

On March 1, twenty-three parishioners from Bungaree and Gordon gathered at Donegan's Farm in Gordon for a Retreat Day led by Sr Veronica Lawson rsm.

In 2015 Sr Veronica published a book entitled "The Blessing of Mercy" and each person attending took a copy home to help continue an understanding of Mercy in its various meanings.

Veronica's deep knowledge of the Hebrew and the Christian Scriptures shone through as she guided us through reflection on biblical stories. She encouraged us to read what Pope Francis has to say about the care of all of creation, referring to the Earth as 'among the most abandoned and maltreated of our poor.' (From the introduction of Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si.*)

In our prayer we breathed in God's Mercy and breathed it out towards people we know. The sounds of roosters crowing and goats bleating added to the wonderful atmosphere which helped us be in touch with the peace and beauty of nature.

