

**Australians called to walk with One Foot Raised this St Ignatius Day**

Jesuit Mission Australia has launched *One Foot Raised*, calling on Australians to take part in a national movement of solidarity on St Ignatius Day, 31 July, to raise awareness and critical funds for the people of Myanmar.

Across the country, schools, parishes and diverse Catholic groups, will walk or undertake creative activities as a powerful act of unity with those enduring one of the world's most urgent humanitarian crises. This collective response sends a message to the people of Myanmar that they are not forgotten, even amidst the chaos.

After four years of escalating conflict and many natural disasters, nearly 20 million people in Myanmar need urgent humanitarian assistance.

Despite deteriorating conditions, Jesuit partners in Myanmar continue to work with local church groups to serve victims of the ongoing conflict and the recent earthquake on 28 March this year.

*"In the long term, the plan is to support the construction of low-cost, disaster-resilient houses, designed with guidance from engineers, particularly for families with no or low income,"* said Jesuit Mission's project partner on the ground.

*"Sadly many roads have been blocked for over a month, leaving thousands without basic food and many children unable to attend school."*

Funds raised through the *One Foot Raised* campaign will help support Jesuit Mission's emergency response of food distribution, clean water, shelter, medical care and educational support for families in crisis.

*One Foot Raised* is open to all justice-minded people and organisations. Participants can register solo or as a team, choose their walking distance or other challenge, and follow in the footsteps of St Ignatius by putting their faith in action and raising awareness and funds for the people of Myanmar.

"We're humbled to see so many participants already registered for One Foot Raised," said Helen Forde, CEO of Jesuit Mission Australia. "From ice bath challenges to school walkathons, communities around Australia are showing the power of compassion in action."

Contributions can deliver life-saving impact: \$47 can provide emergency food and water for a family, \$126 can support five families with hygiene kits and bedding, and \$435 can supply emergency shelter for five displaced families.

Every step taken contributes to Jesuit Mission's Emergency Action Fund, bringing immediate relief to those most in need. Thanks to the generosity from the Australian Community, Jesuit Mission's Emergency Action Fund, since 2021 has helped over 850,000 women, men and children in 14 countries to survive devastation, crisis and turmoil.

Walk alongside our marginalised sisters and brothers in Myanmar and register for One Foot Raised now at <https://jesuitmission.org.au/one-foot-raised>.

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Caption: After four years of escalating conflict, natural disasters and political violence, nearly 20 million people in Myanmar are in need of urgent humanitarian assistance.



Caption: Last year after a shared prayer for Myanmar, the Jesuit Mission Sydney team walked 10km, including across Sydney's iconic Harbour Bridge.



Caption: "This event showcased the best of our parish and everyone's compassion, dedication, and shared commitment to making a positive difference," – Kristian, Our Lady of the Way parishioner, after participating in One Foot Raised in 2024.



## Supporting Links:

One Foot Raised Home Page

<https://jesuitmission.org.au/one-foot-raised>

### About Jesuit Mission

Jesuit Mission works in over 10 countries across Asia and Africa to uphold the innate dignity of people living with the effects of poverty, especially the most marginalised and vulnerable. Funds from our supporters:

- Break cycles of poverty through teaching and education
- Protect the health of communities by providing medical care and programs that improve access to clean water and toilets
- Develop independent, sustainable communities through livelihood training and income-generating projects
- Provide vulnerable individuals with pastoral care, social inclusion and advocacy
- Support refugees in crisis
- Enable effective disaster response and relief around the world, including supporting those fleeing the crisis in Ukraine.