Parish Bulletin Announcements
You are invited to ask your parish if it would be willing to publish these announcements in its bulletin to promote Development and Peace – Caritas Canada’s 2018 Share Lent campaign. Ideally, the messages should be published for seven consecutive weeks starting on February 11. You can also download these announcements in Word format on our Share Lent web page in the Resources section at devp.org/sharelent/resources. Here you will find information concerning the materials that your parish can order free of charge and distribute during each week to promote the Together for Peace campaign.

February 11
Pre-Lenten announcement
Thanks to money donated annually by Catholics during Share Lent, Development and Peace can support 170 partners and 202 projects in 36 countries around the world! There are many ways to be part of Share Lent.

Use the Solidarity Calendar with your family. You can pick up a copy while leaving church today. You can make a donation on Solidarity Sunday, which will take place on March 18. Or join your parish’s Development and Peace committee. To find out more about Share Lent, please contact [name of local contact person for D&P] at [phone number – email]

Photo: Children outside of a school in northern Uganda. Credits: Tine Frank for Trócaire.

Week 1 – February 18
Share Lent in the name of peace
For this year’s Share Lent, Development and Peace is encouraging us to come together for peace! You will find inspiring testimonials in the Mini-magazine distributed in church today.

During this first week, our search for peace takes us to Cambodia to meet ICSO, a Development and Peace partner that works with minority Indigenous communities to help them have their rights recognized by the government, defend their land against corporate interests, and develop sustainable economic activities that enable them to live with dignity.

Photo: Thuong Kusal, ICSO Project Field Officer and member of the Tumpuon Indigenous community, Cambodia.
Building cultural and religious tolerance in Lebanon

During this second week of Share Lent, we focus on the organization Adyan, a Development and Peace partner that contributes to peace in the Middle East by fostering cultural and religious tolerance. Adyan offers a wide range of programs, including conferences, training sessions, and workshops on peace, reconciliation, and coexistence.

In this part of the world wounded by past and present wars, Adyan’s work is essential and your support is indispensable to them. “At Adyan, we promote spiritual solidarity, which means integrating the other into my thoughts and prayers. I must integrate the suffering of others and understand it.” - Nayla Tabbara, Director of the Institute of Citizenship and Diversity Management at Adyan.

Photo: Rasha Elkhateeb did a training with Adyan, Lebanon.

Defending the rights of poor communities fractured by forced evictions in Nigeria

In Nigeria, forced evictions are carried out violently, without consulting those concerned, as well as without warning, compensation, or providing alternative housing.

Thanks to your support, the Social and Economic Rights Action Centre, a Development and Peace partner, can train community leaders who then work with some of the most marginalized communities so they can engage in effective dialogue with the government. This year, we invite you to join Development and Peace’s monthly giving program Share Year-Round. You will find brochures about the program as you leave the church. You can also register online at devp.org/shareyearround.

Photo: Lagos, Nigeria.

A school of community leaders in Peru

For the fourth week of Lent, let’s go to Peru and discover one of Development and Peace’s partners, the Bartolomé de Las Casas Institute! It runs the Hugo Echegaray leadership school, where students strengthen their capacity for dialogue, consensus, participation, and consultation in order to exercise ethical and responsible civic leadership in their communities.

The Solidarity Sunday collection will be celebrated in all Canadian parishes next week. We will appeal to your generosity in support of our sisters and brothers in the Global South who fight every day for peace, human dignity, and social justice.

Photo: Lidia Rojas, IBC Project Coordinator.
Week 5 – March 18

Solidarity Sunday

We wish to thank you for your generosity on this Development and Peace Solidarity Sunday. Your donation will be used to help our sisters and brothers all over the world — from Lebanon to Cambodia, to Nigeria and beyond! The theme of our Share Lent campaign Together for Peace, invites us to build peace through dialogue and reconciliation and to consider mercy as a source of hope for the future. This is what Pope Francis underlined on the occasion of the Jubilee of Mercy: “Mercy is the force that reawakens us to new life and instils in us the courage to look to the future with hope.” Thank you for helping us create a future filled with hope!

Photo: Caritas Internationalis, Kenya.

March 25 (or once the fundraising results are known)
Thank you for your generous support of the 2018 Share Lent campaign!

Development and Peace – Caritas Canada thanks you for your Share Lent donation. Thanks to your generosity, [5 amount] was collected in our parish. This sum will help support the actions of our sisters and brothers in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Middle East. If you have not had a chance to donate, there is still time to place your Share Lent envelope in the Offertory or to donate online at devp.org/give. Thank you for continuing to pray for all those who are working to build a world of peace and justice.

Photo: Caritas Internationalis, Nepal.