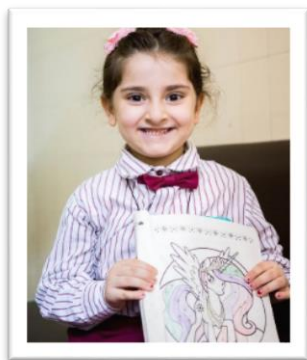


St Anne's Lenten Appeal



Meet Sandra, she is seven years old. She was born in Iraq and lived in the capital city, Baghdad. She had a nice home, and liked going to school and seeing her friends. But the fighting in Iraq made it a dangerous place to live, so not long ago her family escaped.

Sandra and her family have sought refuge in the capital city of Jordan, Amman. When Sandra first arrived in Amman, they only had the things they could carry and nowhere to live. At first, they took refuge in a local Church and slept on the floor.

After a few days, the parish priest, Father Khalil (in the picture) decided to help. He arranged apartments for the arriving families as well as provided essential things like supermarket vouchers and access to a doctor.



One of the things Sandra missed though was school and Father Khalil soon realised this was the case for many of the refugee children so he came up with a plan...



Marka School is Father Khalil's parish school, which local Jordanian children attend from 9am until 1pm. So what he decided to do was to open the school in the afternoons (3pm-7pm), especially for Iraqi refugees.

Sandra and her friends were delighted! Finally they could go to school and build a future. Not only that, but with the support from Mission Together, Father Khalil and his team are able to provide the children with school bags, books and stationery to do their work, and a snack and drink to keep them healthy.

Marka School is so much more than a building. It is helping refugee families get back on their feet, build a community and prepare for their future.

During Lent we try to encourage the children to think of others in need and develop a sense of the wider world, and how we serve God when we serve others. We have shared Sandra's story with them and given them the mission to help Father Khalil's work by praying for the children as well as raising money for Mission Together. There are still refugee children on the waiting list to go to Marka School. Father Khalil needs our help so that the school can keep on welcoming and looking after refugees. Therefore, your child will shortly receive a money box that we have asked them to fill as best they can and given them some ideas of what they might want to raise money for:

- £1.50 would pay for a snack and a drink for one child.
 - £5 could buy stationery for a child.
- £10 would be enough to give a child a school bag.
- £50 would pay for a set of school books for the class.



It would obviously be fantastic if we can raise as much money as possible for Mission Together and support Father Khalil in his wonderful work.

Thank you for your support.
Mrs Harris