



Our Exploration of Mercy Global Presence

Guiding Group

Commencing in September 2019 and concluding on 30 June 2021, we have explored dimensions of Mercy Global Presence, beginning first with “global,” moving to “mercy,” then “presence” and finally, braiding all the threads together, to “integrated.”

Literary métissage (Spanish mestizaje) generates new knowledge through writing and braiding texts and other art forms. It embraces distinct voices, uses different genres, and reclaims many wisdoms. Ecological métissage adapts the same blending of diversity with ecological worldviews (Indigenous, scientific, and religious). Métissage invites the reader or the listener to pursue many paths through the texts, art forms and worldviews.

In this way, it generates new understanding and wisdom about the world and our place in it. Our sixteen-month experience of Mercy Global Presence has been a visual, literary, and ecological métissage as together globally we have embraced distinct voices, used different genres, and reclaimed many wisdoms. In doing so, we have seen “mercy” come alive in new ways for our world and our place in this world.

During the month of July 2021, the Guiding Team for Mercy Global Presence, working with the coordinators from the twelve Mercy congregations and institutes, will gather the threads of all the diverse voices, regional gatherings, and global contemplation since September 2019. We will forward the gathered and braided threads to the many members of the Mercy family around the globe in a way or ways which become a foundation for the next phase of deepening this Mercy Global Presence.

Together we have created a new weaving of mercy, gathering the threads of our lived experience shining with all the colours and textures of Earth. Through this braiding of differences, may we help transform our post-pandemic world and church so desperately in need of God’s mercy and compassion. May our God of mercy walk with us on our way.

—Elizabeth Davis rsm