

# CAFOD

Catholic Agency for  
Overseas Development

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## What does CAFOD do?

We are an international development charity and the official aid agency of the Catholic Church in England and Wales. As part of CARITAS International, we work through the local Church to reach people and places that others can't. We reach out to people living in poverty with practical help, whatever their religion or culture. Through our global Church network, one of the largest in the world, we have the potential to reach everyone. And we campaign for global justice, so that every woman, man and child can live a full and dignified life.

To find out more follow this link to CAFOD's website: <https://cafod.org.uk/>

*"2012 was the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the birth of CAFOD and for the past 50 years the Catholic community in England and Wales has supported CAFOD through prayer - taking part in campaigns - and always giving generously.*

*This support enables CAFOD to continue to work together with some of the poorest, most disadvantaged people throughout the world to transform their lives – both when disaster strikes, and in the long term.*

*Your Parishes have played an active part in that and CAFOD says 'Thank You'."*

## **RINGWOOD & FORDINGBRIDGE JOINT CAFOD GROUP**

### Who are we?

Betty Baxter – Ringwood  
Helen Eales – Fordingbridge  
Jane Saunders - Ringwood  
Kath Hart - Fordingbridge  
Mary Richardson - Ringwood  
Catriona Salisbury - Ringwood  
Teresa Rogers - Fordingbridge

Meetings are 3-4 times a year and the venue alternates between Ringwood and Fordingbridge. New members are always warmly welcomed! The Parish Administrator will put you in contact.

### What do we do?

Under the guidance of CAFOD principles the Group endeavours:

- To promote a prayerful awareness of the needs of the developing world
- To respond to emergencies as they arise
- To enable the parishes to partake in CAFOD promotions and campaigns
- To support CAFOD projects financially by fundraising

## The Ringwood and Fordingbridge Joint CAFOD Group support the Fairtrade movement.

According to latest market research figures current awareness of the FAIRTRADE Mark is 77 per cent. CAFOD is proud to be a founding member of the Fairtrade Foundation, which licenses use of the FAIRTRADE Mark and provides resources to help you promote Fairtrade.

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### COFFEE MORNINGS

In both churches, after some Sunday Masses, parishioners are invited to a CAFOD coffee morning and often it involves a cake sale or similar. These form a small but important source of revenue to send to CAFOD.

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### WINTER WARMER

Every year on the Saturday before the 1st Sunday in December the Ringwood & Fordingbridge Joint CAFOD Group hold their Winter Warmer.

It involves seasonal music, lights and decorations, punch (alcoholic and non-alcoholic), stollen and home made mince pies, and shortbread

This is a non-fundraising event for parishioners by way of saying 'Thank You' for the support in the preceding year and is a happy and friendly evening which is well supported by all.

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The 'livesimply' award is an opportunity for Catholic communities - parishes, schools, religious orders and chaplaincies - to respond to Pope Francis' invitation in 'Laudato Si' to "work with generosity and tenderness in protecting this world which God has entrusted to us".

We are asked to consider, if we could live on 99% of our income, what the 1% could do for those living in extreme poverty.

? What do I do everyday that affects those who live in poverty?  
? What changes could I make that would help others to have a better life?



? Do I have enough, or more than I need?  
Could I afford to spare some of what I have?  
Are we up to the challenge? Are you up to the challenge?

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## ONE CLIMATE, ONE WORLD

Climate change is making great differences in the environment round the world which affect the poor and vulnerable by far the most.

A shocking 90% of those who die from the direct or indirect effects of climate changes, are among those very people we care about and try to support in our two parishes through CAFOD.

Of course, opinions vary widely as to the degree that these climate changes are the direct result of mankind's activities although there is a general agreement that certainly some of it has had an impact.

But there is also a recognition that it can be alleviated to some extent by a change in our relationship to the environment at a personal and governmental level.

(For example, the hole in the ozone layer caused by CFCs has slowly begun to heal since the use of this propellant has been banned.)

**CAFOD joins The Climate Coalition.** CAFOD is joining its voice to that of all the None Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and hundreds of other groups worldwide to campaign: Asking governments to make changes that will help towards reducing the speed of climate change.

CAFOD is also asking parishes and schools, etc to make changes to reduce our impact on the climate change.

### **Why is CAFOD directing some of its energies to this and not solely giving aid?**

Because it will make the work of CAFOD and its partners in alleviating poverty more cost effective in the long run. It will ensure any improvement it makes to people's lives is more long lasting. Of course, the work in disaster zones and funding and supporting ongoing projects will continue.

We can all choose to be involved in a range of different ways:

1. We can add our voices to the National Campaign ' One Climate, One World'.  
(*eg. Campaign cards, contact our MP, CAFOD demos*)
2. Pray and support fundraising for direct action on the ground among the communities affected  
(*Which is what we already do*)
3. Make changes to our lifestyles and within the parishes to do our little bit to counter climate change.  
(*Live Simply - see Parish Website, Drive less, use public transport, reduce wasted food, buy local, recycle, involve our children.*)

It may not seem like much but EVERY LITTLE HELPS!

### **And finally.....**

*Pope Francis has already spoken about our responsibility to the environment and the poor on several occasions. eg.*

*"We are called not only to respect the natural environment but also show respect for, and solidarity with all members of the human community"*

*"[We must]... overcome the logic of unbridled exploitation of creation"*

***Papal Encyclical Letter 'Laudate Si' is about the environment and climate***