

Associate Partnership

NANO NAGLE AND OUR FOUNDING STORY



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Conversation One

Nano Nagle and Our Founding Story

Welcome

God is manifest in the day-to-day ordinary and extra-ordinary experiences of our lives.
If you are willing, share a happening or insight from life during the past month.

Prayer

Light a lantern and enter into prayerful meditation.

Leader

Let us take a few moments to be aware of God's abiding presence ...

Close your eyes ...

Be aware of your breathing ...

Breathe in ... Breathe out ...

Be still within and without ...

Pause

Leader

God of all our days, we affirm and acknowledge your presence within and among us.
We offer the experiences and insights shared and those that rest in our hearts as we sit
in grateful silence aware of your love, your presence.

Brief silence (1-2 minutes)

Read Together.

Nano's Daring

She was a woman who, in her simplicity, yet dared greatly ...
dared to let herself be guided by the Spirit of God.

And when He, like some will-o'-the-wisp on the mountains,
led her from the warmth of what was safe and comfortable,
out past the four walls of what was "enough" and "reasonable,"
away beyond the security of the familiar, tried and proven,
she followed with laughter in her heart.

For she had caught a glimpse of the Divine delight in reversing human logic,
in drawing power from weakness, wisdom from folly, life from death.

In this lay her strength.

This is Nano Nagle.

(Raphael Consedine, PBVM, One Pace Beyond)

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View Youtube Video

(Choose one of the two videos.)

- Nano Nagle
(bit.ly/nanonagle)
- An Introduction to Nano Nagle and Her Work
(bit.ly/nanonagle2)

Shared Reflection and Discussion on *One Pace Beyond*

(Choose from the following questions.)

- Share your general impressions, images, thoughts after reading and reflecting on *One Pace Beyond*.
- How would you describe Nano Nagle? What in her story offers you inspiration and hope? What surprised you or unsettled you?
- Nano's experience with a piece of silk led to a conversion experience. Recall some of the influences around her that contributed to her conversion or change in how she viewed the world around her. What personal conversions have you experienced in your life and how did they happen?
- How would you describe Nano's motivation for doing what she did, and where did she get her strength? Nano seemed to find the balance between contemplation and action. What forces do we have to overcome to find that balance?
- Nano was often restless in her life. What does her struggle with restlessness offer us today? Have you experienced the spirit of God through restlessness? What did you learn from this experience about yourself, your relationship with God, your experience of Church?
- How do you think Nano would respond to social injustices and minister to people in need in the world today? How do you think Nano understood her purpose and place in life?
- How does Nano's story call and challenge us today in our personal lives? In our faith communities? The larger Church? Our world community?

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Nano Nagle Declared Venerable

On October 31, 2013, Nano Nagle was declared Venerable by Pope Francis. This announcement brings the Canonization of Nano Nagle one step closer as it is the second of four stages in the Canonization Process. Nano Nagle's Cause for Canonization was officially initiated at the bi-centenary of her death in 1984. In 2004, the Central Leadership Team set up a Nano Nagle Commission Office, to help in promoting Nano as a woman of faith and courage, in the hope that she may soon be declared Venerable. The Commission comprises three Presentation Sisters, one from each Irish Province. The Commission has worked to make Nano better known and to promote the Cause of her Canonization. To forward the Cause of Nano, it is imperative that people cultivate devotion to her, and pray to her for favors. ([Sisters of the Presentation website - www.dbqpbvms.org](http://www.dbqpbvms.org))

Guided by Divine Providence
and light from a lantern
she navigated penal laws
to plant hope
in the hearts of those
without privilege or possibility.

With heroic virtue,
love's staying power against
the curtain of night,
she forged a future.

Daughter of Erin.
Woman of zeal.
Advocate for the poor.
Visionary foundress.
Servant of God.

Venerable Nano.

Corine Murray, PBVM, October 31, 2013

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Closing Prayer

Reader 1

We are energized by the life of Nano Nagle, our foundress. Her lantern has been a source of light for many. Its light is a reminder to us of Nano's inner transformation as she experienced the mystery of Christ's complete self-giving and his identification with those in need. May this same lantern light help to guide our continuing transformation of heart and mind as we deepen our embodiment of mercy and compassion through self-giving love.

Reader 2

"It was in and through her life-long response to the needs of the poor and the mystery of the poor that Nano, the socialite, became Nano, the completely dedicated woman who in her last moment was able to sum up her life's message as Jesus did. -- Love." (*Fire on the Earth*, page 48)

As the lantern is passed, you are invited to share how the life of Nano Nagle is drawing you to be part of this journey as a Presentation associate.

Reader 3

May Christ dwell in your heart through faith; and may love be the root and foundation of your life. Amen. (*Ephesians 3:17*)

It is easy to look at Nano and to think that her call to radical love was holy, special, or graced. While we each are called in a different way, we are all called to radical love.

Take a few moments to reflect on your life and your call to radical love.

Read Together

To Nano Nagle

Take down your lantern from its niche and go out!

You may not dwell in firelight certainties,

Secure from drifting fog of doubt and fear,

You may not build yourself confining walls

And say: 'Thus far, and thus, and thus far shall I walk,

And these things shall I do, and nothing more.'

Go out! For need calls loudly in the winding lanes

And you must seek Christ there.

Your pilgrim heart

Shall urge you still one pace beyond.

And love shall be your lantern-flame.

(*Raphael Consedine, PBVM, Song of the Journey*)

All: Amen.

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Preparation for the Next Gathering

- Determine next gathering date and time/Set up visit to Archives for next meeting
- Read and reflect on Mother Vincent as taken from the Community Annals
(See Appendix at the end of Conversation 2)
- Upcoming gatherings or events at Mount Loretto or other venues

(An important piece of the associate partnership is to make connections with sisters and associates and to continue to grow in understanding of the Presentation mission. When possible you are encouraged to participate in the various opportunities that are offered.)

Additional Resources to Consider

- Nano Nagle-Our Foundress
(bit.ly/nanofoundress)
- Nano Nagle
(bit.ly/nanonagle3)
- The Story of Nano Nagle
(bit.ly/nanonaglestory)
- Venerable Mother Nano Nagle
(bit.ly/nanovenerable)
- Nano Nagle website
(www.nanonagle.org)
- Valiant Woman by Corine Murray, PBVM (*Sprouting*, Page 5, Mount Loretto Library, 801.81 Mur)
(See Appendix at the end of Conversation 2)