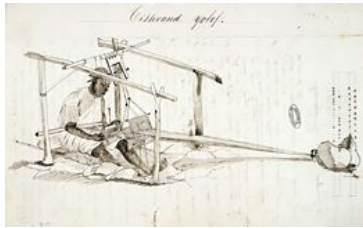


By way of transition... towards the Congregational Chapter



Man **WEAVER** ?

Woman **WEAVER** ?



Young weaver in Thailand

Any one who has the experience of weaving knows that it is not a simple and instantaneous technique or procedure.

There are the preliminary stages before weaving (raising of sheep, cultivation of cotton and all that is necessary to pass from the raw materials of cotton or wool to the strands for weaving...), such complexity, and so many persons involved !

Weaving strictly speaking in material terms can be hand-made or machine-made, primitive or sophisticated. The techniques, demand a lot of attention ; the skills are learned and acquired after a long time, which can then be transmitted.

Any one who has experienced weaving - or re-weaving - links between persons knows that it is not such an easy, if not an impossible mission without the help of divine grace !

To weave lasting links between persons presupposes a lot of patience - compassion - just like in weaving textile, the « knots » in the warf or the woof are proofs of reconciliation, links made over and over so that the textile gets longer.



God weaves creation : one long work of "birthing"

"God looked at everything He had made, and found it very good. Evening came and morning followed... (Gn 1, 31).

God wove the life of man and woman within the structure of the of the environment he created. He created them in "His image and likeness" ... in "global solidarity".

* Garden of Eden, tapestry by Gobelins

The Incarnation re-establishes the bond between heaven and earth

The Covenant which God made with His People, man has broken by sin. Through Mary, with her "Yes", this covenant was again re-established. She, she had never broken that chain of love which attached her to God. And thanks to her, the entire fabric of humanity, in the humanity of Jesus which she had given Him, we share once more in a new humanity : we are sons and daughters of God in Jesus.



* Annunciation, Tapestry Abbaye de la Chaise-Dieu

Mary « wove » Jesus in her womb



« You have formed my inmost being: you knit me in my mother's womb. » (Ps 138:13)

« You have in some way, the same vocation with the Mother of God, because just as God has chosen to form His Son in her, through her He forms the heart of the faithful ... » (SJE)

« Be like God... live only His life, seek Him only, breath Him only ... » (SME)

* Nativity, Tapestry Abbaye de la Chaise-Dieu

SJE weaves the faith from one world to the other

John Eudes preached just as well in the palace of Versailles, before the King and Queen, as when giving Missions in the numerous parishes in Normandie. He announced the love of God and the tenets of the faith to simple, ignorant folks just as well as he gave counsel to religious communities. He wrote, he gave formation, and founded institutions to communicate the faith and make it alive.



SME was herself a weaver (her network of relations and letters)

We can look at the elements in the life of Mary Euphrasia with these as key to our reading :



continents

*Tapestry. Mme Fallourd

- ♥ She wove relations with simple and noble persons
- ♥ She welcomed novices and postulants from all countries, taught them to live together, to communicate, to respond to their apostolic or contemplative vocation, to establish foundations, she traversed the whole world for the "salvation of souls"
- ♥ She founded houses for women in distress throughout the universe
- ♥ She wrote more than 1,500 letters; her letters to the Communities reached the Sisters throughout the five

Networks today

Good Shepherd - NGO
Justice and Peace
Spirituality Centers
Network against Human Trafficking



Women around the world

Where are we ?

All the units weave network with women in distress wherever we are, often with their young children

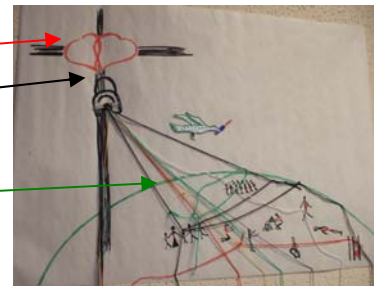


Sharing Fair

Sharingfair.europe@zustersdegoedeherder.nl
<http://www.handcraftingjustice.org/>
<http://www.thetradingcircle.com.au/>

Wireless Network and Communication ?

What allows us to be, men and women weavers today, is the big Heart of Jesus and Mary to whom we are attached like the pulley which keeps the threads anchored. Without that, the weaving will collapse, what then will happen to the fabric already made.



Output during the Session of Spirituality Centers February 2009.

Compassion,
Reconciliation,
Global solidarity,
are the gifts we offer to the Church,
which as Good Shepherd people we are asked to weave today
for all human beings with whom we come in contact
knowing that they are "precious in His eyes"
and that with everyone else, they are the pearls in Indra's net.



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