



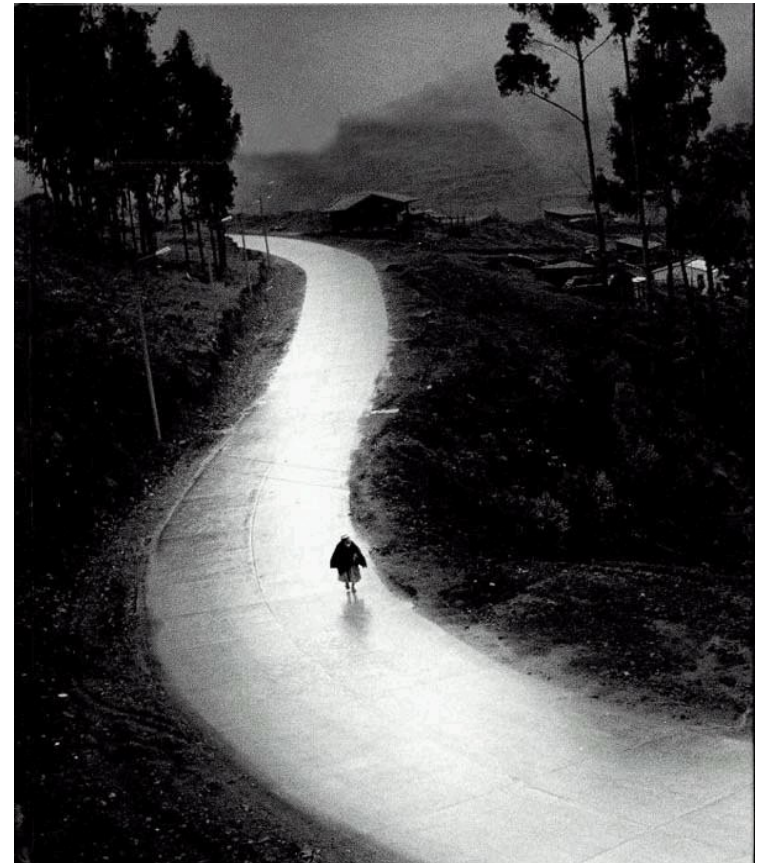
World Union of Catholic Women's  
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WORLD UNION OF CATHOLIC WOMEN'S ORGANISATIONS

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Journey to Jerusalem:  
Reflections on the Celebration of the  
Centenary 1910 – 2010



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On the third day there was a wedding in Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the wedding. When the wine ran short, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." (And) Jesus said to her, "Woman, how does your concern affect me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servers, "Do whatever he tells you." Now there were six stone water jars there for Jewish ceremonial washings, each holding twenty to thirty gallons. Jesus told them, "Fill the jars with water." So they filled them to the brim. Then he told them, "Draw some out now and take it to the headwaiter." So they took it. And when the headwaiter tasted the water that had become wine, without knowing where it came from (although the servers who had drawn the water knew), the headwaiter called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone serves good wine first, and then when people have drunk freely, an inferior one; but you have kept the good wine until now." Jesus did this as the beginning of his signs in Cana in Galilee and so revealed his glory, and his disciples began to believe in him.

John 2: 1-11

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Therefore *the Church gives thanks for each and every woman*: for mothers, for sisters, for wives; for women consecrated to God in virginity; for women dedicated to the many human beings who await the gratuitous love of another person; for women who watch over the human persons in the family, which is the fundamental sign of the human community; for women who work professionally, and who at times are burdened by a great social responsibility; for "*perfect*" women and for "weak" women - for all women as they have come forth from the heart of God in all the beauty and richness of their femininity; as they have been embraced by his eternal love; as, together with men, they are pilgrims on this earth, which is the temporal "homeland" of all people and is transformed sometimes into a "valley of tears"; as they assume, together with men, *a common responsibility for the destiny of humanity* according to daily necessities and according to that definitive destiny which the human family has in God himself, in the bosom of the ineffable Trinity.

Pope John Paul II  
Apostolic Letter, 1998

*Mulieris Dignitatem (On the Dignity and Vocation of Women)*

Our Blessed Mother Mary points us to Jesus and tells us, "Do whatever he tells you" (John 2:5). Following His way of love is not always easy, especially when it leads to the foot of the cross. In faith WUCWO members have strived to do the Lord's will for 100 years. Our hope is to experience the transformation which only Jesus' power can produce in our lives and in the life of our association. Catholic Leadership demands that we be faithful followers of Christ in order to lead others to Christ. The service of leadership is a collaborative effort: women and men together are called by God to a "common responsibility for the destiny of humanity."

Karen M. Hurley  
WUCWO President General

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