



BAPTIZED & SENT

Catholics Making a Difference



Development and Peace – Caritas Canada

No One should be Forced to Flee their Home

Pope Francis has invited each of us to journey in solidarity with the 68.5 million displaced children, women, and men throughout the world. Through this journey, he asks that we see the inherent human dignity of each person in the faces of those who are forced to leave their homes through no fault of their own.

They are the residents of poor coastal communities in the Philippines who lost their homes in Super Typhoon Haiyan. Development and Peace and its local partners formed a consortium for the purchase of land that the affected communities were able to transform into the Pope Francis Village.

They are the Rohingya people, 700,000 of whom have fled persecution in Myanmar to take refuge in Bangladesh. Development and Peace's long-time partner Caritas Bangladesh has been able to provide temporary shelters, access to clean water, hygiene kits, safe latrines and showers for women and girls, and increased awareness among refugees about safety issues.

They are the 12.5 million Syrians who have been forced to flee since war broke out in 2011. Development and Peace partner House of Peace (HOPE) is working to build bridges between Syrian refugees and their host communities in Lebanon.

In his homily of July 6, 2018, Pope Francis described our Christian duty simply: "Before the challenges of contemporary movements of migration, the only reasonable response is one of solidarity and mercy."

Through *Together We Serve*, we can help Development and Peace support over 162 projects in 37 countries around the world. Please be assured that your generosity has a real impact on the lives of our sisters and brothers in the Global South.



Pictured is a young Rohingya refugee living in the Kutupalong refugee camp in Bangladesh. With a population of around 610,000, it is the largest refugee camp in the world.

About Caritas Canada - Development and Peace:

D&P is the official international development organization of the Catholic Church in Canada and the Canadian member of Caritas Internationalis. Its work is inspired by the values of the Gospel and Catholic Social Teaching, particularly "the preferential option for the poor." It supports partners in the Global South in the pursuit of alternatives to unjust social, political and economic structures, educates the Canadian population about the causes of impoverishment of peoples, and mobilizes actions for change.

**Thank you for your generous support of
Together We Serve !**



BAPTIZED & SENT

Catholics Making a Difference



Needs of the Church in the Holy Land **Lifting up our Family of Faith**

In churches around the world, Catholics offer gifts during Lent for the benefit of the Holy Places in the land where Jesus was born and the dwindling number of Christians who live there. Donations to the Needs of the Church in the Holy Land support the work of the Commissariat of the Holy Land in Canada.

Today, living the Christian faith in the Middle East is not at all easy. Christians are often subjected to forms of oppression and discrimination that undermine their living conditions.

A group of international bishops who made a pilgrimage to the Holy Land in 2018 reported that Israel's Christians wish to live as full citizens, with their rights recognized in a plural and democratic society.

"We have seen the vital contribution that they (Christians) make especially through schools, hospitals, involvement in public life and attempting to build bridges between different faiths," they said in the annual report of the Holy Land Coordination. "Yet it is clear that at the same time they face profound difficulties across all aspects of their lives. We have heard that, along with other Palestinian Arab citizens and migrants living in Israel, many Christians find themselves systematically discriminated against and marginalized."

Keeping hope alive in such circumstances is both difficult and vitally important. The small Christian presence has great need of the support and attention of the entire Church. You can help provide that support through your gifts to the Together We Serve appeal.

The Apostle Paul put it this way: "So then, whenever we have opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially of the family of faith." (Galatians 6, 10)



About the Commissariat of the Holy Land in Canada:

Funds directed to the Needs of the Church in the Holy Land are used for the protection and upkeep of shrines, basilicas and churches, and to help with pastoral work, Catholic schools, needs of convents and social assistance. Christians are a shrinking minority in the Holy Land. The Commissariat's mission is to make known the places where Christ lived and announced the Gospel, and to develop a permanent and effective solidarity between our parishes and the religious communities with the faithful of the first Christian church in the world: the Church of Jerusalem.

**Thank you for your generous support of
*Together We Serve!***