

# International Women's Day 2026

*Rights, justice and action by and for all women and girls.*

## SEE

The theme for this March 8, 2026, is "Rights, Justice, and Action for and by Women and Girls." No nation has yet closed the legal gaps between men and women, as women only have 64% of the legal rights of men. In areas such as work, security, family, property, mobility, commerce, and retirement, laws disadvantage women, who face obstacles and setbacks toward equality in justice.



## JUDGE

During Jesus' public ministry, women were part of his circle of disciples (Lk 8:1-3). Throughout history, women like Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz, María Antonia de San José, Katherine Marie Drexel, Nazaria Ignacia March, Sister Dulce, and María Teresa Porcile Santiso have fought against prejudice and hierarchies, putting their theological intellect at the service of women's empowerment. Today, many women, both inside and outside the cloister, continue to weave stories of love and courage, faith and hope—women who proclaim and defend life in all its forms with their own lives.



## QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

- Are our communities adopting a more synodal, inclusive, and evangelical approach to ecclesial dialogue to address these issues?
- Are we training ourselves to mature our prophetic mission and transform these realities?



## ACT

- To organize meetings enlightened by the Word of God to share the realities of women and girls, defend equality, and examine policies that guarantee fair treatment.
- To recognize outstanding women in our personal and community histories, valuing their generous dedication.
- To motivate young people to investigate cultural practices that dehumanize and oppress the dignity of women and to support their struggles.



## COMMUNITY PRAYER

- We ask that the dignity and richness of women and girls be recognized and valued in all cultures.
- Help us fight the discrimination they face, promote their education and development, and ensure equality in dignity



## FINAL PRAYER

“Blessed are you who have believed, for what the Lord has said to you will be fulfilled!”  
(Luke 1:45)  
Lord, like Mary, we believe in your promise. Thank you because “it is women who make the world more beautiful, who guard it and keep it alive. If we love the future, if we dream of a future of peace, we must give space to women.” Amen (Pope Francis).

## FOR FURTHER EXPLORATION:

Religious and rebellious: stories of women who fought for female empowerment within the church