



CAFOD

CAFOD
Catholic Agency for
Overseas Development

Watch here: [The story of Lazarus and The Rich man \(Luke 16:19-31\)](#)

Word of the Week Luke 16:19-31 The Rich Man and Lazarus

There was a rich man, who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, full of sores, who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich mans table; moreover, the dogs came and licked the poor mans sores. The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom. The rich man also died and was buried; and in Hades being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus in his bosom. And he called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy upon me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in anguish in this flame.' But Abraham said, 'Son, remember that in your lifetime you received the good things, and Lazarus received the bad things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. Between us and you a great chasm has been fixed – and no one can cross it.' And the rich man said, 'I beg you Father Abraham, to go to my brothers and warn them, so that they do not come into this place of torment'. But Abraham said, 'They have Moses and the prophets. Let them hear them'. But the rich man cried, 'No, if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent'. Abraham said to him, 'If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, nor will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead'.

How can we put the Word of the Week into action?

The word of the week highlights to us how we should live our lives – with compassion, kindness and generosity. It makes us sit up and think about others and the world around us. We think about the Lazarus's of the world – those who are living in poverty, destitute and dying of starvation. Do we recognise them? Do we do enough to help them? Do we think of those who suffer when their crops fail during this time of harvest? Do we think about the story behind the homeless we pass or do we think they are not worthy enough? Do we turn our TV over when yet another advert comes on asking for donations? Are we like the rich man? Do we show compassion to those who are suffering and in despair? Or are we only bothered about our own wealth and greed?

As a supporter of CAFOD, our school can make a big difference to those who suffer. By giving even the smallest amount individually we can make a difference as a community. So, think hard this week. What can you do to support CAFOD? On Friday we support the CAFOD Harvest Fast Day, a day when we can go without something in order to help others. What will you go without? Will you say an extra prayer for those who are in need? Will you spare a few pennies to help?

Actions to complete this week:

- Bring in a tin of food or a packet of pasta for the food bank
- Go onto the CAFOD website and donate some money or bring £1 into school for the CAFOD collection
- On Friday – CAFOD Fast Day – instead of buying a cake for yourself, donate the money to CAFOD
- **Make a pledge as a form group to do something this week to make the world a better place. If you need an idea, check out the A-Z guide of ideas**



Prayers for the week ahead.

Dear Jesus,

You came to live amongst us. May we recognise your face in our neighbours near and far. You welcomed all people. Open our hearts and hands to help the marginalised. You fed those who were hungry. Give us a hunger for justice until all people have enough. You give us the gift of the Holy Spirit. Empower us to come together to play our part in building a better world.

Amen

Dear Lord,

Help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth. Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain at the expense of the poor and the earth. Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation. Encourage us as we pray, in our struggle for justice, love and peace.

Amen

Dear Father of our human family,

You created all human beings equal in dignity. Pour forth into our hearts a fraternal spirit and inspire in us a dream of renewed encounter, dialogue, justice and peace. Move us to create healthier societies and a more dignified world, one without hunger, poverty, violence and war. May our hearts be open to all the peoples and nations of the earth, and may we recognise the beauty of God's creation.

Amen

Let us remember our Jubilee Pledge:

We are pilgrims of hope. We walk in solidarity with our sisters and brothers worldwide, sharing challenges and celebrating joys. We promise to be agents of change, working together for justice, love and peace, locally and globally. We want to build a fairer world, where every person, and the earth, can flourish.

Reflection points

Do you ever think how fortunate you are? Make an effort this week to show gratitude to those who provide for you.

Do you think about others or focus on yourself? Are you like the Rich Man in the parable? Take a minute to think about those who are living in dire situations.

How often do you pray for the needs of others? Make it a habit of yours to do this in the week ahead.

Are you a good neighbour? Are you willing to stand up for those who have less than you? Do you say something to the bully? Do you stand up for the vulnerable?

How do you treat the environment around you? Are you bothered about the climate crisis? Do you do your bit?

A better world for our neighbours:

- A better world needs all of us. It needs everyone to call for peace, to act for justice, to have a common understanding.
- We all have a role to play. If we want better communities, we have to be better people.
- To share the message of hope with one another, in outreach, in service, in looking for ways to make our world a better place gives true life to all of us.
- If everyone just does little things, the world can be a better place because you don't even have to do a lot.
- We are all human. We have to think about humanity. We have to think about this world. We have to think about the environment. Everyone has the responsibility to think about the planet and humanity.

CAFOD:

[Autumn 2025 film for young people: A better world needs all of us | CAFOD](#)

Could we, as a school, raise enough money for a water gift?

[A-Z of fundraising ideas for charity](#)

Look here – is there something your form can pledge to do?



