

Foundation Day

12 December 2012



Cheerfulness

Rule; Constitutions, Parts, Chapters 2, 3, 7.

A the most acceptable return a benefactor can receive from those on whom he bestows favours is a countenance testifying the gratitude of the heart. How acceptable most it be to God when we make Him this return, shewing to all by our cheerful, happy countenance, the gratitude with which our hearts overflow towards Him, for His many favours in this life & His great promises for the life that is to come.

We seem to forget that God calls upon us take up our cross, & that this cross must be composed of something that He requires of us constant watchfulness over our thoughts & words. Is this restraint, this self-denial, to make us sad, gloomy, or peevish? No, such is not His intention, for it is

Mercy International Association

64a Lower Baggot Street, Dublin

<http://www.mercyworld.org>

Welcome: Mary Reynolds rsm (Mercy International Association)

Presider: Patrick Hume sj (Jesuit Centre for Faith and Justice)

Opening Song: **Gather** by Liam Lawton (© 1996)

1. Gather from the East, gather from the West,
Gather from the highways too.
Gather from the North, gather from the South,
Gather when the night is noon.

Ref: And we'll gather and we shall reap,
and no longer in sadness we'll weep.
And we'll gather, and we shall reap,
resting, rising, calling, guiding, O Lord.

2. Gather all the needy, gather all in pain
Gather all who cry in vain.
Gather all the thirsty, gather all the poor,
Gather all in Jesus' name. [R]

3. Gather all forgotten, gather all forlorn.
Gather all who weep and mourn.
Gather all the silent, gather all who sing,
Gather all the hearts reborn.[R]

Penitential Rite

I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters,
That I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words,
In what I have done and in what I have failed to do,
Through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault;
Therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints,
And you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

Kyrie: A Thiarna, déan trócaire
(by Seán Ó Riada) A Chríost, déan trócaire
A Thiarna, déan trócaire

Gloria (spoken):

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you,
We give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
You take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;
You take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;
You are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
In the glory of God the Father. Amen.

First Reading: Jeremiah 29:11-14

Reader: Alice Roach (Associate, South Central Province)

Responsorial Psalm: *Only in God* by John Michael Talbot (© 1980)

1. Only in God is my soul at rest in Him comes my salvation.
He only is my rock my strength and my salvation.
My stronghold, my Savior, I shall not be afraid at all.
My stronghold, my Savior, I shall not be moved.

2. Only in God is found safety when my enemy pursues me.
Only in God is found glory when I am found meek and found lowly.
My stronghold, my Savior, I shall not be afraid at all.
My stronghold, my Savior, I shall not be moved.
Only in God is my soul at rest, in Him comes my salvation.

Second Reading:

from *The Retreat Instructions of Mother Mary Catherine McAuley*

Reader: Breda Burke rsm (South Central Province)

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia* by Liam Lawton (© 1996)

Verse: Speak, O Lord, your servant here is listening.

You have the message of eternal life.

Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

Homily: Scholasticah Nganda rsm (Congregational Leadership Team)

Chapter 9
Of The Renewal of Vows

**Renewal of Vows
For Sisters of Mercy**

On the day of my Profession,
I committed myself to follow Christ
as a Sister of Mercy
to serve God's people.

Today,
in Catherine's chapel,
I

vow again

Poverty, Chastity, Obedience, and the
Service of the poor, sick and uneducated
according to our Constitutions
and I promise to persevere until death.

I invite you to pray for me
as I recommit myself
to this Mercy way of life
in the spirit of our founder, Catherine,
and as a follower of Jesus.
Amen.

Sung Response: Triple Amen

by Cynthia Serjak rsm (© 1991)
Amen we affirm; Amen we encourage;
Amen we bless and we celebrate, Amen.

The
of their vows
of Their Heaven
have contracted
Form
in the presence
Profession, and
Obedience) acc
of our Bless
I most earnestly supplicate the Divine goodness through the merits
of Jesus Christ to grant me grace to fulfill these obligations - Amen

an make a renewal
pious in the service
obligations, they
do ratify this day
which I made at my
Charity and
This Institute
lections

Associate Covenant Commitment

Mary Casey, Margaret Fahey and Chrissie Harney from Tipperary
will make their first covenant commitments as Associates:

*Almighty and Eternal God,
we the Associates of the Sisters of Mercy in Tipperary
wish to come closer to you through a life of prayer
and to work for the building up of your Kingdom
in union with the Congregation of Sisters of Mercy.*

*We dedicate ourselves to you as members of the Mercy family
and with the help of Our Lady and of Catherine,
we promise to fulfil the commitments of the Association
which we now undertake.*

Sung Response: Amen we affirm; Amen we encourage;
Amen we bless and we celebrate, Amen.

Renewal of Commitment For Associates, Circle of Mercy members and Friends of Mercy

*God of Mercy,
as we gather here today in Catherine's Chapel,
I renew my commitment to live a life of love.*

*Inspired by Catherine McAuley,
I accept the challenge to live the Gospel of Jesus
and to be a person of Mercy
visible in the world today.*

*Open my eyes to see the suffering
in the poor, forgotten, and marginalized.
And I ask you, Catherine,
to walk this journey of faith with me. Amen.*

Sung Response: Amen we affirm; Amen we encourage;
Amen we bless and we celebrate, Amen.

Prayers of the Faithful:

Response: *“Compassionate God, pour out your mercy upon them”*

Reader: Betty Lacey (partner in ministry, Mercy International Association)

Offertory:

Instrumental music

Gift Bearers: Mary Casey (Associate, South Central Province)

Colette Clarke (Association of Iconographers of Ireland)

Sanctus:

by Seoirse Bodley (©1981)

Memorial Acclamation:

Save Us, Saviour of the World by Liam Lawton (©2010)

Save us, Saviour of the world. Save us, Saviour of the world.
For by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free,
You have set us free.

Great Amen: by Seoirse Bodley (©1981)

Communion: *Though We are Many* by Bernard Saxton (©2010)

Ref: Though we are many, we are one body,
we who come to share this living bread.
Cup of salvation, shared among all nations,
nourishing us now and evermore.

We gather in this place, round the table of the Lord.
Christ's presence is revealed, in our communion and his living Word
[Ref.]

Now our communion recalls Christ's death and resurrection.
This living sacrifice is our salvation now and evermore. [Ref.]

And through this shared Eucharist, we are the living Church.
We witness to Christ's Love, his living body active in our world. [Ref.]

Second Communion Song: Come O Lord by Roger Ruston (©Not stated)

1. Promised Lord and Christ is he, May we soon his kingdom see. [R]
2. Teaching, healing once was he, May we soon his kingdom see. [R]
3. Soon to come again is he, May we soon his kingdom see. [R]

Ref: Come, O Lord, quickly come.
Come in glory, come in glory, come in glory, quickly come.

Eucharistic Ministers:

Regina McGeown rsm (Northern Province)
Assumpta McVeigh rsm (Northern Province)
Angela Power rsm (South Central Province)

Recessional: Circle of Mercy by Jeannette Goglia rsm (©1991)

In Mercy, we touch the hearts of those who are in mis'ry.
In Mercy, we're touched by them and feel their strength and courage.
In Mercy, we heal the pain of those who are in sorrow.
In Mercy, we're healed by them and see the face of hope.

Refrain: For the circle of Mercy is timeless: it is Spirit of Life itself
Which roots us in Faith, and lifts us in Hope,
And holds us in God's loving care,
And holds us in God's loving care.

In Mercy, we welcome those the world has left rejected.
In Mercy, we're drawn within the loving heart of God.
In Mercy, we forgive the incompleteness in another.
In Mercy, our sins are healed and we are whole again. [R]

In Mercy, the Spirit Faith will root us in God's Presence.
In Mercy, the Spirit Hope will lift us out of doubt.
In Mercy, the Love of God will be our joy in living.
In Mercy, we join with one another on our journey.[R]



A Special Thanks to the Musicians:

Eithne Doyle rsm (organist) (South Central Province)
Rosaleen Hogan rsm (singer) (South Central Province)
Ailish O'Brien rsm (violinist) (South Central Province)

You are invited to the dining room for lunch.
Please also take time to visit the Icon Exhibition
held in the International Room (Level 1).
This exhibition,
hosted by the Association of Iconographers of Ireland,
is in memory of Carmel Murtagh rsm
(R.I.P., 30 December 2011)

Front Cover:

Illumination by Sr. Clare Augustine Moore of *The Practical Sayings
of Catherine McAuley*. Photo taken by David Knight.
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