



# St. Merkorious Charity



*Sharing the bread*

Issue 1. Jan 2017



*Sunday November 13th was blessed with sunshine, smiles and generosity for St Merkorious Charity's highly successful fundraising Day at the Bay.*



*At St Merkorious Charity, we feed the poor in order to relieve them of the misery that builds up when hunger consumes every waking moment with thoughts of desperation and futility. Our feeding program opens the way for people to realise that they are not forgotten, and that someone cares enough to visit them, talk to them, and support them in their time of need.*

## Day at the Bay 2016

Preparations began on Saturday afternoon with the team from DASCO setting up and then getting up at 5am the next day to add the finishing touches. The wonderful people from SMEG had the breakfast BBQ well under control and lovely smells wafted through the park to draw the participants in for their walk.

So many volunteers organised the tables, chairs, marquees and some amazing food. A big thank you goes out to them all and particularly the wonderful women who donated the bread and the baking of the oregano pizzas. The weather allowed everyone to enjoy the walk and the kids had a great time with all the activities. The jumping castle and the resident clown were firm favourites and judging by the number of beautiful artworks walking around, face painting is still a lot of fun.

The rock climbing wall was also an attraction, and not just for the kids. The major sponsor's rock climbing challenge was hotly contested with Alan from the DASCO team being declared the winner on the day. The community showed strong support and we were honoured to have both our sponsors and several dignitaries in attendance.

NSW Parliamentarian and Member for Drummoyne, John Sidoti was joined by the Honourable John Ajaka MLC on the podium to deliver thanks to the major sponsors PAYCE, the Montessori Academy and DASCO. These major sponsors were recognised along with our Platinum Sponsors, Rad-1, Tip Top Kitchens and A&K Plumbing.

The day was not only a success for the charity, it was able to bring people together in community to show our concern for those less fortunate. The joy generated on the day was the gift of giving returning to bless the giver. With God's grace the path is set for us to give even more of ourselves in 2017 and reach out further to those in need. He walked with us during our Day at the Bay and he will not leave us on this path set out for the future.



### Fairfield Service (August 2016-2017)

Creating a Community that cares while St Merkorious Charity currently has its headquarters in Croydon, the reach of its services has always moved beyond the immediate area into the broader Sydney Community. Every fortnight we provide a free community meal in Fairfield Community Hall. Free haircuts are provided by our wonderful volunteers, along with free coffee, tea and biscuits. Soon after, a free delicious meal cooked at our Centre in Croydon is served. Pre loved clothes, soft background music, interaction with the community, raffle draws and prizes are all apart of the day.



### Jesus Cares (2014-2017)

St Merkorious has joined Jesus Cares in serving the homeless in Surry Hills. Thank you to Elwyn and the team from Jesus Cares for giving us the opportunity to serve with them. We have provided meals such as BBQ chicken, Thai rice, homos, pasta Bechamel, mixed garden salad, fruit salad, cakes and ice cream. May God bless all those who donated the special food especially Kebouski catering from Strathfield and our volunteers continue to donate their time and effort. Your support is greatly appreciated.



### Exodus Foundation (2016)

St Merkorious Charity has been collaborating with The Exodus foundation (loaves and fishes in Ashfield) in a way of supporting the homeless and disadvantaged. It is a fun event for all involved in the Sing along every Tuesday. We provide inspirational music, videos and social interaction bringing joy and a feeling of social inclusion. Biscuits, drinks and a lucky prize were offered to make the gathering more fun.

### Coles Donation

*December 21<sup>st</sup> 2016.*

A special thank you to Peter from Coles Liquor who collected and delivered these wonderful toys.



### Centre Visits

We were honoured to have Mrs Jodi McKay MP for Strathfield and Clr John Faker Mayor of Burwood visit our Centre in Croydon on Tuesday 13th December 2017. Thank you Jodi and John for your support. We loved having you here to witness our operations.





Homeless Appeal

We thank our volunteers and our driver Chadi for going to feed the homeless in Belmore Park on Wednesday 14th December 2016. The rice with chicken and the rice pudding was enjoyed by everyone who came along. Christmas hampers were given out as well as part of our gift from St Merkorious this Christmas.



The whole team went to Pope Kyrillos Church in Monterey afterwards where they joined St Paul's Mission who picked up the homeless from the city in 3 buses to offer them a delicious dinner in the Church Hall. The guests were then invited inside the church to watch a special performance by the church choir. The night was magical and the spirit of Christmas filled the place. It was an unforgettable evening for all. St Merkorious donated Christmas hampers to St Paul's Mission who passed them onto their guests on that special night.



Christmas Hampers

We would like to thank you to all those who helped with the Christmas hampers. Thank you to our wonderful volunteers who brought in items and supported a beautiful cause.



WHAT WE DO

1000  
MEALS SERVED PER WEEK

180  
FAMILIES SUPPORTED

100  
VOLUNTEERS



Relocation Update

Only two weeks to go! We would like to give a special thanks to Mr Daniel Nicolas, Director of Dasco Australia Pty Ltd. Your ongoing commitment has provided our Charity with the opportunity to access a larger premises which enables us to expand our workload.

New address: Unit 3, 6-20 Braidwood St, Strathfield South NSW 2136

**St Merkorious Charity**

Unit 3 6-20 Braidwood Street  
Strathfield South, 2135 NSW  
M: 0478 760 450 P: 9799 9954  
E: charity@stmerkorious.com.au