

**The Living Wage and the Roman Catholic Church. By Rosa Shea**

The LIVING WAGE rates are £9.40 per hour in London and £8.25 around the UK.

The Government's incorrectly named NATIONAL LIVING WAGE of £7.20 an hour comes into force this month. This however is not a LIVING WAGE because it is not based on the actual cost of living. Congratulations to ALDI and LIDL who now pay all their staff the higher rate and advertise for staff offering these rates.

The Bishops' Conference of the Roman Catholic Church in 2012 'fully endorsed the principle of the Living Wage' and encouraged all Catholic organisations and charities to work towards implementation.

Do all our RC organisations, whether charities, schools or colleges, pay the authentic LIVING WAGE to ALL employees including cleaners.

I challenge all who read this newsletter to find out the facts locally and then either warmly congratulate or gently encourage the implementation of the real LIVING WAGE.

CHURCH ACTION on POVERTY have published The LIVING WAGE: a briefing for churches. Visit [www.church-poverty.org.uk/livingwage](http://www.church-poverty.org.uk/livingwage) or contact Liam Purcell 0161 872 9294

**NJPN Conference 2016 - 15-17 July  
at The Hayes Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire.**

The conference will address the following issues:

- How can communities, politics and business work together for the common good?
- What role should personal judgement and mutual responsibility play in commercial and social decision making?
- How can we engage people at the grassroots with clear purpose for the long-term benefit of all?
- How can we help to encourage a fresh moral vision of a society that has the common good at its heart?

Booking forms are available from Southwark JPIC office or Ann Kelly (see below)

**Saturday 14 May 2016 National Justice & Peace AGM and Open Networking Day**

At CAFOD 55 Westminster Bridge Road, London. SE1 7JB

10.30 am – 4.00pm

*'Hear Our Voice' The experiences of children and young people who have experienced a family member being arrested, tried or imprisoned.*

There will be opportunity to hear about justice and peace activities from groups around the country. Representatives of Catholic/Christian Agencies will report on their work and suggest practical ways of becoming involved in campaigning for social justice.

Tea and coffee will be provided, please bring your own lunch.

For further details contact: Ann Kelly Tel: 020 7901 4864

Email: [admin@justice-and-peace.org.uk](mailto:admin@justice-and-peace.org.uk)

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