

Building the Kingdom

Let's Build Together

“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.”

1 Peter 1:3, New International Version

Prayer Points



Easter Hope

The tomb was empty because Jesus is risen. Pray that we would live as Easter people, witnessing to the truth of Christ's resurrection by putting God's love into action and responding to the needs of communities here at home and around the world.

In the joy and hope of this Easter season pray for the places and peoples in our world, where war never ends, where people have had to flee their homes, where children are hungry and afraid and where leaders are more interested in power than people.

Pray for peace in Ukraine, in Gaza and in Sudan. Pray for an end to the turmoil which is upending lives in Haiti. Remember lives devastated by the earthquake in Myanmar and Thailand and pray for all those who are reaching out to respond.



Our Community

Each Habitat ReStore serves at the heart of a local community; a place where thousands of local people can access the materials to improve their homes at low cost; a place where hundreds of people access training and skills for employment and where diverting materials from landfill helps protect our planet.

Pray for the launch of ReStore in Lisnagelvin, give thanks for companies who are already supporting the fit-out, and for the privilege it is to serve a new community. Ask that God would open doors of opportunity for local partnerships, move volunteers to come forward to support and give the new staff team a clear call to mission, and all the resources needed, as they work to open the store.

Give thanks that Habitat ReStore is the hub for the delivery of other programmes, through the House to Home programme Habitat has been able to continue to support vulnerable people in our community. Remember in prayer those who are homeless, all in our community who are struggling for any reason and all those who help.



Speaking out for Change

Give thanks that the Home Equals campaign has delivered real impact in changing policies which keep people locked in poverty. Nearly half of Zambia's urban population resides in slums, which often have limited access to clean water and proper solid waste management. As a result, people living in densely populated informal settlements are more susceptible to waterborne diseases like cholera. Habitat Zambia's advocacy efforts were instrumental in the national government's decision to launch a slum upgrading program, starting in Kanyama, Zambia's largest informal settlement.

Pray that God will continue to use Habitat to put the needs of the invisible billion on people's hearts and minds so that poverty housing becomes unacceptable in our community and our world.

Pray that new programmes; including the Zero Waste Challenge Schools programme will engage, enrich and inspire young people to become advocates for change in our community and our world as they learn more of how ReStore is tackling waste locally through reuse.



Hope in the rubble

In March 2023, Tropical Cyclone Freddy cyclone displaced 659,278 people, caused over 1,000 deaths, and inflicted \$680.4 million in damages in Malawi.

Funds from Ireland supported Habitat's response, including two homes which used innovative construction techniques reusing rubble from the cyclone to complete safe, disaster resilient homes. Give thanks that was once a symbol of destruction; the rubble left by Cyclone Freddy has now been transformed into a foundation for new beginnings.

Pray that Habitat can continue to innovate to provide new opportunities for families like Malita's to rebuild their lives in the wake of disaster. Malita said, "I never thought we would live in a real house again. This home has restored my hope for a better future."



Skills for Success

Give thanks for the lives transformed through OCN accredited training in ReStore and for the partnership with Gallaher Trust which enabled the capacity to develop the training in Ballymena. Through accredited training in Ballymena, and then in Lisburn, we have been able to build knowledge, confidence, and capacity through open-access learning, skills development, individually tailored support and signposting to employment.

Over 300 people have already benefited from learning and developing vocational skills through our accredited qualifications and courses in retail, employability, wellbeing and DIY. We have supported 57 local people into employment, most of whom would be considered "hard to reach", including those with learning difficulties, mental health challenges, offending histories or long-term unemployment.

Give thanks that we have just secured support from National Lottery to scale OCN accredited training to ReStore Ards and Belfast which will help build skills for success for many more local people in the next 3 years.

Donate to Habitat's Myanmar Earthquake appeal to support our disaster response in the region: habitatireland.org/donate/myanmar

Sign up for regular prayer points: habitatireland.org/pray

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