

Meeting Mercy: Staff Prayer for August 4, 2020

Meeting Mercy

Sometimes it isn't till 'after the event' that we realize the significance of an interaction with someone, a family member, a colleague, a stranger. For many of us, our personal interactions have changed dramatically because of COVID 19 restrictions when we cannot be physically present as we would like to be. Perhaps we are being offered the opportunity to 'meet' others in a different way by 'seeing them' in a different way, by responding to their need in ways which are different.



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."

For personal reflection

Recall an encounter which has enriched your understanding of what it means to *give* or *receive* mercy, to be part of '*one mercy mission*', to learn again that mercy is '*a mode of relationship*'.

What does 'meeting mercy' look like for you, for us within ISMAPNG at present?

Our prayer for each other and for all within ISMAPNG: "Meeting"

May you meet mercy each day:
in the light of your own heart,
at the hands of your loved ones,
in the eyes of the stranger and the needy.
And if by chance you do not at first meet it,
then search your heart for it,
listen patiently for word of it,
and it will tap you on the shoulder,
a quiet surprise,
a small gesture
the tender look,
given and received
in the encounters of your day.