

## **World Day of the Poor 2021 Collective Worship for Schools**

### **Teachers' Notes**

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SLIDE 1: Title. The gathering, according to the custom of the school, or class.  
Appropriate music, or an opening hymn.

SLIDE 2: from Message from Pope Francis for WDOTP 2021, full message on CSAN website at <https://www.csan.org.uk/worlddayofthepoor/>

SLIDE 3: Opening Prayer – read by worship leader, or by pupils.

SLIDE 4: Some BIG questions. Depending on the size of the gathering, these could be opened up for discussion in the collective worship or in smaller groups afterwards. An important point to bring out is that there are many different forms of poverty, not just material deprivation. Poverty is whenever human life is not flourishing. This could be because of isolation and loneliness, being far from home when you don't want to be, being bullied or dominated by somebody else. A longer description of poverty is included in the CSAN resource at the web link above.

SLIDE 5: Gospel Reading – always good to have pupils reading the gospel, to have it signed if possible, and to have it dramatized.

SLIDE 6: Gospel Reading continued.

SLIDE 7-14: Reflection. See: CSAN PDF Resource (website link above) Novena Day 3 Commentary. Also develop idea of contrast between the scribes and the widow. THEY devour widows' houses. SHE gave everything she had. Where do you think the sympathy and blessing of Jesus lies?

SLIDE 8: Did you know? Some facts and figures about poverty, for possible use in the reflection. Source for bullets 1-2: Joseph Rowntree Foundation (<https://www.jrf.org.uk/report/uk-poverty-2020-21>), source for bullets 3-5: <https://www.oxfam.org/en/5-shocking-facts-about-extreme-global-inequality-and-how-even-it>

SLIDE 9: See-Judge-Act. See: CSAN PDF Resource for introduction to this methodology, same link as above. A class could engage in a longer version of this afterwards or before the collective worship.

SLIDE 10: See-Judge-Act. Introduction to the photographs.

SLIDE 11: Confirmation that we have permission to use photographs and website address to see more.

SLIDE 12: Unequal neighbourhoods in Mumbai, India....

SLIDE 13: .... in Johannesburg, South Africa....

SLIDE 14: ....in Santa Fe, Mexico City....

worth pointing out that while inequality and poverty in our country might not be as visible or dramatic, it does exist. Pope Francis calls us to be citizens of the world, to challenge the causes of poverty, to work for the relief, defence and liberation of those who are in poverty.

With COP26 in Glasgow, it would also be helpful to make the link between social justice and climate justice, that the poor suffer most from global warming and the lifestyles of the wealthier parts of the world are what lead to so much environmental damage.

SLIDE 15: Bidding Prayers. Pupils may want to add their own prayers, specific to their school and community...

SLIDE 16: Bidding Prayers.

SLIDE 17: Our Father, to be said or sung together.

The “sending out” - to build a better community, a better world, to build up the kingdom of God, a kingdom of love, justice and peace.

Any feedback on how this resource was used in school, or how it might be improved for next year, would be welcome.

Please email Raymond Friel at [Raymond.friel@csan.org.uk](mailto:Raymond.friel@csan.org.uk). Thank you,