

Engaging the Heart Sessions

Day 1

Wednesday
1 September 2021
from 3.45–4.30pm

My Story

Rosemary Kariuki, Australian of the Year Local Hero 2021, Advocate for migrant and refugee women

Rosemary's warmth, courage and kindness inspire all who meet her. Join her as she shares some of her stories.

Stories from the Torres Strait

Rev Canon Victor Joseph, College Principal, Wontulp-Bi-Buya College

Originally from Thursday Island, Victor also acknowledges his Polynesian, Melanesian, Torres Strait, Malaysian and Aboriginal ancestry (Wuthathi). His totems are the coconut climbing crab, the Womer (frigate bird), Galbol (whale), Serar (pigeon), Tabo (snake) and Yama (diamond stingray).

Victor began work at Wontulp-Bi-Buya College 15 years ago and continues there today as Principal. He contributes to this College with his God-Given abilities, skills and strengths.

Born into the Torres Strait Island Culture and traditions, one of his passions is to share this with anyone who has time to listen.

The Call to Love

Sally Neves, Integral Ecology Animator and Mission Ministry Resource Coordinator of ISMAPNG and Margie Abbott rsm, Igniting Sparks, McAuley Ministries

When “the future of the tree of life is now at the mercy of human decision and indecision” (Elizabeth Johnson, *Ask the Beasts*), we realise we live in a pivotal moment in the planet's long history where we are called “at last to love the whole world with an all embracing love” (Dostoevsky, *Brothers Karamazou*). This session is an invitation to hear the cries of Earth in the deepest core of our beings.

Connecting your heart and hands

Jayce Pei Yu Lee, scribe, visual catalyst, artist

We are in an era full of changes and crises. In this moment of accentuated conflict, communication gaps and deep social and political divisions, no one can remain unaffected. How might we awaken our sensing capacity in order to navigate through the unknown and uncertainty around us?

Participants are invited to join an interactive and experiential session that activates the capacity of listening and sensing, through the intelligence of the heart and hands, no drawing skills needed, and all are welcomed to bring along favourite drawing pens, markers and a couple of A4 papers.

Engaging the Heart Sessions

Day 2

Thursday
2 September 2021
from 3.30–4.15pm

‘Every Breath is a Resurrection’ – Gregory Orr

Lyndall Brown rsj, Spiritual Accompanier of Retreats and Workshops

A time to awaken our appreciation and the gift of Breath through deepening our consciousness – of the Spirit of God as Breath and the Spirit of God as Viriditas – life energy.

Through contemplative processes the group will be invited to be aware of the ‘Greening’ that has emerged within them through the input, the reflection and the sharing that has taken place during the day.

Drawing on Hildegard of Bingens’s understanding of the Greening Power of God those gathered can savour and honour the creativity of thought, the emergence of new possibilities and the challenges offered during the day for living more fully the Mission of God.

Forget the offering of your perfect dance

Cecilia King, Affiliate of the Sisters of Saint Joseph, working as a Dance Movement Therapist and Counsellor Dance therapy

Enter an embodied process to connect with the brokenness of our body and our stories, as individuals and as a collective. Forget the perfect dance of wholeness, but rather let us be cracked open so the light can get in. Let the light lead the dance instead of our ideals.

No dance experience required.

What is nature saying?

Andrew Skeoch, educator and naturalist

We inhabit the world through our senses. Deep listening to the natural world can allow us to learn not only about nature, but from nature.

Communication animates the biosphere. From the beauty of birdsong, the complexity of frog and insect choruses, the wild voices of animals, to the myriad sounds of aquatic and marine environments – each species has its own sophisticated language.

When we hear creatures communicating, we are perceiving their interactions and relationships, and hence the processes of an ecosystem by which nature ensures the continuance of life. Thus listening can tell us of natural principles that inform sustainability. Can reflecting on these offer us perspective from which to address the social and environmental challenges we currently face?

In this session, Andrew will suggest ways of nurturing a practice of deep listening, and take us on a personal quest to understand what nature is saying.

Stories from Africa

Rosalie Ilboudo FMM

Rosalie is a Franciscan Missionaries of Mary (FMM) from Burkina Faso who has worked in nursing and midwifery. Coming from a large family, she has always felt passionate about caring for people.

Join her as she shares her experiences of working in very difficult situations with limited qualified staff and resources, working for long hours and setting up successful programs to minimize deaths.