

Alternative Giving for Christmas

This Christmas, foster a culture of peace by supporting the mission of these social justice organizations and fair trade shops.

Mikono: The Refugee Craft Shop:

Handcrafts

Mikono, or “hands” in Swahili, was established in 1993 as part of the livelihoods program of Jesuit Refugee Service with the support of Fr. James Martin, S.J., to provide a vehicle for the sale of craft goods made by refugees in the Nairobi area. Mikono operates as a non-profit organization that markets handcrafts in the local market, as well as for export.

mikono.jrs.global



Servv International:

Handcrafts

One of the first fair trade organizations in the world, SERRV International began its mission in 1949 by helping displaced European refugees trade their handcrafts for income after the Second World War. Since then, they have extended their reach to 24 countries worldwide, working to empower over 8,000 artisans and farmers every year by selling their beautiful handcrafts.

servv.org

Equal Exchange:

Fair Trade Coffee, Tea, and Food

Equal Exchange started in 1986 with an idea: what if food could be traded in a way that is honest and fair, a way that empowers both farmers and consumers? This holiday season, consider giving ethically traded coffee, chocolate, tea, or other specialty food items to people on your giving list. | shop.equalexchange.coop

Collection:

Clothing and Accessories

COLLECTION is a project of the Carolina Textile District, a community of manufacturers in North Carolina. Through a purchase from COLLECTION, including clothing, masks, and bags, you are supporting an ethical production line, meaningful jobs, and a revitalized region. | www.createthecollection.com

CHRISTMAS

Spes Nova:

Handcrafts

Spes Nova launched at Fordham University, is a non-profit organization whose mission is to help alleviate poverty in some of the poorest regions of the world through a micro-credit program and market development for local entrepreneurs. Spes Nova supports the dignity of the working poor and draws on their own desires to improve the lives of their families and neighbors, and eventually allowing them to escape from poverty. | www.spesnova.org

Contemplative Rebellion:

Jewelry

Contemplative Rebellion pieces of jewelry that not only look aesthetically pleasing but are each crafted with a particular justice-oriented meaning and message. All of Contemplative Rebellion's pieces are made by local refugees who have settled in Charlotte, NC and earn a living wage to make these handcrafted jewelry pieces. | www.contemplativerebellion.com

Cards by Anne:

Greeting Cards

These beautiful greeting cards are a simple, yet beautiful way to offer words of encouragement, gratitude, sympathy, joy, blessing, friendship, and love. | www.cardsbyanne.com

Maggie's Organics:

Clothing, Accessories, and Home Items

Maggie's Organics was founded in 1992 based upon the premise that clothing and accessories should be comfortable, durable and affordable, and should be produced in such a way that respects and protects our planet's resources and the lives of those who make the products. maggiesorganics.com

GoClimate:

GoClimate is a company with the sole purpose of making it easier to start living a climate neutral life. You can buy a gift card to offset your loved ones carbon emissions. Use the estimate they provide, or fill out a survey about lifestyle choices to get a more accurate estimate of how much it would cost to offset emissions for yourself or a loved one. GoClimate uses the money to support Gold Standard certified projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and that promote clean and renewable energy. | www.goclimate.com/us

Ten Thousand Villages:

Ten Thousand Villages is more than a store. It's a place where you can explore and connect with your global village. Every inspired design is crafted with love using local materials (usually natural or recycled) and time-honored skills by makers from around the world. Every purchase improves the lives of makers by supporting their craft and providing a fair, stable income. | www.tenthousandvillages.com



Education for Justice and Ignatian Solidarity Network:

Consider a unique gift that will delight the recipient each month: an annual membership to Education for Justice (EFJ). EFJ, a project of the Ignatian Solidarity Network, is an award-winning, global, subscription-based monthly publication that provides resources to those who wish to study, teach, and put their faith into action. Send an EFJ gift membership: <http://igsol.net/gift>

Also Consider Supporting ISN Partners

Catholic Mobilizing Network:

Catholic Mobilizing Network is dedicated to mobilizing people to value life over death, especially through ending the death penalty and transforming the criminal justice system. CMN works through advocacy, education, and prayer to spread the message that all people, especially those impacted by the criminal justice system, should be treated with dignity. | www.catholicsmobilizing.org

International Samaritan:

International Samaritan's mission is to work hand in hand with people living in garbage dump communities to help them break out of poverty. International Samaritan currently has offices in Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, and Ethiopia, and gained consultative status with the United Nations in 2011. | www.intsam.org

Jesuit Refugee Service:

The Jesuit Refugee Service is an international Catholic organization with a mission to accompany, serve, and advocate on behalf of refugees and other forcibly displaced persons, that they may heal, learn, and determine their own future. | www.jrsusa.org

Christians for Peace in El Salvador (CRISPAZ):

CRISPAZ is an ecumenical faith-based organization dedicated to building bridges of solidarity between the Church of the poor and marginalized communities in El Salvador and communities in the US, Canada, Australia, and other countries through mutual accompaniment. | www.crispaz.org

Kino Border Initiative:

Kino Border Initiative's mission is to promote U.S.-Mexico border and immigration policies that affirm the dignity of the human person and a spirit of bi-national solidarity. KBI provides direct humanitarian assistance and accompaniment with migrants and social and pastoral education with communities on both sides of the border, and participates in collaborative networks that engage in research and advocacy to transform local, regional, and national immigration policies. | www.kinoborderinitiative.org