

SPRING EDITION 2022

HUB HIGHLIGHTS

Mercy Action & Spirituality Hub

Celebrating the Season of Creation from the Mercy Hub & virtually across the institute

We are very grateful to each of the women who shared their knowledge and insights leading us into prayerful reflection during each Wednesday morning (Comfortable Cuppa Prayer) throughout September. Our time together was an opportunity to respond to the annual invitation and call of Pope Francis in 'Laudato Si' to pray and reflect on our care for earth – 'Our Common Home.'

As each week unfolded, we heard voices of those who are suffering the impacts of climate change; voices of people who hold generational wisdom about how to live gratefully within the limits of the land and its waters; voices of a diminishing diversity of other- than- human species.

Our special thanks to Helen Nolen, Cathy Solano, Wendy Flannery, Sally Neaves and Patricia Powell who reflectively and creatively guided us through various themes, to really listen to the Voice of Creation. We celebrated rivers and oceans, and the cry of all of creation. Urgent and practical challenges and questions were brought to our attention to ponder throughout this Season. May we continue to care for our common home and listen anew for the good news of God's promise 'to renew the face of the earth.'

"I have heard their cry...I know their sufferings...Come now! I will send you...I will be with you." [Exodus 3:1-12]

Do we not seek to "take our shoes off" as we recognize that we with all of creation, stand on the holiness of our very own journey?

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Indigenous Film Evening

To celebrate and honour indigenous film and story, the Hub hosted an indigenous film evening. 'Charlie's Country', is a film that explores living in between two cultures, indigenous and white, and the effect of government intervention in traditional indigenous way of life.

This film prompted discussions regarding the complexities of indigenous identity, community, and the intergenerational trauma that followed from colonisation of their land.

Tree Planting in the Yarra Valley



As part of the Hub's commitment to caring for our Earth we volunteered with TreeProject, an NGO that revegetates the Yarra Valley.

We spent the day planting trees with Young Mercy Links volunteers, Cassandra Prinzi and Ruby Glenister.

It felt great to be putting life into the ground and we look forward to seeing our plants flourish into a native forest.

Poetry Afternoon

Another most enjoyable afternoon of poetry reading and conversation was shared by a group of poetry lovers on Sunday, 2 October.

Two young university students who have joined the group had suggested the theme of 'flying' for the choice of poems.

Participants made wonderful choices, taking us down unexpected paths and varied experiences of flying.



Decorative Cushions made for new units at McAuley Services Sunshine

The Mercy Hub was invited to participate in a small project for McAuley Services for Women for their new facilities that are being opened in October.

The colours of the materials to make cushions were chosen to compliment the colours in the overall project. A variety of sizes were prepared; some pillow size and other smaller cushions that gave the effect of relaxing and unwinding.

The women cut the materials together at the Hub. They then took the materials home to complete the sewing; making thirty-six cushions.

Rosemary Patterson assisted and encouraged these women during the weeks as the sewing project got underway.

This was an amazing achievement by these two women who spent many hours sewing even though they were coping with some difficult and uncertain situations in their own lives.

We were delighted that both Carol Vale and Blake Kempthorne, who have been responsible for the development of the units, and who provided the materials, joined us for a celebratory lunch and met the women who did the sewing.



Mindfulness Walk

As part of the Season of Creation, the Hub facilitated a Mindfulness Walk along the Merri Creek in Fitzroy North.

We acknowledged the importance of this fresh water ecosystems for biodiversity and as a place of significance for Wurundjeri people.

We took moments to walk slowly and experience the Creek, where we discovered natural beauties such as nests, possums, native plants and birds. As a group, we shared our experience of what we observed and how we felt.

If you're interested in a mindfulness walk, we suggest the resource 'Cosmic Sparks' by Sr. Margie Abbott.



The Relationship between Australia & Papua New Guinea

Hilda Wayne, ABC broadcaster and producer, spoke of the historical influence of Australians in PNG and the importance of Australia's friendship to PNG and our ongoing support for its development.

You can find the recording on the ISMPANG Institute website.

Upcoming Events



FASHION FOR PLANET

Clothing Swap to End Hyper-Consumerism
Sunday 13th November 11 am - 5 pm
The Mercy Hub, 617 Nicholson St, Carlton North

Have pre-loved clothes?
Any clothes you love but no longer wear?
Swap them for someone else's pre-loved clothes
during National Recycling Week!
And learn about sustainability in the fashion industry.

Logos: Young Mercy Links, National Recycling Week Planet Ark, Mercy Hub



Mercy Hub
Mission Spirituality Action

Spring Laudato Si Circle

THURSDAY • 3RD NOVEMBER • 12PM
607 NICHOLSON ST CARLTON NORTH
& VIA ZOOM

Join a community that responds to the climate crisis and deepens our relationship with sacred creation

Inspired by the themes of Laudato Si, these Circles include contemplations, resource sharing, and discussions

Afternoon tea provided

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87269954135?pwd=dlo5QVF1aGZkZDEvWUIKeDRxcHB4dz09>
Password: 2022


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