

Environment Care

To: All Parish Presidents, Community Life Chairpersons

CC: London Diocesan Council; Pearl Bradd and Madeleine Visser (subcommittee members)

From: Mary Ann Horne-White, Community Life Chairperson

Date: November 2018

Directive #3

Educate, Engage, and Empower

#1) **Human Trafficking**:

<u>Pope Francis appeals to us all</u>; "That we may open our eyes and see the misery of those so deprived of their dignity and their freedom, and hear their cry for freedom".

2018 statistics: 72% of human trafficking in Canada takes place in **Ontario** along the 400 Series Highway Corridors. Girls between the ages of 12 and 17 are targeted. **We need to be aware as adults** that Human Trafficking is rampant in Ontario.

What to look for at Rest Stops on the 401—ON-ROUTE—if you witness any suspicious activity, do not engage; you could put the girl in danger —get the license plate # and description. Call 911 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477. Even if you are wrong about what you saw, you've gotten involved and may have made a difference.

At our 3 Regional Days, speaker Kelly Franklin from Farmtown gave us a lot of information to think about. Any who attended these meetings; please share your information with your councils.

We all need to stay vigilant to make a difference in our regions. Check your newspapers, CBC, and Google to keep informed on Human Trafficking. It is closer to home and more rampant than we realize.

Keep in mind: Pornography drives the Human Trafficking Business.

#2) Food Banks:

At this time of year food banks and shelters need our help. Please be generous in your communities. There is an initiative from the provincial council to collect peanut butter and boxes of crackers till December 31st (aware of allergies to peanuts but it is a food item always in demand). Bring the peanut butter and any other food items to your community's shelters **in your areas**.

With Christmas fast approaching, think of different ways to help in your communities.

#3) Clarifying Socks Initiative: More information will be in your convention packages.

Merry Christmas, and have a Blessed Holiday season with your loved ones.

Mary Ann