

# CONECTA

February 2017



# In this number

In this number we cover a very especial visit: the one Pilar González's made to his holiness the pope Francisco. The event was framed in Second European Assembly of RENATE, held in Rome, last 6-12th November 2016.

We also remember the meeting of the Spanish province with Gemma Simmonds, CJ, to reflect together about consecrated life today in the light of the G.C. Calls.

María López de Haro, from Asilah (Morocco), tells us how the Interprovincial Mission evolves with herself, from Spain, and Clotilde and Lisiane, from Mauritius.

Finally, you can find some notes from the presentation María López gave in Sevilla, about Mary Ward's beatification process and Ursula Dirmeier's book 'In the presence of God', translated into Spanish by María.

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**Cover image:** Detail of one of the posters of Renate for its II Assembly. A reminder to the victims of migrations, closely related to human trafficking.

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## II ASSEMBLY OF RENATE IN ROME 2016

The Second International Assembly of Renate (Religious in Europe Networking Against Trafficking and Exploitation) was held in Rome, in November 2016. headed by Imelda Poole, ibvm. Pope Francisco met them and congratulated the network for their work.



Pope Francisco with members of Renate in Rome, November 2016.

The penultimate week of Jubilee Year of Mercy (6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> of November 2016) when the Vatican hosted prisoners and passers-by at its celebrations, 133 members of Renate from 27 European countries meet.

During those days we had many talks, workshops and different activities with an intense schedule. Especially appreciate and touching was the meeting we had with Pope Francisco. He expressed to the head of Renate, Imelda Poole,

ibvm, his gratitude and wished us a fruitful encounter. His holiness said that “Human trafficking is seen “with some indifference and even complicity”. It is crucial to end with the “new slavery”.

**PILAR G. CANO**



Pilar González Cano, ibvm, with his holiness Pope Francisco.



Imelda Poole, ibvm, during a visit to pope in 2013.

# NEWS FROM ASILAH

**María López, ibvm, keeps us informed on the news from the first interprovincial mission of the Institute.**

Since the 30<sup>th</sup> January we have the joy of welcoming a new member in the community: Clotilde de Maroussen, just arrived from Mauritius.

As soon as she arrived, she left for Rabat together with Lisiane to attend an Introductory Course for those newly arrived at the Catholic Mission in Morocco. She returned to Asilah on the 3<sup>th</sup> February, the same day María returned from Spain and, finally, the three of them met as a Community.

The 9th February we celebrated Mary Ward Day, it was a nice day and a happy meeting, sharing a lovely meal in Tangier. "We changed from the daily routine and got a lot of energy to keep going", one of them said.

**MARÍA L. DE HARO**



The week of 13 to 18 February, Isabel Gortazar, Spanish Province Leader, visited Asilah's Mission to welcome Clotilde of Maroussen.





# MARY WARD: A WOMAN OF GOD AND A WOMAN OF OUR TIME

On the 31<sup>st</sup> January the book of Ursula Dirmeier, CJ, "In the Presence of God", translated into Spanish by María López, ibvm, was launched in Seville, with great success.



From left to right: Araceli Sánchez León, M<sup>a</sup> López de Haro, ibvm, Luis García de Tejada and M<sup>a</sup> Teresa Vorcy, ibvm.

On 31 January, on the occasion of Mary Ward's Week, the Association of Alumni from Seville organized a conference at the Valentin de Madariaga Foundation which brought together more than 100 people eager to listen to María López de Haro, ibvm, explaining the news about the Cause of beatification of Mary Ward.

The occasion served also for the presentation of the book "In the Presence of God" by Ursula Dirmeier CJ, which María López has translated herself into Spanish and invited us to immerse ourselves into the spirituality of the Foundress.

The leaflet prayer for the beatification of Mary Ward was also distributed among the many assistants.

After the conference, we had a small cocktail in the patio of the Foundation where we were able



More than 100 people filled the Conference Center.

to change impressions and strengthen ties between the sisters from the Castilleja Community, former Students and teaching staff of the three schools of Seville.

**PILAR OSBORNE**



The book 'En la presencia de Dios'. Photo: Pilar Osborne.

# MARY WARD'S ESPIRITUALITY

We keep going on with our initiative of sharing, publishing and making Mary Ward's spirituality known, and we make it through phrases and reflections that our Foundress left written. People who want to receive into their mailbox can subscribe [here](#). We have a team of 15 people more or less that make this possible, looking for images and reflections for every day.

«Muéstrate siempre contenta y alegre,  
porque Dios ama al que da con alegría» Mary Ward.



"Estoy inclinada a ceder a todo lo que agrada a los sentidos"  
#EspiritualidadMaryWard



"Con esta  
mirada,  
me senti feliz".

EspiritualidadMaryWard



LO QUE INTERIORMENTE ME PERTURBA E INQUIETA NO VIENE DE DIOS,  
PORQUE EL ESPÍRITU DE DIOS TRAE SIEMPRE CONSIGO LIBERTAD Y GRAN PAZ.

#EspiritualidadMaryWard





## OUR SCHOOLS



Last December **Nuestra Señora de Loreto School, in Seville**, celebrated its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Children made beautiful posters to remember all the sisters that have worked there during this four decades.



**Castilleja School, in Seville**: During Mary Ward Week, children from this school got to know closer our Foundress, through the collection of her life in paintings.



**BVM Cullera School, in Madrid**: Regional TV channel visited the school to interview Jorge Largo, a teacher involved



**BVM Bami School, in Seville**: Students from Bami School visited the exhibition that Mary Ward Foundation inaugurated last January in Seville, "Stories that change History", about women who have overcome their difficulties with the support of the IBVM and the MWF.



**El Soto school, in Madrid**: under the motto "Cuenta tu vida, tu vida cuenta" (Tell your life, your life counts).

El Soto school celebrated 'Social Justice World Day'.

## WORKSHOP IN BILBAO ‘COUNT YOUR LIFE’

Blanca Bergareche, ibvm, had a gathering with a group of ex alumni and school Friends to share together the meaning of “Cuenta tu vida, tu vida cuenta”.



## IF YOU LOOK AFTER THE PLANET, YOU FIGHT POVERTY SET OF COMMANDMENTS

- 1) Support the cause of the poor.
- 2) Rediscover the value of simplicity in your own life.
- 3) Value the importance of your daily behaviors.
- 4) Appreciate the diversity of our World.
- 5) Encourage personal, ecclesial and community conversions.
- 6) Promote the necessary decisions, even if they are expensive.
- 7) Do not subordinate your action to the economic interests.
- 8) Explore into your own spiritual tradition.
- 9) Assume the scientific consensus.
- 10) Overcome the technocratic paradigm.



Our work with the Decalogue of actions “If you look after the planet, you fight poverty” of the campaign ‘Enlázate por la Justicia’ (Get connected for Justice) continues. WE invite you to deepen in the objective number 3: value the importance of your daily behaviours.

Blanca Bergareche, ibvm, took the decision to change and improve her habits taking into account the planet and the people who live on it. Here is what she wrote: “One of my daily behaviours is to travel by tube or public transport, instead of using the car, and when possible I try to walk. Thus, I kill two birds with one stone, saving energy and burning calories”.

We take this opportunity to thank Blanca for her testimony and we encourage you to join in the Decalogue for Actions. Each of these key points will be our focus for the two months ahead.