



Mercy Ministry  
**Companions**

# Connections

*The Newsletter of Mercy Ministry Companions*

September 2023



## **Reflection: Leadership in the context of mission**

Leadership is an often talked about subject. Much of how we lead is influenced by past observations, current leaders, theories and probably some courses over the years. As leaders in Church ministry, it is important that we set our leadership style in the context of our mission. This is likely to be different from that which we may have exercised in other roles we have held.

To me, the poem 'For One Who Holds Power' by John O'Donohue, an Irish poet, author, priest and philosopher, brings another perspective worth reflecting on.

[Continue reading](#)

## **Institute of Sisters of Mercy of Australia and Papua New Guinea Chapter**

The members of the Institute of Sisters of Mercy of Australia and Papua New Guinea held their Chapter from 7-17 September at Mary MacKillop Place in North Sydney. The delegates have elected a new Institute Leader and Councillors. We congratulate:

- Sr Karon Donnellon RSM, Institute Leader
- Sr Elizabeth Moloney RSM, Institute Vicar

- Sr Margaret Madden RSM, Institute Councillor
- Sr Duyen Nguyen RSM, Institute Councillor and
- Sr Theresia Tina RSM, Institute Councillor.

The new Leadership Team will take up office on 11 November 2023. Among the many roles of the incoming Leadership will be membership of the Sponsors Representative Group of Mercy Ministry Companions.

## Mercy Ministry Companions



### A profound journey of transformation

Following the completion of the 2023 MMC Leadership Program and Dublin Pilgrimage, Daniel Jans, St Martin House Leader at Damascus College Ballarat, shares his experiences and reflections of the trip and the year-long learning journey.

[CONTINUE READING](#)

## Mercy Education



**2024 Mercy Deputy Principal's Conference**

The 2024 Annual Mercy Deputy Principals' Conference was held in Perth this year. The three-day event, held from 6-8 September, was well attended with Principals from Mercy Education and Affiliate Schools.

[CONTINUE READING](#)

## Mercy Health



### Honouring a lifetime of service

Associate Professor Michael Rasmussen, one of Mercy Health's most dedicated and senior clinicians, has been awarded the Sister Maria Cunningham Lifetime Contribution Award, for providing the highest quality obstetric and gynaecological care to women through Mercy Hospital for Women and Werribee Mercy Hospital for more than 40 years.

[CONTINUE READING](#)



Watch Associate Professor Rasmussen speak about his role at Mercy Health.

## Mercy Community Services



## 'Together We Grow' Podcast episode 8 now available

The final episode of season one of the Mercy Connect 'Together we grow' podcast is now live.

In this episode, Jen Tait, the Managing Director of Purple Chicken and long-term disability sector advocate, shares her experiences, knowledge, and perspectives on the NDIS and talks about how the Purple Chicken has supported people with disability to achieve life goals and create equity within our community. Listen on Apple Podcasts or Spotify.

[LISTEN NOW ON SPOTIFY](#)

### Conferences and Events

**WED 18 OCT**

12pm - 3pm (AEDT)

**Impact Measurement Tools for Mission Formation**

Presented by Jemima Welsh

Via Zoom

[Register here](#)

## 'Honouring the Soul'

### 40 day sabbatical



**Deepening our Encounters with God,  
Self, Others and Creation**

### 2024 40-Day Sabbatical Program

Next year's 40-day Sabbatical Program will run from Saturday 14–26 October 2024 and will be held at [Santa Casa Retreat Centre](#) in Queenscliff, Victoria.

The Program, ***Honouring the Soul: Deepening our Encounters with God, Self, Others and Creation***, is a unique opportunity for your members, faith leaders, staff and lay associates to be renewed in mind, body and spirit so that they may continue their ministry as Christian servant leaders for your community and organisation.

Participants will enjoy a broad program of offerings including prayer, scripture, spirituality, integral ecology, mystics, cosmology, indigenous spirituality, human and faith development and contemporary justice issues, delivered within a balanced timetable of input, personal reflection and free time for excursions and activities such as iconography, yoga, book club and film nights.

For more information please contact:

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[2024 PROGRAM TIMETABLE](#)

[OFFICIAL FLYER](#)

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*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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