



*Speaking the truth in love*  
*Eph 4:15*

29 August 2018

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Palms Australia began work in Catholic parishes in Sydney as the Paulian Association in 1956. In 1961 the PALMS program started preparing Catholics for global mission. In 2001 the organisational name became Palms Australia to reflect the mission that had spread far beyond Sydney. This rich experience has now been brought under a new insignia:



The new logo at Palms Australia reflects giving and receiving in mutual support. Its balance provides a simple reminder to share our love of justice and with humility offer opportunity to and find solidarity with the poor. It is a reminder to connect with the chosen ones of Jesus.

The vision of Palms Australia challenges us to bridge difference and nurture togetherness in our world; to realise that *under Christ Jesus there is no longer Jew and Greek, Slave and Free, Male and Female* (Gal. 3:28). We are asked to reach beyond our differences and affirm the dignity of all.

Palms Australia carefully prepares teachers, health professionals, accountants, managers, and others who volunteer for Palms mission work so that they may share their skills to assist overseas parishes and vital grass root movements aiming to foster sustainable solutions to poverty.

I encourage you to please share the work of Palms by bulletin notices and fliers and thereby encourage people to be involved.

The Church supports those who take up a global mission placement in these practical ways:

1. The Archdiocese will cover the preparation cost of up to five volunteers per annum at Palms' Orientation course and a re-entry weekend on their return.

Most Rev. Anthony Fisher OP, DD BA LIB BTheol DPhil  
Archbishop of Sydney

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2. Catholic Bishops support a Lay Missionary Gratuity Fund that in 2019 will provide a payment of \$2,500 for each year a person is on mission.
3. Catholic schools may offer opportunity and support to teachers giving up to two years for a mission placement. Teachers should talk with Palms about details.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this important work.

With prayerful best wishes,

Yours sincerely in Christ



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