



MERCY WELCOME & HOSPITALITY

THROUGHOUT OUR PUBLICATION, THE THEMES OF 'WELCOME AND HOSPITALITY' ARE INTEGRAL AND REFLECT THE SPIRIT OF OPENNESS, WARMTH, AND ENCOUNTER EXTENDED TO PEOPLE ON THE MOVE THROUGHOUT THE MERCY WORLD

A CULTURE OF ENCOUNTER WITH PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

- Pope Francis call us to **create inclusive communities** that embrace migrants and refugees and foster unity and a sense of belonging
- We are **inspired by Catherine McAuley** to welcome the stranger and provide hospitality and support to people on the move and those at borders
- We envision a world where **human rights are a reality** for everyone, everywhere



HOSPITALITY AND CARE PROVIDED TO MIGRANTS DEMONSTRATES A WILLINGNESS TO KEEP DOORS OPEN TO THOSE LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO CALL HOME

THE TRANSFORMATIVE POWER OF FRIENDSHIP & HUMAN CONNECTION

- **Building supportive relationships and friendships** with migrants and refugees can be transformational to support newcomers settle into communities and cultivate hope for the future
- **Fostering positive interactions** with people on the move applies a **whole-of-society approach** that promotes equality, belonging, and a **culture of encounter**
- Many members of the Mercy community have provided **accompaniment and support to those detained** while others have organised **social and leisure activities, provided support with language learning, and arranged befriending schemes**



THE MERCY WORLD RECOGNISES THE INHERENT DIGNITY OF EACH PERSON AND EMBRACES THIS UNIQUENESS, ACKNOWLEDGING THAT EACH PERSON'S JOURNEY HAS ITS OWN DISTINCT MEANING AND CHARACTERISTICS

Take Action!

- **Welcome the Stranger:** Extend a warm welcome to help immigrants, migrants, refugees and people on the move. Build paths of solidarity and respect and create safe spaces of encounter, listening, and understanding
- Pray for people who are leaving their homes in search of new beginnings and safety
- Share gratitude and appreciation for staff and volunteers ministering to people on the move
- Reframe attitudes to migration by emphasising what we have in common and promoting positive, inclusive and hopeful messages that can challenge racism, xenophobia, and negative narratives of migration
- Call on policy makers to condemn harmful and dehumanising narratives of fear and exclusion about migrants and migration
- Take action for change using the UN #StandUpForMigrants Toolkit

