

Reflection Monday Week 30 – 2022

There are times in life when the worries and decisions we face are so many we feel bent double by their weight with little hope of being set free. However, we may also read this text differently. For centuries, in society as well as in the Church, women have been bent double by being prevented from sharing their wisdom, inspiration and insights that would truly benefit the Church and help her be more faithful and more fruitful in living and missioning the gospel.

One of the urgent calls from the synodal sharing is to give women a recognised place in the Church especially in the area of decision-making where their voice is not only invaluable but absolutely essential.

Today we are beginning to realise that the Roman Church has two lungs: male and female. At the moment it is mainly using one lung. Recognising and facilitating the use of the second lung can only be of benefit to the whole Church and the sooner the better.

Listen to Pope Francis:

“When we speak of women, we speak in a functional way: a woman is for doing this, for doing, no! First, she is for something else: woman brings something without which the world would not be like this. She brings a richness that man and all of creation and all the animals do not have. When there is no woman, harmony is lacking.

This is a society with a strong masculine attitude. It lacks a woman’s touch. It is just that man does not bring harmony: it is she who brings that harmony that teaches us to caress, to love tenderly, and who makes of the world something beautiful. This is the future; this is what was missing. Woman comes to crown creation. She brings harmony to creation!!”

- **A diplomat** is a man who always remembers a woman's birthday but never remembers her age.
- **I accidentally** handed my wife a glue stick instead of a chapstick. She still isn't talking to me.
- You should argue with your wife only when she's not around.