



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

Remember, Renew, Rejoice – celebrate Matariki

E Te Atua, te Atawhai kaha tonu,
God, your mercy never fails.

As the season of Mātāriki returns once more,
we thank you for the bounty of nature,
for its tireless cycle of sowing, growing and reaping.

We remember the wisdom of generations
who have lived and worked before us;
we remember the prophetic voice of Pope Francis
in his great letter, **Laudato Si'**,
calling us to care for our common home.

We renew our commitment to live justly and responsibly,
to use Earth's precious resources with respect,
and to stand firm in decisions and choices
that preserve and enhance the environment,
its lands, oceans and waterways.

We learn from nature's resilience
to renew our efforts to protect all that lives.

As people of faith and hope, we rejoice
to see nations around the world resolving
to do what is right for the good of all.

We rejoice to lend our voices to those of the poor,
to heed the cry of our embattled Earth,
and to see endangered species nurtured to life.
In the whole of creation, may God be praised.

Amen.

**Dennis Horton, He Waka Tiaki
Mercy mission team**