



Today, more than 2.6 million hungry children will eat Mary's Meals at school. Our work is named after Mary, Mother of God, who we honour in a special way during the month of May.

As we celebrate The Year of Jubilee and follow Pope Francis' call to become pilgrims of hope, join with us to pray for the children who eat Mary's Meals around the world.

Introduce Mary's Meals

Before praying together, you can take time to introduce the children to the work of Mary's Meals.

- Use our PowerPoint presentation and notes at assembly or in class to share the story of Mary's Meals - download them from [our resource page](#).
- Explore our website together to find out about the different countries [where we work](#).
- [Contact Mary's Meals](#) to book a volunteer speaker to visit your school.

Prayers for children



Families

Mother Mary, both you and Joseph watched over and cared for Jesus as he grew up. We ask your prayers for all the families in the world, especially those who live in poverty – that the Lord would bless them and that they would live in unity, happiness and love. Amen.



Peace

Loving Father, I ask for peace in my heart. Please also bring peace to all those suffering during conflict and war, especially the children Mary's Meals feeds in Lebanon, Syria, Haiti and South Sudan. Lord, grant us peace, teach us peace and guide our steps in the way of peace. Amen.



Generosity

Heavenly Father, in this world of plenty help us to be generous with what we have and to share with those who lack even the most basic things. We ask you to bless every little act of love that will help Mary's Meals reach the next hungry child. Amen.



End world hunger

Blessed Mary, you knew what it was to feel hunger; we ask your prayers that God would bless Mary's Meals, especially in Southern Africa which is experiencing its worst drought in 100 years. Let us pray that Mary's Meals can grow to reach many more children across Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Amen.



Hope

Loving Father, as we try to become pilgrims of hope, we ask you to bring hope to all those who are suffering – from natural disasters, conflict or poverty. Please bless the work of Mary's Meals, that it may bring hope to millions more children crying out for help. Amen.



First Communion

As we prepare to receive Jesus in Holy Communion, we pray that God would put into our hearts a real love for the poor. Let us always remember to pray for those in need, especially the children who are hungry. Amen.

Activities for your class

1. Choose a country [where we work](#) and talk about the country with your class. Pray with the children a Hail Mary or decade of the Rosary for all of the children in the chosen country.
2. Invite your class to write out their own prayers for the children who eat Mary's Meals. They could use the themes for our prayers to help them or think about their own hopes for children around the world.
3. Talk about the month of May being a special time to pray to Our Lady. Encourage everyone to think about the children around the world who eat Mary's Meals when they say a Hail Mary at home, at church or in school. You could place a photo of some children enjoying their Mary's Meals in your classroom prayer corner to help you remember.
4. Use our [prayer calendar](#) throughout the month to pray for, and learn about, children living all around the world.

To find out more about Mary's Meals, please visit marysmeals.org.uk

Mary's Meals serves school meals to children around the world to help them come to school and have the food they need to learn and play.

This month I pray for:

Amen

