



## Welcome to our March 2018 eBulletin

### Dear Supporter,

Thank you so much for your support for Family Fast Day.

I have a couple of good news to share with you. Firstly I am delighted to inform you that the [canonization of Oscar Romero has been approved by Pope Francis](#) and will be taking place this year or next. For those who heard me share my experience of El Salvador, you would know what this means to the Salvadorans especially!

The next piece of good news is that we now have a wonderful [new CAFOD group at St Augustine](#) (Milton Keynes). We welcome them and look forward to hearing how they get on.

Our [Stations of the Cross resource](#) is intended to accompany you on your faith journey this Lent, especially during Holy Week. It is a PowerPoint reflection to share with your parish or community, and guide you through the fifteen stations. There are also accompanying leader's notes.

Step into the Gap, [CAFOD's gap year programme](#), is an opportunity to volunteer in the UK, gain experience, develop leadership skills and visit CAFOD partners and the communities we work with overseas. Applications are open for a September 2018 start – please tell anyone who might be interested.

Wishing you a blessed journey through Lent

*Deborah*

Deborah Purfield  
Community Participation Coordinator – Northampton

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Are you interested in hearing more about how CAFOD works with communities? [Choose from a variety of talks here, including our work in Syria and Bangladesh.](#)

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## Thank you for making Family Fast Day a success



**Thank you** to all who gave out envelopes for Family Fast Day and gave the Short Talk! Your efforts are greatly appreciated and make such a difference to the engagement of the parish.

This time, every pound donated to CAFOD's Family Fast Day Appeal will be doubled by the UK Government. [Learn more here.](#) Many parishes are planning other fundraising activities in order to make the most of this; monies raised between 13 February (Shrove Tuesday) and 12 May will be matched, up to a total value of £5m.



Funds raised during this period need to be sent to CAFOD by 1 July 2018.

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## Online talk by Moise Liboto Makuta: 2-3pm, Tuesday 20 March

Moise Liboto Makuta, CAFOD's country representative in Niger, will be talking about the challenges that people face in the communities we work with, and the impact that our projects are having to bring hope and real change.

[Please register here](#) to listen live, or for a link to listen later at a time of your choice.



## Share the Journey: 570 miles so far



Pope Francis has launched a global campaign called *Share the Journey*, and as part of it, CAFOD supporters are collectively 'walking around the world' – 24,900 miles! The miles that groups walk will be added together, so if 10 people walk 1 mile, that totals 10 miles walked. Walks are now being planned, and a few have even happened, meaning [we've already reached our first stage of Rome to Lampedusa](#) and are now ready to tackle the next stage - Lampedusa to Syria.

Our Campaigns Volunteers will have received [resources](#) to help groups reflect on refugee stories, to pray and to take action. You can also follow our progress on our online [totaliser](#). Could you plan a walk in your parish between April and June, leading up to a global week of action from 16-24 June, to show leaders that we expect them to step up in support of refugees and migrants?

Several parishes have already said they are interested in doing a walk as a parish, with a neighbouring parish or even as a pastoral area. It could be as simple as asking people to walk to mass on Sunday or round the church and that could be added to the online totaliser! See information below for those who have shared their dates with CAFOD already

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## Dates for your diary

### Share the Journey Central Beds Pastoral Area : 5 Saturdays, 7 April – 5 May

Central Beds Pastoral area will be holding five *Share the Journey* walks across some lovely and scenic routes on each Saturday after Easter. See [website](#) to find out more and to register for one or more walks.

### Share the Journey St Teresa Princes Risborough : 15 April

Sponsored afternoon walk followed by tea. Get in touch [northampton@cafod.org.uk](mailto:northampton@cafod.org.uk) for more details.

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*Lord,*

*Thank you for the justice and peace present in today's world. Please ensure that if people who are living in war zones feel unsafe, that your company may make them feel protected from any violence and help them to witness the peace you can bring to them. Please watch over those people who may feel as though they are discriminated within the world today with things such as racism, religious discrimination and any form of bullying. Please enable them to find the courage and strength to stand for their faith and rights and allow them to live in justice.*

*Amen*

*This prayer was written by Isabelle, a Year 12 student at St Francis of Assisi Catholic Technology College*