

Justice and Peace

Issue 107 Autumn 2019

Help reverse climate change before its too late.

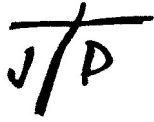


In this issue

- ❖ NJPN Swanwick conference reports 2 & 3
- ❖ Liverpool Romero Lecture Sept 25 3
- ❖ Welcoming a Syrian Family 4 & 5
- ❖ Season of Creation St Alban's events 5
- ❖ CAFOD Faith in Action Days 5
- ❖ Climate Change Apathy 6 & 7
- ❖ Climate Crisis Marple event 7
- ❖ Time is Now—Malawi 8 & 9
- ❖ End Hunger UK week of action 9
- ❖ 'Time is Now' Lobby reports 10
- ❖ Books & Conferences
'Come and See' and ACTA 11
- ❖ Dates and addresses 12

Archdiocese of Liverpool Justice & Peace Commission

Diocese of Shrewsbury Commission for the Promotion of Justice,
Peace & Social Responsibility



FORGOTTEN PEOPLE. FORGOTTEN PLACES : Being a Church on the Margins
Reports on NJPN Conference at Swanwick in July

A VIEW FROM THE PAXCHRISTI STALL

Joan Sharples writes:

Helping on the Pax Christi stall was a very gentle induction for me: my first opportunity to serve the organisation since I was elected on to its Executive in May. In addition to offering the Christmas cards, books and pamphlets, we encouraged people to make A5 mini-banners to be used in the Stop the Arms Fair* protest being held 2 – 9 September (more details <https://www.stopthearmsfair.org.uk/>)

Messages on the banners included: *The Arms Trade sells Death* *We should be protecting - not profiting!*
Stop selling Arms now. *Peace is precious: war is wrong* *every life is precious*
Join us to stop selling arms to killer states

At first sight all this might seem far away from the theme of the conference: Forgotten People, Forgotten Places, but the more I reflect on the weekend, the more I can see connections.

I was particularly moved by Professor Anthony Reddie's talk 'Theologising Brexit'. He drew on his own life experience, describing the journey he took three days after the European Referendum vote, from comfortable Remain-voting Moseley in Birmingham where he is an academic, to the poor area of Brexit-voting Bradford in which he was brought up. He refuted simple narratives which can lead to stereotypes and demonisation, maintaining that we all live complex lives. He urged us to leave our silos and become community.

The speakers all shared stories from disadvantaged parts of Britain where people are marginalised and struggling: locations where the seeds of conflict might easily take root. However, the speakers also shared positive stories of community-building through shared meals, listening, knowing neighbours by name, seeing the person without giving them a label.

Through such small activities we recognise each other's common humanity: live each other into the Body of Christ, and bring God's peace to the world.



* Defence and Security Exhibition International (DSEI) is a trade show event for the arms industry. The four day event (10—13 September) provides an opportunity for more than 1,500 companies to display their products and services to 30,000 visitors from around the world, many from military delegations, police and security departments, and private security companies. Several countries pay for a "national pavilion", which features their national companies.

FIRST TIMERS AT THE 'JUST FAIR'

THE INCLUSIVE CHURCH was founded in 2003 as an educational charity helping to create a more accepting open church. Although originally Anglican, it now works with churches, groups and individuals of different denominations, encouraging them to explore ways in which they may become more inclusive and welcoming by serving all people in the name of Jesus Christ. "We believe in a church which celebrates and affirms every person and does not discriminate. We will challenge the church where it continues to discriminate against people on grounds of disability, economic power, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, learning disability, mental health, neurodiversity, or sexuality. We believe in a Church which seeks to proclaim the Gospel afresh for each generation and in the power of the Holy Spirit and which allows all people to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Jesus Christ "

For more information and useful resources : <https://www.inclusive-church.org/>

SHARE THE WORLD'S RESOURCES has two broad objectives: i) to raise awareness of the critical need for nations to share global resources and implement an international emergency relief programme; ii) to campaign for a united people's voice that speaks on behalf of the least advantaged members of the human family, giving the highest priority to the prevention of extreme deprivation in every country. Central to their work is a call for upholding Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which proclaims the right of everyone to an adequate standard of living. The time has come for unprecedented numbers of people to unite behind a single, overarching demand for governments to implement Article 25 as an effective international law. Resources and ideas for campaigning on www.stwr.org



LIVERPOOL ROMERO LECTURE

Given by David McLoughlin of Newman University, Birmingham

PROPHETIC TRAJECTORIES OF HOPE FROM SAN SALVADOR TO LIVERPOOL

A celebration of the ministries of Oscar Romero, Austin Smith, Kevin Kelly and Tom Cullinan

Wednesday 25 September 2019 (first anniversary of Fr Kevin Kelly) **6.30 for 6.45 pm**

001 Theatre in the Cornerstone, Hope University (Everton Campus) Liverpool L3 8DR

And after wards drinks to toast the Mersey Prophets!

Preceded by **MEMORIAL MASS celebrated by Bishop John Rawsthorne**

5.45 pm in nearby St Francis Xavier's Church, Salisbury Street

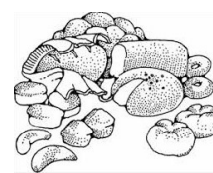
Conference reports continued:

SAINT OSCAR ROMERO, a prophet of justice, was adopted as patron of NJPN at the conference in July 2017. This year, the first since his beatification, his picture was prominently displayed at the front of the conference hall and each person attending received a Romero book mark/prayer card. These are available free of charge, just send a stamped addressed envelope to: Archbishop Romero Trust, PO Box 70227, London E9 9BR. For bulk orders the charge is £10 for 250 cards. For other resources including documentary videos to download see www.romerotrust.org.uk/resources

'SOMEWHERE ELSE' IN LIVERPOOL

Marian Thompson writes:

If you are in Liverpool centre on a Tuesday or Thursday morning about 11 am, walk up Bold Street to the 'News from Nowhere' bookshop. Press the bottom left button on the keypad and on entering climb the stairs (or take the lift) up to the 2nd floor. There you will be welcomed to 'Somewhere Else' and invited to join with others in making bread. Don't worry if you are new to this – regulars will be there to show you what to do. You are in the Bread Church.



This was the inspiration of Andrew and Heather Loveday who led a workshop at Swanwick this year to share their experiences and some of their bread with us. As Methodists they were concerned several years ago when inner city churches were closing. But on weekdays there were people in the city centre. So they planned to provide a safe environment where people could meet each other, join in a shared task and later enjoy a shared meal. This is the Bread Church, still popular today. Everyone is welcome! There are job seekers, homeless people, businessmen and businesswomen, single mums and single dads with children, asylum seekers, retired people, teenagers, people with mental health problems, the list is very long! While the bread is baking anyone who wishes can move into the Cloud Room for a time of reflection and prayer. Then everyone enjoys bread and soup together.

Each day a small team of facilitators help with the smooth running. The Lovedays have developed a training programme that takes place during the Autumn and includes the following elements: 1. Code of Respect; 2. Practical Bread Making; 3. Food Hygiene, Health and Safety including Fire Safety; 4. Trouble shooting and Review; 5. Creating Safer Space - Safeguarding training. When facilitators have completed this and worked 10 sessions as volunteers they are awarded a certificate. For some people this is the first time ever they have received such an award.

We hear a lot now about New Expressions of Church so it was interesting to hear about something that had been around for several years before this concept came to the fore. This is an Inclusive Church.

See more on <https://www.somewhere-else.org.uk/>

A MORE DETAILED CONFERENCE REPORT IS AT <https://www.justice-and-peace.org.uk/conference/>



WELCOMING A SYRIAN REFUGEE FAMILY

Winter MouthPeace reported on the various hurdles that need to be overcome for a parish to re-settle a family under the Government's Community Sponsorship Scheme. In January this year the parishioners of the Church of Our Lady and St Christopher in Romiley, near Stockport, welcomed a Syrian family of five from a refugee camp in Lebanon. They had lived there since 2012 when they fled their country's civil war. The couple have 3 children, all aged under 11 years.

Canon Michael Gannon, the parish priest, said that the Muslim family flew from Beirut to be welcomed by a party of parishioners who introduced them to their new home and provided them with a hot meal. On day two, one of the priorities of the parents was to get mobile phones up and running. It was very important for them to keep in contact with their scattered extended family. Their phones have proved an asset in many other ways since the family have been here.

Now that the family is in the parish, the group of volunteers who for months had planned for their arrival, are helping them to settle in. The key to their integration in this country is to learn English. This is essential for the father to enable him to get a job and to drive a car. He drove a car before, but to get a licence here he has to pass the driving test which includes the theory paper. For this he needs to be reasonably competent in written English. Stockport Council has offered both parents the maximum ESOL provision of 8 hours a week in classes. This is supplemented by two volunteers from the parish who are helping them on a more individual basis.

During their first weeks they needed considerable help with applying for benefits, opening a bank account, health and welfare tasks such as registering with a GP and the dentist, and setting up an email address to apply for school places for the children. All these tasks involved answering questions, filling in forms etc. which require a good knowledge of English. The team employed an interpreter to help with all these important formalities. It was a full on, busy time for all.

A great asset for the parents and for parishioners who are helping them has been a phone translation app which converts the spoken word to and from Arabic. But as with all artificial translations, nuances can sometimes be missed and the meaning confused – often leading to much amusement! Appar-

ently, all Arabic is not the same; different countries have different expressions for the same thing, which adds more confusion.

After the family had been in Romiley for a month there was a visit from the Home Office to check that the requirements of the Community Sponsorship Scheme were being met. Some of the volunteers, a representative from the Local Authority and a representative from Caritas (our lead sponsor), met with the officials and shared with them what had been achieved so far. The officials then had a conversation with the family, enquiring about how they were settling in and whether there had been any difficulties. This visit was helpful as some things such as getting the children started at school and getting the parents the required amount of ESOL time quickly fell into place.

Eight months on the parents are able to do more and more tasks for themselves. At first, they needed help with budgeting and bill paying, as they were not familiar with English money and systems. They soon mastered shopping in the supermarket and using public transport or cycling to college. The father is very practical, he asks for help in acquiring DIY or gardening tools. He was a gardener and is very motivated to work again. He has to be patient to seek paid employment as his first job now is to learn English. He is doing some voluntary gardening at church, helps with the garden of a disabled neighbour and volunteers with the Friends of the local park. He is very keen for the family to become part of the local community. The parents are getting used to walking back and forth to school 6 times daily (one child still comes back at lunchtime) and taking them to play in parks which they love. Volunteers have shown them walks around the local area and places of interest which they enjoy visiting. Once a month the volunteers who are concerned with health and welfare meet with the parents and an interpreter to discuss in more depth any concerns of the family.

Communication within the team of volunteers has been vital as they split the tasks into different functions: education, finance, health and wellbeing and housing. At a monthly meeting progress is reviewed, tasks distributed, feedback given on the budget, and new goals are set for the coming weeks. Everyone is learning how to balance the family's desire for independence with the need for support.

Continued opposite



THE SEASON OF CREATION Sept. 1— Oct 4

J/P

St . Alban's J & P Group Macclesfield this year are focusing on "The Web of Life"- Biodiversity as God's blessing. A series of events have been organised in churches and around the area starting on

Sun 1st Sept. "World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation" with a Prayer Service

5 pm at St Michael's Church, Market Place SK10 1DY

Other events include:

Sun 8th A Reflective Ramble 2.00pm

Sun 22nd A Cycle Ride & Picnic 11.30 am

Friday 4th Oct Celebrate the end of the Season of Creation and St Francis' Feast Day Prayer Service

at St Albans Church, Chester Road SK11 8JD 7.00 pm

Full details of programme www.stalbanmacc.org.uk/ or from Bernadette Bailey 07831 647928

dwbailey@btopenworld.com

Welcoming a Syrian family

Continued from opposite page

Canon Gannon says: "The project has not only benefited the family but also the life of the parish. It has made a difference to people who previously knew each other perhaps on nodding terms. To see people working together for a common purpose has been uplifting to me and a great joy. This project has helped relationships grow and develop in this parish. It is putting the Gospel into practice. It is just giving this family an opportunity to make a new start after the loss of their home in Syria and the chance to rebuild their lives following the devastating experience they had.

I am personally, as parish priest, absolutely delighted ... it is just wonderful to be able to do something practical to help a family who were forced to leave their country in very sad circumstances. This is very much

love in action, the Gospel in action. It is something Pope Francis fully endorses and I am just very pleased that our parish has been able to respond to that challenge and to the call of the Holy Father.'

By 2020 the UK should reach its target to resettle 20,000 refugees from Syria over 5 years. The government has just announced that they will sponsor another 5000 refugees in 2020-2021. This scheme will be open to refugees from any country in need as determined by the UNHCR (United Nations High Commission for Refugees). The Community Sponsored Refugees will be additional to the 5000 UK target. So, let us act on Archbishop Justin Welby's response: "I call on faith leaders and communities to make the most of this opportunity."

Thank you to parishioners John and Vreni Worth who as members of the welcoming team supplied all the material for this article.

**LOVE IS CIVIC AND POLITICAL : Our Faith and the Common Good
CAFOD FAITH IN ACTION DAY**

CAFOD
Just one world

From Trump to Brexit to climate, politics is everywhere. But when should we pray from the side-lines and when should we roll up our sleeves? The Church here and around the world has a proud history of encouraging Catholics' political reflection and action. With amazing results. This CAFOD day explores the links between faith and politics. Reflect on scripture and church teaching and be inspired by others and CAFOD's campaigning and work overseas. The days are free and open to all.

Book your place at cafod.org.uk/events or call 0303 303 3030. Please honour your commitment if you sign up as someone else may have benefitted from an unused place.

SAT 2 NOVEMBER FOR SHREWSBURY DIOCESE Savio House Ingersley Rd Bollington Macclesfield SK10 5RW
10 -4 Please bring vegetarian food to share.

SAT 9 NOVEMBER FOR LIVERPOOL ARCHDIOCESE Sandymount House of Prayer 16 Burbo Bank Rd, Blundellsands, Crosby Liverpool L23 6TH
10-4 Soup and roll provided for lunch.



THE PSYCHOLOGY OF APATHY ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGEAND WHAT TO DO ABOUT IT!

Residents Evacuated as Whaley Bridge Dam Threatens Collapse. A small town on the very edge of Shrewsbury Diocese made national headlines at the beginning of August. Exceptionally heavy torrential rain caused the dam immediately above the town to overflow and then part of it to break away. If the whole dam had collapsed, most of the houses in the town and many in the surrounding area would have been completely submerged. As a precaution people were moved from their homes and part of the busy A6 near Whaley Bridge was closed for several days. We are hearing of more and more such 'never before' incidents caused by extreme weather – maybe an abundance of rain, strong winds or excessive heat. Some people link these to climate change then, as things get back to normal, we gratefully continue with our lives.

Why do we seem unable to respond positively to the climate change challenge? Is it because people can't believe there really is a problem? Or is it because the problem seems so enormous and encompassing that people feel helpless and disempowered? For most people the evidence of the physical science is clear. The fundamental cause of inactivity and lack of progress seems to be psychological.

Trade offs

In our everyday life we make trade-offs between what's good for ourselves and what's good for other people, society and the planet. These trade-offs reflect a fundamental social dilemma. Do we choose the selfish option that comes with an immediate clear personal reward or do we go with the long-term socially cooperative choice that may involve some personal sacrifice but is in the best interest of society? The paradox of climate change is that our planet would be more healthy and we all would be better off if everyone chose to act sustainably. But at an individual level, behaving unsustainably is easier, less costly and psychologically a more attractive choice.

Society has tackled similar issues in the past, such as the diffuse and long-term health problems of agricultural pesticides highlighted by Rachel Carson in her famous 1962 book 'Silent Spring', which inspired the modern environmental movement. However, in comparison to most other environmental issues, climate change is unique in two ways: first, its enormous scale will lead to cascading problems involving agriculture, biodiversity, international conflict and human health and wellbeing. Second, it is very difficult for humans to

grasp threats that are invisible, gradual, widely distributed and long-term. Humanity is seriously at risk of yawning towards one of the greatest existential risks of our time because abstract and invisible threats aren't terrifying to brains that evolved to solve the local and imminent problems we experience.

How do we bring about transformation of thought that causes action?

Decades of educational effort have resoundingly shown that although education remains effective and necessary for informed action, giving people (or politicians) facts is insufficient for behaviour change. Inaction on climate change is psychologically fascinating because the central facts about greenhouse gases are extremely well verified and documented, and assessable even by non-experts. Yet despite the overwhelming evidence, public engagement and policy lag far behind the consensus of expert recommendations. To help explain and overcome this gap, Brick and Van der Linden in their paper** suggest three overarching psychological challenges for action on climate change, along with potential solutions.

CHALLENGE 1 CLIMATE CHANGE IS NOT SEEN AS A MORAL ISSUE Polling data from the Yale Program on Climate Change Communication suggests that less than 35 % of people see climate change as a moral issue. It's hard to care about invisible gases. In the absence of a clear potential villain, there's nobody to blame except ourselves, and this can trigger a range of defensive biases. It is also hard for most people to care about statistical facts.

How then do we establish a moral imperative?

- Address the specific values of the audience. Different groups rely on different moral foundations. Harm to nature (think polar bears) appeals primarily to liberals, and community cohesion, enhancing national security more to conservatives;
- Highlight the villains. Reveal the systematic suppression of evidence and public deception by groups like Exxon Mobil;
- Appeal to intrinsically valued long-term environmental goals such as being a good citizen, a good steward of our planet.

CHALLENGE 2 THERE IS LITTLE SOCIAL KUDOS FOR ACTION Humans evolved living in social groups, so we are naturally sensitive to the thoughts and behaviour

CLIMATE CRISIS in Marple

Sunday 29 September

2.30—5.30 pm

Marple Sixth Form College, Buxton Lane , Marple, Stockport SK6 7QV

We all have a part to play. This offers a chance to find out what we as individuals, churches and communities can do about climate change

Guest speaker : Dr Chris Jones from Tyndall Climate Research Centre at Manchester University will explain the facts and realities of Climate Change.

Free admission

Stalls

Art Competition

Displays

Organised by MESS (Marple, Mellor and Marple Bridge Energy Saving Strategy) www.marplemess.org.uk

With support from other local environmental groups

Continued from opposite page

of other people, especially our close friends, family and important others in our valued social groups. Group memberships help shape our social identities, and more often than not, we do what others around us are doing and pay attention to what others want us to do. But sustainable behaviour is often counter-normative and in the minority (e.g. not eating any meat, not flying, not running a car)

How to promote social norms around sustainable living.

- i. Communicate what others with similar sustainable living values are doing, e.g. in the local community or in an NGO. Positive feedback can encourage similar behaviour. We may need to change perceptions of what others are doing.
- ii. Avoid pairing desired behaviours with unwanted identities. A person with a conservative ideology might be in favour of conserving resources, but they don't want to be seen as an 'environmentalist', so they won't carry a reusable bag emblazoned with an image of Mother Earth!
- iii. Support all those across different social, religious and political boundaries who work for climate change as sharing the same mission - not as rival groups to be criticised. It's easier to reject the message if it's only coming from one group of people.

CHALLENGE 3 OUR BRAINS INTUITIVELY UNDER ESTIMATE CLIMATE CHANGE The human brain strongly prefers experience over analysis. Unfortunately, climate change is an abstract statistical phenomenon so that people tend to think climate change is more likely to happen to other people in other places at some point in the distant future. This makes it seem less important. We tend to be over-optimistic about our ability to mitigate potential harms, justifying the status quo, assuming that the

future will generally resemble the present.

How to make the problem real and solutions desirable.

- i. Make connections between people's lives and the environment. Bring people to nature and help them have personal experiences to supplement their abstract understanding of climate change — such as working on allotments or in city farms or gardening as a 'friend' in a local park;
- ii. Reduce psychological distance. Think global, act local. Emphasise concrete local impact. How are the people of Whaley Bridge thinking now? But there is a trade-off as people also need to be encouraged to view climate change as an important global issue;
- iii. Frame policy options in terms of benefits, not losses (e.g. benefits to public health rather than loss of ability to travel independently, more cohesive communities rather than loss of personal freedom).

Conclusion

Climate change is an immensely wicked problem. But psychologists have a tremendous opportunity to serve society through telling the human story of how people come to perceive the world and why they behave the way they do. To turn the tide on humans' unsustainable use of the earth's resources, realistically, we urgently need immediate action as well as long term planning at all levels: individual , corporate, local and national governmental and international.

*Editor : This is a compilation of the notes on a talk given to Chester World Development Forum on July 9 by Linda and Stewart Shuttleworth which itself was based on the article ** "Yawning at the Apocalypse" by Brick and Van der Linden. Sept 2018 The Psychologist <https://thepsychologist.bps.org.uk/volume-31/september-2018/yawning-apocalypse>*



THE TIME IS NOW FOR MALAWI—Prayer, Protest and Practical Action

Shelia Cogley writes:

As we are in the Season of Creation readers may like to hear about how a partnership between Malawians and a small Liverpool based charity - Network for a Better World – is combatting the effects of climate change.

J & P and Cafod campaigners were much in evidence at the 'Time is Now' Lobby of Parliament on 26th June when we asked our MPs to aim for a 2045 deadline for reaching zero carbon emissions, scale up investment to tackle the climate and environmental emergency and to stop all new overseas investment in fossil fuels. I was able to speak to Bill Esterton, the Labour MP for Sefton Central, about the problems caused by climate change in Malawi – and possible solutions - as I have spent time working there as a volunteer with a Liverpool based charity -Network for a Better World. (N4BW)

Readers of MouthPeace will be very aware that by far the greatest impacts of climate change are being felt in the poorest countries of the world. The people who have done little or nothing to contribute to CO₂ rises suffer the most. Trocaire, the Irish Aid Agency states that Malawians have 80% less carbon emissions than the Irish, yet as most Malawians are farmers, with 92% of them reliant on rain fed water, they have been very vulnerable to recent droughts, floods and erratic rainfall patterns. 60% are food insecure on a yearly basis.

N4BW was founded in 2012 by a group of lay people who had all worked in Africa and wanted to continue to do so by offering the hand of friendship to some of the most marginalised people in our world. We work in partnership with the Montfort Fathers in the rural community of Sitima in South Malawi where most people live as subsistence farmers. Since 2012 the Sitima area has experienced serious flooding on 2 occasions and 2 years of drought when food aid was required to avoid famine.

This year 2 nearby villages were badly affected by Cyclone Idai, with houses destroyed and crops washed away. Possessions too are lost. In 2016 I met James, a 13-year-old boy who has cerebral palsy; he was just lying on the floor, only able to sit if supported. His wheelchair, a scarce commodity in Malawi, had been washed away in the floods of 2015. Fortunately, N4BW was able to help with a small grant paid which paid for transport to a hospi-

tal and he managed to get a new one specifically made for his needs.

Some of our volunteers have set up projects specifically aimed at helping to mitigate the effects of climate change. For example, as a result of the installation of a solar-powered drip irrigation system 32 women now have an allotment and are growing vegetables all year round, feeding their extended families a varied diet and gaining income by selling surplus vegetables at market. The participants have all experienced severe hardships, most of them widowed and many bringing up their orphaned grandchildren.

Deforestation is also a big problem for Malawians. Fr Owen pointed out a hill to me – 30 years ago it was covered in trees, now it is scrubland. The people have no choice but to use firewood or charcoal for cooking. N4BW has worked in partnership with Chinansi, a Malawian NGO, to provide 100 stoves which use 53% less fuel than the '3 stones' method and are also much safer for little children – a common injury is burnt feet as they toddle into the embers of the fires.

The Malawian Government is obviously very much aware of the damage of climate change and is proactive in promoting methods of mitigating its effects – for example it is a subject on the school curriculum. But money is in short supply. Marian Kearney, a volunteer teaching advisor who has spent over a year in Sitima with N4BW, worked with pupils, teachers and the community looking at both the causes and effects of climate change. Then at a meeting with the Headteachers of 17 schools a decision was made to do something practical by hosting a Tree Planting Day. Marian reported that the day before the event was particularly exciting with pupils arriving on foot, on bicycles and a couple of teachers making it on motorbikes, with everyone travelling back to school laden with trees that had been grown from seed by N4BW's employee, Mr. Harry Makawa, all in time for Tree Planting Day when hundreds of trees were planted. All together 3000 trees have been planted, some of them Moringa trees, the leaves of which can be ground into a nutritious powder to add to food.

Sometimes it seems like a drop in the ocean, but this small Liverpool based charity has made a difference to the lives of lots of people.



END HUNGER IN UK WEEK OF ACTION 11-18 OCTOBER 2019

Help raise awareness of hunger in the UK and tell the government that they must take action to ensure that everyone has enough money to afford good food, and that no-one goes to bed hungry.

Could you **DO SOMETHING LOCALLY DURING THE WEEK?**

Arrange to meet your MP. You could invite them to your foodbank/project, or take a group of people to go and see them in their constituency office. Or perhaps invite all the MPs in your town / city to an event that you organise.

Put on an event to raise awareness of food poverty. For example : Make a film about people's experiences of food poverty in your area. Work with local school children to make art and then put on an exhibition.

Get some media coverage. Put out a press release, or try to get on your local radio to talk about what is happening in your area

TAKE PART IN THE DAY OF ACTION IN LONDON ON WEDNESDAY 16 OCTOBER?

People on the frontline of food poverty - those with lived experience, volunteers providing food aid, those involved in campaigning - will be coming together at the Abbey Centre near the Houses of Parliament to share stories, learn new skills, watch (and maybe sing with!) the End Hunger UK Foodbank Choir and meet and chat with people from around the country. Also go to the Houses of Parliament to meet our MPs. The idea is that, before you come to London on the 16th, you will have contacted your MP to arrange a time for a meeting. We will provide guidance as to how to do this. On the day itself, people will have meetings with MPs at different times. If you aren't able to arrange a meeting with your MP in advance you can still go into the Central Lobby, and the staff there will contact them for you. If this doesn't work you can leave a 'Green Card' that lets them know you were there! We will all come together however, from 12:00 to 12:30 pm, as all MPs will be in the House of Commons Chamber for Prime Minister's Questions. To make sure our MPs remember us, we want to leave each MP with a little gift – a knitted (or crocheted) foodstuff!



KNITTERS AND CROCHETERS WANTED BEFOREHAND

Not everyone has the skills to make their own foodstuff so we need the yarn-talented to make as many carrots and Cornish pasties and anything else you can think of and send them to by Friday 27th September to Annie at: End Hunger UK, c/o Church Action on Poverty, 28 Sandpiper Court, Water's Edge Business Park, Modwen Road, Salford M5 3EZ. We will send them on to campaigners who need them. Please could you leave a strand of wool so that we can tie on a label or attach it to a ribbon to make bunting.

You can find lots of free patterns online – details at <http://endhungeruk.org/weekofaction2019/knitfood/> Please email Annie (see below) to let us know if you are going to make some foods so we can get an idea of how many will be coming our way! It would be fantastic if we got lots extra so that we could make some bunting to take with us when we go to Westminster

Sign up here if you are joining in <http://endhungeruk.org/weekofaction2019/>

If you have any questions, contact Annie at annie@church-poverty.org.uk

TIME IS NOW FOR MALAWII

continued from opposite page

Our emphasis is always on offering training and establishing projects which can then be handed over to the Malawians. The country quite rightly describes itself as the 'Warm Heart of Africa' and living and working there alongside the local people

and the Montfort Fathers has been a fantastic experience.

Please remember N4BW and the people of Sitima in your prayers during the Season of Creation. If you would like to know more about us and how you can support us or maybe consider volunteering yourself see www.n4bw.org

CAFOD CLIMATE PILGRIMAGE TO THE MASS LOBBY IN LONDON



Eileen Brennan writes : On Wednesday 26 June 2019 a group of 24 CAFOD pilgrims from Shrewsbury diocese travelled to London to join around 16,000 people from all parts of Britain. We gathered at Westminster to call on politicians to set the foundations for a brighter, greener, safer world. 'The Time is Now', we told our MPs, to end the UK's contribution to climate change and to pass ambitious laws that create a healthier environment for nature and people.

As part of a national CAFOD pilgrimage, our Coach Leaders' WhatsApp group, coordinated by Amy & Bridgid at Romero house, kept us in touch with the other CAFOD coaches setting out at dawn from around England & Wales. The first 'ping' of the day was from Daniel Hale at 04.20 as they prepared to set out from Lancaster. We left Chester at 06.15 with a stop at Knutsford to pick up a group which included enthusiastic pupils from All Hallows' High School in Macclesfield. As we headed to London the WhatsApp group came alive with messages from the other coaches from Middlesbrough, Liverpool, Leeds, Wrexham, Sheffield, Birmingham, East Anglia, Nottingham, Clifton, Arundel & Brighton, Portsmouth and South Wales. Bridgid Duffy told us all at 07.22, 'The mass lobby just made the morning news.' We really did feel that we were on a mission. Parliament here we come, are you listening?

Reaching the motorway we began our long journey to Westminster with a prayer for the success of our lobby.

May we journey in faith and love, rejoicing and eager to serve you.

May we hold in our hearts 'the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.'

After a quiet period of rest we joined with our fellow pilgrims on their coaches across the country in a joint prayer for the lobby. We listened to the words of CAFOD Communications Officer Mark Chamberlain who had met people affected by climate change. He spoke about Doko Molu, a Kenyan woman who lost almost all her animals to drought, and Sunni Abbas from Niger whose entire town had to migrate to escape drought. We prayed Psalm 146 and were reminded that people living in poverty have no one to speak for them which is why we are travelling to Parliament today. Lobbying your MP is a great way to put your faith into action.

By 18.00 we were heading home having spoken to our MPs, feeling committed to carry on campaigning and still having enough energy to do the CAFOD Climate Quiz. We continued to receive messages from our WhatsApp pilgrims and the last word was from Colette in Wrexham who was home in time for bed at 01.14 on Thursday morning.

A long but very worthwhile day.

ALL HALLOWS' CLIMATE CRAWL!



Ben Bradshaw writes: Seven students from All Hallows Catholic School in Macclesfield, accompanied by Mrs Sutton our RE teacher, travelled down to London on a disappointingly empty coach for 'The Time is Now' climate change lobby. On arrival we rushed to meet the MP for Macclesfield, David Rutley to pose some of our concerns and questions about our local environment and our town. We asked a range of questions. Although we didn't receive straight answers, we did get some insight to environmental plans for Macclesfield. Mr Rutley has agreed to come to College to further discuss our issues (we will hold him to these words!!!).

After this we gathered with other Macclesfield constituents (along with 16,000 others from across the country!) to set off our alarms to represent that the time is NOW to help resolve our climate crisis! We then tried to meet with Congleton's MP but failed due to parliamentary security abruptly denying the entry of half of us. Because of this, we had some time to sit back and relax at Trafalgar Square in the blazing sun.

To finish off our day before another trip across the country, we had a CAFOD-led Mass which, to our regret, we had to leave early in order to get the coach back home.

In conclusion, it was a fantastic experience in London for students and Mrs Sutton alike who all thoroughly enjoyed the (very) long day out!

PS: The lobby was followed up by letters to both David Rutley MP and Fiona Bruce MP who have both responded positively.



COME AND SEE CONFERENCE October 12-13

Sat. 12th 9.00 – 8.30 Sun. 13th 9.00 – 6.30

Keynote speaker Peter McVerry SJat Christ the King High School, Stamford Rd,
Birkdale, Southport PR8 4EXChoice of two workshops with: Steve Atherton,
John Bell, Amy Cameron, Maureen Roche, Louise
Swanston, Jean Washbourne, Michael Winstanley.**IMAGINING THE CHURCH OF THE FUTURE
Diarmuid O'Murchu Saturday 12 October 2019**ACTA Conference at King's House Conference Centre,
King's Church, Sidney Street, Manchester M1 7HBRegistration 10.15 for 11.00 start. Finish 4.00pm Tea
and coffee provided. Please bring a packed lunch

Cost £20 Early Bird £18 Under 25's Free

To book please go to www.acalltoaction.org.uk**WORDS OUT OF SILENCE by Jill Segger**

Bernadette Meaden writes: Jill Segger is a member of the Religious Society of Friends, and it is from the deep silence of the Quaker Meeting that these comment pieces and poetry are drawn. Segger always starts from the Quaker position, "Think it possible that you may be wrong", but this doesn't mean her commentary lacks conviction. Adherence to her faith's core values of equality, peace, truth and simplicity means being unafraid to express an unpopular opinion. This is perhaps most evident in her writing on war and peace, where she questions our acts of remembrance and what lies behind them.

The comment is wide-ranging, from social, political and cultural issues, to personal experiences like the death of a neighbour or recovering from surgery. This combination of the personal, political and spiritual makes the book engaging on many levels. The short poems are beautiful, and spring from a deep sense of connectedness, or love. Love of people, love of community, or a love of the natural world, which began in the author's native Cumbria. This book is thought-provoking, informative, and ultimately encouraging, as it tackles the most serious of issues whilst always celebrating what is good and true.

Published by Ekklesia <https://www.bookdepository.com/Words-Out-Silence-Jill-Segger/9780993294280>**New in August: RIVER OF FIRE : My spiritual journey by Sr Helen Prejean**

She describes her life as a nun starting with her entrance into a convent in 1957 at the age of 18 and ending in 1982 when she began her work with the Louisiana death row inmate which formed the foundation of her previous book 'Dead Man Walking'. She describes the world of draconian rules in the convent that all changed in 1965 after the reforms of Vatican II. She fleshes out how she rose to be an influential voice within the church before becoming a renowned proponent of abolishing the death penalty.

A WOMAN OF FIRSTS - The Midwife who built a hospital and changed the world By Edna Adan Ismail

Edna saw first-hand how poor healthcare, lack of education and ancient superstitions had devastating effects on Somaliland's people, especially its women. When she suffered the trauma of FGM herself as a young girl at the bidding of her mother, Edna's determination was set. The first midwife to practise in Somaliland, Edna became a formidable teacher and campaigner for women's health. As her country was swept up in its bloody fight for independence, Edna rose to become its First Lady and first female cabinet minister. She built her own hospital, brick by brick, training future generations in what has been hailed as one of the Horn of Africa's finest university hospitals.

Published by Harper Collins

TIME OUT TUESDAYS Sept 10, Oct 8, Nov 12, Dec 10 , SATURDAYS Sept 28, Oct 26, Nov 23

An Ecumenical Quiet Day for everyone - Input and time for individual quiet prayer and reflection -
at The Convent of Our Lady of the Cenacle, Tithebarn Grove, Lance Lane, Wavertree, Liverpool L15 6TW
10-4pm Tea & coffee provided. Bring your own lunch. Cost £10

For more information or to book: Tel 0151 722 2271

email: winniecenacle@mail.com

DIARY

SEPTEMBER

1 – 4 October SEASON OF CREATION

<https://seasonofcreation.org/>

For St Alban's J & P group season programme see page 5
www.stalbanmacc.org.uk/

10 TIME OUT QUIET DAY

10 CWDF FORUM Professional photographer Jim Holmes will again give an illustrated talk drawn from his various overseas commissions. 6.45pm – 9.00pm The Unity Centre, Cuppin Street, Chester, CH1 2BN

13 CAFOD QUIZ NIGHT 7.30 pm at Our Lady's Parish Centre Ellesmere Port Town Centre adults £3 children £1 which includes Fairtrade refreshments at the interval. All money raised will go to Cafod's new Hands On peace building project in Magdalena Medio in Colombia. Contact Tony Walsh on 0151 355 6419

14 GREEN CHRISTIAN ON THE ROAD TOGETHER at The Dandelion Community, Woodhouse Park, Wythenshawe. Booking is essential as space is limited:
<https://greenchristian.org.uk/green-christian-on-the-road-together/>

15 – 22 WORLD WEEK OF PEACE FOR PALESTINE AND ISRAEL <http://paxchristi.org.uk/campaigns/israel-and-palestine/world-week-for-peace-in-pi/>

20–27 GLOBAL CLIMATE STRIKE
www.campaigncc.org/climate_strike_20_september
<https://globalclimatestrike.net/>

21 WORLD PEACE DAY www.peaceoneday.org 020 7456 9180

25 LIVERPOOL ROMERO LECTURE 6.45 pm Hope University (Everton Campus) full details page 3

28 TIME OUT QUIET DAY

29 CLIMATE CRISIS in Marple Speaker: Dr Chris Jones from Tyndall Climate Research Centre 2.30 – 5.30 pm Marple 6th Form College Buxton Lane SK6 7QV see p 7

OCTOBER

4 CAFOD HARVEST FAST DAY www.cafod.org.uk

8 TIME OUT QUIET DAY

10 WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY
<https://wfmh.global/world-mental-health-day-2019>

11 CAFOD QUIZ NIGHT see Sept 13

11-18 END HUNGER WEEK OF ACTION See page 9

12 ACTA CONFERENCE Manchester see page 11

12 – 13 COME AND SEE CONFERENCE speaker Peter McVerry SJ Christ the King High School, Southport PR8 4EX See page 11

13 HOMELESS SUNDAY www.housingjustice.org.uk

13 – 19 PRISONS WEEK www.prisonsworld.org
www.prisonadvice.org.uk

13-20 WEEK OF PRAYER FOR WORLD PEACE.
www.weekofprayerforworldpeace.com

21–28 ONE WORLD WEEK oneworldweek.org

24 – 30 UN DISARMAMENT WEEK
un.org/en/events/disarmamentweek

26 TIME OUT QUIET DAY

NOVEMBER

1-2 'PALESTINE: YESTERDAY, TODAY AND TOMORROW'
Chester Palestine Conference contact ltv@gmail.com
or josephoneill777@gmail.com

2 CAFOD FAITH IN ACTION DAY Savio House Bollington Macclesfield SK10 5RW Details page 5

9 CAFOD FAITH IN ACTION DAY Blundellsands, Crosby Liverpool L23 6TH Details page 5

12 TIME OUT QUIET DAY

12 CWDF FORUM 6.45pm – 9.00pm The Unity Centre, Cuppin Street, Chester, CH1 2BN

15 CAFOD QUIZ NIGHT see Sept 13

22 THE DETERMINANTS OF FOOD POVERTY a feeding Liverpool event chaired by Bishop John Rawsthorne and Prof Hilary Russell 9-1 pm at LACE Details from Steve Atherton J & P Office Liverpool

23 TIME OUT QUIET DAY

DECEMBER

10 TIME OUT QUIET DAY

Advance : FAITH FOR LIFE The next course will begin in the Southport area in January 2020. To find out more or to book a place, contact J&P office in Liverpool.

Liverpool

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The opinions expressed in MouthPeace are the views of the individual contributors or organisations concerned and do not necessarily reflect those of the Justice and Peace Commissions of the dioceses of Shrewsbury and Liverpool. Edited and typeset by Marian Thompson Printed and distributed at LACE Liverpool

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Please don't forget to send in reports of events