

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



JPIC Update August 2011

**Hiroshima and Nagasaki Commemoration
Aylesford Priory - August 9th 8.20pm for 1 hour**

For the past 26 years the Kent Justice & Peace Group have organised a commemoration service at Aylesford Priory to mark the anniversary of the dropping of the first atomic bombs in 1945.



This year the date has been chosen to mark the dropping of the second bomb on Nagasaki. Refreshments will be available after the Service. **All are Welcome** For information contact the office.

A Day out at Minster Abbey

A small but enthusiastic group attended the J&P Group day at Minster Abbey on July 2nd. We joined the regular Saturday 11am guided tour which gives a great insight into the history of the Abbey and then met to discuss the history of Christianity in this area and the number of Saints who came from Kent.

Following lunch we visited the historic church of St Mary the Virgin, parts of which date back to 1150 and then St Augustine's Cross which was erected in 1840 to commemorate St Augustine's landing in 597.

St Mildred's Abbey was founded in 670 and parts of the existing building date back to the 11th Century. Following the dissolution of the monasteries the buildings came into private hands but were purchased by a group of Benedictine nuns from the Abbey of St Walburga, Eichstatt in Bavaria in 1937.

The community support themselves by farming and art work and now have a Guest House which is available for groups and individuals, leaflets are available from the office. The Abbey is 3 minutes walk from Minster station, an hourly service from Charing Cross, and well worth a day trip or longer visit.

Practical Engagement in Justice & Peace

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

*Starting a Parish Group
Workshop led by Tricia Zipfel*

*Reinvigorating a Group
Workshop led by Rosemary Read*



*Encouraging Area Groups
Workshop led by Phil Kerton*

*Involving Youth in J&P
Workshop led by Fr Martin Poulson
and James Trewhy*

Saturday 10th September

10am to 3.30 (tea & coffee from 9.30)
at Amigo Hall, St George's Cathedral, SE1

Choose any two workshops. For more information or to book a place please e-mail office@southwarkjandp.co.uk or phone 0207 928 9742 and leave a message

*All are welcome. Sandwich and fruit lunch provided.
No charge to attend but donations welcome.*

Sunday 11th September 2011 - Take part in the Day of Prayer for an end to the arms trade.

This year's Campaign Against Arms Trade Christian Network Day of Prayer marks the beginning of the week in which the world's largest arms fair (DSEi) takes place in the UK, and a poignant date ten years from the attacks on the twin towers: Sunday 11th September 2011. Many will already be reflecting on the legacy of that day: war, increased inter-community tension, and an increasingly militarised approach to human security.

The prayers, worship and resources for the day focus on these cycles of outrage and suffering which are still ruining the lives of millions, destroying whole towns and cities and wasting precious resources. In 2009, our government invited repressive regimes who have this year turned their weapons on their own people to attend the arms fair. Yet in 2011, the event boasts that it will be "bigger than ever". Join Christians across the UK in praying for an end to the arms trade.

The CAAT Christian Network has a response to evil: It is a spiritual response involving prayer and worship. Our starting point is that all people of every faith or of none are spiritual beings now striving to live life to the full today. We proclaim the Gospel aspiration that all people deserve equal dignity and respect. There is no place for hatred, prejudice, violence, war or genocide. All are equal in the eyes of the Creator of life. If we have been given the gift of faith we must respond as that gift demands and an informed conscience insists.

We invite all Christians to take part in the Day of Prayer in whatever way is most appropriate to your community.

One previous participant wrote to her local newspaper: "I would like to say how pleased I was to be able to attend the service... [It] was very well put together, and I found it extremely moving."

If you are considering taking part in the Day of Prayer, please order a pack by contacting outreach@caat.org.uk.

John Caruana. I am sure many involved in Justice & Peace work will have come across John but you may not be aware that he recently underwent emergency stomach surgery at Medway Hospital. Latest news is that he now back home. Please remember John and his family in your prayers

**October 22nd Our Autumn Assembly
Big Society?- Fair Society?- Just Society?
at Amigo Hall, St George's Cathedral, SE1.**

We are delighted to have Francis Davis and Alison Gelder as keynote speakers.

Francis is a fellow of Blackfriars Hall, Oxford University & a director of the Las Casas Institute on Ethics, Human Rights & Social Justice. Alison is Director of Housing Justice.

Other plans include a talk from Fr. Mauricio Garcia a Jesuit priest who is Director of a leading NGO (and CAFOD partner) that works on peace and human rights issues in Colombia and the Southwark launch of "100 Days of Peace", a campaign to surround the London Olympics with peace and create a lasting legacy.

Please make a note in your diary now!

**Hope Not Hate:
Campaign to stop the EDL March in East London**

On Saturday 3 September the English Defence League plan to march through the streets of Tower Hamlets. Tower Hamlets has a long and proud history of immigration and resistance to racism and fascism, and the Hope Not Hate campaign is calling on all who are concerned to join them in signing a petition calling for the march to be banned. This can be found on line at: <http://action.hopenothate.org.uk/ban-eld-march-of-hate>

Nick Knowles, Director of Hope not Hate warns us that the EDL want peddle their racism and hatred through the heart of one of Britain's biggest Muslim communities and he is asking for our help to stop them.

The petition calls on the police and council to ask the Home Secretary to ban the march.

His e-mail states: "... we are standing up for all the people of Tower Hamlets, whatever their religious or racial background.

We have shown before that we can force the authorities to act. We stopped the EDL from marching through a predominantly Muslim neighbourhood of Bradford last year. And more recently our pressure forced the Home Secretary to ban the controversial anti-Muslim preacher Pastor Jones from entering Britain.

Now we need to stop the EDL from marching in Tower Hamlets in September.

Please sign our petition."

