Share Lent 2019

INTRODUCTION

Lent is a time of preparation and introspection. It is a moment to draw closer to God through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. For 40 days and 40 nights, we walk together with Jesus.

This year, Development and Peace – Caritas Canada is adding its voice to those of Pope Francis and Caritas Internationalis by inviting Canadians to share the journey with the 68.5 million forced migrants in the world today.

Launched in Rome in September 2017, the Share the Journey campaign is much more than just an initiative to raise awareness on migration issues. Rather, Pope Francis urges us to undergo a true transformation of the heart. Faced with a culture of indifference that confuses minds and stifles hearts, he invites us to build a culture of encounter - a culture of mercy and compassion.

“For me this word is very important. Encounter with others. Why? Because faith is an encounter with Jesus, and we must do what Jesus does: encounter others. [...] With our faith we must create a ‘culture of encounter,’ a culture of friendship, a culture in which we find brothers and sisters, in which we can also speak with those who think differently, as well as those who hold other beliefs, who do not have the same faith [...] They all have something in common with us: they are images of God, they are children of God.”

– Pope Francis, Pentecost vigil, May 18, 2013

As we begin our journey toward Easter and prepare our hearts to celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus, let us take the time to share the journey with our sisters and brothers who have had to flee their homes. Let us pray for them. May we learn to walk together with them in solidarity, united in the conviction that we are one global human family.

The liturgical resources that you will find in our guide have been designed to help you convey this message of love and compassion in your parish or school. We hope that you will find these resources inspiring and that they will support you in sharing the campaign with those around you.
KEY MOMENTS

February 8
- Order your materials by February 8 to ensure that you receive them in time for Ash Wednesday (March 6).

First four weeks of Lent
- Insert the campaign materials (Mini-magazine, Solidarity Calendar) in your parish bulletin.
- Publish weekly announcements in your parish bulletin or use them in school announcements.
- Create a special display of Development and Peace materials.
- Promote our monthly giving program Share Year-Round at every possible opportunity. For more information, visit our website at devp.org/shareyearround.

March 31 – Fourth Sunday of Lent
- Prepare parishioners for next week’s collection by making the campaign visible.
- Say a prayer or lead the Symbols of Solidarity.
- Hold a special event during the week. You could, for example, show the Development and Peace documentary After the Storm or organize a walk in solidarity with forced migrants. Get inspired by the section on fundraising ideas on p.9!

April 7 – Fifth Sunday of Lent (Solidarity Sunday)
- Ask if Development and Peace can be mentioned in the homily or if you can make a short announcement to remind and motivate parishioners to give to the Share Lent collection. Be sure to thank them for their generosity!
- Invite people to become Share Year-Round monthly donors, so that they can make an impact all year-long through their support to our community development and humanitarian aid programs.

April 19 – Good Friday
- Organize a Way of the Cross in your parish community and invite school communities to participate.

Thank-you announcement
- Publish a thank-you note in your parish bulletin and announce the amount raised for the campaign.

Your opinion counts!
To respond effectively to your needs, we would like to know your opinion of the 2019 Share Lent campaign and the materials that were made available to you. This will help us identify best practices and what is most important to you.

Please take a few minutes to answer our short evaluation survey, which will be available as of March 6 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 chaplain or pastoral worker to see which suggestions would work best.
RESOURCES FOR THE SHARE THE JOURNEY SHARE LENT CAMPAIGN

PRINTED TOOLS
Poster
This year, the chosen picture is of a young Rohingya refugee living in the Kutupalong refugee camp in Bangladesh. With a population of about 610,000 people, it is the largest refugee camp in the world.

Mini-magazine
The Mini-magazine is a central part of our Share Lent campaign. Browse through your copy to find out how our partners in Bangladesh, Colombia, Lebanon, Nigeria and the Philippines are working with forcibly displaced people and communities.

Way of the Cross
The Way of the Cross offered by Development and Peace invites us to journey in solidarity with our sisters and brothers who have been forced to flee their homes.

Solidarity Calendar
Intended for families with young children, the Solidarity Calendar proposes actions, prayers and information to help you experience the meaning of solidarity in day-to-day life. This year, follow our Solidarity Calendar on our website, on Facebook and on Instagram! Go to devp.org/lentcalendar for more information.

Sticker for your Lenten Jar
Use our sticker to create your own Lenten collection jar!

Prayer Card
We are continuing to use this prayer, first launched in the fall, which was composed by Cardinal Luis Tagle, president of Caritas Internationalis, after having met forced migrants.

RESOURCES AVAILABLE ONLINE AT devp.org/lent/resources

Parish Bulletin Announcements
Ask your parish to publish these messages in its parish bulletin to promote the Share the Journey campaign.

Faith-based Reflection
Be inspired by this short reflection connecting human dignity and the culture of encounter.

Weekly reflections – Share the Lenten Journey
New for our 2019 Share Lent campaign, we are offering six weekly reflections that connect the proposed Gospel readings for the Sunday liturgy with our campaign theme.

Family Bulletin
Get your pencils ready! Print this family reflection tool for Lenten Sundays. It will be available in the Youth section.

Videos
Share our videos or download them for a presentation in your community.

Walks
Have you planned on organizing a walk in solidarity with forced migrants? Many tools have been developed to support you in organizing this event. Find all our resources online at devp.org/resources/walk.

Promotional tools
Download banners, poster templates, press releases, social media tools, and/or advertising material to promote the Share the Journey campaign in your community.
Development and Peace – Caritas Canada invites you to add the following prayer intentions, which reflect the theme of this year’s Share Lent campaign, to the prayers of the faithful for each Sunday of Lent. Each intention should be adapted to correspond to the formulation of the intentions presented in Living with Christ for these dates. The universal prayer suggested for the 5th Sunday of Lent may be used in part or in full, according to the practices of your parish.

March 10th
First Sunday of Lent
For all those forced to flee their homes, that they may meet along their journey others who offer them a helpful hand and are compassionate to the struggles they face, we pray to the Lord.

March 17th
Second Sunday of Lent
For all those forced to flee their homes, that they may be heard, listened to, respected and accompanied in dignity during their journey, we pray to the Lord.

March 24th
Third Sunday of Lent
For all those forced to flee their homes, that they may find comfort in knowing that we are committed to encountering migrants and refugees who live in our neighbourhoods, we pray to the Lord.

March 31st
Fourth Sunday of Lent
For all those forced to flee their homes, that our welcome ensures that they can live with dignity, fulfill their potential and participate in the life of their new community here among us, we pray to the Lord.

April 7th
Fifth Sunday of Lent
We suggest that you use this Prayer of the Faithful on Solidarity Sunday, which is celebrated as part of Development and Peace – Caritas Canada’s Share Lent campaign.

Introduction
Let God enlighten and transform our lives so that love, justice and peace can reign on Earth. With confidence, let us present to God the needs of the Church and of our world.

God of love and peace, hear our prayer.

Intentions
For the children, women and men in our world, who are forced to flee their homes because of war, persecution, natural disasters, extreme poverty and the destruction of their environment, we pray to the Lord.

For the members of our Church, that they may carry the message of Pope Francis to open our hearts to migrants and refugees and respond with solidarity and mercy to the vast movements of migration in the world today. We pray to the Lord.

For our world leaders, that together they may find diplomatic and peaceful solutions to the root causes of forced migration, we pray to the Lord.

For the members of the Canadian government, that they may guarantee support to the children, women and men who have had to flee their homes as well as to the communities that welcome them, we pray to the Lord.

For the members of our Christian community, that, in the Spirit of the Gospel, we may go out to meet those migrants and refugees who live among us, let us pray to the Lord.

For the partners of Development and Peace throughout the world, that through our support they may continue to build a world of love, of solidarity, of justice and of peace, we pray to the Lord.

Concluding prayer
God our Father, we believe that every human being should flourish in a community where solidarity, justice and peace reign. May all your children be surrounded by care and love. We ask this through Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

April 14th
Palm Sunday
For the children, women and men of our world, that we may together foster communion in love, fraternity, justice, sharing and peace, we pray to the Lord.
SHORT TALK

Imagine that your life is in danger and you have to flee your home. You don’t have time to prepare or take anything with you. You must flee now. What would you do? Where would you go? How would you feel?

More than 68.5 million people worldwide have faced this situation. In fact, every minute, 31 people are forced to flee their homes to escape war, persecution, large-scale development projects, extreme poverty, or the consequences of climate change.

Children such as Shominara, who fled Burma with her family to escape the persecution suffered by the Rohingya and found refuge in Bangladesh;

Young women such as Qawthar, who had to flee war in Syria and has now been living in Lebanon for the last six years;

Women such as Kelly, an Afro-Colombian peasant who was displaced multiple times because of the armed conflict that afflicted her country for 50 years;

Men such as Amechi in Nigeria, who fled to save his life when armed forces turned their weapons on peaceful protesters asking for fair compensation from an oil company exploiting and polluting their land; and

Poor coastal communities in the Philippines who saw their homes ravaged by Super Typhoon Haiyan five years ago and faced eviction with no where to go.

This Lenten season, Development and Peace and Pope Francis invite us to reach out and encounter migrants and refugees. The Pope has reminded us that, “Faith is an encounter with Jesus, and we must do what Jesus does: encounter others.” Together, we are invited to open our hearts and foster a culture of encounter – a culture that requires a deep commitment to go towards others, to stop, listen and really see them, and to give a little of ourselves.

This Lenten season, we are all called upon to be fellow travelers with our sisters and brothers who have had to flee their homes and to share the journey with them. But how?

By giving generously to the Share Lent campaign. Thanks to your support, Development and Peace and its partners can continue to build a world of justice by taking action on the root causes of forced migration and by supporting the most vulnerable populations in the Global South. Together, we can support people such as Shominara, Qawthar, and Amechi.

You can also take part in a solidarity walk to help us reach our goal of walking the equivalent of the Earth’s circumference, i.e. 40,075 km. [If applicable] On [date] at [place], there will be a walk in our community and we hope to see you there in great numbers.

Thank you for sharing the journey with our sisters and brothers all over the world. Thank you for praying for them.
SYMBOLS OF SOLIDARITY

The Symbols of Solidarity is an optional activity designed to visually illustrate the theme of the 2019 Share Lent campaign. The symbols can be used in a procession before or during Mass or during an activity organized in your community. If you plan on presenting the Symbols of Solidarity during Mass, please coordinate with the parish pastoral team as to how the presentation will unfold. Schools are also invited to present these symbols in the most appropriate area in their school.

Organization and execution
The Symbols of Solidarity presentation generally takes less than 10 minutes but can be shortened or lengthened as needed. Here are some suggestions that will help you to present the symbols.

Location
Determine in advance where the symbols will be placed after the procession. You could, for example, place them near the altar on a decorated table or in another location set aside for this purpose.

Presenter
Designate in advance a person who will present the symbols. You could call on a different person to present each symbol.

Presentation
The Symbols of Solidarity can be done at different moments (before, after or as part of Mass), depending on what is most appropriate for your parish. Begin the presentation with a procession that is led by the people holding the symbols.

Once the procession is complete and people are seated, the person presenting the symbols may begin.

When a symbol is presented, the person holding it presents it to the congregation. Once the symbol is presented, he or she places it down in the designated location and then steps aside to make way for the presentation of the next symbol. When the symbols have all been presented, the people return to their places.

Text for the presentation of the Symbols of Solidarity
Lent is a sacred period, a time for preparation, transformation, and conversion, offering us the opportunity to deepen and enrich our faith. It is also a privileged moment of encounter with oneself, our loved ones, newcomers of our community, and with God.

In this age when division seems to be at the forefront, when fear clouds minds, and the culture of indifference stifles hearts, Pope Francis invites us to promote a culture of encounter and to share the journey with the millions of people around the world who are forced to flee their homes. It is an invitation to all of us to walk together side by side on the path of solidarity.

Development and Peace – Caritas Canada partners in the Global South stand side by side with people forced to flee their homes, whether by working to make their voices heard, providing emergency assistance to displaced communities and host communities, or fighting against the root causes of forced migration.

The Symbols of Solidarity that we present to you today reflect the path traveled by displaced persons and the work done by Development and Peace partners.

Symbols
• A pair of old shoes to symbolize the road traveled by forced migrants.
• A backpack to symbolize the precarious situation of forced migrants.
• A lifejacket to symbolize the dangers and difficulties faced by forced migrants during their journey.
• A dish to be shared (hummus with crackers or a fruit platter for example) to symbolize the culture of encounter and the connections between forced migrants and members of their host community.
Conclusion of the presentation of the Symbols of Solidarity by the presenter

The Development and Peace Share Lent campaign invites us to be fellow travelers with our sisters and brothers who are forced to flee their homes. Let us be the voice that kindles hope and compassion, and rallies hearts on the path of solidarity. We now invite you to shake hands with your neighbor to express welcome and solidarity with each other and with all those around the world who have been forced to flee their homes. May the Lord illuminate their path and guide them to safety.
TESTED AND APPROVED FUNDRAISING IDEAS!

You want to raise money to support communities in the Global South but don’t know where to start? There are many easy and fun ways to raise funds for Development and Peace – Caritas Canada! Here are some ideas and testimonials from our committed members across Canada.

Walk and fundraise
Like the St. Thomas More College Youth group of Saskatoon (above), organize a Share the Journey walk in your community, school or parish to raise funds and walk in solidarity with those forced to flee their homes. A peer-to-peer fundraising platform as well as helpful tools are available at devp.org/walk:

- Plan your walk.
- Create an individual or group fundraising page.
- Invite family and friends to walk with you and sponsor you. You will be notified when a contribution is made to your page.
- After the walk, don’t forget to add your kilometres to our virtual calculator.

“On May 27, 2018, four Development and Peace members of the Victoria Diocese participated in a 10K walk and raised funds for the organization. We used the peer-to-peer online fundraising tool and emailed our families and friends requesting they support us on our walk. The donations flowed in, on average between $25 and $50. We raised a total of $4,285 and had fun walking the 10K together. We hope to make this an annual activity to support Development and Peace!”

– Nancy Stuart, National Council member from Victoria, BC

Peer-to-peer fundraising
Raise funds for Development and Peace by customizing a giving page and sharing it in your networks.

Our main peer-to-peer fundraisers are the Share the Journey walks and THINKfast, but nothing stops you from planning your own fundraiser!

It is free to use, reduces donation processing costs and donors automatically receive a tax receipt by email. When you ask someone to donate to Development and Peace, you are giving them a chance to help build a world of justice. The easiest way to get your first donation is simple - just ask!

- Create your individual or group fundraising page online at devp.org/walk or devp.org/thinkfast.
- Share your page in your networks so they can learn more about your commitment and make an online donation in support of your efforts.

“For my 75th birthday, I planned a peer-to-peer fundraiser aiming to raise funds for Development and Peace. It took little time to create and was easy to share with my friends and family. This simple initiative helped raise over $1,200 for Development and Peace!”

– Martin Blanchet, National Council member from Edmonton, AB

GIVE ONLINE
Your dollar goes further when you give online! A safe and direct way to give to Development and Peace, while reducing administrative costs. Give today at devp.org/give!
THINKfast
This 25-hour fast is an interactive learning experience for youth who are passionate about social justice.

Fasting is part of Catholic tradition. It is a spiritual practice and a way to stand in solidarity with the hungry, poor, and oppressed. Development and Peace encourages you to reach out to staff if you need support, guidance or inspiration when planning your event.

Visit devp.org/thinkfast to download the Organizer Toolkit and learn about activities that can provide hands-on experiences of the issues surrounding poverty and injustice. Create a personal or group fundraising page to help collect donations.

“THINKfast has been a popular event at Holy Cross C.S.S. since 1995. Over 50 students, staff and other volunteers join us annually for this unique overnight retreat experience. We fast, pray, reflect on social justice themes, and raise money for Development and Peace. Each student is expected to raise at least $50 by collecting pledges in the weeks leading up to the big event. We usually raise well over $2,500. In solidarity with the many other schools across Canada who do THINKfast, we continue to make a difference in the lives of our sisters and brothers in the global South, as well as here in Canada. THANK YOU D&P. THINKfast forever!”
– Chris Forster, Chaplaincy Leader at Holy Cross C.S.S., Kingston, Ontario

Share Year-Round
Monthly giving is simple for you, reduces operational costs for Development and Peace and makes an impact for those in need.

“My passion for Development and Peace has been concentrated on the Share Lent campaign, with a particular focus on the monthly donor program, Share Year-Round, which I actively promote. While in university, I started giving $5 a month, and each year since then, I have increased my monthly donation by one dollar. The money is taken directly from my bank account and I don’t even notice it - but they do! It makes a big difference for vulnerable communities in the Global South.”
– Desiree Nelson, member since 2006, Saskatoon, SK

Benefit Concert Voices of Women for Peace

“On April 13, 2018, we organized a benefit concert at St. Albert the Great Church in Montreal. It was a wonderful collective project. More than 250 people attended, including the consuls of Ecuador, Argentina and Mexico. The four guest artists sang with generosity, passion and commitment. The event raised more than $6,200. We achieved our goal of raising awareness and funds for marginalized communities in the Global South!”
– Youth group of Montreal, QC

Screening events for After the Storm: Building the Pope Francis Village documentary
This film tells the story of survival and reconstruction in the Philippines after Super Typhoon Haiyan in November 2013. Five years later, Development and Peace shares the inspiring journey of poor coastal communities who rebuild after losing everything.

Visit devp.org/en/philippines-documentary for resources to help you organize your event!

“We organized a screening of this wonderful documentary in our parish. This is a very good example of the concrete work of Development and Peace as part of a reconstruction program. I encourage parishes and schools to organize a screening of this moving film. The people who attended the screening in my parish were very proud to see their gifts at work. The main goal of our event was not to raise funds, but if this had been the case, we would have set up a table to collect donations before and after the screening with donation forms and envelopes as well as a laptop with Internet connection to receive any online donations.”
– Luce Dubé, pastoral worker at the parish of Notre-Dame-de-l’Annocation of the Diocese of Quebec, QC
**Lenten Soup and Bun Meals**

“Every year, for the past seven years our committee has coordinated six Soup and Bun meals on Friday evenings during Lent, after a 5:30 Eucharistic Celebration in the church. Different parish committees, including ours, volunteer to bring pots of soup, set up the food table and wash up the dishes used. We set up a basket for a free-will offering for our D&P Share Lent campaign. After the meal, we offer a 20 to 30-minute program (i.e. the D&P Way of the Cross, a video, guest speaker on a topic related to justice or a D&P Solidarity Visitor presentation). We raise about $1,000 per year with an average participation of 30 to 40 parishioners at every meal.”

– Justice and Peace Committee of St. Anne’s Parish, Saskatoon, SK

**Mason Jar Soup Sale**

“A couple of years ago, in 2012, we started selling jars of soup mix. Each year, a few members of our little team (of 15) get together for this project. We first buy the ingredients in bulk. Then, we meet for an evening and in a couple of hours, we have filled up a few hundred glass jars with the ingredients necessary to make soup. We then decorate the jars with nice fabric and glue the ingredients and recipe on the side. We sell between 200 and 600 jars every year, smaller jars are sold for 6$ and bigger ones for 12$, which amounts to a few thousands of dollars for Development and Peace!”

– Louisanne Lamothe-Ouellette, member of Saint-Jean-Longueuil Diocese, QC

**The Box Lunch Auction**

“Each year, Holy Cross High School in Saskatoon holds a Box Lunch Auction to raise money for Development and Peace. Homeroom classes create, assemble, and prepare lunches which are then sold off to the highest bidders. Students gather in the gym in the morning and for one hour, lunches are promoted (by a real auctioneer) and sold - always for a value far exceeding the actual cost of the meal! The spirit that overrides the event is not ‘how much can we get,’ but ‘how much can we give.’ Thousands of dollars are raised as the school comes together in a spirit of community and generosity.”

– Louise Bitz, former teacher at Holy Cross High School in Saskatoon, SK

**Send us your used stamps!**

“Over the years, we have raised more than $500,000 for Development and Peace. To see the results and involvement of our many volunteers over the last 33 years, we can conclude that the stamp sale was... a good idea!”

– Jean-Pierre Lagacé, co-founder of the stamp initiative, member from Beloeil, QC

**Planned Giving**

Make a bequest by will or a gift of securities and leave a legacy of hope for future generations!

Planned giving allows you to take advantage of tax savings during your lifetime and can also benefit your estate. For more info: devp.org/donate.