

Pope OKs showers for homeless in Rome

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CREATIVE COMMONS
VIA PETER DEPOLO ON FLICKR.COM

Pope Francis has given the green light for three showers to be installed in the Vatican so the homeless have a free place to wash. The new showers will be

in the world-famous St Peter's Square, a place where millions of pilgrims flock to each year. The inspiration came from Archbishop Konrad Krajewski, who met a man who had been homeless for a decade. Apparently, the archbishop invited the man to dinner to celebrate his 50th birthday. The man declined saying he was embarrassed to accept the invitation because he smelled bad. The archbishop said: "I took him to dinner with me nonetheless....During dinner, he explained to me that you can always find some food in Rome. What is missing is a place to wash."

Construction of the showers will commence on November 17th. The idea has energised city planners, who have already put plans in place to erect a further ten showers across Rome. Archbishop Krajewski has called for volunteers and donations to help maintain the showers. He said the service particularly needed soap, towels and clean underwear. He told reporters: "It is not simple. It is easier to prepare sandwiches than to run a shower service. You need volunteers." When asked by journalists if he thought visitors might be offended by the showers for the homeless, the archbishop replied that it had always been the duty of the church to serve the poor and needy.

Sources: *the loal.it / catholicnews.com / huffingtonpost*

Writing

Governments should provide the homeless with food, shelter and medicine. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

green light / showers / millions / pilgrims / decade / embarrassed / dinner / missing / construction / volunteers / donations / underwear / sandwiches / journalists / needy

True / False

- The Pope has given an amber light to build showers for the homeless. T / F
- The new showers will be in a world-famous square at the Vatican. T / F
- An archbishop was taken to dinner by a homeless man. T / F
- The homeless man said it wasn't so difficult to find food in Rome. T / F
- City planners say there are no plans to build more showers. T / F
- The showers for the homeless project has enough volunteers. T / F
- A man said the shower project was easier than making sandwiches. T / F
- The archbishop said he thought the showers would offend people. T / F

Synonym Match

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. green light | a. refused |
| 2. free | b. idea |
| 3. inspiration | c. invigorated |
| 4. declined | d. building |
| 5. missing | e. responsibility |
| 6. construction | f. go-ahead |
| 7. energised | g. lacking |
| 8. run | h. answered |
| 9. replied | i. complimentary |
| 10. duty | j. operate |

Discussion – Student A

- What does your town provide for the homeless?
- What do you think of the Vatican showers?
- Are you surprised there aren't more services for homeless people?
- How do people survive being homeless?
- Do you ever give money to homeless people?
- Why don't you take a homeless person to dinner?
- What do you think would be the most difficult thing about being homeless?
- What will the new shower mean to the homeless of Rome?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Francis has given the green | a. the invitation |
| 2. the homeless have a free | b. needed soap |
| 3. where millions of pilgrims | c. is a place to wash |
| 4. he was embarrassed to accept | d. city planners |
| 5. What is missing | e. by the showers |
| 6. The idea has energised | f. light for three showers |
| 7. put plans in place to erect | g. the poor and needy |
| 8. He said the service particularly | h. flock to each year |
| 9. visitors might be offended | i. place to wash |
| 10. the duty of the church to serve | j. a further ten |

Discussion – Student B

- What can governments do for the homeless?
- Will ten showers be enough?
- What would you give to help the archbishop's project?
- Why might people be offended by the showers?
- What's the next thing the Pope should do?
- Do religious organisations do enough for the homeless?
- Do you have a duty to help homeless people?
- What questions would you like to ask Pope Francis?

Spelling

- showers to be ltldsniae in the Vatican
- millions of giipmrls
- The inortisinpa came from Archbishop Konrad
- homeless for a cddeea
- ateplynAp, the archbishop invited...
- I took him to dinner with me henstoneesl
- eccommen on November 17th
- segireend (UK) / igeeendzr (USA) city planners
- Krajewski has called for eerusvnlot
- tsooniand to help maintain the showers
- offdeedn by the showers
- the archbishop relidpe

Answers – Synonym Match

1. f	2. i	3. b	4. a	5. g
6. d	7. c	8. j	9. h	10. e

Role Play

Role A – Showers

You think homeless people want showers most. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't so important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): TV, a gym or careers advice.

Role B – TV

You think homeless people want TV most. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't so important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): showers, a gym or careers advice.

Role C – Gym

You think homeless people want a gym most. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't so important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): TV, showers or careers advice.

Role D – Careers advice

You think homeless people want careers advice most. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't so important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): TV, a gym or showers.

Speaking – Invitations

Rank these with your partner. Put the best at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| • a dinner party | • the beach |
| • the opera | • afternoon tea |
| • a horse race | • a workshop |
| • an art gallery | • the movies |

Answers – True False

a	F	b	T	c	F	d	T	e	F	f	F	g	F	h	F
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.