



January 21, 2020

Dear Sisters,

As we enter a new decade, we continue our *Women at the Well Dialogues* to strengthen and renew our shared charism. Session 5 is entitled ***Navigating New Thresholds Together: Communal Discernment***. The Session is scheduled for Tuesday, February 25th as follows:

Eastern 1:30 - 3pm; **Central** 12:30 - 2pm; **Pacific** 10:30am –12 noon; **Kirkintilloch** 6:30 - 8pm

As a reminder, if you participated in Session 4 you are already registered for Session 5. Building on Session 4, we will also use the same communal discernment process for this Session. However, in Session 5 we will be using an actual CCA discernment question rather than a case study.

Attached are 3 documents to be used in preparing for Session 5, which all sisters are asked to review and prepare:

- Reference Reading drawn from recent important Carmelite documents
- Pre-Session Reflection Document including CCA-specific thought-starter ideas
- Personal Discernment Worksheet

Closer to the Session date we'll send you a list of the small groups and the ZOOM link.

As in previous Sessions, the process will include the pre-session reading and reflection work and facilitated small groups. Facilitators will guide the small group discernment. Every sister will share insights from her own pre-reflection work and participate in small group discussion.

The Session 5 discernment question is drawn from several Carmelite reference documents included in the pre-session reference reading material. These sources encourage us to re-imagine associations in a new paradigm, particularly seeking ways to support each monastery while keeping CCA a viable association. The Session 5 discernment question is:

***In what ways can we imagine new ways of collaborating as a CCA association
that will deepen communion within the association
as well as support individual communities?***

Finally, in addition to providing an opportunity for sisters to continue working with a communal discernment model, Session 5 also has the potential to serve as preparation for the CCA 2020 Assembly. We believe by listening deeply to one another and inviting the Holy Spirit into our considerations we become instruments of divine imagination and possibility thinking. We look forward to exploring this potential with all of you in Session 5.

Sincerely,
Claire, Elizabeth, Celia