

World Development Matters – Diocese of London

Dear Parish

Recent terrible events in SE Asia have naturally made a demand on all of us, all the more so where there are direct connections through members in our congregations. But we must also keep our eye on the hugely important **Make Poverty History** coalition – the vehicle through which the Church of England and many other civil society organisations will be pressing the government and international decision makers to rise to the challenge of 2005. As Tony Blair reminded us, “there is the equivalent of a man-made preventable tsunami every week in Africa.”

In this witness of our Christian calling we are not asked to give our money; we are asked to increase our understanding of the divided world we live in and to make our voices heard. Some key dates are listed in this information sheet, which will help your parish to participate - not least through prayerful support of the many initiatives and events that will take place in the months ahead.

You will see that the diocesan Lent Appeal is included in the key dates. As well as asking politicians to act, we need to take action. The Lent Appeal for health care projects in southern Africa shows the Diocese of London responding to one of the critical issues of our time. There are plenty of materials available, so don't go short - email Carroll Potter (carroll.potter@london.anglican.org) or call her on 020 7932 1127.

Do please share all this information with appropriate people in your parish. We all get too much mail, but hopefully you have at least one person who can take an active interest in Make Poverty History.

Chris Brice and Ann Peterken – on behalf of the Diocesan Global Development Group

G7 Finance Ministers are meeting in London in early February
PLEASE COMPLETE AND SEND A “WIPE OUT DEBT” EMAIL TODAY
Go to www.jubileedebtcampaign.org.uk and click the “wipe out debt in 2005” icon

Make Poverty History 2005 – Forthcoming Events

Diocese of London Lent Appeal: 9 February until Easter

As well as asking politicians to Make Poverty History, we as members of the church in London need to take action. The 2005 Lent Appeal for health care projects in southern Africa shows the Diocese of London responding to one of the critical issues of our time. We hope your parish is taking part. Money raised will be divided between CMS, Christian Aid, Mothers' Union, USPG and Crosslinks in support of known projects. Visit www.london.anglican.org and click on 2005 Lent Appeal.

The Spirituality of Solidarity: 21 February

Guest speaker: Fr Peter Henriot from the Jesuit Centre in Lusaka, Zambia.

7.30pm for 8pm in the Waldegrave Ballroom, St Mary's College, Waldegrave Road, Strawberry Hill, TW1.

Contact: Ann Peterken (020 8891 5862, peterken@fish.co.uk)

Jubilee Debt Campaign Annual Conference: 26 February

Guest speaker: President Benjamin Mkapa of Tanzania.

A must for all who have been involved with the long running debt campaign.

12 noon – 5.30pm, South Camden Community School, NW1.

To book a place, visit www.jubileedebtcampaign.org.uk or call 020 7324 4728.

Fairtrade Fortnight: 1-13 March (and beyond)

The key annual opportunity to remind our congregations, our friends and our colleagues about the impact of Fairtrade on 5 million producers and their families who currently supply the Fairtrade products we buy.

Order *Church Action Guide* and other materials (General Leaflet and Survey, posters, Fairtrade Mark Explained pamphlet etc.) by calling 020 7440 7676.

Websites: www.fairtrade.org.uk www.traidcraft.org.uk

www.makepovertyhistory.org

Global Week of Action on Trade: 10-16 April

The aim of this very important week is to press governments and international decision makers to deliver a better deal on trade. Visit website www.april2005.org for current information on the Global Week of Action. Get the UK Action Guide by calling Christian Aid on 08700 787 788 (code F1069).

The Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance has produced: (1) an *Action Guide* and (2) a *Worship Guide*, with a complete order of service about trade justice to be used in churches, parishes and cathedrals all over the world on 10 April. Both guides can be ordered or down-loaded from www.e-alliance.ch/gwa_order_en.jsp

REMEMBER - an important action for people at any trade justice event or service is to cast their *Vote for Trade Justice*. Order ballot cards (code F963) by calling 08700 787 788

Trade Justice: a Christian response to global poverty. ISBN 0-7151-4047-7 This very readable report by Christian Aid explains how the current global trading system is a significant factor in the continuation of global poverty. To order a copy call Church House Publishing on 020 7898 1300. (Price £4.99)

World Debt Day: 16 May

Website www.jubileedebtcampaign.org.uk will provide ideas on how your parish can organise an event to mark this day. Or call 020 7324 4728.

Make Poverty History Mass Rally, Edinburgh: 2 July

To demonstrate to Tony Blair and the other G8 leaders that the British public demands 100% debt cancellation, trade justice and better aid. It is anticipated that this mobilisation will be bigger than the one seen at Birmingham in 1998. The NGOs request that participants bring personal, written messages out-lining their demands, which will comprise part of the main display.

Please encourage as many people as possible to take part in the rally and offer to deliver the messages of people who cannot go. Some NGOs will be offering travel packages, but it's also sensible to think about arrangements ourselves.

"I call upon all people to come out in large numbers to ask their leaders to listen to the voices from the South, especially on debt, trade and aid. The answer doesn't lie anywhere else but with us, the people of the world."

Charity Musamba, Jubilee Zambia

KEEPING INFORMED: The best possible way to stay informed in this important year is via the Web, especially www.makepovertyhistory.org or www.christian-aid.org. Both these websites contain information on how to order white armbands, the symbol of the Make Poverty History campaign. Each parish can ask one or two people to sign up for regular information from Christian Aid, including latest news and easy actions. This information can be sent by email or post. Simply register by calling 020 7523 2225.

"2005 is our chance to go down in history for what we did do, rather than what we didn't do." Bono

HELP WITH THOSE SERMONS: Bath and Wells produce a quarterly resource *Development Matters!* for preachers, which links Sunday lectionary readings with current justice and development issues. This quarter's edition features Make Poverty History.

Access http://www.bathwells.anglican.org/mission/wm_linked_lectionary.php

You can then display and/or download the Acrobat format document.

"2005 is a year of great opportunity. If everyone who wants to see an end to poverty, hunger and suffering speaks out, then the noise will be deafening. Politicians will have to listen." Desmond Tutu

Agency Contacts

Christian Aid: Gray Featherstone, 020 7496 1690, gfeatherstone@christian-aid.org

CMS: Chuli Scarfe, 020 7700 3711, chuli.scarfe@cms-uk.org

Crosslinks: Alan Purser, 020 7702 8741, apurser@crosslinks.org

Mothers Union: Lynette Paul, 020 7932 1265, mothers.union@london.anglican.org

SAMS: Richard Crofts, 01892 838301, seareasec@sams.gb.org

USPG: Philip Evans, 020 8503 2387, philipe@uspg.org.uk

www.makepovertyhistory.org