

# SHARING THE DARKNESS

The Spirituality of Caring



# SHEILA CASSIDY

\* 1937 England

She studied medicine in Sydney  
1975 She gave medical care to a political  
opponent

In a period of recovery from the physical and psychological effects of her ordeal (*utrpení*) she joined to monastery.

In 1982 she became Medical Director of the new St Luke's Hospice in Plymouth, a position which she held for 15 years.

She then went on to set up a palliative care service for the Plymouth hospitals.

Sheila s lifestyle and works are influenced by belief in God, as evidenced by the quotations of biblical texts

# SUMMARY

- ◉ Disciples (*učedník*) Alone
- ◉ Praiyng Alone

# DISCIPLES ALONE

- ◉ In this chapter she describe her life way.
- ◉ She joined the convent, who left after 18 months.
- ◉ She tried to live by the Gospel story about a young man and possessing a lot of property.
- ◉ The end of the chapter is devoted to the importance of self-knowledge. Especially for people who live alone.
- ◉ Sheila draws attention to a problem that can occur when each day, each free time, each weekend we work and we have not more time for our friends.

- ⦿ „ It is so easy, if one is single, to work during the day and get caught up (*uvíznout*) in meeting, conferences and good works in evenings and weekends so that when one does suddenly find the evening is free there is a devastating void and sense of loneliness (*osamělost*) that leaves one feeling worthless, stupid and uninvolved.“

# PRAIYNG ALONE

- This chapter deals with the importance of linking work with prayer
- People who believe in God do not need to enter the monastery to be able to pray.

# CONTEMPLATIVE LIFE

- ◉ What is meaning word contemplative?
- ◉ ***Two categories: active, contemplative***
- ◉ To better understand it divides into two categories: active and contemplative life. She likens it to the New Testament figures of Mary and Martha.
- ◉ **Active life** - Marthas. This life is associated with such activities, such as nursing, teaching or other pastoral activity.
- ◉ **Contemplative life** - Mary. Contemplative life is associated with a special call to prayer with a higher calling. They leave the world in order to devote (zasvětit) his life entirely (zcela, úplně) to God.

# HOW DO PEOPLE PRAY?





- ◉ For human is prayer important. No matter how we pray, but we have to pray. Prayer can help us in service to others.
- ◉ Prayer should be part of our day, to pray for everything we do.
- ◉ In particular, it is not a question of work and prayer, but a life in which both are inexorably (neúprosně)linked together, a prayer gives strength to the service washing of the feet, leading to the sweetness (sladkost) of the rest in the presence of God.