

Newfoundland and Labrador Provincial Council of the Council of

Catholic Women's League of Canada

April 28, 2016

Communiqué No. 3

One Heart, One Voice, One Mission: Palliative and Hospice Care

To: Chairpersons of Spiritual Development, Parish Presidents, Provincial Executive, Life Members, National Chairperson/Spiritual Development

From: Ellen Merrigan, Chairperson Spiritual Development

His healing touch: WE HAVE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE THIS! (Mark 2:12)

Year of Mercy, Holy Door, Indulgences and Sacramental Confession were the main focus of Our National Chairperson of Spiritual Development, Anne M. Gorman, last communiqué. "...the door of Divine Mercy will be open wide for all. It is not a flight, it is an evasion of reality and its problems; it is the answer that comes from the Gospel: *love as a force of purification* of consciences, the force of *renewal* of social relations, force of *planning* for a different economy, which puts the person, work and family at the centre rather than money and profit."

Pope Francis reminds us that we need to entrust ourselves to God's mercy and commit ourselves, with His grace, to bear fruits of conversion and works of mercy. We are reminded that during the Jubilee of Mercy, a special plenary indulgence has been extended for all who pass through one of the world's holy doors. An indulgence is the complete remission of all temporal punishment due to sin. The guilt of sin needs forgiveness, which by God's mercy we can receive. Eternal punishment is lifted by the gift of absolution. Conditions associated with this indulgence are:

- Enter the door of mercy
- Exclude all attachment to sin
- Go to sacramental confession (within eight days)
- Receive holy communion
- Recite a profession of faith (Apostles' Creed)
- Pray for the intentions of the Holy Father (Our Father)

I would like to refer you to a recent book from Pope Francis, *Amoris Laetitia, On Love in the Family*.

May God bless our parish councils as we celebrate the work of the League during National Hospice Palliative Care Week, May 1-7, 2016. Please remember the people of Fort McMurray in your prayers. Let us never underestimate the power of prayer.

God Bless You,

Ellen Merrigan

Chairperson of Spiritual Development