



## Nova Scotia Provincial Council

### Catholic Women's League of Canada

### Christian Family Life Communiqué # 3

Inspired by the Spirit, Women Respond to God's Call

**To:** Diocesan Counterparts (*For distribution to all parish councils*)  
**From:** Theresa Duann, Nova Scotia Provincial Christian Family Life Chairperson  
**Date:** February 20, 2017  
**Copied:** Provincial President, Peggy MacNeil and Executive (for information)  
National Chairperson, Doreen Gowan (for information)

### What is Human Trafficking?

Human Trafficking involves the recruitment, transportation, harbouring and/or exercising control, direction or influence over the movement of a person in order to exploit that person, typically through sexual exploitation or forced labour. It is often described as a modern form of slavery.

While we do not know the full scope and impact of the problem on the Canadian level, we do know that women and children are the primary victims for sexual exploitation, however men are not immune to this crime. In the past few weeks, the ugly head of Trafficking was raised in our area again.

A set of "Push" and "Pull" factors contribute to Trafficking.

#### "Push"

extreme poverty  
unemployment  
lack of education  
poor social programs  
gender inequality  
corruption  
conflict situations  
political unrest in countries of origin

#### "Pull"

perceived financial rewards  
promise what is portrayed as a better life  
affection

For further information goggle Human Trafficking.

### Palliative Care

Hospice Halifax has announced plans to build a new facility instead of renovating 2 vacant buildings on Franklyn Street. The new facility will be built on the campus of the Atlantic School of Theology. It is a much better plan as you will end up with modern energy and quality of life spaces for people in their care and their families.

### **Apostolic Letter Nov. 2016**

Pope Francis is allowing all priests to absolve the faithful of the "grave sin" of abortion, extending indefinitely the special permission he had granted for the duration of the Holy Year of Mercy. He wrote "there is no sin that God's mercy cannot reach and wipe away when It finds a repentant heart seeking to be reconciled with God."

But he also wrote "I wish to restate as firmly as I can that abortion is a grave sin, since it puts an end to an innocent life. The sin of abortion is inclusion, thus forgiveness for the sin of abortion is inclusive and extends to all those who are participants in this sin." He asked Priests to be welcoming to all witnesses of fatherly love whatever the gravity of the sin, as long there was a reflection and understanding of the evil they had done.

"MERCY IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH, CONSTITUTES HER VERY EXISTENCE."

### **HEADLINE- Child poverty - A National Disgrace**

Almost 3 decades ago the House of Commons passed a resolution to eliminate poverty among children by year 2000. A recently released report Dec.2016 compiled from facts gathered in 2014 outline that Nova Scotia child poverty rate is 3rd highest in the country and has grown to 22.5% more than 4% since 1989.

#### **Facts:**

More than 1 in 5 Nova Scotia children lives in poverty

Halifax has lowest child poverty rate. 18.8%

Yarmouth. 41.8%

Cape Breton. 24.3%

Eskasoni. 75.6%

These poverty numbers are a disgrace that requires our full attention. The report is hopeful that a planned National Poverty Reduction Strategy will help. Our children are a rich resource that requires constant and consistent care.

COLF Catholic Organization for Life and Family

Jointly funded by CCCB and Knights of Columbus

Mr. Michael MacDonald new Exe Director as of Jan.1, 2017

Message by Pope Francis for Lent 2017

"The word is a gift, other persons are a gift."

Based on Parable Luke16:19-31.

Private Members Bill C-277

An act providing for the development of a framework on palliative care.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel guide us.