

# Lenten Charity Reflection

## The daily lives of the Christian Brothers...

Brother Peter Thrupp is a maths teacher at St Theresa's Hilongos. His classroom has no doors or windows and no lights or power. Water comes into the classroom when it rains, and during typhoons the classroom floods. Brother Peter says that less than half of his senior maths class have a textbook. He has been able to provide some texts for the students in his classes but more are needed.

Brother Frank Perkins is a science teacher at St Theresa's. His science lab has no doors or windows, but at least has power, which is better than many other classrooms. The lab has 1 Bunsen burner, 6 beakers, 1 flask, 5 measuring cylinders, and 12 test tubes. He says that despite this paltry equipment, the students are very open, friendly, and thirsting for an education.

Brother John Moodie is at Kabankalan on the island of Negros. The community of Brothers there is working with all 19 schools in the diocese. Their aim is to have 25 computers in each school. There is a container load of donated computers in Sydney waiting to be sent, but no money to get the container from Sydney to the Philippines.

### We offer this prayer together.

Gracious God, your image is alive in every human person, giving to each of us an inviolable dignity. During this holy time of Lent, create in us the desire to work together and a willingness to share who we are and what we have with others.

We stand in solidarity with our sisters and brothers in the Philippines. We respect their dignity, we pray for them, and we share with them as much as we are able. Jesus is the good news to the poor. As his followers may we recognise the call to be the same.

Saint Patrick and Blessed Edmund, Pray for Us

Live Jesus in our Hearts, Forever.

There are two Christian Brothers' communities in the Philippines, at Hilongos and Kabankalan. The needs of the people in these communities are many.



Br. Neil at the Orphanage Maasin



Br. Carl and the kids



Children's liturgy



Br. Peter's computer class