

Christmas Gathering of Religious of the Diocese.

With a great deal of happy chattering, about 160 of the religious of the diocese gathered at the Victor Peters Suite on Saturday 10th December. It was an opportunity to extend the greetings of Christmas to all of the Congregations and to welcome the new vietnamese Community into our midst. Friendships forged over many years of



collaborative work in the Diocese were renewed over a festive morning tea that got everyone into the Christmas spirit. Nine different congregations were represented and the spirit of our founders was recalled with gratitude.





We then prayed together and reflected on the message of the prophet Isaiah whose voice called to us over the centuries : “Be strong, do not fear!” Certainly the “tongue of the speechless” was able to “sing for joy” in our midst.

Of special mention in our prayer was the forthcoming Chapter of the Sisters of Mercy and the move to create the new Institute of the

Sisters of Mercy of Australia. Sr Faith Jones gave an interesting account of the gradual journey that each of the Mercy Communities in Australia and P.N.G. had been part of over the last decade.

Our separate group of the Singleton Mercies is now joined to a larger entity that brings together 14 of the individual congregations who claim Venerable Catherine McAuley as their foundress. We pray that they may embrace their future fearlessly as they seek to bring the message of Mercy to all.



We wish you all a very Happy Christmas.

