

## Human kindness

Pope Francis reminds us that supporting people facing injustice requires us to accompany them. In his recent encyclical on “care for our common home,” he holds up the examples of Mary and Joseph. He notes that Joseph, “through his work and generous presence ... cared for and defended Mary and Jesus, delivering them from the violence of the unjust by bringing them to Egypt” (*Laudato Si'*, 242).

God led Israel and the Holy Family, as God still leads all peoples of the Earth, “with cords of human kindness.” To show human kindness, God’s own self became human, exemplifying the ways of love and accompaniment.

**Please join us in leading with human kindness this Christmas!**

Send a cheque to Canadian Jesuits International or donate online at [www.canadianjesuitsinternational.ca/to-donate/](http://www.canadianjesuitsinternational.ca/to-donate/)

**Thank you!**



## CJI VISION AND MISSION

The **VISION** of Canadian Jesuits International is a world of peace, justice and integrity of creation, transformed through active commitment and finding God in all things.

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.

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P. Robson SJ

## CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2015

***“I led them with cords of human kindness.”***

After Mary gave birth to Jesus, an angel warned Joseph in a dream to take his family and flee to Egypt to escape Herod (Mt 2:13). The Holy Family became refugees. But God did not abandon them. Like Israel in slavery, God “led them with cords of human kindness, with bands of love. I was to them like those who lift infants to their cheeks. I bent down to them and fed them” (Hos 11:4).

How is God leading us this Christmas?



Canadian  
Jesuits  
International

## First Sunday of Advent 29 November

“I led them with cords of human kindness.”



Nepal Jesuits

## Nepal

Since the devastating earthquakes of April and May this year, many Canadians have responded with wonderful “human kindness” to CJJ’s appeal for the work of the Nepal Jesuits. Today, the emergency relief effort has moved into a new rehabilitation phase. Support for rebuilding and re-equipping schools, as well as homes for some of the poorest people, is being provided along with social and medical services. To date, 43 schools and more than 4,700 students have been assisted.

Earthquake victims in Chhap, Nepal, are receiving rehabilitation assistance.

## Syria

The Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) is one of the few humanitarian agencies still working inside Syria. It also helps Syrian refugees in neighbouring Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey. CJJ has supported the work of JRS in this region since the beginning of the Syrian conflict in 2011. The emphasis of JRS teams is on “accompaniment,” a radical kind of peacemaking. It means being present to displaced Syrian families and helping them with their material, psychosocial and educational needs.

A young girl being cared for at the JRS Sahnaya field kitchen in Syria.

## Third Sunday of Advent 13 December

“I was to them like those who lift infants to their cheeks.”



JRS Syria

## Jamaica

St Anne’s parish in Kingston, Jamaica, is in the heart of a very poor neighbourhood. High unemployment, drugs and violence are major social problems. Jesuits and their colleagues live and work with the people in and around St Anne’s church and its three schools. CJJ helps to support their programs in education, healthcare, skills training, food distribution, parenting and care of the elderly.

Principal Estelle Forrester and students of St Anne’s Primary School in Kingston, Jamaica.



J. Webb SJ

## Second Sunday of Advent 6 December

“I led them ... with bands of love.”

## Fourth Sunday of Advent 20 December

“I bent down to them and fed them.”

## Zambia

At Kasisi Agricultural Training Centre (KATC) in Zambia, farmers learn sustainable organic methods of production to increase their yields and grow highly nutritious crops. CJJ supports this Jesuit project, which has a major impact on the livelihoods, food security and health of many people.



E. Kaas/CJJ

Zambian farmers at KATC harvesting their organic vegetables.