*We gather in solidarity with women religious for*

***Communal Contemplative Prayer – Date, 202x***

***Settle into the immense Love in which we live and move and have our being....***

As I sit here, the beating of my heart,  
          the ebb and flow of my breathing, the movements of my mind  
          are all signs of God's ongoing creation of me.  
          I pause for a moment, and become aware  
          of this presence of God within me….

*Notice if some words or images here lead you to rest in God. Follow them, or*

*just follow the Spirit.*

**A poem by Hafiz**

**​**

Fear is the cheapest room in the house.

I would like to see you living  
In better conditions,

for your mother and my mother  
were friends.

I know the Innkeeper  
In this part of the universe.  
Get some rest tonight,  
Come to my verse tomorrow.  
We’ll go speak to the Friend together.

I should not make any promises right now,  
But I know if you  
Pray  
Somewhere in this world-  
Something good will happen.

God wants to see  
More love and playfulness in your eyes  
For that is your greatest witness to Him.

***30 minutes of silence***

***We welcome one another’s reflections and prayers****.*

**Closing:** Dear God, may we never forget how much we need each other. After all, we are connected through your creation. Let us not be afraid to talk, to laugh, to cry, and to share stories and our lives with each other. Amen.

Or: Come, Holy Spirit. Fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in us the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and we shall be created, and You shall renew the face of Earth. Amen.

Settling in: modified from Sacred Space, a website of the Irish Jesuits

Hafiz (Hafez) is Khwaja Hafez Shirazi (1326-1389).

First Closing prayer option: Maria Shriver’s Sunday Paper <https://www.mariashriversundaypaper.com/>

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