



# A Catholic Campaign Against Global Poverty



## Action Steps for Individuals & Families

- Read the “Pledge to Combat Global Poverty” before meals or before bed. Click [here](#) to download a bookmark of the pledge.
- Learn about how the issues of trade, aid and debt affect poor people around the world. Click here or go to [www.usccb.org/globalpoverty](http://www.usccb.org/globalpoverty) or [www.crs.org/globalpoverty](http://www.crs.org/globalpoverty) to find background information and “action alerts” describing how you can act. Choose one issue and write an e-mail message to an elected official.
- Discuss the impact of extreme poverty with your friends and family. As you pray together, remember those living in extreme poverty and elected officials with the power to enact U.S. policy to combat poverty.
- Is the coffee you use at home “Fair Trade certified”? This certification means that the producers are part of a poverty alleviation program that guarantees workers a fair wage. Make a commitment to use Fair Trade coffee at home and encourage its use in other settings. Go to the Catholic Relief Services web site [www.crsfairtrade.org](http://www.crsfairtrade.org) to learn more and to order Fair Trade coffee and chocolate.
- Ask your local grocery stores to sell Fair Trade certified goods. Adopt a local supermarket. Visit with the manager to discuss Fair Trade items. Invite parishioners to stop by and ask for the products as well. Visit [www.crsfairtrade.org](http://www.crsfairtrade.org) for more ideas.
- Go on line and search “sweatshops” or “Fair Trade Certified”. Identify one thing you will do to promote fair trade through your choices when you shop.
- Make financial contributions to poverty-fighting organizations.
- View the DVD The Line in the Sand: Stories from the U.S. Mexico Border available from [www.crs.org](http://www.crs.org). This stage drama by Villanova University theater students, tells the story of immigration from all sides of the issue. Invite friends over to view and discuss it, or watch it as a family.
- Help your little ones to experience the stories of people in developing countries through resources on the CRS Kids site - [http://www.crs.org/kids/index\\_flash.htm](http://www.crs.org/kids/index_flash.htm), which coloring pages for young children, recipes and more.