

World Food Day 16 October 2022



Every human being "ought, therefore, to have ready access to all that is necessary for living a genuinely human life: for example, food, clothing, housing... the right to education, and work." Pope Paul VI, *Gaudium et Spes* n26

World Food Day is observed every year on 16 October to mark the founding of the Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) of the United Nations, founded in 1945. The aim of the day is to reduce global hunger and strives to eradicate global hunger. This year the theme is 'Leave NO ONE Behind' meaning we need a sustainable world where everyone has access to regular nutritious food.

There are many linked ecological justice days in October with the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction on the 13 October and Anti Poverty Week running from the 16-22 October. National Food day is slightly different to World Food Day and is celebrated on the 24 October, it focuses on healthy and nutritious food.

The second of the UN's 17 SDGs is to "[End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture](#)." Since 2015 the number of people suffering from hunger has increased and the world is not on target to achieve zero hunger by 2030. [Source](#)



A woman cooking injera at an IDP Camp in Ethiopia.
Photo: Caritas Australia

According to the [State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2021](#) report, an estimated 720 - 811 million people went hungry in 2020. After remaining virtually unchanged from 2014 to 2019, the prevalence of undernourishment climbed to around 9.9 percent in 2020, from 8.4 percent a year earlier.

Increasing global food insecurity is putting [750,000 people in 5 countries](#) at immediate risk of starvation or death. 401,000 are in Ethiopia's Tigray region, with the others in Afghanistan, Somalia, South Sudan, Yemen and Nigeria.

These are compelling reasons for Caritas Australia launching an [appeal](#) with Micah Australia to address hunger in Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan and Eritrea as well as Afghanistan, Syria and Yemen.

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Did you know?

As many as 828 million people go to bed hungry every night. Since 2019, acute food insecurity has increased from 135 million to 345 million. [Source](#)

The UN World Food Programme [Hungermap Live](#) shows that there are 0.61 billion people living with insufficient food and that 17 countries have very high levels of hunger. On the 11.10.22 there were 611 million people in the world who do not have sufficient food consumption across 89 countries.

The main drivers of hunger are climate change and conflict, however there are also economic and political causes. Sadly, there has been a confluence of factors in certain countries; conflict, the pandemic, rising costs and climate change.

It is more important than ever to make communities resilient to climate shocks or natural disasters caused by climate change. If communities cannot withstand the conditions they will be forced to migrate which can cause further conflict and a humanitarian and/or refugee crisis. This is where the work of Caritas Australia in disaster risk reduction, providing food during emergencies and supporting communities to grow their own food sustainably, is critical.

Judge

- Reflect on the quote on the first page from Pope Paul VI. What does this mean for you?
- Reflect on and discuss these Scriptures:
1 Thessalonians 5:15 “always seek to do good to one another and to all”
1 John 3:17 “How does God’s love abide in anyone who has the world’s goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses to help?”
Matthew 25: 37-40 “When, Lord, did we ever see you hungry and feed you ...? “whenever you did this for one of the least important of these followers of mine, you did it for me.”
- Pope Francis teaches us that everything is interconnected in an integral ecology. How is caring for our common home and caring for each other connected?
- Discuss: What actions do you think could end world hunger? and Who is responsible for ending hunger in certain countries?

Actions to Consider

- [Pray](#) to make hunger history.
- Make a [Grace Prayer](#) placemat.
- Grow your own food in a sustainable manner.
- Waste less food.
- Donate to make a difference to vulnerable communities.
- Act locally to reduce the impacts of climate change e.g. plant indigenous trees, recycle as many materials as you can, use less fossil fuels in heating, cooling and transport.
- Brainstorm a list of actions to end world hunger. Choose 3 actions that your home, school, parish or diocese could action.

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Activities

Secondary

- Look at the UN World Food Programme [Hungermap Live](#) and answer these questions:
How have the statistics changed since this fact sheet was written?
Which countries are affected? Rank them by food crisis.
What are the causes of the food crises in the top 5 countries?
How can we respond to this information?
- Test your knowledge on food security, consumption and waste. [Food Quiz](#)
- [Global Reality Meal simulation](#)
- [Caritas Food Security in our World](#); a series of learning activities, causes and effects of food insecurity.
- [Food Security](#) causes of food insecurity, links to Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) Catholic Social Teachings (CST's) and the work of Caritas Australia.
- [Food Security and Bees](#) Geography Year 9 and 10
- [Food Security and Climate Change in Australia](#)
- [Food Security Liturgy](#)
- [Caritas Food Prayer](#)
- Enter the [World Food Day Poster Contest](#) by the 4 November
- Download [The Human Face](#) lesson plans for 13–16-year old's where students look at the environmental impacts of food industries and the social impacts on equality and human rights for those that work in these industries.

Primary

- Watch the [Leave no one behind](#) video (3.07 min) and answer these questions:
What are the issues these children are raising awareness about?
What main messages do you think they are trying to get across to the viewer?
What actions are being suggested?
Can you take action at home or at school to address these food issues?
What do you think Pope Francis would say about this video?
- [Food Security](#) causes of food insecurity, links to Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) Catholic Social Teachings (CST's) and the work of Caritas Australia.
- [Caritas Food Prayer](#)
- **Lower Primary** [Caritas Food Security in our World](#); a series of learning activities
- **Middle Primary** [Caritas Food Security in our World](#); a series of learning activities
- **Upper Primary** [Caritas Food Security in our World](#); a series of learning activities
- [Food Security Liturgy](#)
- [Children's Activity Book](#) to download
- [Design a Organic Garden](#) Years 1 and 2
- [Food Quiz](#) Grades 5 and 6
- [Food for the World](#) 6 activities for Grades 5 and 6
- [Twinkl](#) posters, comprehension, resource pack etc.