

Prayer for Wednesday June 23: Each one is a face of mercy and compassion.



Introduction

Each of us who forms part of ISMAPNG has an opportunity to be ***a face of mercy and compassion*** to those with whom we interact each day. Sisters, Institute staff, ministry staff, associates and volunteers are of service to others through their ordinary actions which form part of the day.

Before reading the following extract from the ISMAPNG Constitutions, bring to mind the people with whom you have interacted today. Ask God to bless them. Ask God to bless you with the gifts of mercy and compassion.








Reading (ISMAPNG Constitutions 4.01 and 4.03)

“God’s mercy to us is the heart of our service to others. Manifesting the great mercy of God, Jesus came to bring good news to the poor and freedom to those who are oppressed.

When we discover what it means to belong to God’s people, and to receive through them God’s love, then may we reach out to the women and men in our day, as mercifully as Catherine McAuley did in hers...

Whatever and wherever our ministry is ... we are part of one mercy mission, part of the ongoing mission of the compassionate Jesus.”

Response to each prayer: *May we be a face of mercy and compassion*

-  Through our ministries of governance, leadership and administration:
-  Through our ministry of education:
-  Through our ministries of health and aged care:
-  Through our ministries of social work and community service:
-  Through our ministry of community development:
-  Through our ministry of pastoral care:
-  Through our ministry of providing shelter:

- ✚ Through our ministries of spirituality, retreat-giving and diverse professional services:
- ✚ Through our ministry of communication and digital media:
- ✚ Through our ministry of advocacy for those without a voice:
- ✚ Through our ministry of caring for our common home:
- ✚ Through our ministry of fidelity in the ordinary events of daily life:
- ✚ Through our ministry of prayer and presence:

Concluding prayer

God of Mercy and Compassion, our many ministries of service are expressions of our desire to respond to the needs of those around us, to heed the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor. Through these expressions of our Mercy charism, may we relieve misery, address its causes, and support all persons who struggle for dignity, respect and a place to call home. We make this prayer through the intercession of Catherine McAuley, who reached out with courage and love to the needy of her time. Amen.

[Adapted from *Morning and Evening Prayer of the Sisters of Mercy*, (1998), p. 393.]