Porridge Club Zambia





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December 2021

Porridge Club Magnets 2021 (Selling outside all Masses this weekend)

At a time of Climate Change and COVID

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

For several years, our Parish has supported the work of the Salesians in Zambia and a local woman, Mrs. Mweete, who runs a porridge club at the charity school of the Assumption Parish in Mazabuka in Southern Zambia. The school receives children from the 'show grounds', effectively a shanty town with the highest levels of deprivation. Many children eat once daily and, for many, they receive very little food other than the porridge we help to provide together.

You are warmly invited to take part in giving the gift of a daily meal for a child at the Catholic Luyobolola School in Mazabuka, Zambia. The cost of feeding a child porridge and milk costs £10 and makes a real difference every single day, as a hungry child often struggles to concentrate. Since we began the Porridge Club in 2007, rates of school attendance have greatly increased and school is, of course, the long-term route out of poverty. We are once again selling magnets to raise money to feed the schoolchildren of Luyobolola School and these make a wonderful gift to give this Christmas.

2021 continues to present challenges, both with economic challenges associated with COVID, but also the very real impact of climate change. The cost of grain has continued to rise in Zambia and we hope to be able to ease the burden for the coming year. Your support last year also helped to build a grain store to help the community prepare for challenging times ahead.

The idea of the magnets is to give them as a gift to friends and family. The hope is that it will bring a smile by making a difference. We also hope that the fridge magnet helps to remind us all throughout the year (perhaps particularly the younger members of the family), that we have responsibility to value our food. As the prayer of grace before meals reminds us 'Lord Jesus, bless our homes and our family. Give us the strength to share with those who are in hunger and need'.

Our young people visit Zambia and we hope to create advocates for justice and equality. The visit has been cancelled since 2019 because of Covid. As recently as last week, Zambia was placed on the red of list of countries. We want to say to the children of Assumption Parish that although we cannot be with you in person, our local Catholic community on the other side of the world wants to express solidarity with you at Christmas. These are unprecedented times and we very much hope that future ambassadors to Zambia will witness first-hand the smiling faces of over 850 children being fed ~ this simple act of providing a meal at the start of the school day.

We would really appreciate your support and it is not complicated to get the magnets delivered to your door before Christmas.



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How to order electronically (see slide below, in is an internal school system so please simply include your own name when asked for pupil name)

1. Visit the ParentPay Shop and select 'Porridge Club Magnets'

Link: https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Uniform/Default.aspx?shopid=933

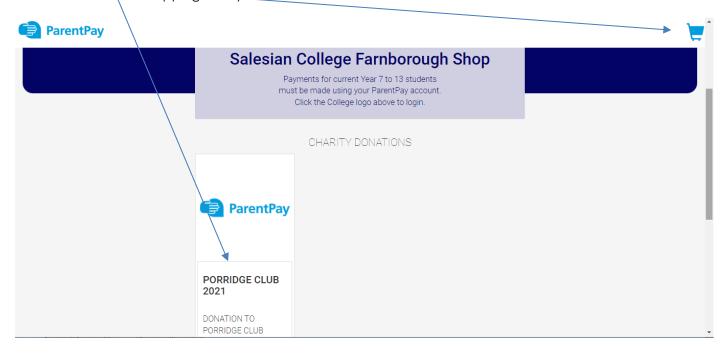
- 2. Select the number of magnets you wish to buy
- 3. Add your contact details so we can post the magnet before Christmas

Yours in Christ,

Richard Maher

Note we will not retain information. The link is secure.

- 1. Click how many and add to basket
- 2. 2. Click on shopping trolley _



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3. Fill in your details and we will post

