



SOCKTOBER

JOIN THE SOCKTOBER JOURNEY AND KICK GOALS FOR GOOD!

Catholic Mission's Schools Program, Socktober, is well underway in schools across Australia. The Mission Packs and Prayer and Liturgy Resources are available for you to use in your community.

The Mission Packs themes this year are, Creation, Well-Being, Opportunity, Participation, Peace and Service. The packs have been aligned with the Religion Curriculum for Prep – Year 10 along with mini-units for all years which have been linked to a Mission Pack theme as well as other learning areas.

It's been wonderful to be visiting schools across the Archdiocese to share the work of Catholic Mission and engage with students as they learn about the role they have to play in mission. There have been a lot of sockballs made over the last few weeks and we look forward to this continuing as we enter October which is World Mission Month.

WE INVITE YOU TO [REGISTER YOUR SCHOOL](#) TODAY AND INVITE YOUR STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES ON THIS JOURNEY IN MISSION!

This year's focus project is the medical centre and vocational school in Venilale, Timor-Leste which is operated by Salesian Sisters, Sr Carolina & Sr Alma. Sr Alma arrived in Timor-Leste 30 years ago, where she began work as a doctor among local communities struggling to access health services and medical personnel. I invite you read more about their story [here](#).

BREAKING NEWS

We're delighted and excited to welcome Sr Carolina from Timor-Leste to Brisbane at the beginning of Term 4. She will be with us for a week, and we have many wonderful things planned for her time with us.

MISSION AMBASSADOR PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS. (MAPS)

Hearts on Fire, Feet on the Move!

Thursday 31st August we were joined by students from several schools across the Archdiocese for our Mission Ambassador Program for Students Formation Day. We also welcomed Luke Tobin from the Catholic Mission's Formation Team and who is currently Acting Diocesan Director for Sydney, Broken Bay & Parramatta.

This was an opportunity for students to learn more about the program but more importantly how they could be 'mission' in their own communities as ambassadors during World Mission Month and beyond, as well as the advocates for those most in need by sharing their stories in local parishes.

We unpacked the theme for 2023, Hearts on Fire, Feet on the Move, which is based on the Emmaus story and engaged in a number of activities throughout our time together.

The Mission Ambassador Program for is a way to depth a missionary awareness and understanding among young people through service learning in action. **(Head)**

It creates opportunities for young people to follow the model of Jesus as a servant leader in their interactions and engagement with others. **(Heart)**

It enables Catholic Mission to enact service learning by engaging with various school communities and youth groups in real and authentic action. **(Hands)**

We were blessed to be joined again this year by Bishop Tim Norton who shared his own story and how 'mission' has been such an important part of his life. He also reflected the Emmaus story and how we 'meet Jesus' in our encounters with others, just as the disciples encountered Jesus on the road.

Sharing the words of Pope Francis, we reminded our young people; "Dear young people, please don't be observers of life, but get involved. Jesus did not remain an observer, but he immersed himself. Don't' be observers but immerse yourself in the reality of life, as Jesus did.' Take heart from these words of Pope Francis. You are not being observers, you are immersing yourselves in the reality of life, just as Jesus did.' We shared the story of Bridget Barber, another young person who is not being an observer but immersing herself in the reality of life, getting involved in a real and authentic way. Bridget works as part of our Communications Team in Sydney. We invited to listen to her story and be inspired.

We are continuing this mission journey either face-to-face or online with our schools to assist them in their preparation to speak on our behalf in their parishes on Mission Sunday weekend.

Our Catholic Mission Team is so grateful to the staff, students and their families for their engagement with the program but most importantly that they are living the mission day message, ***Hearts on Fire, Feet on the Move!***

Children's Mission Day Liturgy

Over the last two years we have invited schools and parishes to host our Children's Mission Day Liturgy in October. This year we're delighted to be working with the St Joseph's & Mary MacKillop College, Nundah & St Pius V Banyo in planning the liturgy to be held at Corpus Christi Church, Nundah. Thank you to the staff and students of the schools and to Fr Dan and the Banyo/Nundah Parish for welcoming Catholic Mission for this special celebration.

100 Days to World Mission Month – St Dympna's, Aspley

A big thank you to the Mrs McNeill and the students from St Dympna's for celebrating our countdown to Socktober and World Mission Month. They found creative ways to share symbols of Timor-Leste and the 100 Day Countdown! We invite you to view their amazing video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X4rygGQ6Wnk>

Year 5/6 Formation Days

Our Catholic Mission Team want to thank Steph Unger, Josiah Wilson & Emily Stirton from BCE's Youth Ministry Team for their invitation over this term to be a part of the Year 5/6 Formation Days.

We are so blessed to be part of these days and find great inspiration and energy from the team and the students at these special gatherings. We look forward to joining Steph, Josiah & Emily in Term 4 as our secondary students gather and celebrate!

Thank you to all staff for the blessing you are in your communities; and wish you, your students and families of our amazing schools a restful break.

As the term comes to a close I invite you to reflect on these words from Exodus 33:14

And He said, "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest."

God bless,
Sue Williams
Youth & Schools Engagement Officer
Catholic Mission