

“The Spirit of the Lord...”

The only way that I, a Catholic woman, a Sister of Mercy, and at this moment serving in Leadership for the CCASA (Caribbean, Central America, South America Community), am able to remain firm in Gospel values is by trying to be “Good News for the poor,” according to the mission of Jesus in Luke 4: 18-19:

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he has appointed me to preach Good News to the poor; He has sent me to heal the brokenhearted and to announce that captives shall be released and the blind shall see, that the downtrodden shall be freed from their oppressors, and that God is ready to give blessings to all who come to him.

To live in Latin America, allowing the poor in this corner of the earth to evangelize me, challenge me, renew me as well as my spirit and vision, is a GIFT. Living the values of Vatican II, as well as living the values of the Puebla and Medellin Documents, helps me in the cause for justice, with a strong preferential option for the poor. Being incarnated into the reality of the less fortunate... the economically poor, opens for me the door of continuous transformation and conversion.

The poor can and will save themselves, with or without us, but we cannot be liberated without them. Through them we can hear the voice of Jesus, feel His hands and strength in the political, social, and economical struggles of the poor. I truly believe that solidarity with the less fortunate is central to challenge our hearts to serve and be GOOD NEWS for others, as was Catherine McAuley, especially for women and children.

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