



# MERCY BEGINS WITH ME

## Young Mercy Leaders Opening Ritual 2018

### Fáilte go hÉirinn - Welcome to Ireland

Mary Reynolds rsm

CEO Mercy International Association

### Opening Hymn - Gather

Words and Music Liam Lawton. © 1996 GIA. All rights reserved. Reprinted by authorisation of Calamus, license number 2919

Gather from the East, gather from the West,  
Gather from the highways too.

Gather from the North, gather from the South,  
Gather when the night is noon.

**Refrain:** And we'll gather, and we shall reap,  
And no longer in sadness we'll weep,  
And we'll gather, and we shall reap,  
resting, rising, calling, guiding O Lord.

Gather all the needy, gather all in pain,  
gather all who cry in vain.  
Gather all the thirsty, gather all the poor,  
gather all in Jesus' name. **R**

Gather all forgotten, gather all forlorn,  
gather all who weep and mourn.  
Gather all the silent, gather all who sing,  
gather all the hearts reborn. **R**

Gather from all races, gather from all creeds,  
gather that you may believe.  
Gather all you ages, gather in his keep,  
gather in the Lord's own peace. **R**

### Gospel Reading Luke 10:25–37

### Universal Prayer: Catherine welcomes you home

191 years ago, on the 24th September 1827, this House of Mercy was opened. A house that provided care for those in need and an opportunity for women to live out their call to follow Christ through the path of Mercy. From this house Sisters travelled to the ends of the earth to meet the people of God, to serve wherever they were called, and they encouraged others to follow the path of Mercy. Today there are over 6000 Sisters of Mercy, many thousands of young people in Mercy Educational Organisations and a multitude of adults working with and in Mercy organisations throughout the world.

We pray for Pope Francis and all leaders in our Church who show us by their words and deeds how to be more merciful. Lord hear us. [Lord graciously hear us.](#)

Catherine McAuley was grateful to her many benefactors, in particular her adoptive parents, William and Catherine Callaghan whose legacy made the building of this house possible. We pray for the members of our families, and all our benefactors, who have supported us in coming on this pilgrimage. Lord hear us. [Lord graciously hear us.](#)

We remember that education was part of the ministry of this House from the beginning as we pray for the staff and students in our Mercy Educational Facilities. May we take our learnings from this week back to them so that they too are enriched by our presence here. Lord hear us. [Lord graciously hear us.](#)

We pray that nations torn by racial and ethnic animosities, by class or religious prejudices, will find a way to embrace peace with justice. Lord hear us. [Lord graciously hear us.](#)

There were once windows in this Chapel to the left of the altar that opened into the infirmary so that those who were sick could hear the prayers of those in the Chapel. We pray for the sick, and all those who have asked for our prayers that they may be comforted knowing that they are held in prayer in their time of need. Lord hear us. [Lord graciously hear us.](#)

We know that Catherine and 49 Sisters are buried here in the Sacred garden. We pray eternal rest for all who have died and particularly pray that those who die this day may meet their God with joy. Lord hear us. [Lord graciously hear us.](#)

### Closing Hymn: Irish Blessing

A Thiarna déan trócaire, A Thiarna déan trócaire  
A Chríost déan trócaire, A Chríost déan trócaire.  
Déan trócaire, déan trócaire, A Thiarna.  
A Thiarna, A Thiarna, A Thiarna déan trócaire.

### Reflection

A Thiarna, A Thiarna,  
A Thiarna déan trócaire.