

# St. Merkorious Charity

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#### Issue 20. Oct-Dec 2021

October, November and December were months full of giving to those who came out of lockdown struggling from unemployment and poverty. We called on sponsors and volunteers to help pick up the damage done by the lockdowns by donating food, hygiene products and time. Thank you so much to all volunteers and sponsors who helped us reach so many people in Sydney, especially as we rev up to the holiday season. As we come to the end of 2021, we're glad to be able to say goodbye to what was a truly difficult year and be thankful to have been able to help so many in need. We look forward to 2022, and wish everyone Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year. God bless you, and your continuing support to help us to end poverty and provide hope to all!



Paula Nicolas Founder and President

#### AWARDED SOCIAL IMPACTOR OF THE YEAR 2021

We were so humbled to receive the award 'Social Impactor of the Year' for 2021 from the Canterbury Bankstown Chamber of Commerce. We are so thankful that our charity was recognised for the work we do, and we thank all of our wonderful volunteers and sponsors for dedicating their time and effort to helping those in need in our community!



We couldn't do the work that we do without the support of our great team, generous partners, sponsors, donors, selfless volunteers and all those that we are able to serve who put their trust in us to help them.

Given how challenging 2021 was for so many people, we are looking forward to a more hopeful future. We are hopeful that we can continue to serve those in need in Sydney by providing them with food security.

#### PARRAMATTA OUTREACH SERVICE

Thank you also to all of our volunteers who generously give their time to the people of Parramatta! We are very appreciative of your efforts each week.



#### **TESTIMONY**



God Bless you. It was such a nice delivery of goods today. I always

share with my neighbour and is also grateful. Thankyou.



St Merkorious Client

#### ADAM DOUEIHI - NRL WEST TIGERS



Our Parramatta Outreach Service continued every Monday during lockdown. We are so lucky to have such great volunteers who are so willing to help the people of Parramatta. Our Monday Night Service ran extremely well thanks to all those who volunteered their time towards the good cause, particularly during these difficult times. We were blessed to be joined by Adam Doueihi from the NRL West Tigers who volunteered his time and helped us distribute food and hygiene hampers to the homeless.

#### **PAYCE FOUNDATION**



Thank you to one of our major sponsors, Payce Foundation, for donating 100 hampers to distribute to our clients. Thank you for donating these goods to us so that we can continue to help the homeless. Your support is highly appreciated!

We are always so happy to have people lend their time and energy, helping us reach people in need.



#### SHARE THE DIGNITY

We give our thanks for the wonderful work that Share the Dignity does for people across Australia, and for their continuous donations and support to us at St Merkorious. The issue of disadvantaged women not having the sanitary products they need is incredibly important, and we are so grateful for organisations like Share the Dignity that is addressing this problem.



#### FATHER GREG MORGAN

We are very appreciative of Father Greg Morgan for keeping us in his prayers and spreading the word about the work that we do at St Merkorious Charity.

His support for our work in the community is highly appreciated, and we wish for a happy cooperation for the ongoing future!



St Merkorious Charity would like to acknowledge and thank each and every one of our volunteers for their effortless help throughout the year – we couldn't do it without you. We are extremely blessed to have such wonderful, dedicated volunteers that help with our mission of relieving hunger and poverty by providing access to healthy food, clothing and essential items for day-to-day living. We aim to achieve this mission every day, and we could not have come this far without our wonderful team! Thank you for standing with us, giving hope and a friendly hand to share the bread.



#### BAKERS DELIGHT BURWOOD





A big thank you to Bakers Delight Burwood for the weekly donation of bread!



#### HOLY CROSS COLLEGE RYDE



An overwhelming amount of donations were received from Holy Cross College Ryde. St Merkorious Charity are so grateful for their contribution. We are truly blessed to be surrounded by such generous groups of people. God bless you, and thanks for your support!

#### ST. PATRICKS COLLEGE

Thank you once again to St Patricks College for volunteering with St Merkorious Charity during your holidays. We really appreciate your time and dedication.



#### MONTESSORI CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Thank you to Montessori for your ongoing support contributing to our Christmas hampers each year by running a Christmas appeal with all your families. We appreciate your donations to the St Merkorious Charity!



#### TESTIMONY

Thank you SO much for everyone who helped me this difficult time. It will remain in my memory for a long time. Thank you.



St Merkorious Client

#### CHRISTMAS HAMPER PACKING EVENINGS

Thank you to DASCO and everyone who volunteered their time in helping SMC Christmas hamper packing, fun evenings where had by all.

We really loved seeing all of these families come together to help those who are most in need. We were overwhelmed by the number of donations we received, which were promptly donated and distributed around Sydney. Thank you so much for everyone who helped us on that day!



#### **2021 CHRISTMAS IN THE PARK**

A big thank you to all our volunteers and sponsors who helped put smiles on so many people's faces. We were so excited to have so many volunteers and sponsors willing to help us on Christmas Day. During a time that can be extremely lonely for some people, it was lovely to be able to spend time with people in need and continue on in our mission of providing food security for the people of Sydney.

We are so appreciative of everyone's hard work and effort on Christmas Day. Thank you!



#### RHODES CHRISTMAS HOT MEAL AND FELLOWSHIP DINNER

St Merkorious hosted a Christmas hot meal and fellowship dinner. We loved being able to serve the people of Sydney and bring some of the Christmas spirit to those in need.



Christmas is the spirit of giving without a thought of getting. It is happiness because we see joy in people. It is forgetting self and finding time for others. It is discarding the meaningless and stressing the true value.

#### ANONYMOUS DONATIONS FOR HYGIENE GOODS

Thank you to our incredible anonymous donors who have supplied those in need with much needed hygiene products! Hygiene poverty is an under-examined issue in Australia, and these hygiene supplies will help many families overcome any hard times that have come our way.





#### HAPPY FARM DONATIONS



We are extremely blessed to have ongoing donations of organic fresh produce from Happy Farm. Look at all the bright, beautiful coloured produce that they are able to supply! Thank you Happy Farm for your ongoing support to what we do!

We extend our thanks to everyone who continued to support St Merkorious during the difficult year that was 2021.





# **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**



### **TASKS WILL INCLUDE...**

- Assist in our commercial kitchen
- Assist in the warehouse with
  - sorting and packing
- Hamper packing
- Various outreach services
- Hours are flexible

Get in touch: Unit 3, 6-20 Braidwood St. Strathfield South charity@stmerkorious.com.au www.stmerkorious.org.au 0478 760 450

## HAPPY NEW YEAR

Are you interested in volunteering for us?





charity@stmerkorious.com.au



www.stmerkorious.org.au

## Stay updated via Social Media:



@stmerkorious



St Merkorious Charity



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