

## ARCHBISHOP'S HOUSE BIRMINGHAM

Dear Children

## Mission Together - Children helping Children

Jesus taught us to try our best to follow in his footsteps and to make sure that everybody knows that God loves them. We can do this by praying for others and by helping them too.

Today, there are children all over the world who struggle every day. They have no homes, no school, not enough to eat and when they are poorly, they have no medicine. Children just like eleven-year-old Johannes, who lives at St John's Care Centre in South Africa.

St John's is a home for children who need special care. The children are looked after by three women who have given their lives to love God and serve other people: Sister Anece, Sister Denise, and Sister Fran. The children at St John's are unable to live with their own families so the Sisters help them to build another kind of family: God's family, to which we all belong and where everyone loves and cares for one another.

With the help of Mission Together, these children are safe, eat healthy food and have a loving home. The Sisters teach the children at St John's that there are children around the world, like you, who care about them and who pray for them so that they may be safe, healthy and happy.

The Sisters work hard but they really need your help to buy food and mattresses for the children. This year, I hope that you will pray for, and share with, children like Johannes and the many other children who are living in poverty overseas, so that all children everywhere may feel God's love.

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By joining in prayer and friendship with other Mission Together children around the world, you are doing what Jesus taught about making known God's great love for all his children. This year please join the 'Together in South Africa' campaign and become 'children helping children'.

Thank you and may God bless you.

Yours sincerely in Christ

+ Bernard

**⊁**Bernard Longley

Archbishop of Birmingham

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