



Good Friday Gift

Holy Land Institute for the Deaf

Would you like to make a gift of education to children who have hearing and vision impairments, and who also come from low-income families?

Your gift this Good Friday to the Holy Land Institute for the Deaf will help children with sensory disabilities, especially those from poor and unemployed families, to receive scholarships which provide access to quality education. The scholarships also enable the children to access vocational training so that they may live full and productive lives.

The Anglican Diocese of Jerusalem and the Middle East, which owns and operates the Institute, seeks funds to provide scholarships so that more children from poor families can access these enriched and tailored education programs.

The Holy Land Institute for the Deaf is located in the city of Salt, in the north of Jordan. It serves the needs of children with hearing impairment, and those who are both hearing and vision impaired. It provides holistically for the education and medical needs of 120 children. This is vital work in a part of the world where money is scarce, and children with disabilities are often miss out.

As the economic and political situation in the Middle East worsens, exacerbated by the impacts of COVID-19, these children need your support more than ever.

During the worst of the COVID-19 epidemic, the school, like all schools in Jordan, was forced to close. However, the teachers had prepared stimulating distance learning modules for their students, and the school was able to provide laptops for those who could not afford them at home. This allowed the students and teachers to stay in contact and enabled vital learning to continue.

With your help, children’s lives can be turned around. Your donation can enable more children currently facing such multiple disadvantages to receive a free, quality education. They will learn new skills, mix with other children, be able to participate more fully in their family and community life, and go on to join their peers in contributing to their communities upon graduation.

Please consider giving generously this Good Friday. Give the gift of hope.



Easter Gift

Coming of the Light - Mission and Ministry in the Torres Strait

2021 marks the 150th anniversary of the Coming of the Light to the Torres Strait Islands. The London Missionary Society, with Pacific Islander evangelists, landed on the shores of Darnley Island and introduced the Bible to the people who lived there. This event, the Coming of the Light, is an integral part of cultural identity

to Torres Strait Islander peoples. It is marked as a public holiday within the region and there is much joy around its anniversary. It is also an important anniversary for the national Anglican church.

The Coming of the Light invites us to reflect on our national history, on the good and the bad. It invites us to celebrate mission and ministry, particularly within the Torres Strait, and it invites us to listen to the church in the Torres Strait, which is made up of vibrant communities of hope.

In late 2020 members of the Melanesian Brotherhood began a new household in the Torres Strait. The Melanesian Brotherhood is the world’s largest Anglican religious order and is headquartered in the Solomon Islands. The Brothers live and minister at the Cathedral on Thursday Island, nurturing community and supporting clergy and lay ministers across the islands of the Torres Strait. They will also conduct outreach visits to Yarrabah and the communities of the Cape York Peninsula.

The Anglican Church of Australia faces many challenges, and in the words of the Rev’d Canon Victor Joseph, it is time for the church to be “missioned to” by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Christian leaders. The church in the Torres Strait has much to teach the church around Australia, much salt and light to bear. The Coming of the Light is not simply an historic event, it is an invitation for all of us to be changed by the work of God in the Torres Strait.

ABM invites you to celebrate and support the vibrant ministry and mission of the Torres Strait Islander Anglican Church. Funds donated to this project will be used to support the establishment of the Melanesian Brothers’ ministry in the Torres Strait and resource missionaries from the Torres Strait and from North Queensland Aboriginal Communities to carry out missions to schools and parishes in mainland Australia.