

## Week 4 Third Sunday of Advent: Joy

## **FINDING JOY IN RESILIENCE**

Twelve long years have passed since Rima<sup>\*</sup>, her husband Kateb<sup>\*</sup>, and their five children fled their beloved home in Syria as the devastating civil war unfolded. Their once-happy life, built around a flourishing farm cultivating pistachios, olives and potatoes, was abruptly shattered by the conflict.

Forced to leave everything behind, they sought refuge in Jordan, carrying with them only the essentials. Since then, the family have been living as refugees in Jordan. With no way to work and earn an income, life is a struggle just to get by. The little money they have goes to paying for water and gas, and to meet the basic needs of their family.

With global attention now moved on to other crises, families like Rima's worry that the world has forgotten their plight.

Thankfully, Act for Peace's partner in Jordan, the Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees (DSPR), has been supporting Syrian refugees since the war began, providing vital food packages and hygiene kits, as well as the long-term support they need to rebuild their lives.







Rima explained, "I always attend DSPR workshops. They support us and I listen to the educational lectures that they offer. There is also a woman who teaches the kids how to paint, sing letters in English and make handmade things. The children feel better there. So, I am always going there".

Through this ongoing support, as well as small business training, Rima is now able to bring in an income for her family by selling Syrian food.

Through the Christmas Bowl, you'll help Syrian refugees like Rima receive the support they desperately need and show them they're not forgotten.



