

A prayer for Ukraine

Loving God,
We pray for the people of Ukraine,
for all those suffering or afraid,
that you will be close to them and
protect them.
We pray for world leaders,
for compassion, strength and wisdom
to guide their choices.
We pray for the world
that in this moment of crisis,
we may reach out in solidarity
to our brothers and sisters in need.
May we walk in your ways
so that peace and justice
become a reality for the people of
Ukraine
and for all the world.
Amen

Take action for Ukraine

As well as donating to
our Ukraine Appeal,
thousands of CAFOD
supporters have been
emailing the Home
Secretary and the
Foreign Secretary to
call for peace in

Ukraine and safety for refugees. If you haven't already,
please take our action at
cafod.org.uk/ukrainewar

Thank you if you are **walking against hunger** this
Lent to raise funds for our work, or if you have
encouraged others to take part.



Parliament in your Parish: the next step Thursday 7 April, 7pm-8.30pm

Last year over a hundred parishes across the country organised meetings with their local MPs in order to raise the Catholic community's concerns on climate and debt cancellation ahead of the G7 and COP26 meetings. The result was incredible: 112 meetings with MPs, representing 20% of constituencies in England and Wales. Join us at this online event to celebrate this achievement together and find out how you can continue to develop your relationship with your local MP. **Register at cafod.org.uk/PIYPnextsteps**



Next month: CAFOD's Food Campaign resources pack



At the end of April, we'll be sending you a **small pack of resources** about our new campaign on the **global food system**, with this usual update. We will send you plenty of information explaining what this campaign is about, and equip you to involve others in your parish in this campaign during May, June and July. **Our main CAFOD email newsletter** on Sunday 10 April will have some introductory information about the campaign. If you don't already receive this, do sign up at cafod.org.uk (scroll to the bottom of the page and see 'Stay Connected').

Stay up to date!

A reminder that there are several pages on our website that could be very helpful to you as a CAFOD Campaigns Volunteer. Our main news page **cafod.org.uk/latestnews** has articles about our response to emergencies, new campaign developments and more. For regular updates on our campaigning work see **cafod.org.uk/latestcampaigns**, and this page also has this monthly update published as a PDF, in case that's useful to you. For prayers, liturgies and reflections, see **cafod.org.uk/pray**.

CAFOD Campaigns Update – April 2022

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

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Can we stop UK companies causing harm around the world?

So far this year, over 500 MPs have been contacted by nearly 2,000 CAFOD supporters to call for a new Business, Human Rights and Environment Act.

Right now, workers are being exploited, rivers are being polluted and communities are being forced from their lands around the world because of activities in the supply chains of UK companies. But those companies aren't held responsible. We need a new law so that companies are held to account for their failure to prevent human rights and environmental abuses - and so that communities can take companies to court.



With every email or letter to an MP, the case for a new Act gets stronger. If you haven't already, please email your MP at cafod.org.uk/newlaw and if you know someone else who would agree that this isn't right, please ask them to take the action too.



Guapinol River Defenders freed

In some good news, eight human rights defenders who were illegally detained for defending the Guapinol river in Honduras have now been released and are reunited with their loved ones. The Guapinol Water Defenders were featured in our Messages to the Brave scheme at Christmas 2020 so maybe you sent them a card.

Honduras is one of the most dangerous countries in the world to defend the environment. In the Tocoa region, large-scale farming and mining activities are causing destruction and degradation of the land and rivers. The eight defenders were illegally detained for 914 days after they attempted to protect the Guapinol river and call for local people to have a voice in the farming and mining projects that affect their lives.

Our Church partner organisation, ERIC, has been providing long-term advocacy support to human rights defenders like the Guapinol defenders, and were instrumental in securing justice for them. Despite this huge step forward, the struggle among communities continues.

cafod.org.uk/newlaw

RENEW – Sat 23 April, CAFOD, London

If you're aged 18-30, or know someone who is and can pass this on, we are hosting a day for young adults at our main office in London on Saturday 23 April from 11am. It's a chance to join like-minded young Catholics and find out how you can play your part in challenging the root causes that drive poverty, injustice and the climate crisis.

Sign up now at cafodyoungadultteventtickets.eventbrite.co.uk



Help us to help you!

This update is designed to help you, as a CAFOD Campaign Volunteer, stay informed of our campaigning work and share our initiatives with others in your parish. Do email Helen Moseley, Campaigns Engagement Manager, at hmoseley@cafod.org.uk with any feedback or suggestions. We want to know how useful it is for you, and how we can make it even more so!

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