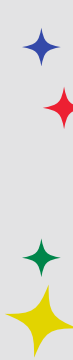


# CONNECTA



We learn about ecological projects, ecological houses, seminars on ecology...

**OUR GREENEST NEWSLETTER**



**Conecta** was the internal bulletin of the Spanish Province of the IBVM, but from its 100th issue, it adapts to the new times in which the IBVM and the CJ have decided to become ONE by Canonical Merger. It is now the Bulletin of the Spanish Province of the IBVM and CJ. The two existing branches of the Institute founded by Mary Ward.

They are two religious communities inspired by Mary Ward, who want to live their spirituality and share it with the people they live and work with.







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

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## Cover photos:

Old images of the beginnings of the Mary Ward School in Badalona, Catalonia.

# CJ Community in Badalona



## An energy-efficient house

**C**urrent parameters determining the efficiency of a dwelling are CO<sub>2</sub> emissions into the atmosphere and non-renewable primary energy consumption.

At the residence of the Congregation of Jesus Community in Badalona, efforts have been

made to minimize these two criteria. The following measures have been taken:

- Eliminating the gas installation and replacing it with an electrical installation.

- Installing thermal insulation throughout the building envelope to reduce heating demand in winter and cooling demand in summer. This is complemen-

ted by individual room installations, allowing each person to choose the temperature of their bedroom. The installed air conditioning units are high-performance and low-consumption.

- Producing domestic hot water using AEROTHERMIA, currently the most efficient way to heat water.

- Installing LED lighting throu-



CJs María Paz, Bernarda and Teresa together with a teacher and two former teachers of the school, in the efficient community of Badalona.



ghout the residence.

- Installing curtains that reduce the room temperature by up to 2-3 degrees in summer.

All of the above translates into greater comfort in the residence at a lower economic cost.

Besides energy savings, there is also environmental sustainability and the scarcity of natural resources such as water. In large homes, where the distance from the domestic hot water heater to the point of use is significant, many liters of water are wasted. What has been installed at the Badalona Community is DOMESTIC HOT WATER

RECIRCULATION. This system ensures that hot water is as close as possible to the point of use, so from the moment the tap is turned on until the hot water reaches it, the loss is minimal. It can be said that we obtain hot water almost instantly.

The advantages of the hot water recirculation system are as follows:

- Hot water is available whenever needed.
- Water savings.
- Consistent hot water temperature.
- The components of the recirculation system are simple and easy to install.

- It is efficient since, being automatic, the system operates only when the temperature drops, until the programmed temperature is reached, and then it turns off automatically.

- It can be automated, making it even more efficient by studying a home's hot water usage and further limiting recirculation, turning it off during hours when hot water is not used.

JULIA MARÍA LEÓN NAVARRO,  
Architect

# Colombia Foundation, ecumenical Project A Journey Toward Christian Unity



The group of lay people from the Colombia Foundation project, during their stay in El Espinar, where Pilar González-Cano was able to learn more about this ecumenical project

Since 2020, the Colombia Foundation has been working on an ecumenism project in Santiago de Cali, Colombia. This effort has been led by María José, Agueda and Cristhing, who have collaborated with a group of lay people committed to promoting Christian unity. During these years, the project has grown and evolved, achieving significant advances and recognition.

The project began in 2020 when Maria Jose, Agueda and Cristhing became aware of the

strong desire of a group of lay people in Cali to deepen the ecumenical field. Taking advantage of the online trainings of the Julian Garcia Hernando Ecumenical Center in Madrid, they began to train this group on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Patricia Elena Monsalve was instrumental in organizing a group of lay people, who committed themselves to pray and train in ecumenism. This initiative received the support of Father D. Ángel Ayllón, ecclesial assistant, who welcomed the project and encouraged to continue with the formation and promotion of ecumenism.

In 2021, the Missionaries of Unity decided that Cristhing would travel to Colombia to promote vocations and strengthen the project. During her stay, she met with CELAM in Bogotá, visited the Sisters Daughters of the Fiat in Medellín and had a meeting in Cali with Father D. Bernardo Arturo Caicedo Velasco and the group of lay people who during those months had already grown and continued steadfast in their ecumenical formation project.

After the trip, they considered the need for a formal presence of the Missionaries of Unity in Colombia to support

vocation promotion and the expansion of the charism. They decided that Father Bernardo Arturo Caicedo Velasco would spiritually accompany the group in Cali.

In 2022, the “Colombia Project” was organized with the help of Mr. Humberto Escobar Torres, an expert in ecumenism and doctor of theology. This project formalized the lay association under the name “Christians for Unity”. María José, Agueda and Cristhing traveled to Cali in July to meet with the group and present themselves to the diocese, being received by Auxiliary Bishop Luis Fernando Rodríguez.

During this meeting, positions were established within the association: Patricia Elena as president, Zully as treasurer and Alida Amparo as secretary. It was also decided that the group should have a neutral place for its meetings, instead of associating with a single parish.

## Recognition & Development

On January 17, 2023, Bishop Luis Fernando Rodríguez formally accepted the Missionaries of Unity in the Archdiocese of Cali. In April, he visited Spain and met with Missionaries María Jose, Agueda, Cristhing and Sandra Elena. At the end of June, members of the association attended the ecumenical meeting “El Espinar” in Spain.

After this, Cristhing returned to Colombia with the priest D. Roberto Baker, who offered his help in the ecumenical work. The search for a place of its own for the association was discussed, with specific characteristics



A group of lay people from Fundación Colombia

such as a chapel, office, archive, meeting room and space for formation.

In September, Cristhing met with the Cali ecumenism delegate, Eduardo Lara, to discuss the need for serious ecumenical contacts and the importance of avoiding involvement with sects and proselytizing “churches” that do not promote serious ecumenism.

In December 2023, Cristhing had several meetings in Bogotá and Cali to strengthen the network. He met with Mauricio, representative of the Orthodox Church in Colombia, and with the delegate of ecumenism of the Episcopal Conference of Colombia. He also had his first contact with the Methodist Church of Cali and Archimandrite Crisóstomo Arias.

In January 2024, Missionary Cristhing returned to Spain, making it clear that the project had to move forward with care and prayer, ensuring that the

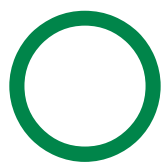
seed planted would grow firmly. Among the pending tasks are the creation of an official logo for the association, fostering links with other denominations, inviting new members and developing an ecumenical directory for the Archdiocese of Cali.

The ecumenism project in Santiago de Cali has come a long way since 2020. Thanks to the leadership of Maria Jose, Agueda, Cristhing and other key collaborators, the project has succeeded in establishing a solid foundation for the promotion of Christian unity. With formal recognition from the Archdiocese of Cali and the continued support of the local community, the future of the project is promising. The dedication and commitment of everyone involved ensures that this effort for Christian unity will continue to grow and prosper.

PILAR GONZÁLEZ-CANO,  
IBVM

# Finally we celebrate!

## Maria Ward Badalona School



In October 11, 2022, it was the 60th anniversary of the opening of the Maria Ward School in Badalona. Improvement works at the entrance and the new dining hall prevented it from being celebrated at that time.

Thus, the celebration took place on June 1st with a Eucharist officiated by Father Jordi, the parish priest of Sant Antoni de Llefià, sung by the Mary Ward Choir of Barcelona. This was followed by a reception for the guests, an emotional commemorative ceremony, expressions of gratitude, and a subsequent refreshment gathering.

The event was attended by the president of the Mary Ward Educational Foundation Board,

Elena Cerdeiras, IBVM; the provincial superior, Pilar Urretavizcaya, CJ; the General Director of the Mary Ward Educational Foundation, Teresa Clemente, and Nùria Santacana, a board member. Among a large representation of CJ religious sisters, Cecilia O'Dwyer, IBVM, was also present.

Special guests included the Honorable Mr. Xavier García Albiol, Mayor of Badalona; the second deputy mayor, Cristina Agüero Gago; the Councilor for Education, Vanessa González Cejudo; the coordinator of the education council, Jose Manuel López González; and representing the FECC, Eva Juncosa Samitier, representatives of the Neighborhood Association, the Brotherhood of the Holy Christ and the Virgin of Sorrows, the

parish Caritas, and other parish collaborators.

We were also joined by architect Julia León, Ana Rancaño as a representative of the construction company Tatsima, María Paz Freijanes and Alberto Alegret as collaborators in the early stages of recovering the metro spaces, and Montse Montal, a former student from Barcelona, witness to the entire construction project of the Badalona school.

The event brought together former teachers, the current AMPA (Parents' Association), as well as other collaborators. The members of the current educational community of the school were also present.

**MWEF MANAGEMENT TEAM**

# Sister Earth Garden

*On 9 June, Carmen Hormaechea and Flora Magro from the IBVM wanted to get a closer look at a project for the social and labour insertion of migrants, which the Capuchins have in El Pardo, Madrid, implemented and managed through their NGO SERCADE.*



**F**or some months now, through our JPIC coordinator, we have been developing a collaboration plan with the Mary Ward Centre in Toronto, in a radio programme aimed at Spanish-speaking immigrants,

both those who are already in Canada and those who are preparing to undertake the migration project to Canada or Spain. The programme 'No hay trato con la Trata' is broadcast on many local radio stations throughout Latin America.

In order to talk in the programme about the

attention that exists for the migrant population in Spain, either by public administrations or by NGOs, we interviewed María López, who works in a Capuchin project, carried out through SERCADE (SERvicio CAPuchino para el DESarrollo) in El Pardo, Madrid. We were accompanied by Carmen

Hormaechea and Flora Magro, IBVM Sisters who were interested in learning more about this fantastic work.

The project is called Huerto Hermana Tierra and is a socio-occupational insertion project for the migrant population. There we discovered that they focused mainly on sub-Saharan African migrants, but their words could be equally useful for Latin Americans who plan to travel to Spain to try to find a better future, because they revealed a reality that arises from the cruelest part of the system in which we live, but at the same time of great humanity.

### **Inmigration legislation**

Due to the current Inmigration legislation in Spain and the bureaucratic and other obstacles imposed by the administration, migrants find themselves in an intricate impasse in order to escape from a situation of total lack of protection and vulnerability.

According to this legislation, the irregular population needs to prove that they have been in Spain for the last three years in order to be able to start the regularisation procedure for length of residence, which would allow them to obtain a work permit. But overcoming these three years is an odyssey. Surviving in the informal economy where they often suffer exploitation and abuse. In addition to always running the risk of being detained by the police, taken to a detention centre for foreigners and deported.

People avoided these three



years of hell by applying for refugee or asylum status as soon as they arrived in the country, since by the mere fact of having requested an appointment to carry out this procedure, the person could be hired to work while waiting for the outcome of their application, which could take years; and above all, they could not be deported by the police. Once the appointment arrived, if they were denied asylum, they could present their pay slips and regularise their situation through employment.

Many months ago, the Spanish public administration decided to freeze appointments to apply for asylum and refuge, which

”  
*This project combines two things: we take care of the land and we take care of the people*

---

means that neither irregular people nor those fleeing war or situations in which their lives are in danger can avail themselves of this fundamental human right.

”

*It is a way of interweaving the people who arrive with the people who are here. So that they get to know and understand each other, it's a real rapprochement*

The state, regional or municipal administrations offer services to the migrant population, but this is totally

insufficient, so the gap is filled by NGOs, one of which, SERCADE, where María works. She explains that while NGOs fill the gaps in state assistance, a large part of their funding comes from state subsidies, so in the end citizens' personal income tax goes back into this type of service as well, although many NGOs are privately funded.

There are organisations of many kinds, including legal support, social and/or labour insertion, such as yours, psychological support, language support, etc.

### **Three intertwined projects**

SERCADE has three intertwined projects.

The first is the Afriqué project, which is in the centre of Madrid. There, 60 or 70 people can be received every

day. There is a legal service, Spanish classes, internet to be able to communicate with relatives etc, facilities to shower, have a coffee, etc and they help you to find a place to sleep, shelters etc, because many of these people end up on the streets. This migration is very traumatic, they are very traumatic journeys. In the first reception they are also given a helping hand, sometimes with psychologists.

The second project is for residential resources, which is very insufficient, 'we only have 28 places in total, I wish we could have more, but for the moment, that's all there is', says María.

And thirdly, there is the project we visited on 9 June, the Hermana Tierra Ecological Orchard, which is a socio-labour insertion project. Here they hire 'kids from the





residence or from the flats who are already employable, because they have achieved social roots (which includes being able to work) or because they are among those people who have applied for asylum and their appointment is up in the air', explains María.

'It is a 2-hectare vegetable garden, producing organic vegetables, and it only provides for 3 workers. Now we

are going to start a hen house with 150 hens, which would allow for another contract, and we are also going to start an insertion project through the installation of solar panels. All of this will be a group of about 10 employed people, who will be rotated, because here they not only learn the specificity of the work they are doing, such as ecological agriculture, but they also acquire other skills

necessary for employment, such as commitment, responsibility, punctuality, teamwork, proactivity.... They are here for two and a half to three years and then they jump into the normal market. Because they already have documentation and can accredit work experience'.

María is convinced that work is what changes people's lives, because even if they

have the minimum wage, they can make plans for the present and the future, and she continues, 'I love this project because it combines two fundamental things: we take care of people and we take care of the land. Even our vegetables are lovingly planted!

### **Raising awareness live and direct**

Finally, we cannot forget another fundamental part of the project called Huerto Hermana Tierra, which is to raise awareness in two directions: one about the need to take care of the land and the other about migration.

In El Pardo they receive groups from companies, schools and institutes, a lot of people! And they work with these groups on how climate change is connected to migration, they work in our garden and we do activities where we talk about how African countries have been so depleted that now their youth are forced to leave to look for livelihoods outside their homes. 'It's a way of connecting the people who are coming with the people who are here. So that they get to know and understand each other, it's a real rapprochement'. Maria doesn't let us leave without reminding us that the Huerto Hermana Tierra is an open project 'and we love it when people come!

After the visit, we can say that the love is mutual, we also enjoyed a lot that morning and we learned many interesting things.



# An Integral Approach to Sustainability

**Ecological Education - WEBINAR**

**June 18th**

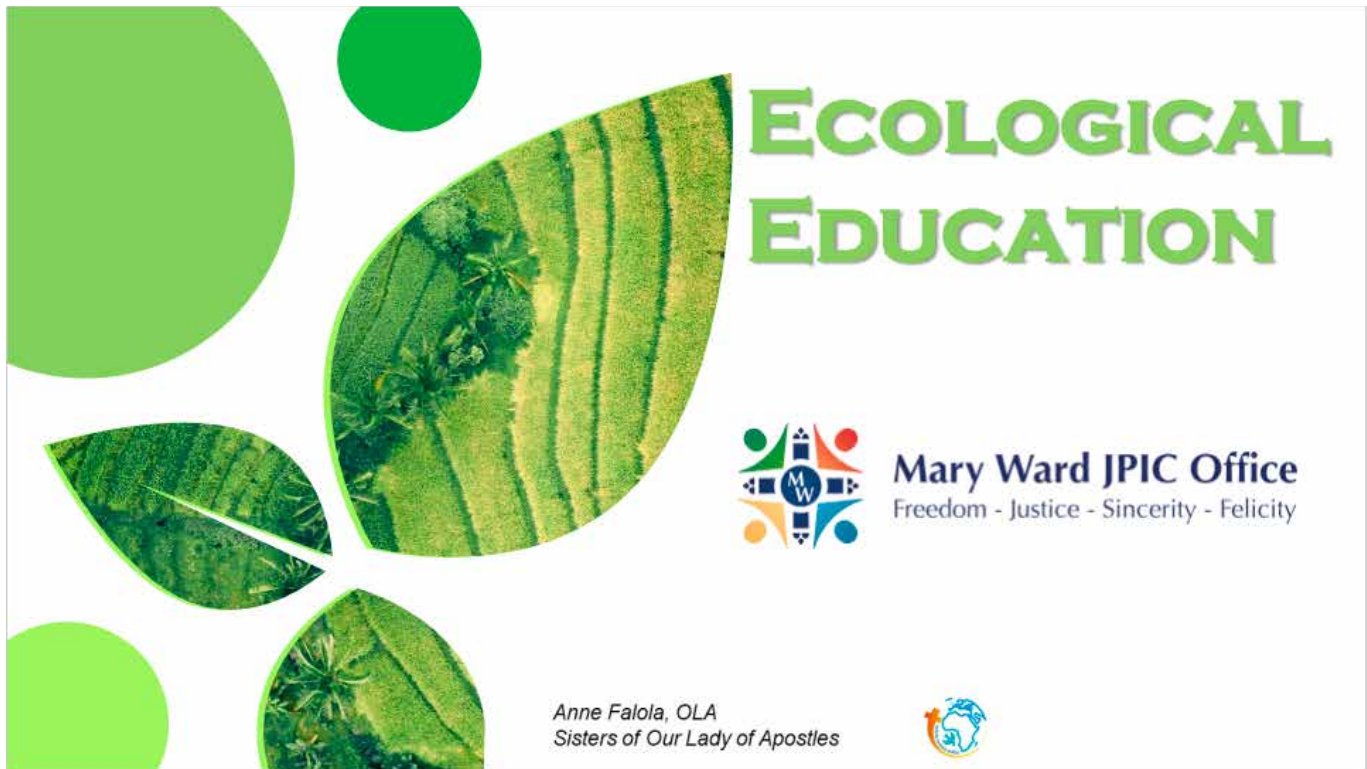
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7:30 AM - 8:30 AM EST  
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM IST  
11:30 PM - 12:30 AM AEST  
9:30 PM - 10:30 PM KST

Interpretation into Spanish available  
Interpretación al español disponible

**Special guest:**  
**Sr. Anne Falola, OLA**

*The Mary Ward JPIC office organised a virtual meeting entitled 'Ecological Education' by Anne Falola, a missionary of Our Lady of the Apostles. Falola has a BA in Guidance & Counselling and an MA in Christian Spirituality from Heythrop College, University of London. She has worked in her native Nigeria, in Argentina and in the UK, and is currently General Councillor of her congregation in Rome. We offer a summary of her enriching presentation.*

**E**cological education is fundamental in the formation of environmentally conscious and responsible citizenship. This educational process seeks to create a deep understanding of the interactions between organisms and their environment, equipping people with the knowledge and mindset to



Anne Falola, OLA  
Sisters of Our Lady of Apostles

act as responsible stewards of the planet. This education can be provided in a variety of settings such as schools, parishes, social centres, political arenas, markets and health centres – it is a subject that needs to be integrated into all aspects of life.

Ecology, as a science, studies how organisms interact with each other and with their environment. It examines multiple levels, from individual organisms to populations, communities, ecosystems and the biosphere. Ecological education promotes understanding of these interactions, highlighting their relevance to the sustainability of the planet.

Ecologically literate people are better equipped to make informed and environmentally conscious decisions in their personal and professional lives. It also fosters a sense of responsibility and connection to the natural world, which is

crucial for addressing global challenges such as climate change, habitat loss and pollution.

However, ecological education faces a number of challenges. Increasing urbanisation in cities makes it difficult

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*Ecologically literate people are better equipped to make informed and conscious decisions in their personal and informed and conscious decisions in their personal and professional lives*

for people to connect with nature, leading to abuse and overuse of harmful products and practices.

Poverty also plays an important role, as the poorest suffer more from the consequences of the ecological crisis and have fewer options to make environmentally friendly choices. In addition, consumerism and capitalism, with their culture of waste and profit maximisation, represent a major obstacle to sustainable living. Ignorance and lack of ecological education exacerbate these problems, making it necessary to raise awareness at all levels: religious, political, cultural and scientific.

To address these challenges, ecological education adopts various approaches, as hands-on experiences, such as field trips and nature activities, are essential to connect students with the natural environment.

Integrating ecological concepts into various subjects shows the interconnectedness of ecosystems with other disciplines, fostering holistic thinking. Project-based learning encourages students to take an active role in solving real environmental challenges, while the involvement of ecological and conservation experts adds a dynamic dimension to learning.

Technology and virtual resources also play a crucial role, connecting classroom learning with real-world ecological scenarios.

In addition, collaboration with local environmental organisations, conservation groups and government agencies engages students in conser-

vation initiatives such as tree planting, beach clean-ups and habitat restoration, giving them a tangible sense of contributing to the well-being of their community and the planet.

Ecological education is developed on three levels, at a basic level, it is about understanding the concept and taking responsibility for action. At a secondary level, concrete actions are mapped out and integrated into society. Finally, the advanced level focuses on promoting changes in policies and lifestyles, creating action groups to ensure the continuity of sustainability efforts.

Essential aspects of ecological education include awareness-raising, using events and media to highlight the conse-

quences of climate change; training, integrating ecological education into all subjects and aspects of life; and developing an ecological spirituality that enhances ecological conversion. In addition, networking with other organisations and entities is essential to safeguard creation by ensuring an institutional framework that supports sustainable lifestyles.

Ecological education is necessary to safeguard the planet that will be left to the people of tomorrow, the youth of today.

Through awareness raising, education, spirituality and networking, important changes can be promoted to ensure a more sustainable future for all generations.

Everything is Connected – The cry of the poor and the cry of the earth are the same cry  
At the heart of the ecological crisis lies a deep human and spiritual problem (LS, 49)

Ecological Education helps us to understand the interconnectedness of the entire eco-system

Ecological concern should be included in ordinary day to day living – within the already existing activities, for example, Schools, parishes, health centers, community life, commerce, politics, culture, etc.

Anne Faiola, OLA  
Sisters of Our Lady of Apostles



*Consumerism and capitalism, with their culture of waste and profit maximisation, represent a major obstacle to sustainable living*

### QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION AND SHARING

1. What new learning have you received from this sharing?
2. How do you assess your level of ecological education: Basic, Secondary or Advanced?
3. What concrete steps can you take to improve your ecological education

Anne Faiola, OLA  
Sisters of Our Lady of Apostles

# In the footsteps of Emmaus...



**J**ust as the first Christians walked renewed on the road to Emmaus. In the same way, we too have continued on our journey during this third trimester. Tired from the hard months of work, but renewed in spirit and with the desire to continue sowing smiles among our students, among our neighbours.

This sowing impulse has led us to continue visiting our elders at the Domènech i Montaner residence in our neighbourhood and thus share afternoons of petanque, dominoes, Parcheesi and laughter with them. We continue to support this intergenerational project 'Intercanviem Somriures' because we firmly believe that during these moments of

exchange, whether it is handicrafts with which they decorate their rooms or games, our students grow in values and learn to value the small moments.

This term also ended with the second food collection for Caritas in our neighbourhood. Through community service, the 4th ESO students actively collaborate in the food collection. How do they do it? Well, they become little publicists for a few days: they create a real publicity campaign to promote the collection and, of course, it is a success. We are very proud for our school and also for our neighbourhood to be able to count on this initiative.

This term also ended with the second food collection for Caritas in our neighbourhood. Through community service, the pupils of 4th ESO actively

collaborate in the food collection. How do they do it? Well, they become little publicists for a few days: they create a real publicity campaign to promote the collection and, of course, it is a success. We are very proud for our school and also for our neighbourhood to be able to count on this initiative.

And we keep going... and so we build a 'wall of commitments' in a corner of our school. Everyone, from the youngest in the house to the eldest, put down on paper bricks their commitment to care for the Common House, their commitment to the environment and also to people - to our family, our friends and neighbours.

**PILAR FERNÁNDEZ,**  
Coordinator of Pastoral  
Badalona



# Newsletters bring us closer to global IBVM/CJ



In the past months, we have received newsletters from South Sudan, Loreto Rumbek, Loreto South Asia, the Delhi Province in India, the Congregatio Jesu, the CJ of the Bangalore region of India, and the third issue of the newly launched newsletter of the IBVM Province of Ireland.

The **IBVM South Asia Province's** issue is dedicated to sustainability. They tell us that they have had extreme weather and as a result share reflections on Climate Change, 'Welcome to Reality' is the title of one of them. They also remind us that Jesus urges us to stay awake (Mk 13:32-37.) All the news from their 12 communities follows this line

of sustainability and care for the earth. It advocates both an inner and outer shift, towards humility, honesty and a connection to the earth that we should hold 'sacred'.

An imaginative feature is the recipe section, where we can learn how to cook Aloo Pakora and Boiled Mango Panna, along with sections on humour and poetry that add a light touch to the newsletter.

The newsletter of the **Bangalore region of the Congregation of Jesus** in southern India includes a number of activities and events highlighted in CJ communities and schools between April and June this year. It focuses on the formation and development of women religious and school staff, teachers, other

staff and students, and academic activity, as well as some integration initiatives in local communities and participation in international, national or parish celebrations. For example, at Maria Sadan Regional House, they participated in a leadership workshop, conducted by the Conference of Religious of India, for the Bangalore and Nepal teams. Students from Alakode, Illam and Pizhaku schools achieved excellent results in the Central Primary and Secondary examinations. Then they talk about numerous activities and celebrations during the holidays (camps, workshops, retreats, first communions, Anti-Drug Day, Environment Day...) and that they have carried out some improvement works in



The Kilkenny 'Globetrotters' !!  
 – from left: Treasa, Winnie, Consuelo and Lucy

the school facilities. The school year has already started again in all the schools of this Indian region of the Congregation of Jesus.

In the **IBVM Province of Ireland** they are very happy to have started a provincial newsletter and sent us their third issue. In this bulletin, news is presented in the first person, in each area or diocese, there is a religious who does or tells something, such as Breda McCarthy, who tells a very interesting true story about the involvement of her aunt, Katie McCarthy, in the French resistance movement during the Second World War. The Irish newsletter reflects that, despite the advanced age of most of its members, they are committed, active communities

and individuals dedicated to spiritual and community life throughout Ireland.

The **Congregatio Jesu province of Delhi**, India, dedicates its four-monthly newsletter to the activities framed within the ministry of JPIC, promotion of Justice, Peace and Care for Creation. In this vein, they celebrated Mary Ward week by highlighting our founder's concern for justice and respect for diversity. They include activities and events carried out by students, JPIC leaders, religious and collaborators, all focused on raising awareness and education on crucial issues of health, environment and social justice.

Finally, we have the May and June newsletters from **Loreto Rumbek in South**

**Sudan**, which send out their monthly news. This is a vibrant community, composed mainly of a multitude of young women with dreams and projects for the future that inspire the whole of society, as the Papal Nuncio emphasised during his visit to the Diocese of Rumbek and the Loreto school complex. In this community in Africa, the importance of education, considered vital for development, is appreciated, as are the scholastic achievements of the students, as we have seen in other newsletters from Asia. Loreto Rumbek always highlights personal and community efforts that contribute positively to development. In June they celebrated in style the doctorate of a very special student, lbvm Orla Treacy.

# Irene Cebrián's first year as Youth Representative comes to an end

Irene Cebrián ends her first year as Youth Representative in Spain this June. As Youth Representative at the Institute, Irene's work consists of strengthening the link between youth and the values and processes of the United Nations, promoting the Sustainable Development Goals among young people and adolescents.

In this line, throughout this academic year, the involvement of our Youth Representative has followed three lines of action:

## Promotion through social media

Through the Weekly Bulletins and the Correspondent's Corner, Irene has directed its dissemination towards outreach, trying to reflect current events, news and reflections on international relations and the United Nations.

## Working Group on Girls during CSW68

As Youth Representative, Irene was part of the team of adults who accompanied the group of girls in charge of drafting the Girls' Statement, a document that was read out at the 68th Commission on the Status of Women in March.

## Awareness-raising and training in schools

Throughout these months, Irene has led the organisation of three events in which students from the eight schools of the Mary Ward Educational Foundation in Spain, as well as students from the schools of the Congregation of Jesus in Argentina, have participated.

**Triangle of Conversations**  
Climate change

**One for all and all for one**  
International Women's Day

**Simulation IBVM/CJ**  
UN Model SDGs



## Outreach events

Along with organising events with students, Irene has also organised and/or collaborated in events open to the public, and designed to promote the goals of the 2030 Agenda.



### Concentric Circles

Climate change

### 20 years at the UN

IBVM/CJ Anniversary at the UN

### "Changing the world: women, law and culture"

Feminism in the framework of CSW68



With a view to the start of the next academic year in September, Irene, who will continue as Youth Representative for another year, has presented a new initiative: Generation 2030. This is an annual programme for young people between 18 and 25 years of age, aimed at training participants in the 17 SDGs. The programme is structured in two parts, a first part of theoretical training, and a second part of practical application. The ultimate goal of Generation 2030 is to create a pool of young advocates of the 2030 Agenda, who will become Ambassadors for the Goals.

Generation 2030 is born out of a belief in the unique power of youth to transform social dynamics that adults sometimes consider impossible to change. Thus, in order to question the world, we must first know what we question and why, and, precisely for this reason, it is essential to create spaces where young people and adolescents can ask themselves, out loud and in groups, what they want to say once they get hold of the megaphone.





**T**he schools of the Mary Ward Education Foundation close the school year in the same way we have lived it: **playing together**.

To conclude this Pastoral Project, our students played Mary&Co in class, a board game prepared by the Pastoral and Communication Team of our schools, as part of the project "Doing good does us good".

The aim of this game is to review all the pastoral experiences of the year: motto, Advent, Mary Ward's month, Lent and Easter. In it, the students will play in cooperative groups and will demonstrate what they have learnt through mime tests, taboo, questions and answers....

It's a fun way of remembering with affection everything we have grown together this year! And, in addition, to reinforce the work done on

caring for our Common Home, made up of our planet and the people who inhabit it.

Together with Navipoly, the Escape Room and the Constructors game, it closes a cycle of gamification in which we have reviewed classic games, taking advantage of all the pedagogical and social advantages associated with them. Because we know that playing is something that unites us, encourages us to grow together, teaches us, entertains us, keeps us active, makes us enjoy ourselves with others.

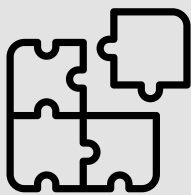
Well-focused play helps us to foster companionship, to stimulate learning and to create unforgettable memories. And we see this as essential to the life of our schools.

**ALEJANDRO DELGADO, INSTITUTIONAL COMMUNICATION COORDINATOR MWEF**

# We have grown so much!




# GET CONNECTED TO CONECTA




If you would like to collaborate with the Conecta newsletter by writing, sending some photographs, suggesting a topic, or telling us something interesting to share, please contact us!



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