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Editorial

Everybody knows the great difficulties that the people of Venezuela are experiencing at the present time. The dire situation there is having repercussions in Peru where more than 400,000 Venezuelans have arrived, looking for a better future for their families.

Peru, along with others Latin American countries, is experiencing an event not seen before in their history, that is, a massive inward migration. Previously it was ourselves who migrated internally or emigrated to other countries. Now it is our turn to feel the pressure, of people coming from outside, causing a crisis here.

Not being prepared for this massive arrival of Venezuelan citizens, people in Peru have reacted in a variety of ways: The vast majority have been kind, and they understand the difficult social and political situation that Venezuela is going through. But also, xenophobic comments have not been lacking in the social networks; many giving disinformation which increases the tension among the people.

In recent months it is mostly young men whose ages range from 18 to 34 who have arrived in Peru from Venezuela; There are also some people, single men and women, with higher education levels. The migrants are employed in different sectors, very many in the informal sale of food and beverages in the streets and on the buses. It is hard to see their sufferings as they work hard day after day in order to send money back to their families in Venezuela who lack food and medicines.

The Pope along with the Bishops of Peru have called for solidarity with them and ask us to put into practice the culture of welcome, by which we protect, promote and integrate migrants and refugees.



"Let us be close to them, sharing their fears and their uncertainty about the future and concretely alleviating their suffering."

Pope Francisco



In the footsteps of Mary Ward

In May I walked with a group of women in Mary Ward's footsteps in Rome, reading the letters relating to her story and visiting Churches; this gave us a better understanding of how she tried to bring about her dream.

Mary Ward sought a structure for her congregation which reflected that of the Jesuits but much more she sought the profound following of Jesus Christ in a discerning love that is at the heart of the Ignatian way of life. Mary was denied the structure in her time but she lived that discerning love to the highest degree and this is her legacy to us, her family. At a time of great difficulty God gave her five special graces:

- Once when praying for her Institute, God made known to her that what mattered most was that all its members had free and open access to God.
- On another day she learned that the best way to go through hard times was to accept them cheerfully.
- On the very day when the Pope ordered the closing down of her Italian houses, Mary was praying before the Blessed Sacrament, and saw clearly her own nothingness and that God was all in all.
- At another time, she received so much light about forgiveness of enemies that after that she had a real love for anyone who did her harm.
- Lastly, she heard the words of Jesus: 'Can you drink the chalice that I shall drink?' She said with joy that she would accept all.

And you, if you were offered one of these graces which would you choose? How would it affect your way of seeing yourself and others? Maybe you are already living them all; because what is given to one who founds a new way in the Church is also given to all who follow that way.

Hna. Mary Elizabeth



A Mary Ward Family group at the door of the house in Perugia, Italy, where she lived for a short time in 1624.



Relics of Mary Ward



Medical Campaigns in Solidarity

In both parish medical centres, of Jicamarca and Lampa de Oro, various "Comprehensive Health Campaigns" have been developed. These campaigns aim to provide quality care to families in the areas, especially to women, children, and the elderly.

The health workers have also come together to offer external campaigns in very deprived areas that suffered from last year's floods caused by 'el Niño'. None of this work would have been possible without the organization of the Conference of Religious of Peru and of the Loreto Sisters. We also wish to thank sincerely the Mary Ward Foundation for the support they have provided.



Mary Ward Youth

Meeting of the Mary Ward Youth



From July 28 to August 3, 2018, in Sao Paulo - Brazil, the II Latin American Youth Encounter Mary Ward took place. With the purpose of promoting the formation of leaders in the schools of the Congregation of Jesus and the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary (IBVM), the event was attended by students, teachers and sisters from schools in Argentina, Chile, Peru and Brazil. The theme of this edition was Youth Identity in the Charism of Mary Ward. We share the experience of Brayhan Samuel, fifth year student of the School "Faith and joy 58 Mary Ward" of Jicamarca.

My experience

In this week of meetings I learned a lot of important things; I learned about the events of her life and about her charism; I also learned how to be a better leader, more fair and caring in my actions.

I became aware that it is essential to put oneself in the shoes of the other person in order to understand their strengths and weaknesses. In that short time I began to look at people differently; seeing that everyone has different qualities that make them unique; I got to know some wise people who helped me become a better person; and made friends who have left their mark on my life in a special way.

Now I am more confident about giving guidance to my companions; I want to tell them that whatever falls or defeats they may have that there will always be hope giving them light on their way; to tell them also to accept their mistakes because this will make them a better person.

One of my suggestions would be to introduce the life and teachings of Mary Ward at kindergarten, primary and secondary levels so that the children and Young people might know her better and so have a better life.

Student Brayhan Samuel.



June 5 World Environment Day March

Warmi Wasi organised a march on World Environment Day in collaboration with various local institutions. The Warmi Wasi women and young people participated; all the students, staff and parents of "Fe y Alegria 53"; student representatives from the 2 local schools and some parishioners. They carried banners and chanted to encourage the Huaycan community to care for the environment and in particular to reduce the use of plastic bags and clean the streets of garbage. The march ended in the San Andres Church grounds where the message to care for the environment was reinforced by a drama and chanting prepared by the Fe y Alegria students; speeches from the religious Principal of Fe y Alegria 53; Deepa Biswas ibvm, the Parish priest; the Mayor of Ate and Principals of the local schools. The event culminated with the signing of a pledge by all the organisations involved.



Independence Day in Huaycán!

On July 20 (Friday) Warmi Wasi hosted a party to celebrate Huaycan's Foundation Day (July 15) and the national Independence Day (July 28/29). The celebration began with presentations from participants of each project. The seniors group, with their teacher, did a demonstration of their yoga movements. Each of the Speech Therapy students delighted us with their skillful delivery of poems, demonstrating the skills they have gained from their course.

The people enjoyed the Youth group's song and dance routine. We then savoured the different varieties of food from different parts of Peru which the people had prepared. After the meals and in true Peruvian tradition, the dancing began!

Hna. Janet Palafox



Biogarden

One of the projects of Warmi Wasi is a garden that produces a variety of organic vegetables such as various types of lettuce, spinach, eggplants, tomatoes and herbs. The biogarden was developed to encourage the community to eat healthy food and to offer organic gardening classes to those interested.

Hna. Janet Palafox



IBVM Perú, in the social media

Our Facebook is
IBVM MARY WARD PERÚ.

facebook



YOU CAN VISIT OUR NEW WEBSITE
<http://www.ibvm-peru.com/index.html>

You can contact us by email
Hna. Janet Palafox:
janet.palafox@loreto.org.au, y
Viviana Herrera Sarmiento
vivianaherrera2002@gmail.com,
ibvmperu2015@gmail.com and
on the office phone (511) 01
4814212 in Lima - Peru.