

# LITANY OF MERCY

*A reader or one section of the group reads the main text, the rest respond with the bold type.*

Creator God – Maker and Source of Mercy – **all praise to You.**

Jesus – exemplar and champion of Mercy – **all praise to You.**

Spirit – artist and animator of Mercy – **all praise to You.**

Out of the profound silence of Your Presence we murmur the words of Mercy:

- + Rahamim: the womb love – **inscribe it on our hearts.**
- + Hesed: the loving kindness – **inscribe it on our hearts.**
- + Eleos: the healing oil – **inscribe it on our hearts.**
- + the words of tenderness and empathy – **inscribe them on our hearts.**
- + the words of tolerance and forgiveness – **inscribe them on our hearts.**
- + the words of justice and faithfulness – **inscribe them on our hearts.**

In the encounters of the life of Jesus we find our Mercy meaning:

- + the woman with the alabaster jar – **may we meet as Jesus met.**
- + the rich young man – **may we meet as Jesus met.**
- + the little girl brought to life – **may we meet as Jesus met.**
- + the three at Bethany – **may we meet as Jesus met.**
- + the lepers, the outcasts, the lost – **may we meet as Jesus met.**

In the imagination of Jesus we find our Mercy inspiration:

- + the one sheep who went missing – **may we do as Jesus told it.**
- + the son who was welcomed home – **may we do as Jesus told it.**
- + the vineyard workers, late and early – **may we do as Jesus told it.**
- + the treasure buried in the field – **may we do as Jesus told it.**
- + the only one who stopped to help – **may we do as Jesus told it.**

In the life of our forebears we recognise Mercy:

- + for Mary of Nazareth and Calvary – **we thank You.**
- + for Catherine McAuley, woman of Dublin – **we thank You.**
- + for our founders and pioneers, the near and the far – **we thank You.**
- + for our holy ones and wisdom figures – **we thank You.**
- + for the heroic and the humble – **we thank You.**

With all Your creation we share our life in Mercy:

- + the feather and the fur – **we respect and cherish.**
- + the waterway and the breeze – **we respect and cherish.**
- + the rock and the leaf – **we respect and cherish.**
- + the fish and the star – **we respect and cherish.**
- + the flame and the stalk – **we respect and cherish.**



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The colour of mercy – *we celebrate.*  
the shape of mercy – *we celebrate.*  
the mystery of mercy – *we celebrate.*  
the arenas of mercy – *we celebrate.*

The unfinished chapters – *we pledge mercy.*  
the unmet need – *we pledge mercy.*  
the violence, the horror – *we pledge mercy.*  
the urgent immensities – *we pledge mercy.*  
the cries, the silences, the aches and injuries – *we pledge mercy.*

In Your name, with Your help, by Your hand.  
In the large days and ordinary ways,  
alone and together, we are people for Mercy.

Mercy calls us – *Mercy calls us.*  
Mercy guides us – *Mercy guides us.*  
Mercy sustains us – *Mercy sustains us.*

**Amen.**

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To read more of  
Sr Mary's poetry visit:  
[marywickhamrsm.org.au](http://marywickhamrsm.org.au)

To learn about the  
Sisters of Mercy visit:  
[www.mercyworld.org](http://www.mercyworld.org)

