

2005 ANNUAL REPORT



Proclaim

life for all

Witness, Liberate,
Teach and Celebrate



The work of Catholic Mission has been part of the life of the church for more than 180 years. The Church in Australia in its early history was a recipient of substantial support for missionary work. However, over the past 70 years or so, it has become a contributor with an imposing record for generosity.

There are many worthwhile charities in Australia but Catholic Mission is unique. Known internationally as the Pontifical Mission Societies, Catholic Mission is the Pope's global mission aid agency.

Funds raised through parish appeals, direct mail, donations and bequests are channelled mainly to the mission world to support those requests put forward by a parish, project holder, or religious congregation. These projects are as diverse as they are numerous from healthcare for children and scholarships for nuns to the building of a church. Catholic Mission does not respond to disasters in the way of a relief organisation – it is present in the developing communities of the world every day.

Catholic Mission is linked to the Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference (ACBC) through its Bishops' Committee for Evangelisation and Missions (BCEM).

3

societies

While being comprised of three autonomous Societies, Catholic Mission is one organisation committed to the worldwide mission of the Church. It provides mission animation to the people of Australia and through practical support of the various works undertaken by the three Societies.



Partnering Local Churches and Communities – the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, was founded in 1822 in France by Pauline Jaricot (1799-

1852). Pauline established a system with the workers of the industrial revolution. Although they received poor wages, they were paid regularly. Pauline recruited factory girls and collected from each one, every Friday, whatever they could spare. Her brother, Phileas, sent this money to the mission for the rescue of abandoned children in China. Pauline then found a system that allowed her to expand this effort, while retaining its essential unity. This formed the basis of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith.

The Society was approved by the Pope and became International in 1826. In 1922, to protect its assets from confiscation by a hostile government in France, the Holy Father, Pope Pius XI, brought it under papal protection, along with the Society for Missionary Childhood and the Society of St Peter Apostle.

The Society works with local Churches to provide an Ordinary subsidy for the day-to-day running of the diocese and to offer spiritual healing and practical assistance to the communities with the greatest needs. It supports the young Church by responding to requests to help build chapels and churches, pastoral centres and clinics.



Caring for Children – the Society for Children's Mission was founded in 1843 in France by Bishop Charles de Forbin-Janson (1785-1844).

From Paris he began to take an increasing interest in the rescue of abandoned babies in China. Just as Propagation of the Faith had been organised among adults to aid foreign missions, so Bishop Charles would endeavour to found an organisation among children for the salvation of children. The Society came under papal protection and made a Pontifical Society in 1922.

Under its banner "children helping children", monies raised through schools are directed towards self-help programs involving the building of schools, the provision of health and nutrition programs and medications, school fees, and teaching and learning resources.

Children in communities, orphanages, homes for the disabled, refuges, and those living on the streets are assisted by the generosity of children who wish to help make the love of Jesus known everywhere.



Fostering Local Church Leadership – the Society of St Peter Apostle was founded in 1889 in France by Jeanne Bigard (1859-1934). Jeanne and

her mother, Stephanie, emerged from personal tragedies and turned to good works, including making altar linen and vestments for missionaries in Japan. In 1889, a French Bishop of Nagasaki, Jules-Alphonse Cousin, suggested to the Bigards that they might consider supporting boys in Japan to train for the Priesthood. Thus was born the idea of a general society to promote indigenous clergy throughout the world. The Bigards donated to the new society the whole of their considerable fortune. Approved by the Pope in 1890, it too became a Pontifical Mission Society in 1922.

The Society trains young men and women in their own country and culture to serve their people as religious Sisters, Brothers, or Priests. Also assisted in their formation and training are teachers and formators of catechists.



Our vision

As did Jesus, Catholic Mission is sent to bring Good News to the poor, proclaim release to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, let the oppressed go free, and proclaim the year of the Lord's favour (Luke 4:18).

Catholic Mission shares the dream of our Creator God from before time began, seeing all persons as made in the Creator's image and likeness. All people are gifted with great potential for growth and to reach fullness of life and happiness, and are worthy of full respect.

Catholic Mission educates about mission and justice, creating awareness and providing educational resources throughout Australia. Engaging Australians in global mission is also an important part of our work and people participate through prayer, action, giving and cross-cultural immersion.

Overseas and in remote Australia we partner local churches and communities in providing spiritual and pastoral care and building programs. We also foster local church leadership by assisting the training of local priests, religious, lay leaders and catechists as servants of their people.

We encourage children to care for children by providing education, healthcare, shelter and personal development programs.



Collecting money

Catholic Mission Diocesan offices receive funds for each Society via parish appeals, donations, direct mail appeals, bequests etc. Each year in March the International General Secretaries is notified of the funds Australia has available for distribution to projects. In May each year the General Assembly of the National Directors from around the world allocates the funds to projects. In July Catholic Mission Australia, is then notified of the countries and the projects to which our funds are to be sent. Funding is sent directly from Australia to the projects.

In Australia one-third of the funds raised for Catholic Mission's work of the Propagation of the Faith – Partnering Local Churches and Communities is allocated to projects in Australia via the Home Mission Fund.

Funding projects

A parish, project holder, or religious congregation makes an application to its Diocesan Bishop for funding. The Bishop collates and prioritises all applications from his diocese. The Bishop then makes an application for either an Ordinary Subsidy ("bread and butter") or Extraordinary Subsidies (special projects, etc).

Applications are sent to Rome through the Apostolic Nuncio.

National Directors, at the General Assembly, examine, assess, and determine the level of funding for each diocese.

Each General Secretary informs the National Director of each country of the destinations to which funds held in their country are to be sent. From July onwards the funds are distributed accordingly. All recipients are required to acknowledge, receipt and to provide reports and photographs about the projects that are receiving funding.

Organisation costs

Catholic Mission's administration and fundraising costs currently stand at 23 per cent. The organisation's Strategic Plan is committed to reducing this figure to 15 per cent by 2007. The costs involved in the running of a national organisation including personnel, office space etc are necessary and fixed. This enables all the remaining funds, after costs, to be used in project work for communities. There are no middle agents, bureaucracy or hidden costs incurred at the project end. The Church network is very effective and costs nothing. For example, a project that costs \$10,000 receives the full amount. We endeavour to keep our costs as low as possible while meeting the needs of our donors. For example, donors need and request feedback and this involves the cost of producing newsletters etc. Catholic Mission maintains its resources at a level that can compete with other charities. The organisation is under constant review and evaluation.

Dear friends of Mission,
Praised be Jesus Christ!

It gives me great pleasure to report that Catholic Mission has again enjoyed a year of record support. Last year we were fortunate to be given more in donations than ever before and I am very proud to report that in 2005 this has again been the case.

I cannot thank our supporters and staff enough for this wonderful effort. It brings us another step closer to achieving our mission of 'Life for All'.

Unfortunately 2005 was a year of great need as well as giving. The tragedy of the Asian tsunami was at first unfathomable. In February, Catholic Mission sent two staff members to Sri Lanka to get some idea of the need first hand. This enabled us to channel funds directly and quickly to some of the most devastated areas. Our work there and in the other affected countries was bolstered by a special Tsunami Solidarity Fund.

In February, Bishop Joseph Grech and I attended the final meeting associated with the revision of the Statutes of the Pontifical Mission Societies (the name of Catholic Mission internationally). The completed work (ratified by the Cardinal Prefect, Cardinal Sepe) was presented to the General Assembly in May. The changes will ultimately bring more accountability and transparency.

All were saddened by the passing of Pope John Paul II. He was a champion and example of missionary effort. Pope Benedict XVI continues this commitment, which is integral to the life of each Christian whose support is so vital to our missionary work.

Lyon in central France was the location for the General Assembly of National Directors of the Pontifical Mission Societies from across the world. A special feature of this year's gathering was the blessing of the home of the venerable Pauline Jaricot, founder of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. It will serve as a wonderful museum and place of pilgrimage. We pray that her holiness and apostolic initiatives will be recognised by the Church in the cause for her canonisation.

In September and October, to prepare for World Mission Day, conferences around Australia were held to celebrate the 30th anniversary of Pope Paul VI's great encyclical *Evangelii Nuntiandi*. Sponsored by the Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference, Catholic Mission and the ACLRI (Australian Conference of Leaders of Religious Institutes) Mission Net, the gatherings featured Father Stephen Bevans SVD from Chicago Theological Union as the keynote speaker under the title of 'Witness to the Gospel in Modern Australia'. This dovetailed with the World

Mission Month theme of 'Life for All ... Witness, Liberate, Teach and Celebrate', which was embraced by schools, parishes and so many individuals.

If 2005 is any guide, we can rest assured that people have opened their hearts not just to those affected by terrible tragedies but to the needy in general. We hope and pray that this support and generosity goes on, bringing us closer to a world in which all people can live with dignity. And so, together we work, not only to make Christ known and loved, but to bring about the realisation of the kingdom of truth and life, of holiness and grace, of justice, love, and peace. May God bless and make fruitful our combined efforts.

Yours sincerely in our Lord,



Father Terence Bell

Witness...



Journeying with communities

Catholic Mission journeys with communities by supporting local initiatives to improve the quality of life for all peoples. We also support people who have travelled to different places in order to journey with local communities on a day to day basis – to live with them, share with them and work alongside them.

Christina McGlynn is a shining example of this – a woman who has journeyed with several very different communities – from the poor in Pakistan, to refugees in Zaire. From prayer leaders in Papua New Guinea to sisters in Australia. And from traumatised women in Kenyan refugee camps to dispossessed Indigenous people on Queensland's Palm Island.

At 18 Christina received "an extremely strong call" and joined the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary. This was the beginning of a life of journeying with communities.

Her first community was the poor of Pakistan who could not afford medical services. Having learnt nursing and specialised in midwifery and paediatrics, Christina and her fellow sisters faced challenging work and huge responsibilities as they went out by horse and cart to do deliveries at night.

In 1984 Christina began a journey with refugees in Zaire (now the Democratic Republic of Congo), volunteering to do emergency relief work.

Christina and four other sisters helped re-establish a hospital. She lost 16kg in six months while working up to 18 hours a day, but says: "It didn't bother us because the refugees had even less than us."

While in Zaire Sister Christina became a voice for vulnerable people. Once the military took over a hospital leaving the patients lying on the floor. She confronted an armed officer and told him that the patients would be moving back into the ward. Ultimately the patients took back their ward from the military.

In 1986 she began a new journey – as a pastoral associate in Aitape Diocese in Papua New Guinea. Her job was to assist priests, prayer leaders and young women, working with people of seven different languages.

In 2001 she continued her journey with refugee communities but this time in Kenya as team leader and social worker with Jesuit Refugee Services in Kakuma Refugee Camp.

She ran programs to help the young single mothers who were under threat of violence,

abduction or forced marriage. The camp at Kakuma was home for 86,000 refugees, mostly from Sudan, Ethiopia, Somalia and Congo – on 25 square kilometres.

By listening to, documenting and presenting the stories of the people she worked with to the UN, Christina and her team have managed to have about 300 people resettled in Australia.

In March 2004 Christina moved on to journey with yet another community – in Palm Island where she works with the Aboriginal community as a chaplain in the hospital six days a week with staff and patients as well as alcohol rehabilitation work and helping children.

In Pakistan Catholic Mission funding was used for an ambulance and medication for children and in Papua New Guinea Catholic Mission funding aided the building of a new convent and practical resources for religious such as water tanks. The Diocese in which she worked in PNG receives ongoing financial support.



“ I cannot thank our supporters and staff enough for this wonderful effort. It brings us another step closer to achieving our mission of 'Life for All'. ”



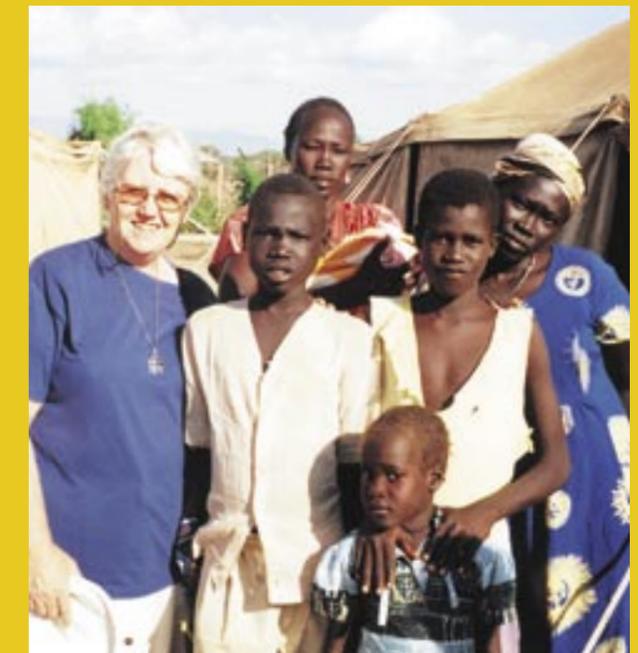
SISTER CHRISTINA MCGLYNN

A man who gave his life leading his refugee family to safety across a minefield as they fled war-torn Angola was one of the many amazing people who inspired Sister Christina McGlynn FMM in her lifetime of missionary work. Another was a woman who was thrown into a pit with the bodies of her family in Somalia and left for dead. With the help of Sr Christina and her work in Kenya's Kakuma Refugee Camp, that woman is now living happily in Tasmania after emigrating as a refugee.

Sister Christina's missionary journey was the focus of Catholic Mission's 2005 Partnering Local Church and Communities (Propagation of the Faith) Appeal, which ran

throughout parishes from April to September.

Titled Journeying with Communities, the appeal challenged us to participate with communities around the world. We all belong to a community, which is part of the world community, and this belonging is fundamental to being human. It was partly inspired by the life of the late Pope John Paul II who also showed how to journey with communities and break down borders with his own life. Following his inauguration in 1978, the Holy Father undertook no less than 81 pilgrimages around the world to the far-flung corners of the globe.





Catholic Mission began 2005 with the enormous need that arose because of the Boxing Day tsunami, as well as all the ongoing needs that communities encounter every day.

Each fundraising campaign and program invites donors to help Catholic Mission achieve 'Life for All' in the work of global mission.

Although funds from bequests were down, the financial year ended with Catholic Mission exceeding its targeted gross income, raising \$11.68 million.

Partnering Local Churches and Communities – Propagation of the Faith

The theme of the campaign for this work in 2005 was Journeying with Communities. The campaign included a direct mail appeal and a parish appeal, beginning in May in most dioceses. Sister Christina McGlynn FMM featured as one extraordinary woman who has lived in many parts of the world, sharing in the lives of communities often marginalised and threatened.

In June 2005 Catholic Mission launched the Friends in Faith program, a program designed especially for regular contributors to the work of Partnering Local Churches and Communities. Donors to this program receive a bi-annual newsletter highlighting some of the significant projects achieved because of their generosity.

World Mission Month was the culmination of fundraising efforts in this area with a campaign of fundraising and education in parishes, schools and the wider community. In 2005 the theme was 'Proclaim Life for All – witness, liberate, teach and celebrate'. A direct mail campaign and parish appeal focused on the story of Bishop Macram Max Gassis in southern Sudan.

World receipts totalled just over \$7 million, a small decrease on last year. While appeals and bequests were slightly down, World Mission Day fundraising increased.

Caring for Children – Children's Mission

Under the banner of the children first! program – Catholic Mission's school fundraising program – schools received a resource book, poster, website material, money box, and educational fundraising resource. School communities embraced the program, sending stories of their varied and creative activities to Catholic Mission. Many culminated their financial commitment during World Mission Month in October.

The Children's Mission Partners program continued to provide substantial income for our global work for children. In 2005 the projects featured were a Boys Home in Sri Lanka, Kindergarten in Albania, School for Blind and Deaf in India and a Nursery School in Cameroon. The Children's Mission Partners program was supported in the community through television, radio and print Community Service Announcements. Parishes have generously promoted and supported this program in their community.

This year's Christmas appeal included a direct mail appeal to donors focusing on Rang'ala Baby Home in Kenya, as an example of one of the thousands of projects for children supported through Catholic Mission.

All streams of fundraising in this area increased with gross receipts totalling \$3.5 million.

Fostering Local Church Leadership – St Peter Apostle

The work of Fostering Local Church Leadership was boosted by a January direct-mail appeal focusing on the African country of Malawi and the stories of the young men and women studying and working to make a difference in their communities as future priests and religious. Donors responded generously, despite the focus on the tsunami at this time.

In June 2005 the Leaders for Life program was launched for regular givers to Fostering Local Church Leadership. Donors to this program receive a newsletter twice a year with some of the stories of men and woman around the world who have been able to fulfill their vocation because of this work.

This area includes the ongoing Seminarian Supporters Program in which donors commit \$1500 a year during the last three years of a seminarian's formation, in mission dioceses across the world. This program has been a great success, almost doubling its fundraising in one year.

General gross donation totalling \$836,817, were slightly up on last year.

Bequests

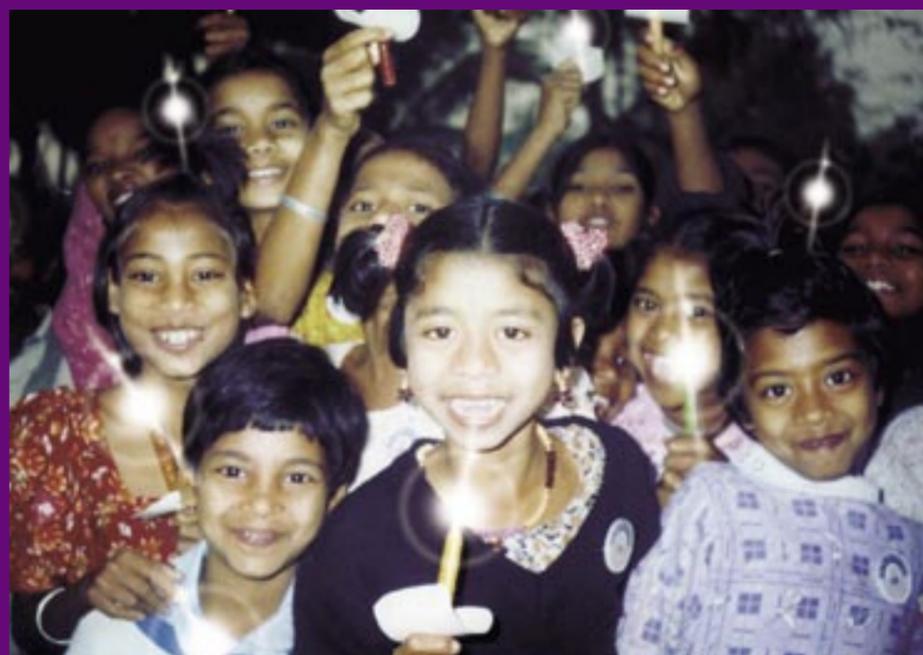
Catholic Mission's bequest program, incorporating the Fellowship of St Therese, continued to rollout across Australia. This program is seen as an essential and vital source of funding for the future of Catholic Mission. Since 2004 this program has made the option of leaving a bequest available to our entire donor base in a more formal manner.

A gross total of \$731,110 in bequests was received in 2005.

Fundraising in an Australian context is always challenging and the fear in 2005 was that donors would be fatigued because of their extreme generosity in light of the tsunami. In reviewing the year, however, the support of all those connected with the global work of Catholic Mission has been extraordinary. A special thank you must go to every donor on behalf of Catholic Mission and every community that your generosity has touched.



“A special thank you must go to every donor on behalf of Catholic Mission and every community that your generosity has touched.”



A COMMITMENT TO GIVING

Denise and Bruce Sheridan-Smith made a pact soon after they got married 30 years ago – they'd give Catholic Mission \$1 every day.

The couple from Forbes, NSW, has more than honoured that pledge, giving generously to numerous other charities as well.

Catholic Mission's Partnering Local Churches and Communities – Propagation of the Faith, has benefited from the Sheridan-Smiths' commitment to "giving something back".

Denise jokes that an extra dollar is donated in a leap year.

Denise and Bruce both grew up in Sydney, living about 15 km apart, but it took them both to move to Griffith, 660 km away, before they met.

After Griffith they lived in the small Riverina town of Finley in the 1980s and then moved to Forbes in the 1990s.

"I've always had a strong sense of social justice and I think I met somebody who was the same," Denise said.

"This was furthered by living in the country. In a country town you've got more opportunities to learn how a community clicks. If everybody does a little bit you can make a big difference."

Bruce, 60, a public servant, is about to join Denise, 56, a former TAFE teacher, in retirement.

"Our little bit of money goes a long way in the developing world," Denise said. "We believe you should do something, and do it consistently and faithfully."



The use of the media as a tool for evangelisation has become imperative for Catholic organisations. As far back as 1963 His Holiness Pope Paul VI made a decree on the media of social communications (*Inter Mirifica*) recognising that if properly utilised, the media could spread and support the kingdom of God.

Pope John Paul II took this understanding to new levels, becoming the most media-friendly Pope in history. It became the church's duty to make the best possible use of the media in order to spread the message of salvation. Followers called it the Holy Father's call to a "New Evangelisation". The continued extraordinary growth of communications and their increased availability has made this part of our mission all the more important.

Through the employment of a media officer for 21 hours per week Catholic Mission maintained a dynamic website and regular press releases.

Catholic Mission is committed to using all forms of media to help achieve 'Life for All' and to support the work of global mission.

Apart from dissemination through the web, media releases and statements have been periodically distributed to all Catholic and some secular press, across Australia.

Periods of greatest activity in this sphere were generated by the Asian tsunami in January and February and Pope John Paul II's death and the subsequent election of Pope Benedict XVI in April. A series of stories under the theme of 'journeying with communities' was also produced to coincide

with Partnering Local Churches and Communities – Propagation of the Faith appeals, beginning in April/May.

Favourable and extensive newspaper coverage was achieved in all instances. Particularly noteworthy was the penetration into the local secular newspaper market.

A decision was made to use National Director Father Terry Bell as a commentator on current issues and this has been a successful strategy in raising both his and the organisation's profile. It also opened up many opportunities of engagement with the media that could not otherwise have been exploited.

Media kits comprised of text documents and a selection of pictures, were prepared for October's World Mission Day and these were supported by advertising in the Catholic press.

The organisation also advertised its Children Mission Partners program in most Christmas editions of the Catholic press.

Catholic Mission was represented at the Australasian Catholic Press Association's annual conference in Melbourne in September as an associate member.

Much of the administration of the website was brought in-house in 2005 allowing for

quicker and more accurate updating and reducing costs.

During the year the website received 117,917 visits, 268,955 page views and 386,872 hits with October being by far the busiest month, followed by November.

Donors received two editions of the Catholic Mission newsletter Mission Today in May and October.

The launch of two new programs for regular donors, Leaders for Life (Fostering Local Church Leadership – St Peter Apostle) and Friends in Faith (Partnering Local Churches and Communities – Propagation of the Faith) precipitated the publication of two newsletters for each of those donor groups.

The value of the newsletters is in informing donors of the great work we are able to achieve, which is possible only with their support.

Catholic Mission has produced a number of educational videos/DVDs, which we provide free to interested parties such as parishes and schools. The most recent film, Behind the Razor Wire, was publicised in the World Mission Day media kit. It relates the experience of Myanmar refugees in Thailand to the refugee experience in Australia.



Liberate...

Nutrition for Life

Myitkyina & Mandalay, Myanmar

Bordered on three sides by China, India and Bangladesh – collectively home to half of the world's malnourished children – Myanmar (formerly Burma) is a resource-rich country that suffers from political instability, military oppression and immense rural poverty. Two rural orphanages in Myanmar are doing what they can for the children in their areas, to make sure kids have access to adequate nutrition to support their survival and their education.

Pa Na La Boarding, located in the north of the country, is the only school in the diocese of Myitkyina to give preference to orphans; particular preference is given to the 'hill people', a minority group who suffer most with extreme poverty. The local community, striving to support the nutrition of the children at Pa Na La Boarding, offer their assistance by donating vegetables as often as they can throughout the year. However, they are not in a position to be able to donate rice, which is the most essential food. The support of Catholic Mission enables students to have adequate rice, among other things, to support their health and education.

Students from Pa Na La Boarding who show particular promise are selected and given the opportunity to further their education at schools in the town of Myitkyina. It is hoped these students will become local leaders and the benefits of their education will flow on to the whole community.

Further south, outside Mandalay in central Myanmar, Zawgyi Orphanage is also striving to support the nutrition of the children they care for. With 7.2 hectares of fields, six oxen and three cows, the orphanage tries to produce as much as possible to help their kitchen. The work is hard, as the fields are not very fertile or productive, and water is scarce. After school, the bigger children lend a hand in the fields to help share the burden of work. Catholic Mission also helps support the nutrition of the children at Zawgyi Orphanage.

Food shortages in Myanmar will continue to be a problem while ever military oppression perpetuates the cycle of poverty. Following the example of Jesus and empowering the most disadvantaged to improve their own lives, these projects are doing their part to create a future of 'Life for All' in Myanmar.



“It became the church's duty to make the best possible use of the media in order to spread the message of salvation.”





Catholic Mission educates about Mission and justice by creating awareness and providing educational resources throughout Australia. Increasingly this education is extending from the primary school sector into adult education and from traditional literary means and into less traditional, more interactive forms, such as drama.

Witness to the Gospel

A series of conferences titled 'Witness to the Gospel in Modern Australia' celebrated the anniversary of the seminal missionary teaching of the church 'Evangelisation in the Modern World' (*Evangelii Nuntiandi*). They took place around Australia in five capital cities from the September 18–October 1. The keynote speaker was Divine Word Missionary Father Stephen Bevans from the Chicago Theological Union. Local panels assisted in furthering discussion and reflection on what the mission of the Australian church is today.

Participants totalled more than 625 and discussion on themes included Mission and the Eucharist and Mission and Youth.

A major feature at the end of each conference was the Launch of Mission Month and the distribution of an adult study resource.

Adult education

To coincide with World Mission Month, Catholic Mission provided a three-unit adult study guide for use in parishes with small groups or youth groups. The guide dealt with many of the ideas canvassed in the conferences and applied them to evangelisation in Australia, and focused on one current issue – the treatment of asylum seekers in Australia. The study guide was supported by an 11-minute film 'Behind the Razor Wire' dealing with the fate of over a million asylum seekers and refugees in Thailand and contrasting their reception and treatment there with that in Australia. Approximately 2,700 copies of this resource were distributed free of charge, mostly to the 1300 parishes around the country.

World Mission Month

School resources were developed for World Mission Month centred on the 2005 theme 'Proclaiming Life for All ... Witness, Liberate, Teach, Celebrate'. Around the country 30,500 worksheets and 5,600 sets of teachers' notes were distributed free for the use of 670,000 students in 1,678 Catholic schools.

Resources consisted of student worksheets at four school levels as well as the teachers' notes, and liturgical and reflection guides for parishes. Both school and parish materials were supported by 'Behind the Razor Wire'.

Parish speaker training

World Mission Day and the Partnering Local Churches and Community (Propagation of the Faith) Appeal presented opportunities for Catholic Mission to provide speakers for parishes. In 2005 we conducted 11 speaker workshops throughout the year in order to better prepare those presenting. First-year seminarians from the Good Shepherd Seminary of Sydney also participated in this training.

GIG – Getting Involved Globally

From December 4–19 a group of 10 people travelled to East Timor for 15 days to experience life in a developing country as part of Catholic Mission's cross-cultural immersion program. Five of the participants were teachers sponsored by the Toowoomba and Brisbane Catholic Education Offices as part of its staff development in mission.

The group visited the Salesian technical and agricultural colleges in Los Palos, the Marist teacher training college in Baucau, a self-sustaining widows' weaving group, Brother Bill Tynan CFC and the Edmund Rice community in Samalete, the Dominican sisters orphanage in Dili, village families in Afalocai, PALMS volunteer at the Dili Rehabilitation Hospital Louise Maher, representatives of the UN Commission for Truth Reconciliation and Reception, leaders of the Muslim community, and members of the lobby group Luta Hamutuk, which is advising the East Timorese government on Timor Oil negotiations.

Professional development in schools

For the third consecutive year, Catholic Mission collaborated with the Catholic Education Offices of Western Australia to provide ongoing formation in mission for teachers in March. The formation contributes to accreditation for Catholic teachers in the Perth, Geraldton and Bunbury dioceses.

Catholic Mission carried out planning with the Parramatta Catholic Education Office in order to provide regular formation to mission and justice coordinators from each school of the diocese. One initiative to flow from this planning is the development of a course on Mission as part of the Masters in Religious Education at the Australian Catholic University, which it is expected to be offered in 2006.

Village Space

Catholic Mission's Village Space is an experiential and educational event involving dramatic story telling with audience participation for upper primary and secondary students. The stories are real, current and relevant. They demonstrate individuals (an Australian doctor, a Franciscan-inspired aid worker, a Sudanese-Australian "lost boy"), religious (a justice-driven Filipino priest, an American missionary sister fighting for land rights) and groups dedicated to carrying out Jesus' mission of bringing life for all, good news and justice to people faced with death, hopelessness and injustice.

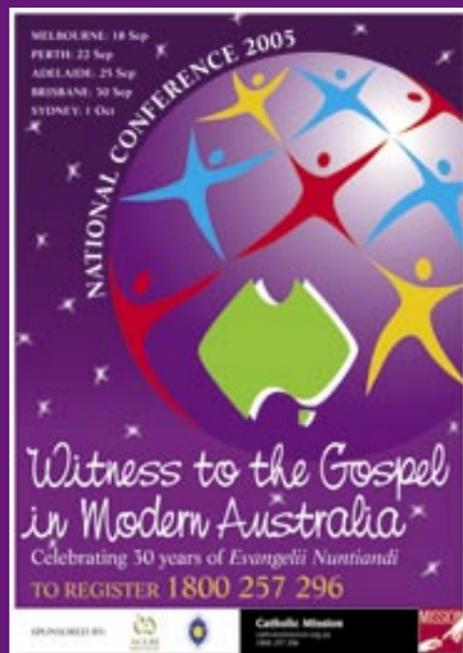
The dramatised stories in simple 'theatre in the round' style, take students to other communities or villages around the world helping them to empathise with the issues of daily survival concerning the majority of the world's population.

The performances are followed by de-briefing discussions and activities to ensure deeper understanding of how we are implicated in the issues, and to motivate action locally and globally.

Village Space was performed a remarkable 31 times over 18 days to a total of 3099 students and adults of Broken Bay, Parramatta, Sydney and Wollongong dioceses during 2005 to much acclaim from educators.



“...education is extending from the primary school sector into adult education...”



MISSION IN ACTION

GIG participant Madonna McGahan, National Director, Mission Strategy, Little Company of Mary Health Care, ACT

“It sounds somewhat trite to say that after a GIG experience in East Timor, one can never be the same again. But that has certainly been my experience and I am sure it is shared by the entire 2005 GIG group, although expressed in many different ways.

“Personally, the East Timor experience was an opportunity to remove myself from everyday realities which are generally focused on long hours of work, making the next deadline, and delivering on performance indicators. Instead, this was an opportunity to look at life from someone else's perspective and to be less focused on myself.

“I was deeply touched by the people of East Timor who were willing to share so much. I experienced true hospitality, the kind of hospitality that is unconditional and immeasurable. I experienced communities that are deeply relational. The economic poverty in East Timor certainly is confronting and cannot be overstated. Despite this, the enduring memory is one of hope and optimism for the future of this beautiful country and its people. An experience of this kind allows one to take a closer look at our own inner weakness, brokenness and poverty. It puts into perspective the really important things in life, and how we might make more of a difference in what we do, the way we do things, and in the lives of people we meet and interact with every day.”





The death of Pope John Paul II and the subsequent instalment of Pope Benedict XVI in April were two events of vital significance during 2005. As an organisation with the Holy Father at its pinnacle, Catholic Mission observed the events with intense interest.

Catholic Mission – known internationally as the Pontifical Mission Societies – is the Pope’s main missionary instrument across the globe.

The legacy of the late Pope John Paul II – a man who travelled to 126 countries and undertook 81 pilgrimages during his papacy – has continued to inspire missionary work around the world. He showed us how to reach out to others and break down borders with his own life. Following his inauguration in 1978, he undertook no less than 81 pilgrimages around the world to the far-flung corners of the globe.

The Pontifical Mission Societies came into existence in 1922 when the three societies were transferred from France to Rome and given the Pope’s personal protection to prevent secular forces from taking over their assets.

In 2004 the Pope reaffirmed his support for the organisation when he told national directors that “in the stormy times in which humanity is living, the Pontifical Mission Societies that serve the Churches across the world are a sound reference for all who seek the truth that saves”. He reminded all to have special concern for the populations of the developing world “whose suffering is the

greatest and whose needs are the most acute”.

Each year 130 national directors travel to Rome to meet with the Pope – a privilege our own Father Terry Bell experienced four times with the late John Paul II. In 2005 the national directors’ meeting followed only weeks after the papal election and was held in Lyon, France, as part of celebrations to mark the restoration of the home for the founder of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, the venerable Pauline Jaricot.

Unfortunately for those reasons the national directors were unable to meet with Pope Benedict XVI at the 2005 gathering.

Pope Benedict was previously a prefect of the Vatican’s Congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith and a theologian at Vatican II. With this background as a master in the faith he is expected to carry forward the missionary fervour of his predecessor including dialogue with other religions and special support for the mission Churches in Africa, Asia and Oceania.

In August 2005 the Holy Father said: “The missionary movement is no longer only from north to south, but is in all directions, because the new churches worldwide are growing with missionary

consciousness. With massive immigration, various regions ... are already experiencing the reality of mission ad gentes*, thus pointing to the need of a vigorous re-evangelisation or new evangelisation. Pontifical Mission Societies can help the richer communities not to become too closed in on themselves.” He reiterated the words of Pope John Paul II when he said: “the Churches ... must remain open to the mission ad gentes, because missionary activity renews the Church, revitalises faith and Christian identity, and offers fresh enthusiasm and incentive. Faith is strengthened when it is given to others.”

** The ad gentes missions are addressed to peoples or groups who do not yet believe in Christ and/or among whom the Church has not yet taken root and whose culture has not yet been influenced by the Gospel.*

Teach...

Following their vocation

Despite serious financial problems, St Peter’s Major Seminary in Zomba, Malawi, has 63 students in formation, including three from neighbouring Zambia.

Apart from studying such subjects as theology, philosophy, scripture, canon law and spirituality, the students, as part of their pastoral formation, are also receiving training to deliver the ‘Why Wait?’ program, which is part of the national curriculum of the country’s schools. Set against the backdrop of an HIV/AIDS epidemic, the program encourages sexual abstinence before marriage and fidelity afterwards.

Finding suitably qualified teaching staff had often proved difficult in the past, but local religious orders have been very supportive and the students are now assured of a solid and thorough theological and spiritual formation.

Rector Father George Buleya says he is not disheartened by funding challenges.

“Along with trying to reduce our transport and communication costs we have begun to rear chickens and rabbits with the intention of both feeding ourselves and making a small profit,” he said.

Archangel Nkhata, 25, is one of the seminarians. He is one of nine children from Zambia.

A former altar boy and student at a minor seminary, he came to study in Malawi because the seminaries in Zambia were full. His family is very poor and was resistant to him becoming a priest because they had hoped he would make money to support them. However, they are now encouraging him because they can see he is serious about his vocation.

He has struggled financially. When family funds ran out, the seminary looked for a local sponsor and a Catholic women’s group agreed to pay his fees.

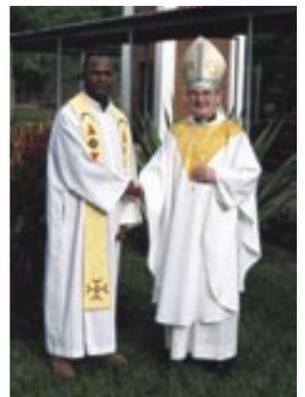
Both his parents died in 1996. His father was a catechist and he says that he is following in his footsteps in serving the Church. “I see that the harvest is rich but the labourers are few,” he said. “I want to serve the Church and I feel I will be happy doing God’s will in this way. And by doing this I feel that I will become more the person that God wants me to become.”

“What attracts me about the priesthood is helping others and preaching the Word. And the more I experience these things while in formation the more attracted I feel to the priesthood.”

Andrew Moyo, also 25, wanted to become a priest since he was in primary school. After secondary school he gained a diploma in business studies and marketing then worked for a year as a sponsorship assistant for the charity Action Aid.

“I had a girlfriend and was thinking about getting married to her,” he said. “I thought I might become a lawyer or something. But a good friend who had gone to seminary inspired me to continue going to Mass and keep thinking about the priesthood. Eventually I thought I would give it a try. When I told my girlfriend, she thought I was joking.”

There were mixed reactions among his family when he told them of his decision. “My sister, to whom I’m very close, couldn’t understand my decision to be a priest and she wouldn’t give me her blessing at first,” he said. “But my father, who had wanted to be a Jesuit, and my mother, who had wanted to be a nun, immediately understood.”



“The Pontifical Mission Societies that serve the Churches across the world are a sound reference for all who seek the truth that saves.”



SUPPORTING 80,000 SEMINARIANS

The Society of St Peter Apostle – one of three major works funded by Catholic Mission – supported more than 80,000 seminarians across the world during 2004.

The Society also subsidised 924 seminaries, mainly in Africa, and at these seminaries there were nearly 10,000 new admissions and more than 2000 priestly ordinations.

The figures were part of a report made by the Society’s Secretary General Monsignor Jose Antonio S. Galvez, to the General Assembly of the Pontifical Mission Societies (known in Australia as Catholic Mission) in Lyon, France, last May.

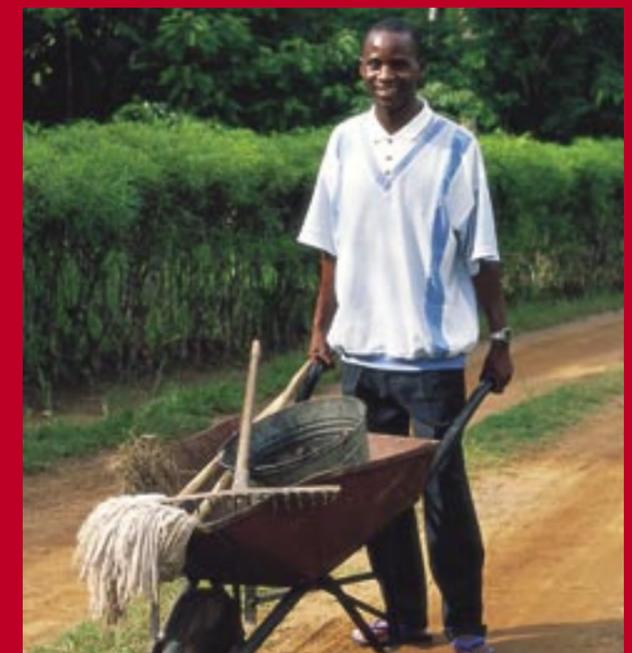
Catholic Mission National Director Father Terry Bell attended the assembly with

130 other heads from across the globe.

The 80,297 seminarians were supported with more than \$A23 million, raised mainly from donors in developed countries. The Society also provided more than \$A600,000 to support 3,379 male novices and \$A1.1 million for 6,556 female novices.

Money raised across the world last year increased marginally to \$A34.2 million, with most contributions from Europe (\$16.8 million).

In Australia the Society includes the Seminarian Supporters Program in which donors commit \$1500 a year during the last three years of a seminarian’s formation, in mission dioceses across the world.



Distribution of 2004 funds in 2005

Partnering Local Churches and Communities – Propagation of the Faith

Syria	\$10,766
Russia	\$13,135
Lebanon	\$63,050
Tarawa-Nauru	\$95,626
Noumea	\$106,397
Tonga	\$107,710
Thailand	\$480,337
Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands	\$2,146,431
TOTAL	\$3,023,453

Caring for Children – Children’s Mission

Morocco	\$5,254
Barbados	\$10,508
Iraq	\$10,508
Bolivia	\$27,806
Papua New Guinea	\$31,525
Vietnam	\$65,677
Sri Lanka	\$69,618
Namibia and Swaziland	\$93,194
Uganda	\$99,172
Nigeria	\$104,554
Bangladesh	\$137,922
Zambia and Malawi	\$186,314
India	\$786,549
TOTAL	\$1,628,602

Fostering Local Church Leadership – St Peter Apostle

Papua New Guinea	\$83,796
Vietnam	\$246,145
TOTAL	\$329,941

Home Mission Fund

Toowoomba Diocese	\$7,823
Armidale Diocese	\$8,000
Sale Diocese	\$8,000
Rockhampton Diocese	\$16,000
Cairns Diocese	\$20,000
Wilcannia-Forbes Diocese	\$24,000
PALMS Australia	\$30,000
Port Pirie Diocese	\$35,000
Geraldton Diocese	\$120,000
Townsville Diocese	\$120,000
Darwin Diocese	\$273,000
Broome Diocese	\$850,000
TOTAL	\$1,511,823

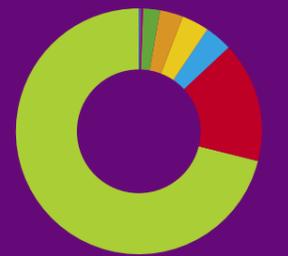
Net funds received in 2005 by diocese, compared with last year

	2004	2005
Adelaide	\$248,304	\$175,320
Armidale	\$38,847	\$39,297
Ballarat	\$94,657	\$116,620
Bathurst	\$72,641	\$70,868
Brisbane	\$1,295,261	\$984,938
Broken Bay	\$544,119	\$485,974
Broome	\$4,559	\$4,079
Bunbury	\$131,540	\$126,616
Cairns	\$81,651	\$95,034
Canberra and Goulburn	\$277,991	\$269,850
Darwin	\$28,320	\$31,696
Geraldton	\$24,217	\$25,574
Hobart	\$24,705	\$31,035
Lismore	\$106,432	\$146,160
Maitland-Newcastle	\$345,919	\$292,753
Melbourne	\$2,311,274	\$3,137,194
Parramatta	\$324,787	\$442,198
Perth	\$673,881	\$740,855
Port Pirie	\$73,175	\$97,541
Rockhampton	\$96,035	\$112,959
Sale	\$63,609	\$57,945
Sandhurst	\$106,584	\$102,270
Sydney	\$1,674,840	\$1,412,315
Toowoomba	\$64,819	\$94,907
Townsville	\$26,735	\$62,191
Wagga Wagga	\$81,932	\$100,407
Wilcannia-Forbes	\$10,618	\$16,474
Wollongong	\$408,153	\$397,019
TOTAL	\$9,235,605	\$9,670,088

Distributable funds from 2005 for 2006

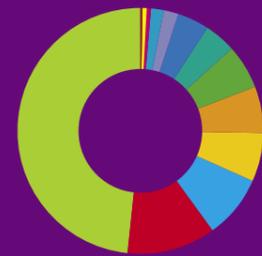
Partnering Local Churches and Communities (Overseas and Home Mission Fund)	\$4,946,190	(+9.05%)
Caring for Children	\$2,455,231	(+50.76%)
Fostering Local Church Leadership	\$617,902	(+87.28%)
Tsunami Appeal	\$196,011	(n/a)
TOTAL	\$8,215,334	(+26.51%)

Partnering Local Churches and Communities



- Papua New Guinea and Solomon Island 70%
- Thailand 16%
- Tonga 4%
- Noumea 4%
- Tarawa-Nauru 3%
- Lebanon 1%
- Russia 1%
- Syria 1%

Caring for Children



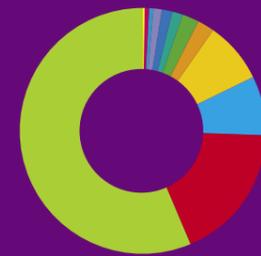
- India 50%
- Zambia and Malawi 11%
- Bangladesh 8%
- Nigeria 6%
- Uganda 6%
- Namibia and Swaziland 6%
- Sri Lanka 4%
- Vietnam 4%
- Papua New Guinea 2%
- Bolivia 2%
- Iraq 1%
- Barbados 1%
- Morocco 1%

Fostering Local Church Leadership



- Papua New Guinea 25%
- Vietnam 75%

Home Mission Fund

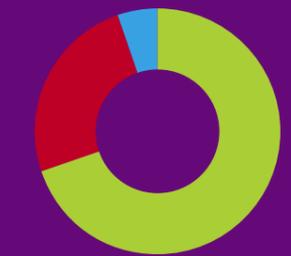


- Broome 56%
- Darwin 18%
- Townsville 8%
- Geraldton 8%
- Port Pirie 2%
- PALMS 2%
- Wilcannia-Forbes 1%
- Cairns 1%
- Rockhampton 1%
- Sale 1%
- Armidale 1%
- Toowoomba 1%

Total net funds received (\$ million)



Distribution of 2004 funds in 2005



- Fostering Local Church Leadership 5%
- Caring for Children 25%
- Partnering Local Churches and Communities 70%

Distributable funds from 2005 for 2006



- Fostering Local Church Leadership 8%
- Caring for Children 31%
- Partnering Local Churches and Communities 61%



At first there seems little, if any, connection between the words 'celebrate' and 'tsunami'. One year on, with some experience and much reflection, a connection seems obvious. It's a connection obvious in all our work and in our lives. It's a remembrance and celebration of our humanity.

When the tsunami hit I was away on my honeymoon and oblivious of most world events. The enormity of the tsunami however soon made the extent of the devastation unavoidable.

A short time later I returned to work. Traditionally Catholic Mission does not do appeals for emergency work but it was clear that as an international organisation, present in the affected communities for decades, we were involved. With the extent of the destruction we would continue to be involved for some time. Donors were spontaneously contacting us wanting to donate and it became obvious that we had to respond.

The Tsunami Solidarity Fund was established and in less than a week a trip to Sri Lanka was organised. All efforts to receive information from the affected areas were exhausted and it was decided staff should travel. Thanks to the extraordinary efforts of Father Tony Martin, Catholic Mission National Director in Sri Lanka and his staff, I travelled with Manuela Macri (Promotions Officer) and Ros Cannon (Photographer) along the south west of the island. Part of the plan was to visit the east but the ongoing civil war made that too dangerous.

Whatever images we had seen of the aftermath of the tsunami did not prepare us for the reality. People struggled in the heat, smells and debris that had replaced their everyday lives. It was a suspended reality. Against the backdrop of beautiful beaches and palm trees there were suffocating tents with little in them but heartbroken survivors waiting for change to come.

Father Tony and his network had acted immediately to meet the basic needs of people. With him we were able to visit some of the affected areas and work with the local community to find out what was needed. By the time we left Sri Lanka projects were formulated and within a week of our return home money was transferred to those who would best use it. In the meantime other countries affected by the tsunami were applying directly to Australia for funds and we were able to help meet some of their needs too.

Within two weeks all Catholic Mission donors were mailed to tell them how we were responding to the tsunami. Our unique work means we are present before, during and after such a devastating disaster and it was important to let our donors know the good that their generosity was doing.

I believe we are part of the people we meet and I have been blessed to have met so many ordinary heroes in my work. In Tangalle I met a man aged about 50 who had lost his wife and child. He was sitting quietly in the convent foyer still in shock and unable to speak. His eyes were gazing into the distance, like so many of the people I met. He wore glasses but they had snapped in half while he struggled to survive and he now had the remaining half tied with some string around his head. It cost less than \$20 to replace them, but no one had the money. It's a detail I have never forgotten. When I reach for my glasses I often think of him. He represents for me all those around the world who struggle, making do with what little they have, against situations beyond their control.

At Catholic Mission we remember and celebrate so many things – the lives of those lost, the continued struggle of those who were spared, the heroic stories, the commitment and dedication of those who came to the aid of those in need and those who are still working with the people. To suffer with our brothers and sisters – regardless of their gender, race or religion – is a celebration of God's creation and our humanity.

Celebrate...

Counselling for children

Imagine being so afraid of the sea, you couldn't even look at it. Many of the children who survived Asia's devastating tsunami are so severely traumatised that the ocean, which was once their playground, is now something to be feared and avoided at all costs.

In Batticalao Diocese, on Sri Lanka's east coast, Catholic Mission is funding Father Jude Johnson to train trauma counsellors to help the children.

Fr Johnson says the children are constantly reliving the disaster, resulting in fear, grief and frustration. "The educators are faced with new challenges. There needs to be a new approach towards these special cases and these educators need to be specially trained," he said. "I strongly believe these children should be handled with great care. To bring these children back to normalcy, our educators need to be properly guided and educated."

The program was made up of three sessions of two days each and 30 participants took part. Fr Johnson believes there is a long-term need for the project.

In Batticalao nearly 3000 deaths were confirmed and nearly that number of people again were injured. More than 1000 people were still missing and more than 26,000 displaced people were living in camps.

Catholic Mission staff have visited the region and have

emphasised the need for counselling. It is obvious the children are psychologically scarred – during an art therapy session it emerged that the greatest wish of the children was to move to higher ground where they felt they would be protected from the water.

While physical aid has been forthcoming in Sri Lanka, there is a great need to support such intangible work.

Funding for this project was provided by Catholic Mission's Tsunami Solidarity Appeal. Other projects included providing desks and chairs for homeless children in Colombo Diocese (cost \$11,640 for 400 children) and the supply of packets of powdered milk for the children of Galle (cost \$4035 for 1050 families). The supply of basic medical supplies in Galle Diocese cost just \$512 for eight dispensaries and the payment of a basic wage to local mothers at Tangalle for the sewing of school uniforms cost \$323 for three workers for 21 days.

The help of individuals, community groups, school and parishes was gratefully received.



“ I believe we are part of the people we meet and I have been blessed to have met so many ordinary heroes in my work. ”



SOLIDARITY FUND

Catholic Mission established a special, unprecedented 'solidarity fund' to help rebuild those countries affected by the tsunami. The Tsunami Solidarity Appeal has built upon on the already significant funding that Catholic Mission had in place in the affected regions.

The appeal allowed donors to channel their money directly to communities affected by the tsunami. While the Catholic relief agency Caritas provided vital emergency help to victims, Catholic Mission focused on re-establishing projects for children including shelter and medical care and rebuilding schools and churches and repairing damaged seminaries, novitiates and convents.

Many ongoing Catholic Mission projects were affected by the

devastating tsunami. Many of the schools and churches were simply washed away.

Money collected through the appeal helped re-establish many of the facilities already supported by Catholic Mission on an ongoing basis and also assessed new grant applications arising out of the legacy of the tsunami.

Money from Australia continued to be used by Catholic Mission in the many other areas of the developing world facing crises.

We celebrate the difference we've been able to make in those countries affected by the tsunami through ongoing funding for children's, church and community programs.



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Catholic Mission has never raised as much money as it did in 2005, and we couldn't do it without you!

We thank each and every donor and supporter for helping us to achieve our mission of 'Life for All'.

To every parish, school, organisation and individual who joined with us, we extend our sincere gratitude.

Funds that we can now distribute have increased a very significant 26.5 per cent, meaning \$1.7 million worth of projects can now be supported, on top of what we were able to achieve last year.

Direct giving (total funds minus legacies) increased over all three societies, with Caring for Children – Children's Mission, up a wonderful 35.2 per cent.

While most funding comes from Australia's three main population centres of Sydney and Melbourne, it is worth noting that Port Pirie, South Australia and Bunbury, Western Australia gave the most in terms of per capita (\$3.81 and \$3.19 respectively).

A total of \$355,214 was raised for the Tsunami Solidarity Fund, which was a wonderful effort all round.

World Mission Day contributed about \$1.8 million to Partnering Local Churches and Communities, which was a 26.2 per cent increase on last year.

Catholic schoolchildren gave up more than \$450,000 so children less fortunate than them could have a better chance at life through the children first! program. This represents an increase of 12.9 per cent on the previous year.

More than \$730,000 was received in bequests across the three societies.

Thanks to all the parish priests, teachers, parents, children and other individuals who believe in Catholic Mission and made this happen.

From the hundreds of thousands of voiceless men, women and children who benefit from your prayers and your support, we also say: "Thank you".

SEVEN-FIGURE INDIVIDUAL DONATION

A special thank you must go to a Victorian man who made the largest single donation to Catholic Mission last year. The man, who asked not to be named, is in his seventies. He and his late wife had gradually increased their giving as they appreciated the detailed information given to them regarding projects receiving funding from Australia (in particular our Caring for Children work). Since the death of his wife the man has continued this support and his major area of concern is orphanages in the developing world. Hunger and illness are atrocities that concern him most. He is a valued member of his community doing much voluntary work despite ill health. His wife had a special devotion to St Anthony of Padua during her life, and some of the orphanages which bear his name resonate strongly with our donor.



THANKS LOUISE

Donor Louise Bell (pictured with Melbourne Archbishop Denis Hart) from Brisbane, explains why she has left a bequest to Catholic Mission in her will. Donors who leave a bequest to Catholic Mission become part of the special Fellowship of St Therese (patron saint of missions).

"During the past 20 odd years I have regularly donated to Catholic Mission and have always been most interested to receive the regular updates of how the organisation helps out in various world regions. It was therefore entirely natural to both my husband and I to consider them as our primary beneficiary when preparing our last wills and consider this a privilege and honour to be created a member of

the Fellowship of St Therese. We did not consider any recognition necessary but were surprised and delighted with this. I have taken considerable pride in wearing my brooch also, which was sent to me as a token of my membership. Catholic Mission is a wonderful organisation within the Church and I can't thank it enough for the work it carries out in difficult areas and under even more difficult conditions. Catholic Mission is an absolute testimony to Christ's Mission. The ongoing work and dedication are a shining example to us all how we can help others."



Catholic Mission

Our Vision...Life for All

“I have come that they may have life, and have it abundantly”... (Jn 10:10b)

Our vision is of a world in which all people, free from any discrimination and all barriers to life, can reach full happiness, allowing them to live their lives in full dignity, as the Creator God intends.

Our Mission ...To achieve Life for All in the work of global mission

Like Jesus our Mission is to bring good news to the poor, proclaim release to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, let the oppressed go free, and proclaim the year of the Lord's favour (Cf. Lk 4: 18).

Our Work...

Educating about mission and justice

Engaging Australians in global mission

Partnering local churches and communities

Fostering local church leadership

Encouraging children and adults to care for children

As the Australian arm of the Church's global mission aid agency.



*Catholic Mission, led by the power
of the Spirit, is right to the world for
all peoples, proclaiming the Good News.*