

# 'We aspire' liturgy: teacher's notes

You will need:

- Three candles and matches
- A large map of the world
- Label stickers (two for each pupil), large enough for them to write a word or short phrase
- One sheet of card cut into an outline of your school building with individual bricks marked, one per child, large enough for a sticker to fit onto each brick
- Either a globe, or a circular sheet of card decorated as a globe
- Four key readers
- Facilities to show a PowerPoint presentation to the whole group
- Calming or atmospheric music for the quiet times
- A large bible for the Gospel procession (optional)
- A Romero cross on display
- Small Romero crosses as leaving gifts (or other gifts of your choice)

## Introduction

This liturgy covers the following themes:

- The end of year 6 and leaving primary school
- The powerful words of Romero – **'Aspire not to have more, but to be more'**

The liturgy aims to give pupils both a local and global focus, beginning by thinking about their school experience and widening out to their role within the world as a whole.

It has been written to be used in a class group of up to 30 pupils and requires the children to take action and get involved. It should take about 30-40 minutes.

It is probably best to have pupils sitting in a semi-circle, so they can see each other and the on-screen presentation.

This liturgy provides you with a basic structure and could be used as it is with little or no preparation. If, however, you have time to prepare and add to this, it will become an even more valuable and personal exercise.

The PowerPoint presentation does not cover all the text, so the key readers will need a paper copy to read from. It does provide the text that everyone joins in with, as well as the prayers and readings. The majority of the pupils can therefore focus on listening and reflecting and then be directed to the responses via the PowerPoint presentation.

## Suggestions to tailor this liturgy for your own school

- Ask pupils to write their own prayers – about things for which they are thankful during their time at primary school and things they might be worried about for the future.
- Use ICT time to ask pupils to prepare a PowerPoint presentation of experiences in year 6 and/or across the whole of the primary school. Add pictures of the school, pupils, trips and special days.
- Share this liturgy time with families – invite parents and grandparents, guardians or carers into school.
- Give pupils time in advance to think of special moments from their time at primary school; they then might be more willing to offer ideas during the reflection activity.
- Add to the text of the key readers, using specific examples of how your school builds community – e.g. playground buddies, eco-garden, etc.
- Replace slides 7 and 8 in the PowerPoint with pictures of your own school.
- Make reference to events related to CAFOD at your school, whether it is a particular lesson, assembly, Harvest or Lent Fast Day, visitor or fundraising event. Visit [cafod.org.uk/education/yourstories](http://cafod.org.uk/education/yourstories) and share our Thank you film to see how children around the UK have joined together to make a difference this year.
- Spend a lesson looking at the life of Oscar Romero, so that the children are familiar with his story before they celebrate the liturgy. Visit [cafod.org.uk/primary/romero](http://cafod.org.uk/primary/romero) for resources.

## CAFOD partners' work

Slides 12-19 show some of CAFOD's partners and some of the key areas of CAFOD's work:

**CAFOD** Catholic Agency for Overseas Development no one beyond reach

**CAFOD** aspires to build a world free from poverty and injustice...

...where everyone has enough to eat.

**Slide 12:** Tomás' family are farmers. It's difficult to grow enough in the soil where they live. Plus, extreme weather is wiping out crops.

CAFOD have helped the family by training them in good farming practices and teaching them to grow their own seeds, as they are expensive to buy. Now the family grows enough to have what they need.

**CAFOD** Catholic Agency for Overseas Development no one beyond reach

**CAFOD** aspires to build a world free from poverty and injustice...

...where children can rebuild their lives.

**Slide 13:** Mary is 7 years old and comes from Syria. She had to leave her home because of the war. Mary now lives in Jordan, where she can go to a puppet class with other refugees, supported by CAFOD.

In the puppet class, the children watch films, make their own puppets and talk about the difficult things they have experienced. In this way they can start to rebuild their lives.

**CAFOD** Catholic Agency for Overseas Development no one beyond reach

**CAFOD** aspires to build a world free from poverty and injustice...

...where everyone can be healthy and happy.

**Slide 14:** When Twalumba was born, he was not growing as well as other children his age.

His mum joined a support group, funded by CAFOD, to teach new mums about good nutrition and feeding. Now Twalumba is feeding well and growing up healthy.

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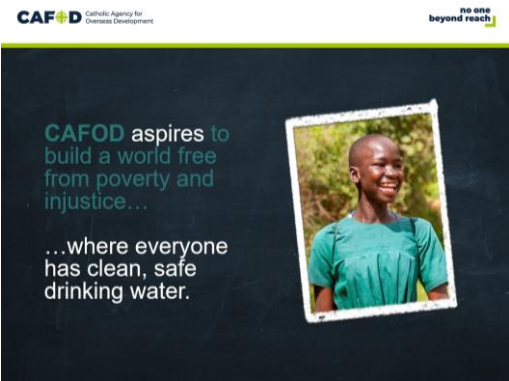
...where creation is cared for.

**Slide 15:** Proto, Fiona and Dana are 'young guardians' of the Atrato river. They live in the north west of Colombia, an area with many different plants and animals, but also at high risk from climate change. In order to help care for the river and their area, they learn about how to take actions such as cleaning the river and raising awareness in their community, in a project supported by CAFOD.



**Slide 16:** Waed had to leave her home in Syria. She now lives in Jordan. With CAFOD support, she goes to a school for Syrian refugee children. She has English, Arabic and Maths lessons.

Waed says: "I like English. I just want to play."



**Slide 17:** Two of Proscovia's sisters had to drop out of school to collect water. The same thing almost happened to her.

Through CAFOD, the borehole/well near her home was fixed, so she no longer has to go far for water. This means she can stay clean and stay in school. Proscovia is happy learning with her friends.



**Slide 18:** CAFOD have helped Joel's parents to learn to grow more food in the hard conditions of the Altiplano in Bolivia. They have been helped to build a greenhouse to protect some of their crops. They have learnt how to build a wormery so that they have good fertiliser for their soil so that they grow more and better crops.

Now not only does the family grow enough food for themselves but they have extra of some crops such as onions, chard, potatoes and beans which are taken into the nearest town to sell at market.



**Slide 19:** In Magdalena Medio, conflict has been a part of life for such a long time. Violence is seen as a normal way to deal with disagreements and conflicts, even at home.

CAFOD have been talking to students, parents and teachers to find out how conflict has affected them, so we can decide which issues to tackle in our school workshops.

These students from San Pablo Secondary School are some of the many that will be supported through CAFOD's peacebuilding work.

## Additional resources on St Romero

### Romero crosses

The beautiful crosses are hand made and hand-painted for CAFOD by Lázaro Rodriguez and his family in La Palma, El Salvador. On the reverse they show Romero's birth and martyrdom date accompanied by a quote from him.

- The small crosses (4" high) are £4.25 each
- Medium crosses (12" high) are £14.50 each
- Large crosses (20" high) are £29 each

### To place an order:

Go to our shop website <https://shop.cafod.org.uk/> call 0300 011 5680, or email [resources@cafod.org.uk](mailto:resources@cafod.org.uk)

*Costs correct at time of publication - May 2019.*

### Other resources

Visit [cafod.org.uk/primary/romero](http://cafod.org.uk/primary/romero) for more resources, films and to order a free poster