A story from your history

Connie,

The foundation of Antwerp and Hookstrackt, martyrdom was very characteristic of their mental state.

There parents had fled UK Henry viii. Very conscious of martyrdom and how it influenced their lives. How did folks struggle through this.

First Carmelites that came to Europe, they had to adapt.

Move from Port Tobacco to Baltimore. Bishop Carroll had a rescript for the sisters to teach. They refused, because they supported themselves via the farming. Archbishop insisted that could not be supported by alms. The sisters taught for 20 years and it was non denomination. Anything to survive. The life wasn’t destroyed.

Second Vatican Council ‘ Nuns federations and CCA itself.

It is our turn to be brave.

To foster the charism that is ours.

Keep ourselves grounded in the bigger story.

Part of the larger liminal shift ‘ Spirituality and long

What does this reality mean for contemplative life\_

For CCA

What would be some of challenges for living the contemplative life ‘ for the future\_\_

two facts of this for CCA ‘ Two pronged reality. ‘ We have a group of our sisters who are no longer living in monasteries… it is a facet of contemplative life today, what kind of strengthening could come from his situation.. because this is the reality.

The other part, where we are living in monasteries, gathering people around us for liturgies.. and sharing the contemplative life with younger people. There is a tendency to turn toward monasteries for what the young are seeking..

Hosting a group of young high school students.. he walked in a sacred space that helped him discern.

I was very encouraged that the diocese of Cleveland and Baltimore had people coming into the Church, as well as in England.. this could be a sign of hope

People who come for weekend liturgies, find peace. Priests like to celebrate because it is a place and space of faith and attentiveness to liturgy.

Students come to study and listen.

We need to be seen more broadly and not so many rules.

Our dispersed sisters are really important. Example of Sr. Thomas Acquinas while in a care center was a like a minister to the people, Sr. Mercedes, who was a source of joy to the staff. Bridge builders… not sure where the bridge is going.

Nuns and nuns… spiritually seekers… Meetings online, how do we exercise power, starting in philosophy, sisters and non sisters. Conversations…

Taking care of the earth… what is the spirituality that underlies this.

Out of the chaos, something new can come… Not data to lose hope.

Can we hold this time, in the larger world, and in our communities, that in there there is something

The reality is darkness, in which we may be the light.

In the beginning, the middle, and end, we work. Every sister needs to do the inner work.

This is a hard process. No excuse. The welfare of our communities depends on it.

Grace in the midst of liminality.

Grace is found wholly in the experience of liminality. We are being vulnerable in a society that values competence. Exalt in woundedness. Grace rarely comes as a gentle push to change. °like a kick in the teeth°

Irony of the gospel is that the good news come from the bad news.

What happens in liminality we are shaken out of our complacency.

In biblical faith we are shaken out of our expectations. Think of the psalms..

God is never what Pharoh expects..

what you see is not what you get in biblical images..

Divine love is incessant. It turns woundedness into health.

In biblical faith , brokenness is not the end, but love on the way to completion.

Into the desert, out to the mountain

Jesus driven into the desert… ekballo, roughly thrown.. Jesus finds comforts and solace, Jesus going to places of abandonment. The desert,liminal space. In the desert the 5 thousand were fed.

We are drawn to the mountain.. difficult terrain.. Jesus is always leading people to the new. Luring people to a deeper understanding of who we are. Pushing the edges of our understanding.. This is place of transformation.

I am lavish with riches made from loss.

Make a new heart, make a new heart out of this experience.

Asha story…