



Nova Scotia Provincial Council
Catholic Women's League of Canada
Christian Family Life Communiqué #1
***Inspired by the Spirit,
Women Respond to God's Call***

To: Enis Moss and Dina Samson

From: Linda Howell

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Copied: Antigonish Diocesan President, Cleo Windsor, Halifax Yarmouth Diocesan President, Janet Terrio, Nova Scotia Provincial Executive (for information), *National committee chairperson, Pat Deppiesse* (for information)

As I sat to prepare my first communiqué my head was all over the place. Finally I decided to focus on youth

When visiting Estonia in September, Pope Francis acknowledged that the Church must change if young people are to regain trust in the institution. Pope Francis stated "Let us allow the Holy Spirit to cloth us with weapons of dialogue, understanding, the search for mutual respect and fellowship".

In June 2017 Pope Francis said that the older generation should not stop striving in their spiritual lives but that God calls them to be "grandparents" to young people, who can learn from their experience. We as Catholic mothers and grandmothers should remember this.

The Catholic Organization for Life and Family states that "If ever there was a generation that required direction it is today! Our youth are our future. The young person who thinks he is "God's gift to the world" is right! We need to help each young person realize his or her potential specifically in the context of service to others. In order to become the gifts to the world that God intends, our young people must learn to give themselves away."

The Synod of Bishops on young people is concluding. One statement which caught my attention was by Cardinal Charles Maung Bo from Myanmar. He said the church needs to realize that young people are used-less and not useless. He said that he hopes the whole Church will give attention to young people and follow up on the recommendations of the Synod.

Let us pray for our young people. That those who are questioning their faith will find their way back to God and the Church..

Blessing