

Christian Family Life Oral Report-June 2018

I wish to begin by thanking Roseanne Heatherington Halifax-Yarmouth Diocese and Enis Moss Antigonish Diocese for their informative reports. This is a very busy chair with lots to cover. Thank You

MARRIAGE and FAMILY

On Feb. 11 2018 Pope Francis sent the following message. "I send my cordial greetings to all families, with the hope that they will live it in greater solidarity, fraternity and the desire of goodness, contributing to create a society in which every person is accepted, protected, promoted and integrated. I invite you to pray for the gift of peace, precious treasure to be pursued with compassion, farsightedness, and courage."

World Meeting of Families August 21-26 2018. Dublin Ireland. Every three years the Church brings together the largest International gathering of families in the world.

It was started by Saint John Paul 11.

The Petition of ONE MILLION: Initiative to gather one million plus signatures for presentation to the Federal Government in 2019, was started by Alliance for Life Ontario and is asking the Federal Government to enact legislation granting full legal protection to the unborn child from the beginning of its biological development as a human being-the same protection granted to any other human being. A similar petition was held in 1975 but unfortunately four million children have been killed by abortion since 1969. But we must "Proclaim to all Canadians" that every life must be protected from conception to natural death.
petitionofonemillion.ca

Ministry to Youth: Pope Francis was the first person to register for "World Youth Day" in Panama January 21-28 2019. The CCCB has selected 2 young Canadian delegates to attend the pre-synod meeting of youth on the theme "Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment," October 3-28 2018. One delegate is from Ontario, the other is from Saskatchewan. Keep these young people in your prayers as they will represent Canadian Youth.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING : There was a full page report in Monday's paper. The problem of Human Trafficking has become the second largest common organized crime activity and is a hard one to detect for many reasons, chief among them that the relationship between the trafficker and their victim resembles a boyfriend/girlfriend relationship.

The police have offered watch signs of Human Trafficking

- . Victims are often branded tattoo traffickers name sign of ownership.
- . " are moved often and have unexplained money
- . " pull away from family

- . “ May disappear for days at a time
- . “ May not introduce trafficker to family
- . “ May not have access to I’d or bank account
- . “ May be hard to reach or not free to talk.

A small positive note is the growing awareness of the public of the threat posed by human trafficking across the country. In 2005 human trafficking legislation was introduced into the Criminal Code of Canada.

Ministry to Disabled: Personally I think one of the most wonderful inventions is the motorized wheelchair for the physically disabled. They are out and around and able to get physical and social stimulation. But, they also face many barriers. These barriers can be placed under a fairly new ism. ABLEISM 1981. Ableism is discrimination against people with physical or mental disabilities. Ableism can take the form of ideas or assumptions, stereotypes, attitudes and practices and physical barriers in the environment. The practice and dominate attitudes in society devalue and limit the potential of persons with disabilities. Ableism characterizes persons as defined by their disability and as inferior to non-disabled. On this basis people are assigned certain perceived abilities. Labeling affects people when it limits their options. We can do our part by making sure our church space is accessible to everyone and everyone is welcome.

Ministry to Seniors: Retirement in this time does not always mean rest, relaxation, golf or other leisure events. These are all desirable activities. Over the past years a growing number of retirees and older adults have begun asking is their something more I could be doing? The answer is yes. A pilot project called “Redefining Retirement” currently in beginning stages in Yarmouth, Windsor, East Hants, and St. Margaret’s Bay. This is just not a project but a movement. One of the Project managers Chris Pelham states retirees get to pursue meaningful work and activities on their own terms. One impetus for the project was the 2017 SHIFT Report. Nova Scotia Action Plan for an Aging Population. We can shift attitudes about aging and focus on changing the way Nova Scotia promotes, and supports older adults and their contributions to the Province. For more information visit. www.redefiningretirement.ca
Or www.facebook.com/redefiningretirementprogram.

Vocations: Please continue to pray for Vocations and also keep our hard working Priests in your prayers.

This concludes my report.

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