Development and Peace
CARITAS CANADA

This year, to Create Hope, we are called upon to Stand for the Land

See how each day through Lent you can help!

GET READY!

Decorate a recycled container in which to collect donations throughout Lent. Bring the money you collect to your parish's Solidarity Sunday collection or donate online at devp.org/give.

UNLEASH YOUR CREATIVITY!

Choose a colour for each symbol and colour your calendar boxes:

= Pray | = Reflect | = Act | = Watch a video | = Learn | = Give

When you see this icon, go to devp.org/lentcalendar or scan:

Share Lent 2023 — Development and Peace, CARITAS CANADA

February 22
Ash Wednesday
This Lent, let's pray for the courage to *Create Hope* for a better world.

February 23
How can we create hope? By caring for our sisters and brothers and taking action to show our solidarity.

February 24
Pope Francis calls members of popular movements "social poets" because they have the courage to create hope.

February 25
To create hope that a world of justice will take root, sow a seed and watch it sprout.

February 26
First Sunday of Lent
Pray that the Holy Spirit guides us in standing for the land and its peoples.

February 27
Protecting the land is caring for it. Today, wear gloves and pick up the garbage you see on your way. Give $1 for your good deed.

February 28
What is a territory? It is land where people live with forests, resources and waterways. This space also defines their culture, their way of life and their history.

March 1st
Stand in solidarity with the people defending their territories against industries that would destroy it to steal its resources.

March 2
The territories of several communities like the Mura of Brazil are threatened by mining companies, agribusiness or cattle ranching. Watch their testimonies.

March 3
Are there communities in your region that are defending their territories against threats from industries? How can you stand in solidarity with them?

March 4
Development and Peace stands with its partners as equals. Let's share with them. Support them by giving $2.

March 5
Second Sunday of Lent
Pray that every person in our human family can live with dignity in a healthy environment.

March 6
Colombia is home to nearly 10% of the Earth's biodiversity. It is also unfortunately a very dangerous country for people protecting their territories from mining and hydroelectric projects.

March 7
Raquel Soto, a Colombian peasant woman, is delighted to help preserve traditional ways of life in her territory by making documentaries. Discover her story.

March 8
International Women's Day
In Colombia, peasant women are mobilizing to defend their lands after being driven out by armed conflict. Donate $1 in support of courageous women around the world.

March 9
In Colombia, our partner ACA works with young people to build a culture of peace and respect for biodiversity through art, by creating videos and murals. Create a piece of art to honour peace and biodiversity.

March 10
How do you show your solidarity? Do something to help a neighbour today.

March 11
It's baking time!
Make and sell some muffins to raise funds for Development and Peace! Every donation helps our partners fight injustice. Thank you!

March 12
Third Sunday of Lent
Pray for the people who protect their territory and live in harmony with nature.

March 13
In Honduras, many people are threatened or prosecuted for resisting the exploitation of their territories by corporations.

March 14
Working with our Honduran partner ERIC, Elvin Hernández accompanies communities and investigates violations of their rights. Check out his story.

March 15
Give $2 to support Development and Peace's partners like ERIC in Honduras, who help communities defend their rights.

March 16
If your community was threatened by the arrival of a polluting company, how would you defend your rights?

March 17
In Honduras, our partner ERIC airs public-interest programs that help rural communities learn about and claim their rights. Take your turn to speak out against injustice.

March 18
Donate 50¢ for every electronic device in your home. Be sure to recycle them safely because they contain toxic pollutants.

March 19
Fourth Sunday of Lent
Pray that we are granted the wisdom to sow beauty rather than pollution and destruction.

March 20
What is solidarity? One could think of it as helping one's neighbour in a spirit of unity and acting together for the good of all. Reflect on your own definition.

March 21
Primary school kids have spoken up for the planet! Check out what they said.

March 22
World Water Day
Give 25¢ for every tap you turn on today (whether at home, in school or at work).

March 23
There are great and growing inequalities between the world's richest and poorest people. How could we live in a more just and equal world?

March 24
Last year, Development and Peace supported 86 projects in 40 countries. Donate 10¢ for every country supported.

March 25
Choose locally produced food and goods to reduce your impact on the Earth.

March 26
Solidarity Sunday
Bring your donation jar to church for today's Solidarity Sunday collection or donate online at devp.org/give. THANK YOU!

March 27
Watch the animated *For our Common Home* video. Do something to take care of the Earth.

March 28
In Cambodia, our partner YRDP educates and empowers young people to become engaged and responsible citizens who act for justice, peace and democracy.

March 29
What can you do in Canada to help change the structures that generate poverty and injustices in the Global South?

March 30
Pray that each and every one of us can live in dignity, peace and security.

March 31
Paint rocks with messages of justice, peace and love to create hope and raise awareness in your neighbourhood.

April 1st
For your next birthday, instead of gifts, ask for donations to Development and Peace, in solidarity with our sisters and brothers in the Global South.

April 2
Palm Sunday
Let us pray for the courage to create hope and stand in solidarity with those who are enduring unjust situations.

April 3
We are all connected with one another. Act with respect for people, the land and future generations.

April 4
Has the seed you planted grown? With time, love and care, we can all grow, too!

April 5
Hope starts with a smile and a word of encouragement. It grows when we stand in solidarity with our sisters and brothers in the Global South.

April 6
Holy Thursday
Are you a Development and Peace member yet? Join us to help us spread solidarity.

April 7
Good Friday
Creating hope for a better world starts at home! Write or draw messages of hope in chalk in your driveway, on sidewalks or in parks near your home.

April 8
Holy Saturday
Would your family want to *Share Year-Round*? Monthly giving supports our partners effectively and sustainably.

April 9
Happy Easter!
He is risen! May his rising inspire us to live as Jesus did, in love and solidarity, sharing with our sisters and brothers.

Thank you for your participation and generosity!



The Courage to Create Hope Scripture says, "Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you" (1 Peter 3:15).

It is difficult to have hope within us in today's world. Wars and conflict plague our human family. Politics are increasingly polarized. The gap between the rich and the poor continues to widen. The daily impacts of climate change are felt by growing numbers of people, and irreversible ecological collapse looms on the horizon. Instead of finding hope within us, it would be much more logical to feel discouraged, anxious and powerless. And yet, 150 members, partners and friends of Development and Peace gathered under the banner "Create Hope" at our June 2022 Orientation Assembly.

Development and Peace has now chosen Create Hope as our unifying theme for the next five years. We make this choice because of the dedicated efforts of the poor and oppressed to overcome poverty and injustice. Pope Francis calls their efforts and ours "a proclamation of hope." In his address at the Fourth World Meeting of Popular Movements, he added, "you have the ability and the courage to create hope where there appears to be only waste and exclusion." The partners around the world whom we support embody this courage to create hope.

Who are we not to join them? You have the courage to create hope:

- → When you add your voice to that of the youth who call for urgent government action to combat the climate emergency
- → When you listen to Indigenous peoples and their demands for justice
- → When you give to Development and Peace to enable communities in the Global South to take charge of their own development

The courage to Create Hope is rooted in actions big and small. For to drive away anguish and despair, it is better to act. Every action we take has a positive effect on us, our neighbours, our great human family, our children and their descendants. It is through our actions that we give an account for the hope that is in us

CREATE HOPE

Loving God!

We believe that we are one great human family.
You call us to walk together and to recognize the dignity of every person.

We believe that we share a Common Home.
You call us to care for all of Creation.

We believe in the sanctity of life.
You call us to treat all people with kindness and compassion in the way of Christ.

We believe that you reign in justice, peace, and joy.
You call us to put your Word into practice to build a more just, humane and joyful world.

Lord Jesus!

Guide us to be in solidarity with the joys, hopes, sorrows and anxieties of all people, especially those impoverished by unjust socio-economic and political systems.

Help us to follow your footsteps, to be bearers of the Good News.

Holy Spirit!

Inspire us to find new and creative ways of responding to your calls.

Strengthen us in our commitment to Create Hope in our world.

Amen.