INSTITUTE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY LORETO SISTERS

MARY WARD STUDY GROUP



24th-October-2017

IBVM-EASTERN AFRICA

BACKGROUND INFO.

he Mary Ward study group is a group in which members who seek to deepen their knowledge of Mary Ward have an open access to this treasure.

This is an inspiration of Sr. Catherine Okari which she believes is a grace she received when she went for her tertianship (February- March 2016).

After sharing her thought with the Provincial, Sr. Catherine was given a go-ahead to start a Mary Ward study group. This information was included in the province newsletter, opening membership for all sisters who wished to be part of the group.

The initial name of the group was Mary Ward Committee but from the last few months it has been referred to as 'MARY WARD STUDY GROUP'

The objective of setting up this group is to study Mary Ward in order to deepen our understanding and knowledge of her. The first meeting was held on $10^{\text{th}}/07/2016$, and a number of sisters turned up, some of whom are in the photo. This was the official launch of the study group.

The second one was held on 09th/04/2017. It was about Mary Ward's early childhood, the influential people in her life and discernment of her vocation.

The third one was held on 30th//09/2017. It was facilitated by Sr. Victorine Nyang'or after she had attended the Mary Ward study summer conference in the U.K in July. The topic during the third meeting was Mary Ward's accusations.

The date for the next meeting was to be agreed upon.



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GOAL: The goal of this group is to study the life of Mary Ward in depth, share it with other members of the province and try to live fully the heritage she left behind especially her values of Sincerity, Justice and Freedom.



My hopes and expectations: That the Mary Ward study group will enlighten us more in the study of our foundress. In the latest studies, I have come to realize that there is much to be learnt about her. Sr. Maureen







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INSPIRATION:

I was overwhelmed by the different dimensions of the life of our foundress, and I knew at the core of my being that it was folly to say that I understood or even tried to imitate or even to live by the values that she passed on to us. Mary ward is extremely rich in many different ways and going through her life once in the novitiate is not enough. Sr. Catherine.



It was a brilliant idea, getting to know more about Mary Ward in whose footsteps we follow. If we don't know her, then we lose our focus! Sr. Violet

Bravo to Sr. Catherine Okari who steered the start of this group. It is a very significant group for our province as it will help members to have some time set aside to deepen our knowledge of Mary Ward our foundress. This will no doubt strengthen our sense of belonging to the larger Mary Ward family. Sr. victorine



It's very easy to just admire Mary Ward, talk about her, and pay lip service to her even as members and lack the desire to stand for what she stood. This can be tragic! And if we do not really desire to get deep into that study it will be very easy to lose the charism because we won't be drawing from her inspirations. Sr. Catherine.

> It is important to have a team that can enliven the spirit of Mary ward in the Province. Sr. JF

