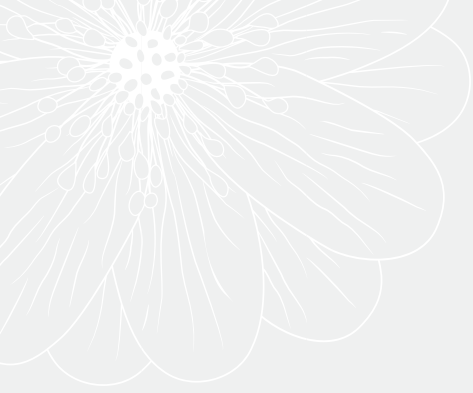




*Dr William Kinsella, Bishop of Ossory,
consecrated this cemetery.*

*In his funeral oration he recommended that
the Sisters of Mercy never enter the cemetery
“but in a reverent mood,
for it would truly be unto all ages holy ground”*





Rededication of the

Sacred Garden

25 September 2019





Opening Hymn - This is Holy Ground

Words Chris Beatty and Geron Davis, arranged by Kent Henry © 1985, Integrity Music.

This is holy ground, we're standing on holy ground,
For the Lord is present and where God is, is holy.
This is holy ground, we're standing on holy ground
For the Lord is present and where God is, is holy

These are holy hands, we're lifting up holy hands,
God works through these hands and so these hands are holy.
These are holy hands, we're lifting up holy hands,
God works through these hands and so these hands are holy

We are standing on holy ground
and I know that there are angels all around.
Let us praise, Jesus now,
we are standing in Your presence on holy ground.

We are standing on holy ground
and I know that there are angels all around.
Let us praise, Jesus now,
we are standing in Your presence on holy ground.

Opening Address

Sr Mary Reynolds rsm - CEO of MIA

Yesterday

Leader: In this area of the Sacred Garden we remember those who have passed to their eternal life before each of us:

Leader: The thirteen women laid to rest in the Crypt at St Teresa's Church, Clarendon Street.

Response: We remember with gratitude

Leader: Venerable Catherine McAuley

Response: We remember with gratitude

Leader: The forty-nine sisters interred beside Catherine in this Sacred Garden

Response: We remember with gratitude

Leader: The Sisters of Mercy, Associates, Partners in Mercy and all who have shared God's compassionate mercy with those in need.

Response: We remember with gratitude

Leader: May we all meet in heaven.

There Are Many Rooms

Words and music: Liam Lawton. Arr: P. Tate. ©2009 GIA. All rights reserved. Reprinted by authorisation of Calamus, license number 2919

There are many rooms in my Father's house.

Do not be afraid, and have no doubt;

I am going there to prepare a place.

Come and follow, come and you will see,

Come and take your rest in God's safe embrace.

Architect's Address

Kevin Blackwood and Alice Bently - Blackwood Associates Architects



Today

In this area of the Sacred Garden we are invited to “Come sit a while” with Catherine.

Jesus said, ‘Come away with me. Let us go alone to a quiet place and rest for a while’ Mark 6:31. And so Catherine, her book open before her, invites us to come and rest for a while. In companionable silence, perhaps resonant of the moments Catherine McAuley shared with her affectionate Catherine Callaghan, we are drawn into prayer.

Intercessions

God of peace,

May all who come to this Sacred Garden seeking peace experience the quiet company of your Presence beside them.

God of joy,

May all who come to this Sacred Garden seeking joy experience the beauty of the roses, the delicacy of the wild flowers and the comforting scent of fresh cut grass as they see your Presence in all of creation.

God of consolation,

May all who come to this Sacred Garden carrying burdens, and holding grief experience your healing Presence in the compassionate hearing of their sorrows.

Blest are they

Words and music David Haas based on Matthew 5 © 1985, GIA Publications. All rights reserved.

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Blest are they, who show mercy; mercy shall be theirs.


Blest are they, the pure of heart; they shall see God!

Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are you, holy are you!

Rejoice and be glad! Yours is the kingdom of God!

Sculptor's Remarks

Gael O'Leary



Tomorrow

Those present are invited to hold a stone

We hold stones, the memory keepers of our earth.

Formed over time.

Into these stones, we press our story of mercy

We gift to these stones a little of our spirit and a lot of our love,
allowing them to become memory keepers for our Mercy story.

These stones are placed into the rill,

for water to flow over

to be transformed

by the memory in our stones, our stories,

and so send mercy flowing out to the ends of Earth.


The stones are placed in the rill.

Scripture

A reading from the Gospel of John (John 4:5-15)

So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water."



The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life."

The Word of the Lord

R: Thanks be to God

Intercessions

God of rest,

May all who come to this Sacred Garden find benches to rest, allowing Sabbath into their lives.

God of new life

May all who come to this Sacred Garden find paths to walk along that open up possibilities of new opportunities.

God of justice


May all who come to this Sacred Garden feel renewed in their commitment to care for our common home that calls them to action.

Sculptor's Remarks

Mark Ryan

Ceramic Artist's Remarks

Laura O'Hagan



Tomorrow

In this learning space we remember Catherine's words:

"The Sisters shall feel convinced that no work of charity can be more productive of good to society, or more conducive to the happiness of the poor, than the careful instruction of women, since whatever be the station they are destined to fill, their example and advice will always possess influence." Rule of the Sisters of Mercy, Chapter 2

Intercessions

God of hope,

May all who come to this Sacred Garden seeking hope hear the excitement of youth, the kind word, and experience the newness of each day.

God of community

May all who come to this Sacred Garden feel connected to the Mercy Family as we seek to bring about the globalisation of compassion.

Holy Ground

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Refrain: Here in this place may hope be found.

Deep in our hearts may love abound.

We are here, here in the presence of God,
we are on holy ground.

May your calling lead the way; may we always teach and pray.

May the ones now in our care be the centre of our prayer. *Refrain*

Learning Space Remarks

Sr Margaret Scroope rsm

Leader Finance and Administration



Blessing with water

Water from the rill, water made sacred through the ways we live Mercy,
will now be used to bless the Sacred Space.

As the water is taken to the various parts of the garden we ask that
all who walk these pathways,
all who remember those who have died
all who come here seeking the patient hearing of their sorrows
all who come to learn and be renewed
all who come to be refreshed
may be blessed and animated by our loving God of Mercy.

Closing Hymn: Circle of Mercy

Words and music: Jeannette Goglia rsm ©1991. Sisters of Mercy of the Americas. Used with permission.

In Mercy, we touch the hearts of those who are in misery.
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 grounds 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. *Refrain*

In Mercy, the Spirit faith will ground 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. *Refrain*

*As the blessing concludes, you are invited to
explore further the various spaces in
the Sacred Garden.*

*The artists, architects, and construction crew
will be available in the respective areas to share
a little more of their contribution to the
Sacred Garden.*

Lunch will be served in the dining room.





*On behalf of all those who will come to
this beautiful Sacred Garden in the
years to come, Mercy International
Association offers a most sincere thank
you to the donors and benefactors who have
made the redevelopment possible.*

You are remembered in prayer.