

**CANCEL
DEBT
CHOOSE
HOPE**

**Jubilee debt campaign
guide for schools**

Jubilee 2025: Cancel debt, choose hope!

Historically, Jubilee years are a time for rest and renewal and a cancellation of debt. Pope Francis is asking the Catholic community to call for urgent and decisive action on the international debt crisis.

One way of committing to your whole school Jubilee Pledge is by joining CAFOD's debt campaign.

What is global debt?

54 countries around the world are in debt crisis.


This means they are spending more on paying off debts than on their own healthcare or education systems. Low income countries are relying on private lenders who charge high interest rates and demand fast repayment schedules.

Private lenders are organisations such as banks and investors. Examples include HSBC and Blackrock.

Failure to reform the system that governs global debt has led to a new debt crisis, but a fairer and more functional global debt system is both necessary and possible.

This is why CAFOD is calling on the UK government to put a stop to unfair practices that are perpetuating this global economic injustice. CAFOD is advocating for a Debt Justice Law which would compel private lenders to join in with debt relief processes.

You can read more about this in our policy document, 'Jubilee 2025: the new global debt crisis and its solutions'.



The effect of soaring international debt is felt most acutely by our brothers and sisters around the world. One of the countries affected by Debt Crisis is Sierra Leone.

Mariama is a farmer. As a farmer, Mariama relies heavily on hired labour which has become so expensive they cannot afford it.

She says; *"We also find it difficult to meet the basic needs of our children. The prices of things are now more expensive than they were two years back. I have observed a noticeable increase in the cost of essential goods. The price hike affects my ability to buy necessary items for my family, including food, clothing and household supplies."*



CANCEL THE DEBT



Cancel debt, choose hope!

We need your help! As Pilgrims of Hope, we are asking Catholic schools to join our campaign to cancel debt and choose hope.

Resources to get involved:

- **10 min activity** – watch our animation and use the hand template to write or draw a message.
- **Primary workshop** – a 40 min workshop exploring global debt, with special Jubilee coins to learn about sharing money fairly.
- **Secondary workshop** – a 50 min true crime investigation workshop exploring the global debt crisis (which can be adapted for KS3 and KS4 & 5). Students investigate who is responsible, who is affected and what can be done about international debt.
- **Hand actions** – use our template or ask pupils to draw around their own hands to write messages or draw pictures calling for action.

Don't forget – this is also one of the pilgrim points on the Pilgrims of Hope map!

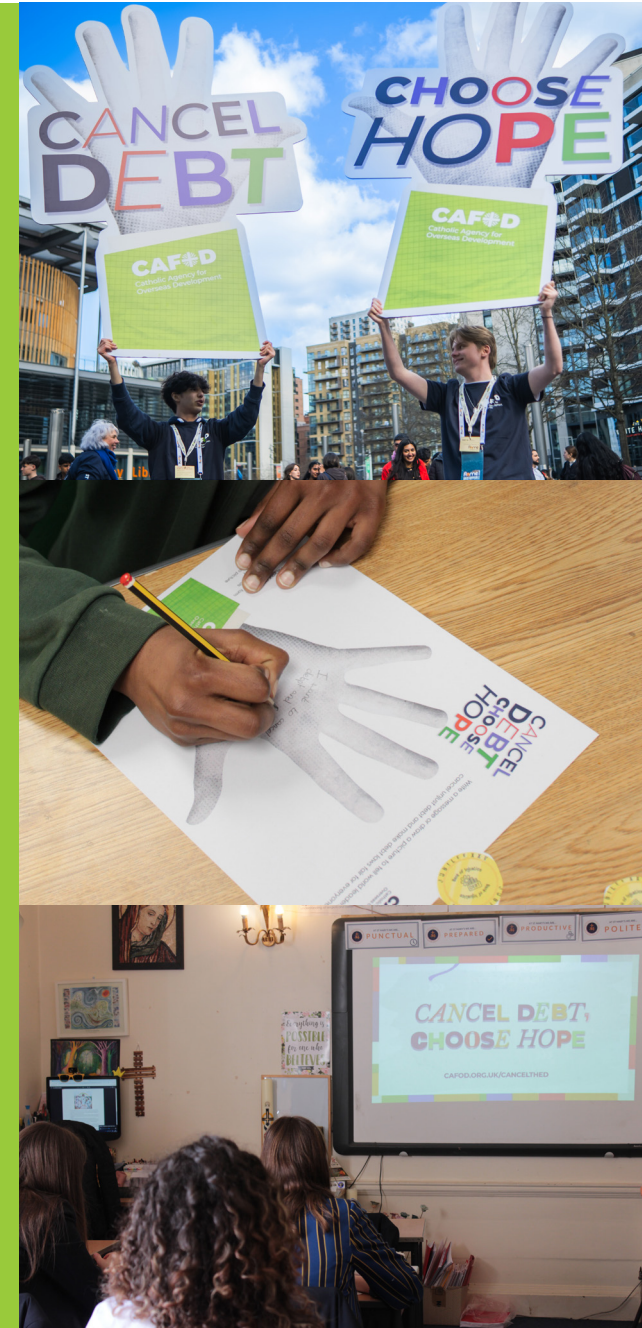
Tell us you've taken action!

Please complete our online form to let us know how many pupils took part. The numbers help us show there is public support for a new debt justice law!

We would also love to see schools support the campaign in other creative ways:

- Make a display in your school.
- Write to your MP asking them support the bill.
- Invite your MP to come to school and share why you want a new debt justice law.

cafod.org.uk/jubilee-campaign-schools



CANCEL DEBT CHOOSE HOPE

Write a message or draw a picture to tell the UK government to make debt laws fair for everyone.

