

Hello Everyone,

Spring is definitely here. Buds are showing, some flowers have sprouted blossoms, days are longer, and the weather is definitely warmer in the North.

12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Prayer Kit 2025

This year the date for National Hospice Palliative Care Week is May 4 – 10, 2025. The theme for this year is Palliative Care is For You. Key points include:

- 1) Palliative care benefits people with serious illnesses, regardless of prognosis, and supports those grieving or caring for loved ones.
- 2) Palliative care focuses on addressing needs based on what matters most to individuals and families.
- 3) Simple, one-page information sheets are available to explain the “what, when and where” of palliative care to make discussions easier and more accessible.

The 12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care Kit 2025 has a few new things added: namely the Jubilee of Hope 2025: A Call for Renewal and Compassion, two examples of how a day with the 12 Hours of Prayer could be structured, two ways of praying the Stations of the Cross: one being A Physician's Way of the Cross and the other – The Way of the Cross Today: Reflections on Suffering in Sickness and Dying, reflections to lead the Luminous Mysteries have been provided and resources have been updated. The kit also includes facts about palliative care and information about what palliative care is not. Pope Francis wrote “Palliative care is an expression of the truly human attitude of taking care of one another, especially of those who suffer. It is testimony that the human person is always precious, even if marked by illness and old age.”

United Nations Report on the Rights of Persons With Disabilities

The recent report by the United Nations Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities has asked Ottawa to repeal the medical assistance in dying (MAiD) for anyone without a terminal illness, also known as “Track 2” in Canada's MAiD program. The UN Committee wrote it is “extremely concerned” by Ottawa's broadening of Canada's MAiD laws in 2021 to offer medically assisted death to people who have permanent, but non-terminal physical illnesses. Charlotte-Anne Malischewsk, president of the Canadian Human Rights Commission, told the committee that too many Canadians with disabilities lacked access to supports and services like health care, medication and equipment. “Some persons with disabilities were turning to MAiD because they felt they had no other options.” Please make your councils aware of the changing laws in Canada and write to your elected officials speaking against MAiD and for palliative care and hospice.

Development and Peace – Caritas Canada (D&P)

Development and Peace is the official international development organization of the Catholic Church in Canada, dedicated to social justice and peace. D&P's 2025 campaign, “Turn Debt into Hope” responds to Pope Francis' call to prioritize people and the planet over profits. It advocates for cancelling unjust debts, preventing future debt crises and addressing the root causes of inequity. The campaign aligns with the Catholic tradition of Jubilee, a period of forgiveness and reconciliation inspired by biblical practices of debt cancellation and societal restoration. You can get involved by:

- 1) Supporting Share Lent Campaign

- 2) Signing the Global Petition
- 3) Raising Awareness in your community
- 4) Engaging in advocacy and campaigns
- 5) Embodying the Spirit of Jubilee

Celebrate the Jubilee year by fostering forgiveness, reconciliation and right relationships with others and creation. Reflect on how actions can contribute to a more just and equitable world. Encourage others to do the same.

Molly Boucher Bursary – Once again, I am giving a reminder of the Molly Boucher Bursary, available to anyone who is pursuing post-secondary education and who has been a member of the League for at least two years. It is a \$2000.00 bursary. The guidelines, criteria and application form are on the provincial website

www.bcyukoncwsl.com The deadline for the application is April 30, 2025. **As of today, April 9th, 2025, I have received no applications.**

Pope's Prayer Intentions

April 2025 - For the use of the new technologies

Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crisis of our times.

May 2025

For working conditions

Let us pray that through work, each person might find fulfillment, families might be sustained in dignity, and that society might be humanized.\

June 2025

That the world might grow in compassion

Let us pray that each one of us might find consolation in a personal relationship with Jesus, and from his Heart, learn to have compassion on the world.

Quote from Pope Francis

"Let us commit ourselves to remedying the remote causes of injustice, settling unjust and payable debts, and feeding the hungry."

I wish you a blessed Easter filled with peace, love and the joy of the risen Lord.
Ciao for now and God bless. Laura