



**Newfoundland and Labrador Provincial Council of
The Catholic Women's League of Canada**

One Heart, One Voice, One Mission

Date: January 20, 2016
To: Parish Presidents / Provincial Executive / Life Members/ National President
From: Ruby Sharpe, Provincial President
Re: Communique #2

Happy New Year to all Sisters in the League and Father Critch. I pray that 2016 will bestow up on you many blessings and a year filled with good health and happiness. I would like to share this new year's prayer with you.

A New Year's Prayer

Lord, You make all things new
You bring hope alive in our hearts
And cause our Spirits to be born again.
Thank you for this new year
For all the potential it holds.
Come and kindle in us
A mighty flame
So that in our time, many will see the wonders of God
And live forever to praise Your glorious name.
Amen

Membership

All councils should now be involved in their membership drives. I would ask all Presidents to extend support to their Organization Chairpersons in promoting their membership and in particular, motivating recruitment. We are all fully aware of declining membership and the challenge of enticing new members to join. We all need to be creative and take an active role in recruitment - it cannot rest with one person.

Annual Reports

In Organization Communique #2, Liz Snook informed you of a new way of completing annual reports through an on line report system. I realize this may present as a bit daunting. However, I strongly encourage you to take up the challenge and do your report according to the timeframes. It is much easier than you think. Much of the report completion is a yes/no format or tick box. A summary report is emailed to you after you complete the on line forms (the links will be forwarded within the week). The Provincial Table Officers will receive a copy as well. The questions are not

new and are in line with the responsibilities as outlined in the Executive Handbook. You were not expected to have done everything that is covered in the questions but you may also get lots of new ideas.

Winter Meeting

By now, you would have received the notice of the NL Provincial Winter Meeting being held at Mary Queen of the World Parish Hall on March 4-5th. The meeting agenda will be forwarded in the near future. All members are encouraged to attend.

National Meetings

I will be in Toronto from February 25-27th for the National Winter Meeting. I will be providing an update from these meetings at our Provincial Winter Meeting in March.

Year of Mercy

Many of you had the pleasure of attending Father Critch's presentation on the Year of Mercy at our fall meeting in November. All councils should now be finalizing their plans for commemorating this extraordinary year. Spiritual Development Chairperson Ellen Merrigan circulated a list of suggestions to councils in December 2015.

Seniors Advocate Update

In November 2015, I notified you via email that I had written to all three provincial party leaders during the provincial election campaigns, requesting an update on their position on a seniors advocate, should their party form the government of the day. The only response received was from now Premier Dwight Ball, dated November 19, 2015, who confirmed that the Liberal Party remained committed to implementing this independent advocate. Given the current state of the provincial economy, it appears that the government is closely examining its position with all expenditures and new initiatives. We will continue our efforts and pray for a success with this appointment.

God Bless
Ruby Sharpe