

## Mercy...

Goes far beyond forgiveness...  
Healing and lifting up,  
Inviting resurrection  
And new growth,  
Transforming the heart  
And warming the soul.

## Mercy...

is the resting place  
Of our God's virtuous nature,  
Where all goodness  
Comes to fruition  
Through unwavering self-giving.

## Mercy...

Is the limitless sum of God's love,  
faithfulness and forgiveness,  
Which breeds abiding joy and eternal life.  
To love God is to love mercy.  
To love neighbour is to be merciful.

## Mercy...

Is our world's most desperate need...  
God's mercy and the mercy of others.  
Yet, its greater need is recognition...  
A recognition of this lacking,  
And, therefore, a failure  
To ask...to seek...to knock...  
And have the door of mercy  
Open wide to greet and welcome.

Let us take extravagant advantage  
Of this Extraordinary Year of Mercy!  
May it cross the threshold of our lives  
Frolicking to and fro' with great ease,  
Crossing all relationship barriers...  
that of family, community, nation and  
world.

May mercy be invited  
Into negotiating aspects  
Of corporations and governments;  
May it cross cultural differences;  
Stretch religion beyond intolerance...  
And race beyond exclusion...  
May mercy release a new fire  
Upon the earth  
That will lead all peoples  
In the way of reconciled love.

May Mercy begin a renewed phase  
Of salvation history,  
Where Wisdom's lead is given its due...  
Where humanity's response to love  
Is always yes...  
And humanity's choice  
Is always life!

From the heart AMDG  
Sandy Mudge  
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