



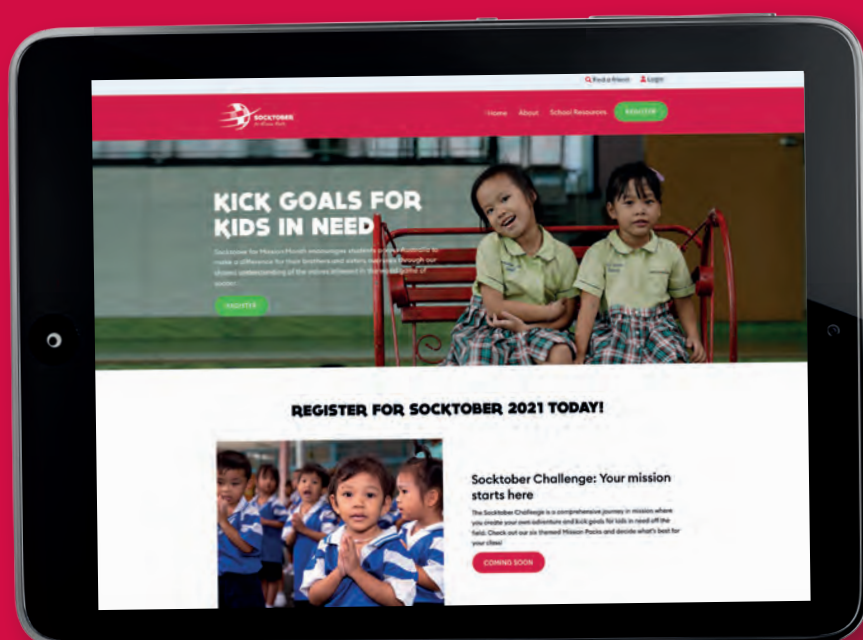
# SOCKTOBER 2021 WELCOME GUIDE

 [socktober.org.au](https://socktober.org.au)



# CONTENTS

About Catholic Mission and World Mission Month	3
About Socktober	4
The Sockball – A Story of Connection	5
How to Run Socktober	6
How to Register and Fundraise	7
Socktober Challenge: Mission Packs	8
Socktober Challenge: Road Map	9
Socktober Event Day & Socktober Shootout	10
Engage Your Community	11
2021 Mission Focus: Thailand	12
World Mission Month Resources and 360-VR	14
Prayer and Liturgy	14
Extra Things to Know	15
Your Local Socktober Contact	16



Visit our website at  
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# ABOUT CATHOLIC MISSION AND WORLD MISSION MONTH

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## We are mission



### Who we are

Catholic Mission is the Australian agency of the international Pontifical Mission Societies. As the Pope's international mission agency, we respond to the call to love God and to love our neighbour by forming individuals and communities as missionary disciples of Jesus who share their faith in action and through prayer.



## Our vision is that all may have life in Christ



*"I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."*

**John 10:10**

*"Love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another."*

**John 13:34**

## Our mission



**We share in God's mission to reach out and give life by sharing our personal and financial resources to:**

- proclaim the Gospel;
  - serve people in need;
  - act for peace, justice and creation
- in partnership with local Churches, so that all may have life in Christ.

## What does Catholic Mission do?

Catholic Mission contributes funding and provides project support to critical church-run initiatives in Africa, Asia, Oceania and South America as well as remote dioceses within Australia. Grassroots needs are identified by local Catholics to give people the opportunity for a full, enriched life – physically and spiritually – regardless of race, stigma, religion or gender.

## What is World Mission Month?

Here in Australia, October marks World Mission Month, a celebration of the global work of the Church and the dedication of missionaries, both religious and lay, as they reach out and support children and communities in need around the world.

On World Mission Sunday, which falls on 24 October 2021, parish communities around the world will gather to pray for and raise funds to support the work of thousands of crucial church-run programs. The following Wednesday, 27 October, is Children's Mission Day.

World Mission Month is our biggest celebration at Catholic Mission, and it is a special time when we are reminded of the often unseen work of missionaries in the farthest corners of the globe. Each year, we provide resources for parish and school communities to help all to understand and celebrate this occasion together. You can find all our school resources at [socktober.org.au](https://socktober.org.au).



# ABOUT SOCKTOBER

**Socktober for Mission Month is a celebration of and engagement with mission for entire school communities. Through the Head, Heart, Hands model, Socktober offers educators a wealth of resources to deliver the essential mission component of the Catholic curriculum for their students, while touching on other areas such as history, geography, physical education and humanities.**

Through the powerful metaphor found in the world game of soccer, students experience the reality of other children in developing countries, learn their stories, and take concrete action to support them. Socktober provides young people in Australia with the opportunity to lead in mission, encouraging them to think not only of what they will do to help, but *why* they will do it.

Our Socktober Challenge resources have been designed by an expert team of educators for discussion and engagement between students, their classmates and their families before, during and after Socktober. The weekly learning modules include interactive material, such as 360° virtual reality experiences, which forms an integral part of the learning pedagogy.

A Socktober Event Day is an opportunity for your school community to put faith into action by participating in the Socktober Shootout activity, interacting with fun workshops, and taking part in a Mission Month liturgy. A Socktober Event Day adds depth to students' experience of mission and an understanding of how daily life is similar and different in countries around the world.

## A Message from our Socktober Ambassador

If there is one thing that soccer promotes above all else, it is a spirit of unity and diversity. We call soccer 'the world game', and for good reason. Wherever I have travelled, I've found people of all ages, genders, and backgrounds playing soccer together.

**Socktober for Mission Month** is all about discovering how soccer and sport communicate values shared by Catholic communities around the world – values like inclusivity, equality, and empowerment. When I stop by my old school, Mary MacKillop College, to help out with coaching the soccer team that helped me develop my skills, I can see all of these values in the girls.

Soccer has had a huge influence on my life, and I'm proud to give something back by supporting Socktober, which helps all students to learn what's great about our game and to make a difference for children in need in Thailand. I hope you will join me and throw your support behind Socktober in 2021!

I wish you all the best on this journey,  
and thanks for being a part of it!

*Sarah Willacy*

**Western Sydney Wanderers Goalkeeper  
and Socktober Ambassador**



# THE SOCKBALL – A STORY OF CONNECTION



It is fitting that the iconic symbol of Socktober is a tattered, misshapen ball made of recycled material like socks, t-shirts and plastic bags, tied together with string. It's not a conventional icon, but one that represents what Socktober is all about.

It's this kind of ball that a young boy named Jorge Mario Bergoglio kicked around with his friends in the streets of Buenos Aires some 75 years ago. As he eventually rose through the ranks of the Catholic Church, becoming a priest, an archbishop and then a cardinal, Jorge never forgot where he came from, and his love of soccer remained a constant. Today, he is known as Pope Francis, the first pontiff from a majority world country, and his special connection with children from the world's poorest communities is symbolised by the iconic sockball they all once played with.

These universal links make soccer the most powerful example of Pope Francis' initiative, Sport at the Service of Humanity. The movement was developed in 2015 to promote the values of sport as a vehicle for fraternity. Its core principles are compassion, respect, love, enlightenment, balance, and joy, which should be inherent in all sports, and which inform our service to others.

Above all, sport unites people from all walks of life. No matter how different people are in age, gender, ethnicity, religion, ability and wealth, they can share a common bond through a love of sport. No sport better captures this than soccer.

As one of the main activities of Socktober, participants make their own sockball to form a connection with the children they support through the program. It is a reflection of the Head, Heart, Hands framework; when we can empathise with people in need, we feel even more compelled to offer what we can to support them. The sockball helps students to understand the reality for children who cannot afford the balls we are accustomed to playing with in Australia.



# HOW TO RUN SOCKTOBER

Socktober is designed to be a straightforward and fun way to engage your students in mission through the metaphors we find in sport, especially soccer. It is a game played around the world by people of all backgrounds, and with such a strong sporting tradition in Australia, we can relate to this universal embrace of the game.

Sport is not for everyone, though. That's why Socktober does not demand too much by way of physical ability and coordination. It doesn't require an understanding of the rules of soccer or a love of the game itself. Socktober simply calls for an open mind and an open heart, a readiness to learn, compassion, and a willingness to make a difference in the lives of those in need. Here's how to run it.



## Register

The first step to run a successful Socktober in 2021 and be a part of the national movement is to register as a participating school. Click the register button at **socktober.org.au** to get started, and fill in the details to create a Socktober home page for your school. This is a quick and easy process and ensures your students know where to go to sign up. You can include the logo and mission statement or charism of your school.



## Share

Don't be shy to ask your colleagues for support. They will be required if you want to set up house or class teams for students to join. We've included with this pack several Socktober flyers that you can use to encourage others to get involved and help prepare for a great Mission Month. On the website there are resources to help you and your fellow staff members share the word about Socktober and get your whole school community involved.



## Recruit

The most important thing you can do this Socktober is to ensure your students are registered as participants. The first thing students will need to do when they set up a page with a parent/carer is to write their story of "why?" This step can be done as a class activity and ensures students engage more wholly with the mission journey and think deeply about why we support others in need. With privacy paramount, an individual Socktober page allows each student to take ownership of the difference they are making, while sharing that with family and friends (who sponsor their effort).



## Engage

Browse our six Socktober Challenge Mission Packs and additional World Mission Month resources and choose your own mission journey in 2021. This welcome guide includes a road map to help you integrate the primary or secondary activities into your Term 3/4 lesson plans.

When World Mission Month comes around, celebrate with your students during Mission Week (25-29 October) by holding a Socktober Event Day using our interactive resources and liturgy materials. Engage your local community in the day by inviting parents, friends, your parish priest or a local sports star to your Event Day to take part in the Socktober Shootout with your students.



*Remember: If your students register for their own Socktober pages, all the fundraising is taken care of! The Socktober Challenge has goals they can achieve to get sponsored by family and friends, so there is no need to collect and count gold coins!*



# HOW TO REGISTER AND FUNDRAISE

It is so easy to get involved with Socktober for Mission Month. The first step is to register your school by heading to [socktober.org.au](https://socktober.org.au) and setting up your school's page, which takes just a few minutes. You'll need the following details:

- ✓ Your school's name, suburb and diocese
- ✓ Your name, position and contact details
- ✓ Your school's crest and a short mission statement

Once your school's page is established, you can then recruit colleagues to set up pages for your school's houses, year groups or classes. This optional step can help automatically sort students into teams and allow for a collaborative spirit to the fundraising component of Socktober. You may even choose to foster some friendly competition between houses or classes.

When the school page and any team pages are ready to go, the next step is to get your students registered. All students will need to have a parent/carer present to set up their page, so it can be a straightforward and inclusive homework task.

When setting up their child's page, a parent/carer will first need to create an account for themselves. It is important to reassure parents/carers that this secure process reinforces their child's safety on the platform and takes just a few minutes. Our school resources hub includes bulletin notices and email templates you can use to communicate this important step to your parents/carers.

Student pages are safe and secure. When setting up the page, it is not compulsory for parents/carers to use their child's full name or photo. An avatar or photo of the family pet can be used instead. Pages do not allow interaction between students and the public.

The most important part of having your students registered is that it gives them a chance to tell family and friends why they are participating in Socktober. When setting up their page, students can add a story about what motivates them to make a difference. Not only does this give your school a good profile in the community, but it invites students to connect on a deeper level with the cause they are supporting. This is part of the pedagogy that makes Socktober a unique program.

As your students kick their Socktober goals through the Socktober Challenge and on your Event Day, they are encouraged to share their Socktober page with family and friends and seek sponsorship for their efforts.

Sponsorship can be gained with the help of a parent/carer and is as simple as emailing the link to the page or sharing it on social media. When they read the student's motivation story, friends and family will naturally feel compelled to support the effort generously. They can then securely donate to the student's page, which counts toward the house or class/year group total and your school's total. These funds are directly sent to Catholic Mission and distributed to children's projects in Thailand and around the world.



# SOCKTOBER CHALLENGE: MISSION PACKS



The Socktober Challenge is one of the key components of the Socktober program. Made up of six modules, called Mission Packs, the Socktober Challenge takes young people on a journey in mission, bearing witness to stories of their brothers and sisters who they are supporting by participating in Socktober.

Each of our comprehensive Mission Packs has been created by an expert team of qualified educators, and feature resources, prayers and activities designed to engage students' heads, hearts and hands in issues of

mission and social justice. They each pertain to a specific theme and point to Catholic Social Teaching and the UN's Sustainable Development Goals to bring a rounded perspective to your students' mission journey. The Socktober Challenge is filled with a range of activities for primary and secondary level, and your students can seek sponsorship through their individual Socktober pages for the goals they achieve.

Browse the Mission Packs on the Socktober website and use our Road Map on page 9 to plan how you will implement the activities and reflections into your weekly lesson plans in Terms 3 and 4.

## 1. Creation



## 2. Health and Nutrition



## 3. Work and Learning



You can find the Mission Packs at:  
[socktober.org.au/mission-packs](http://socktober.org.au/mission-packs)

## 4. Living Mission



## 5. Inclusion and Diversity



## 6. Sport and Games





# SOCKTOBER CHALLENGE: ROAD MAP



To get the most out of Socktober, we recommend integrating activities and teachings from all six Socktober Challenge Mission Packs into your school's mission journey this year. The modules cater to a wide variety of curriculum areas, including religion and mission, history, geography, and of course, physical education. There are many ways you can integrate Socktober into all facets of school life. You can team up with other teachers to plan how to link activities together.

Using all six Mission Packs may seem overwhelming, so we've developed a road map this year to allow you to choose your own adventure, picking what's most suitable to your circumstances.



## I want the full Socktober experience!

### Here's your plan:

1. Register before 30 August and make sure your students create their own Socktober Star pages.
2. Start planning your Socktober Event Day (we recommend holding it in Mission Week from 25-29 October). Recruit some colleagues to help run the event.
3. Browse the six Mission Packs and highlight the activities most relevant to your students.
4. Consider how these activities can fit with your other lesson plans.
5. Start the Socktober Challenge from Monday, 6 September with the Creation Mission Pack.
6. Encourage your students to keep in touch with their Socktober goals over the school holidays.
7. Week 6 of the Socktober Challenge will coincide with Mission Week and your Socktober Event Day. Choose the Sport and Games Mission Pack for this week.



## I don't have that much time!

### Here's your plan:

1. Register before 30 August and make sure your students create their own Socktober Star pages.
2. Start planning your Socktober Event Day (we recommend holding it in Mission Week from 25-29 October). Recruit some colleagues to help run the event.
3. Decide how many weeks you can dedicate to Socktober in Term 3 and 4.
4. Pick 1-3 Socktober Challenge Mission Packs to explore in class during the allocated time. We recommend starting with Creation and ending with Sport and Games to coincide with your event day. Ensure your students have the chance to make a sockball.
5. Encourage your students to seek sponsorship for completing goals in the Challenge.
6. Explore the Sport and Games Mission Pack as part of your Socktober Event Day in Mission Week. Invite parents and community members to the event and run the liturgy provided on the Socktober website.



## I've only got one week!

### Here's your plan:

1. Register before 30 August and make sure your students create their own Socktober Star pages.
2. Start planning your Socktober Event Day (we recommend holding it in Mission Week from 25-29 October). Recruit some colleagues to help run the event.
3. Explore the Sport and Games Mission Pack as part of your Socktober Event Day in Mission Week. Invite parents and community members to the event and run the liturgy provided on the Socktober website. Ensure your students have a chance to create a sockball and get sponsored for the goals they kick!



# SOCKTOBER EVENT DAY & SOCKTOBER SHOOTOUT

**Don't forget to book in a date for your Socktober Event Day after registering your school. A Socktober Event Day is the best way to have a whole of school celebration of mission and can be a great culmination of your Socktober engagement throughout World Mission Month.**

The centrepiece of any Socktober Event Day is the Socktober Shootout event. Based on the concept of the soccer penalty shootout, which famously sent Australia to the 2006 FIFA World Cup, the Socktober Shootout allows students to have some fun with the sockballs they have made throughout the Socktober Challenge.

A Socktober Shootout is a great way to communicate the true meaning behind the sockballs (see page 5). By shooting goals using a combination of the sockball and a standard synthetic soccer ball, students can

better appreciate the differences between what we are fortunate to use here in Australia and what many children around the world must use when they play soccer.

On the Socktober website, you can find resources to help enrich this experience for your students and draw out the deeper learning from the activity. We have questions you can ask your students before and after they kick their goals using the sockball.

The Socktober Event Day offers the chance for you to engage not only the whole school in Socktober for Mission Month, but also the broader community. Invite parents and family members along to help out on the day and be a part of the activities you plan. You can also involve your parish priest, members of parliament or the mayor, or local community identities like sports stars. These guests can play the part of goalkeeper for the Socktober Shootout, adding even more fun to the challenge.

## How to run a Socktober Shootout

1. Book your Socktober Event Day well in advance. We suggest holding it in Mission Week (25-29 October) along with schools across the country.
2. Head to **socktober.org.au** to find resources and plan the activities for your Event Day, including the Socktober Shootout, 360-VR, and liturgy. Recruit colleagues to help you.
3. Promote your Socktober Event Day within your school and, if appropriate, to the broader community. Invite students' families, your parish priest and high-profile community members to the event.
4. Set up the day by preparing liturgy, setting up learning spaces (for 360-VR and/or sockball making activities), and positioning goals in the playground.
5. Run the Socktober Shootout by dividing students into manageable groups and assigning parent or teacher volunteers to ensure everyone can take several shots at goal. Decide early, based on student numbers, how many shots each student can take with the synthetic ball and their sockballs, and ensure they seek sponsorship from friends and family for each shot.
6. Work through the sockball script with students after they have completed the Socktober Shootout.



# ENGAGE YOUR COMMUNITY!

## Parents and friends

The Socktober Challenge Mission Packs are simple to download and print or access online, meaning parents and carers can hook into what their children are learning about in school. Many of the activities in each module are designed to engage the whole family, and students will need a parent's/carers' supervision when creating an individual Socktober page online.

When the time comes to host your Socktober Event Day, get creative about how to involve your students' families and friends. As long as COVID-19 restrictions allow, you can invite parents and carers along to your Event Day as guest goalkeepers or to volunteer with other activities. Your Event Day should be a celebration of mission, and that includes being missionary here at home!

## Your local parish

Engaging your local parish is an important part of enhancing your school's Catholic identity, and Socktober provides a great opportunity to invite people from your local parish to support your Socktober efforts. From the parish priest to a parishioner, there are plenty of ways to involve your local parish:

- Promote Socktober through the parish bulletin and Mass announcements. Let your parish know that the missionary works of the Church have your school community's support. See if students can share about their Socktober activities before, during, or after Mass.
- Invite your parish priest to your Event Day – you might be surprised by his ability to save goals. Many of our priests, especially those from overseas, played soccer as children or during their formation in the seminary. They are just waiting for your invite, and your students will enjoy their involvement.
- Engage youth groups – your parish likely has a youth group full of young people wanting to live out their faith and make a positive difference in their local community. Socktober at your school can be of mutual benefit here, with plenty of opportunities to connect through activities, sponsorship, mentoring, or Event Day volunteering!

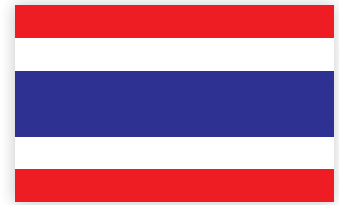
## Community identities

Participating in Socktober is a good thing – so spread the word! Let your local community know that your school is taking part and invite some high-profile identities along, like your local mayor, local W-League or A-League stars, past students, or media personalities. While you're at it, send the story to your local media and invite them along to take some snaps and share what your school is doing for children in need in Thailand.





# 2021 MISSION FOCUS: THAILAND



Each year, your support of Socktober contributes crucial funding and promotes advocacy for people in need all around the world. This year, we are encouraging students to learn what life is like for children from Thailand, specifically those from slum areas in Bangkok, and to take action to make a difference.

## Fast Facts about Thailand



### People

Thailand's population is estimated to be 69,480,520 people, nearly three times that of Australia.

Just under half of the population of Thailand live in rural areas, many of them reliant on agriculture to support their livelihood.

Thailand is a constitutional monarchy, headed by King Maha Vajiralongkorn, and unlike its neighbours, it has historically avoided colonial rule.



# 69,480,520

people live in Thailand

### Poverty in Thailand

It is estimated that 7.2% of the population in Thailand live under the poverty line – that means over five million people in Thailand are living in poverty.

Although Thailand is among the most developed economies in the region, the distribution of wealth is among the most unequal in the world. In 2018, the wealthiest 10% of Thai people held over 85% of the nation's wealth while the poorest half of the population accounted for under 2% of all wealth.



# 7.2%

of the Thai population live under the poverty line



# 5 million +

people in Thailand are living in poverty

### Religion in Thailand

Christianity is one of the smallest religions in Thailand, with only 1% of the population identifying as Christian (less than 0.6% of those are Catholic).

The vast majority (94.6%) of the Thai population are Buddhist, with Islam the next most populous religion at 4.3%.



# 1%

of the Thai population identify as Christian



## Example Student Targets

<b>\$35</b>	can help towards the cost of school supplies for a child for one year.
<b>\$102</b>	can help towards the meals and snacks for one child at the kindergarten for a year.
<b>\$300</b>	can help purchase milk for all the children at the kindergarten for two weeks.
<b>\$1500</b>	could purchase one school uniform each for all 59 girls at the kindergarten for one year

## Example School Targets

<b>\$260</b>	can support the cost of school supplies at the kindergarten for one month.
<b>\$915</b>	can go towards the cost of meals for all children at the kindergarten for a month.
<b>\$1650</b>	can keep the lights on and the water running all year at the kindergarten.
<b>\$2290</b>	can help every child at the kindergarten to have a school uniform each.

## Focus Project: Good Shepherd Sisters Kindergarten Centre

The Good Shepherd Sisters have been supporting communities in need in Thailand for over 55 years, starting in Bangkok and eventually expanding their work to other provinces including Phuket and Chiang Rai.

The Sisters have a mission to build partnerships that promote the dignity and human rights of all, especially women and children.

Among the many programs run by the Sisters in the bustling capital of Bangkok is a kindergarten for children from an urban slum where many simply cannot afford to send their children to school. The kindergarten offers two life-changing services for both local women and their children: firstly, the Sisters provide a loving education in a safe place, catering for essential needs; and secondly, this allows the parents to freely work and earn a living for their families without fear for their children's safety.

Run by Sister Chalaad Sungkalurk R.G.S., the kindergarten aims to help children from families in difficult financial situations receive education that promotes mental, emotional, social and educational development; provide a safe environment for these children; and lastly, promote collaboration with local families.

***"If the children have a chance to study or prepare well to go to school, it will be very good ... for them. We try to support them, and not only for education. Mind and body have to go together for the children to develop. I believe that if we really and truly help them with love, they will grow nicely and will have a good future." – Sister Chalaad Sungkalurk R.G.S.***

Through Socktober, students can learn more about how they can be missionary and support children in Thailand and around the world through prayer and fundraising to have the same opportunities we are afforded here in Australia.

### Kusa's story

Kusa has been a special blessing to his mother, Samorn. In her younger years she had experienced a difficult life, with very few people taking the time to care for her properly. Shortly after Kusa was born, Samorn realised she had to get away if her son were to have a chance at a better life. After consulting a doctor, she made a decision to start again and save Kusa's life. Samorn moved with her son to live with the Good Shepherd Sisters. She now attends the Fatima Training Centre while Kusa learns at the kindergarten.

"I want him to finish school, even if it's just middle school," Samorn says. "He told me he wants to be a soldier."

Above all, Samorn wants Kusa to be able to work and support himself and eventually his own family. At the stall she runs at the local market, Samorn taught her son how to sell fruits, clothes and the toys he no longer wants. She hopes to use her own experience to give him the best life she can. "One day in the future, I will tell him my story, so he understands where we have come from."

For now, Kusa and his mother enjoy the love and care of the Good Shepherd Sisters. They receive assistance with accommodation, food, medicine and education, all of which are supported by funds raised through Socktober.

Most importantly, Samorn understands the guiding motto of the Good Shepherd Sisters: "One person is of more value than the whole world."



Kusa with his mum Samorn\*  
(\*identity protected)

# WORLD MISSION MONTH RESOURCES AND 360-VR

To prepare for your celebrations during World Mission Month, we invite you to explore the wealth of school resources available on the Socktober website, as well as resources to help you and your students advocate for the marginalised, including asylum seekers and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

For the first time in 2021, all of Catholic Mission's school resources for World Mission Month, including prayer and liturgy materials, can be found on the Socktober website. These materials have been compiled by a team of expert mission formation and education specialists, with decades of experience in primary and secondary schools. What you can find at [socktober.org.au](https://socktober.org.au):

- ☑ Resources for primary students
- ☑ Resources for secondary students
- ☑ Advocacy materials
- ☑ Prayer and liturgy resources (see below)

The World Mission Month resources can complement the Socktober Challenge Mission Packs, which are already full of great learning activities and material, to make your school's World Mission Month celebration an enriching experience.

## Mission in 360

Catholic Mission broke new ground in 2017 with the introduction of *Mission in 360* virtual reality (360-VR) technology that allows your students to experience the impact of global mission without ever leaving the classroom.

Throughout our Socktober Challenge Mission Packs you'll find references to Mission in 360 videos, which your students can view through special goggles or simply on the website. Contact your local Catholic Mission representative for more information.

Our team has also prepared a series of questions that will challenge your students to think deeply about their virtual experience in a different part of the world, where poverty and wealth sit so closely beside one another. You can find these and more information about Thailand on our website.

 [socktober.org.au/wmm-resources](https://socktober.org.au/wmm-resources)



## PRAYER AND LITURGY

**Socktober is, first and foremost, a means through which schools and students can celebrate World Mission Month in October, and an important component of this celebration is a liturgy or Mission Mass to reflect on the efforts of mission partners around the world and pray for them and the communities they serve.**

Prayer is a great source of life and communication, keeping us open to the mystery of God's loving grace and presence which envelop each moment of our lives. Prayer also helps to express our concerns for those who are affected by poverty. It is an important means, in faith, to support our brothers and sisters who not only need material support but also spiritual support to live life to the full.

Mass and liturgy materials are available on the Socktober website, in downloadable Word, PDF, and PowerPoint formats. These can be adapted to suit your school and context. There will also be music files and sheet music available to accompany liturgy or moments of reflection. You will see there are many ways for students to participate in the mass and liturgy through readings, procession of symbols, and singing along with the music.

The liturgy resources, music files and sheet music for World Mission Month have been developed by expert music liturgist Richard Cootes.

 [socktober.org.au/liturgy](https://socktober.org.au/liturgy)



# EXTRA THINGS TO KNOW

You may still have questions about Socktober – that’s ok, many others do too! We compiled a list of the most frequently asked questions. If you are still unsure about anything, please contact our team or your local Catholic Mission representative at any time.

## When do I need to run Socktober in my school?

Socktober is a program that helps students connect with and celebrate World Mission Month throughout October. Registrations for Socktober 2021 are now open and we encourage you to work through the Socktober Challenge in the six weeks (excluding holidays) between 6 September and 29 October.

## What age group is Socktober most suited to?

The Socktober Challenge is suitable for grades 2-10 and can be adapted by teachers accordingly; our Mission Packs include Primary and Secondary resources. The Socktober Event Day suits all ages, but senior students (years 10-12) could be asked to assist with leadership of the day and mentoring of younger students who are participating.

## What about cybersecurity?

The privacy and safety of Socktober participants is of utmost importance to Catholic Mission. The registration process is secure and must be completed by a parent/ carer. When registering your child, you can choose a photo that is not personal or revealing, and you can use a screen name to show on their page, instead of their full name. Remember, you may want family and friends to easily find your Socktober Star, so include only the detail you believe will help them. Personal details will not be made public or shared with third parties other than Funraisin, who securely operate the platform. Students cannot communicate with anyone through the website.

## How much effort is required?

Socktober is designed to be easy to implement and understand. The activities and resources are intended to tie in with several curriculum areas so that Socktober can be integrated easily into general classwork. The program requires just a few steps from you as a teacher: register your school, ensure your students register as participants, integrate the most suitable Mission Packs from 6 September and host your Socktober Event Day. Resources to help you with these tasks can all be found at [socktober.org.au](https://socktober.org.au).

## Where does the funding go?

Socktober is a program exclusively run by Catholic Mission, and raises funds for programs benefiting children around the world. Each year, we choose a focus country to represent how the funds raised through Socktober will benefit children overseas. In addition to supporting this country, the funds raised may be distributed to our other partners in order of where the need is greatest. Our programs team diligently monitors and evaluates the projects we partner with in order to ensure the funds are used in a responsible and sustainable way. You can read more about our projects, as well as updates from the field, in the Our Work section of the Catholic Mission website.

## Terms and Conditions

Full Terms and Conditions and Privacy Policy can be found on the Socktober website at [socktober.org.au](https://socktober.org.au).



# YOUR LOCAL SOCKTOBER CONTACT

## Adelaide

**Tony Johnston**  
Diocesan Director  
0407 168 002  
tjohnston@catholicmission.org.au

## Armidale

**Jacqueline Toakley**  
Diocesan Director  
(02) 6771 8703  
jtoakley@catholicmission.org.au

## Ballarat

**Mark Clarke**  
Youth and Schools Engagement  
Officer – VIC/TAS  
0418 524 095  
mclarke@catholicmission.org.au

## Bathurst

**Michael Deasy**  
Diocesan Director  
0417 048 880  
bathurst.director@  
catholicmission.org.au

## Brisbane

**Sue Williams**  
Youth and Schools Engagement  
Officer – QLD  
0419 731 363  
swilliams@catholicmission.org.au

## Broken Bay

**Marianna Gale**  
Diocesan Support Manager  
0400 201 018  
mgale@catholicmission.org.au

## Broome

**Judith Nyamuli**  
Schools Engagement Coordinator  
– Perth Archdiocese  
(08) 9422 7930  
jnyamuli@catholicmission.org.au

## Bunbury

**Dr Deborah Robertson**  
Diocesan Director  
0474 928 765  
drobertson@catholicmission.  
org.au

## Cairns

**Anna Jimenez**  
Diocesan Director  
0450 213 042  
ajimenez@catholicmission.org.au

## Canberra & Goulburn

**Karen McKerrow**  
Diocesan Director  
0411 924 288  
kmckerrow@catholicmission.  
org.au

## Darwin

**Tony Johnston**  
Diocesan Director – Adelaide  
Archdiocese  
0407 168 002  
tjohnston@catholicmission.org.au

## Geraldton

**Judith Nyamuli**  
Schools Engagement Coordinator  
– Perth Archdiocese  
(08) 9422 7930  
jnyamuli@catholicmission.org.au

## Hobart

**Rev. Deacon MSC  
Michael Hangan**  
Diocesan Director  
0438 243 533  
hobart.director@catholicmission.  
org.au

## Lismore

**Michelle Sullivan**  
Diocesan Director  
(02) 6622 0407  
msullivan@catholicmission.org.au

## Maitland-Newcastle

**David McGovern**  
Diocesan Director  
0431 481 731  
dmcgovern@catholicmission.  
org.au

## Melbourne

**Mark Clarke**  
Youth and Schools Engagement  
Officer – VIC/TAS  
0418 524 095  
mclarke@catholicmission.org.au

## Perth

**Judith Nyamuli**  
Schools Engagement Coordinator  
(08) 9422 7930  
jnyamuli@catholicmission.org.au

## Parramatta

**Alan Wedesweiler**  
Diocesan Director  
0400 327 315  
awedesweiler@catholicmission.  
org.au

## Port Pirie

**Michael Preece**  
Diocesan Director  
0428 881 423  
portpirie.director@  
catholicmission.org.au

## Rockhampton

**Greg Clair**  
Diocesan Director  
0419 029 839  
rockhampton.director@  
catholicmission.org.au

## Sale

**Mark Clarke**  
Youth and Schools Engagement  
Officer – VIC/TAS  
0418 524 095  
mclarke@catholicmission.org.au

## Sandhurst

**Mark Clarke**  
Youth and Schools Engagement  
Officer – VIC/TAS  
0418 524 095  
mclarke@catholicmission.org.au

## Sydney

**Dorothy Makasa**  
Mission Education Officer  
0415 666 942  
dmakasa@catholicmission.org.au

## Toowoomba

**Sue Williams**  
Youth and Schools Engagement  
Officer – QLD  
0419 731 363  
swilliams@catholicmission.org.au

## Townsville

**Thomas and Helen Tarttelin**  
Diocesan Directors  
0484 784 919 (Thomas)  
0421 053 203 (Helen)  
thomas.helen.tarttelin@  
catholicmission.org.au

## Wagga Wagga

**Jane Plum**  
Diocesan Director  
(02) 6937 0013  
jplum@catholicmission.org.au

## Wilcannia-Forbes

**Michael Deasy**  
Diocesan Director  
0417 048 880  
wilcannia.forbes.director@  
catholicmission.org.au

## Wollongong

**David Harrison**  
Diocesan Director  
0449 716 363  
dharrison@catholicmission.org.au



Socktober is a program  
of Catholic Mission.

**National Contact:**  
**Matthew Poynting**  
National Community  
Engagement Officer – Socktober

19 Mackenzie St  
Lavender Bay NSW 2060

(02) 9919 7833  
info@socktober.org.au

**socktober.org.au**



**Catholic Mission**  
PO Box 1668  
North Sydney NSW 2059  
1800 257 296  
admin@catholicmission.org.au  
**catholicmission.org.au**