

**Pembroke Diocesan Council of the Catholic Women's League of Canada**  
**Fall Meeting, October 30, 2021 Oral Report**  
**Lynne Kelly, Christian Family Life Chair**

In early September, our Diocesan President Joan Lemay approached me and asked if I would consider filling in as Christian Family Life Chair for the remainder of the year. I have to say, I was excited about the invite because I can renew my acquaintances with old friends, and it helps me to keep up to date on what is going on in the League and within the Church.

Our National Chairperson of Christian Family Life, Dorothy Johansen wrote in her Communiques that "The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) has established a standing committee for family and life. Two of the purposes of this committee are to assist the CCCB in responding to the pastoral needs of married couples and families and helping it affirm and strengthen the domestic church in every household and proclaim the Christian teachings on marriage and the family.

**Ministry to Youth, Disabled, Seniors, Widowed, Separated, Divorced**

In a global advertisement campaign, Pope Francis said, "Being vaccinated with vaccines authorized by the competent authorities is an act of love. And contributing to ensure the majority of people are vaccinated is an act of love---love for oneself, love for one's family and friends love for all people."

In every province and territory, there is a need to contact people who may be unable to access vaccines due to their circumstances. Especially at risk are seniors who live on their own or people in rural areas. If each council encouraged its members to reach out to people who might want to be vaccinated and perhaps help them to access a clinic, it would be possible to help save more lives. Please ask your diocesan counterparts to share this suggestion with parish councils."

If you choose to attend Mass via U Tube or some other means of virtual access and miss receiving the Eucharist, you can receive virtual Communion as "an ardent desire to receive Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament and in lovingly embracing Him as if you had actually received Him." Here is a prayer composed by St. Alphonsus Liguori in the 18<sup>th</sup> century that can be used in receiving Holy Communion spiritually:

**My Jesus,**  
**I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament.**  
**I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul.**  
**Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally,**  
**come at least spiritually into my heart.**  
**I embrace You as if You were already there,**  
**and unite myself wholly to You.**  
**Never permit me to be separated from You.**  
**Amen.**

Respectfully submitted, Lynne Kelly