Reimagining Exercises for Leadership Teams

Take each of these suggestions by Lyons and discuss how your ministry can respond to today's call for action for the vulnerable and those made poor.

What social ills could you address? How can you be socially aware?

How can you build a Presentation network?

What could your ministry do differently?

Are there borders or boundaries you have yet to cross?

Is there a role for everyone in your ministry? How do you invite everyone to contribute?

What resources in your ministry do you need to care for and build up for God's mission into the future?

How do Marachel's descriptors of charism operate in your ministry? What else could you do?

- A story to enter: How and when do you tell Nano's story and that of the Presentation women who founded your ministry? How can this be extended?
- A language to speak: What Presentation words, images and symbols are special to your place. How are they displayed and used? What new language is needed?
- A group to which to belong: How does your ministry nurture belonging?

- A way to pray: What prayers, rituals and celebrations are special to your ministry? What other ways of celebrating could be used?
- A work to undertake: What is your work? Who are you called to serve? Has this call changed?
- A face of God to see: What face does your ministry present to those you meet every day?⁸

CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING EXTRACTS FROM FLANAGAN

How do these words help guide the ongoing process of reimagining?

There is enormous work to be done at the level of signification if the prophetic Presentation song is to be interpreted and sung in our time.

It may not/will not be the exact same song that Nano sang. It cannot be, because we are in a very different place. But the basic melody will be recognizable.

Perhaps a harmony line or a descant, a base line or a chorus may be added. But the essentials of the song remain the same.

In the strengthening of our resolve to ensure the continuation of the Presentation song, we are invited to embrace the new and the untried.

We do not know what shape or form the Presentation way will take into future or how the charism will continue to evolve. All we know is that it will be different. It will bear the hallmark of newness. There will be continuity with the past and discontinuity too, as with all evolution.

Because the Presentation charism is a living and particular refraction of the Gospel, it is dynamic. It is also enfleshed.⁹

What part of the song is your ministry singing?

Are there 'hallmarks of newness' in your current practice?

What can your ministry contribute to the 'enfleshing' of Presentation charism today?

What 'enormous work' needs to be done to reimagine the Presentation charism into the future?

What would you like your ministry to look like in fifty years time?

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