



Most Rev Barry J Hickey  
Archbishop of Perth

## Archbishop's Christmas Appeal for LifeLink 2005

*“Share the joy of God’s love this Christmas”*

My Dear Friends,

Christmas is such a joyful time of the year and one most of us look forward to, especially the children.

It is a season of tradition and ritual, a comforting, embracing and uplifting time. I think one of the rituals and traditions that children and perhaps all of us look forward to most is **“the giving and receiving of gifts”**.

In Churches, people gather to give thanks for God’s gift of love to the world, his only son, Jesus. For Catholics, through the celebration of the Mass, we receive the gift of the Blessed Sacrament and offer the gift of unity through faith when we say “peace be with you”.

In the general community, people will gather with their family, friends and loved ones to exchange gifts and share their love for one another.

**As I launch my annual Christmas Appeal for LifeLink – I urge that we not forget those people for whom Christmas is just another day.**

The sad fact is that every day - right here at home in WA - there are literally thousands of people who reach-out for help. Their need might not be so obvious but it is no less real and important.

It is difficult to instantly recognise people struggling to overcome addictions. It’s not easy to know the challenge of disability or the hopelessness felt by women and children in violent or abusive situations.

It is not obvious which families face financial hardships or to identify people who are feeling isolated, lonely, confused or marginalised.



Your LifeLink social service agencies reach-out to over **57,000 Western Australian families and individuals in need each year**. In fact, every 2 minutes in every working week, a LifeLink agency will provide assistance to someone, somewhere in the State.

This loving service is provided to all - regardless of race, creed, colour or circumstance!

LifeLink is “a practical, powerful and positive demonstration of Faith in Action”

Your  LifeLink funded social service agencies

- Centacare Employment & Training
- Cross Roads Community
- i.d.entity.wa
- Centacare
  - Catholic Migrant Centre
  - Djooraminda
- Anawim
- Emmanuel Centre
- The Living Centre
- Natural Fertility Services
- Samaritan Projects
  - Shopfront
- Catholic Association for Deaf & Hearing Impaired People (WA)

Each year...

- Centacare assists over **25,000** people right across WA - delivering a diverse range of counselling services, providing emergency housing, helping migrants and refugees and caring for victims of abuse
- Cross Roads Community assists over **5,000** people battling addictions.
- Centacare Employment & Training helps **7,000** long-term and disadvantaged clients find rewarding employment or educational opportunities.
- i.d.entity wa provides intensive year round care for over **500** people living with disability.
- Anawim helps **2,500** women escaping domestic violence and abuse.

In this Christmas Appeal, I ask that you open your hearts and help LifeLink agencies continue to provide loving service to people in need. **We need to raise \$375,000 this Christmas, which will only be possible with your direct help.**

**Please, complete the donation form at the foot of my letter and mail your gift today.**

In the giving tradition of the season, I include a small Christmas gift from me especially for children. It is a prayer that I have written and each card has been blessed. May God bless and protect each and every child.

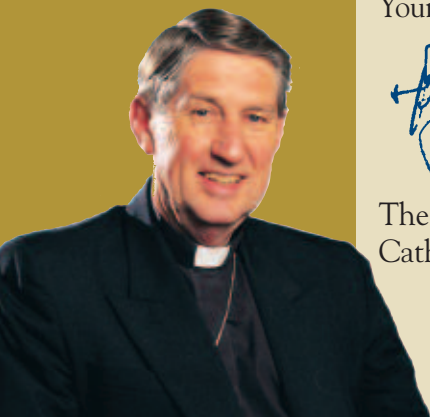
Wishing you and your family a very Happy, Holy and Joyous Christmas.

Yours sincerely in Jesus Christ,



The Most Rev Barry J Hickey  
Catholic Archbishop of Perth

**Credit card donations can now be made at [www.lifelink.com.au](http://www.lifelink.com.au)**



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**Yes, I will share the joy of God's love this Christmas**

Please accept my donation of (please tick one box only)

\$300   
  \$150   
  \$75   
  \$50   
  \$500   
  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Title Mr / Mrs / Miss / Ms / Dr / Sr / Fr / Rev

Surname \_\_\_\_\_

Christian Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode

My Parish is \_\_\_\_\_

**Enclosed is my cash gift for LifeLink OR**  
 **Enclosed is my cheque payable to LifeLink OR**  
 Please debit my credit card

Visacard                       Mastercard  
 Amex                                       Bankcard

Credit Card Number

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Expiry date   /

Name on card \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Donations over \$2 are tax deductible if a name and address are supplied