

Let us pray

With Miriam, who with Moses and Aaron  
led the people of Israel out of Egypt;  
with Deborah, who judged the people of Israel  
in truth and righteousness;  
with Ruth, who was an example of faithfulness;  
with Mary Magdalen, who first  
brought the good news of the resurrection;  
with Phoebe, deacon and leader of the early Church;  
with Priscilla, who labored with Aquila in the service of Christ;  
with Dorcas, who spent herself doing good and helping the poor;  
with Mary the mother of Jesus, who said "yes" with no holding back.  
With these, our sisters, we pray for women everywhere.

\* Artwork for the World Day of Prayer Logo for 2013 is by Anne-Lise Hammann Jeannot

March 2013



Women's World Day of Prayer 2013\*

## We pray with the Church and the World

**General Intention of the Holy Father:** *General:* That respect for nature may grow with the awareness that all creation is God's work entrusted to human responsibility.

**Missionary Intention:** That bishops, priests, and deacons may be tireless messengers of the Gospel to the ends of the earth.

**March 8<sup>th</sup>** is both **International Women's Day** and **Women's World Day of Prayer**. The former has its theme: *The Gender Agenda Gaining Momentum* and the latter from Matthew 25: *I was a Stranger and you welcomed me*. Wherever we find ourselves on this day let us pray for God's blessing on all who work for the dignity of all, especially women.

**21<sup>st</sup> March** is the UN day of **International Day of Forests and the Tree**. We take this day as reminder of the gift of creation and the beauty of trees.

## We pray with the Institute

On March 1<sup>st</sup> the new Leadership Team in **India** will begin their ministry. In *union of minds and hearts* let us pray for Anita Braganza (Province Leader), Sabrina Edwards (First Consultor), Igora Pinto, Monica Suchiang and Marion Vase and all members in India, Nepal and Bangladesh.

The **Tertians** are on the Mary Ward Pilgrimage this month in England, France and Germany. We pray that this journey will strengthen their *love of and commitment to the mission of the Institute*. (Const 5.42)

As the year begins there have been **candidates and novices** received in several provinces: let us pray for these young women as they discern their call to religious life. We recall that each one of us *has a responsibility for the well-being and future of the Institute and a shared concern for attracting new members*. (Const. 5.6)

**Holy Week** begins as the month closes so let us be mindful of this sacred time:

*There should be in the soul, halls of space, avenues of leisure,  
and high porticos of silence where God walks.*

Jeremy Taylor 1613-1667

## One Small Voice

Autumn is the harvest time of understanding and rejoicing, seeing clearly how God has guided me step by step in the past and rejoicing that there is a speck of God's vision and mission for the world entrusted to me.

It is a time to rejoice for the personal vocation of reducing the *groan of creation* and contributing to Jesus' mission for all to have *Abundant life*, so that the Father may look at creation and say once again *all is very good*.

Autumn is a time TO BE rather than TO DO. It is a time to experience the peace of the small resurrections, after crossing the past valleys of darkness, even as I pray for further crossings, and especially for the final crossing of the valley of death, meeting the One who has loved me so much.

Ephigenia Gachiri