



LORETO
MINISTRIES

Australia & South East Asia

Landing Day Liturgy 2019

**BEYOND THE SHORE ...
ACROSS THE DEEP ...
TO THE HORIZON ...**

It's always challenging to mark Mary Ward Week at the start of Term 1 and then Landing Day as Term 3 commences, and, yet, here we are! This year's liturgical material focusses on the title and refrain of a new piece of music commissioned by Loreto College Coorparoo for their Evening of Excellence later in the year.

The title and refrain of the song is very simple:

BEYOND THE SHORE ... ACROSS THE DEEP ... TO THE HORIZON.

The song's verses overlay the experiences of the early disciples, Mary Ward, Gonzaga Barry and so many others in their quest to follow Jesus, literally and metaphorically. The words refer to the physical journey undertaken by our ancestors in faith and the forebears of every Australian. The refrain's multivalent nature can also prompt us toward reflection on the plight of refugees and asylum seekers, our spiritual quest for God, goal setting for Term 3/Semester 2 and even the educational enterprise in general. Isn't our learning journey so often marked by a movement beyond the familiar 'shoreline', across the deep of mess and mystery to a new horizon of thoughts, insights, discoveries, theories and dreams.

On this Landing Day, let us pray for the Loreto network across Australia, The Philippines, Timor L'Este and Vietnam: Sisters, students and staff of the Province, our schools, Loreto Ministries, Loreto Timor L'Este, Loreto Vietnam and Mary Ward International Australia.

May the horizon always hold out hope to all.

Anne Muirhead

Director of Mission

Loreto Ministries

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SETTING OUT ...

One good thing is we are to steer out into the Ocean tonight, under Mary our Blessed Mother's care. The sailors commenced to weigh anchor, singing some kind of song. After supper we all went on deck to take our last look of land, it was a beautiful May evening. We took our seat looking towards the west and as the sun went down behind the wooded hill with the castle at the base, sky, trees and sea were all tinted with a golden light and made a lovely scene.

I am sure all our sisters thought of Ireland and the loved ones there. We said together the Litany of Loretto, a prayer to St. Joseph and recommending ourselves to the Sacred Heart and the Holy Angels, whom we begged to accompany us on our way, we steered quietly out of Plymouth Harbour.

The light house with its red light looked so pretty rising straight out of the water. We lost sight of it with the last points of land and were indeed alone upon the sea, yet not lonely, thank God. Our hearts were full of confidence in our Heavenly Father, whose work we were going to do and in our Blessed Mother's sweet protection.

Mother Gonzaga Barry, Monday 24 May 1875

LANDING...

Last night, we were awakened by the ship stopping, and great cheering of the crew, for the pilot came on board. The night was so bright with moonlight. When we woke in the morning we were safe at Sandridge Pier and crowds of beautiful ships round us. Said grateful prayers and hurried up on deck; a pretty sight was to be seen from it. A large man-of-war just beside us, all the guns mounted and pointed. We were told it was the Melbourne training ship. Small boats and skiffs were coming over the Bay to the Somersetshire.

Mother Gonzaga Barry, Monday, 19 July 1875



WELCOME

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LAND

The land on which we gather is acknowledged and revered according to the custom of each school or community.

GATHERING ACCLAMATIONS

We gather on this land, ever ancient, ever new – the land of the (Wurundjeri) people.
Land crying out for rain and right relationships, reconciliation, recognition and reparation.

All: We gather on holy ground.

We gather as friends of Jesus and Mary Ward, Teresa Ball and Gonzaga Barry.
Risk-takers and rebels, dreamers and doers, leaders and learners.
Pilgrim people of God, baptised and blessed, holy and whole.

All: We gather as a holy people.

We gather across these wintry days, seeking warmth and wonder.
Ordinary days of bare branches, soups and puddles.
Time for reflection, mulling and quiet pondering.

All: We gather across these holy days.

WORD

Call of the apostles

Jesus never envisioned his mission and ministry to be a solo operation. Early in his public ministry he called women and men from safe shorelines into storm-tossed boats, across lakes to solitary prayer and out into the deep for plentiful catches.

All: God of trust, you invite us beyond the shore ... across the deep ... to the horizon.

Symbolic action: *Suggestions – Silk waves ... candle or lantern lit ... streamers unfurled from a central point as passengers did in days of old ...*

St Paul

St Paul landed on the ground with a thump when he was called by God. He, too, ventured out in boats – symbols of the early church - beyond the shores of a well-tested faith into a new understanding of love, ministry and community.

All: God of all people, you invite us beyond the shore ... across the deep ... to the horizon.

Symbolic action

Mary Ward

From her early days, Mary Ward often landed in hot water! Open to God's mystery she undertook many journeys – buffeted by winds, threatened by mutineers, gripped by illness and pain ... suffering imprisonment, betrayal, financial ruin and suppression along the way.

Whilst venturing toward new horizons, she never lost sight of her 'poor Christ' on the shore.

All: God of freedom, you invite us beyond the shore ... across the deep ... to the horizon.

Symbolic action

Teresa Ball

We recall the 'landings' of Frances Ball ... sent to school in York aged nine ... returning to Dublin on the death of her father to support her family ...

We honour her ability to see beyond the shore and the courage of her companions who set sail to establish communities and schools India (1842), Mauritius (1844), Gibraltar (1845), Canada (1847) and England (1851).

All: God of courage, you invite us beyond the shore ... across the deep ... to the horizon.

Symbolic action

Gonzaga Barry

We honour today/tomorrow the landing at Sandridge Pier of Mary Gonzaga Barry and her intrepid companions: Aloysius Macken, Gertrude Quinn, Xavier Yourelle, Boniface Volcher, Berchamns Stafford, Dorothea Frizelle, Bruno McCabe, Margaret Mary Hughes and Joseph O'Brien.

All: God of grief and grace, you invite us beyond the shore ... across the deep ... to the horizon.

Symbolic action

REFUGEES

On this special day we affirm our commitment to our sisters and brothers who have been refused landing on our shores. With Catholics across our land we call on Prime Minister Scott Morrison to adopt a more humane welcome to those seeking refuge for their families.

All: God of hope, you invite us beyond the shore ... across the deep ... to the horizon.

Symbolic action

Today

In the context of our Loreto ministry, we pause to reflect on the theme: Beyond the shore ... across the deep ... to the horizon ...

Letting go of the familiarity of the shore ... smooth sailing ... storm-tossed ... risking the deep and its unknowns ... approaching the horizon ... an elusive horizon ... hopes upon 'landing' ... trusting in God ...

Pause ...

All: God of joy, you invite us beyond the shore ... across the deep ... to the horizon.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: On this day of unity with friends across our land and region, we offer the prayers of our hearts and homes, neighbourhoods and nations, country and cosmos ...

In praise and thanksgiving for Gonzaga Barry and her friends, for their courage and conviction, camaraderie and creativity;
Let us pray to the Lord

All: Loving God, hear our prayer

Leader: For members of the Mary Ward family world-wide, that we might live the freshness and 'sting' of the Gospel in a spirit of freedom, justice and integrity;
Let us pray to the Lord -

All: Loving God, hear our prayer

Leader: For all travellers by boat seeking peace and prosperity, hope and new horizons, that they will find welcome and opportunity, their gifts relished and celebrated in every land;
Let us pray to the Lord

All: Loving God, hear our prayer

Leader: For all Loreto schools commencing Term 3, that the second half of our Year of Sincerity will be marked by faith, hope and love. May we continue to open our hearts and hands to new members of our communities, schools and workplaces;
Let us pray to the Lord

All: Loving God, hear our prayer

Leader: For all members of our circle of friends who have died since our last Landing Day, that they may be remembered with affection, rest in the bliss of heaven and

continue to pray for us in our need;
Let us pray to the Lord

All: Loving God, hear our prayer

Leader: For all manifestations of Loreto in Australia, Timor L'Este, the Philippines and Vietnam, that God's greater glory might be sought and savoured in our prayer and action for justice;
Let us pray to the Lord

All: Loving God, hear our prayer

THE LORD'S PRAYER

SIGN OF PEACE

BLESSING

2019 Loreto Student Prayer crafted by current Student Leaders based on the Mary Ward quality of sincerity.

Leader 1: All loving God, giver of life,
you create us in your own image and likeness,
you accept our strengths and struggles,
you delight in our diversity and uniqueness.

Leader 2: We give thanks for the ability to discern your presence
in all aspects of our lives:
celebrating our authenticity,
displaying curiosity about our personalities and place in our world,
striving to be truer versions of ourselves each day.

Leader 3: Free us from fear of judgement
and empower us to live as our most sincere selves.
Instil in us the courage to align our actions with our thoughts, words and values, individually and as a school community.
Guide us to form relationships that are marked by trust, honesty and openness,
and encourage us to respect the integrity of all creation.

All: Called by Mary Ward,
we aim to be such as we appear and appear such as we are,
accepting her challenge to act with sincere hearts in the face of hardship,
acting out of love, not fear.

Leader 1: In Jesus' name and with the help of the Holy Spirit,
Amen

