



**“You are not on the margins of the Church...you are at the centre...  
**You are at the heart of the Church”****

*Pope St Paul VI  
Homily at a Roma Traveller Site in Pomezia, Italy 1965*

**Celebrating the contribution  
the Travelling Communities make to  
the Church in England and Wales**



# Racial Justice Sunday Pledges

**When he met with Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Communities  
Pope Francis said:**

*"The time has come to put an end to age-old prejudices, preconceptions and mutual mistrust that are often at the base of discrimination, racism and xenophobia. No one must feel isolated, and no one is authorised to trample on the dignity and rights of others."*

**As a Catholic I will challenge hate speech and discrimination against Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Communities.**

*"I know the difficulties of your people... these issues require the attention not only of the Church but also of the local authorities. I have been able to see the precarious conditions in which many of you live."*

**As a Catholic I will call on my elected representatives to ensure that appropriate sites and facilities are provided for the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Communities in my local area.**

*"Let us allow the Gospel of mercy to shake our consciences and let us open our hearts and our hands to the neediest and most marginalised, beginning with the ones closest to us."*

**As a Catholic I will welcome Gypsy, Roma and Traveller parishioners as sisters and brothers in Christ.**

*"Do not give the media and public opinion any motive to speak ill of you."*

**As Catholics who are members of the Travelling and the Settled Communities we pledge to do all that we can to live our lives according to the values of the Gospel.**

Catholic Trust for England and Wales, 39 Eccleston Square, London, SW1V 1BX  
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