



Vol. 9/No. 4 – April 2026
Kitty's Chronicle
Mercy Associates Newsletter

Then the angel said to the women in reply, “Do not be afraid! I know that you are seeking Jesus the crucified. He is not here, for he has been raised just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay.” Then go quickly and tell his disciples, ‘He has been raised from the dead, and he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him.’ Behold, I have told you.”



Prayers for the Sick

Let us pray for the sick, especially our Associates, Sisters of Mercy, family members, friends and caregivers. May God touch them with comfort, healing and strength.

We pray for people who are on our list this week – Jaxon McKinney (grandnephew of Sister Maureen O’Keefe), Diane Hickey (sister-in-law of Cathy Hickey), Theresa Lacey (sister of Annie Brown), Marilyn Thurston, Patricia King, Sylvia Flood, Kevin Drover (husband of Geraldine Drover), Marion Bonia (sister of Anne Marie Davis), Sister Theresa Boland, George Bradbury (husband of Barbara Bradbury), Jim Wakeford (nephew of Sister Maureen O’Keefe), Mike Kelly (husband of Anna Kelly), Anne Walsh, Sister Maureen O’Keefe and Michelle Furlong.

(If you wish to have your name or another person’s name added to or removed from this list please let Sharon Drover know @ drover.sharon@yahoo.ca



Prayer for the Sick

Through the Intercession of
Catherine McAuley

God of Love and Mercy,
You inspired Catherine McAuley,
To serve your Son by responding

To the needs of her time.
Moved by her care for the Sick,
We ask that through Her Prayers
You reach out with Your Healing
Love

And restore them to full health
We ask this in complete
Confidence through Jesus Christ,
Your Son
Amen.

Catherine McAuley, Pray For Us
Amen.





Barbara & Eric – April 5th

Light a Candle

Let us continue, in solidarity with Mercy Sisters, Associates and Colleagues around the world, to light a candle and pray for justice and peace.



Notes from the Associates/Sisters

ITEMS OF INTEREST



Mercy Wellsprings

We need constantly to contemplate the mystery of mercy. It is a wellspring of joy, Serenity, and peace ... From the heart of the Trinity, from the depths of the mystery of God, the great river of mercy wells up and overflows unceasingly. It is a spring that will never run dry, no matter how many people draw from it.

Misericordiae vultus #2, #25

Saint Mary of Clopas (or Cleophas)

Feast Day: April 24



Mother of St. James the Less and Joseph, wife of Cleophas. She was one of the “Three Marys” who served Jesus and was present at the Crucifixion, and accompanied Mary Magdalen to the tomb of Christ. Tradition reports that she went to Spain as a missionary. Mary reportedly died at Ciudad Rodrigo. Another tradition states that she went to France with St. Lazarus and his sisters.

Role at the Crucifixion: She stood at the foot of the Cross on Calvary with Mary Magdalene and the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Mother of Apostles: She is identified as the mother of St. James the Less, St. Simon, St. Jude, and Joseph.

Myrrhbearer: Along with Mary Magdalene and Salome, she brought spices to the tomb of Jesus.

In some interpretations, she is referred to as "the other Mary" in the Gospels. She is often regarded as a patron saint for women, caregivers, and families due to her steadfast loyalty to Jesus.



April 7: World Health Day



“Together for Health, Stand with Science”

Health is not just a personal goal, it’s a collective responsibility. Let’s trust science, support healthcare workers, and work

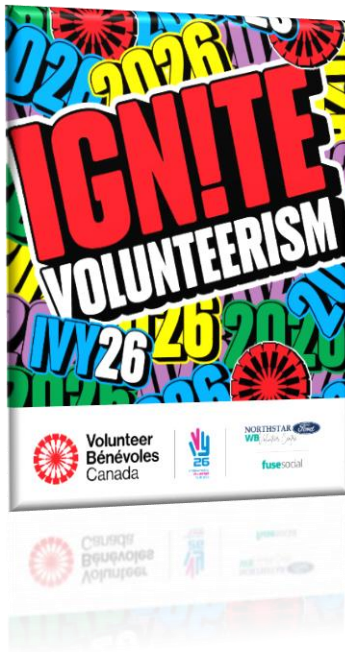
together for a healthier tomorrow
♥



April 19-25: National Volunteer Week

Led by [Volunteer Canada](#), this annual initiative celebrates the contributions of millions of volunteers across the country with community events, recognition and ceremonies.

The theme for 2026, is "Ignite Volunteerism".



April is National Month of Hope & Volunteer Month:

Dedicated to positive action and community service.



April 22: Earth Day

The 2026 theme "Our Power, Our Planet" highlights collective action to address climate change and environmental stewardship.

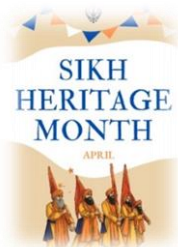
Activities: Events typically include tree planting, community cleanups, and educational workshops aimed at reducing waste and promoting sustainability.

Media/Content: The documentary *We Are Guardians*, focusing on the Amazon rainforest and featuring Leonardo DiCaprio, will launch on platforms like Tubi on April 22, 2026, in Canada.

Transportation: Switching to electric or hybrid vehicles, utilizing public transit, or carpooling, with provincial incentives available.

Gardening: Using organic soil methods and avoiding chemical pesticides, says The Farmer's Almanac.

Energy Savings: Switching to LED lights, and adopting waste-reduction habits, says Farmers' Almanac.



April is Sikh Heritage Month: Recognized in Canada.

Official Designation: Canada was the first country to adopt national legislation (Sikh Heritage Month Act) in 2019 designating April as Sikh Heritage Month.

Significance: It celebrates the community's contributions and marks April as a particularly meaningful month in the Sikh faith.

History & Culture: It highlights the history of Sikhs in Canada, dating back to 1906, and promotes

awareness of the community's, heritage, faith, and culture.

Events & Activities: Programs include educational workshops, community initiatives, and displays celebrating the contributions of Sikhs, often organized by community groups.



A comfortable cup of tea with Baggot Street-Coolock House Mercy Associate meeting March 18, 2026



Our Mercy Associate Cathy Foster and her husband Wayne will be walking the Camino in the month of May. They will be walking the Camino de Madrid and will

leave after Easter to begin their trip. We wish them safe travels during their time away.

There is no single "Camino walk." Instead, it is a network of paths originating across Europe. While it began as a medieval Catholic pilgrimage people make this walk for a wide range of reasons today.

So stay tuned and we will have an update of Cathy and Wayne in the May Newsletter and maybe a few pictures to share.



*From Kitty's
Kitchen*



Coffee Cake

Filling

1/2 cup packed brown sugar

1/2 cup chopped walnuts or pecans

1-1/2 teaspoons ground cinnamon

Cake

3 cups all-purpose flour

1-1/2 teaspoons baking powder

1-1/2 teaspoons baking soda

3/4 teaspoon salt

1-1/2 cups granulated sugar

3/4 cup butter, softened

1-1/2 teaspoons vanilla

3 eggs

1-1/2 cups sour cream

Glaze

*2 cups powdered sugar
1/4 cup butter, melted*

1 teaspoon vanilla

Milk as needed

Preheat oven to 350F. Grease a bundt pan.

Combine filling ingredients, then set aside.

Make the cake:

Combine flour, baking powder, baking soda and salt.....Set aside.

Beat granulated sugar, butter, vanilla and eggs until blended.

Beat in flour mixture alternating with sour cream.

Spread a third of the batter into the pan. Sprinkle with a third of the filling.

Repeat steps two more times.

Bake 1 hour or until toothpick inserted near centre comes out clean.

Cool 10 minutes, then remove from pan to wire rack.

Meanwhile, make the glaze by mixing the ingredients together.

Add enough milk to reach a pourable consistency.

Drizzle cake with glaze.



As we celebrate Holy Week and Easter Sunday the Jewish community will be celebrating their Passover.

Passover April 1 - 9, 2026

Among the most solemn and meaningful observances in the Jewish calendar, Passover marks the beginning of an eight-day journey.

As Passover begins, families around the world gather to reflect on themes of liberation and resilience. The Seder meal, central to the celebration, involves reading from the Haggadah, eating symbolic foods, and engaging in storytelling.



These practices are designed to instill a sense of continuity and connection to the past. The prohibition of leavened bread, or chametz, during this time symbolizes the haste in which the Israelites fled Egypt, leaving no time for their bread to rise.

This event is not just a historical milestone but a cornerstone of Jewish identity and faith. The rituals and traditions observed during this period serve as a powerful reminder of the enduring struggle for freedom and justice.

Each spring, the story is brought to life again. The meal, the questions, and the traditions all point back to that night. God's

presence, power, and care remain at the heart of it all.



The Battle of Vimy Ridge,
April 9 to 12, 1917

April 9, 1917

Attacking together for the first time, the four Canadian divisions stormed the ridge at 5:30am on 9 April 1917. More than 15,000 Canadian infantry overran the Germans all along the front. Incredible bravery and discipline allowed the infantry to continue moving forward under heavy fire, even when their officers were killed. There were countless acts of sacrifice, as Canadians single-handedly charged machine-gun nests or forced the surrender of

Germans in protective dugouts. Hill 145, the highest and most important feature of the Ridge, and where the Vimy Monument now stands, was captured in a frontal bayonet charge against machine-gun positions. Three more days of costly battle delivered final victory. The Canadian operation was an important success, even if the larger British and French offensive, of which it had been a part, had failed. But it was victory at a heavy cost: 3,598 Canadians were killed and another 7,000 wounded.

The capture of Vimy was more than just an important battlefield victory. For the first time all four Canadian divisions attacked together: men from all regions of Canada were present at the battle. Brigadier-General A.E. Ross declared after the war, “in those few minutes I witnessed the birth of a nation.”



“To one who has faith, no explanation is necessary. To one without faith, no explanation is possible.”

– St. Thomas Aquinas

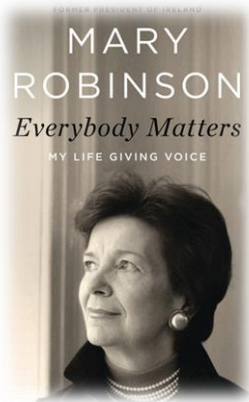


From Kitty's
Library

A Good Read
by Mary Robinson

*“Everybody
Matters, My Life
Giving Voice”*

Elected in 1990, Mary Robinson was one of the most inspiring women of our age. She has spent her life in pursuit of a fairer world, becoming a powerful and influential voice for human rights around the globe. Displaying a gift for storytelling and remembrance, Robinson reveals, in *Everybody Matters*, what lies behind the vision, strength, and determination that made her path to prominence as compelling as any of her achievements.



We strongly encourage you to go to our mercy website: www.sistersofmercynf.org and have a look at the ASSOCIATE section. There are many new additions, lots of photos and some videos. Should you have any issues getting onto the website, please let us know and we will provide assistance.

We hope that you will enjoy and be encouraged to keep working for the growth of our Mercy Associate relationship.

Meditation

“The Passion is described as the mystery of Christ’s suffering. It was a mystery at the time because people could not reconcile it with what they had expected. In the sense that we can never fully understand the idea of God suffering, the Passion is still a mystery. Now if our sufferings are somehow or other to fit into the Passion of Christ – and this is no fiction because this is where they belong there will surely be an element of mystery about them. They will make demands on our faith.” – Fr. Hubert Van Zeller, OSB

An excerpt from *The Mystery of Suffering*



Poetry Pause



*Come, celebrate the joys of spring,
bright days of reawakening,
when spirits rise from winter long
to soar on wings of sweet
birdsong.*

*The season is awash in light –
blue skies enhanced by clouds of
white
and colors flung across rich earth
to flood the world with signs of
birth.*

*As daffodils wake from their nest,
a feathered mother builds her
nest.*

*The ebb of life renews again
from sunlit field to wooded glen.*

*What better time to set our hearts
on gifts and blessings God
imparts –*

*the greatest of them Jesus Christ,
who saved us with His sacrifice.*

*May every thought be turned to
Him*

*in whom our hope need never
dim,*

*and may His swift, surpassing
peace*

*grant every wayward soul
release.*

~ Susan Noyes Anderson ~

Pause for Thought....

Seven things to say to God every
morning

1. Thank you for another day. ☀️
“This is the day the Lord has
made; I will rejoice and be glad
in it.” Psalm 118:24
2. I trust You with everything. 🙏
“Trust in the Lord with all your
heart and lean not on your own
understanding.” Proverbs 3:5
3. God lead me today. 🌐
“The Lord will guide you
continually.” Isaiah 58:11

4. Forgive me and renew me. ❤️
 “Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.” Psalm 51:30
5. Fill me with Your peace. ☮️
 “You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are stayed on You.” Isaiah 26:3
6. Use me to bless someone. 🙏
 “Let your light shine before others.” – Matthew 5:16
7. Stay close to me today God. ✝️
 “The Lord is near to all who call on Him.” – Psalm 145:18

- Robert Singleton II



the
LAST WORD

“Be content with what you have; rejoice in the way things are. When you realize there is nothing lacking, the whole world belongs to you.”

- Catherine McAuley



Happy Easter to everyone! May the Lord bless you and your family!