

Transplanting The Catherine McAuley Rose to The Australian Ambassador's Residence in Ireland



In November, Mercy International Association was delighted to welcome the Australian Ambassador to Ireland, The Hon. Gary Gray AO and Horticulturist Olga Muzychuk to the Sacred Garden at MIC to transplant one of our beautiful Catherine McAuley rose bushes (originally developed by the Sisters of Mercy in North Sydney, Australia) to the Ambassador's residence in Killiney, Co Dublin. The Catherine McAuley rose was originally developed by the late Sr. Josephine Mary Agnew rsm in North Sydney, Australia, and cultivated by Geoff Swane from Swane's Nurseries in Narromine, NSW in celebration of Catherine being declared venerable. The rose was officially launched as the Catherine McAuley Rose in a ceremony held on the 12th of November 1992, in the L'Estrange Room of the Mater Hospital in Sydney. Valerie Swane, the sister of Geoff Swane, was a patient at the Mater Hospital in Sydney and was being treated for a terminal illness. Three months before her death, she officially launched the rose.