

*"Send not to know  
For whom the bell tolls,  
It tolls for thee"*  
– John Donne

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Talks at the forthcoming United Nations climate change conference in Copenhagen, Denmark are expected to have reached a crucial point by Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup>.

At 3 pm on this day, following an ecumenical celebration at the Lutheran Cathedral in Copenhagen, Denmark's churches will ring their bells to send a unified message to the world's leaders, calling for urgent action on climate change.

All faith-based communities around the world are invited to echo them, sounding their own bells, shells, drums, gongs or horns 350 times.

350 ppm (parts per million) is what many scientists and climate experts consider the safe upper limit for Carbon Dioxide in our atmosphere.

The bells in Copenhagen will be rung by the Caritas Internationalis Secretary General Lesley-Anne Knight, members of the Caritas and CIDSE delegation, along with high-level Catholic Church leaders.

The bells will send a powerful message to the world's politicians, urging them to work towards global climate justice and seal a binding agreement at the conference.

As a worldwide 'family', we encourage all Caritas members around the world to invite local parishes and dioceses to join our hearts and voices, and to ring their bells to help save the planet, God's creation, from the threat of climate change.

Please show your solidarity by joining us in helping to give hope to future generations and to all those people who are already suffering from the adverse impacts of climate change.

The church bells will ring out at 15:00 local time in all time zones, starting in Fiji in the South Pacific, where the day begins, and continuing around the globe until 15:00 CET in Copenhagen and across Europe.

Please send us your pictures and stories of the bell ringing in your different churches across the world for our climate change website.

Thank you in advance for your support and for your gesture of solidarity.

For further details please contact our climate change team:  
Ms. Floriana Polito ([fpolito@caritas-internationalis.com](mailto:fpolito@caritas-internationalis.com)) and  
Ms. Christine Campeau ([ccampeau@caritas-internationalis.com](mailto:ccampeau@caritas-internationalis.com))

With every kind wish,

*Lesley-Anne Knight*  
Secretary General  
Caritas Internationalis  
Palazzo San Calisto  
V-00120 Vatican City  
Tel.: +39 06 698 797 02 (direct)  
Fax: +39 06 698 873 74  
[www.caritas.org](http://www.caritas.org)