

Innocents Relief

Christmas Appeal

More classrooms for a remote school in Timor Leste



The **St John Paul II School (TLE 01)** in Maubara was the first school supported by Innocents Relief (IR) in Timor Leste. IR has funded the building of four classrooms, a library and a teachers' room in the past six years.

Parents value education so the school has expanded and now provides for Years 1 to 9. Parents from the surrounding communities want to enrol their children in 2026.

The school has just seven classrooms; primary school children attend in the morning and high school students in the afternoon. There is an urgent need to build four more classrooms. One classroom costs AUD34,000 to construct.

Maliana Education which is part of the Catholic Diocese of Maliana will provide project management. Funding will reduce overcrowding in the school and improve educational outcomes.

Help us to provide classrooms for these children.



How to Donate

BSB: 084-034 **Account No:** 851082278

Account Name: Innocents Relief Ltd

Reference: Your name and preferred country/project

Email innocentsrelief@outlook.com with detail of your gift so a receipt can be issued.

Cheques: PO Box 4096, St Lucia South, 4067

Donations over \$2 are tax deductible





From the President

Michael Carter

B. Eng, B Bus, M.Sc (Business Leadership)

Merry Christmas to all our Donors and Supporters. I take this opportunity to sincerely thank former President, Greg Seymour and Directors, Mary Seymour, Anne Halliday, and Robyn Collins for the outstanding contributions they made over many years to the continuing success of IR.

My family's connection to IR spans over twenty years. Our children individually sponsored poor children in India and Africa twenty years ago and we have had the opportunity to visit IR supported schools in India, Kenya, and Timor Leste.

I think it is truly amazing that for 63 years IR has supported the education of children living in poverty. We will continue to support disadvantaged children giving them the opportunity of a brighter horizon beyond poverty. This is only possible because of the continuing generosity of you, our donors and the wonderful work of our volunteers over many years.

The Christmas Appeal this year is raising funds for new classrooms at the **St John Paul II School** at Maubara, Timor Leste. This is a great example of the difference we can make to help children move beyond poverty. I strongly encourage you to donate to this appeal to the extent that you can.

Our world is very different from the world of 63 years ago. However, what has not changed is that there are still many children living below the poverty line who can benefit from a helping hand with their education. It is a wonderful honour to be recently endorsed as the new President of IR. Fellow board members and I are committed to continuing this great mission. Our heartfelt thanks to all of you for your ongoing support.

Michael Carter B. Eng, B Bus, M.Sc (Business Leadership)

President

FY 2024/2025 in Brief

Income for FY24/25 totalled \$454,844.91 which was up compared with the previous financial year. Operating costs were slightly down at \$6,646.17, just 1.46% of total income. Such low running costs are only possible because of the generosity of the office volunteers who give their time freely and work from home. IR provided multiple grants to 28 schools and hostels in FY24/25.

During the year, there were two very successful special appeals. The Christmas 2024 appeal provided textbooks for all the students at **St Martins Primary School (MAL 01)** in Malawi and similarly the Autumn 2025 appeal provided English Language textbooks in support of a new curriculum for the 850 students of **St Ignatius Secondary School (PNG 02)**. Their targets of \$10,000 and \$62,000 respectively were well and truly met. Your donations also built two libraries in Timor Leste, a water tank in Malawi, provided stationery, uniforms, backpacks, lunches and supplemented teachers' salaries, all essential so that children can go to school and learn.

India: School fees, books and uniforms



Students pictured above at **Infant Jesus High School (IND 06)** in Mulagumoodu received a 100% pass rate in recent exams with 26 students scoring above 450 out of 500. They also received an award for creating a sustainable alternative to plastic waste. IR provided 122 students with uniforms.

Students at **Mary Immaculate Primary, High and Tech School (IND 02)** in Kanyakumari, Tamil Nadu received stationery, geometry boxes, scales, bedsheets and towels.

Poorer students at **St John Vianney Girls Higher Secondary School (IND 77)** in Palliady were given uniforms, clothing, school fees, medical care and nutritious food.



The Director at **St Joseph's Primary and Secondary School (IND 08)** in Nagercoil, Tamil Nadu wrote in her annual report that 95% of the attending students were economically poor, but the school strongly believed that 'Educating a girl is educating a family'. Your donations provided 60 marginalised primary and 35 secondary girls with uniforms and learning materials this year.

IR funds covered school fees for 52 primary students and bus fares and uniforms for 35 secondary students at **St Roch's Convent School (IND 11)** in Trivandrum, Kerala.

The Director at **Sacred Heart Convent School (IND 52)** Svrilliputur, Tamil Nadu reported this year that a third of the students were economically poor. Despite this, all of the 10th Standard students passed their exams and one scored 490/500.

IR has helped many students at **Providence Higher Secondary School (IND 19)** in Ritapuram, Tamil Nadi, by providing funds for school fees, school bags, stationery items and uniforms (pictured left).

IR has supported students in India for more than 50 years.

Papua New Guinea: Celebrating 60 years



St Ignatius Secondary School (PNG 02) at Aitape recently celebrated the 60th anniversary of the founding of the school. Pictured above are students walking into Aitape for the celebrations. IR has supported the school for many years.

Thanks to a very generous donor, the school has also received two new printers, a laptop, food rations and desks which are being built locally.

The junior classrooms are being refurbished, and the dormitories and kitchen are receiving much needed maintenance. School fees have been paid for 15 disadvantaged students and tertiary fees for 11 former students.



This year, 1,730 textbooks, atlases, dictionaries and past examination papers were provided, funded by the Christmas appeal. The Director reports that there is a new sense of purpose and motivation for both staff and students.



Papua New Guinea: *Cocoa funds future*



The school has established a cocoa crop. The crops have been planted to support the teaching of agriculture and also to provide a future source of income for the school. This initiative is being funded by a generous donor.



Leaving a Lasting Legacy

If you would like to continue to support the education of children, you might consider remembering IR in your will. The following has been drafted by a solicitor and will provide a starting point for your solicitor:

I give and bequeath [all/_____per cent of my residuary estate/the sum of \$_____] to INNOCENTS RELIEF LIMITED (ABN 39 656 342 531) for its general charitable purposes free of all duties and I declare that the receipt of any director of Innocents Relief Ltd shall be a valid and complete discharge to my Executors and Trustees.

If you have any specific wishes in relation to your gift or are thinking of giving a specific item of property, we would welcome a discussion. Please phone 0457 317 352.

Africa: Malawi



The staff and students at **St Martins Primary School (MAL 01)** in Nsanama received stationery, workbooks and textbooks and the staff received wage supplements, two laptops and a printer. The elevated water tank has also been built with donations from IR. A good, clean water supply is essential for any school. The elevated tank will provide drinking water for all, and, importantly, a facility to wash hands.

Lunches were provided for disadvantaged students at the **Bakhita Primary School (MAL02)**.



Sri Lanka & Africa: Uganda, South Africa

Significant grants for school fees and medical care have ensured good education and health outcomes for these students at **St Matia Mulumba Parish (UGA 01)** in Kampala (below).



IR supports the Cotagala School and the Prithipura Infant Home at the **Prithipura Communities (SLA01)** in Wattala, Sri Lanka.

Your donations provided food security for the severely disabled children. Necessary renovations of a dormitory were also completed, ensuring a weatherproof roof during the long wet season. Support is also being provided to supplement teachers' wages and food supply.

Children at the **Holy Family Care Centre (SAF 03)** Limpopo received new school bags and shoes, ensuring they were ready for their first day of school this year.



If undelivered, please return to:
INNOCENTS RELIEF LTD
PO BOX 4096
ST LUCIA SOUTH QLD 4067

POSTAGE
PAID
AUSTRALIA



Follow us on Facebook and share with your friends.
You can send a message via Messenger.



www.innocentsrelief.org.au
You can send a message via the website.



PO Box 4096, St Lucia South, Qld, 4067



innocentsrelief@outlook.com



0457 317 352

ABN: 39656342531
Qld Registered Charity: CH4653633