

*“For you know the generous act of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich.”  
(2 Corinthians 8:9)*

Christ of the cosmos, who became the poor man of Nazareth, when you came to make humanity rich, that was no mere metaphor.

May our faith never let us tolerate injustice, but challenge us to fashion a generous world in which resources, both spiritual and material, are distributed equitably among all, and poverty is made history. **Amen**

*“The poor you will always have with you” (John 12:8)*

Why should Christ’s response to a loving act of anointing, become for us an excuse for doing nothing, and allow poverty to become permanently acceptable?

Let us rather remember Mary’s generous gift, and pledge:

**Response:**

**Make Poverty History**

*“If you lend money to my people, to the poor among you, you shall not deal with them as a creditor... if your neighbour cries out to me, I will listen, for I am compassionate.” (Exodus 22:25, 27)*

Our Bible’s first words on poverty, written into the heart of God’s covenant, Ancient words so often ignored, too dangerous for our modern economy, Yet underwritten by God who has named himself compassionate.

Help us to hear the cry of voices often silenced and:

**Make Poverty History**

*“He has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich empty away.” (Luke 2:53)*

Uncompromising words, heralding an incarnation,

Changing a world that must never be the same.

Refusing to let us slip back into comfort zones of conformity,

Challenging us to do our part to:

**Make Poverty History**

*“The Spirit of the Lord... has anointed me to bring good news to the poor.”  
(Luke 4:18)*

Nazareth’s good news, underscored with Christ’s divine ‘today’,

‘Today this scripture is fulfilled’

- not tomorrow.

God’s transformation is for now, for our present, not our future.

No longer captives of the past we shall:

**Make Poverty History**