <input type="radio"/> Moncton              | <input type="radio"/> St. Paul         |
| <input type="radio"/> Calgary                   | <input type="radio"/> Montreal             | <input type="radio"/> Saskatoon        |
| <input type="radio"/> Charlottetown             | <input type="radio"/> Nelson               | <input type="radio"/> Sault Ste. Marie |
| <input type="radio"/> Corner Brook and Labrador | <input type="radio"/> Ottawa               | <input type="radio"/> Sherbrooke       |
| <input type="radio"/> Edmonton                  | <input type="radio"/> Pembroke             | <input type="radio"/> Thunder Bay      |
| <input type="radio"/> Edmundston                | <input type="radio"/> Peterborough         | <input type="radio"/> Timmins          |
| <input type="radio"/> Grand Falls               | <input type="radio"/> Prince Albert        | <input type="radio"/> Toronto          |
| <input type="radio"/> Grouard-McLennan          | <input type="radio"/> Prince George        | <input type="radio"/> Valleyfield      |
| <input type="radio"/> Halifax-Yarmouth          | <input type="radio"/> Quebec               | <input type="radio"/> Vancouver        |
| <input type="radio"/> Hamilton                  | <input type="radio"/> Regina               | <input type="radio"/> Victoria         |
| <input type="radio"/> Hearst                    | <input type="radio"/> St. Boniface         | <input type="radio"/> Whitehorse       |
| <input type="radio"/> Kamloops                  | <input type="radio"/> St. Catharines       | <input type="radio"/> Winnipeg         |
| <input type="radio"/> Keewatin-The Pas          | <input type="radio"/> St. Hyacinthe        | <input type="radio"/> Not applicable   |
| <input type="radio"/> Kingston                  | <input type="radio"/> St. Jean-Longueuil   |  |
| <input type="radio"/> London                    | <input type="radio"/> St. Jerome           |  |

\* 5. Province:

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Alberta Mackenzie    | <input type="radio"/> New Brunswick             | <input type="radio"/> Quebec               |
| <input type="radio"/> B.C. & Yukon         | <input type="radio"/> Newfoundland and Labrador | <input type="radio"/> Prince Edward Island |
| <input type="radio"/> Manitoba             | <input type="radio"/> Nova Scotia               | <input type="radio"/> Saskatchewan         |
| <input type="radio"/> Military Ordinariate | <input type="radio"/> Ontario                   |  |

## 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)**

\* 6. 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"/> Stress workshops                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Natural family planning methods        |  |

\* 7. Did your council offer gifts and/or welcoming pamphlets to:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newlyweds              | <input type="checkbox"/> Couples celebrating their children's sacraments |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) |  |

\* 8. Did you or your council members attend workshops or seminars on the topic of family life?

- |                           |                          |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|

\* 9. 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                                |  |

\* 10. Did your council act on any of the following marriage and family resolutions and, if so, in what way?

[Please refer to cwl.ca for the resolved clauses.]

|   | Attended workshops<br>and seminars | Arranged for a guest<br>speaker | Wrote letters to<br>government | Provided volunteer<br>services | Provided monetary<br>donations |
|---|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1962.15 Sanctity of<br>Marriage   | <input type="checkbox"/>           | <input type="checkbox"/>        | <input type="checkbox"/>       | <input type="checkbox"/>       | <input type="checkbox"/>       |
| 1977.04 Family Pastoral<br>Services   | <input type="checkbox"/>           | <input type="checkbox"/>        | <input type="checkbox"/>       | <input type="checkbox"/>       | <input type="checkbox"/>       |
| 1984.06 Spousal Abuse   | <input type="checkbox"/>           | <input type="checkbox"/>        | <input type="checkbox"/>       | <input type="checkbox"/>       | <input type="checkbox"/>       |
| 1989.04 National<br>Strategy on Child Care  | <input type="checkbox"/>           | <input type="checkbox"/>        | <input type="checkbox"/>       | <input type="checkbox"/>       | <input type="checkbox"/>       |
| 1992.05 Support<br>Services for Pregnant<br>Women   | <input type="checkbox"/>           | <input type="checkbox"/>        | <input type="checkbox"/>       | <input type="checkbox"/>       | <input type="checkbox"/>       |
| 1995.01 Prevention of<br>Spousal Abuse -<br>Marriage Preparation  | <input type="checkbox"/>           | <input type="checkbox"/>        | <input type="checkbox"/>       | <input type="checkbox"/>       | <input type="checkbox"/>       |
| 1996.02 Natural Family<br>Planning  | <input type="checkbox"/>           | <input type="checkbox"/>        | <input type="checkbox"/>       | <input type="checkbox"/>       | <input type="checkbox"/>       |
| 2005.09 Support for<br>Families Experiencing<br>Perinatal Loss  | <input type="checkbox"/>           | <input type="checkbox"/>        | <input type="checkbox"/>       | <input type="checkbox"/>       | <input type="checkbox"/>       |
| 2006.02 Legal<br>Protection for All Those<br>Who Object to the<br>Solemnization of Civil<br>Marriage for Same-Sex<br>Partners | <input type="checkbox"/>           | <input type="checkbox"/>        | <input type="checkbox"/>       | <input type="checkbox"/>       | <input type="checkbox"/>       |

## Sanctity of Life

**It is the belief of the League that the right to life is sacred from the moment of natural conception to natural death.**

\* 11. Does your council hold membership in a local pro-life organization?

Yes

No

\* 12. Approximately how members in your council hold membership in a local pro-life organization?

Number of members:

\* 13. Have your members attended any of the following?

40 Days for Life

National Week for Life and Family events

Life Chain

Pro-life walks

March for Life

Other (please specify)

\* 14. Has your council donated money or gifts to any of the following:

Birthright - local or international

Pregnancy and Family Support Services

Campaign Life Coalition

Priests for Life

Euthanasia Prevention Coalition

Project Rachel

Life Canada

Other (please specify)

\* 15. Has your council lent its support to pro-life legislators?

Yes

No

\* 16. Did your council act on any of the following sanctity of life resolutions and, if so, in what way? [Please refer to cwl.ca for the resolved clauses.]

|   | Attended workshops and seminars | Arranged for a guest speaker | Wrote letters to government | Provided volunteer services | Provided monetary contributions |
|---|---------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1983.05 The Rights of the Human Fetus                           | <input type="checkbox"/>        | <input type="checkbox"/>     | <input type="checkbox"/>    | <input type="checkbox"/>    | <input type="checkbox"/>        |
| 1984.07 Labour Unions and Pro-Abortion Policy                   | <input type="checkbox"/>        | <input type="checkbox"/>     | <input type="checkbox"/>    | <input type="checkbox"/>    | <input type="checkbox"/>        |
| 1995.02 Abortion Funding  | <input type="checkbox"/>        | <input type="checkbox"/>     | <input type="checkbox"/>    | <input type="checkbox"/>    | <input type="checkbox"/>        |
| 2002.09 Human Stem Cell Research                                | <input type="checkbox"/>        | <input type="checkbox"/>     | <input type="checkbox"/>    | <input type="checkbox"/>    | <input type="checkbox"/>        |
| 2004.01 Protection of Human Life                                | <input type="checkbox"/>        | <input type="checkbox"/>     | <input type="checkbox"/>    | <input type="checkbox"/>    | <input type="checkbox"/>        |
| 2011.01 Prohibition of Practices re Human Reproductive Material | <input type="checkbox"/>        | <input type="checkbox"/>     | <input type="checkbox"/>    | <input type="checkbox"/>    | <input type="checkbox"/>        |

\* 17. On March 20, 2015, National President Barbara Dowding wrote to the federal minister of justice to express concern about the Supreme Court of Canada's decision to strike down the ban on physician-assisted suicide. How did your council respond?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Became better informed of the decision | <input type="checkbox"/> Wrote letters to the minister of justice   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Attended seminars                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Advised friends and family of the decision |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arranged for a speaker on the topic    | <input type="checkbox"/> The council hasn't responded.              |

\* 18. On August 25, 2015, National President Barbara Dowding wrote to the prime minister and the federal minister of health expressing concern that Health Canada would be approving RU-486, commonly known as the abortion pill, in January 2016. Have you encouraged your members to write letters on this issue to the prime minister and their local member of parliament?

- Yes  No

## 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.**

\* 19. Have you or your committee members participated in programs for young people in your parish?

Yes

No

\* 20. Have you or your committee members encouraged young people to share their gifts in ministry?

Yes

No

\* 21. Has your council sponsored youth events or youth ministers in your parish or community? Please check all that apply.

Catholic Christian Outreach

Steubenville

Catholic Girls League

Summer camps

Faith Alive

Sunday school

Girl Guides of Canada

World Youth Day

National Child Day

Youth conferences

NET Ministries

Youth fairs and festivals

Shelters and programs for high risk youth

Our council hasn't sponsored any events this year.

\* 22. Has your council purchased subscriptions to Catholic magazine, 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.**

\* 23. Have you or your committee members invited disabled persons to take part in liturgical celebrations?

Yes

No

\* 24. Has your council organized or participated in support groups and respite for caregivers?

Yes

No

25. Do any of your council members provide assistance to disabled persons living on their own?

Yes

No

\* 26. Has your council urged communities to make churches and other public buildings to make them more accessible?

Yes

No

\* 27. Has your council supported shelters or programs designed to assist the disabled?

Yes

No

\* 28. In what ways have your council members reached out to the disabled?

Prayed

Visited

Provided transportation

Our council hasn't focused on this ministry this year.

Sent cards

29. Did your council act on Resolution 1991.01 Ministry to Persons with a Mental Disability and, if so, in what way?

Educated members in the need for acceptance, care and ministry for persons with mental disabilities and their families

Urged pastors to integrate persons with mental disabilities fully into the spiritual and social life of the parish

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

30. In keeping with Resolution 1988.02 Ministry to the Elderly, have you or your committee members done any of the following with seniors in your community?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brought communion to them                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Prayed with them in their home        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gifted senior members with membership            | <input type="checkbox"/> Provided respite care for caregivers  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Initiated social programs and celebrations       | <input type="checkbox"/> Provided transportation to them       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Invited newly-retired women to join your council | <input type="checkbox"/> Sent cards of encouragement           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Invited them to share their faith story          | <input type="checkbox"/> Shared a meal with them               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Involved them in intercessory prayer             | <input type="checkbox"/> Supported shelters for abused seniors |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Involved them in CWL events                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Visited them                          |

\* 31. In 1996, Resolution 1996.03 Advance Directives for Health Care was adopted. Has your council initiated education and promoted awareness regarding advance directives for health care and durable powers of attorney, through workshops or seminars?

- Yes  No

32. With respect to Resolution 1999.01 Elder Abuse/Assault Awareness, has your council:

- become aware of community response mechanisms in place to protect seniors?  urged your provincial government to implement response mechanisms where none may exist?

## Ministry to Widowed

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

\* 33. Have your or your committee members done any of the following with widows and widowers in your community?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arranged memorial services                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Invited them to attend community events                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Encouraged participation in programs offered by the parish | <input type="checkbox"/> Invited widows to attend CWL meetings and events          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ensured there is a bereavement program in the parish       | <input type="checkbox"/> Provided prayer and support after the death of the spouse |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gifted them with prayer shawls                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Our council hasn't focused on this ministry this year.    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Included them in family outings                            |  |

## Ministry to Separate 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.**

\* 34. Have your or your committee members offered any of the following to separated or divorced persons?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Access to counseling or support groups       | <input type="checkbox"/> Invited them to join group outings                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Assistance with programs of interest to them | <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 this year. |

35. Resolution 1981.02 Separated and Divorced Catholics focused on the effects of separation and divorce on the family. In upholding the resolution, has your council:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Developed and awareness and sensitivity to the situation and needs of separated and divorced Catholics? | <input type="checkbox"/> Used resources available to become more knowledgeable about the teaching of the church on marriage, divorce, remarriage and annulment? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Supported local groups of separated and divorced Catholics?   |   |

## Vocations

### Vocations "are a gift of God" and "they are born in communities of faith..." (Ecclesia in America)

36. A variety of actions were listed in Resolution 1963.14 Religious Vocations. Has your council and members undertaken any of the following?

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adopted seminarians   | <input type="checkbox"/> Participated in prayers for vocations          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Encouraged families to discuss vocations with their children        | <input type="checkbox"/> Supported discernment events for youths        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Encouraged families to invite priests and religious into their home | <input type="checkbox"/> Supported priestly retirement funds            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hosted luncheons for priests and religious                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Supported Serra                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Offered mass for vocations  | <input type="checkbox"/> Supported travelling chalice/crucifix programs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Invited priests and religious to speak on vocations                 |   |

## Summary and Final Thoughts

37. Is there anything else you would like to share about your council's Christian family life activities?