

Come to the waters!

Easter
Appeal
2018



Vico Warrishi SJ

Rarámuri youth from Tarahumara, Mexico, participated in a meeting with other indigenous young people held in Guatemala in August 2017.

“Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.”

Isaiah 55:1



Canadian
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Easter is a time of hope, full of the promise of life. Through the prophet Isaiah, God invites everyone who thirsts to “come to the waters,” to experience the gift of abundant life. For young people with a whole life ahead of them this is especially good news.

Yet many young people today face enormous obstacles. Their future is anything but promising. Poverty, conflict, disease, hunger, exploitation and lack of opportunity have stripped away almost all hope for an abundant life.

Pope Francis has chosen the accompaniment of youth as a focus for 2018. He urges us to walk with young people as they set out on the journey of life. We can do so by ensuring their basic human rights: a safe and healthy environment, education, tools for employment, a world that is less polluted and violent and more loving and just. We can make real the Easter promise of abundant life.

Canadian Jesuits International supports young people through its projects. Help us give them abundant life!

LATIN AMERICA: Solidarity with indigenous youth

The Network of Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples is supported by ten Jesuit provinces in Latin America, and also by CJI. Recently the network decided to hold regional meetings of indigenous youth to promote indigenous culture, encourage autonomy and strengthen the capacity of young people for leadership and social justice.

In August 2017 indigenous youth met in Guatemala. Young people from the Rarámuri, Tzeltal, Ch’ol, Zoque, Miskito and Maya first nations gathered together from the Mesoamerica region to celebrate, build community, share knowledge and plan for the future. Arrangements for further regional meetings are now underway, as well as possible participation by indigenous youth from Canada.

Please support the dignity and growth of indigenous youth in Latin America this Easter!

In offering light, Claudio commits indigenous youth to the defence of Mother Earth.



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These projects are only two examples of the work that CJJ supports with young people. For others, please call us or visit our website.

SYRIA: Healthcare for young people displaced by war

Young people inside Syria face enormous physical and psychological trauma and many have urgent healthcare needs. Public healthcare has been drastically diminished in conflict areas and the little that is available is beyond what people can pay.

Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) is providing health and psychosocial services to young people and their families both in Aleppo and in an area of east Damascus with a large and diverse population. The work in Aleppo includes a pharmacy, a pediatric clinic for consultations, and offers referrals for surgery and orthotics. In Damascus, JRS provides healthcare for about 500 girls and boys and also has a program for family members with chronic diseases.

Join CJJ in giving health and hope to young people in Syria this Easter!



Adel Janji/JRS

A young patient is examined in the JRS pediatric clinic in Aleppo.



Ouwais Sadik/JRS

13-year-old Mohammad receives healthcare from JRS in Damascus.

What you can do

During Lent, people often choose to do something that draws them nearer to God and others. This year we invite you to respond to Pope Francis' call and do something in solidarity with young people:

- Talk to a young person from another country, perhaps a refugee: listen to their story and their hopes for the future
- Invite young people you know to share their favourite music with you
- Offer to help a young person learn English or a skill they need for life in Canada
- Support one of CJI's projects for young people

This Easter, join us in building a promising future for young people!

Please send a cheque payable to Canadian Jesuits International or donate online.

THANK YOU – and have a happy Easter!

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CJI mission

The mission of CJI is to love and to serve by working with people struggling for social justice and dignity in the world. Together with Jesuit and other partners, CJI responds in solidarity, through awareness-raising and advocacy in Canada and supporting partnerships in the Global South.