

# Launch of Catherine McAuley and the Mission of Mercy Heritage Exhibition



*Sr. Patricia O'Donovan, CEO, Mercy International Association, and Sr. Margaret Daly, Head of Heritage and Spirituality at Mercy International Association, at the exhibition launch.*

On Saturday, May 18th, the official launch of ‘*Catherine McAuley and the Mission of Mercy*’ heritage exhibition took place at Mercy International Centre in Dublin.

This one-of-a-kind exhibition delves into the material history of the house, the social context in which Catherine McAuley and her early companions lived, and the daily routines and religious practices of the founding Sisters of Mercy. Moreover, several unique artefacts from Catherine McAuley's life and mission are on display.

In addition to a private tour of the exhibition, Mercy International Association's Board of Directors and Members were treated to a series of heritage presentations and talks by Sisters Patricia O'Donovan, Margaret Daly, and Sheila Carney, along with input from Carla Soden and Susan Cahill.

Commenting on the exhibition, Sr. Patricia O'Donovan, CEO of Mercy International Association, said, “The launch of the heritage exhibition is a lifegiving moment for MIA. Our desire is that the story of Catherine McAuley and the founding sisters will continue to be a source of inspiration, guidance, and wisdom for the call of Mercy today and tomorrow in our world. I wish to take this opportunity to thank Irish designers, Darac Museum Storage & Display and Just Print, who worked closely with our exhibition team on the display.”

Speaking at the launch, Sr. Margaret Daly, Head of Heritage and Spirituality for Mercy International Association, said, “Catherine McAuley's vision and achievements reach across the centuries. Her commitment to social justice, her courage, and her immense support for women and children are remarkable. I believe her story will strike a chord with people worldwide today.”

This innovative heritage project involved a close collaboration between exhibition curator Susan Cahill and the Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy Archive. Mercy International Association expresses gratitude to Marianne Cosgrove, the Congregational Archivist, for her assistance and support.

*'Catherine McAuley and the Mission of Mercy'* exhibition offers visitors a fascinating library of heritage audio recordings, an interactive digital archive, and a unique collection of stories, photos, and artefacts from the first House of Mercy.

The exhibition is open to the public, and all are welcome!



*Opening address: Sr. Patricia O'Donovan, CEO, Mercy International Association.*



*Exhibition launch.*



*Corridor Welcome Message.*





*Sr. Sheila Carney, Chair of Mercy International Association, cutting the ceremonial ribbon.*



*Corridor Historical Timeline.*



*Karon Donnellon, Alexis Stephens, Tylia Barnes Oladipo, Paula Thomas, Breege O'Neill, Bernadette Holmes, Geraldine Lawlor & Marie Louise White.*



*Catherine's Letters & Writing Box.*



*Carla Soden, Mercy International Association Digital Archivist, offering a demonstration of Preservica Digital Archive.*



*Catherine's Letters.*





*Sisters Diane Smyth (Newfoundland), Susan Sanders (America) and Margaret Daly (Ireland) at the exhibition opening.*



*The Emu Egg Clock.*



*Exhibition launch.*



*Catherine's Personal Items.*





*Sr. Sheila Carney, Chair of Mercy International Association, gave an opening speech.*



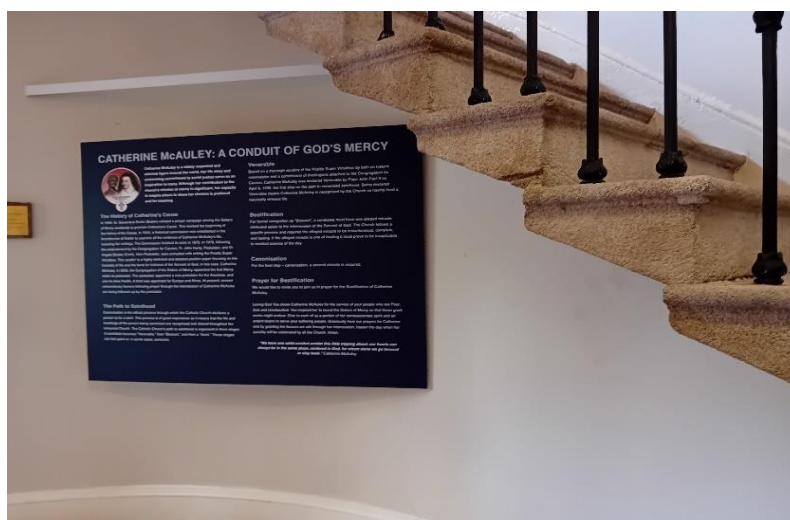
*Prayer Bench & Original Convent Bell.*



*Catherine's Prayer Book & Notebook.*



*Sr. Margaret Daly, Head of Heritage and Spirituality, offered background on the artefacts on display.*



*Walkway to The Sacred Garden & Catherine's Grave.*