

Archdiocese of Southwark
Commission for
Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation



JPIC Update - February 2015

Support for migrants camped in Calais

There has been an unexpectedly generous response to an appeal for winter clothes, waterproof sheets and the like. Stocks build up from time to time in cars and garages in Deal. People driving to Calais can pause near Dover to have their cars filled up with goods to deliver to Pascal, a retired English teacher, at the *Secours Catholique* store close to the main Notre Dame church (just off the Place des Armes, a few minutes drive from the ferry terminal). It's a quick and easy thing to do, and does not subtract much time from shopping or onward travel. With cheap day trip offers in newspapers, it's a no brainer to help out - and the current favourable exchange rate makes the journey attractive.



As the winter ends, we now need far less clothes, but more toiletries and books. (a) to help those who want to stay in France to learn the French language from English (eg "Teach Yourself" books, phrase books and French grammars); (b) books in English to either help those who know the language to fill their time or to help others to improve their English (eg children's books, teenage fiction and pulp fiction). Packs of cards and dominoes are also welcome, along with any games that may help players to improved their English.

If people want to bring goods to Kent from farther afield in the diocese, or can arrange to transport them to Calais, I'll be pleased to put them in touch with those who are directly involved in this effort of humanitarian support. *Phil Kerton (cpkerton@yahoo.com or tel. 01484 873802)*

Lentern Resources

The front page of our web site has two new versions of the Stations of the Cross. The version for young people is semi-dramatized. There is also "A Lentern Journey" a list of daily actions and reflections. Our thanks go to Anne O'Connor for providing these resources.

Pray and Fast for the Climate

'Pray and Fast for the Climate' is a global initiative for the 1st of each month, leading up to the United Nations 21st Conference of the Parties on Climate Change which is being held in Paris in December 2015. Events are organized for each month, the 1st March event will be at Interfaith Collaboration House, W1T 4PW. Full details of this and other events can be found at. <http://www.prayandfastfortheclimate.org.uk>

Reluctant voters may have more power than they think. Can you help spread the word?

Huge numbers didn't vote in the last general election. In 2010, the Conservative Party received the highest number of votes – just under 11 million. But twice this number – 22 million – didn't vote at all.

Three important groups were less likely to vote: the young, people with the lowest income, and those from ethnic minorities.

Many felt ignored by politicians – and with good reason. People aged 18-21 are almost three times more likely to be low paid than any other age group.

But by not voting they give politicians even more of an excuse to ignore them. And if those reluctant voters do make it to the ballot box, they may have more power than they think. Some MPs' majorities are surprisingly vulnerable.

Please encourage everyone to register to vote, this can be done at <https://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote> either on line or by downloading a form - **and then get them to Vote!**

Our 2015 Spring Assembly
Saturday April 25th from 10.30 to 4.00
in the New Barn, Aylesford Priory

“From prayer to action and back again - learning and doing together”

A day to meet others, for discussion and discernment of how to work together
in the run up to the General Election and beyond.

Group Facilitators will include Susan Kambalu (CAFOD), Louise Zanre (JRS),
Barbara Wilson (London Citizens), Daniel Hale and James Truby (Columbans)

February 28th - Children's Society: How Strong is your Faith in Politics?

9.45 to 4.30 at City Temple, London, EC1A 2DE a day of conversation on faith and politics organised together with Christian Aid and Greenbelt. . Dr Rowan Williams will open the day and there'll be many more interesting speakers to share their insights. £15 including lunch, concessions available. Tickets from: <http://childrenssociety.org.uk/faithinpolitics>.

February 28th - UK Faith Communities – Progress towards a world free of nuclear weapons.

11am to 4pm at Friends House, Euston Road NW1 2BJ. A free seminar on nuclear disarmament, run by Religions for Peace in partnership with Quaker Peace & Social Witness, the Joint Public Issues Team, ICAN and SGI-UK. . Do register your interest soonest, as spaces are limited, by e-mailing David Horner - dvdhorner@googlemail.com or calling 07825-189263

March 7th - Ecumenical climate service and walk

Meet 11.30am at St Mary le Strand, Strand, London WC2R 1ES (refreshments from 10.30am)
12.30pm - 1pm Assemble for the climate march at Lincoln's Inn Fields, Holborn.

Climate Change is one of the biggest ethical and spiritual issues of our time. Leaders across many faiths are calling for action to defend future generations and all creation from climate chaos. This is an important time to come together to pray and speak out ahead of the next General Election and the critical UN climate talks this December in Paris. Let's put our faith into action. Walk together for change.

March 7th - An open invitation to visit Tooting Islamic Centre

11.30 to 5.50 at 145 Upper Tooting Road, SW17 7TJ. An opportunity to gain more understanding of the faith of Islam and the role of the Mosque within the Community and to meet with men, women and young people. Presentation at 1.45. Refreshments available.

March 14th - Spirit in Action for the Climate

A workshop co-hosted by Operation Noah and Hope for the Future at St Andrew's Church, Short Street, Waterloo, London SE1 8LJ from 10.15am to 5pm. Are you passionate about climate change? Do you want to make a difference in 2015 – an important year for climate action? Do you want to inspire others to get involved? This workshop for Christians will help you explore your spiritual calling to care for God's creation, and equip you with the knowledge and tools to get active on climate change in your communities. Cost is £15 / £10 (includes lunch) Register at www.spiritactionclimate2015.eventbrite.co.uk
Email: campaigns@operationnoah.org Phone: 07804 059426

Music Workshops for the St Joseph the Worker Mass.

February 28th 1-5pm at St Teresa's, Merton April 24th 7-9pm at Amigo Hall, St George's Cathedral

The workshops will be run by Frances Novillo. To book a place please contact the office (details below). The workshop will be focusing primarily on singers - of all abilities and ages - but would any interested exceptional instrumentalists please contact francesnovillo@yahoo.co.uk or phone 07714 204201

May 4th (Bank Holiday Monday) - Mass in honour of St Joseph the Worker

In St George's Cathedral with principal celebrant Archbishop Peter Smith. Come and join workers, migrants and civic leaders in a joyous morning of reflection and celebration in support of all Migrant Workers. Please arrive by 10.30. There will be a buffet lunch afterwards sponsored by The Tablet as part of their 175th anniversary celebrations..

