



MARY JO LEDDY

Mary Jo Leddy is a Canadian theologian and social activist. She was the founding editor of The Catholic New Times. She is a committed, long term advocate for refugees in Toronto and the director of Romero's House - a community which supports and accompanies refugees as they settle in Canada. In 1996, Mary Jo Leddy received the Order of Canada.



Selected Quotations

- "The person on one side becomes a client, and the person on the other side is professional.....The client is reduced to his or her particular problem, and the professional never gets to meet the multifaceted reality of the person they are trying to help. The caregiver, the advocate, the social worker never actually meets the complex reality of the person, who may have a wacky sense of humour, who loves his kids, who has secret dreams of going ice fishing in the winter, who is immensely resilient, who knows where to get wine cheap."
- "I believe that each one of us has at least one significant word to say with our lives. This word is who we really are, who we are meant to become, our calling in this world. Within this word lies the secret of our happiness, the source of our power, and the mysterious point of our being. Through this particular word of our lives we bring the one thing still wanted and awaited in the world, the one thing necessary that no one else can give. A particular grace."
- "There is a moment each day when it is morning before it is morning. Darkness still hovers over the deep. Those who wait for the dawn can hear it even before they see it"



Online Materials:

- [A talk by Mary Jo Leddy at the Intercultural Dialogue Institute in 2016 on Faith group and Syrian Refugees](#)
- [A conversation on CBC from 2012 with Mary Jo Leddy about spirituality and social justice. The conversation with Mary Jo begins at 1:30 and ends at 38:30](#)
- [A talk by Mary Jo Leddy in 2019 on the rights of refugees in Canada](#)

Further Reading

- Romero's House website
- Our Friendly Local Terrorist (Between the Lines, 2010)
- At the Border Called Hope: Where Refugees are Neighbours (HarperCollins, 1997)