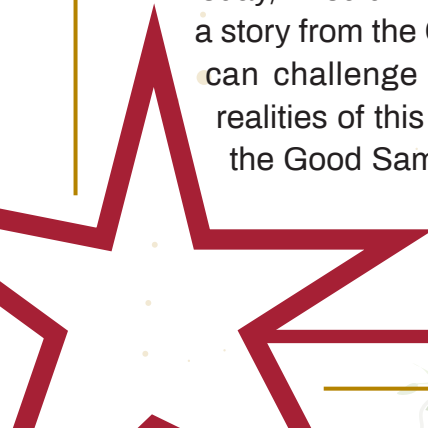


Our theme today is
**“We Can’t
Keep Quiet.”**

2020 - what an unexpected time it has been. As we, the Lasallian community, continue on this journey, we continue to be open, inclusive and welcoming. I first heard of De La Salle’s process of double contemplation from Br. Gerard Rummery as someone new to the Lasallian family. The first contemplation of De La Salle was the realities of his time, De La Salle’s personal experience of being at the margins with and for young people, especially the poor. The second contemplation was looking at these same realities through the lens of the desires of the spirit, of Something More, of God. What does this loving spirit that binds the universe, the same spirit that connects us with one another through time and space, invite us to contemplate or to do? It is the marrying of these two perspectives which is the double contemplation.



Today, I would like to suggest that there is a story from the Christian Scriptures that can challenge us to contemplate the realities of this moment: the parable of the Good Samaritan.

From the Australian perspective as part of the global human story, 2020 has included smokey haze from bushfires covering our land, the outbreak of COVID-19 and the phenomenon of staying at home together, the amplified Black Lives Matter movement, resonant calls that Indigenous lives matter, and more. There is much to contemplate; can we do so and heed the call to be present within all that is happening as a tangible expression of the loving face of God, as the Good Samaritan was for his fellow traveller?

The name of our theme today comes from the song “Quiet” by the artist MiLCK. This song was composed out of her own experiences and sung as a collective cry for the rights of women in 2017. This is an example of over a million people in Washington and all around the world, who undertook the process of double contemplation - they saw a real need which called to them to undertake bold, loving action. De La Salle didn’t keep quiet about young people’s need for education; what can’t we keep quiet about today?

You are invited first to listen to this song:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JCnexOFOxCo>

... and then to contemplate The Parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10: 25-37):



Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbour as yourself." And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live."

But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbour?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance, a priest was going down that road;

and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while travelling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.' Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbour to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

Reflection Questions

- What can't you keep quiet about?
- The Samaritan was moved to come close to another person. How or what are you/we being drawn close to at this time?
- What else from today's reflection resonates with you?

Lasallian Reflection is developed by the Lasallian Formation for Mission Team.

For more information contact us at:

✉ formationformission@delasalle.org.au ☎ 02 9795 6400 🌐 www.delasalle.org.au

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