

A decorative border of stylized flowers in shades of blue, purple, and pink surrounds the central text. The flowers are drawn with thick black outlines and some have yellow centers. The background is white.

*Come,
sit a while...*

**Ritual to acknowledge
the faithful service of
Mary Reynolds
to Mercy International Association**

Welcome: Anna and Ron

Scripture: Philippians 1:3-11
Response: Thanks be to God

Thanksgiving: Ron

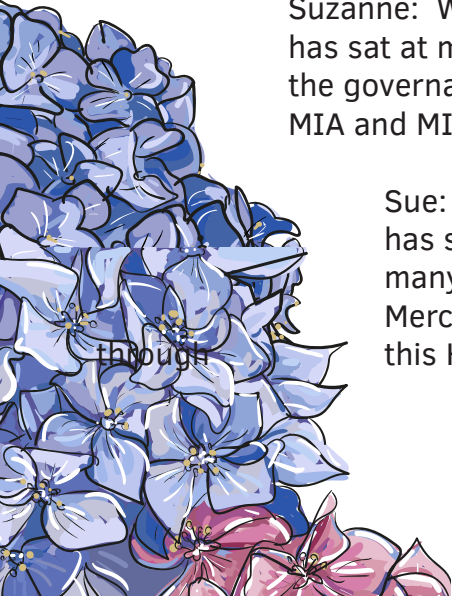
Refrain: Amen, we affirm!
Amen, we encourage!
Amen, we bless and we celebrate, Amen!

Reflection: Anna

Maria: We give thanks for the times Mary has delivered keynote presentations, led workshops and shared the story of Mercy.

Suzanne: We give thanks for the times Mary has sat at meeting tables, participating in the governance and administration of both MIA and MIC.

Sue: We give thanks for the times Mary has shared a good cup of tea with the many many Sisters, Associates, Partners in Mercy, and friends who have passed through this House during her time.



Colette: We give thanks for the ways Mary has held onto the MIA Vision through all these interactions and helped bring it to life.

Naming of a seat: Anna and Ron

Marie Louise: Mary, this is where your life has arrived,
After all the years of effort and toil;
Look back with graciousness and thanks
on all your great and quiet achievements.

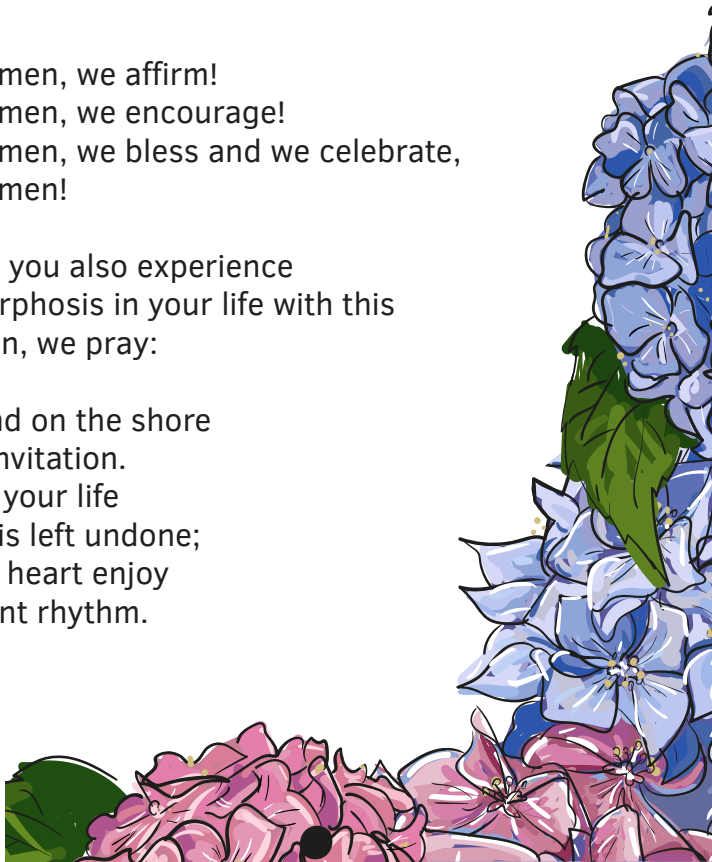
(Adapted from John O'Donohue)

Anna: Like our metamorphic chair, this will be a
place for others to sit a while, alone,
or with a friend, in the presence of
Catherine, and held by the Divine Presence.

Refrain: Amen, we affirm!
Amen, we encourage!
Amen, we bless and we celebrate,
Amen!

Anna: Mary, as you also experience
metamorphosis in your life with this
transition, we pray:

Mary M: You stand on the shore
of new invitation.
To open your life
to what is left undone;
Let your heart enjoy
a different rhythm.



Allow it to slow until you find freedom
To draw alongside the mystery you hold
And befriend your own beauty of soul.
Now is the time to enjoy your heart's desire,
To live the dreams you've waited for,
To awaken the depths beyond your work
And to sit a while with your infinite source.

(Adapted from John O'Donohue)

Kevin: As you journey onward, may you be strengthened
by the memory of our love and appreciation.

Berneice: As you meet the poor, the pained, the stranger on
your way, may you see in each one the face of our
Christ.

Sheila: As you walk through the good times and the hard
times, may you never lose sight of the shelter of
God's loving arms.

Blessing:

May the God of Mercy bless and protect
you always. Amen.

May the God of peace comfort you in times
of trial. Amen.

And may the God love shine forth in your
life. Amen.

Refrain:

Amen, we affirm!

Amen, we encourage!

Amen, we bless and
we celebrate, Amen!

