

Role profile—Parish Volunteer

About CAFOD

The Catholic Agency for Overseas Development (CAFOD) is the official aid agency of the Catholic Church in England and Wales, and part of Caritas International.

Across the world we stand side by side with people and communities as we work together to end poverty and injustice. Because we work through the local Church, we can reach people and places that many others can't.

How does this role help?

As a volunteer in your church community you can encourage and help your fellow parishioners to take action for global justice. You thank parishioners for their support and help your parish priest promote and organise the Lent and Harvest Fast Days, campaigns and any emergency appeals in the parish.

"Faith cannot be just words or beliefs but must reach out to others, especially those in need." Pope Francis

What will I be doing?

- Promoting the two CAFOD Fast Days & other fundraising events.
- Ensuring that CAFOD's work is held in prayer
- Raising awareness of the causes of poverty and injustice.
- This is all done in a wealth of ways and all the resources will be provided.

You could be

- sharing stories on social media
- speaking at Mass
- putting notices in the parish bulletin and on the parish website
- putting up posters
- distributing collection envelopes
- getting campaign cards and petitions signed.
- holding services or fundraising events



"When you volunteer amongst like-minded people, doing something that you all believe in, it is immensely rewarding."
CAFOD volunteer

What skills do I need?

- The important thing is that you are interested in CAFOD and that you want to help make a difference against poverty and injustice.
- Be happy to communicate, motivate and encourage people.
- Have an email address.

What is required of me?

- Join us in our mission working alongside your parish priest to inspire your parish community to put an end to poverty and injustice throughout the world.
- Keep in touch with your local CAFOD team to let us know how you are getting on and if there is anything we can help you with in your parish.
- Look out for others who also wish to be involved as volunteers and put them in touch with your local team.

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What support will I receive?

- CAFOD staff or a volunteer coordinator will be on hand to support you in your role over phone, email and face-to-face. They will call you for regular check-ins and will answer any questions you may have.
- A Story of CAFOD induction course
- Briefings ahead of Fast Days where you will get updates on our work and meet other volunteers.
- Campaign workshops and retreats to support you in involving others in acting for a fairer world
- Online meetings with our international teams and colleagues to hear about the work that you are supporting around the world
- Various resources like:
 - ◆ A monthly update email with everything you need
 - ◆ A Fast Day pack before each Fast Day
 - ◆ A regular campaigns update
 - ◆ CAFOD's Side By Side magazine, three times a year, containing information about CAFOD's overseas programmes and our latest campaigns.
 - ◆ A World Gifts catalogue in November, just before copies are delivered to your parish
 - ◆ Articles to post in your parish's newsletters and social media sites.

What are the benefits to me?

- Through CAFOD you will be part of a global movement building a fairer world for all.
- The work is satisfying and enjoyable.
- You will know that you are playing a part in fighting poverty and injustice.
- You will get to meet other people and be more involved in your parish and in your diocese.
- You will be part of a team and a friendly network of people with shared values and commitment.
- You will have the opportunity of gaining experience and skills when you do activities that are new to you.

"When people are in need, giving money is not the only way to help. With volunteering, you give your time and skills to make a difference."
CAFOD Volunteer



Be part of a global movement building a fairer world for all.

For more information about Parish Volunteering please contact your local CAFOD Coordinator:

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