

## THE ANNIVERSARY GARDENS OF CARLOW UNIVERSITY

The Anniversary Gardens on our campus were created for the university's 80th anniversary in 2009. We seek in them the delight and nourishment of quiet reflection. We bring to them the labor of our study and we seek in them a quiet spot in which to read or write, puzzle out a problem, or think through a project. We recognize in them our responsibility for the stewardship for this precious bit of Earth entrusted to our care to beautify and maintain.

The five gardens are named after Carlow's core values: mercy, hospitality, discovery, service, and sacredness of creation.





## **MERCY** Located behind Aquinas Hall

The identifying value of Carlow University is Mercy, encompassing all that we are and do as a university. Inspired by our God of Mercy, this value urges us to open our hearts to our students, our colleagues, and our world. In the tradition of action and contemplation, we seek practical ways of addressing need, and we engage in reflection in order to understand and integrate our experiences. Education offers us the tools to address unjust structures and dehumanizing situations. Each discipline provides a lens through which we can envision our place in our own personal transformation and that of the global community. The values of service, discovery, hospitality, and the sacredness of creation further expand our understanding of the power of Mercy to change our world.

**HOSPITALITY** Located across from Frances Warde Hall

In the Hospitality Garden, we are reminded to welcome the wholeness of each person and to create a space in our campus community for all individuals with their varied beliefs, cultures, orientations, and abilities. Openness to the gifts and perspectives of all creates a community rich in diversity and committed to inclusion.





**DISCOVERY** Located next to the University Commons

The Discovery Garden reminds us to open ourselves to the totality of our human experience, to the educational enterprise, to our relationship with the Divine, and to the wonders of the world in which we find ourselves. Discovery energizes our intellectual curiosity and desire for learning. It leads us ever deeper in the engagement with our chosen discipline and engenders a spirit of awe at the complexity and variety of creation.



## **SERVICE** Located next to Aquinas Hall

In the Service Garden, we are called beyond ourselves to prioritize the needs of others over our own self-interest. Our efforts to identify and respond to the needs we see around us lead us to interact with persons and institutions in ways that are transformational. Our spirit of compassion leads us to practical action on behalf of those in need.



## SACREDNESS OF CREATION

Located next to St. Joseph Hall

The Sacredness of Creation Garden inspires in us a respect for each person and for all of creation. In gratitude for the beauty and variety of our world and its inhabitants, we commit to a culture of sustainability and to the preservation of a world where all are reverenced, and all may thrive.