



**Nga Whaea Atawhai o Aotearoa  
Sisters of Mercy New Zealand**

## **Easter Reflection**

### **Prayer centre**

Cloth, candle, mercy picture/symbol.

### **Introduction**

Lent is a special time, when Jesus invites us to walk more closely with him by sharing what we have, and by helping others, with love.

The journey from Ash Wednesday to Easter takes us from darkness to light, from living just for ourselves to sharing what we have with others, and finding that when we share with love, what we have goes much, much further.

### **Reflection**

#### **Atawhai atu. Atawhai mai. Mercy given. Mercy received.**

Lent is a time to see the world God wants us to have – a world where we love one another, and help those who have very little by sharing what we have.

When one of her sisters asked Catherine McAuley for help, she said, “I have very little to give but whatever I have, I will divide and share”.

Catherine wants us to know that by reaching out to those who need our love and care, we grow closer to Jesus.

Listen to this Bible passage – what is the message is in this story for us today?

#### **Luke 9:23**

“Jesus said to the crowd, “If any of you wants to be my follower, you must turn from your selfish ways, take up your crosses each day, and follow me”



**Nga Whaea Atawhai o Aotearoa  
Sisters of Mercy New Zealand**

## **Easter Reflection**

### **Prayers of the Faithful**

**Reader:** For the Holy Catholic Church, for Francis our pope,  
and for all our priests, we pray to the Lord: **Lord Hear Our Prayer**

**Reader:** For our Prime Minister and other leaders of our country,  
that they lead us wisely and justly, we pray to the Lord: **Lord Hear Our Prayer**

**Reader:** That we understand how much God loves us and cares for us,  
especially during this Lenten season, we pray to the Lord: **Lord Hear Our Prayer**

**Reader:** For the poor and the sick, and for all those in any kind of danger,  
we pray to the Lord: **Lord Hear Our Prayer**

### **Prayer**

God of all

Open our eyes to see you

In all that you have created.

As we think of how great you are.

Encourage us to help others and to care for the earth that we share.

Together let us share in the hope and joy of Easter.

We ask this in Mercy's name

Amen

### **Waiata / himene**

Song or hymn that holds mercy e.g. Circle of Mercy