



CREATION SEASON

Think Global, Act Local

in your Parish this September



Walk the extra mile for Climate this September and mark World Day of Prayer for Creation and Creation Season. Justice & Peace invites you to organise locally: walks, rides, picnics, blackberry picking, games, treasure hunts, quizzes, hold an outdoor service (weather permitting) to celebrate creation and harvest time. Send us your ideas and photos. Remember to use the Laudato Si! Quotes in your regular newsletters (see our website for full list: <https://westminsterjp.files.wordpress.com/2014/11/lasi-quotes.pdf>)

From the Chair's Diary

Fr Joe writes: Looking back over my diary, I've attended a good number of events. While the reports on each item will be brief, my main task was to show solidarity to all concerned and try to walk with people on their journey.

THE INTERNATIONAL CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS DAY took place at Tavistock Square, Euston on 15th May. Vietnam War resistor, Nick Jeffrey and Sir Mark Rylance addressed the large gathering on the topic of Conscientious Objections. We prayed for all those who took their stance in so many parts of the world and laid a rose in their memory.

THE MIGRANTS' MASS on 20th May at St Antony's Forest Gate went well. Bishop Alan Williams of Brentwood presided at the Mass and very significant lay participation took place. It was good to include the Diocese of Brentwood in the round of Migrant's Masses.

ARCHBISHOP OSCAR ROMERO: The Rise Theatre presented a play at Notre Dame, Leicester Square: "Romero Heartbeat of El Salvador". A special Mass on 24th March at St George's Cathedral presided by Bishop Pat Lynch to honour Archbishop Romero, followed by the Annual Service marking the day of his assassination in 1980 at St Martins-in-the-Fields. On Saturday 1st July we saw the showing of "The Claim" at the Curzon, Leicester Square telling of the life, struggles and death of Oscar Romero. Details of its public release are not yet known.

YOUTH WITNESS: St John Vianney Parish Mission 10th -18th June was a great success focused on the role of young people. Thanks to Julia Corcoran, J&P Youth Worker, who gave a powerful

witness as to her involvement as a young person in the role of helping other young people realise the importance of their Christian witness today.

PAX CHRISTI AGM at Maria Fidelis, Euston was well attended. Reports were made on the many aspects of peoples' work over the last year.

LONDON CATHOLIC WORKER: It was good to celebrate Fr Martin Newell's birthday and to celebrate the work of the London Catholic Worker. The monthly vigil outside the Home Office was an opportunity to show solidarity with refugees...[Continued on Page 2]

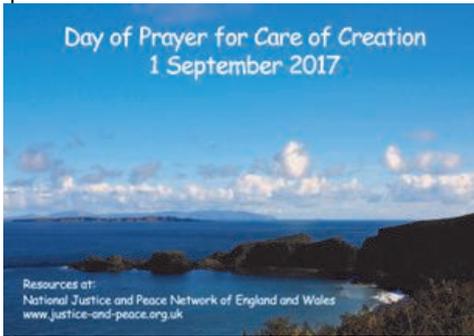


Preparing for Prayer & Action on Creation Care by Ellen Teague

Resources are now available for The Day of Prayer for Care of

Creation (1 September 2017) and Creation Time, which runs to the Feast of St Francis (1 September 2017 – 4 October 2017). They include sample prayer services, posters and video material. During this time Christians will be lifting up the “cry of the earth and the cry of the poor” (Laudato Si’ 49). From the Amazon to the Philippines and countless places in between, there will be services and events to showcase how Christians are coming together to pray for and care for creation. The Columban JPIC team has pulled together resources which can be downloaded at:

www.columbans.co.uk/creation-time/



From the Chair's Diary [cont]

LONDON CATHOLIC WORKER: We look forward to the visit of Bishop John Sherrington to Mattison Road on Thursday 13th July: a further opportunity to show solidarity to all involved.

GRENFELL TOWER: I took the opportunity to visit the location and show support to the Parish Community at St Francis of Assisi, Pottery Lane. Fr Gerard Skinner gave an account of their work and support to the victims and families involved in the Tower disaster. Our own parish of St John Vianney donated over £1,400 to help those involved and many other Parishes have sent donations in support.

THE EID FESTIVAL at Trafalgar Square on Sunday 2nd July was a sharing of songs and music marking the two week series of events in the city following the celebration of Ramadan.

GALILEE QUARTET: St James Piccadilly hosted the Galilee Quartet and singer, Maya Khaldi; it was a most delightful evening of music from a very talented family working for peace in their native Palestine. The staffs of St James' are to be congratulated on their work for Peace in the Holy Land.

SONGS OF PRAISE: We sang our hearts out at Southwark Cathedral on Monday evening, 3rd July 2017. This Songs of Praise is dedicated to the victims of violence here in London, the Manchester tragedy, the Grenfell Tower disaster and all victims of violence. (It will be on TV on Sunday 30th July). It was fitting to spend the evening in prayer and singing just yards from Borough Market and London Bridge, the scene of yet another tragedy.

PROGRESSIO 'REQUIEM' AFTER 75 YEARS: Progressio Chair Martin McEnery asked if I would join Cardinal Cormac in the Mass on 6th July at St George's Cathedral. Sadly Progressio has had to close due to lack of funding. Its work (it was previously known as CIIR (Catholic Institute of International Relations) has been so vital over so many years. Tributes were paid to the many who dedicated themselves to the work during those years. It was a joyful and yet sad celebration.

Worldwide Churches Welcome Banning Nuclear Weapons Treaty

Nuclear weapons have always been seen as deeply immoral. Now, after years of work, 122 governments out of 192 have adopted a treaty that makes them completely illegal. The 7 July decision at the United Nations bans the manufacture, possession and use of nuclear weapons and provides pathways for their eventual elimination. World Council of Churches' members are among the many groups and governments working towards this new international law for the past six years and more. On 6 July, European and US Catholic Bishops issued a joint statement in full support of the treaty, calling for the total elimination of nuclear weapons.

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Protests at Sainsbury's AGM in support of FairTrade

by Anne Lamont

OXFAM, CAFOD and members of the Justice and Peace Commission took part in an eye-catching stunt to protest at Sainsbury's very recent abandoning of the ethical Fairtrade label in favour of its own 'Fairly Traded' products. The action took place in central London at Sainsbury's AGM at the Queen Elizabeth Centre and delegates and shareholders were treated to the vision of protesters dressed as teabags requesting that they raise objections at this hastily orchestrated move on the part of Sainsbury's senior executive body. The new 'Fairly Traded' products which have astonishingly appeared on Sainsbury's shelves just one month after they announced this move, suggesting the decision is one that has been planned for some time. Sainsbury's have ignored appeals from African farmers to reconsider this move which they consider will diminish their power and control over their products and place them at a disadvantage.



STOPPRESS: Newman House University Chaplaincy became the 100th Fairtrade parish in the diocese! (And

CHARITY MANAGER, Advertisement

Salary c £20,000 depending on experience, Location London and SE, Hours P/T, 15-20 hours

The Trustees of the Congregation of Our Lady, Canonesses of St Augustine CIO, are looking for an experienced and sympathetic person to take over the management of the essential operations of the Charity. For further information please contact: Sr Gabriel Robin CSA, More House, 53 Cromwell Road, SW7 2EH, Tel: 020 7225 1088

A Service of Hope at Finsbury Park Mosque

by Barbara Kentish

I attended a packed service 2 weeks after the attack on Muslim Welfare House, along with chiefs of

police, Sophie Linden, deputy Mayor of London, Jeremy Corbyn MP, Leader of the Opposition, the Chair of the Muslim Council of Great Britain and others. Chairman Mohammed Kozbar, with whom we had worked in previous years, spoke during the service of continuing attacks on mosques throughout the country, including acid attacks. They need all our support. For moving speeches and testimonies, see the Finsbury Park Mosque website. Mohammed writes, *Dear Barbara,*

Thank you for attending yesterday's A Service of Hope at the Finsbury Park Mosque, to remember the victims of the terrorist attack on 19 June 2017 near the Finsbury Park Mosque and Muslim Welfare House.

We very much value your concern and solidarity you have shown over the past few days. We hope and pray for a better future where communities can live in peace and harmony. A press release and pictures from yesterday's event are available from our website: www.finsburyparkmosque.org Thank you, Mohammed



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Welcome to our New Youth Worker Julia Corcoran, who also works with The Columbans on Climate Issues. She will describe her work in our next Autumn Newsletter.

A Long-term Supporter of Justice & Peace says Goodbye

Sister Eileen McGrath, a stalwart supporter of Justice and Peace for many years wrote last week, 'I'm returning to Dublin on the 24th July and will remember you in my prayer. Keep up the good work, All the best. Eileen' This little farewell marks Sr Eileen's presence: always quiet, but unfailingly supporting of events, study and reflection days. Sr Eileen did chaplaincy work at St Thomas More School in Haringey, worked for Pax Christi in Lourdes, and many varied acts of witness. We will miss her support and wish her well in Dublin.

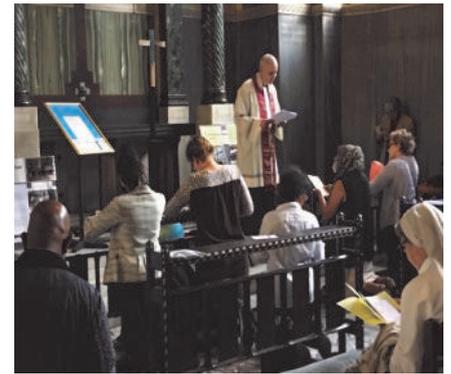
Calais Update & Appeal from Maria Skobtsova House by Brother Johannes Maertens

The house offers emergency hospitality to young and vulnerable refugees in the Calais area and Justice and Peace have visited several times in the past (Ed). 'Next to accommodation we offer also on almost a daily base to young and vulnerable refugees a shower, a meal, tea, do their laundry and we offer them to spend some time in a house. Through the offer of this basic help we can accompany more than 10 unaccompanied minors under 16 and many other young refugees. As we are serving more people than ever before we are using more of our resources than planned.

Donations and gifts are welcome We can use: **For Personal use:** Shower gel, shampoo, toothbrushes, body cream or oil (like Vaseline, Nivea), Socks 36-43 Boxer shorts S/M (No Large please), Sport shoes 39-40-41, Pocket nail cutter (Also helpful: Power bank mobiles). **Clothes for young men are welcome, BUT PLEASE FOR NOW ONLY small size T-shirts and jeans! WE HAVE ENOUGH TOWELS AND TOOTHPASTE thank you!** **For the house:** Disinfectant, All-purpose cleaner, Anti-scalant, Toilet cleaner, Washing powder or liquid (mostly color wash, Laundry Stain remover, Softener, Calgon, Washing-up liquid, Tablets and liquid for the dishwasher, Toilet paper. **Food:** Ground Coffee and lots of MILK - the youngest ones really drink a lot of it. (J&P advise: Buy it at French supermarkets if you visit, or send money, as suggested below) **Financial support is welcome!** Association Maria Skobtsova. Here are the bank details: IBAN: FR7615629026250002172700193 BIC: CMCIFR2A Bank: CCM Calais, 85 rue Mollien, 62100 Calais, France. Or see our Justgiving link.
<https://www.justgiving.com/campaigns/charity/rcdiocese-westminster/helpacalaisminor>

Lampedusa Cross Prayer at Westminster Cathedral in Refugee Week

Justice and Peace organised an evening of prayer for refugees, peace and victims of violence in front of the Lampedusa Cross in Westminster Cathedral on Friday 23rd June towards the end of Refugee Week. The Cross is situated permanently in the St Andrew's side chapel, and is made of wood from the wrecks of boats carrying refugees across the Mediterranean. Fr John Scott, chaplain of the Cathedral, led the liturgy, attended by over 70 people. Refugees from war, persecution and climate change were remembered, but also those who had suffered from the violent terrorist attacks in the UK. The congregation was invited to write messages of hope for asylum seekers to be sent through CAFOD to refugee camps in Eastern and Southern Europe.



Olallo House The prayers were followed by a talk and discussion with the Brothers of St John of God who run Olallo House. This is above all a safe house in Central London, offering safety and hospitality to people without recourse to public funds including asylum seekers and trafficked people.



St John Fisher parish Shepperton celebrated its patronal feast with a Justice and Peace flavour. See our website for photos and next issue for more details. J&P has also taken off in Hemel!

Annual Study Day: Human Rights and Justice and Peace work – how might Brexit affect them?

Our Justice and Peace Annual Day is on **Saturday 28th October**, here at the St John Vianney Centre, on Human Rights and our Church. Julie Ward, MEP will be a keynote speaker and Lord David Alton is invited. There will be several workshops led by different groups concerned with aspects of Human Rights. **Save the Day!**

National Conference:

Coming up at the Hayes Conference Centre in Swanwick (Derbyshire) from Friday 21 July until Sunday 23 July, the speakers confirmed include **Dr Ruth Valerio**; Global Advocacy and Influencing Director for Tearfund, **Fr Peter Hughes** SSC and **Kathy Galloway** ordained minister of the Church of Scotland and head of Christian Aid Scotland. For further information and booking details: www.justice-and-peace.org.uk