

One Small Voice

The best way to
glorify God
is to help
oneself/others
to be just souls

Being a woman,
totally joyful, happy,
free and beautiful;
A pilgrim and a passionate
and hopeful seeker
sincere and just;
Of Jesus,
loving, serving,
crying, laughing, living.



March 2015



March 8, International Women's Day

... I hope in God that it will be seen that women in time to come will do much."

Mary Ward

We pray with the Church and the World

From the words of Pope Francis:

Indifference to our neighbour and to God also represents a real temptation for us Christians. Each year during Lent we need to hear once more the voice of the prophets who cry out and trouble our conscience.

God is not indifferent to our world...but the world tends to withdraw into itself and shut that door through which God comes into the world and the world comes to him. ...

God's people, then, need this interior renewal, lest we become indifferent and withdraw into ourselves.

The women's world day of prayer is a worldwide ecumenical movement of Christian women in more than 160 countries, of various races, cultures and churches in fellowship and understanding who come together to observe a common day of prayer on the first Friday in March every year.

The Women's World Day of Prayer will be held on **6 March 2015** and will be compiled by the Bahamas. The theme is: *Jesus said to them: Do you understand what I have done for you?* Website: <http://www.wwdp.co.za/>

International Women's Day 8th March.

International Women's Day is a time to reflect on progress made, to call for change and to celebrate acts of courage and determination by ordinary women who have played an extraordinary role in the history of their countries and communities. This year's theme, "[Empowering Women - Empowering Humanity: Picture It!](#)" envisions a world where each woman and girl can exercise her choices, such as participating in politics, getting an education, having an income, and living in societies free from violence and discrimination.

We pray with the Institute

Let us pray for guidance of the Holy Spirit after the consultation in the Irish Province as we continue the process of discernment to appoint a new provincial.

In the month of March we pray with the English and USA Provinces as they enter into their post GC assemblies.

Together we pray

We stand in solidarity with women living in poverty around the world, with single mothers nurturing children in strained situations, with those around the world whose family members are deployed in military service, with women who are forced into prostitution, caught in the web of human trafficking, raped and ravaged as instruments of sexual torture, with women suffering domestic violence, and those suffering female genital mutilation.

We stand in solidarity with girls who are forced into marriage as children, with women whose children are sold into slavery as servants and sexual slaves, with women denied education and opportunities to discover their gifts, with those denied professional recognition because of patriarchy in churches, schools, businesses, and governments.

We stand in solidarity with women whose long suffering is tested every day - in every land whose indomitable spirit sustains the roots of human development and still dare to explore the balance of right relationships, with women who risk death to protect the young. We stand with women who speak and write and sing and dance and create art that addresses the dignity inherent in all women, who choose to stand in solidarity today and every day.

We stand in solidarity with all women in leadership: local, district, regional, national and international, with women emerging in leadership in the Church and society and in the Institute. We stand in solidarity with all our ibvm sisters everywhere. We, as members of an International Institute, stand in solidarity in prayer with women who suffer in all parts of the world for whatever reason.

May the gentle hand of our loving God embrace the world and help all people see the full value of half the human race.