

COVID 19

KO TE WAIRUA PAI,
HE WAIRUA ATAWHAI

IN THE SPIRIT OF MERCY

Covid-19 came upon us like a furtive shadow, a whispered threat, red dots on the globe showing shocking numbers of deaths, medical warnings, and then the announcement of severe restrictions!

Adaptation is central to evolution; care for other and mutual cooperation have meant that creative adaptation is happening in our communities. How have we, as Whānau Mercy, met this silent, invisible assault on people?



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**COVID 19
WHAT IS YOUR
EXPERIENCE OF MERCY
AS YOU FACE AN ALTERED
WAY OF LIFE BOTH LOCALLY
AND GLOBALLY?**

**HE AHI NGĀKAU A ATAWHAI
BEING MERCY IMPELS US**

COVID 19

HE WERO, TE MAHI A WHĀNAU MERCY



A CHALLENGE LAID DOWN TO US

A virus is letting us know that everything is connected, from the non-living to the living, from the rich to the poor, from the first world to the fourth.

The task that lies before us is to acknowledge the need to respect and protect the unity of that web of life by creating and preserving a balance in the seas, rivers, soil, and air and by breaking the structures that cause inequalities among peoples.



COVID 19 REVEALED ANEW

- ✕ **BLATANT INEQUALITIES**
of our social, cultural, economic, political and ecological world systems
- ✕ **SACREDNESS OF EARTH**
as communities forced into their homes took time to reconnect in nature, Earth began to regenerate with lessened human exploitation
- ✕ **HUMAN CAPACITY**
for transformation, calling forth great acts of resilience, incredible kindness and creative community.

KIA WHAKAOHO AI TĀTOU TO A WAKE UP CALL



COVID 19 KIA TIKA TE ARA KI MUA



TO LIVE JUSTLY

The crises of the COVID-19 pandemic are rooted in human and systemic sickness. They stem from oppressive and exploitative economic systems that are based on the logic of profit-making, socioeconomic inequalities, ecological indifference, political self-interest, and colonial legacies.

It is up to us to challenge these systems, to work for transformative change, to stand in solidarity with the oppressed and marginalized, and to uphold the rights and dignity of people and the planet.

WHĀNAU MERCY STANDS

- › For building a just and equitable future
- › For the sacredness of Earth
- › For the equality of all people
- › For inclusiveness
- › Against racism of any kind
- › Against unjust systems that exploit people and Earth
- › Against violence towards women and the vulnerable
- › For the human rights of all.

WHAIA HE NGĀKAU TAPATAHI TO LIVE JUSTLY



COVID 19 HE AHI NGĀKAU A ATAWHAI



TO LOVE MERCY

Through the longing and efforts of the entire Mercy family, we will strive for the globalisation of compassion and the recognition of God's mercy as present and active in our world.

Mercy International Association Vision

IN LIVING MERCY

- People are empowered and transformed in order that Te Tiriti o Waitangi is respected
- Hungry are fed
- Homeless are housed
- Strangers are welcomed
- Sick are visited
- Deceased are buried with dignity
- Earth is healed
- Workers are justly waged.

This pandemic is bringing together the most unlikely partners into 'Circles of Mercy', all focused on the same goal of prevention, protection, healing and ending the pandemic.

The awareness has finally come that all social systems need to be working in harmony if we are to reach this goal.

Where there is injustice, Sisters of Mercy, Associates and Partners in Mission are being called to raise others up with love and "lift up the lowly".

In the face of Justice we claim Catherine McAuley's legacy as we respond with "the kind word, the compassionate heart and the patient hearing of sorrows."

WHAIA HE NGĀKAU ATAWHAI TO LOVE MERCY



COVID 19

NA TE ATAWHAI
KA EKE TE WAKA

BY MERCY WE MOVE

As we now look towards the future we are very aware that life in our world will not be the same as it was before the virus.

We will not be the same, and the way we will work together will be different.

WITH ACTIVE HOPE AS WHĀNAU MERCY

Let us use whatever power and influence we have working with whatever resources are available, mobilising those who are with us, to work for what we care about to mitigate the rise of poverty, racism, hatred and violence and ecological destruction.

Let us seek a government

- where leaders put service over self
- who can be steadfast through crises and failures
- who stay present and make a difference to people and causes we care about
- who will work collectively and collaboratively listening to those marginalised and responding with justice.

KIA HIKOI TAHI TĀTOU, HEI ATAWHAI
TO WALK HUMBLY AS ONE

