



ANZ Musings

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Looking Back, Looking Forward

Recently I was going through past notes with a view to ejection, when I came upon a quote from Clare Pratt in 2007, namely “I have never liked the term “government” in speaking of our life together because of its political connotations. I prefer to talk about how we are co-responsible, how we organise ourselves and provide for one another, what we need to live out of the depths of our spirituality.”

It occurred to me that is also where we are today in thinking of governance for the future. We shall always have our spirituality, our contemplative outlook to lean on. Structurally each province has to consider its present situation and many changes have already occurred. Although here we are so many in advanced age, so many in nursing homes other than our own, so many isolated from communities, could we not mostly be adding our co-responsibility in maybe new ways. In my own case I am in a very religious atmosphere with daily Mass, Sunday Exposition for example, but it is totally in the spirit, charism of the foundress, St Jeanne Jugan. I do so miss the ambience of our Society and have constantly tried to surround myself with our spirituality and Society communications, which keep me in touch though in isolation. I find ANZ Musings a great help in informing of events and reflections which otherwise I would never know about. This is the reason I am stirring myself to contribute to that communication. Though it takes time to read, the long accounts from international provinces also informs and underlines the binding *cor unum*, especially heartening news of novices here and there and meaningful contemporary ministries. Could it be possible that some at least in care of some sort might set up a regular network of communication by telephone or e-mail? The living voice makes a difference. It would be organised on a regular roster or partnership. It could be that more than one would like clarification on certain organisations, e.g. the new Sophie arrangement for education. When such information is shared, a group request could be passed to an appropriate person. This is a musing about co-responsibility communication, belongingness and some new life.

Marie Kennedy rscj

When looking for something else I came across this which I think I wrote but if anyone recognises it as coming from another's pen I would be very happy to know! I have added to it in recent days.

Even though it seems very simple and obvious it spoke to me quite strongly as I read it so I offer it as a small contribution in this moment when we are celebrating Philippine.

Esme Herscovitch rscj

Philippine – a woman for all times, places, people

Woman of the mountains
Woman of the sea
Woman of the river
Woman of the west

Woman for the children
Woman for the poor
Woman for the Indians
Woman for the slaves

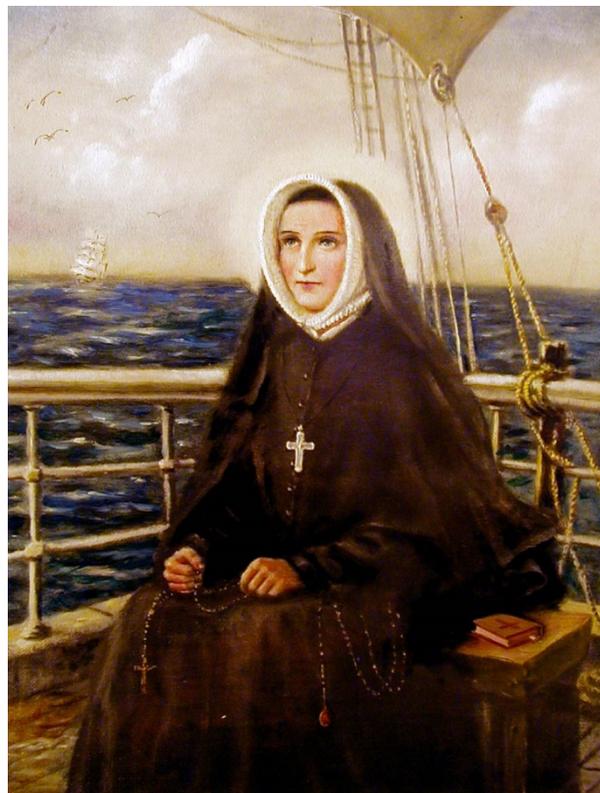
Woman of courage
Woman of endurance
Woman of love
Woman of fidelity

Woman adoring
Woman serving
Woman praying
Woman leading

Woman as friend
Woman as sister
Woman as mother
Woman as leader

Woman for you
Woman for me
Woman for us
Woman for them

Woman for today
Woman for tomorrow
Woman for all seasons
Woman for all times.





OZYMANDIAS OF EGYPT

*I met a traveller from an antique land
Who said: "Two vast and trunkless legs of stone
Stand in the desert. Near them on the sand
Half sunk, a shatter'd visage lies, whose frown
And wrinkled lip and sneer of cold command
Tell that its sculptor well those passions read
Which yet survive, stamped on these lifeless things,
The hand that mock'd them and the heart that fed;
And on the pedestal these words appear:
"My name is Ozymandias, king of kings:
Look on my works, ye Mighty, and despair!"
Nothing beside remains. Round the decay
Of that colossal wreck, boundless and bare,
The lone and level sands stretch far away.*

P.B.Shelley