

Faith

Sept. 1, 2024

Communique #2



Here I am, Lord, send me!

FOR: Doreen Boudreau, Antigonish Faith Chair
Catherine Gonsalvez, Halifax-Yarmouth Faith Chair
NOTE: To be forwarded to all council administrators.

THROUGH: Diocesan Presidents and Secretaries
Anne McCormick, Antigonish (forward to Secretary)
Karen Craig, Halifax-Yarmouth (forward to Secretary)

CC: Jessie Parkinson (NS Provincial President);
Cathy Targett (NS Provincial Secretary) to forward to
Nova Scotia Provincial CWL Council Executive Officers;
Rolande Chernichan, National Faith Chairperson

FROM: Mary Myers, Faith Chairperson,
Nova Scotia Provincial CWL Council

SUBJECT: REPORTING DECEASED MEMBERS

WELCOME BACK, Sisters in the League!!!

I hope you all had a wonderful, restful summer and are ready to resume CWL activities with restored energy and spirit.

Over the past several years, our CWL councils have experienced changes such as restructuring, parishes closing, declining membership, aging members, councils disbanding, etc. In order to stay on the same page regarding some of our very important activities, proper practices should be reviewed for sharing of information as occasions arise. The purpose of this communique is to focus on honouring our deceased members at all levels.

It is important to remember and honour our deceased members who served the Catholic Women's League. National encourages all councils to show compassion when honouring a past member's memory and to provide support for their families in their time of grief. See the Policy and Procedure excerpt attached.

Every name sent to national, whether a current or lapsed member, is entered into the Book of Life. It is the parish council's discretion who to include and it will be their responsibility to forward the names to national. Length or duration of membership is not necessarily part of the consideration - it is at the council's discretion. It is up to the Faith Chairperson of each parish council to ensure deceased members are reported to the national council by the Council Membership Administrators. This can be done by forwarding the names through the CWL online membership system by a council's online administrator, or by sending a filled out copy of the form for deceased members (copy attached). To recap:

1. It is important that reporting of deceased members is done in a timely manner. A deceased member should be reported to the national office either through the *online membership system or by filling out the form for reporting deceased members* found on the national website (a copy of this form is attached). If the form is being used, it may be completed and sent to the national office by e-mail or mail. *Any deceased member whose death was not reported in the year of her death can still be reported; however, her year of death should be noted.*
2. *When a member's death is reported to national, regardless of the method of notification, both the Diocesan and Provincial Faith Chairpersons should be notified also either by email or mail by the membership administrators. This enables the member's name to be entered in the respective diocesan, provincial and national Book of Life.*
3. Deceased members who once belonged and served on councils, but at the time of passing were not current members of a council, can be reported to national either on the national website or by informing national via email or filling out the form. They should also be reported to the Diocesan and Provincial Faith Chairpersons. For example, members:
 - whose membership lapsed because of their inability to pay
 - whose families did not continue to pay once they became disabled
 - who may have moved and did not transfer to another council
 - who served on councils which have since been disbanded and did not transfer to another council (these members are to be reported by e-mail to national, provincial, and diocesan councils or with the deceased members form).

"Say not in grief; 'he is no more,' but live in thankfulness that he was." Hebrew proverb.

God Bless

Mary Myers
Nova Scotia Provincial Faith Chairperson

Att. (2)