

# Connections

The Newsletter of Mercy Ministry Companions

October 2024



Reflection: Extending Horizons – Food For Thought From Our Annual Conference Carmel Ross, Trustee Director, MMC

The annual Mercy Ministry Companions conference last week was a time of both joy and challenge. One hundred people – companions and some of our friends in ministry – gathered to enjoy each other's company and to reflect on the conference theme, *Extending Horizons*.

'Joy' at the opportunity to catch up with so many friends and colleagues and have time to discuss how they and their work are going. 'Challenge' as we pondered the input of our keynote speakers, Ian Hamm and Sheila Curran RSM. Both reminded us of significant shortcomings in our society, which almost invariably reflect our failings at justice and right relationships.

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**Mercy Ministry Companions** 



## 2024 MMC Conference

The third annual Mercy Ministry Companions Conference was held from 14-15 October at the Catholic Leadership Centre in East Melbourne. The Conference brought together over 100 leaders from MMC Ministries, Trustee Directors and MMC Staff, Directors and stakeholders and representatives from the wider Mercy world. The theme of the Conference was *Expanding Horizons*.

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Watch the highlights from the 2024 MMC Conference.

Mercy Education has released a new video entitled the <u>"Canonization and Catherine McAuley."</u> The video, featuring artwork and photos from the Mercy Heritage Centre, offers Mercy school communities an engaging new resource on the long, serious and complicated process of being declared a saint in the Catholic Church.

Sister Sheila Carney RSM is featured in the video, outlining each step of canonization with a particular focus on Catherine's journey to sainthood.





#### **Congratulations - Jack Moore Papal Knighthood**

The Trustee Directors of Mercy Ministry Companions extend their Congratulations to Jack Moore, former trustee of Backhaus Estate and Catholic Healthcare in Bendigo, who has been instituted as a Knight of St Gregory the Great.

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# **Mercy Health**



## Mercy Health's next big step

Mercy Health has recently acquired two aged care homes in Yarrawonga and Myrtleford in Victoria's North-East. This is an exciting next step in Mercy Health's mission to provide compassion and care to more communities across Australia. The two homes, collectively house more than 200 aged-care residents.

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### **Mercy Community Services**



## **Mercy Day at Mercy Connect**

Mercy Day celebrations this year showcased the spirit of the Mercy Connect community and the exceptional contributions of its team members. This year Mercy Day was celebrated over two separate weeks, with the Central West team gathering for a BBQ on the 17<sup>th</sup> September, giving staff a chance to enjoy each other's company while reflecting on Mercy Connect's purpose and honouring the opening of the first 'House of Mercy' in Ireland by Catherine McAuley.

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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 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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