



## Agnes Mary "Merry" Donlon...

On June 14, 2017 during the celebration of our annual fundraising event "A Taste of Mercy", the Chair of our Board of Trustees - **Merry Donlon**, would normally be present to welcome everyone to this year's event.

Unfortunately Merry was suddenly hospitalized back on Saturday, June 10; due to a very serious stroke and regrettably was not able to recover and sadly passed away on Tuesday, June 12, 2017.

Merry was a good and faithful servant in the Lord's vineyard. She truly was a daughter of Catherine McAuley, living a life dedicated to serving the poor, sick and uneducated. Merry as a licensed social worker retired in 2011 as the Manager of Family and Child Services for CEO in Rensselaer County. Prior to that she was the Executive Director for Catholic Charities of Columbia and Greene Counties, and also worked as the Clinical Manager of the Social Work Department at the Center for the Disabled in Albany.

For the past 4½ years Merry has served as a member of the Circles of Mercy's Board of Trustees, initially in the role as Vice Chair and during the past year and a half, as Chair of the Board. When she first approached us in May of 2013 about becoming a board member, Merry wrote us and said; *"...The charism of the Sisters of Mercy is an inspiration to me. During my professional years as a Social Worker, I have had many opportunities to witness numerous Sisters of Mercy respond to women and children with warmth, welcome, and encouragement..."*

In condolence letters that we send out to friends and colleagues, one of Catherine McAuley's most tender hearted quotes is always included which is; *"...Each day is a step we make towards eternity and we shall continue thus to step from day to day until we take the last step, which will bring us into the presence of God..."* That is where Merry is now, at peace and in God's loving presence.

Please take a minute now to pause for a moment and reflect on our dear friend and colleague in mercy - Merry Donlon, to pray for her, to pray for her family, and for her very dear friend and partner Barbara Wood...

† Eternal rest, grant unto her O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon her.  
May she rest in peace. Amen...

† May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen...

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