

The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Grouard-McLennan Diocesan Council

2013 Christian Family Life Annual Report
9 councils reporting

Standing Committee Chair: Mary C. A.

The object of The Christian Family Life Standing Committee is "to exemplify the Christian ideal in home and family life."

Councils worked toward this in the following ways:

Marriage and Family Life

- daily prayers and masses
- crucifixes and religious articles presented to newlyweds and as gifts to mark significant events.
- postcards (Pornography Hurts) sent to federal representatives regarding damage to family life from pornography
- discussions regarding the prevalence of human trafficking worldwide.
- financial support to a local family in need

Sanctity of Life

- prayer (novenas, candlelight vigils for March for Life)
- members participate in Walk for Life (2 councils)
- kept current with issues concerning abortion, pre-natal screening for sex selection, euthanasia
- wrote letters regarding Motion M-408 (discrimination against females occurring through gender selection/ pregnancy termination), Bill C-279 (transgender "bathroom bill"), Bill 52 (Euthanasia – Quebec)
- circulated petitions regarding amending Section 223 of the Criminal Code to have proper definition of a human being
- collections for Catholic Near East Welfare Association
- memberships in Pro Life organizations as well as financial support
- donated Nativity scene to Festival of Trees in support of Palliative Care (one council)

Ministry to Widowed, Separated or Divorced

- support for women's shelters (financial as well as donations)

Ministry to Youth, Seniors, Disabled

- (Youth) Bibles, pins, corsages, awards and scholarships to mark receiving of Sacraments, achievement in academic and religious programs and graduations.
- donate to breakfast program at the local Catholic Elementary/Junior High School.
- one council reported providing clothes for students who may require them during the school day.
- provide large print missalets for seniors lodge (1 council) – members also attend mass at lodge.
- council members provide transportation to community members who are unable to drive themselves.
- take communion weekly to seniors at the local seniors lodge.
- sympathy, get well Christmas Cards and cookie baskets, financial aid sent/given to sick, shut- in, bereaved community members. One council puts on a Birthday Party for seniors (in January).
- councils provide and serve funeral lunches.
- volunteer at Seniors Home / Hospital

Vocations

- prayers at meetings for increase of vocations.
- local Priest invited to share meals with members.
- provide transportation for priest when the opportunity arises.
- financial gift to Spiritual Director/Parish Priest

The work of this standing committee is our "love story in action." It could be considered our call to walk with the other person in order to enable them to stand on their own as one graciously loved by God.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary C. A.