

# CARE ABOUT

**TROCAIRE**  
Working for a Just World

## **TEACHER'S NOTES**

A unit for post-16 General RE

Suitable for use with the Pope John Paul II Award (Unit 2)

## Slide 3: One Global Family



### One Global Family

We are all one family and as Christians are all called to be our sisters or brothers keepers, regardless of whether they are next door or around the world.

**TRÓCAIRE**  
Working for a Just World



If you have the class time available, why not show your students the Powerpoint on Trócaire's work to let them see first-hand how Trócaire are helping make a difference to our global family on your behalf.

## Slide 7: New Testament Faith in Action



### New Testament Faith in Action

Throughout the Gospels Jesus transforms our love of neighbour into assistance to others:

- in helping the injured in the story of the **Good Samaritan** – (Luke 10:25-37)
- in responding to the needs of the hungry in the '**Feeding of the Five Thousand**' – (Matthew 14:13-21)

For Jesus caring for our fellow man was not an option, it was an absolute requirement!

**TRÓCAIRE**  
Working for a Just World



Ask the students to reflect on what Jesus teaches us in the Gospels and to relate it to their own situation. You could use the prompt questions: How far is this teaching reflected in my school, in my parish, in my family, in my life? How am I challenged by Jesus' words?

## Slide 9: Global Solidarity



Woreya Kubwimana (3) and  
Maria Russie Iyatumyavuka (3),  
Rwanda

### Global Solidarity

Global solidarity expresses concern for world peace and international development and can be found throughout scripture:

Genesis 22:17-18; Psalms 22: 28-29 (**Need to save all nations**)  
Isaiah 2:1-4; Micah 4:1-13 (**Call for peace for all nations**)  
Romans 10:12 (**No national distinctions in God**)



Divide the class into groups of four or five. On each table place a bible and place a biblical scripture reference (1) Genesis 22:17-18, (2) Isaiah 2:1-4 and (3) Romans 10:12. Give the groups ten minutes at each table; ask them to read the quote and discuss how it is related to 'global solidarity'. Ask them to take notes before moving to the next table. At the end, ask groups to share their answers and reflections.

## Slide 10: Catholic Social Teaching



The gift of light - Maria Namongo from Karamoja  
in north east Uganda

### Catholic Social Teaching

What is 'Catholic Social Teaching'?

*"...a collection of teachings developed by the Catholic Church on poverty and wealth, economics, social organisation and the role of the state."*

So, Popes and Bishops have spoken out on labour rights, sharing wealth, peace-making and many other social issues.



Explain that Catholic Social Teaching includes, not only encyclicals written by Popes, but other documents by Bishops and theologians that have been written by the Church.

Other Catholic Social documents on the topic of Human Rights:

- [http://www.vatican.va/holy\\_father/leo\\_xiii/encyclicals/hf\\_l-xiii\\_enc\\_15051891\\_rerum-novarum\\_en.html](http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/leo_xiii/encyclicals/hf_l-xiii_enc_15051891_rerum-novarum_en.html)
- [http://www.vatican.va/archive/hist\\_councils/ii\\_vatican\\_council/documents/vat-ii\\_const\\_19651207\\_gaudium-et-spes\\_en.html](http://www.vatican.va/archive/hist_councils/ii_vatican_council/documents/vat-ii_const_19651207_gaudium-et-spes_en.html)
- [http://www.vatican.va/holy\\_father/paul\\_vi/encyclicals/documents/hf\\_p-vi\\_enc\\_26031967\\_populorum\\_en.html](http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/paul_vi/encyclicals/documents/hf_p-vi_enc_26031967_populorum_en.html)
- [http://www.osjspm.org/majordoc\\_justicia\\_in\\_mundo\\_offical\\_test.aspx](http://www.osjspm.org/majordoc_justicia_in_mundo_offical_test.aspx)
- [http://www.vatican.va/edocs/ENG0223/\\_INDEX.HTM](http://www.vatican.va/edocs/ENG0223/_INDEX.HTM)
- [http://www.vatican.va/holy\\_father/john\\_paul\\_ii/apost\\_exhortations/documents/hf\\_jp-ii\\_exh\\_30121988\\_christifideles-laici\\_en.html](http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/john_paul_ii/apost_exhortations/documents/hf_jp-ii_exh_30121988_christifideles-laici_en.html)
- [http://www.vatican.va/holy\\_father/benedict\\_xvi/encyclicals/documents/hf\\_ben-xvi\\_enc\\_20090629\\_caritas-in-veritate\\_en.html](http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/benedict_xvi/encyclicals/documents/hf_ben-xvi_enc_20090629_caritas-in-veritate_en.html)

## Slide 11: Papal Messages



Miltom Vladimir (age 5) and Manuel Anderson (age 3) from department of Ahuachapan in El Salvador playing in the debris left by recent floods.



### Papal Messages

*“A consistent theme of Catholic Social Teaching is the option... or preference... for the poor. Today, this preference has to be expressed in worldwide dimensions, embracing the immense numbers of the hungry, the needy, the homeless, those without medical care, and those without hope.”*

– Pope John Paul II, On Social Concern

**TROCAIRE**  
Working for a Just World



The ‘option for the poor’ means that the needs of the poorest and most vulnerable should be given priority in our decisions.

## Slide 12: Papal messages



Pope Benedict XVI meets faithful during his visit to Luanda, Angola, March 2009

### Papal Messages

*“We must not only aid others in individual basic needs but we must also address the causes of their needs.”*

– Pope Benedict XVI, Deus Caritas Est

We are called as Christians not only to help those living in poverty through almsgiving but we are challenged by Christ to transform attitudes and structures that perpetuate poverty.

**TROCAIRE**  
Working for a Just World




If you would like to explore the root causes that lie behind global poverty further than why not look at the post primary Lent resource entitled ‘Food for Thought’. You can access it at [www.trocaire.org/sites/trocaire/files/pdfs/edu/postprimaryreligiousresource.pdf](http://www.trocaire.org/sites/trocaire/files/pdfs/edu/postprimaryreligiousresource.pdf).

## Slide 15: Let us Pray



Sunday is from Kolongo in Uganda




### Let us Pray


Dear Father in Heaven,

May I always find a way to follow the promptings of my conscience to help others whose humanity is diminished by the desperate conditions of their lives. Help me shape a world where the lives and dignity of all people are respected and protected, where hunger and poverty no longer make the lives of many people unbearable.

Amen



Working for a Just World



You could also put on some gentle music, invite the students to close their eyes and listen to the following reflection:

### Fifteen Things God Won't Ask (Author Unknown)

1. God won't ask what kind of car you drove, but will ask how many people you drove who didn't have transportation.
2. God won't ask the square footage of your house, but will ask how many people you welcomed into your home.
3. God won't ask about the fancy clothes you had in your closet, but will ask how many of those clothes helped the needy.
4. God won't ask about your social status, but will ask what kind of class you displayed.
5. God won't ask how many material possessions you had, but will ask if they dictated your life.
6. God won't ask what your highest salary was, but will ask if you compromised your character to obtain that salary.
7. God won't ask how much overtime you worked, but will ask if you worked overtime for your family and loved ones.
8. God won't ask how many promotions you received, but will ask how you promoted others.
9. God won't ask what your job title was, but will ask if you performed your job to the best of your ability.
10. God won't ask what you did to help yourself, but will ask what you did to help others.
11. God won't ask how many friends you had, but will ask how many people to whom you were a true friend.
12. God won't ask what you did to protect your rights, but will ask what you did to protect the rights of others.
13. God won't ask in what neighbourhood you lived, but will ask how you treated your neighbours.
14. God won't ask about the colour of your skin, but will ask about the content of your character.
15. God won't ask how many times your deeds matched your words, but will ask how many times they didn't.