You’re going carol singing! This is a great way to spread Christmas cheer and raise funds to change lives this Advent.

**CHOOSE A LOCATION AND DATE**
- High streets, shopping centres and train stations all make great carol singing venues, but give yourself time to get the relevant permissions.
- Walking between pubs or churches can spread your festive cheer further and keep you warm!
- Set up your choir underneath your town’s Christmas tree (remember to check about permits first!)
- Pick busy times like weekends and late-night shopping hours so that lots of people will get the chance to listen and donate.

**ASK FOR HELP**
- You’ll need a team of keen singers! Try to make some time to practice together before you go out carol singing.
- We’ve collected our favourite carols for you, so use our Christmas carol sheet for your song list! Download the sheet and posters too from cafod.org.uk/Adventseason
- Try to recruit some musicians to play along with you as you sing.

**SET A TARGET**
- Contact your local CAFOD volunteer centre for collection buckets, tins and seals.
- If you’ve enough singers, divide into two teams and sing in two locations. See which team can raise the most money!
- You could give out Christmas treats or stickers as a small thank you for donations - and even take carol requests from extra generous donors!
- If you’re singing in a supermarket, try to organise some bagpacking volunteers as well, to increase your donations.
PROMOTE YOUR CAROL SINGING

• Put posters up in advance in any pubs, shops or churches you’re visiting to spread the word and recruit extra singers! You can also put a notice in your parish newsletter and encourage people to bring along friends and family.
• Get dressed up – dressing as angels or shepherds will help your singers stand out, but tinsel scarves are also eye catching and simple!
• Use our posters to make sure everyone knows that you are raising funds for Carols for CAFOD on the night.

MAKE YOUR EVENT SAFE

• Getting the right permissions is really important for a fun and successful carol singing event.
• If you’d like to sing in a public place, contact your local council for a street collection permit and ask if there is a way you can book your carol singing spot!
• To sing in a supermarket or shopping centre, ask permission from the manager.
• If you’re going between pubs or churches to spread festive cheer, get permission from owners as well as a street collection permit for when you’re walking between venues.
• Stay safe - please don’t go carol singing door to door.
• It can get chilly singing outside, so make sure everyone wraps up warm!
• Take flasks of hot drinks and some snacks like mince pies to keep everyone going.
• Ensure any children singing have come with a responsible adult and are being looked after by them.
• Stay together as a group and if you’re walking between venues, cross roads safely and ensure someone brings up the rear so that nobody gets lost!
• If you’d like more advice, or support with writing a risk assessment, check our fundraising pages online, or get in touch with your local volunteer centre at cafod.org.uk/UK.

SEND IN YOUR MONEY

• Pay in your donations online at cafod.org.uk/give, by phone on 0303 303 3030 or by post to the address below.
• Please include a brief note about how you raised your funds and ask for any extra thank you letters or posters as well.
• Please remember that we can only claim gift aid on donations in collection envelopes!
• If you haven’t already tweeted a photo of your carol singing to @CAFOD, email one to events@cafod.org.uk so we can see what you’ve been up to!

Have a very happy and blessed Christmas from everyone at CAFOD!

‘Your help was like a mercy from God.’

These are the words of Majid, a father forced to flee his home with his wife and four daughters, on foot, in the dead of night. Majid and his family walked for a day and a half through the desert, leaving all their possessions behind, to escape missiles and terrorism in their home city. Thanks to your support, Majid and his family in Syria now have somewhere safe to stay.