



21st November 2019

## ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

Each year, as a community at Christmas time, we collect grocery items to compile Christmas Hampers for St Vincent de Paul to help those who will not be able to celebrate Christmas the way we will. It is hard to imagine what it would feel like not to have a table full of beautiful food, Christmas presents and wrapping spread throughout the house. Christmas is always a time for us to enjoy the company of family and friends, celebrating with long lunches and dinners, and special gifts.

The St Vincent de Paul Christmas Hampers is one opportunity for us to demonstrate God's love – not through a sense of obligation, but from a genuine love for others. This will allow the children to participate, with you, as they will be able to help you select some items to add to the Christmas hampers while you are doing your grocery shopping over the weeks ahead. It is a wonderful way to show our children the real meaning of giving, especially when they won't receive a gift in return.

The hampers provide us with an opportunity to talk to our children about the real spirit of Christmas. Just a God showed His great love to us, we can show love to one another.

Donations for the hampers will be collected on our **Santa Hat Day**, on **Thursday 12th December**. The hampers will be carried in the Offertory Procession at our End of Year Mass, on Monday 16th December at 9.15am.

Each grade has been allocated suggested items so we can make up the Christmas hampers, full of goodies which will help make this joyful season brighter for those in need.

**Kindergarten:** chips ● biscuits ● shortbread ●crackers

Year One: lollies ● chocolate covered sultanas ● boxes of chocolate

**Year Two:** Christmas cake ● pudding ● mince pies

Year Three: long life milk ● custard ● tea ● coffee ● juice

Year Four: tin ham ● (family sized) tin fruit ● (family sized) tin vegetables ● sauces

**Year Five:** spreads - jam ● honey ● nutella ● pasta ● rice ● jelly **Year Six:** Christmas plates ● napkins ● bon bons ● candy canes

Please make sure all items are within expiry date.

Thank you for your generosity in helping to make this festive season extra special for families in need this Christmas.

Leanne Brown Acting Religious Education Coordinator