



DIOCESE OF SAINT JOHN

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Office of the Bishop

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Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

During the season of Lent, we are urged in a particular way to look to the needs of others. The Holy Father tells us that “Only the person who feels happiness in seeking the good of others, in desiring their happiness, can be a missionary. This openness of the heart is a source of joy, since ‘it is more blessed to give than to receive’ (Acts 20:35)” (*Evangelii Gaudium*, par. 272). It is in this spirit that I urge you to prayerfully consider supporting the Share Lent Campaign through Development & Peace – Caritas Canada.

This is the first in a five-year theme launched by Development and Peace entitled Create Hope. Through this campaign we are invited to Stand for the Land as a source of life and hope, showing our solidarity with those who defend the lands, waters and forests that sustain them, as well as the culture, history and identity that define them.

You can assist in this effort by giving generously to Share Lent (on Solidarity Sunday, March 26, 2023, the 5th Sunday of Lent), in solidarity with communities in the Global South who are defending life and their land to ensure a future of justice, rights, dignity, respect, peace and harmony for their families. Further resources to support this campaign can be found at <https://www.dev.org/en/campaign/stand-for-the-land/>.

As we journey towards the hope of the Resurrection, may we be filled with gratitude for the gift of salvation that Jesus offers to each of us. May we respond generously to the needs of others as we are able.

Mary, Queen of Peace, pray for us!

Yours truly in Christ,

✠ Christian Riesbeck, CC
Bishop of Saint John