

No.25 September 2023

Editorial: Ann McNelley

Due to circumstances beyond our control, this is our first edition of Solidarity for this year. Though I have not put pen to paper, Sychar house has continued to provide a variety of opportunities throughout the year. It is a house where many participants are nurtured to continue their faith journey with love.

Sometime ago, the Chrysalis group reflected on John Philip Newell's book, "The Rebirthing of God". In June, I was privileged to make my own pilgrimage to the Isle of Iona which is the focus of this book. There I learned the rich history of St. Columban's mission work and that of the sisters at the Nunnery. While reflecting on their activities there and seeing the ruins of their living conditions, I was overawed at the tenacity and sacrifice these brave souls made. Sitting in the ruins of the Nunnery, I gave thanks to the Universal Christ, the country that I live in, the good people and the many blessings I have in my life.

Looking forward to sending you another newsletter before Christmas. Blessings to all.



Ruins of the Nunnery, Iona

Coming Project

Plans have been put in place for the preparation of a labyrinth in the back garden at Sychar. We are grateful to Randal and Susan Dennings from the Anglican Church in Brisbane who have offered to outline a simple grass labyrinth as their agape gift to us. Anyone who wishes to participate in this activity is welcome to be present at Sychar on the morning of Friday 6 October at 9.00 am. We expect the task will be completed within a couple of hours and Randal will then bless the labyrinth and invite those present to make a first walking of this new asset. A simple labyrinth will enable us to experiment with different styles before making any plans for enhancement.

A Poem by Deirdre Gardiner
(response to one of the sessions)

Can you hear the music?
Can you see the beauty?
Will you dance with me?

We talk, talk and rationalise
Denying the music of silence
Betray the truth of our humanity
Reduced to economics and
Winning and losing.

Celebrate the artists
The singers, the musicians
The dancers, the painters
The poets and the writers.

Let the music and the beauty
Arise!

Let our graceful living
Not desert us.

Can you hear the music?
Can you see the beauty?
Will you dance with me?



Encountering the Christ of the Gospels – Group One.



Space for Taize and Sacred Remembrance Sessions -
A Moyalia creation

Bill and Kiki Sharing Tips for Window Cleaning



Krys extends her care for the
garden to its animal visitors.



Remember? (Lyn Lee)

I do remember...
the fairytale
How life passes us by
silently
and then the reminders.

do you remember?
I remember the memories
yes I remember the silences
I remember the beauty,
the joy...
the resounding truth in silences

the silences that morph into stillness
and listening...
the quiet spirit of truth
discerning the path...

Walking the path,
walking alone
in the fairytale of life
as we all walk alone
in our pain and suffering
one way or another

connecting with the forgotten tale
the Cinderella
dare we dream our dream?

