

Advocacy

Engaging in advocacy is a way of acting for justice and participating in the transformation of the world, to bring about peace and justice for the entire planet. Jesus referred to this as bringing the 'reign of God'. The principles of our Catholic Social Teaching call us to not only take care of those in need but to also address the unjust social and economic structures and systems that put people in that situation.

This year as students learn about children with disability in Cambodia, we encourage them to take action and advocate against landmines, which is a common cause of disability in the country. Through their stories we **see** the direct connection to issues concerning ecological justice, human and child rights. By understanding that all people have a unique dignity and worth, we can **reflect** on our own sense of Mission and purpose and uphold the dignity of every child, including those with a mental or physical disability. In this way, students can put their faith into **action**, to facilitate and promote self-reliance and the active participation of all children in the community. Your students can:

- Speak to their family about what they've learnt.
- Research an issue and make a presentation to the class, year group or school assembly.
- Challenge stereotypes when they hear them in the playground, in class or at home.
- Use Social Media to highlight what's happening in Australia and overseas. Make sure to focus on the solutions as well as the challenges of poverty, healthcare, education.
- Connect with their local group of the Young Catholic Students (YCS) movement and think about starting or joining this movement.

For more ideas, including similar organisations, like the End Child Detention Coalition, who are also supporting the rights of the child, go to catholicmission.org.au/wmm2020.

360 Virtual Reality

Mission in 360 allows staff, students and parents to be immersed in the world of people who are living in developing countries and are striving to

"have life ... to the full."

John 10:10

Through the magic of 360 degree virtual reality goggles, students are transported this year to Cambodia, where they can experience life at the Arrupe Centre.

- **Mission in 360** provides a deep and engaging experience which can then be linked through scripture, tradition and Catholic Social Teaching.
- **Mission in 360** can be used in a variety of classroom settings and curriculum areas. There are many ways you can invite students to reflect on their own experience of their home and school.
- For us to understand other people's situations and perspectives we need to try to walk in their shoes. **Mission in 360** allows you to be at the centre of the life of children in countries supported by Catholic Mission through your school.

"Our students are somewhat sheltered living on the Gold Coast, so being able to highlight the way others live in countries overseas is invaluable and a great exercise in creating a sense of solidarity."

Katherine Janovsky –
Assistant Principal at St Michael's College in Merrimac, QLD



About Catholic Mission

Catholic Mission supports children, communities and Church leaders around the world, including remote Australia. Grassroots needs are identified by local Catholics to give all people the opportunity for a full, enriched life—physically and spiritually—regardless of race, religion, gender or stigma.

As the Pope's international mission agency, we respond to the call to love God and to love our neighbour by forming individuals and communities as missionary disciples of Jesus who share their faith in action and through prayer.

We share in God's mission to reach out, and give life by sharing our personal and financial resources to:

- proclaim the Gospel;
- serve people in need;
- act for peace, justice and creation;

in partnership with local churches so that all may have life in Christ.

"Love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another."
John 13:34



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For the Joy of the
Lord is your
STRENGTH
NEHEMIAH 8:10



2020 World Mission Month Schools Resources

catholicmission.org.au/wmm2020



Cambodia

This year, students across Australia are encouraged to learn about Cambodia, and through fundraising, prayer and advocacy, be a part of the life-changing work of the Church as they support children with disability.

Distressingly, in Cambodia, people with disability are not always accepted and given equal opportunity. Children with disability are sometimes not able to go to school and gain an education, and their families may struggle to care for them.

The Arrupe Centre, established by Bishop Enrique 'Kike' Figaredo Alvargonzalez in 2001, is a home for children with disability, providing them with support and opportunities to live a fulfilling life.

As Bishop Kike says, "We are here for the common good; to be a more inclusive society and to bring also the joy of life everywhere ... we look with a positive vision and, I would say, with hope and joy and happiness".

The Arrupe Centre strives to show the love of God through caring for and empowering those in need.

Go to catholicmission.org.au/wmm2020 for resources and information!

The survival of the Arrupe Centre, and similar programs like it around the world, rely so much on the support your school community can provide today.

Now, more than ever, it is vital that we stand with our mission partners like the Arrupe Centre to help them through the COVID-19 pandemic.

Below are some examples of how fundraising donations can help children like those at the Arrupe Centre, and the following page has some great ideas on how to raise money. You can either set a personal goal, a class goal, or a total school goal to beat!

\$30 can help cover the cost of formation materials for children at a parish in Cambodia.

\$75 can help cover costs at the Arrupe Centre such as food, library books and sports equipment for the children.

\$160 can contribute towards purchasing uniforms, education materials and healthcare supplies for a kindergarten in a remote community in Cambodia.

\$300 can help cover the cost of necessities such as food, clothing and sanitary items for the residents at the Arrupe Centre, as well as building maintenance to ensure their safety.

Fundraising ideas



Fundraising is an excellent way for students to reach out in support of their Cambodian brothers and sisters, helping to empower them and giving them hope and support to live fulfilling lives.



HAVE YOUR STUDENTS...



Ask classmates to share their favourite family recipes to make into a **class cookbook**. Simply print and make copies to sell to family, friends and neighbours. You can even ask for recipes for Cambodia or Southeast Asia.



Host a **family game night**, encouraging relatives or neighbours to bring their favourite board games, asking for a small contribution per family to play.



Host a virtual **'Rock your socks off'** dance party with classmates with a gold coin contribution. You can even ask your family, friends and neighbours to sponsor you for \$5 for every hour you dance!

Collect clothes to donate to a charity. For each item of clothing, ask your parents or family for a donation.

Hold an **online movie day** with your family, watching a movie that focuses on issues such as supporting vulnerable children. Follow the movie with a short conversation about what you learned and ask for donations.



Research Cambodia and sell tickets to a **virtual trivia event** for classmates, friends and family.



For more information on Cambodia visit:

catholicmission.org.au/wmm2020



Please contact your local Catholic Mission Diocesan Director or phone **1800 257 296** should you need any extra information or resources, and to inform us of your fundraising activities. Your Catholic Mission Diocesan Director will also be able to provide suggestions for making your fundraising more effective in your school.



Prayer

Loving God,

We pray for children all over the world who are challenged by disability, especially those children cared for at the Arrupe Centre in Cambodia.

We pray for Bishop Kike and the staff at the Arrupe Centre: May they feel blessed in the work they do as they "reach out to give life".

Please grant all people at the Arrupe Centre the loving touch of Your compassion as they walk together as the Body of Christ.

Amen.

