

'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

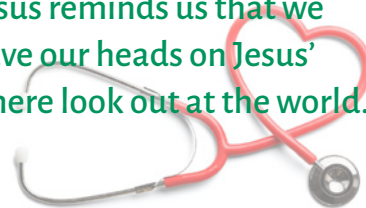
'I have to kneel before the Father,
put my ear against his chest and
listen, without interruption to
the heartbeat of God. Then, and
only then, can I say carefully
and very gently what I hear.'

(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

