

BACKGROUND

As a part of advocating for justice, we are providing a list of alternate sources for Christmas gifts that will benefit the receiver ... and the person who produced it. (e.g. "Just Gifts"). Though there will be no 50% off clearance sale as advertised in the big chain stores, 100% of your purchase price will provide people with a fair wage for their efforts.



Consider a gift of a donation to your favorite charity and send the person some literature about the group. Then your recipient can understand how your gift will help people and might spur some interest for them to help with your cause. (If you pursue this you might not want to send the group the recipients' name and address so that they do not get on mailing lists. Just make a total donation and ask for the number of pieces of literature that you want.)

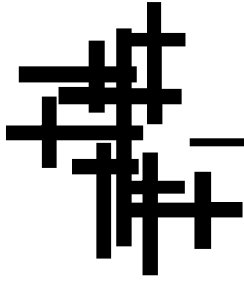
You may also want to be aware that your employer could have a matching gift program so that you could double the value of your gift to the group.

ACTION

Here are some suggestions for places to contact for alternative gifts:

- Catholic Relief Services: <http://gifts.crs.org>
- You can buy shares of programs for \$72.00 and up.
- Oxfam: <http://www.oxfamamericaunwrapped.com>
 - More than 50 gifts from \$18 and up.
 - Phone orders 800-850-7600
- Mercy Crops: www.mercykits.org
 - Buy kits to help families improve their lives from \$16 and up
 - Phone orders 800-292-3355-ext 250

(Continued on the other side.)



**GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH VOICES FOR JUSTICE
ACTION ALERT – DECEMBER 2008
Alternative Shopping – Just Gifts**



- Heartbeats: www.heartbeats.catalog.com
 - Fair trade, hand crafted items from around the world
 - Phone orders 800-808-1991
- Heifer International: <http://www.heifer.org/catalog>
 - Give some animals from bees to cows to hungry families and the opportunity for a better life to the less fortunate.
 - Phone orders 1-800-698-2511
- Fair Trade Federation: <http://www.fairtradefederation.org>
 - This trade association strengthens and promotes North American organizations fully committed to fair trade. They are part of the global fair trade movement, building equitable and sustainable trading partnerships and creating opportunities to alleviate poverty
- Southwest Indian Foundation: <http://www.southwestindian.com>
 - Help needy Indian families with food and or heating stoves
- Good Shop: <http://www.goodshop.com>
 - A percentage of the price of your gifts can be given to the charity of your choice

There are 4 local stores where you can shop for these kinds of items as well:

- Plowshare Center Gift Shop, 219 Main St, Waukesha, WI 62-547-5188
 - <http://www.plowsharecenter.org>
- Shops in the Mill in Cedarburg on the third floor
- Four Corners of the World, 5401 West Vliet St. 414-443-9606
 - <http://www.fairtrademilwaukee.org>
- Third World Shoppe in Capitol Drive Lutheran Church, 5305 W capitol Dr. 414-445-2065

And of course the Salvadorian Craft Sale at Good Shepherd with handmade gifts from our sister parish. Also will have fair trade coffee, chocolate, tea and cocoa

With these suggestions, we can truly share the joy and peace of Christmas with the world.