

CONECTA



NOVEMBER
2016

Interprovince
ibvm presence
in Asilah

In this number:

In this number, María López de Haro and Lisiane Magdeleine share with us their experience in Asilah (Morocco).

We celebrate the 25th Anniversary of Fundación Mary Ward working for a better world.

We also remember the October vindications:

- ⇒ International day of the girl,
- ⇒ Catholic church for a decent work,
- ⇒ Demonstrations against poverty
- ⇒ European Day Against Trafficking.

Finally, Blanca Bergareche reflects on the refugees and the question: Who is my brother/sister?

More information in: www.ibvm.es

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Cover image: One of the streets of the Medina in Asilah. The IBVM will celebrate 20 years in Morocco in 2017.

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INTERPROVINCE IBVM PRESENCE IN ASILAH

After deep reflection, the IBVM continues in Asilah. In this new stage, María L. de Haro, and Lisiane Magdeleine, will be in charge of the mission. In February, Clotilde Planteau will join them. We wish her a warm welcome.

María López de Haro (Spanish Province) and Lisiane Magdeleine (Mauritius Province) arrived in Asi-

These activities take place in the Kanissa, and the classes are given by different teachers. Later, in the

Province Leader, stayed with them a few days. The three of them joined other sisters and brothers



María y Lisiane, with the teachers that work in Alisah. They are young women committed to help and educate other women.

lah the last days of September. Since then they have found a lovely welcome, despite some little obstacles linked to administration matters.

The new academic year began in September. They work together with Attadamoun Association offering classes to local women. The illiterate elder women learn Arabic or Dariya (local language) while the youngest ones learn dressmaking, French and Spanish. The goal is giving them skills to find an employment in the Spanish factories working in Tanger.

evening, María and Lisiane help as volunteer teachers.

At the same time, both of them learn Arabic. And besides all this, they also have time for enjoying the charm of this small and nice Atlantic town!.

In the midst of this time Isabel Gortázar, Spanish

from other Congregations in Tanger. All together, they celebrated Mother Teresa of Calcutta's Canonization.



OPEN HOUSE.

Our mission in Asilah is a place open to visits.

We have had different visitors, including Bishop Santiago Agrelo and sister María Rosa (in the picture).



Here, María Lopez and Lisiane, having a traditional tea with Nabila, a friend and worker at the Mission.

Eid al-Adha, Festival of the Sacrifice

The festival of the sacrifice is probably the biggest celebration in the Muslim world, and María and Lisiane had the opportunity to celebrate it with a local Family.

That day, they sacrifice a lamb as thanksgiving, and they have a huge meal, with sweets and tea.



CHILDHOOD IN MOROCCO:

In Asilah, the streets are always full of children and young people. This two sisters are already friends of the Asilah Mission.



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE GIRL

Girls' Progress = Goals' Progress: What Counts for Girls

The theme for this year's International Day of the Girl (11 October) is Girls' Progress = Goals' Progress: What Counts for Girls.

education and rights - in times of peace and crisis - we empower them to reach for their dreams and build

- due to both their age and gender - are complemented with corresponding investments in data on

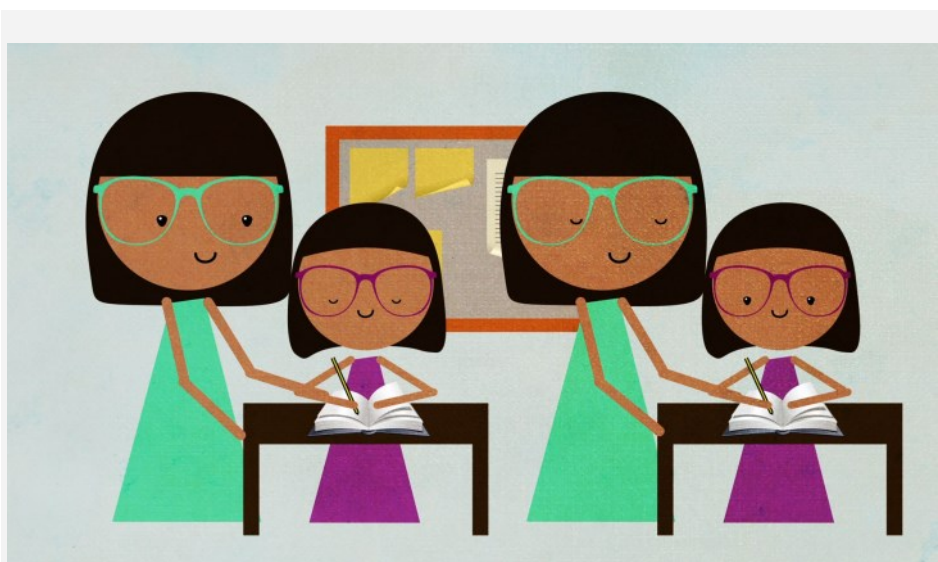


While we can applaud the ambition and potential of the SDGs for girls, and recognize how girls' progress is good not only for girls, but also for families, communities and society at large, we must also take this opportunity to consider how existing gaps in data on girls and young women, lack of systematic analysis, and limited use of existing data significantly limit our ability to monitor and communicate the wellbeing and progress of half of humanity.

Much more can and needs to be done to harness the data required to ensure programs, policies and services effectively respond to the specific needs of girls. When we invest in girls' health, safety, edu-

cation and rights - in times of peace and crisis - we empower them to reach for their dreams and build

girls, can we make real progress towards greater accountability in domains of critical importance to them.



We highly recommend the video done by Fundación Mary Ward to celebrate the International Day of Young girls: <https://goo.gl/U4K0x8>



25TH ANNIVERSARY FMW

Fundación Mary Ward Spain celebrates this year its 25th anniversary. It is a moment of great joy for us, and the next months we will have different activities to commemorate this event.

It was the year 1991 when a group of mothers and fathers from our school in El Soto started an association to help with the projects the IBVM-Spanish province was carrying out in Peru. They named it after Mary Ward and, with the time, students also got involved in it. They created the initiative 'Open Hearts', in order to raise awareness and fundraise for the projects. A lot of things have happened since then. With the time, Fundación Mary Ward started helping other projects of the Institute: in India, Kenia or Albania, no matter where. At the same time, the institution has become more professionalized, keeping the work with volunteers as a matter of principles.



25 AÑOS DE VIDAS QUE CUENTAN



friends.

In order to celebrate, we have set up different activities. On October, we had our annual Solidarity Race, celebrating the 25th Anniversary with a big party, food and music for everybody.



Today, step by step, we find ourselves celebrating the 25th Anniversary. 25 years of cooperation and awareness rising in order to build a better world. Now, we look back and see how the lives of lots of people have changed, and we want to share that with our

Besides, we have elaborated an exposition named '25 years of lives that matter', in which we are going to celebrate the stories of women whose lives have changed thanks to their own effort and the support of Fundación Mary Ward. This exposition, elaborated in the schools with the help of a professional illustrator, will be shown in

Madrid, Seville and Bilbao, and it will be accompanied by a round table in order to explain the stories behind the pictures.



NEW ACADEMIC YEAR

Annual meeting of the IBVM School Teams

On the 16th and 17th of September we had our annual meeting with the six School Teams. It was held in Castilleja de la Cuesta (Seville), and it was a time for thinking all together about the present and the future. Time for sharing new ways of teaching. This year María Teresa and M^a Jose Muguerza, both ibvm, have started a formation programme about Mary Ward's Charisma and IBVM, which will be continued with the staff members in our Schools.

They 'cooked' a paella (Spanish meal that contains not only rice but many different ingredients) just to remind that we have to work together and how important every ingredient is in order to enrich the whole meal.



FUEGO NUEVO

'Fuego nuevo' is the youth movement in the Spanish Province. Every Summer, we organize camps and different activities. Now, the Fuego Nuevo leaders are already preparing the activities for 2017.



Challenges in Communication

Last September, I took part in a workshop called "Communication in Religious Congregations" organized by CONFER (Religious Conference in Spain).

We worked about the challenges in this "new digital continent" which surrounds us. Our speakers were Javier Valiente, Salesian Brothers, and Ana Guirao, Caritas Spain.

Javier reminded us that "we have no other option than communicating. So, it's a must".

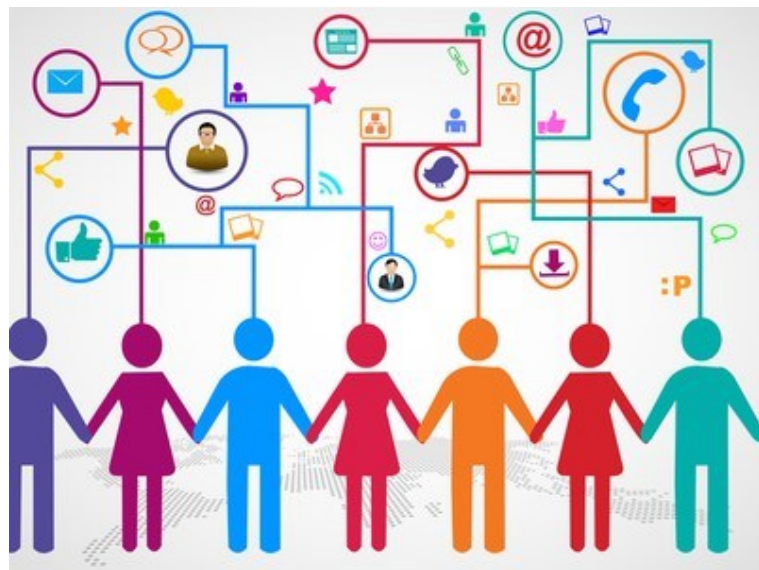
In order to make it possible, the leadership needs to be clear about

how important it is to have an structure, with enough personnel and technical supports to make it possible.

Ana talked about the crisis situation. According to her experience, all institutions have already had a crisis, or they are going to have it. So, it depends on us if we want

to be ready or not. We need to have different strategies to help us minimising the risks.

AURORA MORENO



WHO IS MY BROTHER AND SISTER?

I attended a workshop called *"Forced displacements: a feminist analysis of its causes"* by CEAR (Committee for refugees). I attended this workshop because it seems to be that this topic has disappeared from our daily newspapers, chats...

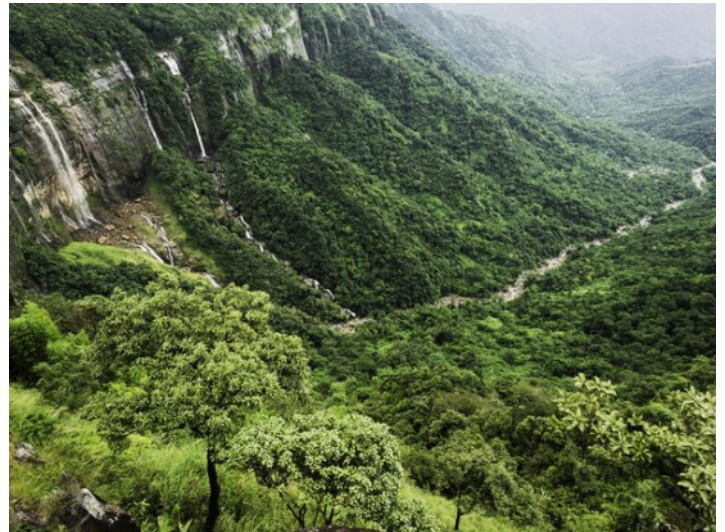
The people gathered there were women from different lay institutions working or concerned about refugees. First of all, I discovered my ignorance confusing emigrant and refugee.

We consider 'refugees' those people that have been obliged to leave their homes because of political, economic or even religious

circumstances.

On the other hand, migrations respond to a need, but it is usually the consequence of another human rights violation: climate change, land grabbing, political persecution... something that makes it impossible for them to live there.

At the end of the day, they are exactly the same.



And for women, it is always worse. They are victims of poverty and violence, and often they are physically and mentally abused.

/ **BLANCA BERGARECHE**

A SUSTAINABLE WORK

In a world where having a job is becoming more insecure and some salaries are not enough to make a living, we must claim for a sustainable work. And it must be not only a matter of good practices but also be promoted and monitored by law.

Jornada Mundial por el Trabajo Decente

7 de Octubre 2016



INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST POVERTY



17th of October is International Day against Poverty. We had demonstrations all around the country, against the causes of poverty, like the FTA. The idea is to promote a world where people and environment are more important than big multinationals, as Pope Francis says.

AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING

IBVM took part in the European Day Against Human Trafficking organized by a group of religious organizations. During the event, there were different talks by specialized people who work in this issue. Cardinal Carlos Osoro (Madrid) said we have to address trafficking persons as a "crime against humanity".

La Trata de Seres Humanos: una realidad invisible

Grupo Intereclesial sobre Trata

22 octubre 2016

Parroquia Nuestra Señora del Pilar
Calle Juan Bravo 40, Madrid
(Entrada libre)



CONFER JP Caritas Española amaraanta FUNDACIÓN CRUZ BLANCA

Con la colaboración de la Sección de Trata de la Comisión Episcopal de Migraciones

REFLECTION DAY IN CASTILLEJA (SEVILLE)



Every year, Ex Alumnii from Seville organize a Retirement weekend in Castilleja. This time, it was directed by María Teresa Vorcy, ibvm. It was a very interesting time reflecting and thinking about Mary Ward Spirituality.

‘Religious life in the light of the GC Calls 2014’



On the 19th and 20th November, the Spanish Province and two CJ members, gathered in Madrid accompanied by Gemma Simmonds, cj. The two days were led in a very reflective way, giving us opportunities to reflect on our own, in small groups and in the plenary about Religious life in the light of our present reality and the GC Calls 2014.

It was inspirational, and there was a general feeling of having taken a new step together.



Forever in our memory

Fabiola Dastis Freyre, (Jerez de la Frontera, 1921– Madrid, 2016)

Last 28th of August we farewell our beloved Fabiola, after a long life in IBVM, where she entered at an early age. She passed away in El Soto after a long sickness. She was so aware about it that she took the time prepare her own booklet to be used at her funeral. She had time to say goodbye to her sisters and friends. We were all very touched and impressed by her courage.

