

16 August, 2018

## **ABM Martyrs Appeal 2018**

The 2018 Martyrs Appeal focuses on supporting educational programs in Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu, where the Anglican Board of Mission has well established long-term partnerships with the local Anglican Churches.

Newton Theological College is an institution of the Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea (ACPNG) that is tasked with the theological training and ministerial formation of men who feel called to the ordained ministry. The college has built a reputation of developing students who have taken up leadership of the Church at the highest levels.

Today Newton College faces enormous challenges. Even though there has recently been a major update in the library with a gift of books, and the curriculum is being brought up to date, the students and lecturers still need more support as they adapt to new courses. Students need help in gaining proficiency in research and essay writing. The complementary program for the students' wives also needs support so that they can learn functional literacy and associated life skills. Buildings are in dire need of repair and the lecturers struggle to get by on meagre allowances.

Gifts to the Martyrs Appeal will also benefit the ongoing Language, Literacy and Numeracy (LLN) Program in Vanuatu which is run by the Anglican Church of Melanesia – Vanuatu (ACOM-V). This program is really transforming the lives of people but its success means that the demand for classes is increasing. There is a need to provide more resources and training for teachers.

This year the program is working with the Luganville Market for Change Association, a group of over 2,000 female market vendors from 40 different communities around Santo. Most of the vendors can't read or write so ACOM-V hopes to run classes while the vendors are in town with plans to eventually train more advanced learners as teachers. The hope is that they will run classes back in their own rural communities.

Another goal is to establish two new Community Learning Centres to support LLN graduates where they will learn a range of life-skills which will support them to find employment or start up their own small business. Communities will be encouraged to begin income generating projects so that the benefits flow into the whole community.

Please consider a gift to the 2018 Martyrs Appeal to help build up the dreams of our brothers and sisters in Christ. Visit ABM's website <a href="https://www.abmission.org/Martyrs2018">www.abmission.org/Martyrs2018</a>

## **ENDS**

The Anglican Board of Mission (ABM) is the national mission agency of the Anglican Church of Australia. For over 160 years ABM has been assisting people all over the world to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ, provide health and education services, improve agricultural practices and strengthen the Church.



Photo Caption: Fr Luscom Bera and Fr Giles Motisi, NTC lecturers sort through donated books with Larissa the librarian. © Bishop Jeffrey Driver, 2018.

Contact Vivienne For, ABM Communications Coordinator at <a href="mailto:communications@abm.asn.au">communications@abm.asn.au</a> for more information.