

## Messages to the Brave

Every day, human rights defenders and environmental activists across the world are risking everything to defend our brothers and sisters and protect our common home.

This year has been particularly tough for these brave people because of the devastation of coronavirus. Under lockdown, many have been exposed to increased threats and violence. More than 300 human rights defenders were killed last year.

Some of these brave individuals are friends of CAFOD. Each year, through the autumn, we ask for messages that we can send to them at the end of the year to let them know we're supporting them in their struggle.

Because of how different parish life is at the moment, and because last year many of you asked for more notice, this year we're giving you plenty of time to plan to collect a few messages, if you can.

A leaflet is enclosed with this update. It tells of defenders like Father Alfred Buju from the DRC (above right). Defending local communities against human rights abuses and environmental destruction associated with mining companies has made him and his colleagues targets for intimidation.

It also tells of Palwasha Hassan (right) who fights for women's rights in Afghanistan, and Claudelice Silva dos Santos (below) who stands up to companies logging illegally in the Amazon.



In the face of threats, your card will help show them that they aren't alone in their struggles and that they have a community of people in the UK who are all praying and standing with them.

To order more copies of the enclosed leaflet visit [cafod.org.uk/shop](https://cafod.org.uk/shop).

Send a message of solidarity to the brave  
[cafod.org.uk/messagetobrave](https://cafod.org.uk/messagetobrave)

## Join our photo wall to help #CancelTheDebt



Thank you to everyone who has uploaded or sent a photo for our #CancelTheDebt photo petition. If you haven't, it's not too late and we need you! Along with many other organisations, we're calling for debt repayments of the world's poorest countries to be cancelled so that the money can be spent on healthcare during the pandemic.

Your photo will be handed in as part of our photo petition to Chancellor Richi Sunak ahead of the World Bank and IMF meetings in October.

Add your photo, and invite others to do so, at [cafod.org.uk/cancelthedebt](https://cafod.org.uk/cancelthedebt) or send it to [campaign.writer@cafod.org.uk](mailto:campaign.writer@cafod.org.uk)



# Coming soon: a just global green recovery



The climate crisis has not gone away.

As the world looks to rebuild from the Covid-19 pandemic, we have an obligation to use this moment to ensure any recovery is done in a way that brings together the issues of poverty, inequality, environmental degradation and climate change.

In connecting these issues, the notion of a 'just global green recovery' can be understood as connecting 'the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor' in line with the integral ecology approach laid out by Pope Francis in Laudato Si'.

The COP26 UN Climate Talks were postponed from November 2020 to November 2021, but that doesn't mean working to tackle the climate crisis stops. There has been some progress over the last few years but there is so much more to do.

We will continue our campaigning on climate and will keep you informed of actions you can take. Keep an eye on [cafod.org.uk/climate](https://cafod.org.uk/climate)

## Boiling Point: A COP26 Coalition Speaker Series

Expert speakers will discuss the climate crisis and global negotiations in a series of six webinars. Search 'Boiling Point COP26' in [eventbrite.co.uk](https://eventbrite.co.uk)

## Prepare for a Global Just and Green Recovery: An online session for CAFOD Campaigners Saturday 14 November 2pm-4:30pm

You are invited to join us for an event with Practical Theologian Sam Ewell on 'Finding God in the discarded'. You are welcome to bring along a family member or friend from your parish.

Book your place at [cafod.org.uk/onlinetalks](https://cafod.org.uk/onlinetalks) or call **0303 303 3030**.

## Have you got...

### » 2 minutes?

Take your #CancelTheDebt selfie and send it to us  
[cafod.org.uk/cancelthedebt](https://cafod.org.uk/cancelthedebt)

### » 7 minutes?

Write and post a Messages to the Brave card (see over)

### » 10 minutes?

Share Messages to the Brave with two people in your parish and encourage them to write a card



## Meet Hannah...

Hannah Jordan is one of CAFOD's Climate Champs, encouraging other young people to take action on the climate crisis. She tells us a bit more....

I first learnt about CAFOD at school, but began volunteering in the campaigns team at university after a colleague told me about her amazing experience with them!

I knew that I wanted to make a difference and really resonated with CAFOD's values and mission statement.

My favourite part of volunteering was seeing the efforts that communities put into the campaigns such as Power To Be. This campaign motivated me to become a climate champion and fight for climate justice at the COP24 in Poland. This trip was the highlight of my time at CAFOD. It was fantastic to see the impact that CAFOD was having across the world as well as spend time with other supporters from all parts of the country.

Since graduating university, I have taken a role in supporter care in a charity after being inspired by the efforts of CAFOD campaigners.

Encourage volunteering in your parish today [cafod.org.uk/campaignwithus](https://cafod.org.uk/campaignwithus)

## CAFOD Campaigns Update –September 2020

You are signed up to receive this update as a CAFOD Campaigns Volunteer. For queries or to order resources, contact CAFOD Campaigns hotline: 020 7095 5692 or [campaigns@cafod.org.uk](mailto:campaigns@cafod.org.uk)

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