

WUCWO Newsletter march 2018



Message from the President General for Women's Day



The President General, Maria Giovanna Ruggieri, sent the following message to our member organizations and asked them to extend it to all WUCWO women:

Dear friends,

Once again we celebrate the International Women's Day.

In such a disordered and confused world, women are called to bring harmony.

Pope Francis, in one of his homilies, has declared that there is no harmony in the world without the woman.

WUCWO women are convinced of their task to work for dialogue, reconciliation, mutual respect, in a word, harmony.

Let's continue on this path to be true witnesses of the Merciful Father always ready to welcome the lost son.

Have a happy Women's Day!

At the same time, she thanks them and thanks God for the wonderful work that everyone does for the dignity of women.

Senegal welcomes us with a new airport



The General Assembly in Dakar, from 15 to 22 October 2018, will welcome its participants with a splendid airport recently inaugurated by the President of Senegal, His Excellency Macky Sall.

Registration is open until May 1st. (Please contact Kim Scammell at executivedirector@cwl.ca for more information or to obtain a registration form)

Catholic inspired NGOs at FAO

The Catholic-inspired organizations of the forum working at FAO (in Rome) gathered in a mass celebrated by the Permanent Observer of the Holy See, Rev. Mons. F. Chica Arellano, in the chapel of Caritas Internationalis in Rome. Prayers were recited and addressed to the work that will be carried out afterwards. WUCWO also participated in this celebration through its Secretary General.

Maternal Surrogacy: a violation on fundamental human rights



WUCWO participated as co-signer organization in the oral statement of the Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII (APG23) during the 37th session of the Human Rights Council entitled "Maternal Surrogacy: a violation on fundamental human rights". With this statement, WUCWO agreed to ask the States to take a clear and strong position against maternal surrogacy, which violates not only the dignity of the woman simply seen as a means, but also the dignity and the fundamental rights of the child born through such a practice.

Pope's Day of Prayer and Fasting for Peace

Many WUCWO's organizations, such as Association de Femmes Catholiques of Cote d'Ivoire, and FUNDEMUL and Acción Católica of Venezuela, following the special invitation of the Holy Father on February 23, 2018, fasted and prayed for peace especially for the Democratic Republic of Congo and South Sudan. We would like to thank some of our women and organizations for having emailed us and showed their closeness during this event. We thank Virginia Rivero for her photos.

Memories of catholic women of Cuba

The WUCWO organization, Movimiento Diocesano de Mujeres Católicas de Cuba, has published its memories and history of the movement in a new website; they collected 20 years to keep alive their work for the Church despite all the difficulties. Notwithstanding many stumbles along the way, with the strength that God gives them, they were able to move forward and let their voices speak loudly. We would like to congratulate them and encourage their beautiful work!



New book on Pope Francis and women



The book "Diez cosas que el Papa Francisco propone a las mujeres" (Ten things that Pope Francis proposes to women) was presented by Clara Pardo Gil, president of Manos Unidas, a WUCWO organisation. Last 1st March, the author, Maria Teresa Compte Grau, received a letter of gratitude from the Pope for her book.

"That these "ten things" may be of benefit to those who read them and that the Lord may multiply them, always walking towards a greater sensitivity and recognition of the mission and vocation of women." - Pope Francis

The woman: theme chosen by Pope Francis

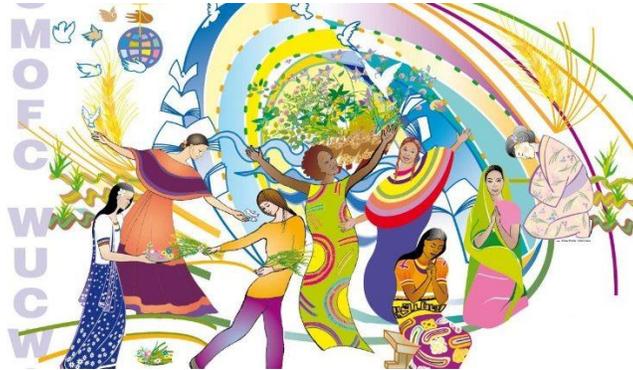


"The woman, pillar in the building of the Church and society in Latin America" is the theme that the Holy Father chose for the Plenary Assembly of the Pontifical Commission for Latin America (CAL). Exceptionally, 10 women were invited to make their contributions to the cardinals and bishops members of the CAL. María Lía Zervino, Servidora and Secretary General of WUCWO, spoke on the panel on "Women in education and catechesis" on March 7, 2018.

Let us raise our prayers for these countries

Our organisations have asked us to pray for Argentina, where they are proposing a change in existing legislation to allow abortion, and for Honduras, where Congress is debating a bill regulating the right to surrogacy. Let us give voice to the rights of defenceless children and pray for those who work hard for them.

8M. WUCWO: thank you Pope Francis!



On behalf of the 10 million women of WUCWO, the Secretary General, María Lía Zervino, thanked the Pope for his encouragement of women's mission in society and in the Church. He also called for overcoming "the globalisation of indifference" by denouncing outrages and injustices against women trampled upon in their dignity, abandoned migrant minors, and unborn children.

Let us unite on the Way of the Cross, to rise with Christ on the Sunday of Glory

Pope Francis has asked 15 young people to prepare the stations' meditations for the traditional Via Crucis at the Colosseum in Rome, which will take place on Good Friday 30th March 2018.



May we also unite ourselves with the Passion of Jesus Christ to rise with Him on Easter Sunday.