We reach out to people around the world who urgently need our help. Whether it’s a local priest, a midwife or a water engineer, our local experts have the passion and expertise to get help to people, fast, regardless of their religion or culture.

O COME, O COME, EMANUEL
O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel, That mourns in lonely exile here, Until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free Thine own from Satan’s tyranny; From depths of hell Thy people save, And give them victory o’er the grave.

O come, Thou Dayspring, from on high, And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh; Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, And death’s dark shadows put to flight.

O come, Thou Key of David, come And open wide our heav’nly home; Make safe the way that leads on high, And close the path to misery.

O come, Adonai, Lord of might, Who to Thy tribes, on Sinai’s height, In ancient times didst give the law In cloud and majesty and awe.

THE FIRST NOËL
The first Noël the Angel did say Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay, In fields where they lay keeping their sheep, On a cold winter’s night that was so deep.

Noël, noël, noël, noël Born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star Shining in the East, beyond them far, And to the earth it gave great light, And so it continued, both day and night.

And by the light of that same star Three wise men came from country far To seek for a King was their intent, And to follow the star wherever it went.

The star drew nigh to the north west; O’er Bethlehem it took its rest. And there it did both stop and stay, Right over the place where Jesus lay.

WHITE SHEPHERDS WATCHED
While shepherds watch’d their flocks by night, All seated on the ground, The angel of the Lord came down, And glory shone around. “Fear not,” said he, for mighty dread Had seized their troubled mind;

“Glad tidings of great joy I bring To you and all mankind.” “To you, in David’s town this day, Is born of David’s line A Saviour who is Christ the Lord, And this shall be the sign: The heav’nly Babe you there shall find To human view displayed, All meanly wrapped in swaddling bands, And in a manger laid.”

Thus spake the seraph, and forthwith Appeared a shining throng Of angels praising God, who thus Addressed their joyful song: “All glory be to God on high And on the earth be peace. Goodwill henceforth from heav’n to men Begin and never cease.”

ONCE IN ROYAL DAVID’S CITY
Once in royal David’s city, Stood a lowly cattle shed, Where a mother laid her baby, In a manger for his bed. Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven, Who is God and Lord of all, And his shelter was a stable, And his cradle was a stall; With the poor and mean and lowly, Lived on earth our Saviour holy.

And through all his wondrous childhood, He would honour and obey, Love and watch the lowly maiden, In whose gentle arms he lay: Christian children all must be, Mild, obedient, good as he.

For he is our childhood’s pattern, Day by day, like us he grew, He was little, weak and helpless, Tears and smiles like us he knew: And he feeleth for our sadness, And he shareth in our gladness.

And our eyes at last shall see him, Through his own redeeming love, For that child so dear and gentle, Is our Lord in heaven above; And he leads his children on, To the place where he is gone.

Not in that poor lowly stable, With the oxen standing by, We shall see him: but in heaven, Set at God’s right hand on high; Where like stars his children crowned, All in white shall wait around..
Hark! The herald angels sing
Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the new-born King:
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all ye nations, rise.
Join the triumph of the skies.
With angelic hosts proclaim,
“Christ is born in Bethlehem.”

Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the new-born King.”

Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ the everlasting Lord
Late in time behold him come,
Off spring of the Virgin's womb
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
Hail the incarnate Deity
Pleased as Man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail, the Son of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His throne on high,
Born that man no more may die
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.

Silent night, holy night,
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night,
Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!
Christ the Saviour is born,
Christ the Saviour is born!

Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love's pure light;
Radiant beams from thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

O Little Town of Bethlehem
O little town of Bethlehem
How still we see thee lie
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by
Yet in the dark streets shineth
The everlasting Light
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight
O morning stars together
Proclaim the holy birth

And praises sing to God the King
And peace to men on earth
For Christ is born of Mary
And gathered all above
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wondering love

How silently, how silently
The wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of His heaven.
No ear may hear His coming,
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him still,
The dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem
Descend to us, we pray
Cast out our sin and enter in
Be born to us today
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell
O come to us, abide with us
Our Lord Emmanuel.

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus! look down from the sky,
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
Close by me forever, and love me I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
And take us to heaven to live with thee there.

O Come, All Ye Faithful
O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold Him
Born the King of Angels:

O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord.

God of God, light of light,
Lo, He abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Very God, begotten, not created.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of Heaven above!
Glory to God, in the highest.

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be all glory given.
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!

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