



**CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE NEWFOUNDLAND and LABRADOR**  
**INSPIRED BY THE SPIRIT, WOMEN RESPOND TO GOD'S CALL**

Date: May 9, 2017

Communique #6

To: Chairperson of Spiritual Development/Parish Presidents /Provincial President/  
Provincial Executive /Life Members (For Information)

From: Ellen Merrigan, Provincial Chairperson Spiritual Development

As this will be my last communiqué as Spiritual Development Chairperson I would like to remind you to open your hearts to the Holy Spirit, to pray to him to enlighten your minds and become more sensitive to the things of God.

I would like to leave with you several quotes from Pope Francis concerning the Holy Spirit.

“The Holy Spirit helps us to view others with fresh eyes, seeing them always as brothers and sisters in Jesus, to be respected and loved.”

“The Holy Spirit transforms and renews us, creates harmony and unity and gives us courage and joy for mission.”

Do we open ourselves to the Holy Spirit, so as to be an active part of our communities, or do we close in on ourselves saying, ‘I have so many things to do, that’s not my job?’

Let yourselves be led by the Holy Spirit, with freedom, please do not cage the Holy Spirit.”

Here is a prayer that Pope Francis asks us to say every day.

Holy Spirit may my heart be open to the Word of God.

May my heart be open to good

And may my heart be open to the beauty of God, everyday.

We need to let the Holy Spirit talk to us and we need to listen. We need to be caring, compassionate and ready to do something for other human beings. We should remember as we are there for others we also grow and we can find a joy.

Caring for the environment is the responsibility of every Christian. Pope Francis tells us “As stewards of God’s creation, we are called to make the earth a beautiful garden for the human family. When we destroy our forests, ravage our soil and pollute our seas, we betray that noble calling.” (Pope Francis, Speech Manila, Philippines.) We can all pray for the earth that has been entrusted to us.

Yes, we need to respond to God’s call. We are inspired by the Holy Spirit and it is the action we take that is the response that our faith calls us to.

I have thoroughly enjoyed being the chairperson for Spiritual Development. Thank you for letting me help in developing our spiritual growth both individually and collectively. I hope I have been of some help and support to you. I will continue to keep all of you in my prayers.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel keep us and guide us.

*Ellen Merrigan*

Ellen Merrigan

Provincial Chairperson of Spiritual Development