

Media Release

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Light in the Darkness: Global Prayer Vigil for Myanmar

As Myanmar continues to suffer the devastating impacts of war, natural disasters and displacement, Jesuit Mission Australia and the Taizé Community invite people of all faiths to join together in solidarity and prayer in an online vigil: *Light in the Darkness: Global Prayer Vigil for Myanmar*.

Held on Wednesday **29 May at 7:00pm AEST**, this global gathering will feature peaceful reflection through Taizé music, scripture and moving testimonies from those surviving the crisis in Myanmar.

The vigil will be led by Helen Forde, CEO of Jesuit Mission Australia, and Br Ghislain of the Taizé Community, joined by special guests from Myanmar.

Since the military coup of February 2021, more than 3.5 million people have been displaced and over 19.9 million are in desperate need of emergency assistance. Recent indiscriminate airstrikes and a catastrophic 7.7 magnitude earthquake have only intensified the suffering. Families are facing severe food shortages, unsafe shelter, and a lack of access to clean water and medical care.

Myanmar has become one of the world's most urgent humanitarian crises. Entire villages have been bombed, including schools, churches and hospitals destroyed, and millions are living and hiding in fear.

Yet Jesuit Mission's local Jesuit partners in Myanmar remain embedded in affected communities, delivering life-saving support to families on the frontiers as well as pastoral care and hope.

"Let us be a light in the darkness for the people of Myanmar," said Helen Forde. *"This vigil is an opportunity to lift our voices together in hope and compassion, and to renew our call for peace."*

Register now to attend the prayer vigil: <https://jesuitmission.org.au/vigil>

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Caption: Prayer Vigil invitation.



Caption: Statue of Mary destroyed by the recent earthquakes in Myanmar.



Caption: The Aftermath of the earthquake to a church in Myanmar.



Caption: After their village was attacked, this community found refuge in the forest nearby.

Supporting Links:

Registration Page

<http://jesuitmission.org.au/vigil>

About Jesuit Mission

Jesuit Mission works in over 10 countries across Asia and Africa to uphold the innate dignity of people living with the effects of poverty, especially the most marginalised and vulnerable. Funds from our supporters:

- Break cycles of poverty through teaching and education
- Protect the health of communities by providing medical care and programs that improve access to clean water and toilets
- Develop independent, sustainable communities through livelihood training and income-generating projects
- Provide vulnerable individuals with pastoral care, social inclusion and advocacy
- Support refugees in crisis
- Enable effective disaster response and relief.