

MWA PRESIDENT'S LETTER NOVEMBER 2014

WITH GOD IN THE GARDEN

Dear Sisters

What a contrast the weather is today in comparison to last month! The wind is howling and the rain lashing down as we experience the tail end of the hurricane. Summer has definitely gone and winter has arrived!

We are approaching Remembrance Sunday and of course this year we are commemorating the hundredth anniversary of the start of the First World War. I know both the devotional and home and overseas papers are going to focus on the First World War, in particular special events/displays created for this anniversary.

A few weeks ago I was able to visit the poppy installation at the Tower of London. It is an amazing sight and very moving to see all the poppies, each one representing a British military person who died in the Great War. Some years ago, I visited the Somme part of France and visited numerous Commonwealth Cemeteries as well as museums which told the tragic story of the First World War.

Whatever one thinks about war in general and the First World War in particular, it is impossible not to be moved at the sight of so many graves and so many poppies. I do feel it is important to recall the sacrifice that these men made for our country and whilst recalling this, to be determined to strive for peace in our personal and public lives.

Hopefully you will have heard about the women's conference to be held in Maryland, USA in June 2015. PEC has asked that if anyone would like to go they are happy to receive applications. Sr Patsy Holdsworth has already been selected to attend on behalf of the province and there is another place which will be funded by PEC so if you want more details and are interested in going speak with your minister.

Before you receive the papers for December, we will have celebrated Advent Sunday and the preparations for Christmas will be in full swing. I hope that Advent will be a time of spiritual preparation and reflection for the birthday of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. As I do not write the letter for December/January can I take the opportunity to wish you all a Blessed and Peaceful Christmas.

Yours in Christ

Sr Janet Cooper