

MARY AIKENHEAD MINISTRIES



JOURNEYS

VOLUME 24 | ISSUE 3 | SEPTEMBER 2026



COMPASSION

Compassion



WELCOME TO JOURNEYS

In this edition of *Journeys*, we reflect on Compassion, one of the values at the heart of Mary Aikenhead Ministries and a value that feels particularly important for our time.

Compassion invites us to look beyond ourselves and to become more deeply aware of the lives and experiences of others. It asks us not simply to see a need, but to allow what we see to move us. In the Gospel, Jesus is “*moved with compassion*” and reaches out. In the life of Venerable Mary Aikenhead, we see that same movement expressed in her willingness to recognise the needs of her time and respond to them.

Our feature article, *Compassion: Moving Our Hearts Towards Another*, explores what this might mean for us today. In lives often centred on our own families, work, friends and immediate concerns, compassion challenges us to widen our circle of concern, to notice those beyond our own experience, recognise the dignity of others and ask what response might be required of us.

That challenge takes on new dimensions in a world increasingly shaped by technology and artificial intelligence. Professor Victoria Lorrimar’s 2026 Venerable Mary Aikenhead Oration, *Optimistic or Overwhelmed? Engaging Tech in an Age of Optimisation*, invited us to consider the values shaping technological development.

Her Oration challenged us to look beyond efficiency, productivity and optimisation and to consider whether technology strengthens relationships, supports creativity, respects communities and ecosystems, and distributes its benefits more justly.

Together, the feature article and Oration raise an important question: *how do we remain profoundly human in a rapidly changing world?*

Compassion offers one response. It reminds us that people can never simply be problems to solve, data to process or projects to optimise. They are persons, created in the image of God, deserving of dignity, relationship and care. As our value statement reminds us, compassion calls us to a profound awareness of the joys and sufferings of those we serve and impels us to reach out with humility and love.

The stories throughout this edition show that compassion is not an abstract idea. We see it in bringing generations together, in creating communities of belonging, in caring for our common home, in recognising people who may otherwise remain unseen, and in strengthening relationships across our ministries.

As you read this edition, we invite you to reflect on your own circle of concern. *Who are you being called to notice? What needs are emerging in our time? And how might each of us, in the spirit of Mary Aikenhead, find the need and respond?*

UPCOMING DATES FOR THE TRUSTEES

17 October	Trustee Formation
17 October	Stewardship Visit: NSW
16 November	Joint Board Formation
24 November	TMAM AGM

More Calendar Dates at the back of this edition.

COMPASSION

MOVING OUR HEARTS TOWARDS ANOTHER

MR TROY TORNABENE
DEPUTY EXECUTIVE OFFICER

As I watch the world go about its business, I find myself increasingly stopping and asking: *Are some people truly that ignorant, or have they simply become completely oblivious to what is happening beyond themselves?*

It is a confronting question.

Every day, we worry about our families, our work, our finances, our health and the things that directly affect us. We naturally care deeply about those closest to us, and rightly so. But there is a danger that our circle of concern becomes increasingly small.

We can become so focused on “me and mine” that we see suffering without really seeing the person who is suffering. We hear about injustice without feeling any connection to it. We know someone is struggling and still think, *“That has nothing to do with me.”*

Perhaps this is why compassion is such an important value for our time.

The best definition that I have heard for compassion is, *to move one’s heart towards another.*

It means allowing ourselves to be touched by another person’s experience, to see their joy and suffering, recognise their dignity and care about what happens to them.

The Gospel gives us a powerful image of this in Matthew 20:34: *“Moved with compassion, Jesus touched their eyes.”*

Jesus sees. Jesus is moved. Jesus reaches out.

His compassion does not remain a feeling. It becomes action.



This understanding sits beautifully within the Mary Aikenhead tradition. Mary Aikenhead Ministries speaks of a *“profound awareness of the joys and sufferings of those we serve”* and being *“impelled to reach out with humility and love.”* (MAM Values Statement)

Compassion, then, is not simply noticing suffering. It is allowing what we see to move us and asking: *What can I do?*

Our values statement reminds us that *“compassion is focused on the other.”* That is a challenging idea in a world increasingly centred on the self; my experience, my preferences, my wellbeing, my security, my family.

There is nothing wrong with caring about these things. The danger comes when our concern stops there, when my world becomes the whole world.

Mary Aikenhead offers another way. She saw people who were poor, sick, vulnerable and marginalised. But she did not simply observe their circumstances. She allowed their needs to move her, and she responded. Her example asks us: *What are the needs of our time? Who is suffering? Who is being overlooked? Who has become invisible? Who is outside my immediate circle?*

And perhaps the more difficult question: *Am I allowing what I see to move me?*

The person sleeping rough is someone’s child. The refugee is someone’s parent, brother, sister or friend. The elderly person experiencing loneliness has a story and a dignity.

The person on the other side of the world affected by war or displacement is not simply a news story.

Compassion asks us to see the person beyond the circumstance. They are not “other”. They are another.

This challenge takes on new significance in an age of technology and artificial intelligence. In her Venerable Mary Aikenhead Oration, Professor Victoria Lorrimar invited us to consider *Optimistic or Overwhelmed? Engaging Tech in an Age of Optimisation*. Her reflections encouraged us to ask not only what technology can do, but what technology is doing to us.

Our news, entertainment and social media are increasingly personalised. Algorithms learn what captures our attention and give us more of it. If we are not careful, our moral world can become personalised too.

We can become less willing to encounter experiences different from our own and less aware of people beyond our immediate social and cultural circles.

This connects powerfully with Pope Leo XIV’s reflections on artificial intelligence and technological change and the need for technology to remain at the service of the human person and the common good. It raises a fundamental question: *What does it mean to remain profoundly human in an increasingly technological world?*

Perhaps it means remembering that humanity is not measured simply by productivity, efficiency or technological capability. It is found in relationship, love, vulnerability, responsibility and our capacity to recognise the dignity of another.

Technology may identify a need. But we remain responsible for how we respond to that need. An algorithm can recognise a pattern. A human being can recognise a person.

Compassion also leads us towards justice. When our hearts move towards another person, we begin to ask not only whether they are suffering, but why. Why are they poor? Why are they excluded? Why are they unheard? Why are some people carrying burdens that others never have to experience?

Compassion may begin by alleviating suffering, but it can also lead us to challenge the conditions that cause or perpetuate it. This is where the Mary Aikenhead Ministries values come together:

- Love opens our hearts.
- Compassion moves our hearts towards another.
- Justice challenges us to address what is wrong.
- Hope gives us the courage to believe that something can change.

Perhaps compassion ultimately asks us to change the questions we instinctively ask. Instead of only: “*How does this affect me?*” we might ask: “*How does this affect them?*”, “*What might this experience feel like from their perspective?*” and finally: “*What is my response?*”

That is the movement of compassion:
From self to other.
From seeing to being moved.
From being moved to responding.

Mary Aikenhead responded to the needs of her time. We are called to respond to the needs of ours. In an increasingly insular, personalised and technologically driven world, perhaps one of those needs is simply to recover our capacity to notice one another, to look beyond our own experience, listen to people whose lives are different from ours and allow ourselves to be moved.

Compassion begins with seeing, but it does not end there. It asks us to move towards another.
To listen.
To stand beside them.
To reach out.
To respond.

Compassion is to move one’s heart towards another. And perhaps there is nothing more profoundly human than that.



MARY AIKENHEAD MINISTRIES

OUR VALUE: COMPASSION

Compassion recognises that each person is created in the image of God.

Seeking a profound awareness of the joys and sufferings of those we serve, we are impelled to reach out with humility and love.

MISSED AN EDITION?

Past editions of Journeys can be found on our website: maryaikenheadministries.com.au



Are you following us on Facebook yet?

[Mary Aikenhead Ministries](https://www.facebook.com/MaryAikenheadMinistries)

VALE VERONICA COYNE AND LOIS SPENCER

REMEMBERING LIVES OF SERVICE AT ST
VINCENT'S COLLEGE, POTTS POINT

The St Vincent's College, Potts Point community farewelled two much-loved former staff members, Veronica Coyne and Lois Spencer (Class of 1956), whose dedicated service touched generations of students and colleagues.

Veronica joined the College in 1982 and served in many roles, most notably as Head of History from 1987 to 2013. A passionate educator, she inspired in her students a curiosity about the world and a lasting love of history. She is remembered for her professionalism, commitment and steadfast contribution to College life.

Lois graduated from St Vincent's in 1956 and returned as a staff member in the early 1970s. Over the following decades she served as a Science teacher, Year 7 Coordinator, boarding staff member and administrator, while also contributing significantly to Outdoor Education, the Duke of Edinburgh Award and the NSW Ski Inter-schools Competition.

Both women embodied a generous spirit of service and formed relationships that endured long beyond their years at the College. Their contribution remains part of the rich legacy of St Vincent's College and its continuing mission within Mary Aikenhead Ministries.

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let
perpetual light shine upon them.
May the souls of all the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*



2026 IRELAND PILGRIMAGE

The 2026 Ireland Pilgrimage got off to a great start with 14 pilgrims from across our health and education ministries coming together for this special journey. The ten-day pilgrimage this year is being led by Trustee, Ms Deirdre O'Donnell and Mission & Formation Director, Mrs Louwana Saba.

The pilgrimage is a much-anticipated event each year, both for those selected to participate and for the Sisters of Charity of Ireland. It is a time of reflection, learning, connection and deepening our understanding of the rich heritage and mission that continue to inspire us today.

We invite you to keep our pilgrims in your prayers throughout their journey; that they may have open minds, open ears and open hearts, and be attentive to all that they encounter along the way.

BRINGING GENERATIONS TOGETHER

For the fourth year running, residents from St Vincent's Care homes and retirement villages across Brisbane travelled to Genesis Christian College for the annual intergenerational concert, this year themed, *Gratitude*.

More than 200 residents joined 250 students, alongside staff and volunteers, for a morning of music, connection and community. With residents and teams from nine St Vincent's Care homes in attendance, travelling from as far as Maroochydore to Corinda to be part of the event.

While the concert has become a much-loved tradition, it is the relationships formed between generations that sit at the heart of the partnership. Students have the opportunity to spend time with older Australians, hear their stories and learn from their experiences, while residents enjoy meaningful conversations, new friendships and the energy that comes from connecting with younger generations.

This year's program featured choir performances, dance recitals and musical items, with residents clapping along, singing and joining in throughout the morning.

A special highlight was a performance by the Bardon Senior Choir, which included residents aged over 100 years.

The concert forms part of the ongoing partnership between St Vincent's Care and Genesis Christian College, which continues to create meaningful opportunities for intergenerational connection and community. With each annual event, the impact grows and the partnership continues to strengthen.

For National Director Volunteers St Vincent's, Ms Kalee Cassidy, the day reflected everything the partnership is designed to achieve. *"Seeing 200 residents and 250 students come together, singing, laughing and even doing the YMCA as one, was pure joy. These are the moments that bring our mission to life. You could feel the connection in every part of the room. It's a powerful reminder that when we bring people together with purpose, the impact is felt by everyone."*

Now firmly established on the calendar, the annual concert continues to bring generations together through shared experiences, strengthening a partnership that benefits both students and residents alike.



ONE MISSION, MANY MINISTRIES

The Trustees of Mary Aikenhead Ministries continued to bring ministry leaders together through One Mission, Many Ministries: A Shared Table Gathering, with events held across New South Wales, Queensland and Victoria during the year.

On 15 June, Queensland ministry leaders from across education, health and aged care gathered in Brisbane. The evening commenced with Mass at St Stephen's Cathedral, concelebrated by the Most Rev. Ken Howell, Bishop of Toowoomba, together with chaplains from St Vincent's Health Australia. Guests then gathered for a Welcome Reception and Dinner at the Stock Exchange Hotel.

The Victorian gathering followed on 17 August at the Catholic Leadership Centre, where Fr Brendan Byrne, Chaplain for St Vincent's Health Australia, celebrated Mass. A similar gathering for New South Wales ministry leaders was held earlier in the year.

Across the gatherings, leaders had the opportunity to connect beyond their individual ministries, strengthen relationships and enjoy fellowship around a shared table. The events embodied the spirit of One Mission, Many Ministries, creating space to deepen relationships and reflect on the mission shared across education, health and aged care.





In his welcoming remarks at each event, Mr Richard Haddock AO, Chair of the Trustees of Mary Aikenhead Ministries, reflected on the significance of coming together in faith, mission and hope. He reminded guests that, *"the mission entrusted to Mary Aikenhead Ministries is a living one, continually evolving in response to the needs of the world and the communities the Ministries serve."*



Mr Haddock also reflected on the Church's synodal journey of walking together, listening deeply and discerning collectively, and how this was reflected in gathering around a shared table. He highlighted the possibilities that emerge when education, health and aged care work together, including through integrated models of care, shared formation initiatives and outreach to those most in need.



Central to his message was the importance of relationships and leadership in carrying the mission forward. Mr Haddock emphasised that, *"the future of the mission will be shaped not by structures alone, but by authentic relationships and leaders who model the mission in how they serve each day."*



The Queensland gathering also provided an opportunity to recognise two leaders for their significant contribution. Mr Gary Humphrys was acknowledged as he concludes his service as Deputy Chair and Trustee of Mary Aikenhead Ministries, following nine years as a Trustee and more than 16 years of association with the Ministries. Ms Sharon Volp was also recognised as she approaches the conclusion of almost a decade of leadership as Principal of Mt St Michael's College, Ashgrove. Both were thanked for their faithful leadership, generosity and enduring contribution to the Ministries and the communities they have served.



Together, the gatherings captured the spirit of One Mission, Many Ministries, strengthening connections, encouraging collaboration and renewing a shared commitment to carrying the Mary Aikenhead mission into the future.

VENERABLE MARY AIKENHEAD ORATION 2026

OPTIMISTIC OR OVERWHELMED?

Over 300 people registered for a timely conversation about technology, artificial intelligence and what it means to flourish as human beings.

Delivered by Professor Victoria Lorrimar from the University of Notre Dame Australia, the Oration, *Optimistic or Overwhelmed? Engaging Tech in an Age of Optimisation*, challenged participants to look beyond the excitement and anxiety surrounding emerging technologies and consider the values shaping their development.

Drawing on Catholic social thought, Professor Lorrimar explored the risks of allowing efficiency, productivity and optimisation to become our dominant measures of value. As Magnifica Humanitas reminds us, *'when efficiency becomes the ultimate measure, we risk viewing people as projects to be optimised rather than persons called to relationship and communion'*.

For leaders across our Catholic ministries, the challenge was practical as well as philosophical. Ethical discernment requires us to ask not only whether AI is being used for good purposes, but how it is designed, whose values are embedded in its data and models, and whose lives and labour may be affected by it. Professor Lorrimar encouraged participants to consider measures of value that extend beyond productivity—including whether technology strengthens relationships, supports creativity, respects communities and ecosystems, and distributes its benefits more justly.

Her message strongly echoes Mary Aikenhead's call to, *'find the need and respond to it'*. As AI transforms our ministries and communities, our task is not simply to embrace innovation, but to help shape it so that it serves human dignity, right relationships and the common good.

The Oration concluded on a hopeful and shared responsibility: *'we can all do our part.'*



WHAT WAS YOUR KEY TAKE-AWAY?

Participants were invited to share their key take-aways from the Oration. This is what a few people had to share:

- *Human connection will always be at the centre of all we do.*
- *Hope, grounded by Pope Leo's encyclical, realistic given all the changes just in my life time.*
- *The Oration ended with optimism and hope.*
- *Communication, relationship and connection is incredibly important to society and can't be substituted for AI.*
- *AI is a wonderful tool when used by humans and in the best interest of humans. We all have a moral and ethical responsibility to use it wisely.*
- *There is certainly optimism in the use and application of AI however disarming AI and ensuring human dignity and the common good is critical.*
- *Hope, grounded thought, be informed, aware, and remember what Pope Leo says in Magnifica Huminatas specifically to guide us in our open eyes and ears to AI and focus our actions / approach.*
- *Looking at the balance between efficiency and its impact on people. Not only in AI but in all parts of ministry.*



MISSED THIS YEAR'S ORATION?

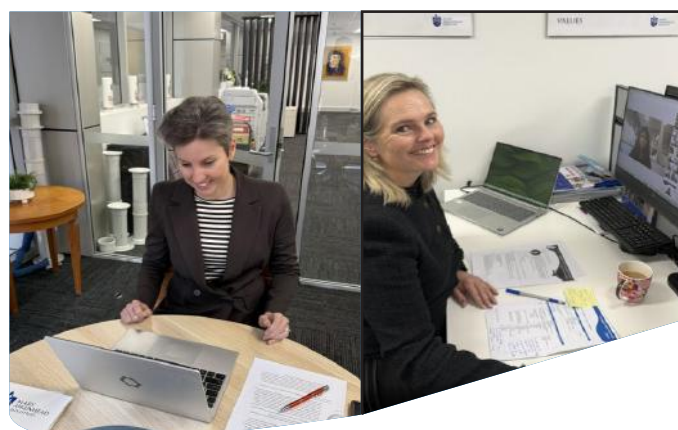
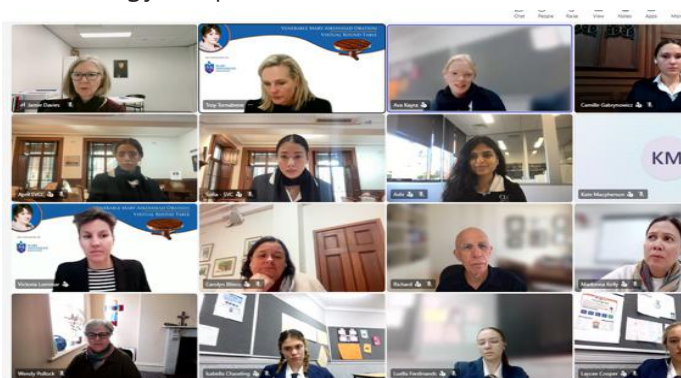
If you missed this year's Oration or simply want to listen to it again, both a recording and transcript of Prof. Lorrimar's Oration is available on our website or by [clicking here](#)

VENERABLE MARY AIKENHEAD ORATION 2026 VIRTUAL ROUNDTABLE STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

Each year, Mary Aikenhead Ministries seeks to extend the reach and influence of the Venerable Mary Aikenhead Oration by creating opportunities for those across health, aged care and education to engage with the Orator in meaningful ways beyond the Oration itself. This year, these opportunities took the form of virtual roundtables.

For Mary Aikenhead Education Limited Colleges, the virtual roundtable brought Associate Professor Victoria Lorrimar together with student leaders from across MAM Colleges for a facilitated conversation. Students had the opportunity to engage directly with Associate Professor Lorrimar on questions of technology, ethics, leadership and human flourishing, and to explore how the values of dignity, compassion, justice and service can inform their lives, their choices and their future leadership.

The conversation provided a unique opportunity for students to hear from a contemporary scholar, pose their own questions and reflect on the opportunities and challenges they will encounter as emerging leaders in an increasingly technology-shaped world.



NEW APPOINTMENTS



MS DEIRDRE O'DONNELL
DEPUTY CHAIR
TRUSTEES OF MARY AIKENHEAD
MINISTRIES

After Mr. Gary Humphrys retired as Deputy Chair and Trustee of Mary Aikenhead Ministries on 30 June 2026, Sr Laureen Dixon rsc, the Congregational Leader of the Sisters of Charity of Australia, announced the appointment of Trustee, Ms. Deirdre O'Donnell, as the new Deputy Chair.

Mary Aikenhead Ministries extends its heartfelt congratulations to Ms. O'Donnell on her new role and wishes her abundant blessings as she undertakes this significant leadership position in advancing the mission of Mary Aikenhead Ministries.

MS ANNE MCDONALD
TRUSTEE
MARY AIKENHEAD MINISTRIES

Sr Laureen Dixon rsc, on behalf of the Congregational Leadership Council, announced the appointment of Ms Anne McDonald as Trustee of Mary Aikenhead Ministries (MAM).

Ms McDonald is no stranger to MAM, having served on the St Vincent's Health Australia Board for the past nine years. During her tenure, she chaired the Board Audit & Risk Committee and was a member of the Board Finance and Aged Care Committees.

Ms McDonald brings significant governance experience and a strong understanding of the ministries of MAM to her new role.

Ms McDonald will formally commence her appointment as Trustee on 1 October 2026.



REFLECTIONS FROM OUR MINISTRIES

DIANA RANDAZZO

RECONCILIATION COORDINATOR
CATHOLIC LADIES' COLLEGE

Which of the organisations within Mary Aikenhead Ministries do you work for, and how long have you been there?

I have been a member of the Catholic Ladies' College community for a total of thirteen years. I initially served at the College for nine years before taking a career break to dedicate myself to raising my four children. Following this important period of family life, I was delighted to return to the College, where I have continued to contribute to and serve the community for a further four years

What is your personal response when reading the *Social Inclusion Statement*?

Having read the *Social Inclusion Statement*, I feel incredibly proud to work within an organisation that recognises the inherent dignity of every individual and genuinely values the unique gifts and talents each person brings. At Catholic Ladies' College, every person is treated with equality, respect, and compassion. Individuality is not only accepted but embraced and celebrated.

What makes our college so special is the deep commitment to ensuring that all members of the community feel welcomed, valued, and emotionally safe. There is a genuine spirit of kindness and sincerity that is evident in daily interactions, reflecting the belief that God is present in all people and in all creation. Students are encouraged to love and respect themselves and others, while also being inspired to care for and protect our common home.

What is one example that you have witnessed of your ministry/organisation living out the values found within the *Social Inclusion Statement*?

There have been many occasions where I have witnessed the values expressed in the *Social Inclusion Statement* come to life within our college community.

One particularly moving example was listening to students and staff share their reflections following the Red Earth Immersion Experience in Central Australia.



As students spoke about their experiences, I was struck by the profound respect, understanding, and compassion they had developed through their time with First Nations communities. Many reflected on how the immersion had deepened their awareness and appreciation of First Nations Peoples, cultures, and perspectives in ways they had never before experienced. It was evident that the journey had expanded not only their knowledge but also their hearts.

If you were to have lunch with Venerable Mary Aikenhead today, what story would you tell her about your work? Optional question: and what do you think she might say to you in reply?

If I were fortunate enough to share lunch with Venerable Mary Aikenhead, I would tell her that her legacy is alive and flourishing at Catholic Ladies' College. Every day, I witness the dignity of the human person being honoured through the care, compassion, and respect shown to every member of our community.

I would tell her that the ethos of the Sisters of Charity permeates every aspect of college life. Students are encouraged to discover and share their unique gifts, whether through academic achievement, the arts, sport, leadership, creativity, service, or innovation. Each student is known, valued, and supported to let their light shine

I believe Mary Aikenhead would be deeply proud to see a community where wisdom, courage, faith, and acceptance are nurtured each day. She would be moved by the way human dignity is upheld, particularly in the care and advocacy shown to those who are most vulnerable.

TARANG JAIN

MODERN SLAVERY LIAISON OFFICER
GROUP PROCUREMENT SPECIALIST -
ENVIRONMENT, SOCIAL & GOVERNANCE
ST VINCENT'S HEALTH AUSTRALIA

Which of the organisations within Mary Aikenhead Ministries do you work for, and how long have you been there?

I have been working with St Vincent's Health Australia since March 2023.

What is your personal response when reading the *Social Inclusion Statement*? How might it inspire, challenge or hold you accountable to respond to the needs of those around you?

The *Social Inclusion Statement* from the Mary Aikenhead Ministries warmly calls me to embrace and support survivors of modern slavery with deep compassion, honouring their inherent dignity. It inspires me to gently break down the barriers of exclusion they face and to nurture safe, welcoming spaces where healing and empowerment can truly take root. This heartfelt commitment guides me in my role at St Vincent's to stand firmly for justice, solidarity, and care, ensuring that survivor-patients who come to our healthcare facilities are met with kindness, respect, and the recognition they deserve as cherished members of our community.

What is one example that you have witnessed of your ministry/organisation living out the values found within the *Social Inclusion Statement*?

One example is St Vincent's Hospital in Melbourne, which exemplifies compassionate leadership by thoughtfully integrating modern slavery screening into existing family violence processes. This meaningful initiative surpasses the standard protocols used in similar hospitals across the country and has already brought about positive changes in 48 vulnerable individuals who might otherwise have gone unnoticed. This reflects the organisation's heartfelt commitment to openness and adaptability, embracing innovative approaches to care that honour the dignity of those at risk.



Moreover, it underscores the ongoing efforts to break down systemic barriers and foster an environment of empathy, equanimity, and respect for all.

If you were to have lunch with Venerable Mary Aikenhead today, what story would you tell her about your work? Optional question: and what do you think she might say to you in reply?

I would recount to Venerable Mary the story of a woman in her 50s who visited St Vincent's Emergency Department over 70 times, ensnared in a cycle of violence, exploitation, and substance abuse. Despite receiving substantial medical and social assistance, her plight remained concealed until a clinician trained in the modern slavery framework discovered that she was in a forced marriage, trafficked, and subjected to servitude. Through trauma-informed care, she was finally able to break free from this cycle, allowing her to regain her dignity and begin a new life.

Mary would likely smile, feeling proud, knowing that her legacy of compassion and justice continues to be upheld in her mission through health-care for all.



MISSED READING OUR
SOCIAL INCLUSION
STATEMENT?



SOCIAL INCLUSION

JUDENE ANDREWS

GROUP ENVIRONMENT, SOCIAL AND
GOVERNANCE LEAD
ST VINCENT'S HEALTH AUSTRALIA

Which of the organisations within Mary Aikenhead Ministries do you work for, and how long have you been there?

I am the Group ESG Lead at SVHA and have had the privilege of leading our environmental sustainability program over the past 4 years.

What is your personal response when reading the *Care of the Earth Statement*? How might it inspire, challenge or hold you accountable to respond to the needs of the world we live in, in particular ecological and social justice commitments?

The Statement reminds me that caring for creation is inseparable from caring for people. It calls us to respond with hope, courage and shared responsibility, recognizing that climate change and environmental degradation disproportionately affect those who are already most vulnerable. It strengthens my commitment to ensure our healthcare system protects both human health and the natural world on which it depends.

What is one example that you have witnessed or an initiative of your ministry/organisation that demonstrates living out the values found within the *Care of the Earth Statement*?

SVHA is developing an organisation-wide Climate Resilient and Sustainable Healthcare Transition Roadmap.

This work brings together our services to reduce carbon emissions, strengthen climate resilience and embed sustainability into infrastructure, procurement and clinical care so that future generations continue to receive safe, compassionate and high-quality healthcare.



If you were to have lunch with Venerable Mary Aikenhead today, what story would you tell her about your work? Optional question: and what do you think she might say to you in reply?

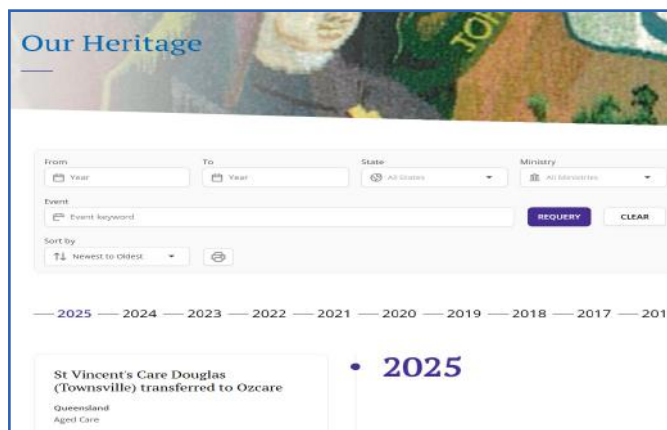
I would tell her that her vision continues to inspire us to care for those most in need by responding to one of the greatest health challenges of our time. I hope she would encourage us to keep acting with compassion, humility and courage, trusting that small, faithful actions today will create lasting hope for tomorrow.

MISSED READING OUR CARE OF THE EARTH STATEMENT?



NEW RESOURCE

OUR HERITAGE



MAM is delighted to launch, *Our Heritage*, an interactive online resource that tells the story of the Sisters of Charity and their ministries, from their arrival in Australia through to today.

Our Heritage can be used to search events and information by:

- Year (or range of years);
- State;
- Ministry; and
- Key words

either singularly or by a combination of search options.

This resource is intended to be a living one, continually being added to and developed with the inclusion of articles, pictures and even videos over time.

Check out, *Our Heritage*



CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 2026

1	Mission Inspired Leadership Program
8	Parramatta Pilgrimage #5
	Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
12	2027 Ireland Pilgrimage
14	The Exaltation of the Cross
25	AFL Grand Final Day (VIC)

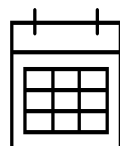
OCTOBER 2026

4	NRL Grand Final
	Daylight Savings commences
5	Public Holiday (NSW/QLD)
7	Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary
20	Trustee Stewardship Visit (NSW)
29-30	Hobart Pilgrimage #2

NOVEMBER 2026

1	All Saints Day
2	All Souls Day
5	Mission Inspired Leadership Program
16	Joint Board Formation Day
29	Advent Begins (Year B)

SAVE THE DATES



TMAM CONFERENCE 2027

11-12 MAY

ORATION 2027

21 JULY



Sisters
of Charity
of Australia

HERITAGE
CENTRE

Celebrating Overseas Mission

Come and celebrate these sacred stories with us.

October 18, 2026 marks 100 years of World Mission Sunday and the theme chosen by Pope Leo XIV is '*One in Christ, United in Mission*'. Across continents, communities come together to celebrate a shared calling that transcends borders, languages, and cultures.

The Sisters of Charity Heritage Centre is marking this special time with a new exhibition, *Celebrating Overseas Mission*. This exhibition will explore the extensive overseas missionary work of the Sisters of Charity, which is largely unknown beyond the Congregation itself.



L to R: Sr M. Peter Fennessy, Sr M. Florence Bailey, Sr M. Mark Lehmann boarding the RMS Orion from Jones Bay Wharf, Pyrmont, NSW, 1957 (Courtesy of the Congregational Archives)



SAVE THE DATE: Special Event

Meet Dorothy Bayliss and
Celebrate Mission together.

When: Thursday, 15 October

Time: 10.30am



GETTING MORE OUT OF THE JOURNEY REFLECTION RESOURCE

Want to get more out of the Journeys articles? Here are some discussion or reflection questions based on Mr Tornabene's article on page 3 you might like to use for personal reflection, or as formation during a meeting etc.

- What does it mean for me to move my heart towards another?
- Who or what might be outside my usual "circle of concern"?
- Where am I being called not simply to notice a need, but to respond to it?
- As technology becomes more present in our lives and ministries, how can we ensure that human dignity and relationships remain at the centre?
- Where might efficiency or productivity be influencing how I value people, relationships or outcomes?
- How can compassion shape the choices I make about technology and AI?
- What is one practical way I can "*find the need and respond to it*" in my ministry or community?

