

# HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



## PROJECT COMPASSION

Wednesday 18 February

Dear Parents and Carers

Today, Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent. Lent is the 40-day period in the Catholic Church's calendar when we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming of the risen Jesus at Easter. During Lent we are asked to make a special effort to fast, pray and give alms.

One way we can give is by supporting Caritas Australia in its annual fundraising and awareness-raising appeal, bringing thousands of Australians together in solidarity with the world's poor to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity.

### Project Compassion 2017

The theme for Project Compassion 2017 is "**Love your Neighbour**". This year, Project Compassion demonstrates how love for our neighbours can transform lives. For more than 50 years, Caritas Australia has been privileged to work together with our neighbours – our most vulnerable sisters and brothers in First Australian communities and in many other countries.

As Pope Francis says: "**We must regain the conviction that we need one another, that we have a shared responsibility for others and the world, and that being good and decent are worth it.**"

Project Compassion 2017 supports Caritas Australia in helping the world's poorest people establish sustainable food, walking with them as they free themselves from the burden of food insecurity and develop new, improved income streams for a better future.

Running through the six weeks of Lent each year, Project Compassion is an extraordinary, ongoing demonstration of the faith, love and generosity of caring supporters, all in the name of justice and peace. It is the lifeblood of Caritas Australia; without it, Caritas could not do the vital work they do.

### Our Whole School Focus for 2017 is "GROWING, LEARNING, CELEBRATING LIFE TOGETHER"

At Holy Spirit School we are trying to reach out to others and bring hope to those who are less fortunate than ourselves during this time by raising money for Project Compassion. The eldest child in each family will bring home a project compassion box today. Please talk to your child about this important project. Perhaps your child might choose to forgo a treat and instead donate that money to Project Compassion. Let us always remember it is not how much we give, but the compassion and love that accompanies our giving.



Kind regards,

Catherine Doig

Religious Education Coordinator