

WUCWO Newsletter August 2016



World Union of Catholic Women's Organisations

This Newsletter is for

ALL WOMEN WHO ARE MEMBERS of WUCWO organisations.

We kindly ask you to share it as soon as possible.

***Everyone united
for peace and reconciliation
with women from the Middle East
in the meeting in Bari in October***

Why meet in Bari?

Because Pope Francis calls upon us to meet in this moment.



"We are grievously struck and we follow with deep concern what is happening in Syria, Iraq, Jerusalem and the West Bank, where we are seeing an escalation of violence that involves innocent civilians and **continues to fuel a humanitarian crisis of enormous proportions.**" – said the Pope in front of all Synod Fathers addressing the message to the whole world in October 2015, followed by a prayer for peace.

Praying together on 19, 20, 21, 22 and 23 October 2016 is the first and most important step to take part in the Second Meeting with Women from the Middle East, organised by WUCWO.



10 reasons to be in Bari 2016

1. Because the crisis is “**humanitarian**”, and therefore the strategies do not only involve the Middle East but also the rest of the East and the West.
2. Because WUCWO wishes to maintain **universal feelings of mercy** with women and families in the whole world who suffer the consequences of this crisis, both directly or because of fear of terrorism.
3. Because we know that our sisters from the Middle East, who suffer an indescribable drama, **feel forgotten and betrayed by western countries**.
4. Because we are all members of the People of God and, as members of the same Body of Christ, we wish to strongly **give a testimony against the “globalization of indifference”**.
5. Because contact with those who present themselves nowadays as the “wounds of Christ”, according to Pope Francis, **requires a certain closeness, dialogue, looking into one’s eyes**, that we cannot ignore.
6. Because WUCWO’s listening and accompanying that started in Amman 2013, commits us to **a more transcendent and prolonged gesture in the building of peace**.
7. Because Catholic minorities in the countries in the Middle East **have lots of teach us as to living together, reciprocal respect and interreligious dialogue** to which WUCWO wants to open itself.
8. Because it is necessary to **get to know all the experiences women and their families are living**, which are at times only partially presented by the media, to gain thorough consciousness and act according to the Gospel.
9. Because “**a Church which goes forth**” to which the Pontifical Magisterium refers in the *Evangelii Gaudium*, encourages WUCWO women to meet with women from the Middle East.
10. Because when the Holy Virgin Mary found out her cousin needed help to take care of her family she “**got ready and hurried**” to meet her. Let us learn from her!



***The registration for Bari has been
extended
until 15 September***

[Click here to download the Registration Form from our website](#)

[Click here to download the programme](#)

[Click here to see a video](#)

What else will we do with women from the Middle East?



An ecumenical meeting with testimonies and prayers by orthodox women and women from other Christian Creeds in the Basilica of Saint Nicholas where the Ecumenical Centre is found.



A pilgrimage for the Jubilee of Mercy and a visit to the Sanctuary of Saint Pio of Pietrelcina, in San Giovanni Rotondo, where the famous Rupnik mosaics are found.



A guided tour of the works of mercy in the Sanctuary of Saint Cosmas and Damian in Bitonto.

How else can we participate in Bari 2016?

With a volunteer contribution (€20, €50, €100 or more) previously communicated by the Secretariat at wucwoparis@gmail.com

What more can we do in Bari?



UNESCO ROUTE



Matera was made a UNESCO World Heritage site, for being "the most outstanding, intact example of a troglodyte settlement in the Mediterranean region, perfectly adapted to its terrain and ecosystem". Moreover, it will be the European Capital of Culture in 2019. Matera was the one of the filming locations for Mel Gibson's film *The Passion of the Christ* and the *Ben-Hur* film, with Morgan Freeman.

Alberobello is a small town that has been made a UNESCO World Heritage site for its unusual districts of *trulli*. A *trullo* is a small dwelling built from the local limestone, with dry-stone walls and a characteristic conical roof. There are also a handful of small museums and plenty of opportunities for buying local souvenirs and to taste local products.

Castel del Monte has been the most famous building from the time of Frederick II of Swabia and is a UNESCO World Heritage site as well. The floor of the castle depicts an enigmatic symbolism, designed with mathematical and astronomic attention based on the number 8, to create special symmetries of light in the days of solstice and equinox.

EXCURSIONS AND SERVICE OFFERED BY THE HOTEL

Park Hotel Elizabeth, S.P. 89 Mariotto - Mellitto - Km 11,30 - 70032

Mariotto/Bitonto (Ba)



Visiting Bari

- The picturesque old town
- The typical Via Arco Basso
- Grannies making "orecchiette" (a type of pasta)
- The Nazario Sauro seafront walk
- The Basilica of Saint Nicholas
- The Svevo Castle (residence of Elizabeth of Aragon)
- The Bari Cathedral

Surroundings of Bari

- The Cathedral in the city of Bitonto
- The Ducal Palace in the city of Giovinazzo
- The Romanesque cathedral in the city of Trani
- The center of the town Gravina di Puglia
- The Church-Grotto of St. Michel

Spa

To relax in the Turkish bath, Finnish sauna, Jacuzzi, emotional showers, soft club, press-relax, body-face club, starry sky for color therapy, hot cloud, and personalized treatments designed for the face. Anti-stress treatments, draining, slimming, toning, exfoliating, anti-aging, thalassic therapy, color therapy. Indoor pool and whirlpool.

What can we do if we pass through Rome?



-Take advantage of the Jubilee of Mercy and make a pilgrimage to the 4 Basilicas: Saint Peter, Saint Mary Major, St. John Lateran and Saint Paul

-Visit the Shrine of our Lady of Divine Love and walk through the Holy Door

-Visit the Santuario della Divina Misericordia (Holy Spirit in Saxony) where there are the relics of Saint John Paul II and Saint Faustina Kowalska

-Take part in the canonization of the Priest Brochero, future saint of Argentina, whom the Pope will celebrate on Sunday, 16 October

Thank you for participating in Bari 2016!!!