



ST COLUMBANS MISSION SOCIETY



Mama Sara and her daughter Paz from a Columban parish in Chile.

2020 Columban Christmas Appeal

**'We are all in the same boat.
It is time for all of us to row together'**

Pope Francis

Dear Columban Friend,

In these past months, Columbans have kept us up to date on the devastation that the pandemic has caused in the countries where we work.

The poor have been hit the hardest, yet they are the people setting an example of reaching out to those who are struggling to survive.

I would like to share with you the experience of Fr George Hogarty in Chile, who wrote, "That just when we were feeling pastorally incapable of responding to our people's needs, the parish came to life in an unforeseen and unexpected way.

Our concerned parishioners began to take action when they realised that many families, like themselves, were going hungry. Feeding them soon became a major priority."

As COVID-19 has impacted on all of our lives, the need has never been greater to all row together to bring comfort to those who need our help the most.

I would like to thank you for your participation in Columban mission that helps those without even the most basic amenities to survive.

***I ask you to support the Christmas Appeal that fulfils the Gospel message;
For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in. Matt 35:36***

Peter O'Neill

With every blessing.

Fr Peter O'Neill
Columban Leader Australia

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