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# Message from the Chairman



Lent is a blessed opportunity to review our life. We know in our heart that despite our best intentions there is always room for change and improvement. Lent is a blessed opportunity also because we can share in this journey of discernment and decision. Together we can grow in awareness and insight which will enable us with God's grace 'to make all things new' again.

We have now a new consciousness of the world as a global village and like any village community we are dependent on one another. No longer can we deny that the action and practices of the richer countries is having a huge negative impact on the poorer countries. That is why this lent, Trócaire are talking about climate justice.

Our life patterns are hurting others whose names we do not know. That is why this lent Trócaire introduces you to Mahlet from Ethiopia, to help us realise the impact that climate change is having on Mahlet and her community.

While Lent invites us to personal spiritual renewal it also invites us also to be mindful of the poor, oppressed and persecuted sisters and brothers and to reach out to them in their hour of need.

In March 2013, Pope Francis wrote: **'The Church is likewise conscious of the responsibility which all of us have for our world, for the whole of creation, which we must love and protect. There is much that we can do to benefit the poor, the needy and those who suffer, and to favour justice, promote reconciliation and build peace.'**

The work of Trócaire is being done on behalf of the Irish Catholic Church. I have witnessed Trócaire's work on the ground and it does make a difference. Join with us in continuing to make a difference.

May this Lenten Season be for all of us a time of grace and renewal.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "William Crean". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

+ William Crean

Bishop of Cloyne

Chairman of Trócaire