

How to become a Fairtrade Parish



Ireland's First Fairtrade Parish 'Holy Spirit Parish, Dennehy's Cross'

In 2006 Holy Spirit Parish, Dennehy's Cross, Cork was awarded Fairtrade Parish status from Fairtrade Mark Ireland. The steering group was lead by Professor Maire Mulcahy and supported by Fr Tom Clancy Parish priest and Father Declan Mansfield curate.

Father Declan said in the local parish bulletin '*As a parish, we believe in promoting Justice for third world producers, Buying Fairtrade products is one step closer to a better world*'

The steering group sent letters to all the businesses in the area asking them to change their canteens to Fairtrade coffee. Letters were also sent to schools asking for teachers to use Fairtrade Mark Ireland's educational resources and Fairtrade products to be used in the staff rooms and where possible in the tuck shops.

Congratulations and thank you to Maire the steering group and the parishioners for their fantastic work in leading the way for Fairtrade Parishes to become a reality.

Melanie Drea
Fairtrade Towns Co-ordinator

Fairtrade Parishes

A Fairtrade parish is a community that has made a commitment to supporting Fairtrade. Making your parish a Fairtrade community is a very effective way of spreading the word about Fairtrade, and through it, supporting disadvantaged farmers and workers in developing countries. The more people buy Fairtrade products in Ireland, the more people in Africa, Latin America and Asia can trade their way out of poverty.

Six Goals for a Fairtrade Parish

1. A local steering group is convened to ensure continued commitment to its Fairtrade Parish status.
Once the group is established please complete and send in the **registration form found below.*
2. The parish council passes a resolution supporting Fairtrade and supports events during Fairtrade Fortnight.
3. A range of FAIRTRADE Mark products are served at parish meetings
4. Local businesses and organisations serve and supply Fairtrade tea and coffee.
5. The steering group attract media coverage and popular support for the campaign.
6. Schools in the parish are encouraged to become Fairtrade Schools by encouraging teachers to use the Fairtrade educational resources

Tips for getting started

- Get together a small group of people – perhaps members of an existing Justice and Peace or Trócaire group – and brainstorm ideas to promote Fairtrade within the parish, set up a steering group.
- Talk to your parish priest and enlist his interest and support. Explain some of the ways Fairtrade can bring people together and strengthen the Church community.
- Serve Fairtrade Mark tea, coffee and biscuits after mass and parish meetings – enlist the support of those responsible for refreshments.
- Put up Fairtrade posters, use videos and other promotional resources from Fairtrade Mark Ireland.
- Have a coffee morning and give out free samples, many companies supplying Fairtrade products will give free sachet samples.
- Get publicity. Send articles to parish, diocesan and local newspapers.

Getting your Fairtrade Certificate

Once you've got things rolling and think you meet the criteria outlined above, fill in the attached application form and send to:

**Fairtrade Mark Ireland,
Carmichael House,
North Brunswick Street,
Dublin 7.**

You will be sent a certificate for you to display prominently where people will see it. Now's the time to get some more media coverage – hold an unveiling or invite a local dignitary or celebrity to present the certificate.

Help is at hand

Lots more ideas and resources are available from Fairtrade Mark Ireland, see our website for details: www.fairtrade.ie.

For help or queries please contact us at info@fairtrade.ie

Fairtrade Parish Registration Form



Name of parish: _____

Diocese: _____

Date of First meeting Day _____ Month _____ Year _____

Main Contact: <i>Chairperson of Steering Group</i>	Name:
	Address:
	Telephone:
	Email:

Secondary Contact: <i>Member of Steering Group</i>	Name:
	Address:
	Telephone:
	Email:

Send to: Fairtrade Mark Ireland, Carmichael House, North Brunswick Street, Dublin 7.
 For queries please contact info@fairtrade.ie

Application Form for Fairtrade Parish status



Name of parish: _____

Diocese: _____

Chairperson of Steering Group

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

- **Please attach** letter from Parish council declaring support for a Fairtrade Parish.
- **Please attach details on the following:** Promotion of Fairtrade during Fairtrade Fortnight – and at other times throughout the year.
- **Please attach details on the following:** Use of Fairtrade tea & coffee, and of other Fairtrade products, such as sugar, biscuits, fruit at parish meetings & the local community.
- **Please attach details on the following:** Efforts made to attract media coverage.
- **Please attach details on the following:** The efforts made to encourage schools to get involved in Fairtrade.

Send to: **Fairtrade Mark Ireland, Carmichael House, North Brunswick Street, Dublin 7.**
For queries please contact info@fairtrade.ie