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# *Justice and Peace*

## Issue 106 Summer 2019

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*"In nature's economy the currency is not money it is life"*

Vandana Shiva

*"We may have all come in different ships but we are in the same boat now."*

*"Those of us who are committed to the cause of justice need to pace ourselves because our struggle does not last for one day, one week or one year, but it is the struggle of a lifetime, and each generation must do its part."*

Kate Colwell Friends of the Earth



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Archdiocese of Liverpool Justice & Peace Commission

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

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## The Liverpool Justice and Peace Commission's Annual Assembly 2019

### APOCALYPSE NOW? CLIMATE CHANGE : WHAT WE MUST DO

**SATURDAY JULY 6th**

**10am until 4pm, at LACE, Croxteth Drive, Liverpool, L17 1AA.**

Everyone is welcome to attend, lunch is included in the day, and a donation of £10 is suggested.

"I urgently appeal, then, for a new dialogue about how we are shaping the future of our planet. We need a conversation which includes everyone, since the environmental challenge we are undergoing, and its human roots, concern and affect us all. ..." (*Laudato Si* 14)

In 2015 Pope Francis called on us all to work together to tackle climate change, then in October 2018 the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released a report stating that we have just 12 years for global warming to be kept to a maximum of 1.5C, after which even just half a degree extra would significantly increase the risks of drought, floods, extreme heat and poverty for hundreds of millions of people.

Just two months later in December 2018, Greta Thunberg, at the age of 15, addressing the United Nations' Katowice Climate Summit stated "You say you love your children above all else, and yet you are stealing their future in front of their very eyes", and in February 2019, at the age of 16, speaking at Davos, she added, "Our house is on fire. I am here to say, our house is on fire".

"Until you start focusing on what needs to be done, rather than what is politically possible, there is no hope. We cannot solve a crisis without treating it as a crisis."

It is obvious that we must act immediately if we want to prevent the destruction of the planet, and life, as we know it today. We must all change, we need to change our own lives; we need to help our families and households to change; we need to encourage our friends to change; we need to change our workplaces, and schools. We cannot rely on other people to solve this crisis; scientists alone will not be able to solve this, neither can politicians: we must all act to prevent the destruction of the planet!

Liverpool's J & P Assembly this year will be focused on climate change, and what we must do. The programme includes:

**Dr Paul Rooney**, from Liverpool Hope University, who will talk about 'The Reality and Urgency of Climate Change action: the social and ecological imperatives'.

**Bishop John Arnold**, Bishop of Salford, who will talk about 'Addressing the theological imperatives of Climate Change'.

**Hope for the Future** is an organisation working to equip communities, campaigners and groups across the country to communicate the urgency of climate change. Its Director, Jo Musker-Sherwood will address our need for 'Action: from the personal to the collective'.

### 'THE TIME IS NOW' WEDNESDAY 26 JUNE 2019

**A climate lobby of MPs in Parliament Square, London from 1:00 – 4 pm.**

Many NGOs are encouraging their supporters to meet their MP in the streets around parliament, all at the same time! They have information on their websites or see [www.theclimatecoalition.org/thetimeisnow](http://www.theclimatecoalition.org/thetimeisnow)

[www.christianaid.org.uk/campaigns/climate-change/join-climate-lobby](http://www.christianaid.org.uk/campaigns/climate-change/join-climate-lobby)

CAFOD are running coaches from most dioceses in England and Wales.

<https://cafod.org.uk/News/UK-news/Against-climate-change>

If you cannot be there why not petition the Prime Minister on <https://e-activist.com/page/36329/petition/1>

NB Many groups are taking the climate crisis seriously and organising meetings on various aspects of this - more details on page 9

Stephen Cooke requests:

Please pray for Steve Atherton, Liverpool's Fieldworker, during his recovery from his recent operation, and for all the wonderful staff of the NHS, throughout the country!

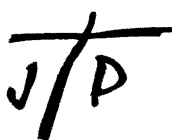


**From September 1 to October 4**  
**NOW is the time to begin planning your 2019 event**

During September Christians around the world unite to pray, reflect and undertake practical acts to care for creation. This year the theme of 'The Web of Life: Biodiversity as God's blessing' is particularly apt in view of the Chatham House report in May suggesting that biodiversity loss is as big a crisis as climate change.

The report says that our actions over the past 50 years have been the cause of record losses in species – tens to hundreds of times faster than the natural rate of extinction over the past 10 million years. Since 1970 alone, vertebrate populations have fallen by 40 per cent for land-based species, 84 per cent for fresh-water species and 35 per cent for marine species.

Resources to help with your planning on <https://seasonofcreation.org/>



**FORGOTTEN PEOPLE, FORGOTTEN PLACES:**  
**Being Church on the Margins**



41st Annual National J & P Conference organised in partnership with  
Church Action on Poverty

**26-28 July 2019 at The Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick,**

Pope Francis calls us to be "a Church which is poor and for the poor". To be with those on the margins as equal partners, enabling them to find their own solutions to the issues they face. Join us in 2019 to explore mission, theological reflection and social action with people who have been pushed to the margins of society by poverty.

**Speakers:** Revd Deirdre Brower Latz has worked as a pastor in urban/marginalised communities in Bristol and Manchester, and lectures at the Nazarene Theological College in Manchester.

Professor Anthony Reddie is the leading scholar in the practice of Black theology in grassroots communities of faithful practice.

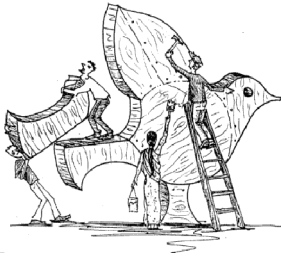
**Conference Chair:** John Battle, former Labour MP, Chair of Leeds Justice & Peace Commission

There will be workshops from a range of organisations and speakers, all looking creatively at how our churches can be more open to people on the margins.

Children and young people are a vital part of the NJPN conference. There will be a crèche for children under 5 and a programme of activities for 5–11-year olds. 12–18-year-olds will explore the conference theme in an active and thought-provoking weekend.

People of all ages and backgrounds are welcome and encouraged to attend conference. Our rates for children and people on low incomes are subsidised. We count on the generous donations of those who can afford a little extra to make that possible. Meals at NJPN conferences incorporate some LOAF principles (Locally sourced, Organically produced, Animal-friendly, Fairly traded). A meat option will be offered at the Saturday evening meal, but all other meals will be vegetarian.

More details and booking form from [www.justice-and-peace.org.uk/conference](http://www.justice-and-peace.org.uk/conference)  
[www.church-poverty.org.uk/forgotten](http://www.church-poverty.org.uk/forgotten)



## AN INSPIRATION ...AND A CHALLENGE

*Joan Sharples writes:*

'The One and Only Pat Gaffney' read the ribbon around the celebratory cake at the retirement tea-party held to mark Pat's retirement from twenty-nine years at Pax Christi held in April. It was a large three-tiered cake - and it needed to be: Pat's colleagues from her teaching days and her time at CAFOD were there, as were friends from many peace organisations, from all parts of the country and beyond.

Tribute was made to her quiet courage, her kindness and her humour. Marie Dennis, Co-President of Pax Christi International, alluded to her as being in the tradition of prophetic women, whilst her Co-President Bishop Kevin Dowling reflected that Pat's work was rooted in her attention to the poor and marginalised. Liverpool's Archbishop, Malcolm McMahon, President of Pax Christi UK, presented Pat with an album of memories and a cheque.

Pat was generous with her time, expertise and talents to Justice and Peace work in our dioceses of Liverpool and Shrewsbury, and it was good to be able to wish her well for the next stage of her journey. Yet again, being in Pat's presence was an inspiration - and a challenge!

*Archbishop Malcolm McMahon reflected in the Independent Catholic News on May 1 :*

The recent retirement of Pat Gaffney as the general secretary of the British section of Pax Christi, the international Catholic peace movement, has made me think about my own commitment to realising Christ's peace in our world. Pat worked for Pax Christi for 29 years and, at times almost single-handedly, built it up into an effective organisation to increase awareness and educate our community in the art of peace-building. Among many other qualities needed to be a person of peace, Pat showed the virtue of courage at its best.

To have the courage of our convictions is what is needed to be a follower of Jesus. We often forget this and withdraw into a kind of personal religion where we set the boundaries and don't step outside them. The harsh reality is that at times Christianity demands us to be prophets as well as priests; leaders as well as disciples. To be faithful to this takes guts. We cannot always retreat into prayer; sometimes prayer and reflection mean that we are compelled to act. But we must always be rooted in prayer, otherwise we may lose our way, and then we will be following our own ambitions and not those of our Master, the Prince of Peace.

Pat's courageous service will be missed by many in the peace movement both inside the church and beyond, but the work of peace-making will continue. In truth, the Church should be the peace movement par excellence: if only we had the courage to be just that.

Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called children of God!

**BELLS FOR PEACE with YOKO ONO Thursday July 4 6-7 pm**

**World Premiere, Manchester International Festival (MIF) 19 Opening Event  
In Cathedral Gardens, Corporation Street, Manchester M4 3BG Free event - standing**



Yoko Ono invites the people of Manchester to gather together in the Cathedral Gardens and send a message of peace to the world. Join thousands of diverse voices and a people's orchestra of bells from home and abroad as the city rings and sings out for peace – and welcomes the world to Manchester.

Yoko Ono has been among the world's most renowned and respected artists for more than 50 years. This new commission is the first major work she has created for the city of Manchester.

People across Greater Manchester are currently designing and creating their own unique handcrafted ceramic bells at a series of special workshops. Join them on the day to hear them – or bring a bell of your own and join in!

MIF runs July 4—21 Details of events and booking see <https://mif.co.uk>

**'BUILD BRIDGES NOT WALLS,  
JEAN VANIER Sept 1928 – May 9th 2019**



From a recording of Jean Vanier speaking on 'Sunday' Radio 4 May 11th :

'I would just say "Do you believe in love?" You don't have to believe in God. There are a lot of people who have been either hurt by church or God knows what and they have been taught almost a false philosophy, whereas God is love. So the important thing is not do you believe, or do you not believe, but can you grow in love?

'There was a moment when I knew that I couldn't continue in the military. I felt called to follow Jesus. I discovered this world of people locked up in institutions and psychiatric hospitals. I saw the pain of parents. I discovered a whole world which I didn't know. It had all been hidden away. I said to myself it is not possible so I just invited two men who had no families and we started living together in a little house, eating together, cooking together and I discovered this world and I discovered that these people are precious and dutiful people.'

John Sargent leader for L'Arche UK: ' We can so often be tempted to build walls when we are faced with difference. When we either as individuals or communities or even as nations come in front of somebody some people who are different the temptation is to build a wall because in the face of difference we can feel a sense of fear. Jean's witness has been that when we try to go beyond that temptation instead of building a wall we try to build a bridge, when we reach out to encounter people who are different in whatever way, then that encounter can be life giving. Because the encounter leads to a friendship.'

**STOP THE TRAFFIK.**  
PEOPLE SHOULDN'T BE BOUGHT & SOLD

Human trafficking is happening in plain sight all around us. Have you ever seen something that looks out of place? Does uncertainty stop you from speaking up?

Technology places the power to prevent into the hand of a person who holds a mobile device. Originally launched in 2016, the STOP APP was the first of its kind to enable people anywhere in the world to report suspicious incidents of human trafficking anonymously and securely. It was updated in May this year. Now supporting seven different languages, anyone anywhere can submit suspicious activity quickly and anonymously via a range of media, including text messages, photography and video. Help with thousands of others, in creating a world where people aren't bought and sold, unveil the full picture of human trafficking by downloading the STOP APP and anonymously reporting suspicious incidents you have seen.

[www.stopthetraffik.org/stopapp/](http://www.stopthetraffik.org/stopapp/)

**2 YEARS LATER**

The International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) is a coalition of non-governmental organisations in one hundred countries promoting adherence to and implementation of the United Nations nuclear weapon ban treaty. This landmark global agreement was adopted in New York on 7 July 2017. The Treaty opened for signature at United Nations headquarters in New York on 20 September 2017 and will remain open indefinitely. Once 50 nations have ratified or acceded to it, it will enter into force. Two years later from the Treaty's adoption 23 of the 70 signatories have ratified.



In May 2019 the City of Paris became the first French city – and the second capital city of a nuclear-armed state – to support the treaty. Paris has endorsed the ICAN Cities Appeal, expressing the cities support for the Treaty and calling on the French government to do the same. As the beloved capital city of a country with 300 nuclear warheads, this is an important signal to all. For more information See [www.icanw.org](http://www.icanw.org)

**NATIONAL REFILL DAY is back on June 19th**

The annual public awareness campaign helps to prevent millions of single-use plastic bottles from polluting our streets and our oceans by encouraging people to carry a reusable water bottle and refill on the go. On June 19th, we'll be asking the UK public if they've **#GotTheBottle** to stop plastic pollution by switching from a single-use plastic bottle to a reusable one. A million plastic bottles are bought around the world every minute and it's predicted that figure will rise by another 20% by 2021. See <https://refill.org.uk> for the app to find a refill station near you, or if you have suitable facilities you can sign up to be a refill station.





## PETERLOO

On 16 August 1819, more than 60,000 people flooded into St Peter's Field from all over Manchester and further away. They came in peace, united in their passion for the right to vote. But as the speeches began, armed troops on horseback charged into the crowd, killing 15 and injuring more than 600. The Peterloo Massacre was a pivotal moment in British history, a landmark on our road to democracy.

### THE ANVIL Sunday July 7th An Elegy for Peterloo

MIF (Manchester International Festival) is marking the 200th anniversary with an extraordinary day of performance, poetry and music.

**During the day in the centre of Manchester**, ANU, one of Europe's most daring theatre companies, is taking to the streets for a series of immersive performances, all completely free. Inspired by the lives and stories of those who died at Peterloo, the company is collaborating with people from all over Greater Manchester to explore what Peterloo meant then and what it means today – reflecting on the events of 1819 while forging a vital new connection with the 21st-century city.

**In the evening** the world premiere of a major new piece of music by composer Emily Howard, one of our most original musical voices, and writer Michael Symmons Roberts, winner of the Costa Poetry Award. Both an elegy to the fallen and a celebration of Manchester, the work will be performed by the BBC Philharmonic and a huge massed chorus featuring the BBC Singers and three Hallé choirs. Emily Howard said it has been "such a privilege" to create a work of art to remember Peterloo. "Many people in Manchester know about Peterloo, but most people here and beyond don't know what happened. This was such a landmark in history and to create a work of art that can raise awareness of it is wonderful."

6 pm Bridgewater Hall Lower Mosley Street, M2 3WS Tickets £10

book at <https://mif.co.uk/whats-on/the-anvil/>



### THE SONG OF PETERLOO by Carolyn O'Brien.

This novel is to be published by Legend Press on 1 August 2019. It tells of Manchester mill-worker, Nancy Kay who, drawn into the agitation for reform, risks everything to attend a great assembly on St Peter's Field. She is unaware that the day will go down in history not as a triumph but a tragedy; the Peterloo Massacre.

### THE SONG OF PETERLOO - A PERFORMANCE Thursday August 8 5-7pm

This is the result of a collaboration between Carolyn O'Brien and fellow Mancunians – composer, Shane Cullinan and soprano, Claire O'Brien. It will combine readings from the novel with music from the time, together with newly-created work inspired by Nancy's story and the brave reformers of 1819.

Manchester Central Library, Saint Peter's Square, Manchester M2 5PD

As the therapeutic power of music unites two of the novel's central characters, the performers will be joined on piano by Brigitte Schwarting, a therapist from Nordoff Robbins, the national music therapy charity. The event is held in aid of this remarkable charity. Carolyn will be signing copies of the book after the performance. Book at [www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-song-of-peterloo-a-performance-tickets-58647287616](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-song-of-peterloo-a-performance-tickets-58647287616)

### DISRUPT? PETERLOO AND PROTEST

**Saturday 23 March 2019—Sunday 23 February 2020**

An exhibition at the Peoples' History Museum, Left Bank, Spinningfields Manchester M3 3ER tells the story of Peterloo and highlights its relevance today, examining issues within our democracy that people are campaigning for 200 years on. The exhibition features objects, including original Peterloo artefacts, brought together for the very first time, alongside pieces telling more recent stories of protest. A short film commissioned especially for the exhibition brings to life the story of Peterloo, protest, and the road to democratic reform. Suitable for all ages. Free entry suggested donation £5.

The museum is fully accessible wherever possible. If you require further assistance to support your visit to the exhibition please contact the museum by emailing [learning@phm.org.uk](mailto:learning@phm.org.uk) or phoning 0161 838 9190.



## WHY DO JUSTICE AND PEACE ORGANISATIONS USE SOCIAL MEDIA?



*Stephen Cooke writes:* We often hear negative stories in the news about social media, so, why on earth would the Liverpool Archdiocesan Justice and Peace Commission, along with the Archdiocese itself, NJPN and other J&P-based groups and organisations, use a number of different social media accounts?

It is important to acknowledge the flaws, and be aware of the potential dangers and risks when dealing with anything new. We know that social media can seem daunting, overwhelming and complicated at first, but the advantages are plentiful, and are very valuable to groups such as ourselves.

The Oxford English Dictionary defines social media as “Websites and applications that enable users to create and share content or to participate in social networking.”

There are many different social media “platforms”, of which the four most popular are YouTube, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

**YouTube** is a video sharing service that allows users to watch videos posted by other users and upload videos of their own. It is also the second most popular search engine behind only Google, and is one of the most popular sources for news,

**Facebook** is a popular free social networking website that allows registered users to create profiles, upload photos and video, send messages and keep in touch with friends, family, organisations and colleagues.

**Twitter** is an online news and social networking site where people communicate in short messages called tweets.

**Instagram** is a photo sharing app which allows users to assign filters to photos and share them with followers.

They are fantastic for promoting an event, sharing news or raising awareness of a particular issue, allowing you to instantly reach thousands of people, all for free, and allows you to communicate with potential new contacts who would never have had the chance to find out about J&P without the use of social media. They also allow you to share photos, reports, resources and videos from events with both people who attended, and people who were unable to attend,

Social media has brought the world together, making it possible to connect with millions of people at the click of a single button, a wonderful example being the ability to sign and share petitions online.

25 years ago, getting 10,000 signatures on a petition would have taken a very long time, and a lot of effort, nowadays it can take an hour, and for a petition to receive a million signatures never happened.

Social media is not perfect, but it is an asset we certainly should take advantage of if we can, especially when Pope Francis has said that “Text messages and social media are a gift from God” in his message ‘Communication and Mercy: A Fruitful Encounter’ for the 50th World Day of Social Communications.

Our accounts can be found at: [www.facebook.com/jpliverpooljp](https://www.facebook.com/jpliverpooljp)  
[www.twitter.com/liverpooljandp](https://www.twitter.com/liverpooljandp) [www.instagram.com/liverpooljandp](https://www.instagram.com/liverpooljandp)  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQzJkymJ3su5HJKc7dbiKyQ/videos>  
and our website is [jp.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk](http://jp.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk)

### WIRRAL COASTAL WALK Sunday 23rd June 2019 to raise funds for CAFOD's SYRIA AND YEMEN APPEALS



The route goes from Seacombe Ferry to Thurstaston Country Park Visitor Centre. You can walk 4, 10 or 15 miles depending on how energetic you feel. The way is mainly flat and a suitable walk for families including the young and not-so-young. There are toilets on route and parking is available at Seacombe Ferry.

Registration 8.30 —10.30 am on the day Fee £5 per walker ( £1 per child aged 10 and under)

More details from Firbon Stewart 0151 632 5504.





## GREETINGS FROM RAMALLAH, PALESTINE

*Eileen Brennan writes:*

As usual we sent Christmas greetings to Holy Land parishes from our parish of St Saviour's, Ellesmere Port. One of our parishioners is Sarah Bannister who teaches at St Winefride's Catholic Primary school in Neston. Her class made their own cards and we posted them with our parish cards to schools in Palestine. In February they received a letter from Fr Jamal Khader parish priest of Holy Family Church in Ramallah.

Sarah said they were pleased to be involved in such a valuable and important activity and the children were delighted to receive such a moving letter from Ramallah.

I have attached the letter for you to read and thought you might like to place a copy in MouthPeace.

كنيسة العائلة المقدسة

*Holy Family Catholic Church. Ramallah*

*Dear Friends of St Winefride's Primary School,*

*It is with great joy that we, at the Holy Family Church received the Christmas wishes from the children at your school. We felt the love and closeness of your pupils and your school to our children at the parish and school.*

*The letters and Christmas cards sent by your pupils made us live in the spirit of Christmas, to spread the love and compassion of our Saviour to all, especially to those "forgotten" faithful. With your Christmas wishes, we know that we have brothers and sisters, and that we are members of the same Body of Christ, where "if one part suffers, every part suffers with it; and if one part is honoured, every part rejoices with it" (1 Corinthians 12.26)*

*May God bless you and all members of your school.*

*I apologise for the delay of this letter as the mail took too long to deliver your Christmas cards.*

*With my sincere wishes*

*Fr Jamal Khader Parish Priest*

## EASTER REFLECTIONS FROM THE HOLY LAND

*From Mr Sami El-Yousef, Chief Executive Officer of the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem which includes Ramallah. They appeared in ICN April 26th 2019.*

Greetings from the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem where we just celebrated one of the most high holidays in Christianity being the culmination of the Holy Week and the symbolism of the dramatic events that have defined the lives of billions around the world!

We who call Jerusalem home are in a strange way fortunate where we celebrate not only once, but twice and thus for those who follow the Julian calendar, this week is still holy week with Easter Sunday celebrated in a few days on April 28, 2019.

In all instances, "Christ has Risen, He has indeed Risen!" is the most repeated phrase within our various Christian communities in the Holy Land these days.

The religious celebrations went very well starting with the Palm Sunday triumphant procession from Bethphage to the Old City where thousands upon thousands participated in a human line that was endless. Through the various efforts of the parish priests of the LPJ, 57 buses were rented out to bring

the faithful from all over the West Bank to Jerusalem to participate, where this year, a record 3,000 faithful were able to participate from the local parishes. Jerusalem was shining that day and the traditional scout troupes parade through the streets of Jerusalem, which traditionally takes place after the religious procession, saw over a dozen marching bands participate, all in their shiny clothes, drums, and trumpets competing along the way and declaring that Jerusalem is just as Christian as it is Jewish and Muslim. The pride on the faces of these young people was simply contagious!

Over the past few months, I was privileged to follow up with various stakeholders the great work taking place within the Latin Patriarchate, especially as we focus our priorities in the three main sectors of education, pastoral care, and humanitarian support. From the schools, to the various parishes and service centres, one can only be proud of the over two thousand lay and religious who wake up every morning

*Continued opposite ...*





## FAITH INTO ACTION SABEL-KAIROS CONFERENCE JUNE 29 2019

Carrs Lane Church Centre, Carrs Lane, Birmingham B4 7SX.

Key speakers: Rifat Kassir, from Kairos Palestine; David Cronin, author and blogger on Israel/Palestine; Professor Adam Sutcliffe, from Independent Jewish Voices. We will also be hearing about Sabeel-Kairos's Investing for Peace campaign alongside campaign partner War on Want,

and engaging in a panel debate and plenty of discussion! Palestinian crafts and food, view exhibitions and information stalls. Tickets £30 which includes a buffet lunch, and tea/coffee/biscuits on arrival.

Book at: [www.sabeel-kairos.org.uk/sabeel-kairos-2019-conference-faith-into-action/](http://www.sabeel-kairos.org.uk/sabeel-kairos-2019-conference-faith-into-action/)

### *Easter Reflections from the Holy Land continued from opposite page*

ready to head to their work to be of service in one of the highlighted sectors despite the setbacks and the very negative political landscape, let alone the worsening economic conditions. In Israel, the recent elections meant that an even more right-wing government is about to be formed that will probably solidify moves of the previous government moving towards an exclusive Jewish state where non-Jews will potentially become second class citizens, not to mention the new promises to annex the West Bank and kill any remaining hope for a two-state solution.

In Palestine, the division between the two main political parties is culminating in a deeper separation between them and widening the gap between Gaza and the rest of the territories, let alone the eroding support from around the world spearheaded by the United States with its position to suspend all financial aid from the US government towards Palestine and towards UN agencies working with Palestinian refugees. This has led to a new wave of unemployment, especially within the young professional Christian community, let alone reduced services to those most in need.

In Jordan recent changes to the tax laws meant that middle to lower income people as well as those receiving pension funds are taxed higher leaving them a lower income amidst increases in prices on most basic commodities and services. In all, not a very promising picture in the three countries where we serve, and the sad part is that the picture does not look like it will improve anytime soon. Thus, our work will have to continue to take our realities into account as we try to plan ahead for a less-certain future.

Having said that, we keep asking ourselves what is new? The consolation is that during this period, we are reminded of the true meaning of the Easter season and the events of the Holy Week, the suffering, betrayal, savagery, and humiliation, and what good that has come out of it all that led to the creation of the Christian faith and the associated value system which has become our living doctrine. Visiting institutions of the Church only reinforces the importance of this individual and institutional Christian presence in the Holy Land which is the moderating voice in a very divided and polarised society. Whether it is school children, parishioners, elderly, broken families, persons with disabilities, migrants, refugees or people of all walks of life, the LPJ through its various programs and interventions is there to support those who are marginalized, weak, and needy.

The recently published humanitarian report of the LPJ highlights the activities of the various funds (education support, medicines, social assistance, medical emergencies, refugee support, or job creation), where hundreds of families have been supported giving them a dignified life and a new lease on life. The various pastoral care activities conducted in schools, parishes, youth and scout groups, families, Sunday school programs with plans under way for summer camps and spiritual retreats have taken a new meaning as more attention and resources are devoted to this important sector. Strengthening the faith is an essential element in keeping the hope alive.

Thus, as we renew our faith during this season, we certainly feel a breath of fresh air despite a very bleak political and economic environment. Tomorrow promises to be better than today, and we continue to pray for the peace of Jerusalem. Happy Easter to all.

Christ is Risen, He has indeed Risen.



## GLOBAL HEALING - WHAT CAN WE DO?

*'The planet is vulnerable and more importantly the people are vulnerable to the effects of climate change'*  
Archbishop Vincent Nichols

*'Climate change is the greatest disaster that is facing our planet – but it is the greatest opportunity'*  
David Crawley

*'All is not lost but much needs to change and we humans need to change the most. We need to undergo an ecological conversion, a radical change of heart'* Pope Francis in Chapter 6 of *Laudato Si'*

These quotes are taken from '*Global Healing How our faith helps us care for our common home*'  
You can watch the film individually or in groups on [www.ourcommonhome.co.uk/](http://www.ourcommonhome.co.uk/)

Marian Thompson writes :

When our local Churches Together in Marple invited various groups under its umbrella to offer an event for Lent 2019, our ecumenical J & P group decided to show the film *Global Healing*. Although produced by CaFE (Catholic Faith Exploration) on behalf of the Bishops' Conference of England & Wales and CAFOD, there was much to challenge everyone. We arranged two sessions and we felt as a group it would be appropriate for the local Catholic church to act as host. Fr Bill Fitzgerald was pleased to do this.

During the evenings we watched the film in which a variety of people offered their views ( mostly it has to be said they were Catholics) and there were stopping points when we were asked to break into groups for discussion. We divided each time into small groups of about six and it was interesting to hear views of people from other church traditions and their response to what was in effect a Catholic production. One comment from an Anglican was a wish that her church had produced something as powerful.

Session 1 introduces *Laudato Si'* and stresses our need for conversion helped by the Holy Spirit. Session 2 challenges us to make practical responses – to live more simply and responsibly; to consume only what we need not what we think we want; to be witnesses to others, in families, in our parishes, in our local communities; to educate ourselves about the things we buy and eat and to nag our politicians... You can do this at **THE TIME IS NOW** lobby on June 26 (see page 2). Our J & P group has since contacted our MP to ask if he will be present at the lobby. We have also asked if he will meet those who cannot manage to get to London on that day at another time in the constituency.

Finally, at the end of the second session, we made pledges for actions in future. These were as varied as use feet and public transport rather than cars, use trains not planes, make do and mend rather than buying—for one person it was not to buy any new clothes for a year, don't waste food, fill plastic bottles with bits of plastic to make eco bricks then find a place to use them!

[www.ecobricks.org/](http://www.ecobricks.org/) <https://wasteaid.org/toolkit/mobile/plastic-bottles-ecobricks/>

In general as a group we felt the evenings had been useful although there was a sense that we were preaching to the converted and many in our churches still do not really think climate change involves them.

**THE BIG SHIFT** One thing practical thing most of those at the sessions did was to sign the Christian Aid petition as part of their **The Big Shift** campaign. This is urging the HSBC to stop financing climate-wrecking fossil fuels, to invest in clean energy and to remove Bangladesh, Vietnam and Indonesia from an exception to a bar on financing new coal-powered plants across the world. This petition with some art work done by local children was later presented to the HSBC branch in Stockport. Some of our group went along. The manager was not very sympathetic, saying she felt intimidated by their presence. But she took the petition etc. anyway! [www.christianaid.org.uk/news/how-get-hsbc-make-big-shift](http://www.christianaid.org.uk/news/how-get-hsbc-make-big-shift)

Since we showed the films in March there has been more media interest with the Extinction Rebellion movement catching attention and Greta Thunberg touring round Europe meeting with politicians. You can watch a recording of her with Caroline Lucas the Green MP, and Anna Taylor the coordinator of the UK children's strike at a Guardian Live event at Friends House in London on Monday 22nd April:

[www.theguardian.com/environment/video/2019/apr/23/greta-thunberg-anna-taylor-and-caroline-lucas-on-the-new-climate-movement-guardian-live](http://www.theguardian.com/environment/video/2019/apr/23/greta-thunberg-anna-taylor-and-caroline-lucas-on-the-new-climate-movement-guardian-live)

**THURSDAY JUNE 6 'CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE MEDIA'**

**Liverpool Friends of the Earth Gary Mahoney Memorial Debate 7.30- 9.15 pm**

**Adelphi Hotel, Ranelagh St/Brownlow Hill, Liverpool, L3 5UL.**

An informal evening, largely based around questions from the floor, which we hope will make an important contribution to discussion of vital and topical environmental and social concerns. Panellists: Helen Pidd, North of England Editor The Guardian [Chair], Kevin Gobal, Editor, Big Issue North, Dr Neil Gavin, Senior Lecturer in Politics, University of Liverpool. This event is co-hosted by Merseyside Environmental Trust and supported by Faiths4Change and Philosophy in Pubs. Contact Info: Liverpool Friends of the Earth 07786 7467048

**SATURDAY JUNE 15 'ON THE ROAD TOGETHER' Finding our Path and Walking Gently Together**

**10.30am till 4.30pm Central Baptist Church Shrewsbury**

The fifth in a series of Regional Days with Green Christian and local communities to deepen ecological discipleship, mobilise for change, and build common cause for creation. Including sessions on:

- **The Green Christian Way of Life** provides a framework of four disciplines – Prayer, Living Gently on the Earth, Public Witness and Encouragement – by means of a dispersed Community of Companions. It has been described as the “spiritual heartbeat” of Green Christian. Come and discover new resources and share our experiences of using the disciplines as an aid to our ongoing spiritual journeys.
- **Joy in Enough** is our campaign presenting a vision for a society dedicated to human flourishing and the common good, rather than the constant pursuit of more. Recognising the value and limits of the natural world, we aim to harness the imagination of people in churches and beyond. We will share latest plans for developing the campaign, and give you a taster of one of the modules in a learning guide we are preparing for church groups to explore these issues.

The Day is open to all who are interested in discovering how we might better pray, live, witness and support each other in this time of crisis. Cost free – but donations on the day welcome. Booking is essential as space is limited: <https://greenchristian.org.uk/green-christian-on-the-road-together/>

**Another day is planned in SOUTH MANCHESTER ON SATURDAY 14 SEPTEMBER**

**at The Dandelion Community, Woodhouse Park, Wythenshawe**

**SATURDAY JUNE 29 'SAVE THE EARTH, ABOLISH WAR'**

**MAW (Movement for the Abolition of War) Conference 9.30— 5 pm**

**NEU HQ, Mander Hall, Hamilton House, Mabledon Place, London WC1H 9BD.**

The conference aims to illuminate the connections between militarism and the environment so we can see where best to focus activities to wage peace and protect ourselves and our planet.

Book on [www.abolishwar.org.uk/day-conference-2019.html](http://www.abolishwar.org.uk/day-conference-2019.html)

**TUESDAY JULY 9 'CLIMATE CHANGE APATHY?'**

**6.45– 9pm The Unity Centre, Cuppin Street, Chester, CH1 2 BN.**

A Chester World Development Forum talk by Linda & Stewart Shuttleworth on the theme '*The psychology of apathy about climate change...and what to do about it!*' They will explain some of the psychological understanding of apathy and inaction in the face of climate change – with the talk leading into some discussion and development of ideas about actions. See [www.chesterwdf.org.uk/](http://www.chesterwdf.org.uk/)

**TIME OUT ON TUESDAYS June 11th; July 9th SATURDAYS June 22nd; July 27th Nothing in August**

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](mailto:winniecenacle@mail.com)



## DIARY DATES

### JUNE

#### 5 WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

[www.un.org/en/events/environmentday/](http://www.un.org/en/events/environmentday/)

**6 CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE MEDIA** Liverpool Friends of the Earth Gary Mahoney Memorial Debate: 7.30- 9.15 pm Adelphi Hotel, Ranelagh St/ Brownlow Hill, Liverpool, L3 5UL - page 11

**15 MEET CAFOD'S NEW DIRECTOR CHRISTINE ALLEN** and some of CAFOD's Trustees and Central Leadership Team, to explore together our mission looking to the future. St Catherine of Sienna Community Centre, School Lane, Didsbury, Manchester M20 6HS. Reserve your place here: [www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/national-volunteering-conferencemanchester-tickets-56481395374](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/national-volunteering-conferencemanchester-tickets-56481395374)

**11 QUIET DAY** 10am-4 pm at The Convent of Our Lady of the Cenacle – page 11

**15 SUSTAINABLE CHESTER SPRING FAIR** Grosvenor Park, Grosvenor Park Road. [www.chesterwdf.org.uk/](http://www.chesterwdf.org.uk/) Info: Helen Tandy, Chester & District FoE [Helenchesterfoe@hotmail.com](mailto:Helenchesterfoe@hotmail.com)

**15 'ON THE ROAD TOGETHER'** Shrewsbury — p 11

**22 QUIET DAY** 10am-4 pm at The Convent of Our Lady of the Cenacle - page 11

**23 WIRRAL COASTAL WALK** to raise funds for CAFOD's Syria and Yemen appeals - page 7

**26 'THE TIME IS NOW'** Climate Change Lobby p 2

**29 FAITH INTO ACTION** Sabeel-Kairos conference Carrs Lane, Birmingham B4 7SX - page 9

**29 'SAVE THE EARTH, ABOLISH WAR'** MAW conference 9.30— 5 pm Hamilton House, Mabledon Place, London WC1H 9BD. To book see page 11

### JULY

**4 THE ANVIL** An Elegy for Peterloo - page 6

**6 APOCALYPSE NOW? CLIMATE CHANGE : WHAT WE MUST DO** The Liverpool J & P Commission's Annual Assembly at LACE, Croxteth Drive, Liverpool, L17 1AA. 10am until 4pm. - page 2

**9 QUIET DAY** 10am-4 pm at The Convent of Our Lady of the Cenacle – page 11

**9 'CLIMATE CHANGE APATHY?'** CWDF Forum 6.45– 9pm The Unity Centre, Cuppin Street, Chester, CH1 2BN - page 11

**14 SEA SUNDAY** more information and resources [www.apostleshipofthesea.org.uk/about-sea-sunday](http://www.apostleshipofthesea.org.uk/about-sea-sunday) For non-Catholic support see Sailors Society: [www.seasundayhero.org/](http://www.seasundayhero.org/)

**20 WORLD REFUGEE DAY** [www.unhcr.org](http://www.unhcr.org)

**27 QUIET DAY** 10am-4 pm at The Convent of Our Lady of the Cenacle – page 11

**26-28 NJPN CONFERENCE** 'Forgotten People, Forgotten Places: Being Church At The Margins' - page 3

### AUGUST

**6 & 9 HIROSHIMA & NAGASAKI** Anniversaries of first use of atomic weapons. More information and prayer resources from Pax Christi: [www.paxchristi.org.uk](http://www.paxchristi.org.uk) or 020 8203 4884

**8 THE SONG OF PETERLOO, A PERFORMANCE** Manchester Central Library St Peter's Square 5-7pm - page 6

### SEPTEMBER

**1 DAY OF PRAYER FOR CARE OF CREATION** - p 3

**1 Sept – 4 Oct SEASON OF CREATION** - page 3

**14 'ON THE ROAD TOGETHER'** South Manchester - page 11

#### Liverpool

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#### Liverpool Chair:

Justine Silcock  
Terry Phillips

**Copy date for next issue 1/8/2019.**

*Please send in reports of events and dates for the diary*

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Edited and typeset by  
Marian Thompson  
Printed and distributed  
at LACE Liverpool

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.