



## Christian Family Life Directive #3

**March 28, 2018**

From: Linda Squarzolo 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President/Christian Family Life Chair  
To: Diocesan Christian Family Life Chairs  
CC: Archbishop O'Brien, Provincial Officers, Diocesan Presidents, National Christian Family Life Chair, Sub-committee Chairpersons

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### **Annual Reports**

The annual reports are completed for 2017. We can appreciate what we accomplished and analyze what we can strive to do better in 2018. It is impossible to do everything under one committee, but we can aim to keep our members informed and hope for the best. Sometimes a topic is mentioned and it sparks an interest in a member who suddenly wants to embrace that issue.

### **Marriage and Family**

The **World Meeting of Families** is taking place in Dublin Ireland in August 2018. This gathering takes place every few years. Although most of us will not be attending, CWL members should know that this gathering is taking place and pray for all families.

**National Week for Life and the Family** will be held May 13 – 20, 2018. Every year the Church in Canada sets aside a time for prayer and reflection on life and the family. The theme this year is "Love Encountering the Other". Materials are available from the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB). To order, go to [ccc.ca/site/eng/media-room/4814-2018-national-week-for-life-and-family](http://ccc.ca/site/eng/media-room/4814-2018-national-week-for-life-and-family)

### **Ministry to Youth**

**World Youth Day** will be held in 2019 in Panama. If any youth in your diocese are interested in attending, consider providing them with some financial support. After the event invite them to attend one of your meetings and tell about their experiences.

Do the young people of your parish know that there is a **Vatican On-Line Questionnaire for Youth**? The Vatican would like to better understand the lives, attitudes and concerns of youth aged 16 to 29. The Synod of Bishops is meeting in October 2018 to discuss young people, their faith and vocational discernment. To access the survey go to: [youth.synod2018.va/synod2018/it.html](http://youth.synod2018.va/synod2018/it.html)

## **Ministry to Seniors**

When I think of seniors in our community, many of their friends are gone and their children may live in a different community. Some may still be in their homes, living in assisted living facilities or are in nursing homes. They may appreciate receiving a phone call and hearing a friendly voice. Don't forget them! One lady told me that the only time the phone rings, is when a telemarketer calls.

## **Catholic Organization for Life and Family (COLF)**

This Catholic organization deals with all issues facing the family, including marriage, children, faith, family planning, seniors, youth, vocations and more. The life issues include abortion, biotechnologies, end of life and other topics. To reach their web site go to [www.colf.ca](http://www.colf.ca)

## **Vocations**

The Ontario Provincial Council initiated the Bishop Pappin Memorial Bursary a few years ago. This fund gives up to 10 bursaries, of \$500, annually to seminarians in our province. In order for this fund to exist, donations from councils and individuals are needed. Donations can be sent to the provincial treasurer.

## **National Christian Family Life Communique #6**

Have you read Communique #6 from National Christian Family Life Chairperson Doreen Gowans? It can be found on the national website [cwl.ca](http://cwl.ca)

## **Prayer for Reverence for Life**

Almighty God, giver of all that is good, we thank You

- For the precious gift of human life:
- For life in the womb, coming from Your creative power;
- For the life of children, making us glad with their freshness and promise;
- For the life of young people, hoping for a better world;
- For the life of the handicapped and disabled, teaching us humility
- For the life of the elderly, witnessing to the ageless values of patience and wisdom

Like Blessed Mary, may we always say "Yes" to your gift.

May we defend it and promote it from conception to its natural end.

And bring us, at last, O Father, to the fullness of eternal life in Jesus Christ Our Lord.

Amen.

(Source unknown)

As we attend Masses, pray and do penance during this Holy Week, may we celebrate the joyful resurrection of our Lord on Easter Sunday.

Wishing you and your families a Happy Easter.

Sincerely,

*Linda*

Linda Squarzolo

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President/Christian Family Life Chair

