

Fasting during the G20 Leaders Summit

With the approval of many of the heads of churches in Queensland, Christians representing a number of the member churches of Queensland Churches Together encourage you to participate in a fast from food or something else really important to you over the weekend of the G20 Leaders Summit in Brisbane.

We envisage this as an act of solidarity with those in Australia and around the world whose needs and concerns will not be heard at the Leaders Summit Table.

During this time, we ask Christians to fast, pray, study scripture and take action to bring the concerns of marginalised peoples to the attention of the Australian Government and other G20 Governments.

When

The Leaders Summit will take place on Saturday 15 November and Sunday 16 November. You are asked to have breakfast before 9 a.m., on the Saturday, begin your fast at that time and complete your fast at 4 p.m. on the Sunday.

How

We recommend you consult the health and safety guidelines prepared for World Vision's 40 Hour Famine before deciding to participate. Please do not take part in a fast from food unless you are sure it is safe to do so in your circumstances. The guidelines will be found at: www.40hourfamine.com.au

You will also find useful information at:
www.wikihow/Survive-the-World-Vision-40-Hour-Famine

Scripture & Prayer

During the fast, read and reflect on whatever scripture passages you wish. Some possibilities include:

Isaiah 58: 5 – 7, Daniel 4: 1 – 27, Matthew 25: 31 – 46, Mark 10: 17 – 31.

Take time also to pray that God's Kingdom will come and that God's will is reflected in the decisions of the G20 leaders. You may wish to pray the Lord's Prayer or Mary's hymn of praise (Luke 1: 46 - 55).



Action

During your fast, be sure to write an e-mail or letter to the Prime Minister of Australia and to your MP and Senators.

Tell them that you are fasting in solidarity with marginalised people and urge them to take action to address the injustice they face.

Mention a specific concern of yours, e.g., children living with malnutrition and hunger, trafficked women, Indigenous peoples deprived of their land, people in Australia and other parts of the world losing their jobs because of economic restructuring or Torres Strait Islanders and Pacific Islanders losing their homes to rising seas.

You will find e-mail forms or addresses and postal addresses for the Prime Minister, your MP and Senators at:

www.aph.gov.au

Public Prayer Gatherings

Public gatherings for prayer will take place before the fast begins and at its end. All are welcome to join us to pray for justice globally.

As there will be delays on the roads and public transport on the weekend of the G20 Leaders Summit, please ensure you allow extra time to get to these gatherings:

Friday 14 November

**St Andrew's Anglican Church, 160 Vulture St, South Brisbane
7 p.m.**

Sunday 16 November

**St Francis College Chapel, 233 Milton Rd, Milton (enter from Baroona Rd.)
4 p.m.**

Prepared by representatives of member churches of Qld Churches Together.

