



Christmas
Bowl

Week 5

Fourth Sunday of Advent: Love

SHOWING LOVE TO THE MOST VULNERABLE

Sisters Srinidhi* and Mahira* are Sri Lankan refugees who have been living in refugee camps in India for decades. Like many refugees from Sri Lanka, they were forced to flee due to the conflict and violence in their home country.

They are both widows who lost their husbands while in India and after all these years, they have never lived apart. Despite being independent, travelling outside the camp to the nearest hospital is too difficult, particularly with Mahira's health problems.

Srinidhi explained, *“Can't you see my sister? She can't even walk, how is she going to go to the hospital? That's why we want the hospital to come to us, the health workers to come to us. She comes and sees me regularly.”*

Fortunately, Act for Peace's local partner in India, Organization for Eelam Refugees Rehabilitation (OfERR), which is run by refugees themselves, have been providing crucial support and assistance in the camps for four decades.



Sisters Srinidhi* and Mahira* are Sri Lankan refugees living in a camp in India, where they are being supported by our local partner OfERR.

Florina Xavier/Act for Peace

*Names changed for safety reasons

Through the Christmas Bowl and the help of the Australian Government through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP), OfERR can continue to send health workers into the camps to conduct home visits and provide medicine to those who need it.

Refugees from Sri Lanka need our ongoing support, and a strong and caring community who will stand alongside them over the long-term, giving hope to those who dream of one day returning home.