

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 love 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

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

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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