



Loreto International Schools' Conference South Africa 2017

Greetings from Pretoria, South Africa.

We thank our hosts from the Loreto schools in South Africa, who have made this Conference possible. Some 60 delegates from IBVM and CJ schools across 19 countries have convened to reflect on our shared roots, to move forward in response to the challenges of the 21st Century and cross boundaries on all levels (nation, language and experience) within an atmosphere of mutual support and respect.

The stability offered by Mary Ward's 400 years strong values of truth, justice, freedom and joy provide a common vision and sense of stability. This Conference will ensure that these core values, whilst of central importance, do not remain stagnant. We aim to make them contemporary and relevant; enabling Mary Ward to remain ahead of her time as she was during her lifetime.

The fundamental questions are: How *do* we ensure their relevance in the 21st century? How *do* we 'help them fly'? How do we apply them to a multi-cultural world where diversity can still fail to be celebrated?

This Conference presents an opportunity for professionals to learn from one another's success stories and challenges in relation to: present and future values, responsible use of the internet and social media, contributing to sustainable development and our duty as global citizens to promote justice, peace and the integrity of creation. Consequently, we intend to update the 2003 Kolkata Loreto education guidelines and establish a structure for future international networking.

The conference began on Sunday 25th June 2017 in the Chapel of the oldest Loreto school in Africa, Loreto Convent School on Nana Sita Street. Delegates will collaborate on the above until Sunday 2nd July 2017.

We hope you feel connected with us throughout this journey, as we act with you and your respective communities in mind.

Conference Delegates 2017