

ST VERONICA WELFARE COMMITTEE

EMAIL NEWSLETTER NO 41 – NOVEMBER 2020

New email address: admin@stveronica.org.au

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Greetings. As I write this, on the 1st November, the year appears to be swiftly drawing to a close. Throughout the world, 2020 has been a time of unanticipated tragedy, suffering and loss. This time, Australia has not escaped, with families losing loved ones and enduring financial hardship and loss resulting from the pandemic and the catastrophic fires and floods.

As you are aware, St Veronica's has had its own issues. Apart from the months of shop closure and the technical challenges involved in a necessitated change of email address, new banking regulations in India have required additional and on-going work, both for the Committee and its beneficiaries. Unfortunately, this is occurring at a time of appalling suffering of the Indian poor. India is enduring its seventh consecutive lockdown; people cannot work and do not have the basic necessities. As well, students who lack the sophisticated equipment necessary to participate in on-line learning are struggling.

Dear folks, you have been extraordinarily generous in this confronting time. On behalf of the Committee and its beneficiaries, a sincere thank you. I hope the remainder of 2020 and 2021 will bring you well-deserved joy and, if you are suffering, relief from your pain.

CHRISTMAS GIFT CARDS:



Because of your generosity, I hesitated to ask for support for a Christmas card appeal this year. However, I know that some of our supporters like to use the Committee's cards for gifts or to supplement gifts for those of us who want for little in the way of possessions. Hence, the Committee is offering three gift cards for this year's festive season. The cards are being sold for \$10, \$20 and \$30.

Margaret Kerwin (President)

Details of the cards are on the following page and a guide to organising purchase is set out on the final page of this newsletter. Note: our postal service is not as swift as it once was.

\$10 GIFT CARD: To purchase exercise books and texts or other educational accessories for students' on-line classes during the on-going Indian lockdown.



\$20 GIFT CARD: To purchase food and basic provisions to assist poor families left without the means of earning a livelihood during the lockdown.



\$30 CARD: To purchase equipment to assist school students to participate in on-line learning.



CLOSING DATE FOR FINAL 2020 DISBURSEMENT:



Dear Sponsors and donors, in order to help as many students and families as possible prior to Christmas, the Committee plans to forward one final 2020 disbursement in early December. **If you wish a donation to be included in this disbursement, please ensure your funds are in the Committee's bank account by Friday 27th of November.** This will allow sufficient time for the Committee's finance officer to process payments in preparation for the disbursement.

Note: **the first disbursement for 2021 is planned for the end of February.**

EXTRACTS FROM CORRESPONDENCE:

Portion of an email received from Father Sanish Joseph, the Assistance Pastor at St Alphonsa's Church, Nellyadi, India:

Now the situation in India is becoming worse and worse. Our economy affected by unemployment, financial crisis, being unable to pay the bills, increasing health and medical expenses. Here in India no schools are opened until now. But instead on-line learning has already begun. Now the very practical problem we face is insufficiency of electronic gadgets. In midst of all these financial crisis we managed to distribute some essential gadgets to our needy children. .. There are other students in need of help and we are looking forward to the kindness of your heart.

Portion of a letter received from the Sisters of St Ann, Navajeevan Illam, Melmidalam, India:
Nearly six months are over and many of us are not gone for any work; starting many good people came forward to do some help for the people. But as the days go everyone became the same. The main problem is that many are unable to go for work. If they go they are not getting the salary so they are unable to fund their livelihood. Many of our students' families are struggling for their life.

In our centre we have many people who come for help, we are helpless... So please help us to do something for our poor people.



TO PURCHASE A GIFT CARD OR CARDS

PLEASE FOLLOW THE STEPS:

Step 1. I am interested in purchasing (please tick)

- € \$10 - a gift card for SCHOOL NOTE BOOKS AND ACCESSORIES
- € \$20 - a gift card for ESSENTIAL LIVELIHOOD PROVISIONS
- € \$30 - a gift card for ON-LINE LEARNING EQUIPMENT

Step 2. Fill out your details:

Name:	
Street Address:	
	Total Amount:
Email Address:	

Step 3. Mail your order to St Veronica Welfare Committee, P.O. Box 5098 WEST END 4101 OR email your order to: admin@stveronica.org.au OR telephone your order through to 07 3844 7423. (Volunteers are in the office Mondays and Thursdays)

Step 4. Payment methods available:

a. Visa or Master card (please circle):

Card Number: _____

Cardholder's Name:

Signature: _____ Expiry Date:
_____/____/____

b. INTERNET TRANSFER or DIRECT DEPOSIT (Please contact the office for further details)

c. **CHEQUE or MONEY ORDER payable to St Veronica Welfare Committee**

Dear Supporters, thank you for your generosity!

We wish you a

A JOYOUS CHRISTMAS FROM ST. VERONICA'S

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