



Mercy Ministry
Companions

Connections

The Newsletter of Mercy Ministry Companions

June 2023

Reflection: The hidden gifts and blessings of winter

The signs and sounds within our natural environment can be a comforting reminder that change is part of the rhythm of life. Since our last newsletter, the seasons have changed. The southern parts of our country have made the transition from autumn to winter and the dry season has replaced the wet season in the north. There is a comforting familiarity about anticipated change, about the rhythm of the seasons, but now and again this means we can miss the gifts hidden in the familiar.

Winter brings less light and more darkness. It has its own beauty but can also be harsh and uninviting. It is a time of waiting, of dormancy, when nothing much seems to be happening on the surface. Winter is a wonderful companion and mentor for our own 'interior journey'. Like the world around us, we too need to pause and restore our energies so we can continue to grow. The resilience of the seed in the cold, dark ground brings about the flush of new life with the promise of spring – the fruits of the winter journey.

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Mercy Education



MEL Dinner and Leadership Conference

In May, Mercy Education Board Directors welcomed participants from across Mercy Ministries to a Conference and dinner, exploring the theme of Synodality as expressed in and through Mercy Education.

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Academy of Mary Immaculate Fitzroy

In May, Trustee Director Gabrielle McMullen joined the community of the Academy of Mary Immaculate in Fitzroy for the VCE Drama Ensemble Performance Night. This year's theme was 'Discrimination against Asylum Seekers in Australia'.

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'Here We Stand' Celebrating Sacred Heart College Geelong

In the April edition of Connections, we shared an update from Sacred Heart College Geelong's Foundation Day for which Margaret Wills, College Music Coordinator, had composed a song called Here We Stand.

The song was performed at the celebration by Amanda Humphrey, Leader of Catholic Identity Integration, and Anna Fletcher a past pupil. Amanda and Anna were accompanied by Margaret and the College Choir and Orchestra.

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Mercy Community Services



McAuley a haven during young mum's hardest time

A young mum shares how McAuley's Wilma's Place is providing security, independence and stability through long-term accommodation, as she works to rebuild her life.

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Mercy Connect 'Together We Grow' Podcast

The latest episode of the Mercy Connect 'Together We Grow' podcast is now live.

In this episode special guest Steve Shiel, General Manager of Customer Engagement at Personnel Group, shares his experiences, knowledge, and perspectives on breaking down barriers to employment, promoting inclusivity and empowering individuals with disabilities to thrive in the workforce.

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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 on 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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