



'If I were a mirror I would want to reflect...
The compassionate heart; the God within
If I were a mirror I would be
a reflection of a compassionate heart
Wrapping around the you looking untiringly at me.'

-Larretta Rivera-Williams rsm



'Pa Henare Tate, Fr Henare Tate mihi atu koe e pa – who has since passed, spoke of aroha or love and compassion as being in the presence of the breath of God. A compassionate heart, and in Māori belief, aroha, happens in the presence of people with the presence of the spirit.'

-Richard Kerr-Bell

'The winds, the earthquakes, and the fires of our world do indeed render compassion a gentle and soft whisper sometimes... In the midst of global conflicts, wars, disasters, and inequalities, the spirit of Mercy is rooted in simple hospitality: a comfortable cup of tea. And yet, this tender act is a force to reckon with. In the simplest and humblest act is where true power lies, and many whispers can become a chorus.'

-Julia Morisi

'No less than two days after the accident, Leila Abdullah and her husband Danny, at the site where their children's lives had ended so abruptly, opened their hearts to the driver who by his self-destructive actions had wiped out half their family. While dealing with their unimaginable and unfathomable loss, Danny and Leila chose to forgive Samuel Davidson.'

-Carmel McDonough rsm



Sculpture of Catherine McAuley at All Hallows' School, Brisbane
Sculptor: Meliesa Judge

'The most frequent phrase in the Gospels is "Jesus was moved with or filled with compassion."'

-Elizabeth Davis rsm

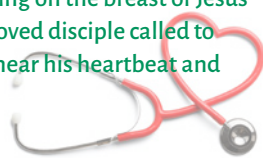
'I have to kneel before the Father, put my ear against his chest and listen, without interruption to the heartbeat of God. Then, and only then, can I say carefully and very gently what I hear.'

(Henri Nouwen)



'Can you hear the heartbeat? Those words resonate deep within. It is a question we all need to ask – and answer. How do you hear a heartbeat? How do we hear God's heartbeat? The image of the apostle John leaning on the breast of Jesus reminds us that we are like the beloved disciple called to have our heads on Jesus' breast to hear his heartbeat and from there look out at the world.'

-Sandra Lupi rsm



'Oh, Mother Vincent Whitty, I wish you could see our girls today. As a student body, they are fierce in their pursuit for Justice. Only today, I heard two of our students call on a sea of their peers to speak out about the treatment of women in society and to make it known that they will not stand for violence against women. The cheers of response from the audience must tell you that they stand united in this, still, all these years later, as you and your Sisters did.'

-Steph Langley, on the 160th Anniversary of All Hallows' School in Brisbane.

'Having a compassionate heart means allowing the heart to be touched profoundly by identifying with the nameless ones, allowing our vision to change us.'

(Howard Gray sj)



COMPASSIONATE HEART

