

Three possible responses to the call of Pope Francis on the World Day of the Poor!

Sunday, 18 November, World Day of the Poor, focuses on Psalm 34: **“This poor one cried out and the Lord heard”**. Pope Francis, in his message for this second World Day of the Poor, says, **“We can ask ourselves, how is it that this cry, which reaches all the way to God, is unable to penetrate our ears and leaves us indifferent or impassive?”**

So let us not be indifferent or impassive to the poor. The Caloundra Catholic Community Social Justice Network offers the following three possibilities for your consideration in helping the poor:

1 Most of the poorest of the poor are in countries overseas. **About 23 million people are currently on the brink of famine in South Sudan and other areas of East Africa. Caritas Australia and their partners are delivering life-saving food and water to countries most in need including South Sudan, Kenya and Malawi.** This African famine is the greatest humanitarian crisis since 1945. You can donate to the Caritas **Australis East Africa Food Crisis Appeal** online by going to the Caritas Australia website or by **phoning 1800 024 413**. Or donate to Caritas Australia to aid their response to emergency disasters such as the recent **Indonesian earthquake and tsunami disaster**.

2 Please consider supporting the education of poor children in undeveloped countries through **Innocents Relief** and join in a real effort to bring love and understanding into the world. The website for this volunteer-staffed organisation states, **“We are an Australian based charity and believe the way to break the cycle of poverty is through education. Through child sponsorship, we send money to 34 centres around the world with thousands of students being educated and fed each day. At least 96% of all money received is used to educate children.”** Sponsor an individual child or donate to a Centre to help the education of many children. The recommended (annual) amount for Sponsorship is \$160 plus \$15 membership to cover administration costs. Recently the Committee was asked to help fund projects such as solar power, a mini-bus to transport girls safely to school, a bore for clean drinking water as the local creek where drinking water is collected is contaminated. All donations \$2 or more are tax-deductible. Phone (07) 3870 7940 on a Thursday or Email to innocentsrelief2@bigpond.com”

3 Or you may wish to help some of the many poor people, including some desperately poor immigrants, in Fr Dan Harding’s Parish in Chile. Most of you will remember Fr Dan, who has been a relieving priest here on occasions. If so, please put your donation in an envelope, write Fr Dan Harding on the front, and place it on the plate at one of the Masses over the next 2 weeks, or hand it in at the Parish Office. Donations will be forwarded to Fr Dan.

For reflection: **And the King will answer, "In truth I tell you, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me." Matt. 25:40**