

Reflection time with Catherine ...



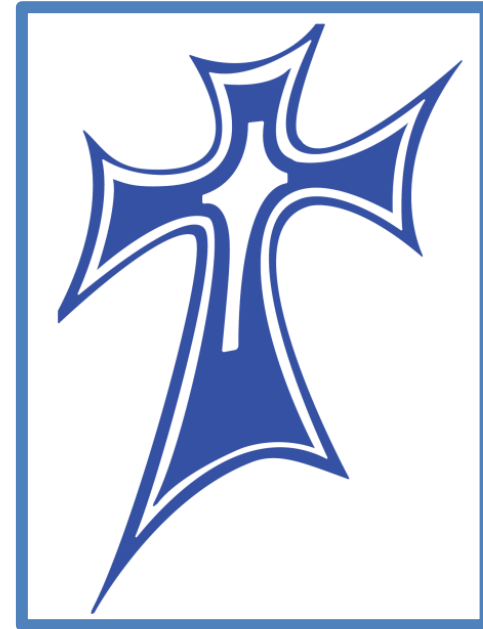
- What feelings or reactions do I have after reading this reflection?
- Do my feelings or reactions remind me of any passage or event in scripture, especially in the life of Catherine?
- What actions might I take today because of my response to these readings?

Closing Prayer:

I will rest in the Word;
I rise with the images of Mercy in my heart.
I aspire to live and give, receive and encounter Mercy,
this day and every day, inspired by Mary who mothered
Mercy, and with the help of her Son, Jesus the Christ. Amen

Closing Hymn: Pour out Compassion and Mercy
<https://music.youtube.com/watch?v=GjwZ6M-CDvs&si=UZyqDAovjElarpQR> (Ctrl + Click)

Mercy Day Prayer



Opening Prayer:

Blessed are you, God, Source of all goodness.
The boundless beauty and unlimited love of your
presence bless us at every moment of our experience.

May your goodness radiate from us,
and may it bring the blessing of your loving touch
to each person with whom we share life.

Be with us as we gather to celebrate Catherine,
Woman of Mercy, whose gift was mercy and
whose passion was to serve your suffering people.

Readings:

Beyond prayer,

Catherine's life was a testament to active mercy:

Serving the poor: She founded the House of Mercy in Dublin to provide care, education, and shelter for the poor, the sick, and young women.

Seeing Christ in others: She taught her sisters to see Jesus in the person of the poor and the sick, a core tenet of her apostolic spirituality.

Cordial charity: She emphasized that their love for one another and for the poor should be "cordial," meaning it should renew, invigorate, and warm, like a life-giving river.

Applying Mercy into Action – Mercy World



The Lord is gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger and great in mercy.

The Lord is good to all, and God's tender mercies
are over all God's works.

Psalm 145: 8-9

Prayer of intercession:

Creator God, you live at the heart of Mercy:

You have gifted us with Catherine McAuley,
and all those in our history who have reflected
the light of your Mercy to us. *We pray ...*

God of Tenderness and Compassion hear our prayer

May the example of those who have gone before us,
instill in us a spirit of hospitality and welcome. *We Pray ...*

God of Tenderness and Compassion hear our prayer

May the Mercy tradition of concern for the poor awaken
in us compassion for those less fortunate. *We Pray ...*

God of Tenderness and Compassion hear our prayer

May the tradition of mercy challenge us to reach out in love
to all those we encounter. *We pray ...*

***God of Tenderness and Compassion hear our prayer.
Amen***