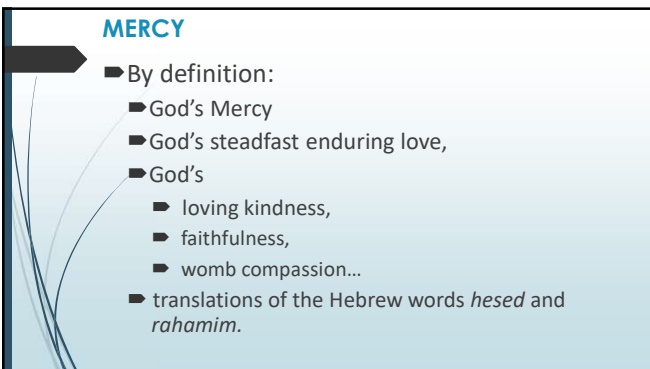




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2



3

MERCY IN THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES

- God's mercy – God's steadfast love - endures forever;
- through mercy God
 - brought the whole cosmos into being,
 - freed the Israelites from slavery,
 - fed them in the wilderness,
 - and continued to support and sustain them.
- God's love for the Earth community is comparable to that which a woman has for her children;
- an all-embracing love for all that God has made.

4

MERCY IN THE CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURES

- Jesus - embodiment of the compassionate God of the Hebrew revelation.
- Jesus reveals the good news of God's mercy
- Jesus
 - is moved with compassion
 - heals the sick
 - feeds the hungry
 - forgives sin
 - makes tangible the mercy of God

5

ISMANG

- Members of the Institute:
 - 'follow Jesus Christ to take part in his mission of mercy'.
 - allow themselves
 - to be loved by God who is mercy and
 - to be led into the mystery of God's steadfast merciful love.

6



CATHERINE MCAULEY

- ▶ Heiress - House of Mercy 1827
- ▶ 'A society of ladies who would devote themselves to the practice of the works of Mercy':
 - ▶ instructing, counselling, consoling, comforting the poor,
 - ▶ forgiving and bearing wrongs
 - ▶ providing food, clothing and shelter,
 - ▶ seeking out the poor and sick in the neighbourhood, visiting them, caring for them
 - ▶ at the end of their life, assuring them a decent burial

7

HOUSE OF MERCY

Anna Maria [Doyle] wished Catherine to set a date, soon, so she did. She picked September 24, 1827. They later realised they had chosen the Feast day of Our Lady of Mercy and together agreed to place the infant establishment under the patronage of the Mother of God ... It would be a 'House of Mercy'. Later when its works of mercy were more fully operational, they would ask Archbishop Daniel Murray for permission to use this name publicly.

England 1839; Newfoundland 1842; USA 1843; Australia 1846

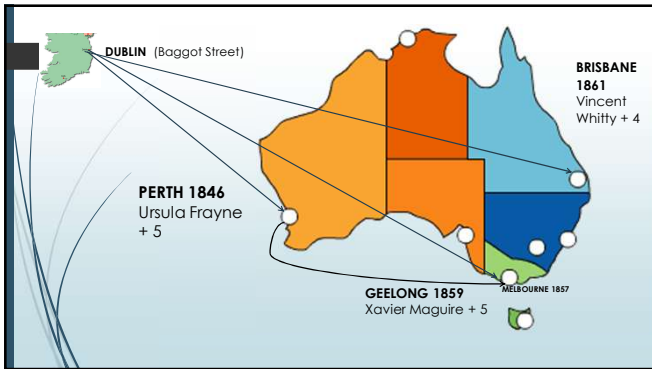
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URSULA FRAYNE



- ▶ Direct link with Catherine McAuley
- ▶ Mandated to 'preserve spirit of Institute'
- ▶ Perth 1846
 - ▶ first Mercy school in Australia
 - ▶ introduced secondary education into WA
 - ▶ cared for orphaned children;
 - ▶ established relationships with the Indigenous people
- ▶ Melbourne 1857
 - ▶ first Catholic secondary school in Victoria
 - ▶ school for needy children
 - ▶ House of Mercy: accommodation and training for immigrant girls and orphans

9



10



11



12


XAVIER MAGUIRE
 'a cultured woman of high social standing'



- Superior at Baggot Street
 - initiated Mater Hospital Dublin;
 - sent group to Argentina
- Request from Bishop Gould for Geelong
 - 1859: Mother Xavier as leader +five sisters and a novice left for Australia
 - 'not even a bed had been got for us'
 - 'there was not a corner in which rain did not come in'
- 1860 school - parish work, social work
- Generous benefactors in community
 - 1863: commenced building convent, chapel, orphanage and boarding school

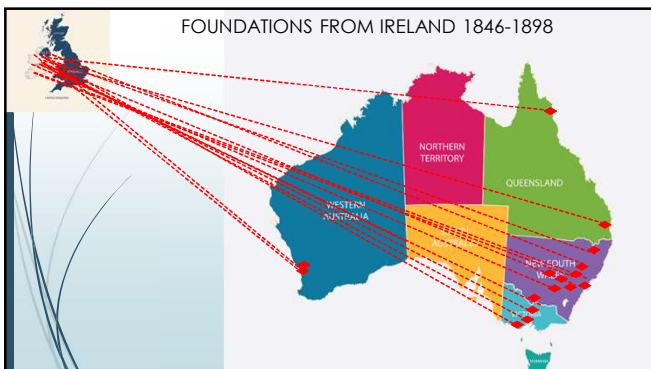
13

VINCENT WHITTY
full of ideas for the amelioration of the poor.

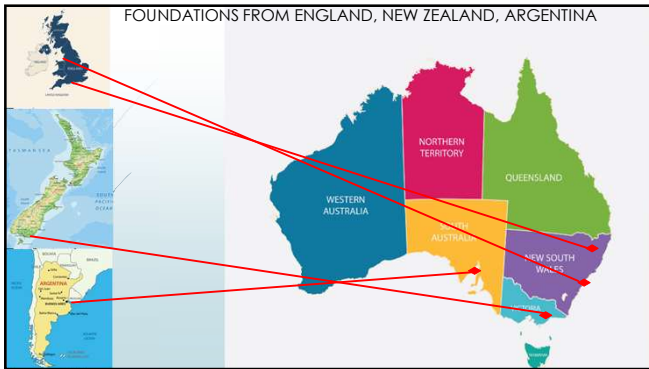


- Catherine's novice
- Superior of Baggot St when James Quinn requested sisters for his diocese of Brisbane
- Left Ireland December 1860
- Education of poor; care of orphans; protection of young women
- Treated poorly by Bishop – ultimately vindicated
- In 31 years
 - 200 sisters; 26 schools; 7000 students
 - Foundations in Rockhampton, Townsville
 - Mercy Teacher Training College; All Hallows Secondary School
- 'Her love for the sick, the poor, the outcast knew no limit.

14



15



16




EVANGELISTA FITZPATRICK

strong and loving, with an empathy for those in need

- Parents probably helpers of Catherine McAuley
- Joined sisters in 1845
- Leadership qualities evident
- Superior of group making foundation to Buenos Aires in 1856 assisting Irish migrants there.
- Revolution 1880
- Evangelista and companion returned to Dublin seeking advice for future
- Bishop Christopher Reynolds met them and invited them to Adelaide
- Whole group transferred to Adelaide
- Led community for 5 years
- *by her kind-heartedness and true sympathy gained many friends among all sects of the community, who will bitterly feel their loss and miss the kind face*

17



ALACOQUE AND AGNES RYAN

- Joined sisters in Carrick on Suir
- Part of foundation to Gore (NZ) in 1889
- Superior mentally unwell
- Agnes decided to return to Ireland with her sister to accompany her.
- Stopover in Melbourne to see family friend
- Met Bishop Carr
- Bishop invited them to Mansfield to minister to Irish Catholics there
- Mansfield founded July 1891 with Ignatius Walsh as superior

18


WOMEN OF MERCY

ZITA CLARKE

DAMIAN ROWE

BRIGID HEARNE


TERESA BUCHANAN



19

WOMEN OF MERCY


For us there is only the trying. The rest is not our business.
(TS Eliot, East Coker)



- ▶ answer call
- ▶ leave behind certainties; walk in faith,
- ▶ God's world, God's work; God will show the way.
- ▶ pioneer spirit
- ▶ take risks
- ▶ break through barriers to address needs of world
- ▶ make constant and unconditional commitment to be a sign of God's boundless love, so the weakest may meet God's mercy.

20

MARY, MOTHER OF MERCY



21

'SPECIAL IMAGE FOR THE ENTIRE ORDER'



22

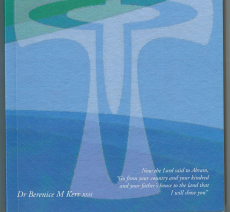
HAIL, HOLY QUEEN, MOTHER OF MERCY



23

THE LAND THAT I WILL SHOW YOU

History of the Institute of Sisters of Mercy of Australia 1981-2011



The MAST Journal

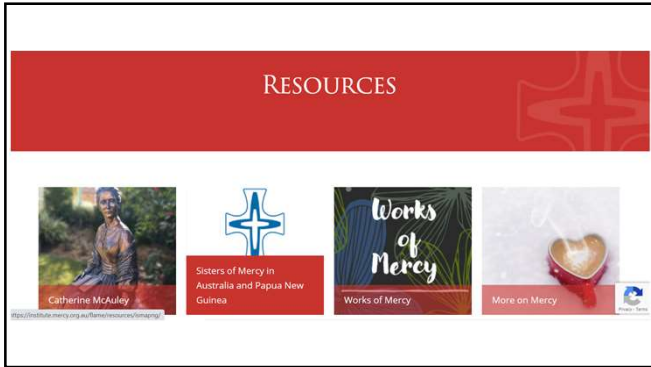
The Journal of the Mercy Association in Science and Theology Vol. 28, No. 2 2018

Go Out To All the World: Mercy Foundations

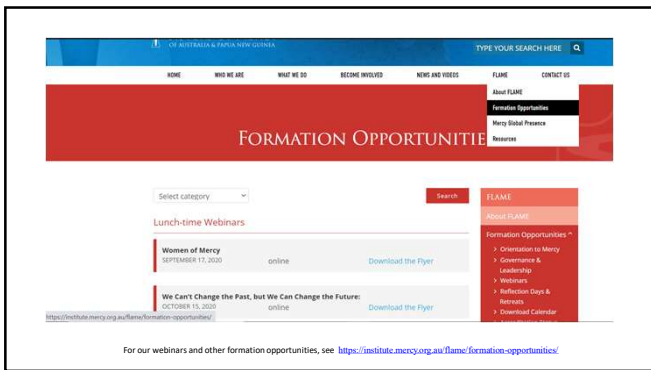
Catherine McAuley's Methods of Leadership Development Mary Sullivan, R.S.M.	7
Flare Mercy: Tracking God's Providence in the Christian War George Lumbard, R.S.M.	9
Yvonne Fyfe: Works of Mercy in Australia Lorraine Kelly, R.S.M.	17
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<http://mastrsm.org/>

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25



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