

**IT'S TIME TO**

**FATE CHIASSO!!**

**MAKE  
SOME  
NOISE**





# FATE CHIASSO!!

This resource has four sections and is geared towards anyone 14 and up, though it's useful and interesting for any age. You can go through it solo, but we recommend diving in as a group to get that community vibe and make a bigger impact together.

Although this resource is being introduced as an Advent guide, inspired by themes typically associated with the season, it's designed to work at any time of the year—there is no need to wait for Advent.

Pope Francis has a message for young people:

*"if you have nothing to say, at least  
make some noise!" - fate chiasso*

He's challenging us to take action. So, look around you, think about the change you can spark in your community, and go for it.

After all, Advent isn't just about waiting; it's a season of hope, faith, and prepping for something amazing. Let's use this time to make a real difference in our communities as we get ready for the birth of Christ!

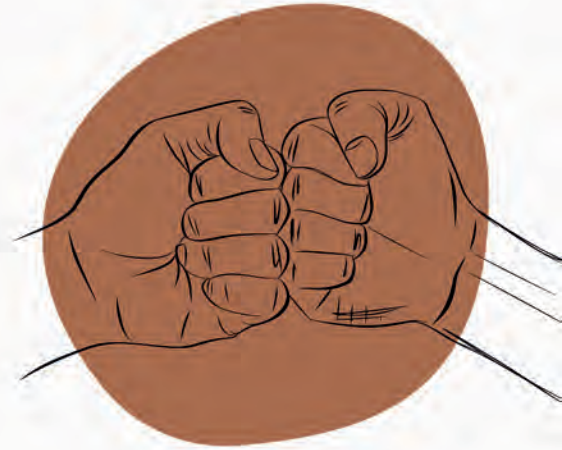
This resource will help you delve deep into the social issues around you, make your voice heard, and take action. Each section focuses on a different theme of Advent – hope, peace, joy, and love – linking these to real-world social issues.

Here's what each section is about:

- Section 1: **Hope** Observing and understanding the needs around us.
- Section 2: **Peace** Finding your voice to speak up for justice.
- Section 3: **Joy** Finding your voice to speak up for justice.
- Section 4: **Love** Reflect on what you've accomplished.



Hope



Love

# Make Some Noise



Peace



Joy

# HOPE

## Observing & Understanding the Needs Around Us

"A voice cries out:  
"In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,  
make straight in the desert a highway for  
our God."

Isaiah 40:3

When I read this verse, I am reminded of St John the Baptist, whose arrival was prophesied by Isaiah. But recently, I've started to feel it speaks to me too. By all means, I'm no prophet, but when the passage says, "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord," I feel it's God calling each of us to be open and make space for Him in our lives – even in the "wilderness" of our struggles, doubts, or life's uncertainties.

This verse pushes us to look at areas in our lives that feel messy or chaotic – places where things don't feel quite right. It encourages us to be active, to make a "highway" for God by standing up for justice, kindness, and truth. It's about being a beacon of hope, creating

space for compassion and justice wherever we go. It's a reminder that each of us has a role, no matter our age, in making the world more welcoming to God's presence.

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- When you encounter social issues, how do you feel? What do you wish could change?
- Is there a social issue that you feel strongly about? Why does it matter to you?
- How do these issues affect people around you—friends, or others in your town?
- What unique talents or strengths do you have that could help others or to make a difference?
- Do you sometimes feel like “you are only one person”?

## ACTIVITY

**Community Walk:** Go on a “neighbourhood walk” or spend time reading local news and social media posts about Maltese social issues. Look out for issues like poverty, homelessness, or environmental neglect.

Document what you see or hear, either in writing or by taking photos (with consent).

Begin with a community walk to observe any social issues or areas of need in your locality. This walk can be done either physically or virtually:

- **Physical Walk:** youths can be accompanied to explore their locality, observing closely and noting anything that seems unfair, out of place, or in need of improvement. Encourage them to watch, listen, and take notice of different parts and aspects of the community.
- **Virtual Walk:** For those who can't participate physically, encourage them to research online by exploring community issues through news articles, social media, and websites related to the area.

## PREPARATION

- **Set Goal:** Begin by discussing as a group what you want to achieve through this activity. Define the purpose: to observe, reflect, and understand social issues in your local community.



- **Identify Key Issues:** Have an open discussion about the types of issues you might encounter – such as poverty, homelessness, or environmental neglect. Ask each person to think about any specific issues that stand out to them.
- Are there signs of discrimination, or lack of support for individuals?
- Are there community spaces which are accessible to families? Are people actively involved in local issues?
- Is poverty visible? Are there homeless individuals or any support services available?
- Are there examples of communities supporting one another? Or is there a sense of isolation and division?
- Are there environmental issues such as pollution, littering, or lack of green spaces?

At the core of every catholic service is the protection of human dignity. Human dignity is all about recognising the unique worth of every person, created in God's image and likeness, and deeply loved by Him. It means treating each person with respect and kindness, seeing God's presence in everyone, no matter their background or situation. When we serve others, human dignity is at the heart of what we do – our compassion and support help people live with pride and purpose, and it's through these

small acts of care and kindness that we bring out the best in ourselves and others.

Disrespect towards men and women can take many forms, such as the difficulties mentioned earlier. When encountering a situation, be observant and ask yourself: how is their dignity not being upheld?

## OBSERVATION METHOD

**You can go solo on this walk or with a friend or two.** Explore your local area, observe closely and note anything that seems unfair, out of place, or in need of improvement. Watch, listen, and take notice of the different parts of the community.

If a physical walk isn't possible, you can go on a virtual walk of the neighbourhood. Research online by exploring community issues through news articles, social media, and websites related to the area.

## OBSERVATION METHOD

Document your observations in various formats – such as photos, written reflections, saved social media posts, or video links. This documentation will serve as evidence of what you've noticed.

- **Materials Needed:** Bring notebooks, pens, and, if permitted, smartphones or cameras to document observations. Each group should also have consent forms if they plan to take photos of people or private property.
- **Document with Sensitivity:** Write down what you observe in a respectful way, ensuring not to exploit or sensationalise people's situations. Take photos only when appropriate and always seek permission if people are identifiable.

## PRAYER

Thank You, Lord, for giving us the chance to explore and see the needs around us. As we walk through our community, open our eyes to the things that need fixing and give us the courage to make a difference.

Guide us in finding where we can be of most service and help us bring hope to those who need it most.

***Amen***

# PEACE

Finding your voice to speak up for justice

"Come, you that are blessed by my Father,  
inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the  
foundation of the world"

Matthew 25:34-40

This passage is all about how every act of kindness and compassion is like serving Jesus directly. It shows us that our faith isn't just about going to Mass or saying prayers but also about how we treat people – especially those who feel overlooked or are going through difficult times. Helping those in need – like giving food to the hungry, supporting the poor, or comforting someone who's hurting – is a way to share Jesus' love and make His presence real in our world.

This message is at the core of Catholic Social Teaching: it's a message about dignity, justice, and stepping in for others, especially those who need it most. It's a reminder that God calls each of us, no

matter how young, to make a real difference, even in small ways, by spreading hope and love to those around us.

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- Now that you've had the chance to observe your community through this new lens, where do you think you could make a difference?
- If you were in this situation, how would you want to be treated?
- What type of support would you value if you were the one in need?
- Are there organisations or people who could support you in creating positive change?

How could you and your group collaborate with others to make a difference? Find small and tangible ways to bring joy to others. You could gather items for a local food bank, spend time with a family member in need of support, or even start a project that addresses a need in your community.

Remember that service isn't always grand gestures – it's about consistently showing up for others and being a sign of hope and compassion.

# ACTIVITY

**Hope Board:** Share what you have each found whilst observing your community. Then create a map of your town or neighbourhood highlighting issues you think need attention. If someone doesn't have a specific item, you can use cards to write down keywords. You can even make a virtual board and have each person upload their findings.



**Group Discussion:** Everyone can take the opportunity to share their observations, stories, images or posts with the group.

Look for recurring issues across areas and discuss what these themes reveal about the community. Reflect on how these issues might impact the lives of the people around you.

**Reflect on Personal Reactions:** Ask each person to consider how their observations made them feel. Were there any surprises? Did they feel inspired to take action?

**Plan for Action:** Now that we've got a clearer idea of what our community needs, let's dive into real ways to make a difference! Together, let's brainstorm ideas that can tackle the issues we've noticed. Think outside the box and bring your best ideas to the table! Could we team up with local groups, or other youth organisations, or community leaders to make a bigger impact? Let's set specific, create tangible goals and decide who's down to take on each task.



**Scan this QR code** and check out a suggested tool which you can use to create a virtual Hope Board. Give access to all the group and let the uploading begin!



## PRAYER

Thank You, Lord, for opening our hearts and eyes to the needs of our community. As we reflect on how we can make a difference, we ask You to help us see You in everyone we meet, knowing that when we step up to help someone, we're actually serving You.

Strengthen our resolve to make our community a better place, one small step at a time. Whether it's in person or online, let us be Your hands and feet, in bringing kindness and strength to those who feel left out or alone.

***Amen***

# JOY

Make an uproar and let your actions speak louder than words

"My soul magnifies the Lord,  
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior"

Luke 1:46-47

Mary's **"yes"** wasn't just a quick decision; it was a bold, joyful commitment to God's plan, even when she didn't have all the answers. By saying **"yes,"** she showed us that trusting God doesn't mean we won't have doubts, questions, or face challenges—it means believing God has an incredible purpose for each of us that we may not see as yet.

This verse inspires us to find joy in our own **"yes"** to God. Whether it's through showing kindness, helping others, standing up for what's right, or just staying open to God's guidance, each **"yes"** brings us closer to Him. Saying **"yes"** to God might lead us on unexpected paths, but like Mary, we can rejoice knowing that our

**“yes”** allows God’s love to shine through us.

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- How do you feel as you say “yes” to putting this project into action? Excited? Nervous? Maybe a mix of emotions?
- Mary trusted God’s plan, even though she didn’t know what was coming. What are some of the unknowns or challenges that you might encounter in this project?
- How does it feel knowing your work could actually make a difference in someone’s life?
- How do you hope to feel once you’ve put your plan into action?

## ACTIVITY

So, you’ve identified what your community needs and have come up with a plan. Now it’s go-time; Time to put that plan into action and actually make a difference!

**Pro Tip:** While you're out there doing your project, stay open to the people you're helping. Remember, it's not just about giving – you're also receiving something valuable from them. What are they teaching you? Take a moment to think about what you're gaining from this experience too.

Meet four people who, just like you, are out there making a difference in their community.



**CHRISTINE MIFSUD**  
Commission for the Rights  
of Persons with Disability



**KARMNU SAMMUT**  
Farmer



**MARIQUE SCIBERRAS**  
Fondazzjoni Suret il-Bniedem



**FR RODERICK CAMILLERI**  
Archpriest

Each person is serving the community in different ways, whether by nurturing the community, empowering others, protecting the environment, or standing up in solidarity with others. These individuals are examples with whom you too can collaborate to bring about change in your community.



*Scan the QR code* to watch what they have to say in these short conversations

## PRAYER

We're ready to say "yes" to Your call and make a difference, but we know we can't do it alone. Please give us the strength and courage to follow through, even when things get tough, and remind us that every small act counts.

We know we'll learn as we go, so help us stay open to those we meet and the lessons they have for us. We're excited to get started, God, and we trust that You'll be with us every step of the way.

***Amen***

# LOVE

Reflect on what you've accomplished

"I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another."

John 13:34

This verse is a powerful reminder that love isn't just a feeling - it's an action - it's a call to live love. It means showing kindness, compassion, and even forgiveness, even when it's tough or when we do not get anything back.

When Jesus says, "**As I have loved you,**" He's pointing to His own example—how He spent time with the lonely, forgave those who hurt Him, and even sacrificed His life for us. This means that we must be looking out for others, supporting friends, standing up for what's right, and caring for those who might be left out or struggling.

In today's world, sometimes it may feel easier to look out only for ourselves, this command is challenging us to live out our faith actively and concretely. Loving as Jesus loves means taking small actions each day that reflect His kindness and selflessness, building a community around us that feels like family, and showing others what God's love really looks like.

Lets us this final part of the resource as a prayer, to reflect on the group activity you have undertaken and to consider your commitment to continuing to inspire and create meaningful change.

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- Now that you've carried out your initiative, take a moment to reflect on how giving back has changed you.
- How did it feel to be a source of love for someone in need?
- What experience stayed with you?
- Was there a challenging part of the project that still felt rewarding?
- How can you take this experience into your everyday life?
- Do you see this as a one-time thing, or has it inspired you to keep making a difference?



## ACTIVITY

**Commitment to Love:** Write down some personal commitments to keep showing love even after this activity. It could be anything—from volunteering regularly or standing up for those in need to simply being kinder in your daily interactions. How can you keep being there for others? Remember, real change doesn't come from just one big action; it's all about those little things we do every day, including praying for others in our community. Interceding for someone in prayer is another way to be of service. So, how can you keep the good vibes going from this experience?

**HOW WILL YOU CONTINUE TO BE A FORCE FOR CHANGE IN YOUR COMMUNITY?**





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