

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER FEBRUARY 2016

### MESSAGES FROM THE MOUNTAINS

Dear Sisters

I hope this year has started well for you all. The weeks seem to be flying by already and in spite of the cold and greyness around us.

With this letter you should receive a booking form for the Irish District Retreat. It is to be held at Drumalis, Larne at the end of April. This was the place where the European Women's Conference was held last year and it is a truly lovely and inspirational place. Sr Diane Thornton, our Devotional Secretary is the retreat leader – a good opportunity to hear Diane expand on the theme of Messages from the Mountains.

You should also have received a booking form for this year's MWA Day which will be hosted by the Hall Green United Community Church, Birmingham. As usual it looks to be a day filled with opportunities for fellowship and renewal. Please book promptly as this helps the organisers of the day greatly.

The day before this event, the annual Central Committee Meeting takes place. Please bear in mind and in your prayers that we need to find two new members for the Executive Committee. We need a new Quarterly Secretary and a new Vice-President. If you think you have the talents to perform either post, don't be shy – put yourself forward and be nominated.

On 5th March, the Executive Committee will meet at the home of Sr Glenys Marshall, please pray for this meeting as we seek to find the way forward for our organisation.

As Easter is so early this year we will soon be entering Lent, a time of preparation for the greatest Christian festival – Easter. May this time of preparation be a blessing to you all. I will finish with part of a prayer written for Shrove Tuesday by Nick Fawcett:

*We thank you for this time you have given us,*

*This season of Lent, which reminds us of the need for prayer and reflection, discipline and self-examination.*

*Search us, O God and lead us in the way of life eternal. Amen*

Yours in Christ

Sr Janet Cooper