

Catholics of all ages from across the UK join in a powerful show of concern with a clear demand for action on climate and debt.



Thousands gathered in Westminster on Wednesday 9 July for the **Act Now, Change Forever** mass lobby, calling on MPs to take urgent action on the climate crisis, unjust debt and nature loss. The event was organised by The Climate Coalition, a network of over 120 UK organisations representing more than 22 million people and highlighted the public demand for bold leadership amid a worsening climate crisis. According to research 89% of people want climate action.

As part of the Jubilee Year, supporters from the Catholic agency CAFOD and other faith groups called on MPs to champion bold global reforms to cancel unjust debt and unlock desperately needed funds for climate action in vulnerable nations. Today, 93% of climate-vulnerable countries are trapped in a debt crisis, undermining their ability to respond to climate related disasters and protect their communities.

The lobby also featured powerful speakers in the opening session, including Caroline Lucas MP, former Green Party leader, and Father Charles Chilufya, a Jesuit priest from Kenya and a leading voice on social justice in Africa, who spoke passionately about the devastating impact the climate and debt crisis is having in many African communities.

Father Charles Chilufya said “Many countries in the Global South cannot effectively respond to the climate crisis because they are in debt crisis — sending billions to creditors in the Global North instead of investing in climate resilience and protecting their communities. This is not tomorrow's crisis, it is today's emergency. And it is a deeply unjust emergency. This is a time to come together and to demand the change in the Jubilee year. Let's turn faith into justice and lasting change for our common home.”

Christine Allen, CAFOD CEO, said: “At a time when international solidarity and care for the climate feels like it's dropped off our political agenda, it is so important to see so many people of all faiths and none and joined in unity to have their voices heard. Over 80% of MPs have been contacted through the lobby, and I hope this sends a powerful message to politicians that addressing climate change and global injustices isn't just important, it's a moral imperative.”

CAFOD is encouraging anyone concerned about the global debt crisis to call for debt justice this Jubilee Year by contacting their MP and [signing this petition](#).

Pictured below: David Underwood and Chris Driscoll (CAFOD Brentwood) meet up at QEII Conference Centre following meetings with their respective MPs and fellow constituents. At the end of the day Catholics at the event attended mass at Westminster Cathedral celebrated by John Arnold the Bishop of Salford and Fr Charles Chilufya.

