

Reflections of an RSCJ

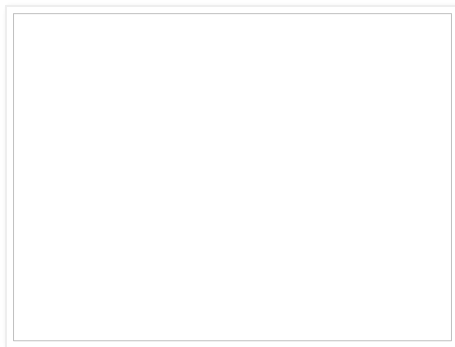
Daily reflections for prayer, growth in the spiritual life, and good prayer sources. This blog also has links to other websites. One feature is a list of spiritual books.

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Monday, October 28, 2019

My Sacred Space



This picture was taken at Villa Maria del Mar, one of my favorite places as I have made so many retreats here on the Pacific ocean. God always speaks to me in the beauty of the ocean. He spoke to me in a different way this morning. I was looking at notes I had kept from a 30-day retreat I made in the retreat house built over the cave where St. Ignatius wrote the Spiritual Exercises and I found a poem by Catherine Maguire, RSCJ written in 1940 and given to me by Sister Madeleine Desloge in 1944 when I was discerning my own vocation. I am going to share it with you today.

Regina Virginum

The night you held a child against your breast
And fed Him so, you had your full reward
For what must have been real, perhaps confessed
Reluctance in your yet complete accord.
To that decree of God's to play the part

Of childless virgin, which your race had cursed,
To live our life with empty arms and heart,
And never hold a child your breasts had nursed.

So exquisitely formed, so poised, so whole,
So utterly a woman, beg for me
That Christ, your Child, who now but lately stole
My heart to chastity, may make me see
With what delights beyond all human cost
He shall repay the little I have lost.

Read it twice! C. Maguire, August, 1940

Posted by [Helen](#) at 1:00 AM

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About Me

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Hello, my name is Helen Rosenthal, RSCJ. Those initials stand for Religious of the Sacred Heart in Latin, French, Italian, and Spanish. Since my religious congregation began in France in 1800 and now is all over the world, we have kept the RSCJ. By now you know that I am not only known as Dr. Helen Rosenthal, but also as Sister Helen Rosenthal. I am the oldest of four children. We were all born and raised in St. Louis, Missouri. We lived in a big house with a playroom on the third floor. On Sundays we either went to my paternal grandmother's house where her six children would gather faithfully for supper or we would have my mother's father and our great aunt and uncle for a roast beef dinner at home. In summer, I would go to the lake with my Dad and I still love to swim. Read more:<http://www.stu.edu/helen-rosenthal-s-bio-article-2338.html>

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Society of the Sacred Heart

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- [Janet Stuart](#)
- [Philippine Duchesne](#)
- [RSCJ International Website](#)
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Prayer Resources

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- [Mother Stuart on England's website](#)
- [Saints -brief notes on their feasts](#)
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