

JUNE 2015



# In this number

In this number we talk about Trafficking. On July, the women of RENATE (Network of Religious in Europe working against Trafficking) visited Madrid. They attended to a training in Intervention and integration of Victims of Trafficking and Pilar González Cano, ibvm, assisted also to the workshop. Now, she shares with us the topics they talked about.

We also interview Mari Paz Herrera, ibvm, who collaborates with Proyecto Hombre Seville, an organization that offers a response to people with problems of drug abuse and addiction.

Besides, we share information about the provincial meetings and the JPIC activities we support from the IBVM.

More information in: [www.ibvm.es](http://www.ibvm.es)

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## CONTENIDOS



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VOLUNTEERING WITH WOMEN	3
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ENDING TRAFFICKING BEGINS WITH YOU	4
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ON GOING FORMATION	6
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MARY WARD SPIRITUALITY	7
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WE ENDORSE	8
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Cover image: Detail of **Black Tears Project**, an initiative by Proyecto Esperanza and Fundación Amaranta to rise awareness against trafficking.  
<http://goo.gl/KOXlw6>

## VOLUNTEERING WITH WOMEN

Three years ago, Mari Paz Herrera, ibvm, started to collaborate with Proyecto Hombre in Seville (an association that offers a response to the problems of drug abuse and addiction). There, she works mainly with women in process of rehabilitation. What she does is to share her time with these women, mainly on weekends.

On Saturdays, they do the housework, with the objective of getting elementary routines, like cooking or brushing their teeth. In the afternoon, they have leisure time to share: watch a movie, chat or go for a walk. Sometimes, they organize cultural visits

On Mondays, Mari Paz offers also a workshop on values, following the book *The ten secrets of Abundant Happiness*. "They read one chapter everyday; after that, they talk, reflect and share experience about their own life. This is one of the activities they like most, because it's an opportunity to talk and express their feelings", explains Mari Paz.



**Mari Paz, with some of the women in rehabilitation and the director of the Centre. In the second picture, Mari Paz, having lunch with other volunteers.**

In the same way, she loves talking about her job with these women, a hard but always gratifying labour, that she does with a

big smile in her face. A work that she shares with other volunteers, mainly women, as you can see in the pictures.



Proyecto Hombre was born in 1985 "as a supportive answer with regard to the treatment of heroin epidemic. The objective is to offer an adequate social, humanistic and supportive response to the problems of drug abuse and addiction. Moreover, one of the major objectives has been to adapt to the realities of the people who suffer from these problems (not just those receiving treatment but families, couples, friends, colleagues...).

# “ENDING TRAFFICKING BEGINS WITH YOU”

The European network of religious working against human trafficking and exploitation has celebrated its training in Intervention and integration of Victims of Trafficking in Madrid. Pilar González Cano, ibvm, has assisted to the training. She tell us the topics they have talked about.



RENATE celebrated their meeting in the Adorers house in Spain on the first week of July.

The formation was given by great experts, like Helena Maleno (researcher on Trafficking in Human Beings, fully committed to Human Rights promotion in Morocco, who accompanied migrants in their ordeal) Marta González, (coordinator of Esperanza Project, an initiative by the Adorers,) and Ángela Sánchez-Barbuda, from Fundación Amaranta.

Imelda Poole, ibvm and RENATE's president, introduced the meeting explaining how we have evolved through the last years, how we have given important steps in order to be more aware of this new slavery. Precisely because we need to rise awareness

in our society, the slogan chosen by RENATE for this 2015 is: “Ending Trafficking starts with you”.

And the awareness can be made any time and any where, by all of us.

## **The most vulnerable**

The training has allowed us to share experiences and reflexions on the reality of the victims.

The most vulnerable people of the planet call us to pay attention to them. And we have a long way ahead: from awareness to prayer, from prayer to solidarity, and from solidarity to social action.

But, in order to develop an intervention process based on human rights, we must understand the phenomenon from its origins.

WE must remember that there are not standardized profiles of victims, just life stories. We must understand the person from his or her deeper motivation: process are different for each person. It depends on the origin, needs, dreams, country of origin, destiny...

Empathy with the whole process of exploitation is essential to provide effective help. The human rights approach makes us to put the person at the centre of our work.

We must also work all together and be part of the network fighting against trafficking. They are already doing it at Caritas, Confer, JPIC... For that reason, networking was encouraged through informal meeting spaces between speakers and partici-

pants in the meeting.

### Reasons to migrate

We were told by Helena Maleno their experiences in Morocco. She told us their about the reasons to migrate. Some people are forced to do it, others do it for personal or economic reasons; some of them know the risks, others don't...

The trip is difficult and the borders also.

Finally, when these women and men get to go back to their homes, they need all the capacities and help to have a safe return.

Besides, it's very important to offer integration workshops with an intercultural approach. The person must always be in the centre of the process. /

**PILAR GONZÁLEZ CANO**

## VISIT TO EL SOTO COMMUNITY

After the RENATE meeting, Imelda Poole, ibvm working in Albania against trafficking, visited our community in El Soto (Madrid) with her workmates. It was an opportunity to meet and chat with old Friends, like María Teresa (in the picture), and also for other sisters it was an opportunity to know more about Albania, a country where women are working hard to improve their lives and their future.



# ON GOING FORMATION

During this year, we have celebrated different workshops about quality listening, conflict management and reconciliation spirituality, driven by Oliva Vico, dominicus religious.

Meetings to get to know deeper our live, to have tools to manage conflict and face reality.



## IBVM SPANISH PROVINCE ASSEMBLY



After a General Congregation, every Province celebrates its Provincial Assembly. In Spain we did it last October, in Madrid. During the meeting, the delegates pre-

sented the Calls adopted by the GC, the new Generalate and others decisions and reflections taken during the meeting.

Besides, we celebrated a ritual of the Calls, we had a virtual con-

nexion with Cecilia and we organised an emotive farewell ceremony to celebrate the new mission of Macarena Fernández de Bobadilla, in the General Council.



# Espiritualidad de Mary Ward Comunidad

## MARY WARD'S SPIRITUALITY

Now, you can also find Mary Ward's Spirituality on the Net.

In our Facebook page we will share reflections, sayings, images and our Comment on the Gospel.

Find us in: [www.facebook.com/EspiritualidadMaryWard](http://www.facebook.com/EspiritualidadMaryWard)



## SUMMER CAMP FOR MONITORS



'God is not closed on holidays'. That's the slogan of our summer camp for monitors, because they also work on holidays, taking care of children during the activities, camps and excursions.

The main objective is allow them to have some time for themselves, because they also need "spaces and time to grow, learn and enjoy after the work they do during the course".

The meeting will have place on July in our house in Cercedilla.

## CHURCH UNITED FOR DECENT JOB

In May, celebrating the International Workers Day, we endorsed the declaration of the catholic-inspiration organisations for a decent work.

"There is no deeper material poverty than which deprives people from the dignity of labour and their daily business". **"Youth unemployment, informal labour and the lack of labour rights are not unavoidable, they are the result of a previous social option from an economic system that prefers benefit rather than people"**. These are some words on labour and its impact on

people's life from Pope Francis, who once again looks back on this topic.

Labour is crucial for achieving one's vocation and for acknowledging people's sacred dignity. Through labour, we can build social and political life and contribute to God's design for humankind. Dignity is injured when labour lacks.

Therefore, it is vital to place everyone's need for decent labour on first place on our organisations' agendas. It must appear in the political agenda, as well as in the social and business entities' and in



our own personal one. Not to forget in the agenda of our Church's proposals.

## 25 MAY: AFRICA DAY

In cooperation with REDES (Network of organizations for Solidarity Development), we celebrated Africa Day, remembering the real causes of the poverty in the continent. For example, resources grabbing (land, water, minerals...) and tax evasion (Africa loses every year around 39.000 million dollar). Moreover, we remembered the migrants and refugees that every year have to flee their countries because of the war, religious intolerance, economic necessity or no other freedoms.



## 5 JUNE : WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

From the IBVM in United Nations, Cecilia O' Dwyer encouraged us to celebrate the Environmental Day focusing on our own responsibilities. An opportunity to reflect on our day to day actions and how to change them in order to make a more sustainable planet.



Día Mundial del Medio Ambiente 2015  
**Siete mil millones de sueños.  
 Un solo planeta.  
 Consume con moderación.**  
 Junio 5