

August 25, 2018

Dear Members of the League:

During the past year and a half our thoughts and focus have been on the theme: Inspired by the Spirit Women Respond to God's Call. During this time I have been fortunate to be able to participate in the Diocesan, Provincial and National Conventions. At all levels of the League it is important to recognize that the work being done is always work that has its beginning in the Power of the Spirit, continues in that Power and will reach its conclusion through that Power. Our theme ought always to remind us that just as at that first Pentecost, when the Spirit came upon those fearful disciples and sent them forth rejoicing to proclaim the Good News, the Spirit comes today to inspire and empower us to go forth proclaiming that same Good News in our words and actions. It really matters not the size of the council to which we belong, the Spirit comes to lead and guides us wherever we are to carry forth the Mission of the Good News of Salvation. Remember how small the community was to which the Spirit came with the sound of a 'rushing wind' and what looked like 'tongues of fire'.

I believe what I have just said is important in a special way at this time for we are embarking on a challenging process of Strategic Planning for the League looking forward. As we start to take up this work I believe it is important to recognize that we cannot take up the entire work all at once. We need to take time study the Strategic Planning and see where, in our own particular circumstances we are able to begin and how much we are able to take on at any given time. This is a work that will have long lasting results and impact on the life of the League, so it is going to take time. What we do, we want to do well and for the good of the whole. I look forward to learning and planning with you, and assisting in any way that I can. May we be led and guided always by Mary's response: 'I am the servant of the Lord. Let it be done to me according to your word.'

I am planning to attend the Regina Regional meeting in September, the Vibank Anniversary celebration and the Fall Provincial/Diocesan Meeting in Bruno in October.

As the summer draws to a close there may be other gatherings that I will be attending. As I am now Pastor in Carlyle, time and distance may impact on my taking part in meetings and conferences. As regular meetings once more resume let us always remember that the work we undertake is the work to which the Lord calls us. It is the Lord's work we do and may we do it with generous response that we see in the life of Mary, our Mother of Good Council.

God bless all you do for God and Canada.

Sincerely, Fr. Ed Hengen