

MERCY WALK *"The Voyage"*

Installed and Blessed in 2015 in commemoration
of the 150th Anniversary
of the Sisters of Mercy North Sydney



Monte Sant' Angelo Mercy College

128 MILLER STREET, NORTH SYDNEY



An *expression* of the Past, Present and Future Spirit of Mercy

The Mercy Walk frieze “The Voyage” is a significant artwork commissioned in commemoration of the 150th Anniversary of the arrival of the Sisters of Mercy in Australia. It symbolises the history and journey of the Sisters of Mercy North Sydney who founded Monte Sant’ Angelo Mercy College in 1875.

The frieze acknowledges the custodians of this land, the Cammeraygal people and follows the journey of the Sisters of Mercy across the vast oceans from Liverpool, England to Sydney.

With the vision of the foundress, Catherine McAuley, Elizabeth McQuoin and the first Sisters

of Mercy began their work of teaching, visiting the sick and caring for the poor in The Rocks. Mother Ignatius McQuoin rented a cottage in North Sydney in 1873 and then purchased a large house, MASALOU, in which she opened a school and convent called Monte Sant’ Angelo in 1875. This is the site on which the College stands today.

*“ No work of charity
can be more productive
of good to society than
the careful instruction
of women ... since
whatever station they
are destined to fill,
their advice will always
possess influence. ”*

- CATHERINE MCAULEY

Monte has been educating and caring for young women for over 140 years and continues a tradition which encourages excellence in all facets of education as inspired by Catherine McAuley.

As a school community this means we embrace and celebrate the values of mercy, compassion, respect for others, justice, dignity, service and option for the poor. These values guide our teaching and learning culture and inform our students and staff immersion programs and social justice initiatives.

For time and eternity, in the spirit of Catherine McAuley and Elizabeth McQuoin, our lives are shaped and directed by what we believe, by what we know and by what we value – Religio, Scientia, Cultus.

The Mercy Spirit guides our way for time and eternity.

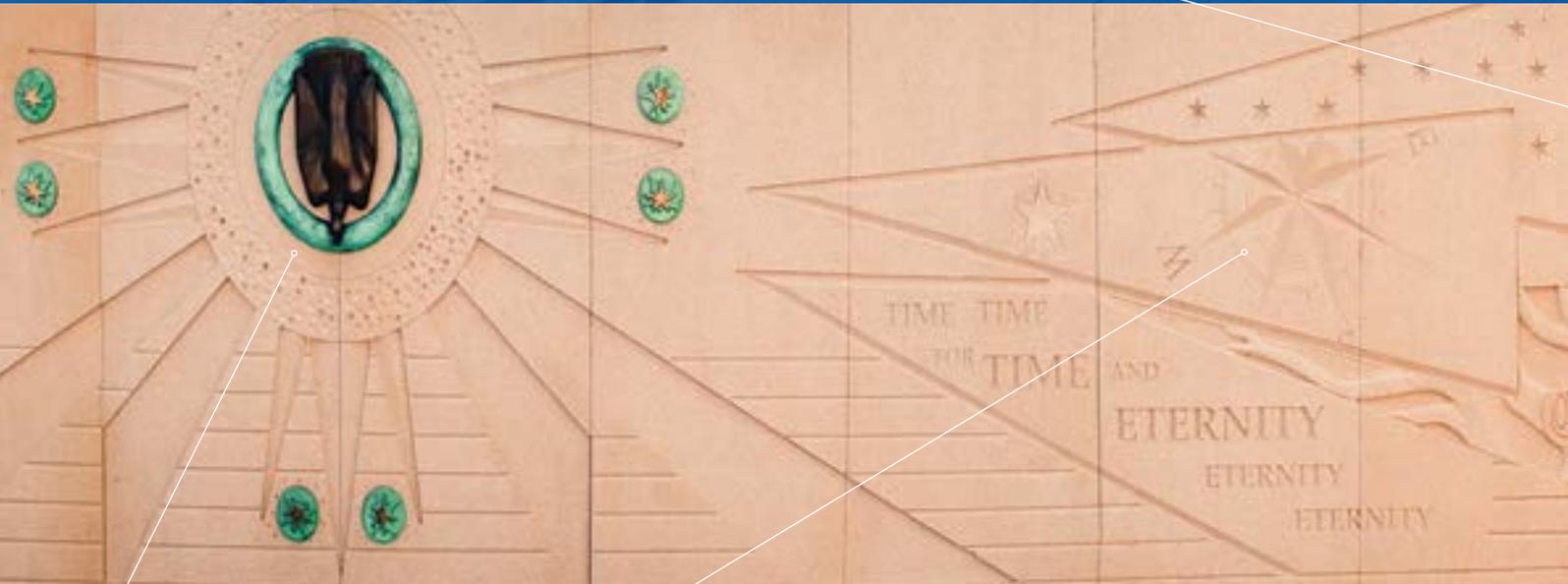


STAR OF THE OCEAN

Our Star of the Ocean crest symbolises the importance of a true guide in our quest for the good, the true and the beautiful. It reminds us of Jesus, and of Mary, Mother of Mercy, our pre-eminent guide on the journey across life's vast ocean.

ELIZABETH MCQUOIN

In 1865 Mother Elizabeth Ignatius McQuoin arrived in Sydney and planted the seeds of Mercy that would transform the lives of so many through healthcare, education, welfare and social justice. In 1875 Elizabeth purchased a large house in North Sydney called MASALOU and the Sisters moved there and opened the school named Monte Sant' Angelo.



HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit hovers over all creation. The Spirit works in the hearts of people everywhere as helper, comforter and guide. The Spirit will never forsake us.

COMPASS

Our moral compass guides us on our life's journey to goodness and truth for time and eternity.

MERCY WALK

"The Voyage"

Across Vast Oceans

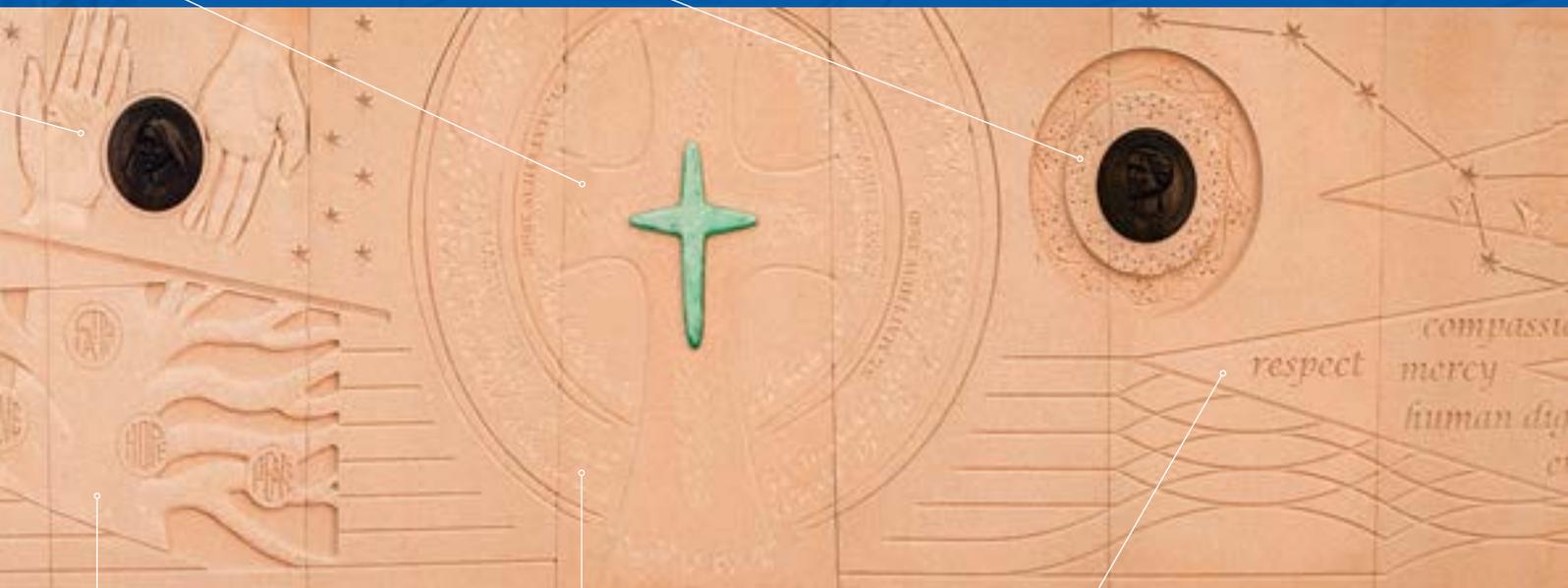
MERCY CROSS

The symbol of Mercy is a contemporary version of the cross Catherine McAuley adopted for her ministry. We are called to serve others and take upon ourselves the suffering of humanity.

CATHERINE MCAULEY

Catherine McAuley founded the Sisters of Mercy in Dublin in 1831. Catherine devoted her life to assist those living in poverty, to alleviate the suffering of those who had no access to education and social services. Catherine believed in the education of women. She appreciated the unique contribution

they were capable of making. She wanted to empower women in whatever sphere they found themselves, so that they could affect a shift towards a more just society. This desire to empower women in society is one of the main characteristics of the Sisters of Mercy.



TREE OF LIFE

The Angophora tree (Sydney Red Gum, eucalyptus) blooms with Love, Faith, Hope and Peace.

MATTHEW 25:40

"Whatever you do for the least of these brothers and sisters of mine you do for me"

VALUES OF THE MERCY TRADITION

The values underpinning our lives as men and women of Mercy are: Mercy, Respect for Human Dignity, Justice, Service and Option for the poor

From the Beginning of Time

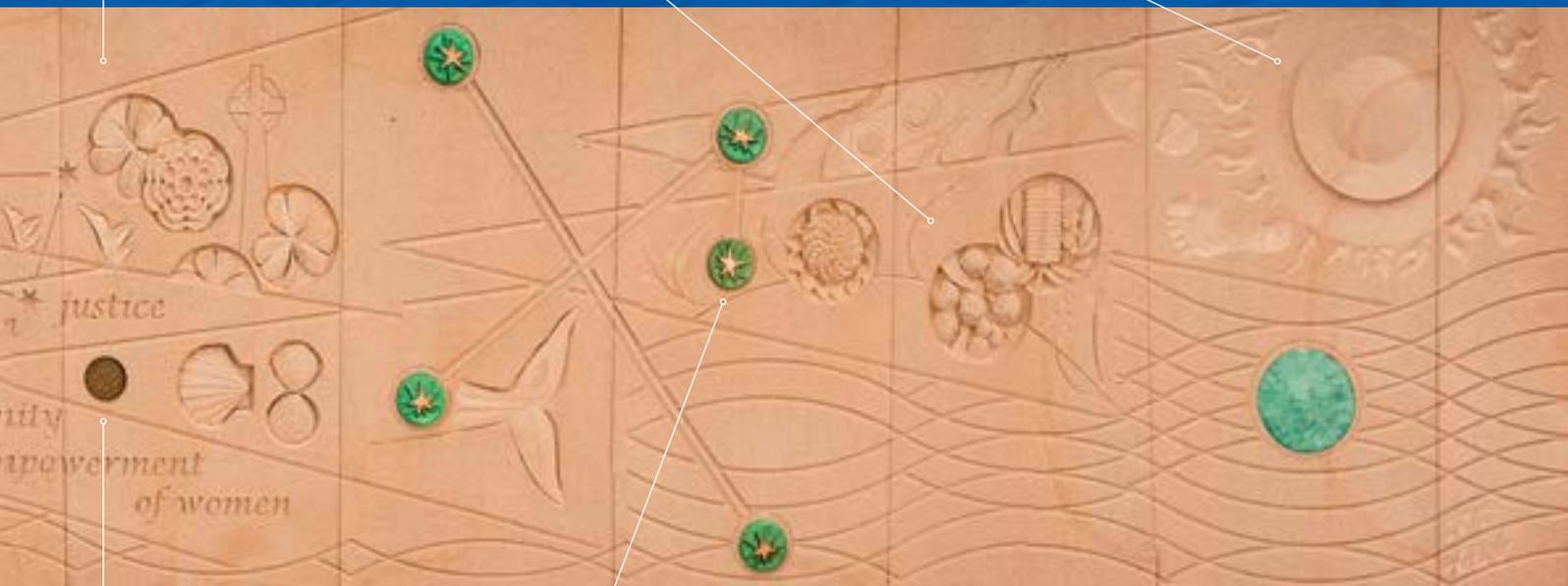
CELTIC CROSS AND EMBROIDERED IRISH FLORAL MOTIFS

From Catherine McAuley's Irish Heritage

SPIRIT OF THE LAND

Elements which depict the social and cultural life of the Eora People including Mt Gulga, the whale dreaming, Grandfather Sun and Grandmother Moon.

LOCAL NATIVE FLORA



THE FRESH WATER WELL AT MASALOU

STARS

The stars of navigation in both the northern and southern hemisphere - such as the Southern Cross and Orion's Belt - that guided the first Sisters of Mercy to Australian shores.

A *reflection* from the sculptor - Dr Rhyl Hinwood AM

Throughout, cast bronze accents the design and elements record the social and cultural life of the Eora People, the flora and the stars of navigation in both the northern and southern hemispheres that guided the first Mercy Sisters to Australian shores.

The Mercy Cross, the quotation from Matthew 25:40 and the portraits of Catherine McAuley and Elizabeth McQuoin celebrate the core values that have guided generations of women they have inspired.

“ With the guidance of both the Congregation and members of the Monte staff, I developed a design concept that would fulfil the design brief, namely to depict the past the present and the future within a twelve square metre frieze carved in Helidon freestone, and located on an external wall opposite the entrance to the Chapel. ”

An Angophora tree blooms with Peace, Love, Hope and Faith and beyond the “moral compass” all elements focus on the “Star of the Ocean,” the ultimate goal.”

- DR RHYL HINWOOD AM



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