



Dear Friends,

This week, 14th - 20th June, is Refugee Week. Our Action of the Week and lead articles are all about refugees.

Pope Francis, back in May 2013, wrote the following:-

'I would like to ask you all to see a ray of hope as well in the eyes and hearts of refugees and of those who have been forcibly displaced. A hope that is expressed in expectations for the future, in the desire for friendship, in the wish to participate in the host society, also through learning the language, access to employment and the education of children. I admire the courage of those who hope to be able gradually to resume a normal life, waiting for joy and love to return to brighten their existence. We can and must all nourish this hope!'

Please get involved this week if you can.

Other articles include comments on the G7 Summit, which will have taken place in Cornwall by the time you receive this e-bulletin.

We are continuing to take bookings for our Annual Conference, which takes place the 23rd - 25th July at the Hayes Conference Centre in Swanwick, Derbyshire. All the details and a booking form are available through our [website here](#). Everyone is welcome and we are particularly keen on encouraging young people to attend. It is a first for me, and I am taking the family! If we can just sow some seeds in the younger generation about caring for our planet and people, the future of the world would look a lot more hopeful.

The next e-bulletin will be out around the 27th June. If you have any articles you want included, please send them to ebulletin@justice-and-peace.org.uk

God bless you and your loved ones,

Sharon (Editor)

See below for: -

[Note on Data Protection](#)

[About these E-Bulletins](#)

[Donate to NJPN](#)

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E-Bulletin Contents: -

***** ACTION OF THE WEEK *****

News and Comment

1. Refugees/Migrants
2. G7 News
3. NJPN column in the Universe
4. Supporting the Homeless
5. Covid-19
6. Addressing Global Hunger
7. Palestine/Israel
8. Stephen Atherton, MBE

Newsletters

9. NW NJPN mid-June 2021
10. Ecumenical Council for Corporate Responsibility

Events (*****This Week*****)

11. *****14th June***** - Make COP count

12. *****16th June***** - World Refill Day
13. *****16th June***** - A Jewish Jesus: Art and Faith in the Shadow of World War II
14. *****16th June***** - How will the Earth get to Net Carbon Zero?
15. *****17th June***** - Refugee Lens Investing
16. *****17th June***** - Refugee Week Family Event
17. *****17th June***** - Sufficiency: Living with Limitation
18. *****20th June***** - Being a Refugee Re-Builder
19. 23rd June - Introduction to Challenge Poverty Week
20. 24th June - Launch of 'Plenty'
21. 24th - 25th June - Life on the Breadline
End of Project Conference
22. 12th July - Nuclear Weapons: No Thanks.
23. 23rd - 25th July - NJPN Conference
24. 28th July - 70 Years of the UN Refugee Convention
25. 2nd October - Christian CND AGM
26. 11th-17th October - Challenge Poverty Week
27. Church Action on Poverty Podcast

Actions/Appeals/Surveys/E-Petitions

28. Take Action for a People's Vaccine
29. Stop the Aids cuts

The Last Word

30. Walk the Walk

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Note on Data Protection

About these E-Bulletins

Donate to NJPN

ACTION OF THE WEEK



One of the most simple acts for Refugee week 2021 that we can do is walk together.

Along with the Jo Cox Foundation, the organisers of Refugee Week are inviting you to take part in the Great Walk Together – to celebrate Refugee Week and the Great Get Together 2021.

This UK-wide walk brings people together to celebrate the Great Get Together's #MoreInCommon message, and simultaneously take part in Refugee Week and its theme, 'We Cannot Walk Alone', by inviting you to extend your hand to someone new.

For more information, and to download The Great Walk Together Toolkit, go to the

[Refugee Week website.](#)

News and Comments

1. Refugees/Migrants (includes **Actions** and **Events**)

As mentioned, as this coming week is Refugee Week, the below articles are all about refugees and the work going on with/for them.

An alternative to the Government's New Plan for Immigration

The Boaz Trust, along with the Together for Refugees coalition, have come up with the some broad-based proposals as an alternative. Details can be found through the [Boaz Trust website.](#)

"We Cannot Walk Alone" - Ecumenical Service to mark Refugee Week

Flintshire City of Sanctuary (FCOS) together with Cytun Mold (Churches Together) invites you to join into an ecumenical service to mark Refugee Week 2021: the ecumenical service at St.

David's Church in Mold will take place on Sunday, 20 June, 4pm. Followed by refreshments outdoors All Covid restrictions will be observed. The service will also be televised and recorded <https://www.churchservices.tv/mold>.

For more information please contact: Katja.Jewell@FlintshireCoS.org)

As part of the service, we invite you to share a story, remembering people with lived refugee experience as part of the prayer for the people.

At the centre of the service will be a Lampedusa cross, made by a carpenter in Lampedusa, Italy. The Lampedusa crosses were made by carpenter Francesco Tuccio in the aftermath of a boat tragedy in October 2013 when a wooden boat carrying 466 people from Somalia and Eritrea caught fire and sank near the island, drowning 311.

Also, FCOS have created a series of short films to capture the journey for sanctuary seekers and people in Wales and Flintshire since 2015 made by and with trustees, volunteers, supporters and people with lived experience. They take the viewer on a journey of understanding and provide a sense of direction for us all to walk together into the future, as community and individuals. You can find them through [YouTube here](#).

Parishes Transforming Lives

The government has just announced a long-term future for Community Sponsorship of refugees – a national scheme co-designed and piloted by Catholic parishes.

All are invited to join a national Catholic celebration of the scheme via Zoom on **14th June at 6pm** co-hosted by Caritas Social Action (CSAN) and Reset.

CSAN is the official agency for Catholic social action in England and Wales. Reset is the scheme's national training provider. Find out how you can get involved and hear from refugees and parishes about its transformative impact.

To register visit: www.communitysponsorship.org.uk/events

JRS demands closure of Napier Barracks

Independent Catholic News writes: - 'The Jesuit Refugee Service UK has renewed their call for the immediate closure of Napier barracks in Kent, as the High Court today ruled the use of the site unlawful. JRS UK has found that victims of torture and trafficking are routinely transferred to Napier and that people in Napier tend to suffer rapid and serious deterioration in mental health. Furthermore, the site continues not to be COVID-19 secure.'

For the full story, go to the [ICN website](#). There is also a piece on the same ruling to be found on the [BBC](#).

JRS UK looking for volunteer hosts in London

This summer, JRS UK is facing a shortage of volunteer hosts, as many hosting placements come to an end. At the same time, many more refugee friends will be at risk of street homelessness once again, as local authority accommodation introduced during COVID-19 draws to a close. To find out more information about hosting, and what it is like to host a refugee, [click here](#).

Refugee Week Activities Showcase

On Wednesday 16th June, 6.30pm - 7.30pm, The JRS Open Writing Space Group will be performing some of their pieces of poetry and creative writing, as well as sharing the influences and stories behind them. There will be a chance for you to join in some interactive activities which are similar to those used by the group to share ideas and have fun in their sessions, all of which have been taking place on Zoom during the pandemic. [Register here.](#)

Kent Council refuses to accept more unaccompanied child migrants

This week, Kent County Council announced that it can no longer accept unaccompanied child migrants as their services are at breaking point for the second time in a year. According to The Guardian, from Monday 14th June they will no longer be able to meet their statutory duty to safely care for the children they support and can therefore accept no further new UASC arrivals until sufficient transfers have been made outside of Kent bringing numbers back to safe levels. Basically, what they need is for the Home Office to force other Local Authorities to take their fair share of Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children (UASC). More details are available to read through [The Guardian.](#)

2. G7 News (includes an Event)

It has been hard to ignore the lead-up to the G7 this week. I have put together a selection of articles that have been published over the last couple of days.

Interfaith Gathering at Truro Cathedral

As mentioned in our previous e-bulletin, an Interfaith Event, organised by CAFOD, took place in Truro Cathedral on the 10th June. Bishop Mark O'Toole addressed the gathering and began by welcoming the G7 leaders to "our beautiful part of the world." You can read his full address and details of the gathering through [ICN.](#)

Also, if you missed the Event, it is available to watch on [YouTube.](#)

Bishops' Letter to Prime Minister ahead of G7 Summit

On Wednesday, ahead of the G7 Summit, bishops representing the Catholic communities of England, Wales and Scotland wrote to Boris Johnson to stress that we must work together to ensure a just and sustainable future for our global community.

They stressed the urgency of the global ecological crisis, and emphasised that the social, economic, and environmental crises we face are inextricably linked. More details and a PDF of the letter are available through the [CBCEW website.](#)

Sharing the Wave of Hope

As mentioned in the last e-bulletin, Fairtrade are asking us to get involved with their Wave of

Hope. Please go to their [website](#) for more details, and share the image below to Twitter, Facebook or WhatsApp through their links.



CAFOD urges UK to not squander opportunity for global, green, fair recovery plan

Christine Allen, Director of CAFOD, gives an interview to ICN about the fact that this could be a year of opportunity if decisive action is taken on the current crises - Covid-19 and the economic fallout from it, and the climate crisis. The full article is available [here](#).

Cancel African Nations' Debts

Caritas Internationalis has urged the G7 group of nations to consider cancelling the debts owed to them by struggling African countries. Details of their statement and how debt is crippling some of the nations are available through [aciafrica](#).

Take a Stand

It is brilliant to watch these young Cornish Christians addressing the World Leaders through [YouTube](#). They have also created an [Open Letter](#) which they are encouraging young people to sign, asking world leaders to choose people and planet over profits, by limiting a rise in global temperatures to 1.5°C.

More about the Group and what they are doing is available to read through [ICN](#).

3. NJPN column in the Universe

**4th June - Aisling Griffin - Education Worker for Pax Christi
'Understanding Conflict through Peace Education'**

The article reflects on the conflicts such as that in Palestine/Israel, and the fact that not many people feel equipped enough to teach it in schools. It talks about the need for more education on conflict, but also the things that make for peace. Read it [here](#).

11th June - Rob Esdaile - Fr Rob Esdaile, Parish Priest of Our Lady of Lourdes, Thames Ditton 'Build Back Different'

A column about the G7, and the phrase 'Build Back Better' and what that should actually mean for the world. You can find it on the NJPN website [here](#).

With grateful thanks to our friends at the Catholic Universe/Times for their support of the NJPN over the years, in particular to Nick Benson and Rob Beswick.

Sadly, an announcement was made on Friday that they have had to cease trading with immediate effect. Yet another casualty of the pandemic, despite their best efforts to keep their Catholic readers in touch with what was going on. Our thoughts go out to them all.

Our NJPN weekly Column will continue, but as a Blog through Independent Catholic News. Our thanks go out to Jo Siedlecka for making this possible. Please check out the [ICN website](#).

4. Supporting the Homeless

Jon Kuhrt through Grace + Truth has written a blog entitled 'A day in the life of one church's response to homelessness. He talks about the vital role churches and faith groups have played in the 'Everyone In' policy adopted at the start of the pandemic. Over 40,000 homeless people went into emergency accommodation in hotels and B & B's. He then goes onto talk about how important it is that the same groups come up with an effective way of addressing and preventing rough sleeping. It is a good article in which he ends with five points as to the best direction that churches and faith groups can go to help homelessness. Read it through [Grace + Truth](#).

5. Covid-19

Peru: Coronavirus update from Columban Missionary in Lima

Fr Ed' O'Connell SSC is a Columban Father, born in Somerset and educated by the Salesians in Battersea. He has been working as a missionary priest in Lima, Peru, for 38 years. He has written a piece for [ICN](#) about the situation in regards to the Coronavirus in Peru. I am sure that, like myself, not many people would know that Peru has the highest rate of mortality from the pandemic in the world. Their Government announced that the number of deaths in Peru from coronavirus up to the 22 May was 180,764 out of a population of 32,625,948.

Fr Ed talks about the work that the Columbans have been doing out there to help, and thanks all of the families across Ireland, England, United States, Australia and New Zealand who have

helped these families in Peru in their "solidarity between families" programme. Please click on the ICN link above to read the story in full.

UN: Covid-19 pushes 100 million more workers into poverty

According to a UN labour agency report released this week, the disruptions caused by the Covid-19 pandemic have forced over 100 million more workers into poverty worldwide. "Five years of progress towards the eradication of working poverty have been undone, as working poverty rates have now reverted to those of 2015," the report said.

Vatican News gives further details [here](#).

There is also a similar article, but this time concerning India, and the millions that have been pushed into poverty by the pandemic. Go to the Mill Hill missionaries website [here](#).

6. Addressing Global Hunger

The Vatican holds its third webinar ahead of the UN Food Systems Summit, and calls for world leaders to recognize and address the negative effects which conflict has on food insecurity. Cardinal Turkson stated that solutions to the food crisis must address the multitude of factors which lead to food insecurity, and create a global food system which is robust and sustainable. *"Indeed, the peace of the world depends on how we deal with hunger in the world,"* he said. The full article can be found on [Vatican News](#).

7. Palestine/Israel

Academics worldwide urge end to Israeli apartheid

ICN reports that more than 300 academic departments, programmes, centres, unions, and societies around the world have endorsed statements in support of Palestinian rights in response to Israel's violent attacks on Palestinians last month. The statements express solidarity with the Palestinian liberation struggle and condemn Israel's military assault on besieged Gaza, which killed more than 247 Palestinians, including 66 children, and violent attacks against Palestinians across the occupied West Bank, in particular in Sheikh Jarrah, and within present-day Israel. The full article is available to read [here](#).

This is Palestine Revisited

Five years ago, John McColgan went to Palestine and Israel with Trócaire and with his brother Gerry he produced and presented a documentary called 'This is Palestine'.

On 26th May 2021 a motion was passed in Dáil Éireann, the Irish parliament, condemning the 'de facto' annexation of Palestinian land by Israel. The motion was passed unanimously. The vote was historic as it is the first time that an EU member state has spoken out so decisively and so clearly about the situation.

The documentary has been viewed online more than a million times and gave an insight into

the devastation and the horrors of the bombing at the time which John saw first-hand. In the aftermath of the latest round of horrific violence in Gaza which saw hundreds of people killed, the majority of them women and children, John and Gerry created an update to their documentary called 'This is Palestine – Revisited'. It is available to watch through [Trocaire](#).

8. Stephen Atherton, MBE

Congratulations to Stephen Atherton, who has been awarded an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours. The citation read '*Stephen Atherton. Lately Field Worker, Justice and Peace Commission. For services to the community in Liverpool. (Wigan, Greater Manchester)*'

NEWSLETTERS

9. NW NJPN E-Bulletin mid-June 2021

Anne O'Connor writes - '*An extra edition of the NW NJPN E Bulletin for mid-June features a wide range of resources for Refugee Week 14-20 June including a series of audio dramas from Counterpoint Arts by contemporary Kosovan and Balkan writers, available on Zoom plus news of a photographic series to echo this year's theme 'We cannot walk alone.'* Other news articles look at the horrific discovery of a mass grave at a residential school for indigenous children in Canada; German Cardinal Marx's resignation regarding the Church's 'systemic failure' on abuse; reports from JRS, CAFOD and Life on the Breadline. Joan Baez is honoured by the Kennedy Centre for performing Arts for her humanitarian and peace work over a long career. There are obituaries of Sr Isabel Kelly, campaigner against human trafficking, and broadcaster Peter France. Faiths4Change are offering fully funded places on an accredited course in Liverpool to explore climate change and carbon footprints and Green Christian announce a VI Form module based on *Laudato Si'*. Book reviews and diary dates complete a packed bulletin.'

You can read it through the NJPN website [here](#).

10. ECCR Newsletter May 2021

[Click here](#) for the May 2021 Newsletter, which is packed full of resources, ideas and activities to help you explore how money can be used to create a fairer, greener world.

EVENTS (in chronological order where applicable)

11. Monday 14th June 4pm - 5pm

[Make COP count](#)

12. Wednesday 16th June

World Refill Day

13. Wednesday 16th June 9.30am - 5.30pm

A Jewish Jesus: Art and Faith in the Shadow of World War II

14. Wednesday 16th June 7pm - Green Christian

How will the Earth get to net carbon zero?

15. Thursday 17th June 4pm - 5pm

Refugee Lens Investing

16. Thursday 17th June 4.30pm - 5.15pm - Refugee Week

Family Event: Michael Rosen and Sita Brahmachari

17. Thursday 17th June 8pm - Journey to 2030

Sufficiency - Living with Limitation:

Fr. Rob Esdaile, Parish Priest of Our Lady of Lourdes, Thames Ditton, will give a talk on Zoom on the tensions inherent in our consumer society and how the Gospel might affect our hopes and choices. To register (and receive the link to watch (and join in with discussion) email: office@olchurch.org.uk

18. Sunday 20th June 1.30pm - 3.30pm - Initiatives of Change

Being a Refugee Re-Builder

19. 23rd June, 6pm; 30th June 2pm

Introduction to Challenge Poverty Week: how to get involved

20. Thursday 24th June - 7pm

Launch of 'Plenty'

21. 24th - 25th June 10am - 4.15pm

[Life on the Breadline: End of Project Conference](#)

22. 12th July 10am - 4.15pm - Christian CND

[Nuclear Weapons: No Thanks: Christian CND's 60th Anniversary](#)

[23. 23rd - 25th July NJPN Conference](#)

24. 28th July - 7pm - Central England Quaker Peace Committee

70 years of the UN Refugee Convention - the UK's dereliction of duty

Contact Barbara by email if you are interested in attending this Zoom

meeting: - forbesbarbarae@yahoo.co.uk

25. 2nd October - Christian CND AGM

26. 11th - 17th October Challenge Poverty Week

27. Church Action on Poverty Podcast

[Podcast to End Poverty](#)

ACTIONS/APPEALS/SURVEYS/E-PETITIONS

28. Take Action for a People's Vaccine

At current rates of vaccination, the G7 countries will vaccinate their populations by 8 January 2022. It will take low-income countries 57 years to vaccinate theirs.

Using all capacity for vaccine production globally could make a huge difference. But the UK government is one of the handful of rich countries blocking a proposal at the World Trade

Organization to remove production monopolies from big pharma.

We need urgent action to put pressure on them. This summer, as many of us in the UK celebrate getting our jabs, we are demanding vaccines for all.

[Take action with Global Justice Now.](#)

29. Stop the Aids cuts

Disappointingly, there was no vote in parliament on the government's aid cuts this week. It does look like there is significant opposition to the cuts though.

On 7th June, Sir Lindsay Hoyle (Speaker of the House of Commons) judged that the amendment tabled by former development secretary Andrew Mitchell MP was not within the scope of the Advanced Research and Invention Agency Bill, and should therefore not be debated.

If approved, this amendment could have forced the government to return the aid budget to 0.7% of national income in 2022. With no vote yet offered by the government to MPs, those opposing the aid cuts felt this was a technical way of at least preventing further cuts next year. For more information as to how you can get involved, and download a printable leaflet, go to [Global Justice Now.](#)

The Last Word

30. Walk the Walk

Giant footprints on Cornwall beach urge G7 leaders to 'walk the walk' when it comes to the environment

A pair of giant footprints has appeared on the beach opposite this week's G7 summit in Cornwall, urging world leaders in attendance to 'walk the walk' when it comes to sustainability.

With climate change top of the summit's 'build back better' agenda, the footprints serve as a reminder for the seven nations to lead by example and commit to cutting carbon emissions now, rather than in the future.

Created by sustainable footwear brand Allbirds, the Gwithian Bay footprints represent carbon emissions per person in the G7 compared with the global average.

The difference is startling: the average person globally emits 4.7 tonnes of CO2 each year, whereas people living in G7 nations average 9.2 tonnes – almost twice as much.

Cornish sand artist One Man and His Rake created the installation; it is the latest carbon-

focused initiative from Allbirds, which operates in each G7 nation.

To read more about the Footprints, Carbon Emissions, and Allbirds philosophy, go to [My Green Pod](#)

(with grateful thanks to Katie Hill of My Green Pod for allowing us to reproduce her article)



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Catholic Communications Network

Find news stories at www.catholicnews.org.uk

Latest Zenit Headlines [here](#)

Vatican News homepage: www.vaticannews.va

World Council of Churches

<https://www.oikoumene.org/en/>

UK Parliament News

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/news/>

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make a bacs payment to our account: Sort code 16-31-15 account 10089516 reference Donation with your surname or our CAF donate page: <https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/8130#!/DonationDetails>

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