

The Catholic Women's League of Canada

Nova Scotia Provincial Council

Convention Oral Report

Madame President:

I would like to encourage everyone to read the Spiritual Development Report in their Convention Booklet. In my report, I have tried to summarize the activities which took place for the year 2016. This Oral Report will focus on activities which took place from January 1st – June 1st, 2017.

Communiqués: The National Spiritual Development Chairperson, Jacqueline Nogier, in her second communique, encourages us to have our meetings be one-third spiritual. She feels this will ensure that women truly are “Rooted in Gospel values, calling its members to holiness.” All of my Provincial Communiqués are available on the Provincial website. A “Prayer Corner” was initiated on the Provincial website. In this corner you will find prayers and services from the last 3 years. I post something new the first of each month. Please take a moment to look in this corner. There are lots of ideas for your Spiritual portion of your monthly meetings. Thank you to Carol LeBlance for posting these online for me each month.

Book of Life: For the year 2016, I entered 129 names of deceased members in the Nova Scotia Book of Life. Of those names, seventy-one were from the Antigonish Diocese and fifty-eight for the Halifax/Yarmouth Diocese. Following my Oral Report, during the Deceased Members Prayer Service, I will be reading these names according to each parish. I would like to remind parishes that the deadline for submission of names to National is December 31st, if you want the member to be included in the Book of Life for that calendar year. When submitting these names, please check the spelling of the names and include the date of death. Mid January, National will send me the list of deceased members they have. I need to go through each name, check the spelling and also check the date of death. If the spelling is incorrect or there is no date of death, it makes my job incredibly hard to check out the information! National does not require the date of death, but I require it to include it in the Provincial Book of Life. It also helps me to determine if I am looking at the right obituary when checking spelling of names. I also ask the help of the Spiritual Development Chairperson for each Diocese to assist me with this endeavor. All names received after the deadline of December 31st, will appear in the Book of Life the following year.

Thank you to Elaine Sponagle of the Antigonish Diocese and Carol Pottie of the Halifax/Yarmouth Diocese for all their work! I welcome Brenda Johnson who has been appointed Spiritual Development Chair in the Antigonish Diocese.

Retreats: Just a reminder that each Diocese has a retreat that they hold each year. September 9th – a retreat will be hosted by my own parish council, St. Andrews, at Our Lady of Grace Monastery, Antigonish

November – a yearly retreat is held in the Halifax/Yarmouth Diocese. Watch for the date and details.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary ten Brinke, Spiritual Development Chairperson