Prophetic Voices: Spirit and Mission Handout
Cut up and place on chairs at retreat

“It is in the stream of life that we most deeply encounter God in us, flowing up from the depths of our soul and out into the world. And it is in the stream of life that we notice God, active in the world, and are able to join God in the divine transformational agenda of making all things new in Christ.” –David G. Benner

“Why should I wish to see God better than this day? I see something of God each hour of the twenty-four, and each moment then, in the faces of men and women I see God, and in my own face in the glass; I find letters from God dropped in the street, and everyone is signed by God's name.” (Walt Whitman)

“Contemplation is a very dangerous activity. It not only brings us face to face with God. It brings us, as well, face to face with the world, face to face with the self. And then, of course, something must be done.” –Joan Chittister

“Mission is, indeed a call to conversion and, without any doubt, it begins with ourselves. As missionaries, we are to be tuned in to God's Spirit permeating the world, ever calling us to individual and institutional conversion. If we are open, if we let go of our penchant for power and control, we will hear this Spirit and we will understand the call.” –Edwina Gately

“While you are proclaiming peace with your lips, be careful to have it even more fully in your heart.” -St Francis of Assisi
“The greatest challenge of the day is: how to bring about a revolution of the heart, a revolution which has to start with each one of us?” -Dorothy Day (Founder of the Catholic Worker Movement)

“The day of my spiritual awakening was the day I saw and knew I saw all things in God and God in all things.” (Mechtild of Magdeburg)

“What this attentiveness to God really means is not just a psychological state or peculiar kind of recollection, but it is part and parcel of the experience of love in everyday life.” Thomas Merton

“Whatsoever you do in word or deed for the good of your neighbor is a real prayer... everything you do can be a prayer, whether in itself or in the form of charity to your neighbors, because of the way you use the situation at hand.” St. Catherine of Sienna

“It is I [God] who have given you the candle with which you can receive the light and nourish it within you. Your candle is love, because it is love for which I created you.” –St. Catherine of Sienna

“It benefits me little to be alone making acts of devotion to our Lord, promising to do wonders in his service if I then go away, and when opportunity presents itself, do just the opposite.” St. Teresa of Avila

“You saw that kindness in the face of that young girl? Be like that always. If my followers were good to others, the face of the world would be transformed. In your soul there is a door that leads to the contemplation of God. But, you must open it.” –Gabrielle Bossis (1938)
“I want go down to the very heart of your heart and make my home there. It will be simple and habitual. Don’t say your prayers just to get them finished, but saturate your soul with love. When I give you power, if you keep it for yourself, it remains with you. If you share it with others, it multiples a hundredfold. So, have the courage to pass it on.” Gabrielle Bossis (1938)

“It is not possible to engage in the direct apostolate without being a person of prayer. We must be aware of our oneness with Christ, as Christ was aware of his oneness with the Father... We must become holy, not because we want to feel holy, because Christ must be able to live his life fully in us. We are to be all love, all faith, all purity, for the sake of the poor we serve.” Mother Teresa