Sincerity... Serving the cause of truth
We are such as we appear, and appear such as we are

The third theme of our reflection on the three virtues of the Just Soul is the virtue of sincerity.

For Mary Ward sincerity, truth, freedom, all these enable us to comprehend the true nature of mankind and of the created world. They are also concerned with apostolic efficacy, since they govern our relationship with God, with people and with the rest of creation.

While justice or righteousness sets its mark on all our relationships, sincerity makes us appear outwardly what we really are inwardly; sincerity means that our words do not contradict our thoughts. It integrates our dispositions, our will and our actions. It takes a lifetime for truth to become a part of our very nature. Sincerity is more than a mere absence of lies, hypocrisy, deceit, boasting and sham humility. It is concerned with "the great truth which fills my whole life". When this "great truth" shines through, then some corner of this earth becomes radiant with the light of God.

Mary Ward always loved truth and sincerity. In the ‘Brief Relation’, Mary Poyntz records what she said at the time of her imprisonment, "that she ever loved light, and to do her works in and by light". Her writings are a proof how much she longed "to live according to the truth".

(From Letters of Instruction on Mary Ward)

Opening of the Bar Convent Living Heritage Center

The Bar Convent in York, England’s oldest living convent, launched the opening of the Heritage Centre on 22 October. When the project began two years ago the House of Prayer invited all members to support the English Province in whatever way they could. Now the House of Prayer would like to invite all members to appreciate this new project. The whole congregation would like to express its heartfelt gratitude to the English Province for the great efforts they have made to develop our Mary Ward heritage in a way we can share with visitors from all over the world.

The 400th Anniversary of "The Just Soul"

Sincerity
Serving the cause of truth

House of Prayer
November ~ December 2015
We pray for the Church:

Prayer Intentions of the Holy Father entrusted to the Apostleship of Prayer

November
• Dialogue. That we may be open to personal encounter and dialogue with all, even those whose convictions differ from our own.
• Human Trafficking. That human trafficking, the modern form of slavery, may be eradicated.
• Pastors. That pastors of the Church, with profound love for their flocks, may accompany them and enliven their hope.

December
• Experiencing God's mercy. That all may experience the mercy of God, who never tires of forgiving.
• Mission in Asia. That with a missionary spirit the Christian communities of Asia may announce the Gospel to those who are still awaiting it.
• Families. That families, especially those who suffer, may find in the birth of Jesus a sign of certain hope.

We pray for consecrated life with Pope Francis:

Speaking of the role of young people in consecrated life - especially and particularly women in religious life - Pope Francis said, "You have this desire to be on the front line: why? Because you are mothers- you have this maternal quality of the Church herself, which unites you." Then, the Holy Father offered a reflection based on his own experience in Buenos Aires. "I recall a hospital in Buenos Aires that was left without sisters, because the sisters were few, elderly – and their Congregation was nearly at its end." The Holy Father went on to say, "because religious institutes are all temporary [provvisori in Italian]: the Lord chooses them for a time, then He lets go and makes another one." said Pope Francis. Still, the charism lives on, and is needed as much today as ever, if not more. "Always [be] on the front line," said Pope Francis. "The Church is the Bride of Christ, and religious sisters are brides of Christ-they draw their whole strength from there: before the sanctuary, before the Lord, in prayer with their Bridegroom, in order to carry His message" to the world.

(Pope Francis' talk to consecrated youth during the special audience taking place as the highlight of the International Congress of Young People in Consecrated Life on 17th September 2015)

We pray for and with the Congregatio Jesu:

• Sr Jane and Sr Elisabeth will visit Jerusalem in November. The makeup of the new international community in Jerusalem (1 Hungarian, 1 Korean, 1 Romanian, 1 Slovak) will be concluded in November. May their presence and mission contribute for peace in the Holy Land.
• 11 Romanian sisters and 3 Zimbabwean sisters will celebrate their Silver Jubilee in November and in December respectively.
• In December Zimbabwean sisters will make their first profession (2), renewal of vows (5), and final profession and the Fourth Vow (3).

We pray for our deceased members

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<tr>
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<tr>
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