

We pray with the Church and the world

General Intention of the Holy Father: That prisoners may be treated with justice and respect for their human dignity.

Missionary Intention: Youth Witness to Christ. That young people, called to follow Christ, may be willing to proclaim and bear witness to the Gospel to the ends of the earth.

August 9th is the UN day for celebrating the World's Indigenous Peoples. We give thanks for the diversity of culture among indigenous communities and pray especially for our own Mary Ward women and the unique story and gifts they bring and share with us.

On August 18th Natalie Houlihan will make her Perpetual Profession in Ballarat Australia. Let us pray with Natalie and give thanks for her call to the Institute.

On August 11th in South East Asia Nga Tran will make her First Vows. We support her with our love and prayers. This year marks the 350th anniversary of the founding of a Mary Ward community in Augsburg, Germany. Many of us have enjoyed the hospitality of the community there and valued time for reflection with the Painted Life.

We pray with the Institute

(Continuing with extracts from the *Capacity for Life & Ministry Assessment*)

Relativity Factors: the individual per capita income and expenditure for each Province/Region varies greatly which reflects the difference in the costs of living worldwide. This is illustrated in the 'Big Mac Index' – a table used by economists to compare the cost of living using the price of a standard item, the McDonalds Big Mac, across the world. The table shows the number of minutes that a worker, earning the average net wage, must work in order to be able to purchase a Big Mac. This is a useful indicator to demonstrate the purchasing power of each currency.

The Big Mac Index for our provinces/regions: as at Dec 2011

	Cost of a Big Mac	US\$	Working minutes required to purchase a Big Mac
Australia	AUS\$4.80	\$4.94	14 minutes
Canada	CAN\$4.73	\$4.74	14 minutes
Darjeeling	Rs 84	\$1.61	59 minutes
Eastern Africa	KSh175.5	\$2.03	91 minutes
India	Rs84	\$1.61	59 minutes
Ireland	€3.44	\$4.58	15 minutes
Mauritius	MUR70.8	\$2.39	30 minutes
Peru	Sol10.0	\$3.73	86 minutes
South Africa	Rand19.45	\$2.54	30 minutes
Spain	€3.44	\$4.58	19 minutes
UK	£2.39	\$3.80	16 minutes
USA	US\$4.07	\$4.07	12 minutes

The current and projected future resource levels across the Institute clearly indicate that there is a need to improve the systems that promote distribution of resources in a manner that facilitates equitable access for the mission of the whole Institute. The determination of what is equitable is a matter for leadership to decide. p.86

One Small Voice

Whilst individual provinces have a degree of autonomy under canon law in matters of finance and ministry, it must be considered vital to the life of the Institute that unity of purpose and commitment to support of the Institute as a whole, are demonstrated by all in order to ensure that the ideals and actions of the Institute continue to serve the unique mission. p.87

The resources of different Province and Regions vary considerably. However, such resources are merely tools to support the changing mission of the Institute. p. 88

On the Theology of Enough

Peyton Craighill says: *Enough* has both negative and positive connotations. The negative meaning is about setting a limitation that prevents us from attaining our highest goal. The other meaning is very different – the word points to the golden mean between two extremes. *Enough* in this context signifies the ideal balance between 'too much' and 'too little'.

When Jesus asked the disciples what they had to feed the multitude and they said five loaves and two fishes, he said, basically, *That is enough*.

Give me only your love and your grace, that's enough for me.

St Ignatius of Loyola

Let us pray

A litany of ENOUGH based on Psalm 23

The Lord is our shepherd; we have all that we need.
God created the green fields of this Earth,
life-giving waters and pure, clean air.

The Lord is our shepherd; we follow where God leads.
But Earth itself needs reviving,
and we are called as stewards to its care.

The Earth is God's table; everyone is called to the feast.
We see there are enough resources for all,
when distribution is equitable and fair.

The goodness and mercy of God fill all of creation.
For God created this planet as our home;
it is for us to enjoy, but also to share.

by Jeanyne b. Sletton



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Please be reassured – this is the August House of Prayer
and not an advertisement that has found its way into your Breviary!