

## Reflection Thursday Week 6 2023

The rainbow, the great sign of hope from heaven. It almost appears as though the sun is driving away the rain. It uplifts, comforts and brings joy to the heart.

The Latin America Youth Ministry [CELAM] sports a rainbow coloured cross representing the symbol of the YM. Each colour represents a region within CELAM's ministry:

**Green: Represents the Region of Mexico and Central America**

**Yellow-orange: Represents the Caribbean Region**

**Red: Represents the Andean Region**

**Blue: Represents the Southern Cone Region**

Likewise, the shape of the Cross echoes the orientation of the Central and South American continent. The colours represent the ecosystems that Latin America possesses: the jungle, volcanoes, beaches and sea.

### **Christina Rosetti**

Boats sail on the rivers,  
and ships sail on the seas;  
but clouds that sail across the sky  
are prettier far than these.

There are bridges on the rivers,  
as pretty as you please;  
but the bow that bridges heaven,  
and overtops the trees,  
and builds a road from earth to sky,  
is prettier far than these.

### **Pastor Connie Ciccone**

Whatever your cross, whatever your pain,  
there will always be sunshine, after the rain.  
Perhaps you may stumble, perhaps even fall,  
but God's always ready, to answer your call.  
He knows every heartache, sees every tear,  
a word from His lips, can calm every fear.  
Your sorrows may linger, throughout the night,  
but suddenly vanish, in dawn's early light.  
The Saviour is waiting, somewhere above,  
to give you His grace, and send you His love.  
Whatever your cross, whatever your pain,  
"God always sends rainbows after the rain."

### **Prayer:**

*Rainbows are a reminder that God is with us and His promises will never be broken. Let us be thankful that our Heavenly Father enfolds us in His care always. In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

**I was at a barber shop in Bangkok** and I asked to get my hair dyed, and for the barber to surprise me. I noticed that it was taking a bit longer than hair dyeing normally would, and when I looked at the finished job in the mirror, I noticed that they were in rainbow swirls.

When I asked the barber, "What is this?" he told me, "Well, it's a Thai dye."