"Little girl. I say to you, arise!"

How many parents worry about their children? So many of the children are "asleep" through drugs, or alcohol, or some other factor that makes them stray like sheep, lying down, and sleeping.. In today's gospel Jesus raises a little girl from her sleep and restores her to her parents.

In my book, *Stories of Coming Home*, I wrote:

The center point of our younger days

converged in the shaping of our

childrens' lives.

We formed and moulded them in our own image,

caressing them with our most vibrant touch.

We were the potters. They were the clay,

or so we thought in those early days.

After the moulding they must be fired in ovens,

not of our desire or making...

Sometimes the pottery of their lives

Â fractured, cast aside.

Awaiting the Lord's healing touch.

Jesus, mend the pieces together in your design.

AmenÂÂ