



**Nova Scotia Provincial Council
Catholic Women's League of Canada
Organization (President-Elect) #4**

Care for our Common Home

To: Julie LeLievre, Antigonish Diocesan President-Elect
and Organization Chairperson
Sandra Kline, Halifax Diocesan Organization Chairperson

From: Joline Belliveau

Date: February 15, 2020

CC: Janice MacDougall, Antigonish Diocesan President
Janet Terrio, Halifax Yarmouth Diocesan President
Nova Scotia Provincial Executive (for information)
Fran Lucas, National President-Elect and Chairperson of Organization
(for information)

Membership

I have been thinking a about membership in the CWL and what would encourage women to join the League I would like in this article to focus on the elderly and encouraging older women in our individual parishes to join the League. Elderly women have so much to offer the League. The elderly should not be overlooked, they are an invaluable commodity. Most elderly women have years of experience in life, sharing their personal journeys, sharing their own outlook and personal opinions

Most elderly women who are retired or have long past bringing up their children, are still physically very capable and very mentally alert Why not promote this group of women in your parish - and approach them to join the League. The elderly has now the time to contribute so very much in all aspects of the League - spiritually, with the family, as organizers of community events, doing outreach within the parish.

And... the League could help them as well - Lots of senior women, once the children are grown or they are not in the labour force anymore, become socially isolated. It would be good if these women joined the League. In joining the League, they would connect with women, make friends, develop common interests.

The League members should all encourage senior women to join the us so they themselves can reap the benefits for the League as well as benefits to the seniors on an individual level such as becoming more open to new experiences, developing new

skills, achieving a new sense of confidence and getting involved with other women in the church.

The League is an inclusive group in the church. Seniors for the most part, represent a very strong, very active group and you as members must emphasize and encourage senior women in our church to join the League so they can offer us their gifts, talents and treasure, of which most seniors have an abundance. So much goodness happens when younger and senior members share and learn from one another.

Our “throwaway” society today should be discouraged and the CWL is a great example of using the resources of all our members and an organization where senior women are encouraged to use their God given gifts and to be made to feel they have lots to offer our Catholic community in our everyday parish life.

The elderly in our community have so much to offer, to include seniors in our organization creates a much greater balance. Senior women can give the CWL a richness of experience which can blend in very well with the “go to” drive of our younger members. In so encouraging this healthy balance of both younger and older women it would create a positive attitude and show the Catholic Women League as a leader in our parish/diocese.

In closing, please read over the wonderful communiques on the National website from Fran Lucas in her last communique #8 she promotes watching the movie *The Two Popes*... which is available on Netflix and also there are suggestions on how to enrich your Lent.

Respectfully submitted,

Joline Belliveau
NS Provincial President-elect

“It is in community that we come to see God in the other. It is in community that we see our own emptiness filled up. It is community that calls me beyond the pinched horizons of my own life, my own country, my own race, and gives me the gifts I do not have within me” - Joan D Chittister.