



Mercy Ministry  
**Companions**

# Connections

*The Newsletter of Mercy Ministry Companions*

November 2023



## **Reflection by Annette Schneider RSM: Advent, a time for reflection and hope**

During the weeks leading up to my Profession as a Mercy Sister, I decided on my motto. The words, which meant a lot to me back then and which are etched on my ring, remain significant to this day – ‘Be still and know that I am God’, a line from Psalm 46 verse 10. Over the years, I am learning that sometimes it is very hard to be still, to take time, to wait patiently with a confidence and a hope that the path ahead will become clearer and that all will be well.

[Continue reading](#)



## **Advent Resources from Mercy Partners**

The Formation Team at *Mercy Partners* has prepared four brief *Advent Moments*, one for each week during Advent 2023. The unifying theme highlights the 800 years since the tradition of the Christmas crib or creche began, a tradition attributed to St Francis of Assisi. You are invited to use these ‘reflective Advent Moments’

during staff gatherings, team meetings or for personal reflection during the weeks leading up to Christmas.

You can access the four reflections as they become available each week. The first is available now.

## [WEEK 1 REFLECTION](#)

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### Mercy Ministry Companions (MMC)



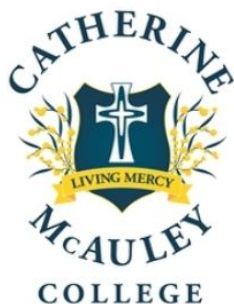
#### **A new hub for 'Formation for Mission'**

A designated tab for Formation has now been included on our [MMC website Homepage](#). On here you will find a range of information on Formation programs and resources, including the MMC Welcome Pack. You will also find updates about accreditation applications for the Orientation to Mercy Programs.

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### Mercy Education



#### **iGEN creates opportunities for young and old**

iGEN or Intergenerational learning is a partnership between Mercy Health, Australian Catholic University and Catherine McAuley College in Bendigo, Vic. This innovative Program aims to improve quality of life and educational services for both aged care and student participants and contributes to an improved understanding of how positive relationships can impact health and wellbeing.

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### Mercy Health



### **Sisters of Mercy are 100 years young**

This month, Mercy Health is celebrating 100 years of service of the Sisters of Mercy in the NSW regional community of Young. The Sisters of Mercy founded Mercy Health, first arriving in the Young community in 1923. Celebrating the milestone, Group Chief Executive Officer Angela Nolan paid tribute to the Sisters of Mercy whose legacy lives on within Mercy Health and all its services nationwide.

“For the past 100 years, the Sisters of Mercy have selflessly served the people of Young with hospitality and compassion. It is both heartening and honourable to sustain their legacy by providing the highest quality of care to the communities we serve,” Ms Nolan said.

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### **Mercy Community Services**



### **Thank you and farewell**

The Trustee Directors would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank Matthew Clancy for his commitment and dedication as the inaugural chair of Mercy Community Services Australia Ltd (MCSAL). He has committed significant time and energy to the task of building a strong foundation and governance framework for MCSAL.

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### **McAuley helps tackle ethical housing policies**

In early November, McAuley CEO Jocelyn Bignold joined former federal MP and Minister Tim Wilson, and Catholic philosopher Professor John Haldane, for a panel discussion at Australian Catholic University on how to achieve ethical housing policies. The group enjoyed a lively discussion on how to begin to navigate the many competing economic and social considerations involved.

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### **Mercy Connect champions for health**

Mercy Connect is the 2024 State Winner (NSW) for the Telstra Best of Business Awards for 'Championing Health'. This is an incredible achievement for Mercy Connect and its staff and gives the organisation well-deserved state and national recognition for the outstanding work it delivers under the name of Mercy.

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### **Grevillea Place opens its doors in Orange**

Mercy Connect is thrilled to announce the opening of its highly anticipated facility, 'Grevillea Place', in Orange, NSW. The Mercy Connect Team were joined by a number of special guests including Sister Mary Trainor RSM, Cr Glenn Floyd and Margery Jackman who all delivered prayers and speeches during the proceedings.

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## Podcast: 'Together We Grow' Season 2

Season 2 of the Mercy Connect 'Together We Grow' podcast is now live. In this episode, Garry Whittaker, Regional Manager Training Services NSW, shares his knowledge and perspectives on Traumatic Brain Injuries, following his own experience of a Traumatic Brain Injury in 2020. Gary talks about the ways we can improve our overall wellbeing with the inclusion of brain fitness into every-day life, in order to maintain and enhance our cognitive capabilities.

[LISTEN NOW](#)

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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