



'The Church of Bangladesh is a small church facing many struggles. But having the support of Christians in Britain and Ireland gives us the confidence to be able to do great things.'

David Hall, USPG mission companion, Bangladesh



USPG: Anglicans in World Mission

200 Great Dover Street, London SE1 4YB

Tel: 0845 273 1701

Email: enquiries@uspg.org.uk

www.uspg.org.uk

Registered charity number 234518

USPG Ireland

Inis d'or, Gobadruish, Mohill, Co Leitrim

Tel: 071 965 1998

Email: uspg@ireland.anglican.org

www.uspg.ie

Registered charity number CHY7998

USPG: Anglicans in World Mission

is enabling churches to share God's love in practical and life-changing ways.

We work in direct partnership with Anglican Churches in over 50 countries, helping to strengthen the church and build communities.

USPG needs your donations to support vital church work, including healthcare, education, leadership training and action for social justice.

 **Love one another**
Lent Bible Study 2008

Exploring relationships through the Gospel of Matthew and the Church of Bangladesh



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Front: Rahima Begum, pictured with granddaughters Trisha and Sharmin, is a member of a church-supported women’s development project in Pargandaria slum, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

Opposite: Street scene in Pargandaria.

All photos:
USPG/Leah Gordon



Introduction

The Gospels declare that those who love God should also heed the call to ‘love your neighbour as yourself’ (Matt 22:39), or to ‘love one another’, as it is phrased elsewhere.

This is the theme of our Lent course this year. In the weeks ahead, we will be exploring what it means to love one another by taking a close look at some of the key relationships in our lives.

As well as looking at what the Bible has to say about these relationships, we will also be taking a global perspective by drawing upon the experience of the Church of Bangladesh as it works among the poor and marginalised, with the support of USPG.

What struck me most as I read through these studies is the fact that relationships are at the heart of mission. Certainly, we see that it is through nurturing relationships, rather than dispensing financial handouts,

that the Church of Bangladesh is enabling people to work together to improve their lives.

USPG is also helping to establish relationships by enabling churches and individuals in Britain and Ireland to be closely involved with the life and work of Anglican and United Churches around the world.

Lent is always a time to deepen our relationship with God. This Lent we hope you will also feel freshly inspired to invest in our human relationships, both within your own families, churches and communities, and with your sisters and brothers around the world.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Doe" with a stylized flourish at the end.

Bishop Michael Doe
General Secretary,
USPG: Anglicans in World Mission



A boy plays in a flooded slum area, Dhaka.



USPG: working in 50 countries

USPG: Anglicans in World Mission works in direct partnership with Anglican Churches in over 50 countries.

In Africa, Asia, the Middle East and Latin America, we are enabling Anglican Churches to reach out to poor and marginalised communities in practical and life-changing ways.

In practice, this means we are helping local churches to run schools and hospitals, build houses and wells,

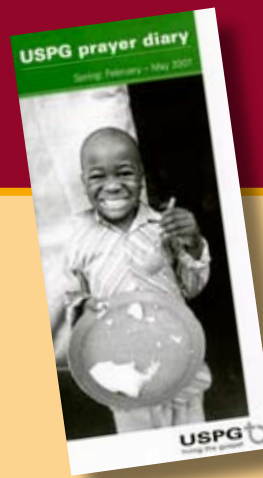
and provide agricultural training. We also support church outreach, theological training and youth work.

Through USPG, you can deepen your relationship with your brothers and sisters around the world – there is so much we can learn and gain from one another by simply looking beyond our parish boundaries. Please join us on this journey of faith.

Read how you can get involved on page 26.

Further resources for leaders

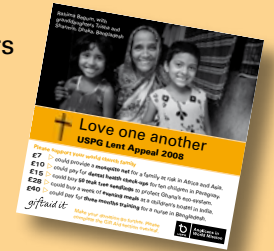
Visit www.uspg.org.uk for a set of commentary notes by Clare Amos, Director of Theological Studies for the Anglican Communion, plus prayer posters to download and a short film introducing the work of the Church of Bangladesh and this Lent Bible study.



Support your world church family this Lent

Prayer

- Order USPG's **free quarterly prayer diary** and make your world church family the focus of your prayers during Lent.
- Download a set of prayer posters at www.uspg.org.uk



Action

- Make a personal donation to USPG using our **Lent collection box**.
- Ask your church to take up a collection for USPG. You can order as many **Lent collection envelopes** as you need for your congregation.
- Keep informed by subscribing to **Transmission** – USPG's free quarterly magazine.
- Frequent flooding in Bangladesh means that many people face food shortages. Give thanks for the food you eat by organising a Bangladeshi-style meal of rice and vegetables – and ask for donations to USPG.

To order any of the resources mentioned on this page, call **0845 273 1701**, email enquiries@uspg.org.uk or visit www.uspg.org.uk

What your donations could do

- £7** could provide a **mosquito net** for a family at risk in Africa and Asia.
- £10** could pay for **dental health check-ups** for ten children in Paraguay.
- £15** could buy **50 teak tree seedlings** to protect Ghana's eco-system.
- £28** could buy a week of **evening meals** at a children's hostel in India.
- £40** could pay for **three months training** for a nurse in Bangladesh.



WEEK 1 Relationships in the family

▶ Opening prayer

'Who are my brothers and sisters?'
Father of all,
God with us,
help us to respond to this question posed by your son,
as we meet you this week through our families and friends.

▶ Getting started

We begin this Lent course with a look at family relationships. Let's get started by thinking about our families. Has anyone in the group put together a family tree? Share stories about your famous or notorious ancestors.

▶ Focus on Bangladesh

Kanto Biswas has two families that play a vital role in her life: her blood relatives and her extended church family.

In her early 60s, Kanto is a widow with eight children, whom she loves very much. For most of her life, she has worked hard and struggled to feed her family. Now she has arthritis in her fingers and can't work, but her sons have jobs and send her money from the towns where they work.

She lives in Chourkhuli, a rural village in western Bangladesh, in a small two-room house that she shares with her youngest son and his wife and young daughter.

Kanto said: 'Families are important. It is sad that many people do not live peacefully with their families. Most of them are very poor, which is a burden and can cause a lot of tension.

'I have worked all my life. My husband died early so my family has been very, very poor. But I am happier now. I help my daughter-in-law and look after my granddaughter – and that makes me happy.'

Opposite: Kanto Biswas and friends at the Golden Age Project, in Chourkhuli.

Kanto's other family is made up of the people she meets at the Golden Age Project, a scheme set up by the Church of Bangladesh with funding from USPG that provides the elderly with a chance to make friends. There are around 50 Golden Age groups in villages throughout Bangladesh.

Around 50 people attend the group in Kanto's village, both Christians and Hindus. They meet once a week to sing, dance, listen to Bible stories and pray. They are also given a meal and sometimes weave baskets or make cakes to sell at the local market to earn a little income.

Kanto said: 'We really enjoy meeting together. When we have problems in our families or illnesses, we come together to share our sorrows, pray and support each other. Few of us have had much joy in our lives, but now we have joy. Life is a struggle, but when we are together we are happy.'

▶ For discussion

Families face many pressures. Discuss some of the ways that families in Britain and Ireland could learn to be more supportive of each other.



Family relationships:
Shahida Begum and
daughters in Pargandaria.

▶ **Bible reading: Matthew 12: 46-50**

While Jesus was still talking to the crowd, his mother and brothers stood outside, wanting to speak to him. Someone told him, ‘Your mother and brothers are standing outside, wanting to speak to you.’ He replied to him, ‘Who is my mother, and who are my brothers?’ Pointing to his disciples, he said, ‘Here are my mother and my brothers. For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother.’

▷ **For discussion**

- In the passage, what is Jesus trying to teach us about the family?
- Describe the many different types of family found in today’s society. Is there a biblical model for the family?
- Are family relationships always the most important relationships in our lives? Discuss which of your relationships are the most important and which are the most difficult.
- Consider your relationships with your spouse, elderly relatives and children. How should Christians deal with family breakdown?
- The Golden Age Project is an example of how people can find a new family through contact with the church. In what sense is the church our family? When should Christians put the church before family?

▶ **Closing prayer**

Loving Father in heaven,
can you count your children?
Like the stars in the sky,
and the sands on the seashore,
yet you know and cherish us all.
You have also set us in the intimacy
of our earthly families,
offering us through them a place in which to grow.
And when the tight bands of kindred seem constricting,
May your Spirit breathe through these bonds
of imperfect and vulnerable relationships,
enabling them to become a means of grace,
and a context for new creation.



Upen Mollick, a member of the
Golden Age Project in Bollobphur.



Ideas for collecting money this Lent

WEEK 1: Bangladesh is a similar size to England with nearly three times the population. Count the number of houses in your street and give 20p for each.



WEEK 2 Relationships in the church

▶ Opening prayer

'Can you drink the cup?'
Lord and servant of all,
God with us,
give us courage to hold your daring challenge before our eyes,
as we meet you this week in the life of your church.

▶ Getting started

This week we are looking at relationships within and between churches. As a group, list the different churches you have attended. How many different denominations are represented? What differences have you noticed?

▶ Focus on Bangladesh

Christians in Bangladesh are a tiny minority in a country of 150 million people. Less than 0.3 per cent of the population is Christian, compared with 83 per cent Muslim and 16 per cent Hindu.

The religious climate in Bangladesh is mixed. In some villages, Christians make up the majority, while elsewhere Christians tread carefully in the face of Islamic fundamentalism.

Within this Christian minority is the Church of Bangladesh, which is a United Church – it is part of the Anglican Communion and comprises Anglicans and a number of Protestant denominations.

The Church of Bangladesh is not wealthy. As with much of the population, most Christians are poor farmers or day labourers.

Because there is widespread poverty in Bangladesh, it is perhaps not surprising that many Christians must focus on making ends meet, which means less time for devotional practices.

Bernard Mondol, a theology student

Opposite: Theology student Bernard Mondol.

at USPG-supported St Andrew's College, in Dhaka, commented: 'They have a hard life. They need to know the real love of Christ in the villages. Many miss out on teaching. I want to preach Christianity, so I want to grow in my understanding of theology.'

Fellow student Albert Folia stressed the benefits of developing relationships within the church. He said: 'We feel family visiting is important. Priests try to visit each family in their area every month. For spiritual awakening this is very important. People are encouraged by this.'

Services are typically held every day, at 6am, though the congregation can be small. A 7am service on Sunday is better attended. Traditionally, men sit on one side of the church and women on the other.

The Revd Lewis Dipti Kirtonia, in Bollobhpur, said teaching in the Church of Bangladesh tended to focus on spirituality, lifestyle and ecumenism. He said: 'There are few Christians in Bangladesh, but many divisions among the denominations. It is important that we learn to work together. Sometimes we hold ecumenical seminars to try and achieve this.'

▶ For discussion

Reflect on the different reasons why people come to church and why they choose one denomination over another.

▶ Bible reading: Matthew 20: 20-28

Then the mother of Zebedee's sons came to Jesus with her sons and, kneeling down, asked a favour of him.

'What is it you want?' he asked.

She said, 'Grant that one of these two sons of mine may sit at your right and the other at your left in your kingdom.'

'You don't know what you are asking,' Jesus said to them. 'Can you drink the cup I am going to drink?'

'We can,' they answered.

Jesus said to them, 'You will indeed drink from my cup, but to sit at my right or left is not for me to grant. These places belong to those for whom they have been prepared by my Father.'

When the ten heard about this, they were indignant with the two brothers. Jesus called them together and said, 'You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave— just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.'

▶ For discussion

- What is the church?
- Jesus calls us to be servants – even slaves – to one another. What could this mean in practise?
- As with the disciples, relationships in churches are not always easy. What could your church do to encourage stronger relationships?
- Why do you think there are so many different denominations?
- What do we mean by 'church unity'? How is unity possible between denominations with different views of Christianity?
- In what way does the Anglican Communion try to embody the principle of good relationships?

▶ Closing prayer

Lord of the church,
teacher of disciples,
you loved your friends to the end,
and gave them the example of leadership through service.
May we who follow you today
accept the radical challenge you still offer,
to your companions on the way throughout all time.
Stop us short if our values go astray,
and enable us to discover in obedience a perfect freedom.
Above all, help us to make your church a pattern for a new world
rather than a pale reflection of this one.



Nurse Deepa Roy in prayer
at the USP-G-supported
Bollobhpur Hospital



Ideas for collecting money this Lent

WEEK 2: Christians number less than 0.3 per cent of the Bangladeshi population. How many churches are in your community. Give £1 for each one.



WEEK 3

Relationships in the community

▶ Opening prayer

'You are the light of the world!'
Dispeller of darkness,
God with us,
in your light, may we become light for others,
as we meet you this week in the places where we live.

▶ Getting started

This week we are thinking about our local community. Recent tongue-in-cheek surveys listed Hull and Luton as two of England's worst places to live. How do you rate your town or village? Write a 15-word entry for a travel guide.

▶ Focus on Bangladesh

Asura Khatun, 32, lives in Alumpur village with her husband and three children in a one-room house made with mud bricks and a roof that is part-straw, part-corrugated iron.

In 2001, Asura was diagnosed with keratosis: dark lesions on her hands, feet, chest and back – it is a skin condition that can lead to cancer. The condition was quickly diagnosed as being caused by naturally-occurring arsenic in the drinking water. She was not the only person in the village to show signs of arsenic poisoning.

The Church of Bangladesh built a well in the village for drawing safe water. They also gave Asura vitamin supplements and urged her to eat more eggs and vegetables to help eliminate the arsenic from her body. The combination of clean water and the change in diet made a huge difference – and saved Asura's life. The marks on her body have now almost completely vanished.

She said: 'I was in a lot of pain, but the church took care of me. I could have died, but instead I'm feeling a lot better.'

Opposite: Asura Khatun suffered arsenic poisoning.

Asura's family still use the arsenic-contaminated water for washing clothes and washing their hands, but they use arsenic-free water for drinking and cooking.

She said: 'Workers from the Church of Bangladesh come here regularly to raise awareness. They are doing a miracle in treating those who are affected. They are the only people helping to address the arsenic problem in this area, so we're very grateful.'

Asura is so pleased that she now goes from house to house telling her neighbours about the dangers of arsenic poisoning, urging them to drink safe water and grow more vegetables.

She belongs to the Muslim community, which she says has a good relationship with the local Christians.

In Asura's area, the Church of Bangladesh's arsenic project is run with the help of USPG-supported mission companion James Pender, who said: 'The main vision of the Church of Bangladesh is to share the love of Christ. And the church's practical work has earned the church and Christians a very positive reputation.'

▶ For discussion

The Church of Bangladesh is demonstrating its faith through practical action. How do churches in Britain and Ireland engage with national life and with people in their local communities.

▶ Bible reading: Matthew 5: 13-16

'You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled by men.

'You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.'

▶ For discussion

- What do you think is your local community's impression of your church? What impression would you like your community to have of your church?
- What does the passage from Matthew teach us about how Christians should relate to their local communities?
- What are the unique qualities that the different denominations have to offer to their local communities?
- Consider the different faith communities in your vicinity: how many are there? How do you relate to people from other faiths?
- There is often an 'us and them' attitude between faith communities, both locally and internationally. How can we relate to other faith communities in love without compromising our Christian faith?
- The Church of Bangladesh is being salt and light to people like Asura. What more could you do to be salt and light in your community?

▶ Closing prayer

Christ, companion and Lord of all,
saviour and strange stiller of the storm,
you offer a testing strength to all who journey with you.
You invite us to question you,
yet you refuse to provide us with easy answers
to the swirling mysteries of life and creation.
We thank you for the challenges and uncertainties you have set before us,
for through them you honour the dignity of our human spirits.
Inspire us to respond to our own unanswered questions,
by struggling to make this world a place where all can feel at home,
where fear will one day be banished and our shared future will be blessed.



The dark lesions are signs of arsenic poisoning.



Ideas for collecting money this Lent

WEEK 3: Almost half the population of Bangladesh lives on less than 50p a day. For every item you buy worth 50p or more, donate 50p.



WEEK 4

Relationships with the environment

▶ Opening prayer

'Why are you so afraid?'
Creator and comforter,
God with us,
steer our course towards both wonder and commitment,
as we meet you this week through the beauty and terror of our world.

▷ Getting started

This week we are looking at the environment and the suggestion that natural disasters are on the increase due to global warming. Last year, parts of England suffered severe flooding. In a flood, what three items would you save from your home?

▶ Focus on Bangladesh

Flooding in Bangladesh last year claimed hundreds of lives and destroyed thousands of homes and livelihoods. The monsoon floods are a regular occurrence in Bangladesh, which is one of the world's lowest-lying countries, but many scientists believe the flooding is getting worse due to global warming.

In response, the Church of Bangladesh has established a disaster mitigation programme that provides emergency aid and sets in place strategies for minimising the effects of future disasters – for example, wells have been raised to a higher level so that drinking water will not be contaminated by floodwater.

Stephen and Aroti Halder live in Kandi village with the youngest of their four daughters. The one-floor house has been in the family for three generations and is fairly tall by Bangladeshi standards. But, despite its height, twice in the last 20 years the floodwaters have risen up to roof level, not receding for two months on one occasion. The family saved their cows and goats by

Opposite: Steven and Aroti Halder's home has flooded twice.

putting them onto a purpose-built raft, but other families lost livestock. The dirty water gave people diarrhoea and dysentery, but the Church of Bangladesh helped by visiting affected families in a boat to deliver food, medicine, oral rehydration salts and candles. The church also provided blankets and clothes, and wood and corrugated iron for repairs.

Stephen recalled: 'The water was neck-deep on the roads and the fields were flooded. Animals were dying. We could not stay in our house. Afterwards, we had to do a lot of cleaning and repair the house. The church gave support for which we were very grateful.'

To help mitigate against such tragedies in future, the church has put in place an early warning radio system to help give people time to put food and seeds into dry storage. In addition, canal drainage has been improved, walkways have been raised and latrines have been built at higher levels to help with sanitation during floods – and villagers are being given training in knowing how to best react.

Stephen, a Christian, said: 'We thank God because he gives us everything. We simply pray for a peaceful life.'

▷ For discussion

When flooding hit England last year, some bishops were reported as claiming that it was God's punishment of a sinful nation. How do you make sense of natural disasters?

▶ Bible reading: Matthew 8: 23-27



Then he got into the boat and his disciples followed him. Without warning, a furious storm came up on the lake, so that the waves swept over the boat. But Jesus was sleeping. The disciples went and woke him, saying, 'Lord, save us! We're going to drown!' He replied, 'You of little faith, why are you so afraid?' Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the waves, and it was completely calm. The men were amazed and asked, 'What kind of man is this? Even the winds and the waves obey him!'

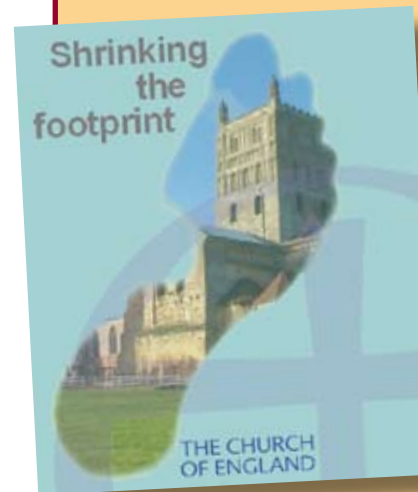
Left: Passenger boats cross the River Buriganga, Dhaka.

▶ For discussion

- What does this passage teach us about Jesus' relationship with the environment?
- In the passage, Jesus calls us to have faith in times of crisis but, in practice, we often panic. From your own experience, share with the group how your faith has held up in times of pressure.
- We are called to be stewards of God's Creation. What does this mean? What attitudes do you think a Christian should adopt towards the environment?
- What are some of the ways that we can better take care of the environment, both locally and nationally?
- The environment has become a political issue. To what extent should Christians be involved in the environmental debate?
- Despite tragedy, Stephen Halder, in Bangladesh, was still able to humbly give thanks to God. By contrast, many of us would find it easier to complain in similar circumstances. How can we develop a more grateful attitude towards God?

▶ Closing prayer

Radiant Lord of glory,
source of light and life,
you shine your penetrating rays
throughout all Creation,
and catch us in your glow
refusing to let us hide from your love.
May we learn to reflect your generosity,
offering a lamp of hope to our neighbours
as we climb hand in hand with them on the journey
towards the city set on a hill,
the glorious city of God,
where your welcoming grace is made visible to all.



Shrinking the Footprint

Shrinking the Footprint is the Church of England's national campaign to enable its members and institutions to address the pressing issue of climate change.

The campaign aims to challenge and encourage the Church of England to reduce its carbon footprint by 40 per cent by the year 2050.

To get involved, visit
www.shrinkingthefootprint.cofe.anglican.org



Ideas for collecting money this Lent

WEEK 4: Bangladesh is a low-lying country vulnerable to flooding and cyclones. Each time it rains this week give £1.



WEEK 5 Our relationships with God

▶ Opening prayer

‘Ask and it will be given to you’
Generous giver,
God with us,
grant us courage to embrace your promise,
as we meet you this week in your words of offer and command.

▶ Getting started

In the final week of our Lent course we are looking at our relationship with God. To get us started, imagine you felt called to become a missionary overseas. If you could go anywhere, where would you go and why?

▶ Focus on Bangladesh

USPG-supported mission companion David Hall has been working with the Church of Bangladesh since 2005.

In particular, David has been helping to run women’s community groups in a country where few women are allowed to spend time outside the family home. Some of the women say the groups have given them the chance to speak to their neighbours for the first time. As a result, relationships have formed and the women have been able to work together, learn new skills and enjoy a more satisfying life.

David said: ‘Mission is all about relationships – I love working with the Church of Bangladesh and with the people I meet. I’m also happy that I am helping to build relationships between people in Bangladesh and churches in Britain and Ireland.

‘People need to realise that God loves them and that all of their problems and issues are a result of broken relationships, whether that’s relationships between other people or our relationship with God. Restoring

Opposite: David Hall and Kanto Biswas at the Golden Age Project in Chourkhuli (see Week 1).

those relationships is essential.’

David continued: ‘Development work is important, but the gospel is about more than simply tackling poverty – it is also about the spiritual, social and environmental. You can’t have the whole gospel without all these elements.’

A trained water engineer, David went to Bangladesh with his wife and fellow mission companion Sarah and their two young children, Rebecca and Reuben.

David said: ‘My work brings me a lot of joy; it brings such joy to see the impact of the church’s work on people’s lives.

‘I think the most important thing I’ve realised is that the church will have little long-lasting impact on people’s lives unless we are in a good relationship with them. So the most important thing is to be a good friend to the people around us.

‘Ultimately, the aim is to bring people out of despair into hope by giving them a glimpse of the Easter message and turning Good Friday into Easter Sunday. We can’t solve all our problems, but we can have hope – that’s the gospel message.’

▶ For discussion

In our story from Bangladesh, David Hall described mission as being ‘all about relationships’. In the group, discuss your understanding of mission.

▶ Bible reading: Matthew 7: 7-12

'Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.

'Which of you, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him! So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.'

▶ For discussion

- What does Jesus teach us about God in this passage?
- What does it mean to have a relationship with God? What does it mean to call God 'father'?
- Christians in Bangladesh are in a minority, as were the first Christians. To what extent are Christians in Britain and Ireland in a minority, and what challenges does this present?
- David Hall said the gospel comprised four elements: the spiritual, social, physical and environmental. Discuss whether you agree with this definition of the gospel.
- This week's Bible passage describes how God gives good gifts. Ultimately, God gave us the gift of his son. What does this mean to you?
- How is the Easter story – turning Good Friday into Easter Sunday – having an impact on the lives of people in Bangladesh and in your own daily lives?
- As we approach the Easter weekend, look back on this Lent course and share with the group one thing that has made an impact on you, or helped you to think anew about your faith.

▶ Closing prayer

Loving Father in heaven,
Emmanuel, God with us,
of your goodness
you have given us yourself,
the richest gift of all.
You invite us to seek for you,
in the face of your son,
where you have imprinted your likeness,
made glorious with the wounds
of suffering and passion.
Grant us a spirit of generosity,
so that we may be enabled also to discern your features
in the changing kaleidoscope of this world's need.



Ideas for collecting money this Lent

WEEK 5: Traditional liturgy is used in the Church of Bangladesh, with Bangla songs sometimes included. For each hymn you sing this week, donate 10p.



Support your world church family beyond Lent

Make a regular commitment

Regular donations enable USPG to provide churches with long-term grants – giving them a secure base from which to plan for the future.

- Use the form opposite to set up a Direct Debit of £5 per month, or whatever you can afford.
- Encourage your PCC to pledge a percentage of your church’s annual income to USPG. (The Church of England General Synod recommends that 5 per cent of church giving should go to Anglican mission agencies.)
- Organise a fundraising event on behalf of your church. You will find lots of fun ideas and inspiring worship resources at www.uspg.org.uk
- Engage your church with the mission of the church around the world by inviting a USPG Speaker. Call 0845 273 1701 to arrange a suitable date.

Continue to pray

- Keep praying for your brothers and sisters in Christ around the world.
- To receive your free quarterly prayer diary from USPG, call 0845 273 1701 or email enquiries@uspg.org.uk

Rahima Begum (centre) and friends at a women’s development project in Dhaka.



Nurse Deepa Roy at the USPG-supported Bollobhpur Hospital.



You can make a lasting difference in Bangladesh

The work you have read about in this Lent study course also features in *Bangladesh in Focus*, which is part of USPG’s Projects Scheme.

The Projects Scheme enables churches and individuals to target their giving to a specific area of work and see it make a real difference.

‘A Project gives us people to learn about, to pray for and to work alongside. All are enriched.’

The Revd Canon AC Peatfield,
Diocese of Chelmsford

Supporters of *Bangladesh in Focus* will receive an introductory pack and newsletters reporting on the varied work of the Church of Bangladesh, including healthcare, education and development work. Further resources are also available to help churches and their communities to engage with the Project.

Sign up today and receive a FREE fundraising pack to help you and your church target your giving and see it making a real difference.

Email projects@uspg.org.uk or phone 0845 273 1701



Great news! From February 2008 USPG will be able to accept Direct Debits



Here is my gift to help support my world church family



Instruction to your Bank or Building Society to pay by Direct Debit

Originator's Identification Number

4 2 8 7 7 8

Instruction to your Bank or Building Society

Please pay The United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel Direct Debits from the account detailed in this Instruction subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this Instruction may remain with The United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel and, if so, details will be passed electronically to my Bank/ Building Society.

Signature(s) _____

 Date _____

Banks and Building Societies may not accept Direct Debit instructions for some types of account

Please fill in the whole form using a ball point pen and send to:

USPG: Anglicans in World Mission, 200 Great Dover Street, London SE1 4YB

Name and full postal address of your Bank or Building Society

To: The Manager Bank/Building Society

 Address _____

 Postcode _____

Name(s) of Account Holder(s)

Bank/Building Society account number

Branch Sort code

Reference (for office use only)

This is not part of the Instruction to your Bank or Building Society

To set up a Direct Debit, please complete and return this form to:
In the UK: USPG: Anglicans in World Mission, 200 Great Dover Street, London SE1 4YB.
In Ireland: USPG Ireland, Inis d'or, Gobadruish, Mohill, Co Leitrim.

I would like to make a regular donation by Direct Debit for £/€ _____ monthly/quarterly/annually (please circle) until further notice.

Title _____ First name _____ Surname _____
 Address _____
 Postcode _____ Tel _____

Thank you for your support

I enclose a cheque/CAF/credit/debit card payment made payable to USPG for £/€ _____

- I do not require a receipt
- I have completed the Gift Aid declaration

Title _____ First name _____ Surname _____
 Address _____
 Postcode _____

Email: _____
 (please include if you would like to receive regular news updates from USPG)

Credit/debit card number (please circle as appropriate)

Expiry date MM/YY Start date MM/YY

Switch/Maestro issue number _____

Security code (last three digits on the signature strip) _____

Signature _____ Date DD/MM/YY

If you are a UK taxpayer, you can make your donation go further. Simply fill in your details below.



Title _____ First name _____ Surname _____
 Address _____
 Postcode _____

Signature _____ Date DD/MM/YY

I want all donations that I have made to USPG for the six years prior to this year (but no earlier than 6 April 2000) and all donations that I make from the date of this declaration until I notify you otherwise, to be treated as Gift Aid donations. To qualify for Gift Aid, what you pay in Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax must at least equal the amount we will claim in a tax year.

- I am not eligible for Gift Aid

Please return this form to
USPG: Anglicans in World Mission
200 Great Dover Street
London SE1 4YB
 Registered charity number 234518

USPG Ireland
Inis d'or, Gobadruish
Mohill, Co Leitrim
 Registered charity number CHY7998

USPG keeps names and addresses of its supporters on computer for purposes of keeping them up to date with our work. Please tick here if you would prefer not to be contacted by USPG