



# Appeal Speech

## CatholicCare Sunday Appeal 2020

CatholicCare is the social service agency for the Archdiocese of Melbourne and the Diocese of Sale.

For the last 85 years CatholicCare has been there supporting families and individuals in need across Greater Melbourne, Geelong and Gippsland. Last year alone they supported over 21,000 people.

As the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic continues; now more than ever Victorian families are in need of help as they struggle to make ends meet.

CatholicCare's mission is to break down the barriers to social inclusion by strengthening families and communities. It is a mission that responds to Jesus' call to us to practise mercy and compassion towards others. A mission that CatholicCare invites each of us to be part of.

### With our Parish support CatholicCare can

- help children to overcome the challenges that are holding them back;
- support refugee families by giving them the skills and confidence to settle well in our community;
- help couples strengthen their relationship for a happy and fulfilling future together;
- support all who walk through their doors, because CatholicCare believes everyone deserves a life lived to the full.

Anne is one of the people who was recently supported at CatholicCare.

Anne worked hard from an early age to support her daughter and her family. But when her daughter recently passed away, she was left to care for her seven grandchildren. With all the challenges life has thrown her way, Anne never had the opportunity to her to pursue her dream of learning and study.

Anne has now completed a certificate in liberal arts with the support of CatholicCare's Clemente Fitzroy Program. A free, humanities-based higher education program that provides opportunities to people experiencing significant disadvantage and social isolation. Anne said "I didn't realise this is what I needed. Something to do... Something I like. I'm a happier person and I'm in a better place."

Clemente is more than just an education program. **For people like Anne, it's a chance at fulfilling a lifelong dream; a chance at doing something she has always loved and the opportunity to look forward to living her life to the full.**

This is just one of dozens of supports that CatholicCare offers to give people hope for a brighter future. Each donation that CatholicCare receives has a direct impact on the lives of vulnerable families and individuals.

Because of your support, CatholicCare can continue to meet the new and emerging needs within our communities.

**You can donate to CatholicCare via their website [www.ccam.org.au](http://www.ccam.org.au) or call (03) 9287 5513 and speak to their fundraising team.**

On behalf of CatholicCare, thank you for being part of this year's Sunday Appeal and for your generous support.