



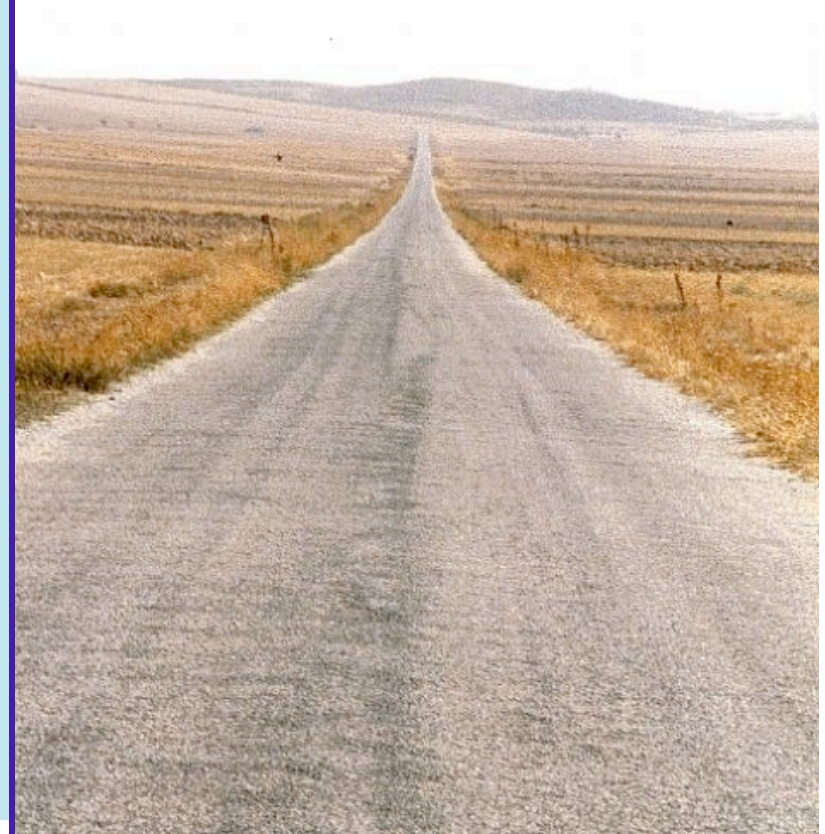
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WORLD UNION OF CATHOLIC WOMEN'S ORGANISATIONS

February 2010

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



The soul in love with my truth never ceases doing service for all the world, universally and in particular, in proportion to her own burning desire and to the disposition of those who receive. Her loving charity benefits herself first of all, as I have told you, when she conceives that virtue from which she draws the life of grace. Blessed with this unitive love she reaches out in loving charity to the whole world's need for salvation. But beyond a general love for all people she sets her eye on the specific needs of her neighbours and comes to the aid of those nearest her according to the graces I have given her for ministry: Some she teaches by word, giving sincere and impartial counsel; others she teaches by her example - as everyone ought to - edifying her neighbours by her good, holy, honourable life.

From the *Dialogue* of Saint Catherine of Siena

The greater the hope that enlivens us, the greater is the ability within us to suffer for the love of truth and good, joyfully offering up the minor and major daily hardships and inserting them into Christ's great compassion. May Mary, who, together with that of her Son, had her Immaculate Heart pierced by the sword of sorrow, help us on this journey of evangelical perfection.... Let us begin Lent in spiritual union with Mary who "advanced in her pilgrimage of faith" following her Son (cf. *Lumen Gentium*, n. 58) and always goes before the disciples on the journey towards the light of Easter.

- *His Holiness Benedict XVI*
Homily, Ash Wednesday 2008

Our Journey to Jerusalem becomes more poignant during the days of Lent as we prepare to celebrate the paschal mystery as well as our WUCWO Centenary Assembly. May we unite in prayer, immerse ourselves in Sacred Scripture, as well as the practices of fasting and almsgiving, in order to experience all that our Lord desires to reveal to us. In the company of our Blessed Mother Mary may we follow the way shown to us by Jesus rather than the path over which we sometimes stumble in our daily lives.

Karen M. Hurley
WUCWO President General
