



Mercy Ministry
Companions

Connections

The Newsletter of Mercy Ministry Companions

May 2023

Nourishing our sources of energy by reconnecting with our founding spirit

In this edition of *Connections*, we hear from some of the pilgrims who recently participated in Module 2 of the Mercy Leadership Program and Dublin Pilgrimage. From experience, many of you reading this reflection will know that something profound can happen when we are in the place and space where Catherine McAuley, and her early companions, brought to life this newly established Order of Mercy in December 1831.

The original House of Mercy on Baggot Street in Dublin still stands and was the 'sacred gathering space' throughout the pilgrimage. Through our Community Service, Education and Health and Aged Care Ministries, we continue the work of the founders, the women and men of vision and commitment who established the organisations which are now part of Mercy Ministry Companions. Our founding stories are deeply connected to Baggot Street, with its 'Mercy energy' going out to all the world.

[Continue reading](#)

Mercy Ministry Companions

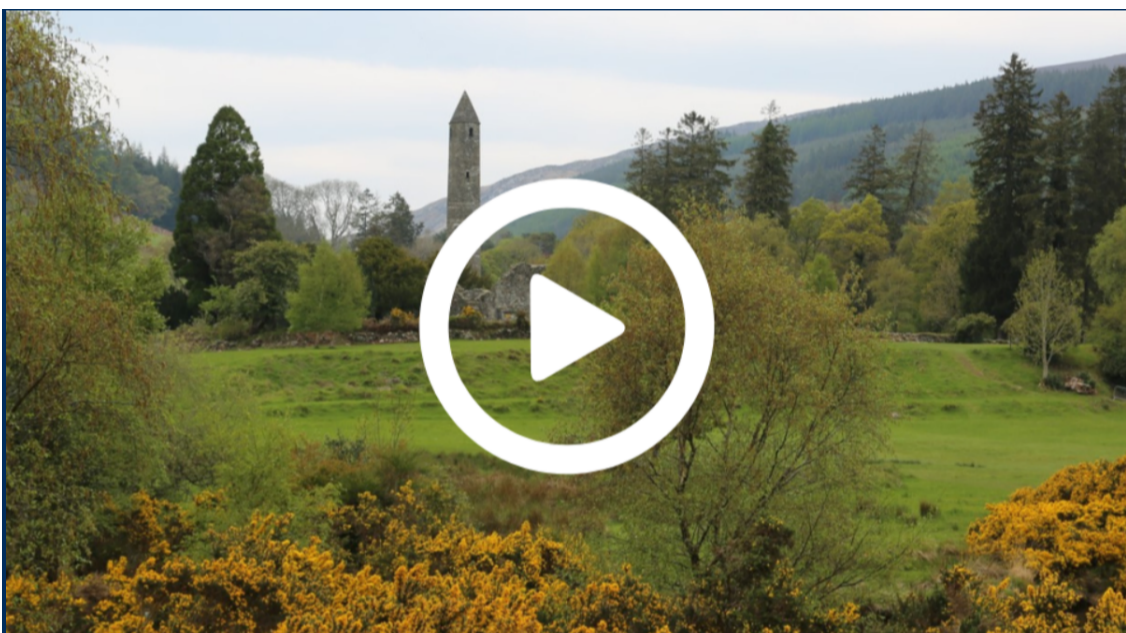


Mercy Leadership Program and Dublin Pilgrimage

Module 2 of the Mercy Leadership Program and Dublin Pilgrimage, sponsored by Mercy Ministry Companions (MMC), took place from 30 April – 6 May in Dublin. In August, the group will meet again in Melbourne for the third and final module of the leadership program.

We have collected a series of reflections from participants to share with you; those participants include Carmel Ross, Co-Facilitator and MMC Trustee Director; Gabrielle McMullen, MMC Trustee Director; John Sutherland, Director of MacKillop Family Services; Trent Dean, CEO Mercy Connect; Veronica Parker, Principal, St Brigid's College, Lesmurdie, Western Australia; Matthew Posar, Chief Financial Officer, Mercy Health Australia; and Marcelle Mogg, CEO Mental Health Victoria and Board Member of Mercy Community Services Australia.

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MMC Trustee Directors

Mercy Ministry Companions is pleased to announce the appointment of two new Trustee Directors; Iyla Davies OAM and Paul Linossier. We are grateful to the Institute Leadership Team for their careful appointment of these two directors. Both Iyla and Paul will begin their appointments in June.

In September, Des Powell AM will finish his term as a Trustee Director. Closer to the time we will recognise the significant contribution Des has made to Mercy Ministry Companions.



Iyla Davies OAM

Iyla was admitted as a lawyer and worked as a law academic for over 20 years specialising in mediation and dispute resolution. She is currently a Non-Executive Director of Metro South Hospital and Health Service, UQ Residences Ltd and an Adjunct Professor in the University of Queensland Law School.

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Paul Linossier

Paul is a Social Worker with more than 40 years' experience in the community sector and government. Paul has led a number of community organisations, including being the founding Chief Executive of MacKillop Family Services, Our Watch and Uniting (Vic.Tas).

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Mercy Education



APRIL 25TH, ANZAC DAY
LEST WE FORGET

Schools remember Anzac Day

MMC was delighted to hear about the many and varied ways in which our Mercy Education Schools took part in Anzac Day commemorative events on 25 April, to honour the men and women who served and continue to serve our country.

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Mercy Health



Our nurses. Our future.

International Nurses Day 2023 was celebrated around the world on Friday 12 May. The theme, 'Our nurses. Our Future' highlighted the critical importance of nurses to public health, today and into the future. The special day marks the anniversary of the birth of Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing, and is an opportunity for communities to come together and recognise the extraordinary work of our nurses.

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Mercy Community Services



Women supporting Women, McAuley Community Services for Women

On Friday 28 April, Trustee Directors and staff of Mercy Ministry Companions celebrated the incredible work of McAuley Community Services for Women at the annual fundraising lunch. The event was attended by 360 people and raised funds to support women and children who have experienced family violence and homelessness. Guest speaker Kym Valentine, Chair of the Victim Survivors' Advisory Council, bravely shared her story with guests.



Mercy Connect 'Together We Grow'

Episode 5 of the 'Together We Grow' podcast series is now live. In this episode, special guests Alison and Peter Campbell, and Ben Hooper, speak about their journey to create Avondale Place, the impact it's had on the Henty community, and the importance of respite care in smaller communities. You can listen to Together We Grow on the Mercy Connect Intranet, Apple Podcasts or Spotify.

[Listen now](#)

Conferences and Events

TUES 30 MAY

11am - 1pm AEST

Managing Change and Transition

Presenter: Carmel Ross, MMC Trustee Director.

Via Zoom.

[Register now](#)

MON 31 JULY

9:15am – 3:00pm AEST

Induction for new Board Directors within MMC

This seminar is only for new Directors of MMC ministries and will be held at 1 Dawson Street Brunswick.

[Register now](#)

WED 18 OCT (new date)

12:00pm – 3:00pm AEDT

Impact Measurement tools for mission formation

Presenter: Jemima Welsh, Women's Leadership Development Associate, Mercy Global Action.

Via Zoom.

[Register now](#)

[Click here for more information on MMC Formation Events for 2023](#)

Please share this Mercy Ministry Companions Newsletter with your colleagues and [opt-in for further communications](#).



Mercy Ministry Companions acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples as the First Australians.

Our National Office is located on the lands of the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people of the Kulin nation, and our

Ministries operate across the country and across a range of other indigenous lands and clans.

We acknowledge the diversity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples across this land.

We respectfully recognise Elders both past and present.

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