

WUCWO



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**Union Mondiale des Organisations Féminines Catholiques
World Union of Catholic Women's Organisations
Unión Mundial de las Organizaciones Femeninas Católicas
Weltunion der Katholischen Frauenverbände**

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To all WUCWO Member Organisations

18 December 2007

Dear Sisters in Christ:

Pope Benedict XVI, in his newest encyclical, *Spe Salvi*, reminds us that our “great, true hope which holds firm in spite of all disappointments can only be God—God who has loved us and who continues to love us “to the end,” until all “is accomplished” (cf. *Jn* 13:1 and 19:30). Whoever is moved by love begins to perceive what “life” really is.”

Imbued with the spirit of faith, hope and love, the World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations (WUCWO) Annual Board Meeting was held in Rome at the end of November. The business of the organization was attended to and speakers focused on “Social Responsibility: Supporting children and family in the local and global culture.” Especially noteworthy was the formation presentation by Msgr. Kaszak and Fr. Lalonde of the Pontifical Council for the Family regarding the manipulative/mischievous use by the UN in particular of “Gender” and “Reproductive Rights” and the *Lexicon of Ambiguous and debatable terms regarding family life and ethical questions* (Human Life International).

During the General Audience on November 28, our Holy Father again expressed his appreciation and support of the mission of WUCWO and the work carried out by women around the world. It was my privilege to assure our Holy Father of our love and prayers for him.

I am pleased to inform you that it was decided to hold the WUCWO Centenary General Assembly in the Holy Land in May 2010. We will go to the roots of our faith—the land Jesus made holy through His birth, death and resurrection-- in order to spiritually prepare ourselves for the next 100 years of WUCWO's mission of evangelization and work for human development. Your support and prayers for this endeavour are greatly appreciated.

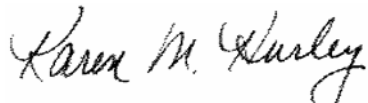
As part of overall efforts to assure WUCWO's financial stability it was decided to increase the *Women's Voice* subscription fee to \$20 (or the equivalent in Euros) per year. While this increase still does not cover publication expenses, the Board is committed to assuring the affordability of this important communication and evangelization tool.

We have been informed that WUCWO's request in Assembly Resolution No. 1 has not been accepted at this time by the Congregation for Divine Worship and Discipline of the Sacraments. We have been encouraged to continue to promote the feast day of St. Maria Goretti on 6th July as a day of prayer for the protection of the innocence of children and for all who have suffered abuse. Our members have been affirmed in their efforts to care for and support all those suffering from sexual abuse.

The theme of World Day of Prayer for Peace 2008 is *The Human Family, a Community of Peace*. May Pope Benedict XVI's message guide our annual reflection on how "it is essential that we should all be committed to living our lives in an attitude of responsibility before God, acknowledging him as the deepest source of our own existence and that of others. By going back to this supreme principle we are able to perceive the unconditional worth of each human being, and thus to lay the premises for building a humanity at peace."

May our newborn Saviour grant us His peace. May Mary, Mother of God, be our light of hope. May all of the blessings of this holy season be yours.

In Christ Jesus,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karen M. Hurley". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Karen M. Hurley
President General