



‘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

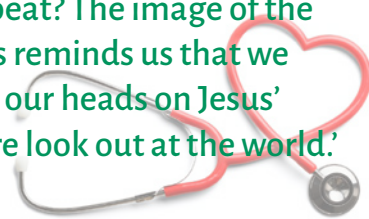
‘I have to kneel before the Father,
put my ear against his chest and
listen, without interruption to
the heartbeat of God. Then, and
only then, can I say carefully
and very gently what I hear.’

(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

Voices, Quotes and Images from Theme 2, Segment 4: Integrated
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