

Parish of St. John Vianney: **LiveSimply reflection and action.**

February 2024: Living in SOLIDARITY with the Poor

Our LiveSimply Prayer. Heavenly Father, we praise and thank you for the world You created for us to share. We ask you to give us the grace to work together, to live more simply, more sustainably, and in **solidarity with the poor.**

Through Christ our Lord. Amen

From **Laudato Si'** - **Pope Francis' Encyclical on care for our common home**

- The earth is essentially a shared inheritance, whose fruits are meant to benefit everyone. (Paragraph 93)
- We have to realize that a true ecological approach always becomes a social approach; it must integrate questions of justice in debates on the environment, so as to hear both the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor. (Paragraph 49)

ACTION FOR FEBRUARY: we invite you to become more aware of the causes of poverty in the developing world and the actions we can take in response

Reflection

- **Poverty occurs when people lack sufficient money or resources to live at a standard considered comfortable or normal in society**
- **The World Bank estimates that \$2.15 per day is required to cover the cost of food, clothing and shelter to sustain one person and keep them out of poverty**
- **Almost 685 million people, most of them in the developing world, have a daily income below this and live in extreme poverty.**



Living in SOLIDARITY with the poor

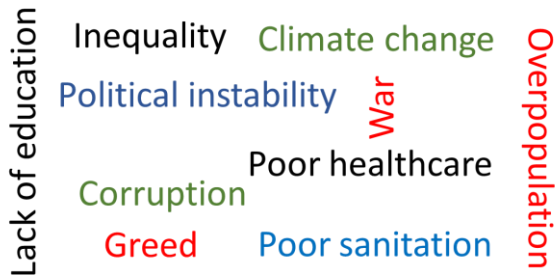
As Catholics, we can help tackle the causes of poverty in communities abroad, help people climb out of poverty and give them new hope and opportunities. We can ...

- **Pray for all our sisters and brothers living in poverty**
- **Act and make our voices heard through campaigning with CAFOD**
- **Buy Fairtrade products such as chocolate, coffee, tea and wine**
- **Give what we can and help organisations such as CAFOD reach people living in need of help**
- **Challenge ourselves and take part in a fundraising event, such as the CAFOD's Big Lent Walk: <https://cafod.org.uk/fundraise/big-lent-walk>**

Thank you to the parish CAFOD group for help with this month's leaflet.
To help us achieve the **LiveSimply award** please contact: tony.obrien@hotmail.com

Please take this leaflet home to share with family and friends

Causes of poverty



Pope Francis says “Injustice is not invincible”. Each day around 250,000 people climb out of extreme poverty.



Catholic Agency for
Overseas Development

is the official aid agency for the Catholic Church in England and Wales. Its local experts provide long-term aid to those who are excluded and living in poverty, equipping

them with the skills, tools and opportunities to live with dignity, support their families and give back to their communities. When disaster strikes, CAFOD acts fast to provide food, water and shelter for people who have lost everything and then helps people rebuild their lives and prepare for the future. To tackle the causes of poverty, CAFOD also campaigns on issues such as the global food system, the climate emergency, cancelling debt and human rights.



St John Mary Vianney is already a Fairtrade Parish and has a commitment to use Fairtrade products, whenever possible, in all parish activities. Fairtrade is about better prices, decent working conditions and fair terms of trade for farmers and workers in the developing world. The scheme ensures that companies pay a minimum, stable and fair price for products. This enables producers to plan, improve their businesses, develop skills and, increasingly, adapt to climate change.

As a family, please take 5 minutes to learn more about CAFOD and Fairtrade at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kzDPkRbTlxY> and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=br0HSRoHYR4>.