



## **SCHOOL ACT OF COLLECTIVE WORSHIP FOR LENT 2012 - IRRIGATION.**

This is one of 5 outlines for Collective Worship written to help schools pray and give towards the Bishop of Southwark's Lent Call 2012 to support our link dioceses in Zimbabwe and social outreach in Southwark

A service of thanksgiving for Diocesan church schools' contributions to the appeal will be held at Southwark Cathedral 11-00.a.m. on 25 April 2012. To book places contact:

[anne.white@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:anne.white@southwark.anglican.org)

### **FOCUS: THE IMPORTANCE OF IRRIGATION AND HELPING OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CENTRAL ZIMBABWE**

It is recommended that schools display a map and flag

<http://www.merriam-webster.com/maps/zimbabwe.html> as well as Lent Call pictures and information provided by Southwark Diocese.

### **THEME: THE IMPORTANCE OF IRRIGATION.**

Ask the pupils to think about what they had for breakfast this morning? Consider how much of the food has been made from crops grown here and overseas?

Ask the pupils to think of the local supermarkets and other shops where the shelves are stacked with food, crops upon crops and as there is so much, it is reasonably priced, people can afford food to eat. There is no shortage of crops making up the food here and in this country we are fortunate not to go hungry for that reason.

Explain that there are not enough crops for food in all countries. We are particularly thinking about the country of Zimbabwe which our diocese links with.

Think about what crops need to grow, particularly water. In Zimbabwe not so many crops have been able to be grown and so there is not so much basic (staple) food like crops which means that the food that there has an expensive price tag and cannot be afforded by many Zimbabwean people. Zimbabwe is a country that suffers from droughts, where they can go for long periods of time without any rain, and these are increasing and affecting Harvests making them very poor.

However, generally Zimbabwe does have enough water with some good land to grow crops on. This water does not always get to all the land with crops on though and farmers cannot rely on their crops getting water naturally. What needs to happen is that the water needs to get to where crops can grow and people need to help this.

One way to do this is through irrigation. Ask the pupils if anyone knows what irrigation means.

Explain that it is the artificial application of water to land to assist in the production of crops, so it is getting water to the crops on land in a way that people have set up.

Zimbabweans used to rely on watering crops by buckets or flood irrigation where water is flooded into fields with crops from streams that it was in, but both these methods were difficult and wasted a lot of water.

A newer and better method of irrigation is drip irrigation where a network of pipes is installed to the land that the crops are going to grow on and the pipes have narrow tubes running off them which allows the water to drip slowly to the roots of the plants enabling them to grow well.

Some of the families who have drip irrigation already have been able to grow enough crops to feed themselves through the year and also sell the rest to raise enough money to keep their children in school or buy basic medicines.

This year part of the Bishop of Southwark's Lent Call is to raise money for similar irrigation projects for more families in Zimbabwe.

***"A new commandment I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."***  
(John 13:34-35)

Song: "Water of Life." (Come and Praise, BBC.)

Dear God, we pray that the Lent Call project to develop irrigation in Zimbabwe will enable many people in that country to grow the crops that they so desperately need in order to both have enough food to eat and also to meet their other basic needs.

May the people of Zimbabwe know that the people of the Southwark Diocese care for them.  
Amen.