

Creative Workshop Talk

- 'Wow' languages -

58

OUR WOW LITANY (based on our aims and objectives)All sing: **Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison**

All say;

We, women and men of WOW, 'Women's Ordination Worldwide' created in Austria in 1996 are called to be a force for change.

This is our resolve, our commitment. We are part of a campaign concerned to change the malfunctioning structure and wrongful system of our Roman Catholic Church.

We too, in *our* way of working, must draw away from *their* set patterns of hierarchy, secrecy and exclusion,

All sing: **Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison**

All say;

As Global women we are called to rise above racist and nationalist divisions. We are urged to bring together different national organizations working towards the recognition of women in leadership positions and the ordained priesthood in all our Churches

All sing: **Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison**

All say;

We are to support women's equality in all Faith Religions working especially to free the churches from the sin of institutional sexism. We are called to be healers of divisions between women and men and laity and clergy

All sing: **Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison**

All say;

Our work is to foster the gifts of all women, which the church rejects, and in turn is bereft in its mission, due to the exclusion of women from its priestly ministry. We are prepared to work for a much renewed ordained ministry where clericalism and acts of supremacy are anathema

All sing: **Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison**

All say;

We are committed to facilitating global, public occasions for broad based discussion to raise awareness about the unacceptable place of women in the Roman Catholic Church.

We are concerned as to the gender-dominated theology proclaimed by those in positions of hierarchical power and we are conscious of the need to help the issue of accepting women to ordination in a renewed priesthood in the Roman Catholic Church be made known as extensively as possible. Let our litany be our renewed resolve. Let our commitment be strong for these are the reason we are gathered as WOW.

All sing: **Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison**

BLESSING OF THE WATER

(All stretch out a hand over the water)

All; May this water be a blessing on us,
 as water of life,
 as water of cleansing,
 as water of forgiveness,
 water as a sign of our servant hood
 (say any other signs you feel this water can be?)

Let us be fit to wash the hands of others in preparation for our breaking of bread and fit to have our hands washed as a sign of receiving the word broken.

THE HAND WASHING (Music)

Two people come forward to the bowl of water.
 One washes the hands of the other and dries them.
 The one whose hands have been washed returns to their place.
 Someone else then comes forward and washes and dries the hands of the remaining person.
 That person then whose hands have been washed returns to their place and another person comes to the bowl to wash the hands of the person remaining.
 It continues like that till all have had their hands washed and all have washed another's hands.

GRACE.....before our supper

(Standing palm to palm with the two people next to us in the circle)
 (repeat line by line)

May this nourishment from the earth be respected
 May those who toil for our provision be rewarded
 May our words work love and joy around us
 As we take our meal, break our bread, share a cup together.
 Sing; **Alleluia Alleluia Alleluia Alleluia Alleluia**
 Invite a kiss of peace as we accompany each other into dinner.
 (At the table) All; **'Let us sit down as equals'**

WOW 25th. March 1999 - DAY OF PRAYER FOR WOMEN'S ORDINATION CELEBRATING THE "UNEXPECTED"

Gather in a circle

Welcome - Introduction

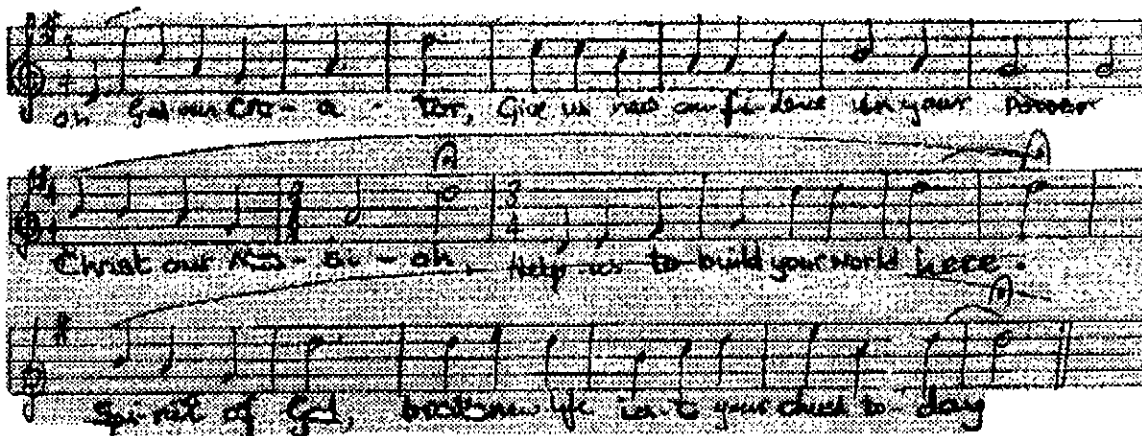
Leader: On this day 25th. March, Feast of the Annunciation in the Liturgical Year of 1999, we of Women's Ordination Worldwide gather again for our worldwide day of prayer. We unite with other women and men from many countries and continents who care deeply about the RC Church and recognise its renewed need to hold closely to Gospel values.

All: We believe that the Gospel speaks about freedom from oppression and calls women to full participation in all aspects of life and the church as a matter of justice.

Leader: So we pray to day especially for a new inclusive and accepting attitude to women in our church;

All : where all our / their gifts are valued
our/ their leadership respected
and benefits from sharing decision making
and the celebration of the sacramental ministry of priesthood is open to women.
WE(going round the circle each person calls their name)
ask this of you, God our Creator,
Christ our Messiah,
Spirit our Inspirer.

Sing: O God our Creator, give us new confidence in your power.
Christ our Messiah, help us to build your world here.
Spirit of God breathe new life into your church today.



Reading: (In turn around circle). "METANOIA"

i. Even John, the person sent to prepare for Christ's coming had to question whether Jesus was the "one", so unlikely was He in their expectations of the Christ, Messiah.

- ii. We women for priestly ordination accept that to some we may be the "unexpected", different from the traditionally accepted norm.
- iii. But as Christ said, when questioned if he was the Messiah, judge by what you see and hear.
- iv. So we look and see how so " many women astonish us", in their ministry;
- v. doing God's work, with little recognition;
- vi. preaching the Good News, though silenced in doing so;
- vii. constant in keeping faith with our God, though rejected and ridiculed by our tradition and structure, because by Divine choice we happen to be women.
- viii. We name this shame which stunts the growth of God's will, to make our world whole.
- ix. We call for a metanoia (Matt. 3:2) a change of heart, a conversion to permeate right through our Church and heal it of the evil sickness of sexism.

All: It is significant that we designate this day, the Feast of the Annunciation as our day to witness for women's ordination. We are moved to do so by the Spirit. Mary of Nazareth accepted so much of the "unexpected", from her son's unimagined conception to His devastating death by execution. We are called to take great risks also and act counter to the life, laws and culture within the hierarchical church of our times.

(Optional sharing of unexpected experiences, which have called you to do things in your life).

COLLECT:

All: Come Christ,
Sustain us with your life giving power
See in us your image
Kindle in us the fire of prophetic enthusiasm
To carry the vision of your wisdom,
Where we are called to a discipleship of equals
Who live simply
Love tenderly
And act justly.

SING: (South African- Thuma Mina) (Tune at end of service)

- i. Spirit of God send your Spirit (3 times) at this hour.
- ii. Spirit of God send us Spirit (3 times) throughout the world.

ANOINTING:

Leader: Anointing with oil is an ancient ritual of strengthening another's resolve.
(We anoint the palms of the person to our left with words such asBe strengthened in your resolve to do what you feel God asks of you.)

SING:

I, the God of land and sky
I have heard my people cry
All who dwell in dark and fear
My hand will save.
I who made the stars of night
I will make their darkness bright
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

CHORUS

We will go your Spirit calls us
We will walk humbly by your side
Let us go, God, to act justly
And to love your people tenderly.

I, the God of snow and rain
I have heard my people's pain
I have wept for love of them
Some turn away.
I will change their hearts of stone,
Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them
Whom shall I send ?

CHORUS

I the God of breath and life
Women I will send who strive.
I will set a feast for them
Who bake and bless
Finest bread I will provide
Till their hearts be satisfied
I will give my life to them
You will I send.....

CHORUS**FINAL PRAYER AND BLESSING**

O compelling God,
announcing your presence
not among the mighty
but in obscurity.
You move us with a compulsion
to acknowledge the injustice in our midst,
to reject the structures and attitudes that discriminate
and to bring insight
and the possibilities of changes

to all those
in positions of power.
Remove the obstructing
devisive shadow of ignorance,
prejudice and institutional greed
which clouds the vision of you church.

(Place the right hand on the shoulder of the person next to you for a blessing.)

Send your Spirit of hope
to overshadow us
make us worthy leaders
in the transforming work, you have planned.
Give us energy and determination
in our choosing
to co-operate with you
to build a new way
through Jesus Christ incarnate.

KISS OF PEACE

(Liturgy prepared by Catholic Women's Ordination, U.K the London group, 1999).

THUMA SP RIT OF GOD

The Spirit of God

1. This voice 2nd no, 1st 2nd no, 1st 2nd no, 1st 2nd no
Send your Spirit, send your Spirit, send your Spirit

The Spirit of God

1. Spirit, at this hour, throughout the world. 2. Send us Spirit