



Blessed Are These Hands

A Photographic Collection

depicting the hands of women holding something they consider sacred, holy, an outward representation of their deepest self

by Susan Kullmann & Marvella Thompson

was inspired by this poem by Diann Neu and sent to all the women whose hands appear in the collection when they were asked to participate



Poem reprinted by permission of the author for the Cal Poly Pomona Downtown Center Gallery Exhibit, March 8 - April 23, 2005
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Blessed be the works of your hands, O Holy One.
Blessed be these hands that have touched life.
Blessed be these hands that have nurtured creativity.
Blessed be these hands that have held pain.
Blessed be these hands that have embraced with passion.
Blessed be these hands that have tended gardens.
Blessed be these hands that have closed in anger.
Blessed be these hands that have planted new seeds.
Blessed be these hands that have harvested ripe fields.
Blessed be these hands that have cleaned, washed, mopped, scrubbed.
Blessed be these hands that have become knotty with age.
Blessed be these hands that are wrinkled and scarred from doing justice.
Blessed be these hands that have reached out and been received.
Blessed be these hands that hold the promise of the future.
Blessed be the works of your hands, O Holy One.

-Diann Neu, from the book *Earth Prayers*