



# MERCY COLLEGE ALUMNI


## Where are they now?

<p><b>Introducing :</b></p>	<p><b><i>Claudia Louis (Nee Joseph)</i></b>  <b><i>Class of 1992</i></b></p>
<p><b>Questions :</b></p> <p><i>Hello Claudia!</i></p> <p><i>Thanks for sharing your story!</i></p>	<p><b>Responses:</b></p> <div data-bbox="651 611 1110 1196"> </div>
<p><i>Do you remember what it was like at College and when you left?</i></p>	<p><i>(Fears, aspirations, friends, what you took away from the Catholic ethos of our College)</i></p> <div data-bbox="518 1330 1362 1823"> </div> <p><i>(I am pictured on the far right in the class photo above)</i></p> <p><i>Mercy college was very different to now. Believe it or not we still sat facing the front of the class, with 32 other girls.</i></p>



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	<p><i>I loved my time at Mercy. It offered so many opportunities and a variety of learning options and experiences. I particularly loved doing aerobics at lunch times with the great Mr Anderson! Textiles was my favourite extracurricular subject, and as a result, I now make some of my own dresses!</i></p> <p><i>I felt like I belonged. I still keep in touch with a few of the friends from my time here and it's always nice to see their successes in life too.</i></p> <p><i>My biggest fear was of course VCE and we were the Guinea pigs, that is, our cohort was the first to study the VCE program in 1991/92 when it was introduced.</i></p> <p><i>Now that I reflect back on it, I think it was a great course! It influenced me to believe in myself and to pursue a career in the science field.</i></p> <p><i>Mercy taught me to be a compassionate, determined person, and to be accepting of others. All qualities that I encourage my own family to follow...</i></p>
<p><i>Did you set out with a career plan?</i></p>	<p><i>(Further study: What did you do / where did you go?)</i></p> <p><i>I went on to study Applied science-in Health and safety at RMIT. This led me on to working as an injury manager and rehab advisor for Work Cover insurance companies.</i></p> <p><i>After getting married and starting a family I took a break from paid work.</i></p> <p><i>Family commitments saw me returning to the workforce in a part time capacity as, believe it or not; an LSO /multicultural aide here at Mercy College!</i></p> <p><i>So you can imagine my excitement of learning that some of my teachers were still here and will now be my colleagues! Namely, Mrs bond, Ms Toll, Ms Polastri, and Ms Heydon.,</i></p> <p><i>I have been here for 8 years now, and loving it!</i></p> 



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<p><i>What were the significant milestones that have impacted your life journey so far?</i></p>	<p><i>(Key pivotal points marking your inspirations, success) (family support, business success)</i></p> <p><i>Entering the workforce and applying my knowledge from my tertiary studies was a great opportunity that was rewarding.</i></p> <p><i>Having supportive and encouraging parents was the biggest impact on my life. Also, having my three wonderful children is something I am extremely proud of and am forever grateful for the blessing.</i></p> <p><i>When my kids were old enough, I enrolled them at Saturday school, the Good Samaritan primary school in Roxburgh park, for the Chaldean parish. This meant I now had some spare time on my hand, and therefore I decided to volunteer as a teacher there.</i></p> <p><i>It is here that I realised that I really like teaching, and that the students liked having me teaching them.</i></p> <p><i>That experience led me to my employment here at Mercy, and I am currently enjoying that ride immensely. Especially re- learning linear equations!</i></p> 
<p><i>Where has your careerpath taken you in terms of connecting with wider organisations, meeting people of varying cultures; locally and internationally?</i></p>	<p><i>(Did your career path include travel? What have other cultures taught you? Personal growth etc.)</i></p> <p><i>My current position as a multicultural aide/ LSO has connected me with many different cultures and background, especially because I do some of the translating at parent – teacher meetings here at the College.</i></p> 
<p><i>Have you maintained any school friendships?</i></p>	<p><i>(College friends – maintaining friendships – what has this meant for you? Support?)</i></p> <p><i>As a result of Social media, I have been able to reconnect with some of the girls from Mercy; and that has been great. I met my best friend at University, and although we live in different countries now, we still keep in touch.</i></p>
<p><i>What's next for you?</i></p>	<p><i>(What would you like to see / experience in the future?)</i></p> <p><i>I think travel is definitely the next milestone I want to tackle, and as the children grow, that's not too far away from the horizon!</i></p>