What you can do:

Start by using Fairtrade tea and coffee. Register with the Diocesan Campaign by submitting the questionnaire, on our website under ‘How to become a Fairtrade Church’. Apply for a Fairtrade status after a suitable period of commitment and if your PCC agrees to:

1. using Fairtrade tea and coffee after services and for all meetings for which you have responsibility.
2. moving forward on using other Fairtrade products such as sugar, biscuits and fruit.
3. promoting Fairtrade during Fairtrade Fortnight and during the year through events, worship and other activities whenever possible.

If 66% of the churches in the London Diocese become Fairtrade Churches we can apply for Fairtrade Diocese status and together we will all be contributing to a trading partnership based on dialogue, transparency and respect that seeks greater equity in international trade.

There is a Deanery Champion in each Deanery who will help you to get started, or to develop your commitment. They are part of the Steering Group.

Deanery Champions can be contacted through your area World Development Advisor or through the website http://fairtrade.london.anglican.org.

Message from the Bishop of London, Dr Richard Chartres

Trade is vastly more significant than aid in promoting the economic development of the poorest countries in our world and the importance of the campaign for greater trade justice cannot be overestimated.

Not all of us can have an impact on the current round of the World Trade Talks but ‘Fairtrade’ is a practical way in which every one of us can make a difference in the here and now. It guarantees a fair price to the individual producer while the premium brings benefits to the community as a whole. Attention is also given to creation care and the sustainability of the various enterprises.

Many churches in the Diocese of London have been buying Fairtrade certified products since they were launched 14 years ago. London Challenge 2012 approved by the Diocesan Synod in November 2006 declared “We will strive to achieve Fairtrade status as a Diocese”. This aspiration is related to our determination to express God’s love in the interconnected world in which we live.

It is my hope that every church and community in the Diocese will want to play their part. In doing so I pray that we shall be led into a deeper understanding of the many faces of poverty in our world and become more effective champions of the Millennium Development Goals.

With thanks for our partnership in the gospel,

Richard Londin.
Support Fairtrade in your church

- Achieve justice for producers in the developing world.

Be part of it

What is Fairtrade?

Fairtrade is about better prices, decent working conditions, environmental sustainability, and fair terms of trade for farmers and workers in the developing world. By guaranteeing producers a fair and stable price plus the Fairtrade Premium to invest in development, Fairtrade addresses the injustices of conventional trade, which traditionally discriminates against the poorest, weakest producers. It enables them to improve their lot and have more control over their lives. The FAIRTRADE Mark is your guarantee that a product meets Fairtrade standards.

What does Fairtrade mean for producers in developing countries?

There are an estimated 1.4 million farmers and workers in developing countries directly involved in Fairtrade who are benefiting from better terms of trade and decent production conditions. In addition, millions more people benefit indirectly from the Fairtrade premium payment which producer organisations can invest in businesses or social and environmental schemes that benefit the wider community. Fairtrade means greater stability and a chance to plan for the future.

To find out more about the way in which Fairtrade will benefit nut farmers in our link Diocese of Niassa, Mozambique, see the News section of our website.

Fairtrade products

Fairtrade has come a long way since the early days of tea and coffee. Products now include many foods, wines, cotton products and even sports balls.

For more information, visit:
www.fairtrade.org.uk

or the Diocese of London’s Fairtrade Campaign Website at:
http://fairtrade.london.anglican.org

or send your postal enquiries to:
LFDC Steering Group
c/o Kensington Area Office
865 Great West Road
Isleworth
Middlesex
TW7 5PD

Prayer

Father God, as we reflect on our responsibilities as Christians, help us to understand the impact our choices and actions have on others.

Help us to be true disciples of Jesus, living the gospel and bringing social change in an unjust world.

Give us courage to challenge unfair trade rules and pray for those who have the power to make far reaching decisions affecting the world’s poor.

As we eat and drink, help us to pray for those who have laboured to bring the food to our table.

Fill our hearts with compassion for our brothers and sisters around the world, so that we acknowledge our common humanity and dignity.

Give us insight and understanding so that we can make good choices about how we spend our money. You have called us to care for the poor and needy and we want to take that responsibility seriously.

Help us to be generous with our time and money so that we can honour you through serving others.

Amen

Traidcraft

“...it’s no good praying for change if we don’t do something about it. Having a Traidcraft stall in church and serving fairly traded tea and coffee not only brings benefits to producers, it says to local people, this church is doing something!”

(A FairTrader who runs a Traidcraft stall in her church.)