

Jesus said, I was hungry, thirsty and homeless. I was sick, frightened and abandoned, but YOU cared about me.

Dear Friends,

Have you ever heard of a charity called, 'Reaching the Unreached (RTU)? Our parish Justice and Peace group have supported it for many years and we have chosen it as our summer charity this year. We do hope you will join us.

It was founded by Brother James Klimpton, a de la Sale brother, who was born in Chester. Brother James always knew he had a calling to work overseas, especially with the poorest of the poor. His first posting was in Sri Lanka where he set up a printing school for deaf and blind boys. When Sri Lanka had a civil war, they expelled all the Europeans, so Father James was sent to South India where he set up a Boys' Village for orphaned and abandoned boys. Brother James tells the story of what happened next.

"One Sunday as I came out of church after Mass, the parish priest, Father Michael, brought me four young children-three girls and a little boy of about five. Their mother had died of tuberculosis the year before, and now their father had just died of starvation trying to keep the children alive. At the Boys' Village we didn't take girls or little boys under seven. I told the priest this, got on my motor bike and headed back to the Boys' Village. Halfway there, I heard a 'voice' in my head telling me to go back and get the children. My response was, 'What will I do with them?' Again the 'voice' said, 'You will be shown'. And so it was! We employed a local lady to be a foster mother for this little family and gave her a small house in the Boys' Village."

And this is how RTU's whole family-care system started-with just one small orphaned family.

RTU never turns a needy child away. They are welcomed regardless of creed or background. RTU now cares for around 850 disadvantaged children. There are forty foster-family groups making up four Children's Villages. When they are teenagers, they live in ten hostels and go to four high-performing schools. Here all the children learn a variety of trades as well as literacy and computer skills.

Brother James always looked to respond to every human need that he encountered with a special focus on the young. For the children in most need, the Children's Villages provide great security in a loving home, with a family and a community. Here they grow and thrive as they prepare for an independent life, free from poverty, when they leave their Village as capable young adults.

Jesus said: *Whoever welcomes a little child in my name, welcomes me.*
Brother James started this great work. Let's help to keep it going.

If you would like to see photos of the children and read more about Reaching the Unreached, please do look them up online at rtu.org.uk

How can we help?

Isn't that a wonderful story! Our J&P group would like to keep supporting this charity. We know it costs £20 a month to care for a child in the Children's Village. With your help perhaps we could raise enough this summer for RTU to support a new foster family.

Would you come to a fundraising event this July? How about *Tea and Chat in the Garden*? We'll make the tea and you bring the chat!

The Justice and Peace Group would like to invite you to

Tea and Chat in the Garden on Tuesday 7th July at the home of Alice and Patrick Joyce. They live at 35, Freshfield Road, Formby.

The idea is that you drop in anytime from 2-4.00pm for tea or coffee, and delightful home-made cake.

Please do come and bring a friend or two. Dress for the weather and remember your parasol!

This is a free event. There is no entry charge, though donations for Reaching the Unreached will be accepted with gratitude. And there will be a Raffle!

If you would like to donate online to this good cause, the Justice and Peace bank details are:
OLOC J and P Group Lloyds Bank S/C 309950 A/No 51129960 Ref RTU

or put whatever you can afford in an envelope marked Justice and Peace/RTU and leave it in the basket in the church porch.

Very many thanks to Alice and Patrick for opening their lovely garden for us.

Thank you also for all your support for the Justice and Peace group.

May God bless you and your families and friends.