

## President's Report – March 2022

Last time we met it was on Valentine's Day and now we are just a few days away from St. Patrick's Day so that must mean Spring is getting near. The days are getting longer and the weather somewhat nicer, if it would only stop winding... This time of year always brings memories of mom getting the seed catalogue and planning for the summer ahead. And of course, we would be right in the middle of the Lenten season, but enough of going down memory lane.

So, have I come out of my comfort zone and said "God Bless" when leaving a store as I had indicated in my last report? Well of course not! As an excuse I can always say that I have only been using self-checkout places or that I seem to always forget to say it – not a habit yet. But these are only excuses and I think when it comes down to it, I am still not comfortable in saying those two tiny words. I even had another blunt hint a couple of weeks ago, when at a Friday morning mass, I read the 1<sup>st</sup> reading and it was from James, Chapter 2, vs 14, 24-26. It talks about having Faith but not works or have works but no Faith. It did not make me question my faith, but made me think if I had works, works that are outside of the church walls, where my comfort zone is not the same as when I am inside those church walls. I am Catholic, but am I truly Living It?

With that in mind, I looked through the responses from our discussion groups at our last meeting. Being Catholic and Living It, was for some, always saying grace at meals, even when not at home. Having a crucifix in our home. Standing up for our faith in opposition to public or secular values. Not being intimidated by posting our religious beliefs on social media. Being generous and kind to each other, looking out for our neighbors and those in need.

That whatever it is that we do, we do it with love, patience and understanding. Go visit seniors in their homes. To give back without asking what's in it for me. Wearing our CWL pins whenever we go out. Getting a better understanding of our sacraments, or the rosary or our statues in our church. There were similarities between the groups and really there was no right or wrong answers, it was what we thought it meant to each of us individually.

As I look at our members, I truly know in my heart that we are all a very giving and loving group, therefore are we Catholic and Living It? Am I a good Catholic and Living It? I would have to say the answer to those questions is a resounding yes.

I am not perfect by any means and, yes, I may not be vocal outside of church, but I do hope that my actions or as in the reading from James, my works, are proof that I truly do Live It.

In the spirit of St. Patrick's Day on Thursday, here is an old Irish proverb that you might have heard already but always worth hearing it again:

May you always have walls  
for the winds, A roof for the  
rain,  
Tea beside  
the fire,  
Laughter  
to cheer  
you,  
Those you love  
near you and  
All your heart  
might desire.

May joy and peace  
surround you,  
Contentment latch  
your door, and  
happiness be with  
you now and bless  
you ever more.