



Mary Aikenhead Ministries Significant Dates in our Story

“The mission of Mary Aikenhead Ministries is central to its task and calls forth a response through its multiple expressions. From this mission, carried out on behalf of the Church, the gospel values emerge. Mary Aikenhead Ministries identify **Love, Justice, Compassion and Hope** as central to its expression and witness of the gospel.” Leadership Framework Preamble

Mary Aikenhead Ministries acknowledge the ongoing heritage of the Sisters of Charity Australia, recognise particular days in the Catholic Church’s liturgical year and give special devotion to Patron and associated Feast Days. The Ministries, in their service and engagement across communities support a number of national and local events across the annual calendar.

The Trustees of Mary Aikenhead Ministries offer this reference list of dates to assist you in your planning. Dates accurate for the 2023 Liturgical Calendar. Please note, calendar dates are coloured coded in the following three categories:

- a) ***Sisters of Charity of Australia***
- b) ***MAM College & Health Patrons***
- c) ***Acknowledged Major Church/Feast days***

SIGNIFICANT DATES IN OUR STORY

JANUARY 2023

SIGNIFICANT DATES	ACKNOWLEDGED DATES
1 Mother Mary of God	
1 Holy Family (first Sunday after Christmas)	
6 Epiphany	
19 Venerable Mary Aikenhead born 1797	
20 St Sebastian (patron of prisoners)	
21 Mater Hospital Foundation Day	

FEBRUARY 2023

SIGNIFICANT DATES	ACKNOWLEDGED DATES
5 St Agatha of Sicily (patron of nurses)	
St Josephine Bakhita (Sudan, South Sudan and human-trafficking)	
11	World Day of the Sick
13	National Apology (13 February 2008)
20	World Day of Social Justice
22 Ash Wednesday	

MARCH 2023

SIGNIFICANT DATES	ACKNOWLEDGED DATES
8	International Women's Day
16	Closing the Gap
17 St Patrick	
19 St Joseph	
21	Harmony Day
25 Annunciation	Earth Hour (8.30-9.30pm)

APRIL 2023

SIGNIFICANT DATES	ACKNOWLEDGED DATES
6 Holy Thursday	
9 Easter Sunday	
Sr Xavier Williams - first Australian Sister professed - 1839	
Canonical Status granted for Mary Aikenhead	
25 Ministries - 2008	Anzac Day
24-28	National Youth Violence Prevention Week

SIGNIFICANT DATES IN OUR STORY

MAY 2023

SIGNIFICANT DATES	ACKNOWLEDGED DATES
1 St Peregrine (patron of cancer patients)	
12 Florence Nightingale (patron of nurses)	International Nurses Day
14	Mother's Day
15 St John Baptist de la Salle (patron of teachers)	
18 Ascension	
15-21	National Volunteer Week
St Vincent's Private Hospital Toowoomba Foundation Day	
22	
24 Our Lady Help of Christians (patron of Australia)	
26	Sorry Day
27	Reconciliation Week (1967 Referendum - Mabo Decision) 27 May - 3 June
28 Pentecost	

JUNE 2023

SIGNIFICANT DATES	ACKNOWLEDGED DATES
3	Reconciliation Week (1967 Referendum - Mabo Decision) 27 May - 3 June
8 Corpus Christi	
9 St Columba	
16 Sacred Heart Health Service Foundation Day	
21-23	Celebrating Aged Care Week
Sisters of Charity arrive in Hobart (three Sisters) - 1847	
20-26	Refugee Week
29 St Peter and Paul	

JULY 2023

SIGNIFICANT DATES	ACKNOWLEDGED DATES
1 Foundation of Mary Aikenhead Ministries - 2009	
2 St Joseph's Hospital Auburn Foundation Day	
2-9	National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee [NAIDOC] Week (1st full week of July)
14 St Camillus de Lellis - Care for the Sick	
Mary Aikenhead Feast - death of Mary Aikenhead - 1858	
22	
26 St Joachim and Anne	
30	World Day Against Trafficking in Persons
31 St Ignatius of Loyola	

AUGUST 2023

SIGNIFICANT DATES	ACKNOWLEDGED DATES
6-12	Homelessness Prevention Week
7	Aged Care Employee Day
8 St Mary of the Cross McKillop (patron of Australia)	
The Assumption - Patronal Feast of Sisters of Charity, Australia	
15	
17	Red Nose Day
Mary Aikenhead commences Sisters of Charity in Ireland - 1815	
22	
St Jeanne Jugan: Little Sisters of the Poor (patron of the elderly)	
30	
31	Daffodil Day

SIGNIFICANT DATES IN OUR STORY

SEPTEMBER 2023

SIGNIFICANT DATES	ACKNOWLEDGED DATES
1-30	Dementia Awareness Month - September
3	Father's Day
5-11	National Child Protection Week
8	Blessed Virgin Mary's birthday
14	R U Ok? Day
27	St Vincent de Paul
29	St Michael

OCTOBER 2023

SIGNIFICANT DATES	ACKNOWLEDGED DATES
1	International Day of Older Persons
5	World Teachers Day
7	St Vincent's Private Hospital Sydney Foundation Day
8	Prison Sunday
16-22	Anti-Poverty week
tbc	World Mental Health Week
11	International Day of the Girl Child
18	St Luke (patron of doctors)
24	St Vincent's Private Hospital Brisbane Foundation Day
25	CRA National Day of Sorrow and Promise
22-28	Pastoral and Spiritual Care Week

NOVEMBER 2023

SIGNIFICANT DATES	ACKNOWLEDGED DATES
1	All Saints Day
2	All Souls Day
	Foundation of the Sisters of Charity approved by
30	Pope Pius VII - 1815

DECEMBER 2023

SIGNIFICANT DATES	ACKNOWLEDGED DATES
1	World AIDS Day
3	St Francis Xavier (patron of Australia)
5	International Volunteer Day
8	The Immaculate Conception
17	Pope Francis' birthday
25	Christmas
31	First Five Sisters of Charity arrive in Australia - 1838