



1873



1965



1986



1992

## Our Peruvian History and Reality

Prayer for October 19<sup>th</sup>

Leader: From the green splashes of Kentucky's hills and valleys – to the wind-swept prairies in Illinois, and from the barren slopes of the Andes highlands to Canto Grande in the sand blown desert, they tumble together: these six young pioneers fresh from St. Catherine's - chosen – courageous – faith-filled women who mixed with Andrea, Rene, Doris and Janet as they merged into our Peruvian Dominicans of today: called – reconciled – biblical women.

All: God of those who move from place to place, remind us of the kaleidoscope of promises, dreams, issues, impasses, and ministries framing our live.

Leader: Had Josephine articulated Edith's vision of more insertion with the poor? Having lived in the "Patch", would Rachel have understood Maria's and Elizabeth's dream of itinerancy on the isolated edges? Did Agnes and Cecilia in Jacksonville – like Doris and Mila in Jarpa – respond over and over to unmet needs and have their spirituality enriched?

All: Provident God, may we continue to preach with our lives in all the places where we live and work, laugh and cry, pray and share, grow and die.

Leader: Will Betty and Patty forever promise engagement with the marginated ones? Did Luz, Nerida, Elsi, and Mimi, like Alberta and Osana before them, make other choices in the journey for truth?

All: We give thanks for all those women who lived and worked, celebrated and flourished, in so many places during 150 years of that preaching.

Leader: Dominican women – so many years apart – yet they are all women holding dreams – surviving transitions. In 1873 did Kentucky prepare the six young women to educate 400 poor immigrant children? In 1965 when Pope John XXIII called us to Latin America to begin the journey into enculturation, insertion, liberation theology, and mutuality did we

trust the Spirit? In 1986 did Springfield challenge the first four Peruvian novices to have a deeper engagement with people, their needs, and their hopes?

All: May the boulders that support the integrity of our lives continue to be prayer, study, common life, and service.

Leader: Somewhere in this land of elsewhere, a portion of the dream passed from the brave women of Kentucky Bluegrass to the preachers and poets of Incan roots – Sisters and Associates. Counterparts across the years, all women and men of compassion, integrity, and courage, all Dominicans of truth, non-violence and hospitality, they struggle to live in solidarity, with the potential to bless all on the unending frontiers.

All: May we continue to preach with our collective and individual lives. We ask all this together as people of peace and hope, courage and creativeness, now and in the years to come. Continue, Gracious God, to stretch us and our Associates into courageous Dominicans for the life of the world. Amen

