

# 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.***
- ✦ Heseed: 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:

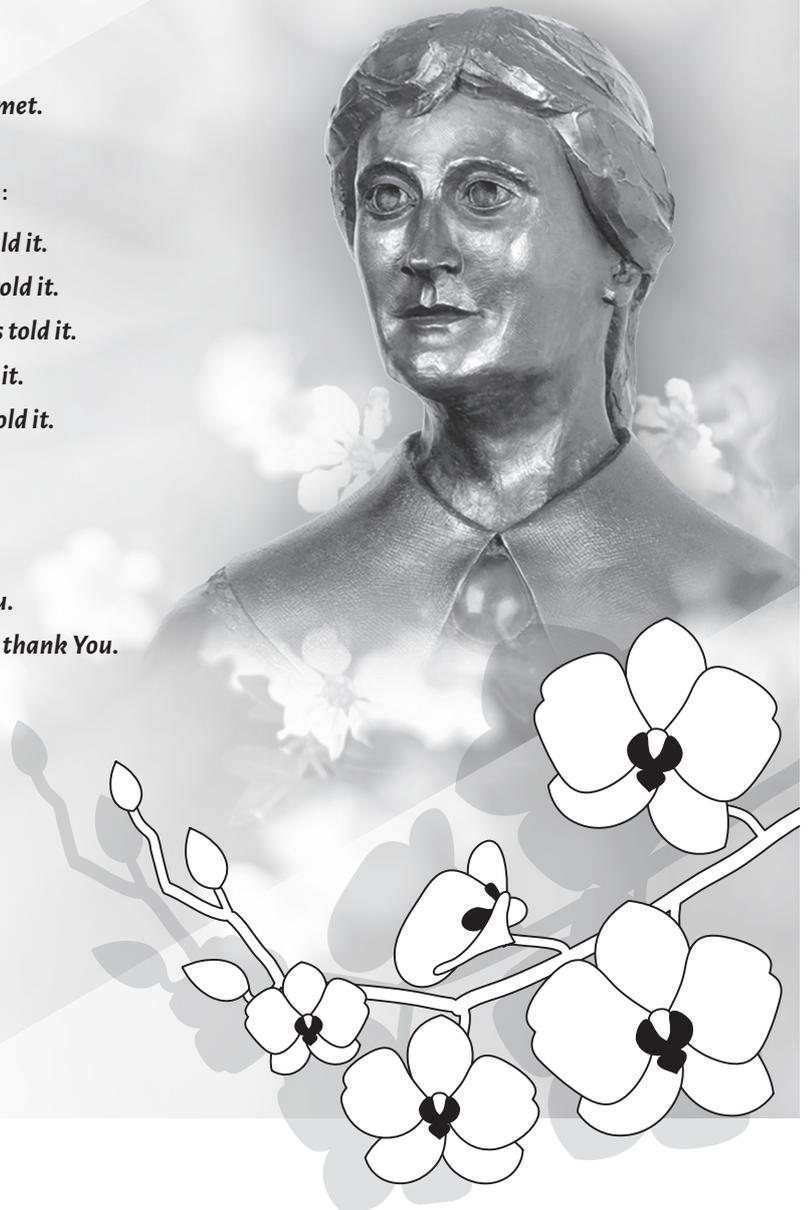
- ✦ the one sheep who went missing – ***may we do as Jesus told it.***
- ✦ the son who was welcomed home – ***may we do as Jesus told it.***
- ✦ the vineyard workers, late and early – ***may we do as Jesus told it.***
- ✦ the treasure buried in the field – ***may we do as Jesus told it.***
- ✦ the only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



the principal path  
marked out by Jesus  
Christ for those  
who desire to fol-  
low Him.