

Reflection for Mercy Day 2026

Each September we celebrate Mercy Day

It is a reminder that:

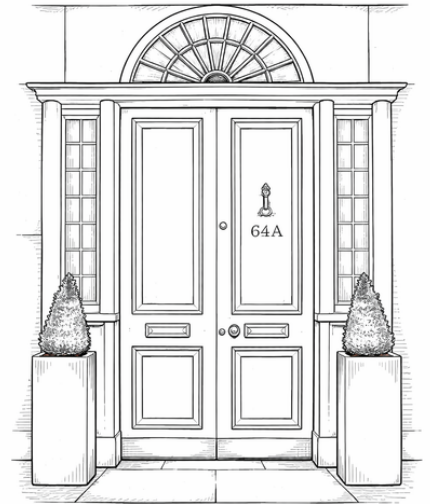
Mercy is not a spectator sport
It requires feet, hands
And an unshielded heart

It is easy to look at all the challenges in our world
The loneliness in our communities
The systemic burdens facing so many
The toll that war and violence inflict on so many
The quiet desperation of those who are overlooked
And offer distant sympathy

But Mercy is not a spectator sport
We are called to open the door and cross the threshold to:
Listen without rushing to fix or defend
Welcome the stranger, the outcast and the inconvenient.

Mercy is the slow, daily habit of keeping the latch loose
Every morning offers a new invitation to turn the key and
Open our hearts and our lives to others where
The weary find rest and the forgotten find a home.

Amen



200th
ANNIVERSARY
OF THE FOUNDING OF
Catherine McAuley's
FIRST HOUSE OF MERCY

Anne Lyng rsm
Head of Opening Doors