



May 2014 Issue No.2

### Charity

When we think of 'Charity' we usually associate it with emotions of giving and satisfaction, knowing that we have added a positive impact to someone else's life. Although that is a good thing in and of itself, what's even better is knowing why that is the case.

In contrast to 'investment' (for a lack of a better term), Charity always has been, and always will be, 'something we do out of Love because we can and expect nothing in return and with no attached pride'. And from a fundamental and purely Orthodox Christian perspective, Charity goes to the core of who we are as individuals, unified in the One Body of Christ.

Having been created in God's image and likeness (Genesis 1), it is only natural that we inherit his attributes and qualities, including being Charitable, and acting as He does. From the moment of creation, God has been nothing but infinitely Charitable to us. Creating us in His image, caring for us, saving us even when we fall, and continually granting us our needs in both difficult and easy times. And He has manifested such acts of loving charity during His earthly ministry in healing the sick and raising the dead in all love and compassion. And He has set this as an example to us, and St Paul exhorts us to do the same saying "But as for you brethren, do not grow weary in doing good." (2 Thes 3:13).

By doing loving acts of good charity, we mimic the Lord and grow more into His image and likeness in the course of our salvation journey, which is ultimately the whole meaning of our existence, living the Hope of eternal life with Him. And as we fulfil this spiritual trait and cause within ourselves, we become who we really are, true sons and daughters of God.

This is why such acts of Charity invokes such the positive and fulfilling feelings within us – it is who we are. I implore you my brethren to look deep within you and offer as much loving through charity. And Charity can be offered in many forms including donations of funds, time, effort or even promotion, but above all these – Prayer. Charity does not have to be given loudly and proclaimed publically – but simply being a loving family member, a friend, a comforter or even offering a smile in a time of distress. And if you are struggling to find an avenue, speak to your spiritual advisor who will offer you many opportunity to serve and offer loving Charity to many of the Lord's children who are part of the One Body of Christ.

May our Loving Lord grant you all peace and joy that you may experience the true meaning of Charity in and through Him, with Him, for Him and ultimately in Him.  
Remember me in your prayers.

In Christ,  
Fr Mark Attalla

"Blessed is he who considers the poor; The Lord will deliver him in time of trouble."  
(Psalm 41:1)



Horse riding at St. Mina's on Palm Sunday

A big Thank you to Project Abroad Fiji!

On the 7<sup>th</sup> May, we had 30 volunteers working tirelessly to renovate the outdoor area at St. Mina's Home. They have put up the volley ball net, basket ball ring, created a sheltered play/learning area for the kids and sandpit for the kids to enjoy. This will definitely go a long way in getting our kids active in sports and looking after their physical and emotional needs.

They have also painted the gates and the entrance to give it a fresh new look!



### Ways To Assist:

-Get involved! -If you are interested, please contact Fr. Mark Attalla

[frmarkattalla@yahoo.com.au](mailto:frmarkattalla@yahoo.com.au)

-Your prayers and any donation is greatly appreciated,

(From Australia)

Commonwealth Bank

Account Name: St. Mina's

Orphanage

BSB: 063159

Account Number: 10489550

(From Fiji)

Westpac Bank

Account Name: St. Mina Children's

Home

BSB: 039010

Account Number: 9804473412

### Contact Us:

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[Facebook.com/St.MinaChildrenHome](https://www.facebook.com/St.MinaChildrenHome)

Visitation by appointment:

Tuesday-Saturday 2.00pm -

4.00pm

