



Te Whakaruruhau mo nga iwi katoa

Shelter for all

*"Whakaruruhau is to shelter,
to be the protector"* Tui Cadigan rsm

Mercy

Reflection and Action Project

August & September 2016

*In the tradition of Catherine
and in the spirit of
Whakawhanaungatanga
making right relationship happen,
we Widen Mercy Circles
stand with fragile communities
and are Disturbed into action*

Catherine McAuley

had an ability to address
immediate need in a
practical and loving way
while at the same time
addressing the systemic issues
that underpinned those needs.
For Catherine anything that advanced
human dignity was worthy of her attention.
Through the works of mercy,
Catherine aimed to set people free.

Mary Reynolds rsm



Nga Whaea Atawhai o Aotearoa
Sisters of Mercy New Zealand

Every displaced person
needs the same simple
things: sanctuary, shelter
and a warm welcome ...

Joanna Tovia

Reach out
and walk in
the shoes
of another.



Mihi ~ Welcome: Leader

Karakia

E te Atua te Whakaruruhau mō ngā mea katoa,

God in whom all find a shelter that never fails,
let us learn from your goodness to us
to be generous toward those who have less.

God of hospitality you came as

a stranger to our world,
waiting as the outsider to be welcomed.

May manaakitanga ~ hospitality
be for us a way, not just a word;

May we share our tables with seekers of Mercy.

May we find life by giving life,

hope by giving hope,
discover love by offering love.

May each one of us, young and old,

fit and frail, be lifelong animators of Mercy.



In this year of Mercy,

may we widen Mercy circles,
stand with fragile communities
and be disturbed into action.

Teach us to reach beyond ourselves
that others may find shelter
where they may come to know
your goodness as we have. Amen

Dennis Horton adapted

Leader invites the group into a reflection process

Whakaruruhau mo nga iwi katoa Shelter for all ~ Questions for reflection:

1. Today who is calling you from the edges and to a willingness to reach out and walk in the shoes of another ?
2. Where does your ministry, your facility, your particular role encounter homelessness?
3. From your experience of working in a Mercy facility: What practical action could you, your colleagues and your particular facility take?

Mercy is

BRINGING
ONE'S HEART
TO THE
NEED OF
ANOTHER

Mercy
is the force
that reawakens
Us to new life
and courage
to look to
the future
with hope

Pope Francis

To sow seeds of real hope and action in our world,
to be Mercy I think Catherine McAuley would say:

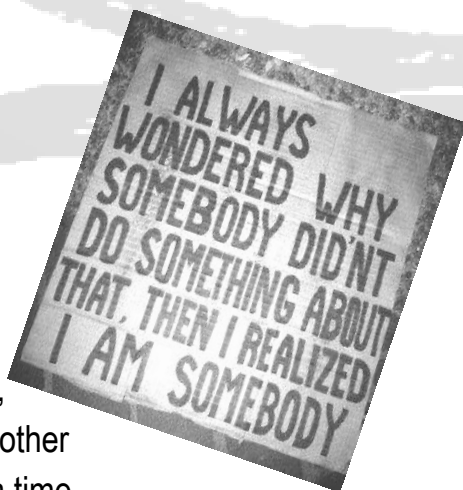
This is the way we must do it: One person at a time:

One answering and opening of the figurative doorbell,

One embrace of the stranger, One welcoming of the other

One sharing of our bread and milk ~ One person at a time.

Mary Sullivan rsm



All it takes is one good person to restore hope! Pope Francis

“Whakaruruhau is to shelter, to be the protector” Tui Cadigan rsm

“Having a home has much to do with a sense of personal dignity and the growth of families”
Pope Francis Laudato Si” para 152



Late one night in 1832 Catherine carried home in her arms, wrapped in her black woollen shawl, the newborn baby of a poor women who had died of cholera. Catherine put the baby to sleep in her own room. “To share one’s shawl is to reach out, side by side, and embrace the shoulders, life and needs of another. Mary Sullivan rsm

Shelter the Homeless.

*Welcome the stranger,
reach out to the unloved
and unpopular,
be inclusive,
practice hospitality,
take action and
address immediate need
in a practical way ...*

Works of Mercy Reflection

“I encourage the financial experts and the political leaders of your countries to consider the words of Saint John Chrysostom: ‘Not to share one’s goods with the poor is to rob them and to deprive them of life. It is not our goods that we possess, but theirs.’” Pope Francis

The Spirit of the Lord
is on me,
because he has
anointed me
to preach the
good news
to the afflicted.
He has sent me
to proclaim freedom
to captives, sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free
Luke 4:18-19

Lines from the prophet Isaiah:

Fasting today like yours will never make
your voice heard on high.

Is this the sort of fast that pleases me,
a day when a person inflicts pain on himself?

Is not this the sort of fast that pleases me:

To break unjust fetters,

To undo the thongs of the yoke,

To let the oppressed go free?

Is it not sharing your food with the hungry,
sheltering the homeless poor;

and if you see someone lacking clothes to clothe
them, and not to turn away from your own kin?

Isaiah 58: 5-7



Āwhinatia te rawakore ināianeī – kua e waiho mō tērā wiki.

The poor need help today not next week Catherine McAuley

Catherine's mercifulness reached out to the edges of her time.

Today who is calling us from the edges and to a willingness
to reach out and walk in the shoes of another ?

A door is a truly an amazing thing.
Closed it is an agent of separation ...
but swing it open
and it becomes an invitation,
uniting what before was separate.

Open each door knowing
the world is waiting
for the goodness, love and mercy
you carry within you. Drew Leder

Open
Doors
Of
Mercy

Go out. Go out and share your Mercy.

Go out and interact with
your brothers and sisters.

Go out and be Mercy.

become the Word of God
in body as well as spirit.

A little bit of Mercy
makes the world
less cold and more just.

Pope Francis



God's mercy transforms human
hearts; it enables us, through the
experience of a faithful love, to
become merciful in turn.

Pope Francis

He atawhai... tā mātou kaupapa matua
Mercy the business of our lives.

Catherine McAuley

We enter into the depths of Mercy
by responding willingly
and compassionately

With those who are
seeking healing and wholeness

With those who are
seeking food and water

With those seeking
clothing and shelter

With those seeking
freedom and justice

With those seeking
knowledge and understanding

Janice McDrury

A prayer for those needing shelter and for our earth

All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe
and in the smallest of your creatures.

You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.

Pour out upon us the power of your love,
that we may protect life and beauty.

Fill us with peace, that we may live
as brothers and sisters, harming no one.

O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned
and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes.
Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world
and not prey on it, that we may sow beauty,
not pollution and destruction.

Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain
at the expense of the poor and the earth.

Teach us to discover the worth of each thing,
to be filled with awe and contemplation, to
recognize that we are profoundly united with every
creature as we journey towards your infinite light.

We thank you for being with us each day.

Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle
for justice, love and peace. Pope Francis, Laudato Si'

Care
for our
Common
Home

