

COVENANT WITH THE POOR

We commit ourselves

- To pray regularly for those who are disadvantaged and marginalised and to support with our prayers those organisations, local and international, who work with people in need.
- To inform ourselves of the causes of poverty and to campaign for change in the light of what we have learned.
- To continue and increase our financial support for the Advent and Lenten Parish Projects and for those organisations who work in our area with those in need.
- To continue and increase our support for CAFOD, Christian Aid, Pax Christi and other organisations who work in the light of Catholic Social Teaching for a world of justice and peace.
- To buy and encourage the use of fairly -traded goods, both as individuals and as a parish.
- To support our sister Diocese of Bamenda in Cameroon by prayer and financial help.
- To live as simply and sustainably as possible in our individual lives, recognising that we are stewards of God's Creation.
- Loving Father, help us to share justly the good things that come from your loving hand; to bring peace and reconciliation where strife and disorder reign; to speak out for those who have no voice; and to rejoice in a bond of prayer and praise with our brothers and sisters throughout the world. This we ask through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Our Lady and St Edmund Parish.

Dear Parishioners

The **Covenant with the Poor** is what we, as a parish, committed ourselves to year by year. This short report is a summary of what we have achieved in the first part of this year.

- We have included the poor and marginalised in our **Bidding Prayers**, written by a variety of parishioners, and we have highlighted in the Parish Newsletter opportunities for individual action
- **Our Lenten Projects** raised fund through soup lunches, Parish breakfast and produce event, golf day, barn dance, cookery demo, Italian evening, sponsored climb and walk, cake sale. Over £16,000 was raised for parishioner nominated projects in Mexico, Zimbabwe and Tanzania.
- **Abingdon Food Bank** was continually advertised and contributed to.
- **CAFOD's** Lenten Fast Day was promoted and £958 raised. CAFOD's appeal for victims of the Nepal earthquake raised £1165.
- **Christian Aid Week:** the Parish ran a market stall, participated in house-to-house-collections and in the Church in Abingdon's joint service at the end of the week. Our parish raised £1703 out of the Abingdon total of £9600.
- **Pax Christi:** Events advertised. Copies of Justpeace made available. Peace Sunday marked.
- **FairTrade Fortnight** was promoted and an event held in the Parish Centre
- **Bamenda:** close contact maintained with the Bamenda Diocesan Committee

WATCH OUT FOR MORE OPPORTUNITIES IN THE LATTER HALF OF THE YEAR!