



Vol. 9/No. 8 – August 2026
Kitty's Chronicle
Mercy Associates Newsletter

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, Michelle Furlong, and Mona Dwyer (sister of Geraldine Drover).

(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.



Happy Anniversary Wishes to ...

Barbara & Austin Hawley -
August 10th

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. (Image-Jody Featherston Blog)



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 Teresa Benedicta of the Cross



Feast Day August 9th

Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein) was born the 12th of October 1891 in Breslau, Poland. She was the youngest child of a large Jewish family. She was an outstanding student and was well versed in philosophy.

Stein was born into an observant German Jewish family, but had become an agnostic by her teenage years. While Edith had earlier contacts with Catholicism, it was her reading of the autobiography of the mystic Teresa of Ávila during summer holidays in Bad Bergzabern in 1921 that prompted her conversion and eventually the desire to seek the life of a Discalced Carmelite.

In 1922, she was baptized at the Cathedral Church in Cologne, Germany. Eleven years later Edith entered the Cologne Carmel order. When the Nazis conquered Holland, Teresa was arrested, and, with her sister Rose, was sent to the concentration camp at Auschwitz. Teresa died in the gas chambers of Auschwitz in 1942 at the age of fifty-one. In 1987, she was beatified in the large outdoor soccer stadium in Cologne by Pope John Paul II. Out of the unspeakable human suffering caused by the Nazis in Western Europe in the 1930's and 1940's, there blossomed the beautiful life of dedication, consecration, prayer, fasting, and penance of Saint Teresa. Even though her life was snuffed out by the satanic evil of genocide, her memory stands as a light undimmed in the midst of evil, darkness, and suffering. She was canonized on October 11, 1998. She is also one of six patron saints of Europe.

Cologne Carmel Archives, Public domain, via [Wikimedia Commons](#)
Featured image by Lawrence OP, [Flickr](#)





The Archival Moment

*The Archival
Moment is*

contributed by Sister Charlotte Fitzpatrick.

An Archival Moment – Sister Mary Ultan Mullooney

Clara Mullooney was born in Witless Bay on March 27, 1856, the eldest of the seven children born to Captain Peter Mullooney and Esther McKee Williams. At an early age Clara became a boarding student at St. Clair's Boarding School, which opened at Mercy Convent in 1861 in space vacated as a result of the opening of St. Michael's Orphanage in Belvedere.

At the age of eighteen Clara became a postulant at Mercy Convent and was received into the novitiate as Sister Mary Ultan on June 5, 1875. She was professed on June 5, 1877, and remained at Mercy Convent for the next thirteen years, teaching music at Our Lady of Mercy School. In the school and in the larger community Sister M. Ultan was

well-known and highly respected, especially for her work among the poor and neglected.

From 1890 to 1920 Sister M. Ultan ministered in Brigus as an enthusiastic and competent music teacher in the school and a faithful organist in the parish. Ever since its foundation in 1861 Brigus was well known for its excellence in music. Besides the Brigus students, many students from the surrounding towns of Cupids, Clark's Beach, Bay Roberts and Spaniard's Bay came to the sisters' school for music lessons.

In 1904 Brigus became the first place outside St. John's to have its own examination centre for the Trinity College of Music, London.

In her thirty years in Brigus Sister M. Ultan worked diligently to ensure that her students would avail of every opportunity to develop their gifts and talents in music and in life in general. Sister M. Ultan died on January 5, 1920, and is one of the four sisters buried in Brigus. Her obituary in *The Herald*, one of the newspapers of the day, speaks of her thus: Her death leaves a void which will be difficult to fill but her memory will remain fresh in thousands of hearts...

According to her obituary, Sister M. Ultan was survived by her brother and two sisters, one of whom was Lady Gertrude Cashin, wife of Sir Michael Cashin, a successful businessman from Cape Broyle and a prominent Newfoundland politician.



*From Kitty's
Kitchen*

Grilled Chicken Skewers



Ingredients:

Creamy peanut dipping sauce takes them to the next level.

Peanut Sauce

- 1/2 cup smooth peanut butter

- 1/4 cup honey
- 1/4 cup soy sauce
- 1 tbsp. minced ginger
- 1 tsp. crushed red pepper flakes
- 1/2 tsp. chili powder
- Juice of 2 limes
- 1 tbsp. very hot water, as needed

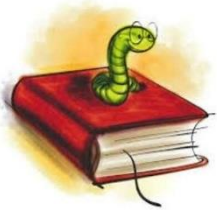
Chicken Skewers

Vegetable oil, for the grill
2 lbs. chicken tenders, cut in half lengthwise
1 1/2 tsp. kosher salt
1 tsp. black pepper
20 to 25 (6-to 8-inch) wooden skewers, soaked in water
1/2 cup fresh cilantro, minced
Good quality barbecue sauce, for serving

Directions:

1. Preheat a grill or grill pan to medium heat.
2. For the peanut sauce: In a blender, combine the peanut butter, honey, soy sauce, ginger, red pepper flakes, chili powder, and lime juice and blend, adding the hot water, 1 teaspoon at a time, if necessary, to make it very smooth. Transfer the sauce to a small dish, cover, and set aside.

3. Brush the grill with vegetable oil.
4. Pat the chicken dry and season with the salt and pepper. Thread the chicken onto the skewers and grill until the chicken is cooked through, 2 to 3 minutes per side. Transfer to a serving platter and sprinkle with the cilantro.



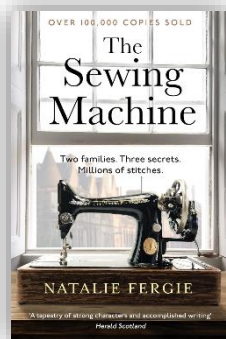
From Kitty's
Library

A Good Read...

The Sewing Machine

author: Natalie Fergie

Two families.
Three secrets.
Millions of
stitches.



It is 1911, and Jean is about to join the mass strike at the Singer factory. For her, nothing will be the same again.

Decades later, in Edinburgh, Connie sews coded moments of her life into a notebook, as her mother did before her.

More than 100 years after his grandmother's sewing machine was made, Fred discovers a treasure trove of documents. His family history is laid out before him in a patchwork of unfamiliar handwriting and colourful seams.

He'll start unpicking the secrets of four generations, one stitch at a time.



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.

Poetry Pause



Photography by little jim: Galleries:
Digital Gallery Review

An August Morn

The morning birds begin to sing,
on fences where the ivy cling.
The sun climbs high over Signal
Hill,
and chases away the morning chill.

The garden is wild, overgrown,
and deep,
where velvet-furred bumblebees
slowly sleep.
The sweet, sticky juice of a newly
picked berry,

and memories made to make the
day cherry.

The shadows grow long by the
afternoon,
beneath the pale disk of a rising
moon.
A whisper of amber creeps into the
green,
as August slips out from the
summer scene.
~ Catherine Penney-Ryan~



Today's Quote

*"What is a vocation? It is a gift
from God, so it comes from God. If
it is a gift from God, our concern
must be to know God's will. We
must enter that path: if God
wants, when God wants, how God
wants. Never force the door."*

St. Gianna Molla



- Sister M. Francis Creedon, as Miss Creedon, taught *at Mrs. Little's School for Young Ladies* on Water Street in her early days in Newfoundland?
- Sister M. Joseph Nugent had the unique distinction of being the first Presentation and the first Mercy postulant in Newfoundland? She and her family came to St. John's in 1833 and shortly after, she entered the newly established Presentation Convent. Her health forced her to leave after two years of novitiate. Sometime in late 1842 she entered the Sisters of Mercy. Her profession ceremony in March of 1843 took place at the Presentation Convent.
- Sister Elizabeth Redmond was a widow? Born in Ireland, she married Irish-born Peter Redmond in the old chapel on Henry Street in St. John's in 1843. After his untimely death, she entered the Sisters of Mercy in 1850, joining Sister M. Francis Creedon, Sister M. Agnes Nugent, a novice and Catherine Bernard, a postulant from Limerick.
- From the time of their arrival in St. John's in June of 1842 until May of 1843 the Sisters of Mercy devoted themselves to the visitation and care of the sick in their homes and at St. John's Hospital? This institution was Newfoundland's main public hospital, founded in 1813, to serve the poor, sailors and the chronically ill. The sisters did not open their first school until May 1, 1843.
- The Great Fire of 1846 wiped out most of St. John's, destroying 2000 properties, among them the Presentation Convent and School on Long's Hill? After temporary shelter at a property owned by Bishop Fleming, the sisters came to Mercy Convent in November of 1846 and remained there until October of 1851.

- St. Michael's Convent and Orphanage was named for Bishop Michael Anthony Fleming, dear friend and benefactor of the Sisters of Mercy? He had bequeathed the Sisters his property at Belvedere to support an orphanage for girls. St. Michael's Convent and Orphanage formally opened on November 16, 1859.
- In July of 1848 Bishop Thomas Mullock consecrated a section of the Belvedere estate as a Roman Catholic cemetery? This replaced the old Catholic cemetery on Long's Hill.
- Sister M. Francis Creedon was the first Sister of Mercy to be buried in our section of Belvedere cemetery? She died on July 15, 1855.
- The dowry of Sister M. Camillus Cole was used to erect headstones for her and Sister M. Francis Creedon at Belvedere cemetery? A native of Colliers, Conception Bay, Sister M. Camillus died just after her profession in 1860.
- Angel Guardian School opened at Mercy Convent in September 1881 to accommodate the needs of children from age 3 to 8 years? On opening day 34 little girls and boys began school.
- In 1864 the sisters at St. Michael's Convent, Belvedere opened a new ministry on that site? The House of Mercy was a home where unemployed young women could be safely and comfortably housed and at the same time receive education and training for various employments.
- In 1981 the city of St. John's named one of its new streets *Creedon Place*? It is located in the southwest end of the city in the Cowan Heights neighborhood.
- Sister M. Antonio Egan was born in England but emigrated with her family to Rhode Island? She entered the Sisters of Mercy in Providence and led the pioneer community at Sandy Point on Newfoundland's west coast.

- Sister M. Benedicta Fitzgibbons (1869-1959), an accomplished musician, wrote the music for *Dear Old Southside Hills*, a well-known poem of Archbishop Michael Francis Howley.
- Sister Joseph Fox opened Newfoundland's first commercial school at Mercy Convent in 1895? She began with five students and one typewriter.
- The two-story Talbot wing of St. Bride's, completed in 1902, was named for Thomas Talbot, an Irish-born gentleman prominent in the literary, educational and political life of Newfoundland. Half of the \$20, 000.00 cost of construction the Talbot wing came from his estate.
- "Talbot Bourses" were set up by the Sisters of Mercy in 1902 in consequence of the generosity of Thomas Talbot? In a formal document, the sisters pledged to provide a full year's board and education at Littledale for two young women selected annually by the bishop of the diocese. This continued from 1902 until St. Bride's closed in 1964.
- In 1914 St. Michael's Academy in St. George's was recognized as a Teacher Training Academy to train teachers for Catholic schools in western Newfoundland?
- Sister M. M. Perpetua O'Callaghan was awarded the degree of Doctor of Philosophy from Fordham University, New York in 1923? She was the first Sister of Mercy of Newfoundland to receive this distinction. She also received a diploma as Supervisor of Normal Schools from Columbia University.
- Two Sisters of Mercy – Sisters M. de Chantal O'Keeffe and Sister M. Ignatius Guinane – left St. John's to travel to the United States in 1892 to seek financial assistance for St. Michael's Orphanage, Belvedere? Their appeal met a generous response in the dioceses of Brooklyn, Philadelphia and Boston where many former Newfoundlanders had settled.

- Sister M. Corsini Dempsey, a gifted artist, embroidered a chasuble to be worn by Bishop O'Reilly in 1953 at the Diamond Jubilee celebration of the Mercy foundation in St. George's? It is now in the Archives of the Sisters of Mercy Generalate.
- In 1937 Sister Philippa Hanley engaged the Sisters of Charity from Mt. St. Vincent in Halifax to conduct summer schools at Mercy Convent for both Mercy and Presentation Sisters?
- St. Bride's Convent and Boarding school opened on August 20, 1884 with four sisters and four boarding students?
- Prior to the opening of St. Brides' Boarding School in 1884, Sisters M. Bernard Clune and M. Theresa O'Halloran went to Halifax to look at boarding schools and acquaint themselves with new educational practices and techniques?
- The Sisters of Mercy from Belvedere did weekly visitation of the "Poor House," situated in the area of Victoria Park? This government-run building, established in 1861 housed the elderly and destitute of St. John's who had no-one to care for them. It was demolished in 1965, after which the residents were moved to the newly established Hoyles Home.
- The December 1945 issue of *The Monitor* paid tribute to Sister M. Alexius Tobin in an article titled "A Social Worker for more than Sixty Years"? Although Sister M. Alexius ministered at the Orphanage and in the House of Mercy, her love for the less fortunate led her beyond Belvedere to the lanes and alleyways of St. John's to visit the sick and the neglected.

Meditation

God's Timing

Trusting God's timing isn't always easy, especially when you've been praying for something for a long time. Waiting can make you wonder if God has forgotten you, but the truth is that He is never late and never absent. While you are waiting, He is preparing, protecting, and working in ways you cannot yet see. What feels like a delay may actually be God's loving preparation for something better than you imagined.

Don't let the waiting steal your hope. Stay faithful, keep praying, and continue trusting the One who sees the beginning and the end.

The same God who has been faithful in your past will be faithful in your future. When the time is right, He will open the right door, answer the right prayer, and remind you that His timing has always been worth trusting.

- Minions World

Save the Date... Perchance Theatre

Performing Arts Theater is located in Conception Harbour

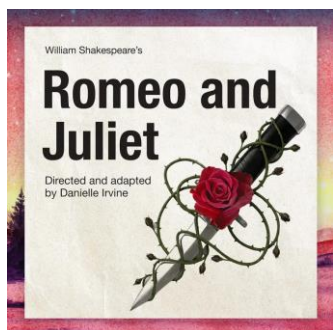
75 Corporal Jamie Murphy Memorial Dr, Conception Harbour, NL



Every Brilliant Thing - July 18th - Sept 4th

By Duncan Macmillan, Jonny Donahoe
Directed By Allison Kelly

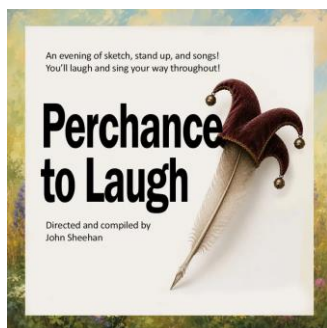
The show follows one person's journey through life, love, and loss, using honesty, humour and a growing list of joys to navigate the impact of his mother's mental illness. This play is currently playing on London's West End and on Broadway!



Romeo and Juliet - July 25th - Sept 6th

By William Shakespeare
Directed By Danielle Irvine

Perchance presents Romeo & Juliet, adapted and directed by Danielle Irvine. This classic by William Shakespeare remains a powerful exploration of love and conflict, brought to life in this production.



Perchance to Laugh - July 31st - Aug 28th

By John Sheehan
Directed By John Sheehan

Perchance to Laugh is a two-part show compiled and directed by comedian John Sheehan! In the first half, we'll be exploring some of Shakespeare's most famous scenes, with a touch of Newfoundland flavour! ...The second half of the show is...well...nonsense! It's sketch, and stand-up, with a few nice songs mixed in for good measure.



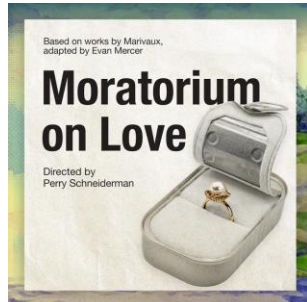
Open Sky Series: Binja - Friday Aug 7th 6pm

By Nabila Qureshi, Abdullah Omar Saif

Directed By Santiago Guzman

Shakespeare By the Sea Festival brings their production of Binja to Perchance. The play is a journey of self-discovery with trials and tribulations along the way, and it conveys pan-cultural touchstones through animals as characters that

are loved by many across
Newfoundland and Labrador.



Moratorium on Love - Aug 8th - Sept 5th

By Marivaux, Adapted by Evan Mercer

Directed By Perry Schneiderman

This adaptation of *Surprise of Love* by Marivaux combines high-energy physical comedy that offers an engaging theatrical experience for all ages. This comedy set in the outport locality of Heart Harbour, two servants are trying to keep their love story alive by convincing their unwilling (and unwitting) masters to fall in love with each other.



Little Women - August 15th - Sept 5th

By Louisa May Alcott

Directed By Allison Moira Kelly

The beloved literary classic *Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott comes to the Perchance stage this summer, with a new adaptation by Allison Moira Kelly. The story of the four March sisters has captivated audiences for over 150 years, and our company is delighted to bring the story to life on the stage at Conception Harbour. This timeless coming-of-age story explores the ups and downs of girlhood through the vastly different perspectives of Jo, Meg, Amy, and Beth. Appropriate for all ages, we cordially invite you, your friends, and whole family to experience joy, loss, love, and the pangs of growing up along with the March Family.

208th Royal St. John's Regatta - Wednesday August 5th

"Weather permitting"



- **Regatta Eve:** Tuesday, August 4, 2026, Quidi Vidi Lake, featuring local entertainment and community gatherings.
- **Regatta Day:** takes place (weather permitting), Wednesday Aug 5th, 2026
Marking the 208th anniversary of the Royal St. John's Regatta at Quidi Vidi Lake in St. John's.
- **Races:** Full day of fixed-seat rowing competitions starting in the morning.
- **Festivities:** Food vendors, games, music, and a festive atmosphere drawing tens of thousands of spectators.
- **Holiday Status:** Observed as a civic holiday in St. John's, - Weather at Quidi Vidi lake permitting.



The Annual Downtown St. John's Busker Festival

August 1 @ 12:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Each day, visitors can enjoy performances from **local, national, and international artists**. The lineup includes jugglers, magicians, acrobats, comedians, and visual artists.

In addition, the festival is **free and open to all ages**. Families can enjoy face painting, balloon twisting, and interactive performances throughout the day.





Wellness Breaks at Government House lawn

This summer's schedule will be

Tuesdays, July 14th to August 25th
10:30-11:30am
Tai Chi Chih (with Sheila Leonard)

Wednesdays, June 24th to September 2nd
12:15-1:00pm
Yoga On The Lawn (with Yoga Bloom)

Thursdays, July 16th to August 27th
10:30-11:30am
Wisdom Healing Qigong (with Sheila Leonard)

Thursdays, June 25th to September 3rd
Yoga On The Lawn (with Nova Yoga)

Fridays June 26th to September 4th
Noon-1:00pm
Taoist Tai Chi® arts (with Fung Loy Kok Institute of Taoism)

George Street Festival July 30th - August 5th

August 1 @ 5:00 pm - 11:30 pm



The 41st Annual George Street Festival returns to downtown St. John's from July 30 to August 5, 2026. This iconic event features seven nights of live music, energy, and unforgettable performances.

Music at the Battery Café

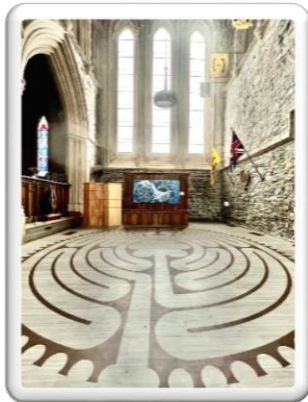


Join us in our warm and intimate music venue, lit up by our antique ice cream sign. We host live music

and events from 7-9pm Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday each week, and have been privileged to host notable musician from both home and away. For the last several years we have been nominated as MusicNL Venue of the Year.



Labyrinth Walk



ANGLICAN CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

16 Church Hill, St. John's

August 16th 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm

Our seven-circuit, Chartres-style labyrinth offers a simple path for quiet reflection and mindful movement. Whether you're seeking a moment of stillness, a gentle time of prayer or meditation, or simply a peaceful experience shared with others, you are warmly invited to come and walk.

If you've never walked a labyrinth before, you're especially welcome. Friendly guides will be there to introduce you to this simple and meaningful practice and help you feel at ease.

Come as you are, walk at your own pace, and take a little time to slow down, reflect, and reconnect—with yourself, with others, and with the quiet beauty of this sacred space.

Below is a little summary by Anne Bown of our Retreat Day with Anne Reid.

A Day with Catherine McAuley



On Thursday July 2nd, Mercy Associates and sisters spent a day getting to know foundress Catherine McAuley more fully. Irish Mercy Associate Anne Reid shared her personal account of how she came to know Catherine and then guided us on a journey of deeper exploration.

We got to know Catherine physically through descriptions of her countenance, as we gazed on a photo of the bust that was created from these words. We saw photos of descendant great, great, great, great (and great) nieces and marvelled at the similarity of facial structure.

We heard in greater detail, Catherine's story, (set in the politics of the time) marvelling at the significance of certain events. We were each given one of Catherine's sayings to ponder and keep.

We heard Catherine's own words, as she comforted, cajoled, amused and guided her fellow sisters of Mercy. One of her important quotes, ***"When the root is made healthy, the plant does best grow"*** was made visible to us in the amazing transformation of the "Resurrection Plant" (see pictures). Catherine ensured her foundations had strong roots.



Plant Closed



30 Minutes later, Plant open

We learned about Catherine through the letters she wrote to others over her ministry. Her personality and character came through in her letters. Our knowledge also deepened as we read the words written about her by others.

We participated in an exercise whereby we each received a yellow rose bud (there is a yellow rose bush named after Catherine McAuley). We were to contemplate our own gifts and what we brought to the Associate (or religious) relationship. We then placed our rose buds (and giftedness) as offerings to Catherine.

We ended the session reflecting on Catherine's last hours of life. As she died, she reminded her sisters (and us) the "we should be as shining lamps giving light all around".

Let us continue to be lights in our communities and share our giftedness.

the
LAST WORD

” The poor need help today, not next week.”

- Catherine McAuley