

FAQs: The Wave, London 5.12.2009

Key details: where and when

1. Where does The Wave start and finish, and at what times? Will it take long for crowds to disperse?

If you are not going to the ecumenical service, please assemble in Grosvenor Square, W1A from 12pm. The march will depart from here at 1pm. It will finish with an encircling of parliament, and disperse along Victoria Embankment. Those near the front of the march can expect to disperse from 3pm. For others nearer the back, it will take significantly longer to reach Victoria Embankment (up to 4.30pm).

2. How long is the march? Where can I find a map of the route?

The march is just over 3 miles long. You can find the route at www.stopclimatechaos.org/the-wave.

3. Where is the ecumenical service, and at what time?

The ecumenical service is at Westminster Central Hall (also known as Methodist Central Hall) SW1H 9NH, from 11am until 12noon.

The ecumenical service

1. Who is speaking at the service?

Archbishop Vincent Nichols and Archbishop Rowan Williams will be leading the service. Umme Kulsum, CAFOD partner from Bangladesh, will also be sharing her perspective on climate change.

2. Are there tickets for the service?

No, the service is not ticketed. Westminster Central Hall only holds around 3,000 people, and we expect the service to be full. As people will be let in on a first-come-first-served basis, please arrive early to avoid disappointment.

3. Are there activities for children and young people? What are they? Where and when?

Yes! We are hosting activities for children and young people from 10am at Westminster Central Hall in the foyer (lower-ground floor, by the café). Activities will include hand and face painting, banner and placard-making, video diaries, graffiti walls, film showings, a photo exhibition, games, Planet Pulse and more. There will also be a cordoned-off 'Family and Accessibility Zone' in Grosvenor Square, with entertainment (such as face-painting) for children.

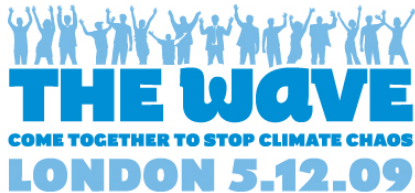
4. Why is the service ecumenical and not interfaith?

We wanted to join with our fellow Christians to reflect and explore what our Christian faith says about climate change and why, as Christians, we are called to act.

5. How do I get from the service to the march?

This is still being finalised but we hope to offer people at the service three options to join the march:

- to get the tube to Bond Street to join the start of the march in Grosvenor Square;
- to join the march half-way for the walk down Whitehall;
- to join the march at Westminster for those who just want to do the final encircling of parliament.



6. What will happen if I can't get into the service?

We are exploring other options for people who cannot get into the service because it is full. You could, however, make your way to Grosvenor Square to experience the live entertainment and full march.

The march

1. Why is it called The Wave?

When world leaders meet in Copenhagen, they need to know that there's a rising tide of public support for global action on climate change.

2. Why is it being held on 5 December?

This is a critical time, right ahead of the UN Climate Change talks taking place 7-18 December, where representatives and delegates from countries all over the world will come together to discuss a global response to climate change. This weekend is the perfect time to give world leaders a send-off they can't ignore.

3. What organisations are involved and what are we calling for? What is SCC?

CAFOD is part of Stop Climate Chaos who are organising The Wave – a coalition of over 100 major charities, green groups and unions, representing over 11 million supporters. We want the UK Government to show leadership at Copenhagen. We want them to show their solidarity with poor communities hardest hit by climate change and act fair and fast to inspire the deal the world needs.

4. Where can I pick up a placard? Are they sustainably-sourced? Can I bring my own?

You can pick up a 100% recycled CAFOD placard displaying our demands at Grosvenor Square, at the service or, if you're coming by a CAFOD-organised coach, at the drop-off point of your coach. And yes, of course you can bring your own! We'd love to see banners from every parish in England and Wales – just don't forget to make them blue and try to get the CAFOD logo in if you can!

5. Are there likely to be any clashes with the police? Is it safe to bring my children?

The Wave has the full support and endorsement of the Metropolitan Police, who are working with us very closely to plan for a fun, family-friendly, peaceful day. Please do bring your children – as well as the activities in Westminster Central Hall there will be a special 'Family and Accessibility Zone' (with entertainment) at Grosvenor Square.

6. Can I Twitter and upload photos from the march?

Yes, we'd love you to 'tweet' from the march (please use the tag [thewave#](#)) and upload your photos to Flickr. More details to follow.

7. Is there a big 'moment' on the march?

At 3pm when we encircle parliament and call for action to the chimes of Big Ben. More to come!

8. Can I leave the march early?

Yes, you will be able to leave the march at any stage.

9. What's happening after the march?

There are various events happening after the march – including tea and cake! Look out for more details at www.stopclimatechaos.org/the-wave.

Essential Information for you and your family

1. Will maps be provided on the day?

The march will have over 270 stewards to guide and look after you and your family on the day – look out for their yellow high-vis jackets! If you are coming by CAFOD coach, a map will be given to you on the journey there which will tell you where your coach will pick you up from.

2. Are there toilets at the service or along the march?

Yes, there are toilets at Westminster Central Hall. On the march, there will be portaloos at Grosvenor Square, and there are public toilets (that are also wheelchair accessible) at Trafalgar Square. There are also public toilets along Victoria Embankment at the end of the march by Embankment Tube Station.

3. Is lunch being provided? Where can I get a cup of tea?

Please bring a packed lunch and a thermos to help beat that winter chill. There is a café in the basement of Westminster Central Hall which serves teas, coffees and snacks, although it is likely to be busy. There are very few places to buy food around Grosvenor Square, and we would not advise you leaving and re-joining the march in order to pick up lunch!

4. What should I wear? Does it have to be blue?

Please wear blue or bring blue banners to join The Wave! We believe in re-using and recycling clothes as much as possible so why not check out your local charity shop to see what blue stock they have in...

5. Is there somewhere to leave my bag?

There will be no cloakroom facilities on the march. Please keep your belongings with you at all times.

6. Will there be first aid points?

Yes, Stop Climate Chaos will be working with a professional first aid supplier on the day. Please raise any first aid concerns with your nearest steward.

7. What happens if I get lost?

Stewards will be on hand throughout the duration of the march so it should be pretty difficult to get lost! There will also be stewards available to tell you directions from the service to the march, from your coach to the march, and from the march to your coach. You will also be provided with maps and directions.

8. Are there disabled facilities?

Yes. Westminster Central Hall caters fully for disabled access. There will also be provisions on the march to assist disabled supporters, with an Accessibility Zone along the south side of Grosvenor Square.

9. What happens if it rains or snows?

Unfortunately we cannot do much except say our prayers for good weather on the day! Please come dressed in warm and waterproof clothing, with sensible shoes for walking.

10. How can I meet up with friends who are coming? What about meeting other CAFOD supporters?

You can meet other CAFOD supporters on your coach or train, at Grosvenor Square – where we will have a special meeting place in **Brook Street** – or at the CAFOD stall at Westminster Central Hall. Please come and say hello and pick up a placard!

Travelling there and back

1. Where is my coach dropping me off?

If you are booked onto a CAFOD coach, you will either be dropped off for the service (right next to Westminster Central Hall) or in Park Lane if you are heading directly to the march. Your coach organiser can tell you more.

2. Where is my coach picking me up from after the march?

You will be provided with directions and a map to guide you to your coach pick-up point along Victoria Embankment. You will also be told when your coach is leaving – please do make every effort to get to your coach as quickly as possible once you have completed the march – it will not wait for you.

3. Where can I find out about coaches from my area? Why do they charge fees to travel on them?

You can find out more information about coaches and trains from all over England and Wales at www.cafod.org.uk/wavetravel - including how to book place(s) on one. They will, however, charge a fee to cover the cost of hiring the coach or chartering the train, as they have all been arranged by either CAFOD's diocesan offices or volunteers.

4. Are any tube stations shut?

There are no planned tube closures. If you are travelling within London, you might find the following information useful:

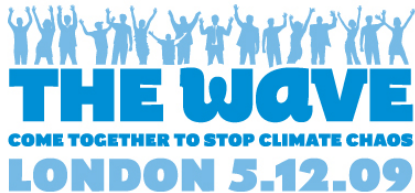
- Westminster Central Hall: nearest tube stations are Westminster on the Jubilee, Circle and District lines, St James' Park on the Circle and District lines or Victoria on the Victoria, Circle and District lines. Central Hall is also within easy walking distance of Victoria, Charing Cross and Waterloo mainline stations. Bus Numbers 11, 24, 148 and 211 pass the door. Numbers 3, 12, 53, 53X, 87, 88, 109, 159 and 453 stop nearby.
- Grosvenor Sq: Nearest tube stations are Bond Street on the Jubilee and Central Line and Marble Arch on the Central Line. Victoria Mainline Station is also nearby and buses 2, 6, 7, 8, 10, 13, 16, 23, 30, 36, 55, 73, 74, 82, 94, 98, 113, 137, 139, 148, 159, 177, 190, 390, 414 and 436 stop within the vicinity. Please double-check that this information is correct on the day by visiting www.tfl.gov.uk.

5. Where is the nearest car-parking?

We do not advise travelling by car. There is no parking in Westminster Central Hall itself, but there are pay meters (via telephone) immediately adjacent in (MPS Tothill), public car parks at Abingdon Street, Horseferry Road, Rochester Row and Semley Place, and there is also parking adjacent to the building on Tothill Street and Matthew Parker Street. There are disabled bays near Matthew Parker Street. There is very little parking around Grosvenor Square. It is not advisable to travel by car to the march or ecumenical service as many of the roads will be closed because of the march (as well as Oxford Street and Regent Street because of car-free Christmas shopping day).

6. Should I offset my emissions for getting to the march?

We understand that supporters want to do as much as they can to avert climate change. There are many different ways you can do this, and off-setting the emissions from your journey is seen as one method to tackle climate change. This type of off-setting is voluntary and is not subject to independent scrutiny. Consequently some companies do not pay enough attention to the effectiveness of the projects they run to absorb carbon emissions. Afforestation projects can also be problematic. For example, projects which involve planting



trees to neutralise carbon emissions could be degrading natural habitats or dislocating indigenous peoples. It is also generally agreed that the potential of trees to store carbon is only temporary.

We believe that only genuine reduction in GHG emissions through changing behaviour patterns will avert climate change. If supporters wish to offset their emissions, we advise that before supporters purchase credits from companies, they should undertake some background research into the company and its projects.

7. How do I register a coach that I have organised?

Simply email Katy Harris at CAFOD, at kharris@cafod.org.uk or call her directly on 020 7095 5418 and she can help you think through the logistics and assist with promoting your coach to as many people as possible.

Preparation beforehand

1. Do I have to register for the march or service?

Please let us know you are coming so we can send you all the latest updates about The Wave (including local transport information) and ensure that you, your family and your parish or community have a brilliant day. Head to www.cafod.org.uk/wave to register today. Please note that pre-registration does not guarantee entry to the service at Westminster Central Hall.

2. How can I encourage other people to come with me?

There are loads of ways you can encourage your family, friends and fellow parishioners to join you at The Wave. We have a flyer for you to hand out after Mass and a Wave poster you can display on your church notice-board or home window. Simply call 020 7095 5692 to order yours today, or email campaign@cafod.org.uk. There's also a Handy Hints guide for spreading news about The Wave, including a short talk and newsletter announcement, as part of an online promotional toolkit at www.cafod.org.uk/climatekit. Please ask your friends to join you on 'The Wave Wall' at www.cafod.org.uk/wavewall and start spreading the word online!

3. Where can I find out about CAFOD's climate justice campaign?

Check out www.cafod.org.uk/climatejustice and www.cafod.org.uk/climatekit for more information about CAFOD's Climate Justice campaign – including videos, resources, worship materials and ways to take action online - or sign up for the latest news by email at www.cafod.org.uk/campaign.