

# Sisters of Mercy, Rockhampton Congregation

1873 – 2011

## Details

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The Sisters of Mercy, Rockhampton Congregation was a Catholic religious order of women who arrived in Rockhampton in 1873 from Brisbane. The Sisters operated a number of out-of-home care facilities for children during the late nineteenth century and throughout the twentieth century, including St Joseph's Home, Neerkol and St Brigid's Industrial School. In 1955 the Rockhampton Congregation became part of the Australian Federation of the Sisters of Mercy. The Federation was dissolved in 1981 and the Rockhampton Congregation joined the Institute of the Sisters of Mercy of Australia. In 2011, the Sisters of Mercy, Rockhampton Congregation was dissolved and merged with 15 former Australian congregations to become the Institute of Sisters of Mercy Australia and Papua New Guinea.

## More info

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### Chronology

- **Sisters of Mercy, Rockhampton Congregation (1873 – 2011)**
  - Institute of Sisters of Mercy of Australia and Papua New Guinea (12 December 2011 - current)

### Related Entries

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- [St Joseph's Orphanage, Bucasia \(1874 - 1885\)](#)  
Date: 1880 - 1885
- [St Joseph's Home, Neerkol \(1885 - 1978\)](#)
- [St Brigid's Industrial School \(1874 - 1985\)](#)
- [Ward Street Family Group Home \(1977 - 1979\)](#)
- [Jessie Street Family Group Home \(1978 - 1985\)](#)

#### Related Organisations

- [Institute of Sisters of Mercy of Australia and Papua New Guinea Archives and Heritage Centre \(2012 - current\)](#)

### Resources

- Institute of Sisters of Mercy of Australia, [Institute of the Sisters of Mercy of Australia and Papua New Guinea](#), 2011
- Institute of Sisters of Mercy in Australia and Papua New Guinea, [History](#), No date
- [Allan Allaway interviewed by Rob Willis in the Forgotten Australians and Former Child Migrants oral history project](#), 9 August 2010

- Mary Xaverius, Sister, *Beyond our dreams: a century of mercy in Queensland*, 1961
  - Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy, [Mercy Family Services: Our Origins and Traditions](#), No date
  - Children's Commission of Queensland, *A preliminary report on allegations of abuse of former residents of St. Joseph's Orphanage at Neerkol, Rockhampton, in the 1940's, 50's and 60's*, 1998
  - Williams, Garnett B., *Nightmare at Neerkol*, 2004
  - O'Donoghue, Eileen M., [Whitty, Ellen \(1819-1892\)](#), Australian Dictionary of Biography, 2012
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