

Dear friends,

We've all been shocked and saddened by the images and stories in the media from Israel and Gaza. CAFOD has worked for many years in both Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt) with partners who are Christian, Jewish, Muslim and secular and we join Pope Francis' urgent call for peace and an end to the violence. Thousands of CAFOD supporters have been emailing the Foreign Secretary to call for peace and for international law to be upheld. Please visit [cafod.org.uk/latestcampaigns](https://cafod.org.uk/latestcampaigns) to send a message if you haven't already.

On **Saturday 18 November** we would love you to join us at our annual **Faith in Action online event**. Nearly 300 people have signed up so far. Book your place at this link: [bit.ly/faith-in-action23](https://bit.ly/faith-in-action23) and see more details overleaf.

We're also hosting a **young adults'** event on Saturday 11 November in London, so if you're 18-30 please see [bit.ly/CAFODyoungadults](https://bit.ly/CAFODyoungadults)

We've been inspired lately by Pope Francis' new letter to the world, Laudate Deum. To read about it, go to [cafod.org.uk/pray/laudate-deum-explained](https://cafod.org.uk/pray/laudate-deum-explained)

Helen and the rest of the Campaigns Team



## Salina's message delivered to the World Bank



On Wednesday 11 October, almost simultaneously in London and Morocco, senior World Bank officials heard Salina's call for the rights of small-scale farmers to use their own seeds.

Salina's letter was co-signed by almost a third of parishes in England and Wales, with over 70,000 signatures. Together with our policy report, which has been very well received, this gave us a strong mandate to present the issue to the World Bank and call for them to stop pushing for seed privatisation.

This photo (left) captures a very special moment.

Farida Akhter works with farmers' groups in Bangladesh, including Salina and her community. This is Farida presenting a parish Salina letter to Martien van Nieuwkoop, Global Director for Agriculture and Food at the World Bank. Seated between them is Ruth Segal, CAFOD's lead policy analyst on food systems. This was at an event run by CAFOD at the Bank's annual meetings in Morocco, giving us a real platform to call for change.

In London, below, a big group of CAFOD volunteers and staff took 1,200 signed letters to the Bank's offices, and Father Rob Esdaile from Woking led us in prayer outside. A small group had a cordial meeting inside with a senior official.

We'll let you know about next steps for our Fix the Food System campaign. Thank you for your support!



### CAFOD Campaigns Update – November/December 2023

You are signed up to receive this update as a CAFOD Campaigns Volunteer. For queries contact CAFOD Campaigns hotline: 020 7095 5692 or email Helen Moseley: [hmoseley@cafod.org.uk](mailto:hmoseley@cafod.org.uk)  
Photo credits: CAFOD

## Join us on Saturday 18 November: Our annual online Faith in Action event

We will come together online from across the country on Saturday 18 November to look back at our campaigning successes this year and look ahead to 2024. We'll hear what is needed from the COP28 UN climate talks later this month, hear more about delivering Salina's letters to the World Bank in Morocco and look ahead to a General Election year.

Best of all, we hope to be joined live by Mario and Violeta from Caritas Bolivia, one of CAFOD's partner organisations, about their work with indigenous communities. It's a great chance to be inspired by other campaigners, too! It's 10.30am to 2.30pm but you can join for part of it if you prefer. Register now on this link: [bit.ly/faith-in-action23](https://bit.ly/faith-in-action23)



## Preparing for COP28: share Pope Francis' message with your MP



"May those taking part in the Conference be strategists capable of considering the common good and the future of their children, more than the short-term interests of certain countries or businesses. In this way, may they demonstrate the nobility of politics and not its shame."

So says Pope Francis about the upcoming UN climate talks in Dubai in his recent letter to the world, *Laudate Deum*, which has plenty to say about the climate crisis and the urgent action the world needs to take.

We want to make sure as many MPs as possible hear Pope Francis' message and pass it onto Rishi Sunak before COP28 starts. To send the message to your MP, please see [cafod.org.uk/latestcampaigns](https://cafod.org.uk/latestcampaigns)

You can also join our webinar on Thursday 23 November at 7pm: **What we need to happen at COP28**. Register at [cafod.org.uk/onlinetalks](https://cafod.org.uk/onlinetalks)

## Meet Phoebe Worthington, our Campaigns Officer

**You joined CAFOD's campaigns team this year. What brought you here?**

I spent many years in the private sector analysing international politics. I found it frustrating to identify problems but have no ability to influence decision-making or speak out against injustices. This prompted my move to the third sector. It means a great deal to work with people who share my faith. I also believe that faith-based organisations have a unique ability to influence decision makers across the political spectrum by transcending the partisan divides and calling for action based on moral imperatives.

**You organised our hand in to the London World Bank offices recently. What was it like?**

It was exactly the kind of thing we hope for as campaigners. We met senior officials inside the World Bank and were received very positively.

They told us that in over a decade of working for the Bank, no civil society petition or campaign had caused as much internal discussion as this one! This was very encouraging and an excellent example of the constructive dialogue we try to achieve.

**If you could give a message to world leaders, what would it be?**

I would urge them to consider how history will view them and with that in mind to be braver and more creative in making decisions with a more forward-looking benefit. Far too many world leaders are lacking the courage to make radical decisions on transitions to greener economies – often regarding this as something which will cause too much short-term upheaval and undermine their chances of re-election, despite the fact that economists have proven this will benefit fiscal health in the longer term.



Phoebe outside the World Bank, second from left

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