

"It's not how much we give, but how much love we put into giving."

– Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta

WEEK 2
SOLOMON ISLANDS

2ND SUNDAY OF LENT
WEEKEND OF 28 FEB

REFLECTION / FAMILY NOTES

The disciples in today's gospel stood in the presence of God. "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him! Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them anymore, but only Jesus." It was here they recognised the divinity of Jesus and hope for humanity. They saw God anew in their teacher and were transformed. We are called to see God anew. To see God's presence in our brothers and sisters on our streets, in our nation and around the world. In seeing, we, like the disciples, are called to "listen to him."

As we listen, this Lent we are called to "aspire not to have more, but to be more". To hear in a new way, to let go of those things that hold us back and to take up other things that allow us to live more simply, to show a deep and lasting respect for our global family and for the earth.

The Project Compassion story of Margret, is also a story of transformation. Margret is a teacher at a vocational school for deaf students in the Solomon Islands. She was born deaf, so she knows the

challenges it poses to education and employment.

The school faced water shortages, with not enough to supply staff and students with safe water for drinking, cooking, washing and growing vegetables. Then Tropical Cyclone Harold damaged the school and its vegetable garden, amidst the threat of COVID-19.

With Caritas Australia's support, the school installed water tanks, provided cyclone-proof building materials and helped to implement COVID-19 prevention measures. The community has been transformed with enough water for its students and the capacity to cater for more and with plans to boost food security through increased agricultural production.

As we continue on our Lenten journey may we welcome the opportunity to "Be More" open to God's invitation to "listen to him".

Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18
Romans 8:31-34
Mark 9:2-10



Margret, 39, is a teacher at a vocational school for deaf students in the Solomon Islands. She was born deaf, so she knows the challenges it poses to education and employment.

The school faced water shortages for about half the year. Staff and students would walk for up to half an hour to collect water for drinking, cooking, washing and growing vegetables. Then in April 2020, amidst the threat of COVID-19, Tropical Cyclone Harold struck, damaging school buildings and its vegetable garden.

With Caritas Australia's support, Margret's school installed eight large water tanks and provided cyclone-proof materials to repair the damage. It also helped the school to implement COVID-19 prevention measures, providing fabric for students to make face masks.

Margret's school now has enough safe water to supply the school's population of 150 and has the capacity to cater for more students. It plans to boost food security, by increasing its agricultural production. This will improve nutrition and boost the school's income, while building resilience to future disasters.

Margret hopes that the school can aspire to "Be More".

"I am proud that our school community works together with Caritas Australia as our partner in ensuring that we live in a healthier environment," Margret says.

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

We pray for the inspiration and courage to shine the light on global injustices, and to let our own light shine unto others, so that we may be agents of change who bring about the kingdom of God on earth.

FUNDRAISING IDEA

Each Sunday, play the short film introducing that week's featured story (found on the Project Compassion USB) to highlight the positive impact your community is making. Integrate weekly stories, reflections and prayers into Mass (found in this booklet and on the USB) to further emphasise how your community's donations are transforming the lives of vulnerable people around the world.

BULLETIN

Margret is a teacher at a vocational school for deaf students in the Solomon Islands that suffered long-term water shortages and damage from Tropical Cyclone Harold. With Caritas Australia's support, Margret's school installed water tanks, repaired cyclone damage and implemented COVID-19 prevention measures, and is now planning to boost food security.

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