

2008 CWS Christmas Appeal Keep Hope Alive Weekly Notices

Keep Hope Alive, the Christian World Service Christmas Appeal for 2008 focuses on people and nations struggling with conflict in many ways. In particular we wish to support the work of our partners in Timor Leste, Sudan-Darfur, Sri Lanka and El Salvador. Please support the 2008 CWS Christmas Appeal.

Advent Sunday

Today we launch the Christian World Service Christmas Appeal to help thousands of the world's poor people. In particular the people of Timor Leste (East Timor) are in our thoughts and prayers as they strive to rebuild their nation after many years of conflict. CWS partner, the Dominican Sisters' Training Programme, works to give people a better chance to earn a living. Please keep hope alive by supporting the 2008 CWS Christmas Appeal.

Advent Two

Today the focus of the CWS Christmas Appeal is the troubled region of Darfur in Sudan. Its people bear a heavy burden of death, destruction, loss and displacement from their homes. We pray for them and the staff of CWS partner ACT International-Caritas Relief Operation (DERO) who work in extreme conditions to bring relief and some hope for peace. Please keep hope alive by supporting the 2008 CWS Christmas Appeal.

Advent Three

In Sri Lanka, today's focus country for the Christian World Service Christmas Appeal, there is little work for the poor, which means many people, especially young women are obliged to work in factories producing goods for international companies like Nike. Their working and living conditions are harsh and they earn barely enough to survive. CWS partner, The Women's Centre, was created to help these women and give them a place of refuge from their hard lives. Please keep hope alive by supporting the 2008 CWS Christmas Appeal.

Advent Four

On this last Advent Sunday we think of the many people around the world who strive to improve the conditions of their communities in the face of poverty and deprivation. In El Salvador CWS partner Las Dignas (Women for Dignity and Life) is especially concerned with the lives of women in a society where they often face violence, poverty and a lack of appreciation of their roles. In particular Las Dignas assists women to find independent means of income. Please keep hope alive by supporting the 2008 CWS Christmas Appeal.