FINAL BLESSING:

Narrator: "... We are all united by the design of the great God, within the world of Mercy."

Reader: May God's Mercy, its spirit, its gifts and challenges, continue to enliven and strengthen you.

All: Amen.

Reader: May people of God's mercy, past and present inspire and encourage you.

All: Amen.

Reader: May the God of Mercy continue to guide and grace you in all that you are and do.

All: Amen.

CONCLUSION: SONG of MERCY (Tune: Ode to Joy)

God, the Maker and Sustainer, Jesus, ever-gracious Word; Spirit-Wisdom, breath of goodness, all our praise to you be heard. Love beyond all other loving, truth beyond our skill to tell. You are joy and you are blessing, in your heart may our hearts dwell.

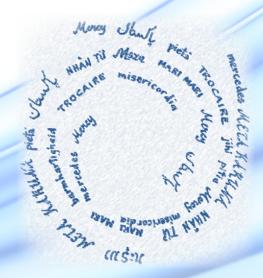
Mercy is our name and calling; Mercy is God's name and will. Tender strength and hearts for kindness; simple service; faithfulness. Such was Catherine's way and purpose, such our hope and daily prayer. For the needy be compassion; strive for justice; live in love.

Mercy then our source and seeking, on life's journey we are graced. Past is treasured; future trusted; our hearts one in jubilee. We give thanks for one another; we give thanks for Catherine's dream. Guide us, keep us, lead us, love us, God whose Mercy we proclaim.





Commissioning Ritual Thursday 13th February 2020



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY and WELCOME

OPENING SONG: EVERYDAY GOD – Bernadette Farrell

Earth's Creator, Everyday God, Loving Maker, O Jesus, You who shaped us, O Spirit, Recreate us, Come be with us.

Life of all lives, Everyday God, Love of all loves, O Jesus, Hope of all hopes, O Spirit, Light of all lights, Come be with us.

In our dreaming, Everyday God, In our daring, O Jesus, In our searching, O Spirit, In our sharing, Come be with us.

God of laughter, Everyday God, God of sorrow, O Jesus, Home and shelter, O Spirit, Strong and patient, Come be with us.

Alleluia, Everyday God, Now and always, O Jesus, Alleluia, O Spirit, Through all ages, Come be with us.

FIRST READING: Welcoming the Stranger: The Kenosis of Catherine McAuley – Mary Sullivan RSM

REFLECTION: Having listened to this reading, what is it about Catherine's way that gives meaning to your role within the Institute?

SECOND READING: Excerpts from the Constitutions of the Sisters of Mercy of Australia and Papua New Guinea

POWERPOINT PRESENTATION: "Whatever, Wherever"

THE COMMISSIONING: Sr Eveline Crotty RSM Institute Leader.

AFFIRMATION

ALL: (with raised hands in blessing)

May the God of Mercy guide, protect and inspire you and may Catherine McAuley watch over you with tender care. Amen

SONG: WELCOME TO THIS CIRCLE (sung by Kate Mannes RSM)

Welcome to this circle where love and grace abound. We honour your journey and wherever you are bound. We will walk beside you, encourage you on your way, celebrate your spirit and hold you as we pray:

There is love for one like you. there is grace enough to see you through, and wherever you have walked, whatever path you choose, may you know there is live for one like you.

RESPONSE TO COMMISSIONING:

Reader: May each of us know that our journey is honoured. **All:** We are honoured in our journey and we will honour others.

Reader: We commit to walking beside one another to encourage each other along the way.

All: We are encouraged and we will encourage.

Reader: We believe that our contribution is celebrated. **All:** We are celebrated and we will celebrate others.

Reader: We know that we are entrusted and respected.

All: We undertake to trust and respect others

Reader: We are grateful to be affirmed. **All:** We are affirmed and will affirm others.

Reader: We continue together on the road of Mercy **All:** We continue together on the road of Mercy

Reader: True to the Gospel and the tradition of Mercy. **All:** True to the Gospel and the tradition of Mercy.

Reader: Whatever and wherever, we are part of the one Mercy Mission.

All: Whatever and wherever.

Reader: In the name of Jesus, and in the spirit of Catherine McAuley. **All:** Amen