



# In God Alone

The Story of Catherine McAuley

1. The film begins with the sound of the wind blowing, a symbol of the Holy Spirit. As you watch the film, note down the other times you see/hear the wind.

2. What were some of the social/ justice challenges that people faced in 18th Century Ireland?

3. What are some of the social/justice challenges facing society today?



4. Catherine grew very fond of Mr and Mrs Callaghan. How did she help others when she lived with them?

5. Catherine read to Mrs Callaghan, “Blessed are the poor in spirit...” how do you think scripture influenced Catherine?



6. Catherine had significant people in her life including Fr Armstrong who helped during construction of the House and the works of mercy. Who has helped you to form your values and guided your actions?

7. The Sisters of Mercy were different to other Religious Orders of the day and they were called the walking sisters. Discuss why you think that members of the Church were opposed to the work of Catherine and her first helpers?



8. As she was dying, Catherine told the Sisters to “share a good cup of tea and to comfort one another”. Sharing a cup of tea has become a symbol of mercy hospitality. How do you show hospitality to others?

9. Draw or describe a symbol that represents your idea of hospitality.

10. Catherine says that looking back she can see how the course of her life prepared her to begin the ministry at the House of Mercy. Identify one event in her life that helped form her for the ministry of Mercy. Discuss the influence of the event on Catherine.

11. The film opens and closes with lines from Catherine’s prayer, although written over 150 years ago, how can this prayer speak to those around the world, women and men, who are part of the mercy family today?



*Suscipe*

My God I am Yours for time and eternity.

Teach me to cast myself into the arms of Your loving Providence with the most lively, unbounded confidence in Your compassionate, tender pity.

Grant O most Merciful Redeemer, that whatever You ordain or permit may be acceptable to me. Take from my heart all painful anxiety, suffer nothing to sadden me but sin; nothing to delight me but the hope of coming into the presence of You, My God, in Your everlasting Kingdom.

Amen



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