

"Give and you will receive."

– Luke 6:38

WEEK 6

HOLY WEEK

6TH SUNDAY OF LENT
WEEKEND OF 28 MAR

REFLECTION / FAMILY NOTES

Isaiah references both speaking and listening. The servant of God is both a person who can speak boldly with a well-trained tongue and a person whose ears and heart are open for listening. If we are to heal the brokenness of our world, we all need the grace both to speak and to listen.

The Passion reminds us that Jesus is the suffering servant. Christ "emptied himself and became the servant of all." We need this spirit if we are to bring an end to the war, violence, selfishness and injustice which divides us. We are called to "Be More".

We need to be able to respond to the needs of the world and its people. Jesus is such a servant – one who is connected with our life, our struggle and our world.

Within the Passion we see examples of kindness such as the woman with the alabaster jar, who saw beyond the superficial and performed one of the "good works" just as we have during Project Compassion. "Leave her alone. Why are you upsetting her? What she has done for me is one of the good works."

Veronica performed the simple service of wiping the face of Jesus and Simon assisted Jesus in carrying the cross. These are small acts in themselves but have had significant meaning over time.

Through the liturgies of Holy Week, we participate in the remembrance of Jesus' final days. We are mindful too of the many women, men and children around the world who are most vulnerable to extreme poverty and injustice.

We have seen examples of this poverty and injustice in the Project Compassion stories which highlight the support for those in Bangladesh, Solomon Islands, Tanzania and Indonesia where we have been able to help uphold their dignity.

It is for these and thousands of others that we are called to "Be More" for they are the face of the suffering Christ in our time.

Let us ask ourselves: How can I recognise the face of Christ in all? How can I truly listen and speak boldly for justice?

Isaiah 50:4-7
Philippians 2:6-11
Mark 14:1–15:47 or 15:1-39



PROJECT
COMPASSION, AN
AUSTRALIAN ICON

Over half a century, generations of Australians have participated in Project Compassion. It has raised more than \$500 million since it began in 1965 – making it one of the nation's longest running charity campaigns.

For many, Project Compassion's iconic collection boxes have become a nostalgic part of their lives – a reminder around home, school, church and the community that it's time to support Caritas Australia's annual appeal.

Margaret Moriarty can't remember a time without a Project Compassion box in her house during Lent.

"Donating to poorer countries was very important to my mother and father. My children have grown up with the same iconic boxes in our home and my grandchildren are continuing the tradition," Margaret says.

Throughout five decades of natural disasters, conflicts and crises, Caritas Australia has worked alongside vulnerable communities, with the generous support of Australians. Project Compassion has also helped with access to education, health services and agricultural training, and through programs that reduce maternal and infant mortality.

During COVID-19, local partnerships have helped Caritas Australia to respond quickly to minimise the spread of the coronavirus.

This year, Caritas Australia has presented five stories from people striving to "Be More" - just a few stories amongst the millions of supporters who have been helped through Project Compassion.

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

We pray for the women, children and men most vulnerable to extreme poverty and injustice. That we continue to be of service and work together as a global family, to ensure that all people have what they need to live a full and beautiful life.

FUNDRAISING IDEA

Encourage parishioners to make a donation on Easter Sunday using the Project Compassion Easter Envelope. Remember to turn over your Project Compassion poster after Easter to show the Project Compassion Thank You poster, acknowledging the generosity of your parishioners this year.

BULLETIN

For over half a century, generations of Australians have participated in Project Compassion, supporting vulnerable communities before, during and after natural disasters, conflicts and crises – making it one of the nation's longest running charity campaigns.