

WUCWO Newsletter December 2016



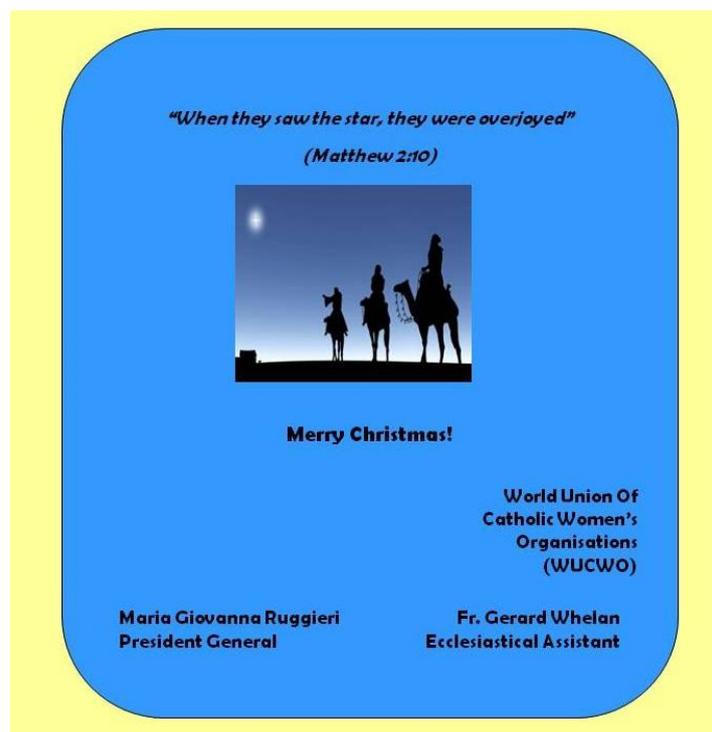
World Union of Catholic Women's Organisations

This Newsletter is for

ALL WOMEN WHO ARE MEMBERS of WUCWO organisations.

We kindly ask you to share it as soon as possible with all the members of your organisation. Thank you very much!

Christmas Greetings from WUCWO!



The WUCWO President and the Ecclesiastical Assistant at the Secretariat of State of the Holy See



On 16 December 2016 our President General, Maria Giovanna Ruggieri, and the Ecclesiastical Assistant, Father Gerard Whelan SJ, met Monsignor Gianfranco Rota Graziosi, responsible for China in the Second Section of Relations with the States of the Secretariat of State of the Holy See. Monsignor Rota Graziosi was very interested in WUCWO's work and asked for detailed information on its duties and mission. They also spoke about the possibility of expanding WUCWO's mission by incorporating the organisations in some of the countries where WUCWO is not present yet.

Success in the Council of Europe



On 11 October 2016, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe rejected the recommendation on "The rights of children related to surrogacy".

Femina Europa has appealed to the Members of the Commission and to the French Deputies of the Council of Europe three times in the past few months to make them aware of the danger of this report.

The market of human trafficking



Liga de Madres de Familia, WUCWO member, organised a conference called: “The marked of Human Trafficking with aims of sexual exploitation in Argentina” at the end of 2016. Dr. Cecilia Szyszkowsky, specialized in this issue, was in charge of the conference. Liga de Madres de Familia and the other WUCWO member organisations in such country are part of the Working Group on Human Trafficking organised by the Episcopal Conference of Argentina.

Catholic Woman, Artisan of Mercy



The first Diocesan Day of the Association des Femmes de l’Eglise Catholique (AFEC) of the Archdioceses of Gagnoa (located in the central-west part of the Ivory Coast) took place here. The general theme was: “Catholic woman artisan of Mercy” which was developed in three sub-themes on 5 November 2016. It saw the participation of over 600 women from 40 parishes of the dioceses and of Jeannette Touré, AEFC President of the Ivory Coast, and Affiba Eugenia Amon, AFEC Diocesan President of the Archdioceses of Gagnoa.

Spiritual Companion in ACF



Women are sometimes in such pain that they no longer go to Church at all. The ACF is then their only ecclesiastical connection and it is within their team that they can find a spiritual companion. How does one become spiritual companion? This is a call for a mission; as a result of this call the person will undergo training. One does not decree herself as spiritual companion.

Novena of the Immaculate Conception

Every year the Church invites us to prepare with joy to the great Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. With nine days of prayer (from 30 November to 8 December), the Fraternités des Femmes Catholiques of the Archdioceses of Conakry (French Guinea) got ready to celebrate this big day of

thanks. Each day started with the preparatory prayer, the prayer of the corresponding day, and ended with the Hail Mary, the litanies of the Virgin and the *Tota Pulchra*.



Interreligious retreat: living in hope



The interreligious group Dialogue and Coexistence of Buenos Aires, Argentina, that relies on its founders among whom Elsa Muzio, former WUCWO board member, organised its first spiritual retreat

on 21 November; the central theme was hope, seen through three presentations: the biblical vision, that of Judaism, and hope from a social perspective. A meeting in which each participant opened her mind and heart to a dialogue of faith committed with reality, which increased the commitment and, once again, showed that it is possible to live brotherhood in respect of identities and deepening of coincidences.

Comment on “Misericordia et misera” by Vatican Radio

In its weekly program called: “Women: seeds of hope”, Vatican Radio in Spanish has started a cycle of brief comments on Pope Francis’ letter at the end of the Year of the Jubilee of Mercy, directed by the WUCWO Secretary General, María Lía Zervino, Servidora. It is about reflecting on its content to understand why the Holy Father says that mercy represents the essence of the Church itself and therefore the Jubilee has not been a “parenthesis” in the ecclesiastical life.

