

Thank you for Mercy Day Mass

It is quite an understatement to say that this is a very strange Mercy Day and we really hope it will not become a precedent. Those of you who have attended Mercy Day celebrations here at Baggot Street, who have enjoyed the meetings, the greetings, the laughter and the joy, the hospitality, will be particularly conscious of just how odd it is to have the Mercy Day Mass in an almost-empty chapel. Yet, that very emptiness makes us additionally conscious of those of you around the world as you celebrate this strange Mercy Day.

Thank you Fr John for making yourself available to say this Mercy Day Mass for us. I feel sure it will be appreciated in a particular way this year when so many of the usual, even traditional Mercy Day activities will be cancelled because of the pandemic.

Thank you Anna, who prepared this Mass and who has made great efforts to maximize involvement. She is at present recording all this from New Zealand. Anna, your skills and efforts are greatly appreciated.

And thank you, Avril, our camera-person today but also the one who has prepared the chapel and so much more.

Thank you to all participants here and everywhere around the world.

I want to remind you of a few other MIA happenings which might have their appeal to you.

- If you have not already done so you might go to the website and look at downloading the flip-book giving easy access to the Mercy Global Presence posters which have inspired some wonderful interactions over the past few months. The Mercy Global Presence aim is to help us find new images and language in which to communicate God's message in today's world, and this flip-book is a valuable contribution drawing, as it does, on a great number of contributors.

- You might also want to follow up on the Mercy Global Action paper "Hope in a time of pandemic" which is also accessible through the website. Again, the stories are powerful. It is not enough to speak of God, we are called to bring God alive in our way of life.

We will leave you now and enjoy a good cup of tea, at a distance from each other of course, but otherwise in true Catherine McAuley style, and hope you have the chance to do likewise. A final reminder, don't forget the possibility of joining in the Good Cup of Tea MIA campaign as advertised through the website and newsletter! We look forward to hearing lots of stories about Good Cups of Tea! Have one now!

Happy Mercy Day to each and every one of you!

Sr Berneice Loch rsm