



ARCHDIOCESE OF MIAMI

Office of the Archbishop

September 29, 2013

Dear Friends in Christ:

As Archbishop of Miami, I extend a most cordial welcome to the delegates of the World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations (WUCWO). It is my fervent prayer that your meeting here in South Florida will help you and your member organizations to "promote the presence, participation and co-responsibility of Catholic women in society and the Church, to enable them to fulfill their mission of evangelization and to work for human development."

The goals of your organization are consistent with Pope Francis' call for us to be "missionary disciples" that go out to the "outskirts" bringing a message of hope to our contemporaries. As the Holy Father pointed out during his visit to African migrants on the small island of Lampedusa, our world today is increasingly characterized by the globalization of indifference. Globalization has shrunk the world: we are all neighbors now – but we have yet to learn to live as brothers and sisters.

Your organization and the work that you do – nationally, regionally, and internationally – is a way to promote the globalization of solidarity. Solidarity is the Church's response to a world of fragile peace and broken promises. That solidarity is expressed through your commitment to the common good and to human dignity.

I hope that your days here in South Florida will help you advance your goals as "missionary disciples" and that your fellowship together these days will witness to the fact that to be a Christian is not a burden but a gift – and to share that gift with others is our greatest joy.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Thomas Wenski
Archbishop of Miami