POLICY ON MERCY CROSS TRADEMARK

POLICY AND PROTOCOL FOR EXTRAORDINARY USE

Principle
The silver and black Mercy Cross, as depicted on the Certificate of Registration of Trademark, is the defining emblem of Sisters of Mercy worldwide. As it is presented to each sister on the occasion of her profession of vows and is a symbol of her membership of her congregation, it has particular and sacred significance which ought not be compromised by inappropriate representation, display or distribution.

Likewise the words “Sisters of Mercy” and “Catherine McAuley” (Trademark No. pending) are of special significance to each sister being the name of the group to which she has committed herself by her Profession of Vows and the name of the Founder. As such they too ought not to be compromised by inappropriate use.

Policy and Protocol for Members of the Institute of Sisters of Mercy of Australia and Papua New Guinea (ISMAPNG) and ISMAPNG Ministries*
The following applies in Australia and Papua New Guinea where the Register of Trademarks lists the Institute of Sisters of Mercy of Australia and Papua New Guinea as one of four co-owners of the Mercy Cross Trademark.

The wearing of the Mercy Cross, normally in the form of a badge or medallion, is the exclusive privilege and right of Sisters of Mercy. For this reason, it should not be sold or given to others.

Representation of the Mercy Cross in art forms, for example, carving, sculpture, embroidery, graphic design, for purposes of honouring or promoting the identity or mission of Sisters of Mercy, or for liturgical purposes, is ordinarily acceptable.

If however, the intended representation is to be stylised or embellished or if it is to be produced for purposes other than those stated above, including being used in items intended for sale, permission must be obtained from ISMAPNG. If a ministry founded by ISMAPNG or any of its predecessor congregations wishes to use the Mercy Cross, permission must be obtained from ISMAPNG.
Such a request should be addressed to

Trademark Request:

c/o Jane McGee, Group Manager Archives and Heritage

Institute of Sisters of Mercy of Australia and Papua New Guinea

PO Box 284, Petersham NSW 2049

When seeking permission for such use or representation of the Trademark, applicants are requested to provide a drawing or model of the intended image, along with details of its actual colour, material and dimensions and to state the context in which the representation will be used.

*ISMAPNG Ministries include all institutional ministries and their various activities together with ministries undertaken by sisters which are under the responsibility of McAuley Ministries Limited.