



# Lent Appeal 2025

## WORD OF THE WEEK

### MARK 12: 41-44

As Jesus sat near the Temple treasure, he watched the people as they dropped in their money. Many rich men dropped in a lot of money; then a poor widow came along and dropped in two little copper coins, worth about a penny. He called his disciples together and said to them, "I tell you that this poor widow put more in the offering box than all others. For the others put in what they had to spare of their riches; but she, poor as she is, put in all she had- she gave all she had to live on."

## PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Lord, bless us during Lent.  
In our prayer, deepen our awareness of God's love within us.  
In our fasting, make us more aware of other people's needs.  
In our giving, help us to build a better world.  
May our Lenten prayer, fasting and giving renew us to celebrate Easter with joy.  
Amen.



**TO WATCH THIS WEEK'S  
WORD OF THE WEEK  
[CLICK HERE.](#)**

This week's Word of the Week encourages us to think about what, how and why we can give to others. We see in our Gospel reading the story of a poor widow who had absolutely nothing but still wanted to give what she could. Now we aren't asking you to give up everything you own but maybe think this week about giving more than just what is easy. Could you challenge yourself to give more of your time to others, could go without something regularly so that you could donate to charity? Either way think about why you give; do you give to look good, to tick a box, or because you truly care and want to help others?

Take a moment now in silence to think about how you are being called to give this Lent.

This week's theme of the week invites us to think and pray about our Lent Appeal for 2025. Every year during Lent we support CAFOD, the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development. CAFOD do incredible work around the world supporting countries affected by climate change, war, natural disasters and extreme poverty. Take time this week to look at and pray for the work of CAFOD and start to think about how you can be involved in helping them with their vital work around the world.

To find out more about CAFOD's work and pray for a more fair and just world: [CLICK HERE.](#)



## GIVING DURING LENT

Almsgiving is a Lenten practice that involves acts of charity and love for others. It's a way to show solidarity with the poor and marginalized, and to acknowledge that we are all part of the human community.

Why is almsgiving important?

- It strengthens our love for others
- It increases our detachment
- It contributes to greater social justice
- It helps us understand that we are not possessed by our possessions
- It helps us say, "Here is what I can offer, and I offer it out of love for you"

Take a moment to pray with this song and ask God to reveal to you what he is asking you to lay down this Lent. [LISTEN HERE!](#)  
(Matt Maher- Lay it down)

## THE WIDOW'S OFFERING

What does the widow's sacrifice teach me about generosity?

How can I give not just what is easy, but also what might cost me something?

Why do you think Jesus valued the widow's small offering so much?

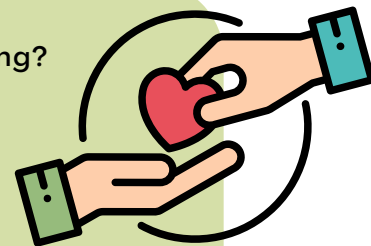
What do you think Jesus sees in my heart when I give, even if it's a little?

Have I ever felt like what I have to offer isn't enough?

What does this story say to me about feeling like my contributions don't matter?

When I give, am I doing it out of love or out of obligation?

How can I develop a heart of cheerful giving, like the widow, even when it's difficult?



"Almsgiving helps free us from obsession of possessions, from the fear of losing what we have and from the sadness of not sharing their well-being with others." Pope Francis



## YEAR GROUP FUNDRAISING

Throughout Lent each year group will be challenged to fundraise as much as they can for CAFOD. I know some plans are already in place for fundraising events but if you have any ideas or would like to run a fundraising event during Lent speak to your form tutor or head of year.

Could you think of something you could do as a form to raise money for CAFOD this Lent?