Trócaire
Working for a just world.

DIOCESE OF CLOYNE

BECOME A **PARISH VOLUNTEER**

How does this role help?

Our faith calls us to act. By becoming a parish volunteer with Trócaire, you are choosing to actively take part in creating a better world for those who are less fortunate. You will join a unique network of volunteers from across your diocese and help people in parishes understand more about issues of global justice and Trócaire's work on these issues.

What will I be doing?

As a parish volunteer, you will be encouraged and supported to undertake initiatives in your parish/pastoral area during Lent, Ordinary Time and Advent. Activities you choose to undertake may compliment any ministry you are already involved in. You will also be asked to attend training sessions which will be organised approximately three times a year.

'Faith cannot be just words or beliefs, but must reach out to others, especially those in need'.

POPE FRANCIS

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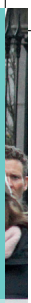

There are many activities to choose from including:

- Highlighting Trócaire's annual Lenten appeal in your parish/pastoral area e.g. creating a Lenten sacred space, distributing Trócaire boxes, displaying posters, mass speaking etc.;
- Promoting and selling Trócaire Gifts during Advent and Christmas;
- Organising a local fundraising event for our emergency appeals e.g. 'Teatime for Trócaire'; table quiz, sponsored walk etc.;
- Promoting activities themed on Pope Francis' Encyclical 'Laudato Sí On Care for Our Common Home';
- Encouraging your parish/pastoral area to get involved in our campaigning and advocacy work on themes like Care for Creation and Climate Change;
- Thanking parishoners for their support of Trócaire and sharing stories that demonstrate the impact of Trócaire's work overseas' in parish newsletters, local media etc.

What skills and qualities do I need?

- An interest in making a difference in the lives of those less fortunate;
- A willingness to collaborate with others in your parish/pastoral area;
- A desire to communicate with, motivate and encourage people;
- A pre-existing level of engagement in the pastoral life of your parish is desirable but not necessary.

What support will I receive?

- An initial 'Welcome and Introduction to Trócaire' session with other parish volunteers in your diocese;
- Training sessions with other parish volunteers in advance of our key campaigns for Lent and Advent;
- Identified Trócaire staff members who will link in with you via phone and email on a regular basis;
- Opportunities to meet Trócaire staff from our overseas offices when they are in Ireland;
- Our monthly newsletter via email to keep you updated on Trócaire's work;
- All relevant material and resources to enable you to promote the work of Trócaire in your parish/pastoral area.

What are the benefits to me?

- You will be living out your faith as it relates to justice and human dignity;
- You will know that you are playing a part in fighting global poverty and injustice;
- You will use your existing skills and learn some new skills;
- You will become part of a team and meet new people (Trócaire staff and other parish volunteers) with similar interests.

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A true ecological approach must integrate questions of justice, so as to hear both the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.

Pope Francis

What are the next steps?

- **Please get in touch with Trócaire to express your interest in becoming a parish volunteer in your diocese. Contact Sinead Morgan on 021 427 5622 or email: Sinead.morgan@trocaire.org**
- **You will then be invited to an opening evening** (location and date to be confirmed) **to hear more about this exciting initiative.**
- **If, after the opening evening, you would like to get involved as a parish volunteer for Trócaire, we will invite you to another gathering in the diocese where you will learn more about the work of Trócaire and how you can support this vital work.**

About Trócaire

Trócaire is the overseas development agency of the Catholic Church in Ireland. Inspired by Gospel values of justice, peace and compassion, we work with local Church and other partners across the world to help communities and families free themselves from poverty and injustice. We currently work in over 20 countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East. In the past year alone, our work has impacted on the lives of 2.4 million people in these regions. In Ireland, we engage people about the causes of poverty through our parish and faith-based networks, the education sector, through our campaigns and advocacy work and of course our fundraising initiatives.

Thank you for your interest in our work.

Please log onto **www.trocaire.org** for more information on our work overseas and at home.

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Trócaire

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Trócaire is the official overseas development agency of the Catholic church in Ireland and a member of CIDSE and Caritas Internationalis. N.I charity number: XR10431.

www.trocaire.org

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