

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



JPIC Update May 2013

June 12th & 13th The Catholic Response to the Poverty Crisis two-day residential conference, organised by CSAN, at St Mary's University College in Twickenham.

In the face of rising levels of domestic poverty, with 350,000 families now using food-banks, 3.6 million children living in poverty and almost 5 million people earning below the living wage Archbishop Peter Smith has led the call for Catholics to engage directly with the issue of domestic poverty.

Emphasising the importance of tackling poverty in our community, he said: *"The Holy Father Pope Francis has called us to be a Church for the poor. This conference offers a timely opportunity to develop our answer to his call here in England and Wales. With a growing number of families struggling to meet even the most basic standard of living, the Church's mission to tackle poverty in our own communities is now more important than ever.*



"Poverty cannot be viewed solely through an international lens; it exists in a variety of manifestations on our doorstep. Poverty in the UK may be less visible, but for the families and individuals in insecure accommodation, struggling to meet living costs and foregoing meals, it is just as real."

The keynote speech at the conference will be delivered by Lord David Alton and Archbishop Vincent Nichols will be celebrating mass and providing a spiritual reflection on domestic poverty.

For more information or to register please contact Alison Potter at alison.potter@csan.org.uk or call 020 7633 4970

You can also listen to Archbishop Peter being interviewed on the subject on Vatican Radio at: - http://en.radiovaticana.va/news/2013/05/10/church_in_uk_archbishop_leads_call_to_tackle_poverty_on_the_doorstep/en1-690803

Exploring the Alternatives to Military Spending

Pax Christi has produced a 10-minute DVD featuring CAFOD Director Chris Bain, David Lammy MP, Vandana Shiva, Dannie Grufferty, Jane Grey, Billy Hayes and Jim Sikorski. Clearly and simply they put the case for investment in their area, they offer an alternative model of security and they remind us of the impact of conflict globally and here in the UK - an ideal discussion starter for use with all ages. DVD available from the Pax Christi office price £5 including p&p - or on the website www.paxchristi.org.uk

The DVD was launched at a meeting in the House of Commons. To read key points made by speakers: Kate Hudson, CND, John Hilary, War on Want, Anne Marie Kiielly, CAAT and Bruce Kent go to <http://www.indcatholicnews.com/news.php?viewStory=22349> Printed copies are available from the office.

Practical Engagement in Justice & Peace

A day of training and workshops to help you make it happen.

Saturday 22nd June 10.30 to 4.00 (tea & coffee from 10am)

at Cathedral Halls, Brentwood, CM15 8AT

**Workshops on: Catholic Social Teaching, Human trafficking,
How the scripture relates to work in the community
and Lobbying your MP. Choose 2 from 4.**

All are welcome. Tea and coffee provided - bring lunch

No charge to attend but donations welcome.

To book a place e-mail davina@dioceseofbrentwood.org or phone 01277 265234 and leave a message

June 8th IF G8 Mobilisation Day in London - There is Enough Food for Everyone



- we force governments and investors to be honest and open about the deals they make in the poorest countries that stop people getting enough food.
- governments keep their promises on aid, invest to stop children dying from malnutrition and help the poorest people feed themselves through investment in small farmers.
- we stop poor farmers being forced off their land, and use the available agricultural land to grow food for people, not biofuels for cars.
- governments stop big companies dodging tax in poor countries, so that millions of people can free themselves from hunger.

IF you do one thing to support the Enough Food for Everyone IF Campaign this year, please join in on this event. The big day will kick off at 11.30am, where Archbishop Vincent Nichols will be joining an ecumenical service in Westminster Central Hall. The Walk of Witness will leave from there at 1pm to Hyde Park to gather, from 2pm to 5pm, with thousands of others for music, inspiring speakers and fun activities for all the family. For more information contact: Maria Elena Arana, marana@cafod.org.uk tel 0207 095 5417

May 21st. Feast Day of Blessed Franz Jagerstatter

70th anniversary of his execution. Resources can be found here <http://www.paxchristi.org.uk/litgy1.php> and here http://www.paxchristi.org.uk/peace_people1.php. New resources for working with young people can be found here http://www.paxchristi.org.uk/peace_ed1.php.

May 28th - Mass for Diamond Jubilarians at St George's Cathedral

A special mass at 12.30 to celebrate the Diamond Jubilees of the ordination of 5 priests including Bishop Howard Tripp, who has been a tireless advocate and supporter for the work of Justice and Peace.

June 12th - Housing Justice Annual Conference

Celebrating the 10th Anniversary, taking stock of achievements over the last decade, and starting to map out the years ahead. Housing Justice, in the teeth of recession, is growing - fast. While there is much to celebrate, there is also a huge amount to fight for. Churches nationwide are at the forefront of the struggle to provide help and support to homeless people and the picture has only been getting worse over the winter. At The Light Church, Jermyn Street, Bradford BD1 4EJ more information at www.housingjustice.org.uk

June 13th - Book Launch: "Countering the Militarisation of Youth"

Exploring the ways in which young people around the world encounter the military and military values – and are encouraged to embrace them uncritically – and how this can be challenged. With guests from War Resisters International. 7pm at Housmans Bookshop, 5 Caledonian Road, London N1 9DX. Free entry.

July 19th to 21st – National Justice & Peace Conference

"Breaking Open the Word: A Call to Faith in Action"

at Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire. Keynote speaker Megan McKenna – Theologian, Storyteller, Pax Christi Ambassador for Peace. For more information and booking forms go to www.justice-and-peace.org.uk phone 020 7901 4864 or contact our office.



The annual Mass for Migrants was held on 6th May in Westminster Cathedral and was the usual vibrant event. Each year it is hosted by one of the London Cathedrals and organised by a coalition of the ethnic chaplaincies, Justice and Peace from the 3 London dioceses and London Citizens - a holistic celebration of faith, culture, work and community.

Bishop Pat Lynch said that the welcome for migrants he had experienced in London defied the recent surge in voter support for parties like Ukip.

Principal celebrant was Archbishop Vincent Nichols and a copy of his sermon, which is well worth reading, can be found at:

<http://rcdow.org.uk/archbishop/homilies/migrants-mass--1/> Copies available from the office on request.