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Media Release

Gifts for Change: 12 gifts, 12 ways to change lives this Christmas

This Christmas, Jesuit Mission Australia's Gifts for Change offers an opportunity to turn a present for someone you love into practical help for someone in need. As we celebrate God coming among us in Jesus as a vulnerable child, Gifts for Change invites us to make that love visible through generosity, helping our sisters and brothers find urgently needed security and stability.

Supporters choose a Gift for Change to honour someone they love, with their donation supporting work like the projects featured in the gift cards. They can select a beautiful e-card or postal card when ordering. Ranging from $60 to $3,100, the gifts come in three categories:

- **Gifts for Independence** – restore dignity and improve daily life for people living on the margins.
- **Gifts for Tomorrow** – help communities feed themselves and look after the land they live on.
- **Gifts for Education** – put qualified teachers in the classrooms and help children access education that transforms their lives.

A Gift for Change can help provide emergency essentials such as bedding, food and clean water for families affected by disaster. In Nepal, flash flooding earlier this year claimed many lives and left many more people without homes or security. Gifts for Change supports Jesuit Mission's local partners, letting them provide immediate and essential supplies and support to help restore security and dignity to those most affected.

In some rural communities in Timor-Leste, collecting water means long round trips, mainly completed by women and children. A Gift for Change can help bring clean water closer to home, giving communities easier access to water and helping children return to the classroom and women to enter the workforce. Gifts for Change supports local partners, like Jesuit Social Service Timor-Leste, in supplying and installing pipelines to connect communities to water.

A Gift for Change can help a child get to school on a bicycle, leaving more time for schoolwork, making the journey safer and bringing some fun along the way. In Cambodia, children spend hours each day walking to and from school. A Gift for Change could provide a bicycle to shorten that journey and give children more time to learn.

“Together, we can deliver meaningful and life-affirming change to people all across the world this Christmas,” said Jesuit Mission Australia CEO Helen Forde.

“This year’s cards have been selected based on what we felt has delivered the most meaningful change over the past five years. On behalf of all of us here at Jesuit Mission, thank you,” Ms Forde continued.

Donations support work like the twelve different card examples featured on Jesuit Mission Australia’s Gifts for Change website.

How to order

- Online: jesuitmission.org.au/gifts
- Phone: (02) 8918 4109
- Post: Jesuit Mission, PO Box 193, North Sydney NSW 2059



Caption: In rural Timor-Leste, Australians are connecting families to the gift of life through the installation of water pipelines.



Caption: When Nepal was struck by devastating flooding earlier in the year, Jesuit Mission Australia supporters immediately responded with help.



Caption: Cambodian children walk long distances to school; Jesuit Mission Australia invites Australian supporters to help change this.

About Jesuit Mission Australia
Jesuit Mission Australia 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