



Report

February 2020- June 2022

Prepared For :

CJ General Congregation 2022
IBVM General Congregation 2022



INTRODUCTION

We can all collaborate as God's instruments for the care of creation, each one from his or her own culture, experience, initiatives and abilities. LS #14

In principle, JPIC expresses in synthesis a content that indicates a vision of reality: a complex reality whose dimensions are intimately interconnected. It means Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation or Integral Ecology and are to be addressed and promoted together in order to contribute to transforming individuals and society. Living JPIC is for everyone; it is integral to all the ministries that members of Mary Ward Family and Friends of Mary Ward are involved in, and is a conscious prayer for the world in so much need of healing and care. It is to live prophetic lives where each member is deeply involved in seeing how Jesus saw His world and responded to the needs of the people who came to Him. He looked at them with love, mercy and compassion. This is the call for each one, to be involved with those on the margins, those forced to live in poverty and to take action to restore their dignity. Pope Francis summarises this well in *Laudato Si'* – a call to hear the Cry of the Earth and the Cry of the Poor.

The JPIC ministry has its foundation in several documents, to name but a few:

- Scripture – e.g. The Prophet Micah 6:6-8; The Prophet Amos 5:21-24
- Catholic Social Teachings
- Justice in the World (1971, Synod of Bishops)
- Pacem in Terris (Peace on Earth) - 1963
- Evangelii-Gaudium - 2013
- *Laudato Si'* - 2015 and *Fratelli Tutti* - 2020



In carrying out the JPIC ministry in a specific Mary Ward way, the family is also guided by:

- The CJ GC Mandate of 2011 and the IBVM GC Calls of 2014
- IBVM JPIC Handbook of 2006



Mary Ward JPIC Office
Freedom - Justice - Sincerity - Felicity



2023

2024

MOVING LAUDATO SI' ACTION PLAN FORWARD

2022

- ✚ JPIC coord. Meeting: evaluating the progress
- ✚ Meeting JPIC Roma Network
- ✚ Regular updates of the website and FB Resources
- ✚ Bakitha Day
- ✚ Prayer/Video
- ✚ LS week
- ✚ Role of the JPIC Coord.
- ✚ Newsletter

- ✚ Celebrating first year of LS 7yrs Action Plan
- ✚ Enrolled on the LS Action Platform
- ✚ Presentations at different events /tertian group: ursulines

2021

- ✚ Formation of JPIC COORD
- ✚ Meeting JPIC Roma Network
- ✚ Meeting the IBVM CJ Leadership teams /UN Office
- ✚ Laudato Si
- ✚ Creating a reflection group
- ✚ Drafting, approval and launch of the 7yrs Action Plan Plan
- ✚ LS Week resource
- ✚ Coordinators meetings
- ✚ Formation of JPIC COORD

- ✚ 5 New JPIC animators (JPIC Roma+LS Movement)
- ✚ Training on Migration
- ✚ Presentations at different events/tertian group: IBVM
- ✚ Regular updates of the website and FB
- ✚ 2021 Reflections : Season of Creation

2020

- ✚ Getting to know each other
- ✚ Contact with JPIC COORD (Resource: Profiles booklet)
- ✚ Meeting JPIC Roma Network
- ✚ Meeting the IBVM CJ Leadership teams/ UN Office
- ✚ Laudato Si animators program: New JPIC Roma Animators

- ✚ Creating a social media visibility (logo, website, FB, youtube)
- ✚ Webinars: Laudato Si, Human Trafficking, Season of Creation



I. Mary Ward JPIC: First Steps

Mary Ward JPIC Office is a CJ and IBVM joint office which was established in January 2020. Two coordinators were appointed at the end of 2019 and were first invited to attend a JPIC Promoters training program in December of 2019 which marked the first meeting in person. The office is based in Rome to allow the coordinators, Pauline Macharia IBVM and Adina Bălan CJ, to work with the JPIC Roma group and other related groups. The objective of the office is mainly to encourage and coordinate JPIC activities within Mary Ward Family. Luckily, this was not the beginning of such work, because members have always been involved in various JPIC initiatives which is very commendable.

From the outset, it was clear that there was need to form a network and this included:

- Requesting Province Leaders to nominate province JPIC coordinators;
- Making initial contact with province coordinators and scheduling meetings with them individually to discuss their work and expectations as well as what the office hoped could be achieved together;
- Producing Province coordinators' catalogue;
- Participating in several trainings and meetings;
- Initiating contact with the provinces through constant communication and events;
- Creating Mary Ward JPIC social media identity: Logo, Website, Facebook page, Email and YouTube accounts.

II. Progress so far

JPIC related issues are to be found everywhere, some of them easy enough to see but others a little more intricate and subtle needing networking and more attention to appreciate their scope.

These issues are disturbing and they must make us so uncomfortable as to want to do something. Therefore, JPIC is a call to be actors of change and not spectators of the tragic events in the world, in the respective countries in which we are – the poverty, refugees and migrants, challenges related to mining, issues of Climate Change, Human Trafficking etc. In order to respond to these challenges, the JPIC ministry follows the SEE-JUDGE-ACT methodology encouraging all members to be attuned to the issues around them and also around the globe, to be more discerning of these issues on what needs to be done and then take actions within their contextual realities.





Below is a list of what has been done to achieve this end and Mary Ward Family is encouraged to continue with SEE-JUDGE-ACT wherever they are:

- 1 **Raising awareness** about issues and what can be done e.g. on Bakhita Day, Laudato Si', Season of Creation etc. Sharing resources for reflection and prayer has also been appreciated.
- 2 **Education:** encouraging a continuous movement towards supporting a process of on-going formation on JPIC issues.
- 3 **Accountability:** Make public the steps achieved in the implementation of the LS 7yrs Action Plan by the provinces, communities, projects, individuals etc. not just on the website but also, by enrolling on the Laudato Si' Action Platform
- 4 **Motivation:** made efforts to encourage members to be on board and promoting active participation of individuals, communities and ministries.
- 5 **Participation** in both Mary Ward Family JPIC events and also in events and activities by other groups and organisations
- 6 **Witnessing:** to make a conscious effort to assume lifestyles appropriate to the 7 goals in order to contribute to creating a Laudato Si' culture that encourages and challenges people to see the bigger picture and live their lives with joy and creativity.



7 Bring JPIC into our personal/community prayers and liturgy: Include for example, special prayers for Bakhita Day - International Day of Prayer and Awareness against Human Trafficking, COVID-19 Pandemic, Laudato Si' Week, Season of Creation.

8 Lobbying and Advocacy: As said earlier in this report, issues of injustice, human trafficking, climate change, mining and poverty must make us uncomfortable. Part of the action includes advocacy and lobbying especially for those on the margins. For instance, it might mean signing petitions (e.g. on divestment from fossil fuels); issuing a statement such as in the case of the George Floyd murder in the US and Russian invasion of Ukraine; working with other groups and networks and joining marches as well as raising our voices in all available spaces for action. The list is endless.

All our activities stand under the principle of collaboration. It means working with others and reaching out to other groups to form a strong network for advancing the JPIC ministry. Therefore, whether we are talking about coordinating the training, actions, and stances of the Mary Ward family JPIC network, or acting as coordinators of Mary Ward family JPIC priorities and directions, including providing information or reports to the Mary Ward family on JPIC, it must be driven by collaboration and networking. We are constantly invited to be a resource for the JPIC contacts in the Provinces/Regions, to dialogue with the province representatives and assist them with planning.

At the same time, we collaborate with our UN NGO representatives as well as sit on The Advisory Board of the NGO. With time, we were able to clarify the roles and responsibilities of each office and together we have developed a joint calendar of activities and we try to observe together some key days and events, such as St. Bakhita Day, Laudato Si' Week, Season of Creation, Women's Day, (CSW, COP26 etc).

III: Activities

- Attended many capacity building workshops, seminars, webinars
- Defined the role of province JPIC coordinator: Formation Training on Role of JPIC Coordinators and Contact Persons
- Newsletters
- Signing petitions
- Drafting statements
- Meetings with JPIC coordinators
- Spoke at various forums
- Gave periodic reports to the General Leadership teams

IV. Laudato Si' Journey

In collaboration with the JPIC coordinators and their teams, for each of the public events we created a core group to join us in reflecting and brainstorming on creating the LS 7year Plan. This group was instrumental in suggesting some possible actions for each of the 7 goals.

At the same time, we invited members drawn from Mary Ward Family and Friends and collaborators to write reflections on the 7 goals: Response to the Cry of the Earth; Response to the Cry of the Poor; Ecological Economics; Adoption of Simple Lifestyles; Ecological Education; Ecological Spirituality; Emphasis on Community involvement and participation.

This saw the birth of Mary Ward Family Laudato Si' 7-Year Action Plan launched in June 2021. The Laudato Si' Action Plan journey remains one of the major achievements of this office and we are happy that we have a common plan and approach in responding to the issues touching on 'Our Common Home'.



V. Laudato Si' Activities and Milestones

- Online events and celebrations on Laudato Si' weeks;
- Annual resources for Laudato Si' week;
- Online celebrations of the Season of Creation;
- 7year Laudato Si' Action Plan and its launch;
- Progress as in Laudato Si' Action Plan: 2021 Edition; way forward till end of 2023.
- Enrolled both IBVM AND CJ (Mary Ward Family: Congregatio Jesu/Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary) on Laudato Si' Action Platform and have been commended on the platform for our plan and our progress so far.

Encouraging members to get involved in Laudato Si' 7yr Action Plan individually, as community, ministries etc.

VI. Partnerships/Collaboration

- JPIC Roma/Sowing Hope for the Planet, Africa European Faith Justice Network (AEFJN), Service of Documentation of Study and Global Mission (SEDOS), Dicastery for Promotion of Integral Human Development (DPIHD)
- Provinces, some schools, UN NGO
- Laudato Si' Action Platform
- Faith Invest

VII. Way forward

It is almost 3 years since the inception of Mary Ward JPIC Office. The journey has been a blessing, and the progress is showing fruits of a prophetic future and place in both living out JPIC in life and ministry as well as being part of a huge wide-ranging network responding to the Cry of the Poor and of the Earth. Moving into the future, the Laudato Si' 7yr Action Plan remains our joint project; therefore, we appeal to Mary Ward family to:

- Continue working on Laudato Si' Action Plan – keep up the momentum
- Continue supporting the province JPIC coordinators
- Become Laudato Si' ambassadors because by implementing the goals, we are meeting all the aspects of JPIC
- Supporting members in their efforts for JPIC to be and to act as one body.

"Do not bury your talents, lent to you by God to be expended in service."

Mary Ward

Conclusion

We remain very grateful to everyone who has supported us in establishing the Mary Ward JPIC Office. Clearly, we feel the spirit working in the MW Family bringing us together on initiatives that speak very passionately to issues affecting the world today. Responding to the call of Pope Francis to Hear the Cry of the Poor and the Cry of the Earth is becoming our language and attitude. Venerable Mary Ward must be smiling to see her spirit living in us in responding to the needs of our time and prophetically thinking about the next generation. May her values of Freedom, Justice, Sincerity and Felicity continue to guide us.

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