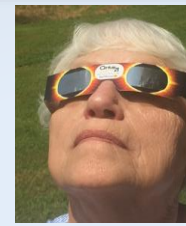


Being the Presence of Love

The new Province Leader and Council attended the annual Assembly of Leadership Conference of Women Religious, held at Orlando, Florida August 8 – 11. The theme, *Being the Presence of Love*, was subtitled **THE POWER OF TRANSFORMATION**. The two major presenters were Dr. Christopher Pramuk and Ms. Jan Richardson. Both presentations had to do with the Paschal Mystery and each centered on grief and mourning: corporate and personal.

Sr. Constance Fitzgerald, OCD, received the Leadership Award. Our Sr. Agnes was happy to view the DVD of the award ceremony and Constance's address to the Assembly. Agnes had collaborated with Sr. Constance to help introduce and to facilitate post-Vatican II renewal in contemplative religious life.

What matters most for the future of our communities, religious life, and the world we serve? Where do we sense the movement of Spirit?



August 21, 2017

I have returned, as promised, to the land of my heart, the home of the Total Eclipse—

Three dozen of us wait on gorgeous green grounds-- leaning up against the swimming pool fence. Heads up, necks crooked. Watching. Alerted to the phases by Thomas sitting in a red chair. "Total Eclipse soon!"

The clouds move in - covering the extravaganza for a few breathless moments

Don't lose hope. Don't lose hope. We strain to hear Ozzy from his concert site. Will the clouds grudgingly share their bounty?

Phyllis and I huddle – Don't lose hope. Never lose hope.

There it is! And we feast for one minute. Darkened land...chirping birds... singing crickets... Venus glows.

Later, the girl with green eyes shows me little moon-crescent shadows, filigrees around the planters, lace on the concrete.

One Monday afternoon
...late in August.

Carol Karnitsky sscm