CAMPAIGN GUIDE 
AND LITURGICAL 
RESOURCES

Share Lent 2018

Lent is a time to reconnect with God through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. This Lenten season, Development and Peace – Caritas Canada invites you to learn more about peace and dialogue as part of the Share Lent Campaign.

In a world where a multitude of cultures, religions, and beliefs co-exist, one of the first requirements for peace is to look within ourselves in order to speak with kindness and establish a sincere and genuine dialogue with “the other.” This year, and in the future, let us make a commitment to be artisans of peace, engaging in an approach based on openness and respect. Let us meet each other half way and establish a dialogue.

Peacemaking calls for courage, much more so than warfare. It calls for the courage to say yes to encounter and no to conflict: yes to dialogue and no to violence; yes to negotiations and no to hostilities; yes to respect for agreements and no to acts of provocation; yes to sincerity and no to duplicity. All of this takes courage, it takes strength and tenacity.
— Pope Francis, Invocation for Peace, June 8, 2014.

Together, let us continue to believe that peace, human dignity, and justice can triumph. Let us seek pathways to unity which will lead to a just and lasting peace. Let us cultivate, hand in hand with our sisters and brothers in the Global South, the hope of a better world where we can live in tolerance and dignity. And let us pray that even in the semi-darkness, we have the strength to make light shine forth.

The prayers, symbols, announcements, speeches, and reflections that you will find in this guide were designed to help you convey this message of faith and love in your parish or school. We hope that you will find these resources inspiring and that you will share the joy of the Gospel and this campaign’s message of hope with everyone around you.
Your opinion counts!
To respond effectively to your needs, we would like to know your opinion on this Share Lent campaign and the materials that were made available to you. This will help us to identify what is most important to you. Please take a few minutes to answer our short evaluation survey, which will be available as of February 14 at devp.org/lent-evaluation.

For parish celebrations, it is important to work closely with the pastor and the liturgical committee to determine which of the suggested Liturgical Resources can be used at Mass. For school celebrations, consult the worship coordinator and the chaplain or pastoral worker to see which suggestions would work best.
RESOURCES FOR THE TOGETHER FOR PEACE CAMPAIGN

Together for Peace poster
The energy of these children from northern Uganda is contagious! They challenge us and remind us that together, peace is possible. Don’t hesitate to display this poster in a parish, in your school, or in any other place that you feel is appropriate to remind everyone of the importance of giving generously during Lent.

Mini-magazine
The Mini-magazine is a central part of our Lenten campaign. This year, our theme is building peace through dialogue. Browse through your copy to find out how our partners in Cambodia, Lebanon, Nigeria, and Peru are building peace. You’ll also meet Development and Peace members who are peacemakers in their own communities.

Way of the Cross
The Way of the Cross offered by Development and Peace invites us to be in solidarity with our sisters and brothers from the Global South who raise their voices so that peace, justice, and dignity can prevail. Let’s open our hearts and minds, and pray in solidarity with all peacemakers, from here and elsewhere.

Solidarity Calendar
Intended for families with young children, the Solidarity Calendar is designed to provide a daily experience of the meaning of solidarity throughout the Lenten period. For each day of Lent, our calendar proposes actions in connection with peace, dialogue, and justice.

Videos
Watch or download our videos on our website at devp.org/sharelent/videos.

Share Lent online
Discover our online resources at devp.org/sharelent/resources
- Read stories about our partners and projects in the Global South.
- View or download key resources, including materials, videos, logos, banners, and other tools to promote the campaign.
- Get your pencils ready! Print the family reflection tool for Lenten Sundays, available in the Youth section.
- Do you know a remarkable individual who is working for peace in your community? Send us a photo with a short text (50 words to devp.org/insp-members) telling us about this Development and Peace member or volunteer who inspires you. Your text will be published on our campaign page.

Subscribe to our monthly email newsletter at devp.org to receive news about the campaign and learn more about Development and Peace’s activities.

Follow and share the campaign on Facebook and Twitter: @DevPeace #sharelent2018 #Together4peace

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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 webpage 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]

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.

Week 2 – February 25
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.

Week 3 – March 4
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.

Week 4 – March 11
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.

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!

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, [$ 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.
Development and Peace – Caritas Canada invites you to add the suggested prayer intentions to the prayers of the faithful on each Sunday of Lent. These prayer intentions reflect the theme of this year’s Share Lent campaign.

February 18
First Sunday of Lent
For peacemakers the world over who contribute to peace and reconciliation agreements through dialogue, let us pray to the Lord.

February 25
Second Sunday of Lent
For peacemakers the world over who promote social inclusion and want to end the isolation of people and communities, let us pray to the Lord.

March 4
Third Sunday of Lent
For peacemakers the world over who encourage citizen participation so that all can participate in the improvement of their living environment, let us pray to the Lord.

March 11
Fourth Sunday of Lent
For peacemakers the world over who advocate for ecological justice in order to safeguard the Earth, our common home, and protect the environment, let us pray to the Lord.

March 18
Fifth Sunday of Lent and “Solidarity Sunday”
On this Sunday, we offer you the universal prayer below.

Introduction
Humanity is thirsty for justice and peace. In communion with our sisters and brothers from all over the Earth, let us confidently present our prayer intentions to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer. Make us instruments of your peace.

Intentions
For the women and men at home and from other countries who engage in dialogue through peace and reconciliation processes, let us pray to the Lord.

For parents and educators around the world who encourage young people to resolve conflict through dialogue, negotiation and mediation, let us pray to the Lord.

For the political leaders and diplomats of every country who engage in peace talks to save present and future generations from the scourge of war, let us pray to the Lord.

For displaced persons and refugees who are seeking serenity in a place where their dignity is recognized and respected, let us pray to the Lord.

For the communities of our country that give hope and a future to the refugees we welcome, let us pray to the Lord.

For our Church to continue to commit to dialogue, peace, reciprocal understanding and reconciliation, let us pray to the Lord.

The Chair of the Assembly invites members to present their personal intentions to God.

Concluding prayer
God our Father, receive the prayers that we raise to thee. Put on our lips the words that touch the hearts of our sisters and brothers so that together we can build your kingdom of love, peace, and justice, now and for ever, world without end. Amen

March 25
Palm Sunday
For the partners of Development and Peace, who, thanks to our support, create bonds of solidarity and promote dialogue, reconciliation and peace worldwide, let us pray to the Lord.
Sisters and brothers, may peace be with you! It is with a similar greeting that millions of our sisters and brothers greet each other every day on our Earth, our common home.

These greetings invite us to cultivate peace. They express that we recognize the presence of the other by our side and that we welcome them; that we wish to live in peace and that we choose dialogue as our means of communication.

My name is _______________________.
I’m a member of Development and Peace - Caritas Canada. It’s a privilege and a pleasure to address you today.

Together for Peace is the theme of this year’s Share Lent campaign, which really speaks to people. Why? Because we all wish for peace to reign in the world, our world. Because it is an appeal that resonates with the events happening in our world today and is a rallying cry that brings hope to the generations of today and tomorrow.

Together for Peace invites us to promote dialogue as the primary way to build peace. Dialogue between you and me and between peoples. Intergenerational, intercommunal, and interreligious dialogue. Dialogue for conflict prevention and resolution. Dialogue for forgiveness, reconciliation, and to live more harmoniously together.

We all need to ask ourselves this question: How am I, on a daily basis, an instrument of peace for myself, for the people I’m in contact with, whether it be those in my family, my community, or my workplace, and for my sisters and brothers in the Global South? This question is especially relevant during the Lenten season, a time of preparation for Easter; a time for introspection, for getting in touch with others and with God; a time for prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

We rightly say, that we are “Happy to be artisans of peace!” This declaration makes us realize that peace is an endeavour that must be built from our own hands. It is a vocation that requires commitment, passion, patience, and perseverance, and must be lived out daily through our gestures of welcome, compassion, service, dialogue, forgiveness, and reconciliation.

Peace on a global scale begins by first growing in our hearts, minds, and attitudes. It is through our small everyday actions that world peace is made possible. Development and Peace partners take such fruitful actions. They are instruments of peace and beacons of hope in our world. These partnerships and the work achieved through them are made possible thanks to our solidarity, our donations, and our generosity.

The following examples testify to this rich collaboration:

In Lebanon, our partner Adyan contributes to peace in the Middle East. The organization helps foster cultural and religious tolerance by offering conferences, training sessions, and workshops on peace, reconciliation, and coexistence. Adyan’s work is essential in this part of the world, wounded by past and present wars.

In Cambodia, the Indigenous Community Support Organization (ICSO) is a partner organization that works with the country’s minority Indigenous communities to help them have their rights recognized by the government, defend their land from corporate interests, and develop economic activities that are sustainable and allow them to live in dignity.

In Peru, the Bartolomé de Las Casas Institute runs the Hugo Echegaray leadership school, which trains community leaders. Students strengthen their capacity for creating dialogue, consensus, participation, and consultation so they can exercise ethical and responsible grassroots leadership in their communities.

In Nigeria, Development and Peace partner SERAC, (the Social and Economic Rights Action Center), works with communities that are victims of forced evictions. They train community leaders from some of the most marginalized communities on human rights and political issues so they have the knowledge and tools to engage in effective dialogue with the government and political authorities.

The Share Lent campaign Together for Peace invites us to show solidarity with our sisters and brothers who, like us, participate in building peace in the world. So that Development and Peace and its partners can continue to be artisans of peace in the world, we appeal to your generosity.

I thank you, on their behalf, for your donation.
Together, let us support Development and Peace partners.
Together, let us be proud to be artisans of peace!
SYMBOLS OF SOLIDARITY

The Symbols of Solidarity is an optional activity aimed at bringing to life our campaign’s theme and main message. The symbols can be used in a procession before or during Mass, or at any other gathering. If you plan on using the Symbols of Solidarity during Mass, it is important that you first consult with the pastor to see if it meets diocesan liturgical directives as well as the approved liturgical practice of your parish. Schools can also consider displaying these symbols throughout Lent in the chapel or another appropriate place.

The procession of each symbol starts when the narrator begins to read the section for that symbol, and it ends at the front of the church or room, or whichever location the pastor has judged best. You may wish to have just one narrator or different voices for each part. Allow a brief pause between each symbol for reflection. The entire procession generally takes between 10 and 15 minutes, but can be shortened (or lengthened) in order to suit your parish’s particular needs. Those who carry the symbols should remain at the front of the church or room so that all participants can join hands after the presentation of the last symbol.

You will need:
A place to put the symbols after they are carried in – perhaps close to the sanctuary, on a table decorated for this purpose, or a special area in the room where the procession will take place.

The symbols are:
A picture or other portrayal of a bridge to represent the word dialogue.
—
A branch, or an image of an olive branch to indicate peace.
—
A large piece of paper with the word “AGREEMENT” visibly written to show the result of dialogue.
—
The hands of two of the presenters, to be used in making a sign of peace – a handshake.

Script for narrator
Pope Francis says of peace that it “will be lasting in the measure that we arm our children with the weapons of dialogue, that we teach them to fight the good fight of encounter and negotiation. In this way, we will bequeath to them a culture capable of devising strategies of life, not death, and of inclusion, not exclusion.”

The word dialogue has its roots in Greek antiquity. Dia, the first part, means through or across. Logos, the second part, can be translated as word, but also as “the meaning of the word.” It implies relationship.

This word continues to inspire philosophers, writers and educators. “A stream of meaning flowing among and through people; out of this a new understanding emerges,” says one. “Thinking together in relationship,” says another. “Ultimately, real dialogue presupposes an openness to modify deeply held convictions,” notes a third.

As our Holy Father says: “Dialogue is gentleness, it is the capacity to listen, it is putting yourself in the other person’s shoes, and building bridges.”

Development and Peace partners in the Global South have been engaged in dialogue for more than 50 years. They have developed projects that encourage women and men to participate peacefully in democratic processes; projects that teach them the skills to live peacefully with their neighbours; and projects that impart the skills to speak up peacefully for the needs of their communities. Today, with our symbols of solidarity, we stand with several of these projects, the peace they build, and the people whom they touch.
1st symbol: A drawing or other representation of a bridge
We bring this representation of a bridge here because the word dialogue implies a bridge between people. It brings them into relationship, and bridges the gulf that intolerance and misunderstanding create. Through dialogue, new ideas can emerge; ideas that did not exist before.

In Lebanon, Development and Peace partner Adyan is contributing to peace in the Middle East by building cultural and religious tolerance, particularly amongst youth and students. Their goal is to bridge the distance between Christians and Muslims that intolerance has created. Today, youth from both religions work side by side to promote peace, justice and democracy in their communities.

2nd symbol: A branch from any kind of tree, representing an olive branch
This branch represents an olive branch. The olive branch has long been a symbol of peace in Christianity. We say that we extend an olive branch when we wish to engage in peace. The olive tree is an ancient symbol of life and peace in the Middle East, mentioned in the Koran and the Torah as well as the Bible.

In Nigeria, Development and Peace partner SERAC (the Social and Economic Rights Action Centre) works with communities who have suffered forced evictions. SERAC trains community leaders to talk about human rights and political issues with some of the most marginalized communities. Those communities now have the knowledge and tools to engage in effective dialogue with their government and political authorities.

3rd symbol: An agreement
This piece of paper with the word AGREEMENT on it represents the outcome of a peace negotiation, and the hope that a lasting and durable peace can be created. It takes great effort to implement a signed peace accord.

The people of Colombia, who have suffered from a decades-long civil war, know this well. In 2016, a significant peace accord was signed. Despite hope for the future, this accord is a fragile one. Against this backdrop, the National Agrarian Coalition continues to build peace at the grassroots level. At their training school, women learn how to speak for their communities’ needs with local, regional and national representatives. “For me, peace is the right to live a dignified life,” says Luz Estella Cifuentes, the leader of the school. She is a partner of Development and Peace.

4th symbol: A sign of peace
Two of the processors stand before the congregation clasping hands while the announcer reads the following:
At every Mass we are invited to share a sign of peace with those around us. This is a moment where our Church asks for peace and unity for herself and the entire human family, and where the faithful express their charity and reconciliation with each other before communion.

In Cambodia, Development and Peace partner ICSO (the Indigenous Community Support Organization) works with that country’s minority Indigenous communities. The communities wish to have their rights recognized by the government, defend their land from corporate interests and develop economic activities that are sustainable and allow them to live in dignity. Dialogue gives them a platform for negotiation. Most importantly, it encourages cooperation and peaceful discussion of the issues.

Narrator
We now invite you to shake hands with your neighbour to express your own symbol of solidarity with each other and with all those around the world who work for peace.
FUNDRAISING TIPS

You want to take action and raise funds for Development and Peace - Caritas Canada during this Lenten season? Share Lent is the perfect opportunity to organize an event in your community that brings people together while collecting donations for Development and Peace. Organizing a fundraising event will help educate those around you about Development and Peace’s social justice work, and you can make connections while having fun.

Before you start, become informed!
It’s not always easy to ask the people around you to support a cause. Having information about the organization and its mission is a good starting point. Below you will find some arguments to make it easier for you to ask for donations. We suggest you use Share Lent resources, such as the Mini-magazine or the Solidarity Calendar, to help spread the word about Development and Peace.

1. Present the mission of the organization
Development and Peace – Caritas Canada is the official international solidarity organization of the Catholic Church in Canada and the Canadian member of Caritas Internationalis.

Development and Peace’s approach is unique. Its mission is to provide long-term support for partner organizations in the Global South that put forward alternatives to unfair social, political, and economic structures. This involves supporting the actions of local communities so that they can take control of their destiny and their own development.

For over 50 years, Development and Peace has supported more than 15,200 projects in 100 countries. This represents nearly $600 million invested in Africa, Latin America, Asia, and the Middle East.

In Canada, our movement of 10,000 members brings to life our education, mobilization, and fundraising campaigns, inspiring thousands of Canadians to take action for change.

Since 1967, over 3.5 million signatures have been collected and sent to the Canadian government, calling for greater social justice. These signatures have supported such causes as:
- The struggle to end apartheid in South Africa;
- Holding the Argentine government accountable for finding children who disappeared during the dictatorship;
- Denouncing poor working conditions in Nike and Levi’s factories; and
- Calling for the creation of an ombudsperson to ensure responsible practices on the part of Canadian mining companies.

2. Present the various ways people can give to Development and Peace

Make a one-time gift
- Online at devp.org/give and immediately receive your tax receipt
- By telephone at 1 888 234-8533
- During your parish collection for Share Lent
- Text PEACE to 45678 to give $10

Give monthly: Share Year-Round
- Share Year-Round is a simple and efficient way to give. Regular donations enable Development and Peace to provide long-term support to the activities of communities in the Global South and reduce administrative costs.
• A tax receipt for the total amount of your donations made throughout the year will be mailed to you in February of the following year.
• To learn more or to Share Year-Round: devp.org/shareyearround.

Other ways to give
• Planned gifts, In Memoriam donations, etc. To find out more, go to: devp.org/donate.

Organize a fundraising activity

How to organize a fundraising event
Here are some tips to help you with the process.

1. Be creative
Choose a fundraising activity that fits your interests, strengths, resources and availability, and that will be engaging to your target audience.

2. Determine your goal
Set the amount you would like to raise and plan a budget to limit your expenses. Make sure your goal is simple and achievable.

3. Form a team
Build a small team to help you. Recruit your friends, colleagues, and/or family members. You can also ask businesses in your area to support your event through donations in-kind or sponsorships.

4. Take action
Establish your action plan and obtain the necessary permits. You can often find information on local government websites. Identify and book your suppliers, as needed.

5. Communicate
Mandate someone to promote your activity on social media and/or in your local media. You can send a press release to your local newspaper or make an announcement in its community calendar. Take photos at the event and post them on social media. You could also write a blog post for the Development and Peace website. Share the results of your work by writing to lent@devp.org, tagging @devpeace, or by contacting your Development and Peace animator. We can share the success of your event on our website and/or social media, which can inspire others to organize something similar.

6. Say thanks
Last, but not least, contact the people who supported you to thank them and tell them the results of your activity. This strengthens connections and helps to keep donors on board while encouraging them to take part in future events!

7. Send donations to Development and Peace
• Encourage your donors to give online. They will automatically be issued a tax receipt.
• Send donations received during your activity to:
  Development and Peace
  1425 René-Lévesque Blvd. West, 3rd floor
  Montreal (Quebec) H3G 1T7
Cheques and money orders must be made out to Development and Peace.

Visit devp.org/lent/fundraising to:
• Find out if donations from the activity you are organizing are eligible, partially eligible, or ineligible for a tax receipt from Development and Peace.
• Print, complete and send the Organizer’s Report.
• Discover more documents to help you organize fundraising activities.
IDEAS FOR FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

THINKfast – This 25-hour fast is an interactive learning experience for young people with a passion for social justice. There are multiple activities available online that can provide a hands-on experience of the issues surrounding poverty and injustice. Consider creating a personal or online fundraising page to help collect donations. For more information: devp.org/thinkfast

Solidarity Calendar – Obtain the Development and Peace Solidarity Calendar and follow it with your family. Each week, gather your spare change in a jar to donate at the end of Lent. This calendar will also be available as a mobile app that can be downloaded starting February 1.

Walk-a-thon – An easy-to-organize fundraiser that’s accessible to the entire family. Sponsors who support you without participating in the activity can receive a tax receipt.

Change Jar – Deposit your coins in a jar at home. When making your donation, if the amount is greater than $10, you can receive a tax receipt. At work, ask your employer to place a change jar in a visible place. Make sure to indicate
the cause on the jar. You could also ask to leave a change jar in a business or restaurant in your neighbourhood. Note that donations collected in a public receptacle are not eligible for a tax receipt.

**Shrove Tuesday treats** – Enjoy the last day before Lent by indulging your sweet tooth! Ask colleagues to make their favourite desserts and sell them at the office or at an event to launch the Share Lent campaign in your community.

**Soup and bun dinners** – In solidarity with our sisters and brothers in the Global South, serve a humble meal consisting of soup and a bun in exchange for a voluntary contribution. Take advantage of this moment to launch the *Together for Peace* Share Lent campaign. Invite a guest who can speak to the importance of dialogue to promote a culture of peace, tolerance, respect, and dignity, which is the central theme of the campaign.

**Movie Night** – Book a room where you can present one of Development and Peace’s videos such as the documentary that celebrates Development and Peace’s 50 years of solidarity. Go to the Resources section of our website ([devp.org/resources](http://devp.org/resources)) and see the list of available documentaries. Post an admission price or suggest a voluntary contribution.

**50/50 Raffle** – Ask people to buy tickets (for example, 1 for $5, 3 for $10, a whole book for $25). The amount collected is divided as follows: 50% for the winning ticket, 50% for the cause. Consider incorporating this activity with another event you are organizing so as to collect additional funds. Don’t forget to obtain the necessary permits from the government of your province.

**Auction Draw** – Sell tickets to attendees and place a lucky draw jar in front of each item being put up for auction. People can deposit as many tickets as they want in the container or containers of their choice. At the end of the auction, a winning ticket is drawn for each lot. Don’t forget to obtain the necessary permits from the government of your province.

**Garage Sale** – Say goodbye to items gathering dust at home! Alone or in a group, organize a garage sale or a bazaar. You can also sell handicrafts or homemade delicacies. Make sure to clearly indicate the cause for which you are raising funds.

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If you have questions about organizing a fundraising event, issuing tax receipts or donating to Development and Peace, you can:

1. Visit our website at [devp.org/lent/fundraising](http://devp.org/lent/fundraising)
2. Contact the animator in your area
3. Write to [lent@devp.org](mailto:lent@devp.org)
TOGETHER, LET’S CULTIVATE PEACE THROUGH DIALOGUE
A faith-based reflection

“You can plant a seed, that’s very easy,” said the saffron-robed monk, “but who will nurture the tree?” He was talking about the possibility of sustainable peace in post-war Sri Lanka, but the question can be asked of us all. How can we, in our lives and our communities, nurture the tree of peace? What can we do to support others in their efforts to nurture sustainable peace? The rich resource of our faith leads us towards dialogue as a basis for long-term peace. As our Holy Father has said: “In dialogue everybody wins, and no-one loses ... Dialogue is gentleness, it is the capacity to listen, it is putting yourself in the other person’s shoes, and building bridges.”

Christ, the Holy Gardener, would tend the tree of peace gently, with patience and love. But Christ was also a man of action, of radical justice. The Gospel stories of loving one’s enemy (Matthew 5:44), not counting the sins of others (Matthew 6:15) and turning the other cheek when harmed (Matthew 5:39) challenge the logic of violence. It is that logic that creates a barrier to dialogue for all who work for peace.

The fundamental teachings of Jesus call us to reject this violence. He offers wisdom on how to peacefully confront violence so we can enter into authentic dialogue and begin the difficult path towards reconciliation.

Have there been times in our own lives where we have noticed the temptation to respond to violence with more violence, yet resisted that temptation? If we take a moment to reflect on those times, perhaps we will also recall how this eased the conflict. It may have been a moment when we chose to turn the other cheek in response to what we saw as a family member’s aggression.

But authentic dialogue does not mean dropping the issue forever. Did we choose another moment to raise our concern about a hurtful action? Did we talk, risking vulnerability, about the impact the harmful words or action had on us? Did we invite the other to talk with us, searching for resolution? This is dialogue. With commitment on both sides it can become a process in which we generate options together to resolve our misunderstandings and problems. It takes courage. It isn’t compromise, but rather it is a collaboration into which we must enter humbly and with a spirit of finding creative solutions.

As Pope Francis says, to build lasting peace in the world we must “arm our children with the

[Image of two people working in a field]
In the midst of conflict, builders of peace must be present, working for inclusion and not exclusion. Dialogue is not just a tool for the resolution of conflicts; it is a means to build sustainable peace. Peace is not merely the absence of war, but the presence of justice and peace, which sustains a fullness of life for all.

Faith propels us into working for sustainable peace and reconciliation. We have been given the ministry of reconciliation (2 Cor 5:18), which calls for active listening, allowing for spaces of authentic dialogue, confessing and sharing. In this way we are called to journey together and commit to the reconciliation we have received through Christ (Romans 5:11).

There are clear risks involved with adopting the radical teachings of Jesus as a means towards peace and reconciliation. We make ourselves vulnerable in talking with an aggressor in a spirit of humility and openness. It requires courage. Why should we risk our safety and security in seeking peace through authentic dialogue? Is the seed of peace worth this risk?

Yet when we use violence to confront violence instead of using dialogue, we pursue the downward spiral of death and destruction. Violence that confronts violence, whether through physical acts or speech, cannot build sustainable peace.

The list of global conflicts is seemingly endless. In each, violence grows from long-term and structural injustices. The teachings of Christ invite us into authentic dialogue in ways both radical and challenging, ways in which we can ensure not only the absence of war, but the presence of justice and peace.

This Lent, let us have the courage to walk with our sisters and brothers who have rejected violence. In solidarity with them, let us choose the path of dialogue and reconciliation. Let us nurture the tree of peace in our own lives and in those of our children and our communities. Let us also support the tree of peace in the lives of those struggling for justice around the world. This is the authentic peace that Christ calls us to build.

Peacemaking calls for courage, much more so than warfare. It calls for the courage to say yes to encounter and no to conflict: yes to dialogue and no to violence; yes to negotiations and no to hostilities; yes to respect for agreements and no to acts of provocation; yes to sincerity and no to duplicity. All of this takes courage, it takes strength and tenacity.

— Pope Francis, Invocation for peace, June 8, 2014
Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace; where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; and where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood, as to understand; to be loved, as to love. For it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

— Prayer of Saint Francis of Assisi