



LENTEN CAMPAIGN 2009



Initiative from the Justice and Peace group

Biblical Lenten Practice

Scripture suggests three elements for the forty day period: Fasting, Prayer and Almsgiving. Bishop van Iuyn from Rotterdam translates this into Sobriety, Spirituality and Solidarity. To aim for a little less of more material things comes from the biblical call to share our earth's resources in a fair way. As a concrete expression of this, our Parish would like to set up a Fair Trade shop in the renovated Pastoral Centre. This would help us to stay in touch with the hard-working – less paid – producers and to promote the Fair Trade Millennium Goal. During Lent various initiatives will offer opportunities to solidify the link between the three biblical aspects of Lent. Thanks for your gift of the three "S"s. Fr Sjaak

Fair Trade Original. For a change!

Changing the world can be very simple! You can prepare a delicious meal with Fair Trade Original products – or buy a marvellous gift, or brew an aromatic cup of coffee.

At the same time you will also be **doing something valuable** for the people in Africa, Asia or Latin America who make the products.

The Fair Trade Original range encompasses **more than 200 food products**, and consequently Fair Trade Shops and Wereldwinkels stock all the ingredients required to prepare a delicious meal – ranging from a tasty sandwich with a glass of orange juice, a delicious rice dish with an exotic sauce, or a glass of wine with a nibble. They also stock original culinary gifts.

In addition, the Albert Heijn and C1000 supermarket chains now also stock Fair Trade Original food products.



Max Havelaar Seal of Approval

The Max Havelaar Seal of Approval on Fair Trade Original coffee, tea, chocolate, juices and honey guarantees that the products are **purchased under fair trade terms and conditions**, and that they originate from recognized organizations of smaller farmers or from plantations which conduct an appropriate social policy. The inspections are carried out by the independent *FLO International agency located in Bonn, Germany*.

The Max Havelaar Seal of Approval is the independent guarantee that producers in developing countries receive a fair price for their products. This price enables them **to invest in quality, and to work on a better future** for themselves.



Fair Trade Original is of the opinion that *modern consumption is responsible consumption*.

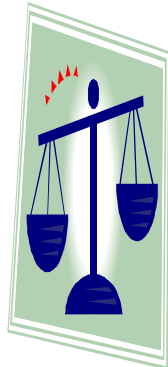
Fair Trade Original offers you the easiest and most agreeable way of making your contribution to changing the world.



What does the group do?

There are many things that we can do to promote Justice and Peace in our society some big, some small. When a good cause is identified, the group makes a plan of action and pulls together the necessary parties to help.

Even very **small actions can help contribute to alleviating some of the injustices, which our world is suffering.**



“Microfinance has proved its value, in many countries, as a weapon against poverty and hunger.

It really can change peoples' lives for the better -- especially the lives of those who need it most. A small loan, a savings account, an affordable way to send a pay-cheque home, can make all the difference to a poor or low-income family. With access to a range of financial tools, families can invest according to their own priorities — school fees, health care, business, nutrition or housing.

The Microfinance Group was established as a result of the 2008 Lenten Campaign, which successfully raised €7,453 to provide microcredits to entrepreneurs in developing countries [via Kiva](#).

The Justice and Peace Group

The groups which are represented include Amnesty International, Fair Trade, St Egidio Prayer Group, Liturgy and Microfinance.

Any parish member who can spare the time to contribute to ideas and their development is very welcome to join us -we need all the support we can get. However, you don't even have to be a member of the group to contribute -**we can all find achievable ways to help!**

The Justice & Peace Group holds its meetings every six weeks on a Thursday evening.

So what can YOU do?

Choose a small action:

- **Keep yourself informed** of world affairs and problems through the media and books;
- **Discuss with your friends and colleagues** - help to make the world aware in your own small way;
- **Visit a 'Wereld Winkel' (Fair Trade shop)** at least once a month;
- Choose a product from Fair Trade and stick to it -it doesn't have to be coffee! Buy gifts for your family and friends from Fair Trade outlets;
- Give your children pocket money to spend in the Wereld Winkel and explain why;
- **Discuss negative aspects of war and conflict with your children** when they are old enough;
- **Sign the Amnesty letters** after Mass each month;
- Come to Mass a bit earlier and **help with setting up tables for Amnesty or Fair Trade**;
- **Come to the Justice and Peace meetings.**
- **Volunteer** to be on the team of Fair Trade or Amnesty helpers after Mass

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL



Amnesty International (AI) has groups in many towns. Our Parish group is affiliated to the AI group in The Hague. Our main effort for Amnesty is to gather signatures from our parishioners on letters to governments worldwide, to protest in cases of human abuse or the denial of human rights. Many of our parishioners sign these letters and contribute to the postage cost. **These letters are very successful in calling attention to some of the inhumane treatment of innocent people, sometimes in the name of justice.**

THE COMMUNITY OF SANT'EGIDIO

The community of Sant'Egidio in The Hague is a group, half of which consists of our parishioners. They hold **prayer meetings** and also play a part in **interreligious communication** by inviting people from different religions to talk to the group. They also **work with and for the poor and homeless**. They played a big part in our previous Lenten Campaign for the homeless in The Hague and have now formed a group of volunteers who cook a meal for the homeless every second Friday of the month at the Westeinde. It is very important that homeless people get substantial meals and some of