



RSCJ Gather to Discover New Ways of Organising Ourselves

Nineteen RSCJ from ANZ arrived at St Joseph's Baulkham Hills on 1 August 2017, together with Sister Margaret Endicott RSM, our facilitator. This has been the place where we have met for a number of years. The warmth of hospitality gives a sense of homecoming.

Lynette led us in prayer to open the gathering, focussing on the calls of the General Chapter 2016. Our facilitator, Sister Margaret Endicott RSM had prepared for each one of us what might be called a guidebook for the pilgrim. That was the theme of the days, as we embarked on the facilitated process of discernment about our future. The opening words of the guidebook

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Gathering at Baulkham Hills to begin the process of reimagining how we organise ourselves I still have ringing in my mind the final hymn I am with you on the journey and I will never leave you ... and we are on a journey that has truly begun but the process was part of a continuum and

this gathering was another step in the process; it was obvious that it was so and there is still much work and reflection before decisions are made. Hints of spring in budding wattle and later sunrises and sunsets added a note of hopefulness. Much of the time we worked at our tables in

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On August 1st, 2017, those still able to travel the distance greeted each other with genuine longing to be together, ready to embark upon the hard work needing to be addressed. I felt a sense of connection with all, past and present, who had journeyed with us in former years, but who

can no longer physically manage to join such gatherings. The familiar surroundings of Baulkham Hills Spirituality Centre greeted us on arrival, its beauty promising to sustain the reflective energy levels of our group. This time together cemented the commitment that each RSCJ has for moving forward as a Australia New Zealand Province during these times of change. The

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As we gathered around our tables at St Joseph's, Baulkham Hills, for our Assembly, the small labyrinths at the centre of each table gave us a clue to the spirit in which we would explore the way we might organise ourselves in the future. If we were a commercial company we

might have said that we were about to engage in some "blue sky thinking" but, for us, the image of a pilgrimage was more inspirational. The various items that are the traditional signs of a pilgrim on a journey, staff, sandals, backpack etc invited us to think creatively about what would be essential on the way ahead and what

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