

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



JPIC Update New Year 2012

**Social Action Resolution from the Bishop'
Conference plenary meeting - Deepening Social Engagement and the development of Caritas.**

The Bishops' Conference warmly welcomes the development plans proposed by Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN) for the further development of Catholic social action in England and Wales with the aim of deepening the Church's social engagement at the service of the gospel. They agree that:

- i) During 2012 and 2013 there should be "roadshow" events in each diocese in England and Wales, organised in each case in close collaboration with the diocesan Bishop, parishes, agencies and charities, to explore the possible creation and development of appropriate local 'Caritas' structures, and to further local collaboration of existing work;
- ii) Provincial meetings be held, led by the Bishop of Salford, to reflect and discuss emerging issues;
- iii) CSAN lead a research programme to assist dioceses in this work.

Luciano da Conceicao in East Timor.

Some of the longstanding supporters of Southwark J&P will know of Luciano Da Conceicao. He was a representative in UK for the Government in exile of Timor Este before it achieved independence. He lived at South Croydon Presbytery with Fr Paul Sanders and spoke a couple of times to the old J&P Commission.

Timor Este declared itself independent of its colonial ruler, Portugal, in 1975 but was immediately invaded, occupied by & eventually incorporated into Indonesia. While it was still an Indonesian province, Pope John Paul II visited in 1989 bringing the plight of its people to world attention. After a very bloody civil war and UN intervention, the country was recognised as an independent state in 2002, making it the newest country in the world. In 1996 Bishop Carlos Belo of East Timor was awarded the Nobel Peace prize jointly with activist Jose Ramos-Horta for "their work towards a just and peaceful solution to the conflict in East Timor", where it was estimated 95% of the population was catholic.

Luciano, having recovered from TB last year, is now proposing to stand for the East Timor parliament in the spring. As a teacher he has few resources and has asked if any of his friends in England might be willing to provide some financial support. If anyone is interested please contact Mike McLoughlin for more information by e-mail to michaelmcloughlin@hotmail.com or through the office.

Catholic Social Teaching Resource.

Many years ago, back in the age of mechanical typewriters, the Kent J&P Group produced a Study Guide to Sollicitudo Rei Socialis. The main part of this is a summary, quoting extensively from the original text, but reducing it from 20,000 words to 3,000 (more readable) words. Phil Kerton has kindly scanned this in, reformatted it and we have placed it in the Resources section of our web site with a view to making this social teaching more accessible.

Phil comments that In producing this electronic version, he has again been amazed by how relevant the 1988 message remains!

You can find the document together with two new articles by Fr Michael on "AGE-ism?" and "Saving the Planet" at www.southwarkjandp.co.uk/resources.

For those without internet access the office will be happy to print and post copies on request.

London Mayoral Election.

Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN) is currently collecting ideas, from the Catholic community, of key requests and suggestions to put to the Mayoral candidates ahead of the election on 3rd May next year.

With serious challenges facing London around issues such as housing, poverty and crime, CSAN feels it is important for a strong, clear Catholic voice to speak up for the city's most vulnerable and marginalised people.

CSAN's recent workshops have generated a number of exciting and innovative suggestions for the next mayor focusing on a range of areas from helping disabled Londoners to get around to reducing gang violence.

To share your thoughts or to find out more about CSAN's work in this area please contact Liam Allmark at liam.allmark@cbcew.org.uk

Events to promote

Sunday 15th January - Peace Sunday

The theme for 45th World Day of Peace message by Pope Benedict XVI is: "Educating Young People in Justice & Peace" Resource materials available from Pax Christi or from the Southwark JPIC office http://www.paxchristi.org.uk/peace_sunday1.php There is also a new Youth Resource entitled 'Elements of Peace' http://www.paxchristi.org.uk/peace_ed1.php

28th January to 5th February Poverty & Homelessness Action Week

The theme this year is 'Breaking Barriers'. Our world is filled with barriers between people. Barriers that prevent us from understanding one another. They are created by unfair benefits rules and inadequate wages, by the stigma attached to being poor or homeless and by the growing gap between the richest and poorest people in our society. Churches and community projects can break these barriers. They can challenge prejudice, enable excluded people to live full lives, and build a fairer world. www.actionweek.org.uk



Things to Do

Promote the Anti-Slavery International petition for a Slavery Free London

The aim of Anti-Slavery International's 2012 campaign for a Slavery-Free London is to ensure that the Olympic Games are a success on all fronts – by eliminating risks of modern day slavery in London and the UK and by ensuring that Olympic goods sold in this country were not produced using slave labour. The Olympic Games present an opportunity for the UK to address these issues and leave a positive legacy that will bring the UK one step closer to eradication of modern day slavery. For free campaign materials, including postcards and fact sheets, please reply g.wolfes@antislavery.org or phone 020 7501 8936.

Organise a 'Playing for Peace' exhibition.

Celebrating the role of sport in bringing together international communities 'Playing for Peace' celebrates particular occasions in history when sport has played a crucial role in promoting peace. The exhibition has been awarded the prestigious mark for its work promoting the principles of the Olympic Truce and is available for any non-commercial organisation to display. Digitised copies will also be available. A 47-page teacher's booklet (Sport, Courage, Peace and Friendship) with CD-ROM (80 pages equivalent) which ties into the exhibition is also available (£12.50 + pp). Contact www.peacemuseum.org.uk/category/exhibitions for more information.

Events to attend

January 7th - Celebrating 30 years of faithful persistence - Ash Wednesday at the Ministry of Defence.

Have you been part of this 30-year journey? Would you like to be a part of the future journey? Come and help us celebrate, remember and plan for Ash Wednesday 2012. Bring your own stories, photographs, memories and ideas for the future and some food to share for tea. ALL WELCOME! From 3pm to 6pm at Amigo Hall, St George's Cathedral. Hosted by Catholic Peace Action, Christian CND, London Catholic Worker and Pax Christi. Please RSVP to Pax Christi on 0208 203 4884 or info@paxchristi.org.uk

January 21st - Christain Ecology Link – Ecocell programme

10.30am to 5pm at Magdalen Centre, Eversholt Street, London NW1 1BN

Are you interested in hearing author and climate campaigner George Marshall speak on carbon reduction? Ecocell's carbon calculations are based on George's book 'Carbon Detox'. Programmes to help your family, or your church house group take the first steps to reduce their impact on the environment? Please let Tony Emerson know if you would like to come along: tony.emerson12@btopenworld.com 0208 769 4078. <http://www.christian-ecology.org.uk/ecocell-day-21-jan-2012.htm>

February 4th - Traidcraft event on campaigning work

An afternoon of workshops and talks in central London about Traidcraft's campaigning. This is the first time Traidcraft supporters have got together to talk about their campaigning work so it's a fantastic opportunity to find out more, tell them what you think, learn some new skills and be inspired. Register to take part at www.makeitfair.co.uk/traidcraftevent2012 or ring us on 0207 242 3955.

March 10th - Justice & Peace Training Day

10am to 4pm at Amigo Hall, St George's Cathedral SE1. Following the success of our October day another is being organised by the three dioceses. To register an interest please contact the Southwark JPIC office.