

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



JPIC Update - June 2015

From Fr Arbo (Chairman) - JPIC Commission: Exploring The Way Ahead

Our Diocesan steering committee for the Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation Commission is formed of highly dedicated and committed individuals who meet regularly to discuss and act on issues of interest. In the last few months the committee has been reflecting on how to build on the good work that is already done by enhancing our mission within and outside the Archdiocese.

In order to achieve this goal, it was decided that we should hold a workshop/meeting open to all with an interest in issues of Justice and Peace and explore "The Best Way Ahead".

I am therefore inviting you to come and join this workshop on 22 July 2015 at 7pm in Amigo Hall, St George's Cathedral, Lambeth Road, SE1 6HR

Choosing the Common Good - Blueprint for a good life,

With the new government's planned welfare cutbacks beginning to be brought in a re-read of the Catholic bishops' 2010 pre-election document gives some food for thought: "How the public finances are rebalanced will prove most important influence on how economic inequalities evolve: will the costs of recovery be borne by those who gained least before the crisis, or by those in the strongest position to do so?"

Well, I think we know the answer to this for the present Government but the document also put some pressure on all of us: "Have we allowed ourselves to be seduced by the myth that social problems are for the Government to deal with?... Both regulation by law and market forces have a role in modern society. But what has increasingly been overlooked is the third form of motivation - the offer of time, energy and possessions out of the spirit of good citizenship and genuine neighbourliness" So please keep campaigning that those least fortunate in our communities and across the world get a better future but perhaps also look to see if you could do a little more join SVP, work with CAB or the local food bank or just befriend those suffering from the poverty of loneliness in our own communities.

Climate Lobby

At least 9,000 people, including CAFOD supporters from every diocese, met their MPs to talk about climate change and the devastating impact it's having on people living in poverty overseas. In what was the biggest ever climate lobby of Parliament almost half of all MPs were asked to tackle climate change and deliver 100 per cent clean, safe energy by 2050 by groups ranging from the Women's Institute to Greenpeace.

Sophie Dodgeon, Head of Campaigns at CAFOD, was at the lobby and she said, "Opportunities like this don't come around often and the Catholic community has really seized the day. We showed those who represent us in Parliament that we're stronger together and that we won't keep silent about injustice and poverty.

Amber Rudd, Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change, responded to the day's strong call for action on climate change by stressing the need to act internationally and at home. "The people who are really suffering are those in the poorest countries. We have to address this with climate finance," she said at an evening event following the Speak Up lobby.

To keep abreast of what CAFOD are doing to tackle climate change and poverty check the CAFOD web site and sign up for their monthly campaigns e-mail at www.cafod.org.uk/Campaigns

Job opportunities at CAFOD

Community Participation Co-ordinators— 1x permanent full time post and 1 x permanent post part time (14 hours per week) for Southwark and other posts elsewhere. The roles will involve working with volunteers in parish and school communities helping to inspire and resource Catholics to participate in the Church's mission to overcome poverty and injustice overseas in partnership with CAFOD. Closing date 10th July 2015. <http://www.cafod.org.uk/Work-with-us/UK-Jobs/CPC>

**July 4th - Evangelisation Seminar 2 - "Go and Announce the Gospel of the Lord"
Spreading the Good News through Justice & Peace.**

With members of the Justice and Peace Commission. 10:00am - 1:00pm at St Francis de Sales' Church Hall, 26 Larkhall Lane, Stockwell SW4 6SP. (Behind Stockwell tube station; free street car parking.) All who wish to evangelize are welcome to join this discussion, especially members of Parish Evangelization Teams and Parish Councils, Religious, Priests & Deacons. No charge, but please book at Centre for Catholic Formation. (020 8672 7684; or office@cfctootingbec.org.uk).

July 11th - Drone Campaign Network Summer Conference

Drones and Forever War - sharing information, building the campaign The conference is a great opportunity to update your knowledge about drones and meet campaigners from around the country. The day will feature expert speakers on US targeted killings, Afghanistan, drone technology and more, as well as a range of workshops on anti-drone campaigning. 10.30am - 4.30pm at Friends Meeting House, Euston Road, London. NW1 2BJ. Register by emailing penny.dcn@gmail.com

July 12th - Annual Interfaith Iftar

Hyderi Islamic Centre, 26 Estreham Road, Streatham, SW16 5PQ from 7pm. The topic this year will be British or Faith Values - Is there a Conflict?' with Muslim, Jewish, Christian and Hindu speakers, followed by traditional Ramadan prayers and supplications and the collective breaking of the fast. The programme will also include a short commemoration of the Srebrenica massacre 20 years ago.

July 29th - London Churches Refugee Network - Indefinite Detention

At the Diocese of Southwark, Trinity House, Chapel Court off Borough High Street, 6pm to 8pm (5.30 for refreshments). People are imprisoned for long periods of time on an indefinite basis. The Fast Track system is an aspect being challenged by Detention Action. The theme will be led by Jerome Phelps, Director of Detention Action assisted by Eiri Ohtani co-ordinator of the Detention Forum. There will be a Panel for Discussion and a Question and Answer Session.

August 3rd to 17th - Peace Icon

The Pax Christi peace icon and a peace display will be in St Partick's Chapel, Westminster Cathedral. Contact Pax Christi if you would like to host the icon in your parish or school.

**August 6th - Hiroshima Remembrance Service,
Aylesford Priory**

For the past 30 years the Kent Justice & Peace Group have organised a commemoration service in the Choir Chapel at Aylesford Priory to mark the anniversary of the dropping of the first atomic bombs in 1945. Starting at 8.20pm with a simple service of prayers and readings, followed by a short walk to the river where flower petals are strewn, and then return to The Priory for refreshments. All most welcome.



August 6th and August 9th

To mark the anniversaries of Hiroshima and Nagasaki Pax Christi will have a stall / prayer time outside Westminster Cathedral on both days. Prayers at 11.30 and 3.30

August 8th - Peace Trail Walk

A guided walk along the Central London Peace Trail with Bruce Kent and Valerie Flassati of the Movement for the Abolition of War. Meet at Ghandi's statue on Tavistock Square at 10.30. The trail ends at the Imperial War Museum between 1.30 and 2.00. You can drop out earlier if you need to. Free event but please e-mail info@abolitionofwar.org.uk with names and a contact number. Bring your own lunch.

August 9th - Commemoration Service for Blessed Franz Jagerstatter

6.30pm at Sacred Heart Chapel, Horseferry Road, SW1P 2EF. Followed by the interfaith peace walk to the Battersea Park peace pagoda. All welcome.