

Shared Reflection on Mercy Experiences

Recently the sisters in Adelaide gathered with Young Mercy Links (YML) SA members and ILT member Maureen Sexton RSM for a morning of shared reflection on Mercy experiences both at the local and global level.

YML SA coordinator, Gaby Kinsman, shared her recent engagement at the 67th Commission on the Status of Women at the United Nations in New York City as part of the Mercy Global Action Emerging Leadership Fellowship. This 12 month program will culminate in July in Dublin for the final immersion where Gaby will present her individual research project focused on access to higher education for refugee and asylum seekers. Sisters and Young Mercy Links members agreed that opportunities such as this expand and deepen experiences in Mercy and appreciated the strong sense of connection to the action and advocacy happening internationally.

Isabel Salter and Maya Murali, who work in YML SA Program Support, spoke of their journey to stepping up into leadership. Since September 2022, they have been committed to strengthening connections and building up local initiatives of the SA group, which has now reached 40 members!

This was followed by a heartwarming presentation from Maddie Kelly, a founding member of YML SA and ex-coordinator of Young Mercy Justice Tree. Maddie recently returned to Adelaide after working at The School of St Jude in Tanzania for five and a half years. YML members and sisters were touched by the impact Maddie had there and equally the impact that the community in Arusha, Tanzania have had on her life. Some of Maddie's experience is captured in her debut book, 'The School that Hope Built' ([click here](#)) which is an extraordinary account of how the school was founded to fight poverty.

The morning concluded with rich dialogue and a reflection and blessing on the symbol of 'the tent' from the Acts of the Apostles. Pat Feehan RSM shared "This morning we, the sisters were invited to gather here in this tent, with you, the young women of Young Mercy Links... We have relished your interest in Mercy, your living of Mercy and your pursuit to be leaders in Mercy... Like Paul and Aquila, we have hung out together learning from each other and enjoying each other's company as we create and construct our tents of Mercy" ([click here](#) to read).

Gaby Kinsman, YML SA Coordinator

Below

Sisters L - R: Meredith Evans RSM, Maureen Sexton RSM, Mary Mutlow RSM, Catherine Seward RSM, Claudette Cusack RSM, Gabrielle Travers RSM, Helen Owens RSM, Anne Tormey RSM, Janet Lowe RSM, Barbara Broad RSM, Margaret Adams RSM, Mary-Anne Duigan RSM, Pat Feehan RSM, Maureen Gleeson RSM.

Young Mercy Links: Mandy (to left of Meredith), Issa, Maya, Gaby, sitting in front.



Above: Gaby Kinsman (left) and Maddie Kelly (right) with Young Mercy Links Group Mentor Meredith Evans RSM (centre)