

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



JPIC Update - October 2014

The Holy See: committed to working against climate change

At the Climate Summit held in New York Cardinal Secretary of State Pietro Parolin spoke about the great risks and socio-economic costs of inertia in relation to this problem, he remarked, "prudence must prevail, which requires thoughtful deliberations based on an accurate analysis of the impact our actions will have on the future. This requires a great political and economic commitment on the part of the international community, to which the Holy See wishes to make its own contribution, being aware that 'the gift of knowledge helps us not to fall into attitudes of excess or error'".

The cardinal went on to emphasise the responsibility of States "to protect the world climate by means of mitigation and adaptation measures, as well as by sharing technologies and 'know-how'. But above all they have a shared responsibility to protect our planet and the human family, ensuring present and future generations have the possibility of living in a safe and worthy environment". He also mentioned the efforts made by Vatican City State to reduce the consumption of fossil fuels through diversification and energy efficiency projects, but added that "talking about emission reductions is useless if we are not ready to change our lifestyle and the current dominant models of consumption and production". The Holy See, he concluded, "commits itself to this end, so that in this work the international community may be guided by the ethical imperative to act, inspired by the principles of solidarity and the promotion of the common good, in the knowledge that 'the dignity of each human person and the pursuit of the common good are concerns which ought to shape all economic policies'".

A Day of Recollection - a report from Holy Innocents, Orpington J&P Group by Ruth Wheelwright

Holy Innocents Justice and Peace group hoped and planned for a day of recollection. With the agreement of Fr Stephen Wagner a theme "Ambassadors for Christ" was agreed and the date fixed.

We invited our prayer members (we have a monthly prayer theme) and they and those who fold the church bulletins joined us at the Emmaus Centre. The day started with tea / coffee (naturally). We then had two sessions in the morning and one in the afternoon followed by mass. A calm, thought provoking and happy occasion.

The sessions included:

Christ's Mercy and Love	The need for courage	Be daring, express needs
Psalms as an aid to prayer	Need to read the scriptures	A personal life in Christ
Parish love and unity	Hospitality	Better faith education
Everyday situations for evangelisation		Pope Francis' call "Spiritual Evangelisation"

We thank Fr Stephen for leading us gently and thoughtfully through the day and for encouraging us to contribute our thoughts and concerns. We are looking forward to the next occasion.

(If you hold any events and can send a report which may encourage others along similar lines please to send in something for one of our newsletters)

CSAN voices concern over Chancellor's planned welfare cuts

In his speech to the Conservative Party Conference, Chancellor George Osborne announced new plans to remove housing benefit for 18-21 year-olds, freeze benefits for two years, and reduce the benefit cap to £23,000 per year.

Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN) warns that these cuts will have a detrimental impact on children and families, particularly in London, with a real potential for driving more families into poverty.

Catholic charities and parishes over the past year have reported significant increases in the necessity for emergency food all across the country and we fear this can now only increase.

CSAN's response to the All-Party Parliamentary Inquiry into Hunger and Food Poverty can be read at: <http://www.csan.org.uk/resource/csan-response-appg-inquiry-hunger-food-poverty/>

Autumn Assembly 2014

Saturday 18th October

10.30 to 4.00 (tea, coffee & registration from 10.00)
at Amigo Hall, St George's Cathedral, SE1

one Climate - one world

Organised in conjunction with



Climate change: tricky questions - Explore the facts, debunk the myths and build your confidence in speaking to others about climate change and about CAFOD's new campaign.

Gaining the livesimply parish award - Learn how Petts Wood parish embarked on a journey to live more simply, sustainably and in solidarity with the poor and how your parish could gain a livesimply parish award.

The theology of climate change - What does campaigning on climate change have to do with loving your neighbour? How does our faith underpin our response to climate change?

Motivating the next generation of Campaigners - Ideas, resources and fun activities to get your parish youth or confirmation group involved in campaigning for justice.

Choose any two of the above workshops. For more information or to book a place e-mail office@southwarkjandp.co.uk or phone 020 7928 9742 and leave a message.

ALL WELCOME NO CHARGE TO ATTEND Tea and coffee provided - please bring own lunch

Now! - Book your place and pick your workshops at: <http://cafodclimatelaunch.eventbrite.co.uk>

October 9th - CARJ Urban Network – Stepping Stones,

11.30 to 4.00 at Heythrop College. A seminar jointly sponsored by CARJ Urban Network and the CARJ Schools Project to explore selected educational initiatives which support young people, families and schools in marginalised communities. No charge to attend but donations welcome.

To book a place info@carj.org.uk or 020 8802 8080

October 9th - The Human Right to Peace (Annual Erskine Childers Lecture)

Keynote speaker Alfred de Zayas, UN Human Rights Council Special Rapporteur. 18:00 - 20:30 at Hilton London Euston, 17-18 Upper Woburn Place, London, WC1H 0HT Registration and more information from vijay@vmpeace.org or 0207 790 1999. [free public meeting - donations welcome]

October 11th - Peace History Conference

Alternative Voice of World War One: the courage of their convictions.

9.30 to 5.00 at The Imperial War Museum, Lambeth Road SE1. You can book on-line at www.abolishwar.org.uk

October 13th - Day of Action on TTIP.

For more information or to find your local action <http://www.nottip.org.uk/>

October 18th - 19th Christian Aid Hunger for Justice weekend

Over the weekend hundreds of churches nationwide will be urging their local MPs to tackle climate change, and praying for our sisters and brothers around the world. Christian Aid invites your church to join this initiative. Opportunities to hold a special service, create a prayer room or arrange a walk of witness. But whatever you do, please invite your MP along and challenge them to act.

For more information visit <http://www.christianaid.org.uk/hungerforjustice>

October 19th - 26th One World Week

Living Differently: Breaking Chains - Making Changes

The 2014 theme recognises that we all need to make changes now to secure a fairer, more satisfying, life for everyone whilst protecting the planet's resources for future generations.

www.oneworldweek.org.uk has ideas, resources, news and suggestions for events your local community may organise. You can then get free publicity for your event on their web site.