



February 27, 2017

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we approach the beginning of Lent, Pope Francis reminds us “in every suffering brother and sister that we embrace, we embrace the suffering Body of Christ.”

For 50 years, the Development and Peace Share Lent campaign has called us to solidarity with the world’s most impoverished and oppressed. This year’s campaign, “Women Are at the Heart of Change,” echoes the Pope’s prayer that women worldwide may be “honoured, respected and valued for their essential contribution to society.”

Sadly, countless women worldwide bear a disproportionate burden of oppression and injustice, and are often denied their God-given human dignity. This sacred season, as we pray, fast, give alms, and repent, let us listen to the cry of the poor in global solidarity with women at the heart of change worldwide.

This campaign will also highlight consecrated women, the Catholic Women’s League, and the many lay women in the Church who, in the words of Dorothy Day, devotedly “take the lowest places,” washing the feet of their brothers and sisters and loving them with “that burning love, that passion which led to the cross” as they live out the Gospel call to social justice.

Share Lent resources can be found on our website rcav.net. Included are prayers and a Solidarity Calendar that will help guide your Lenten journey and prepare you for the Solidarity Sunday collection on the Fifth Sunday of Lent, April 2. You can donate through your Share Lent envelope or online at devp.org/give. Please be generous in helping D&P meet the needs of the suffering worldwide.

As Catholics working and praying for a better and just world for all, Share Lent helps us work to build a world of dignity, respect, justice, and peace. Thank you for supporting your needy sisters, for Women Are at the Heart of Change!

With cordial best wishes and my blessing, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

J. Michael Miller, CSB
Archbishop of Vancouver