

Meditation: Maria Sacerdota

(by Alla Renee Bozarth, 1995, Military Ordinariate 2005 CWL Annual Report)

Opening Song: “Ave Maria” (*Breaking Bread* #691, verses 1 and 2)

Left side: Before Jesus, was His mother.

Right side: Before supper in the upper room, breakfast in the barn.

LS: Before the Passover feast, a feeding in the trough, and here, before the altar of Earth, fair linens of hay and seed.

RS: Before His cry, her cry.

LS: Before His sweat of blood, her bleeding and tears.

RS: Before His offering, hers.

LS: Before the breaking of the body and death, the breaking of her body in birth.

RS: Before the offering of the cup, the offering of her breast.

LS: Before His blood, her blood.

RS: And by her body and blood alone, His body and blood and whole human being.

LS: The wise ones knelt to hear the woman’s word in wonder.

RS: Holding up the Sacred Child, her God in the form of a babe, she said: “Receive and let your hearts be healed and your lives be filled with love, for this is my body, this is my blood.”

All: *Ave Maria gratia plena, Dominus tecum. Benedicta tu in mulieribus, et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Jesus. Sancta Maria, Mater Dei, ora pro nobis peccatoribus, nunc, et in hora mortis nostrae. Amen*