



Justice and Peace

Autumn 2021

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Editorial : How to build back better with special emphasis on the marginalised and poor? How to awaken people to the seriousness of the climate emergency? How to lobby the government about COP 26? These were things on my mind as I started to prepare this Mouthpeace... then Afghanistan broke into the headline news with the distressing scenes and voices. The focus shifted. How to deal with the large numbers of people who are understandably desperate to leave? Who will cope with frightened refugees and asylum seekers? How safe will people, especially women and children, be living under the Taliban again? What can/should I be doing?

At times like these when the problems seem overwhelming, it is helpful to remember the words of St Oscar Romero " We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation in realising that. This enables us to do something, and to do it very well."

Because we can't do it all, it is good to be reminded how many people are praying and working for so many different causes. The Annual NJPN Conference at Swanwick with its variety of workshops and stalls does just that. This year it was particularly good to see people again, chat informally and enjoy time together in a way is not really possible on zoom.

While I was there, Maggie McSherry introduced me to Sue Gubric. Many of you will know Maggie who has been the Lancaster Diocesan Faith and Justice Commission worker for many years and is retiring in August. Sue is her replacement. From our conversation the idea arose that Lancaster Diocese could join with us at Mouthpeace. Sue appreciated this as she admitted she is on a sharp learning curve in this new job. I look forward to receiving information, news and articles from Lancaster Diocese in the future. The deadline for the Winter issue is mid November.

"Hope is bold; it can look beyond personal convenience, the petty securities and compensations which limit our horizons; and it can open us up to grand ideals that make life more beautiful and worthwhile "
Pope Francis 'Fratelli Tutti 55'

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The articles 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 Lancaster, Liverpool and Shrewsbury

www.lancasterfaithandjustice.co.uk

<https://jp.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/>

www.jp-shrewsburydiocese.org.uk

ARCHDIOCESE OF LIVERPOOL

SEPTEMBER 1ST PRAYER WALK TO START THE SEASON OF CREATION

12.45 Gather in the garden of the Metropolitan Cathedral 1.00 pm Prayers to mark the start of Season of Creation/ Creationtime
 1.10 Begin walk of witness along Hope St 1.45 Gather in garden at front of Liverpool Cathedral 1.50 Repeat prayers to mark the start of Creation Time /Season of Creation 2.00 pm End



'RESTORING OUR COMMON HOME' Material for the Season of Creation

Also the **MULTICOLOURED KINDNESS CHALLENGE**. There are four themes: **PRAYER, FORMATION, ACTION** and **ADVOCACY** (28 Challenges) You could choose one theme to focus on during this Season of Creation, choose a challenge from each theme or try to complete as many actions as possible!

Tell us about your successful challenges on j-p@rcaolp.co.uk

Links to both of these here <http://www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/seasonofcreation>



14 October 6 pm Reception of a Romero Relic into the Metropolitan Cathedral

"THE WORLD IN CRISIS: HEAR THE CRY OF THE POOR" was the theme of the Archdiocese of Liverpool Justice & Peace Commission Annual Assembly held on Saturday July 10th

The challenge in a post pandemic world is what the Gospel is asking Christians to do to address the inequalities in societies across the globe. Our two speakers offered insight and hope for a way forward so that on hearing the cry of the poor, we can take action. Dr Sr Gemma Simmonds CJ, The Margaret Beaufort Institute of Theology, Cambridge

Fr Dominic Curran, St Oscar Romero Parish, Seaforth & Waterloo

Hear them now <https://jp.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/2021/06/01/the-world-in-crisis-the-cry-of-the-poor/>

LANCASTER DIOCESE FAITH AND JUSTICE COMMISSION

Sue writes: Maggie McSherry will be retiring from her post of Faith & Justice Administrative Assistant after an incredible 18 years of service. Her compassion, drive and commitment to her role has been invaluable and she will be greatly missed. We wish her joy in the next stage of her journey and extend a massive thank you for all her hard work.

Sue Grubic has been appointed to a new role of Faith & Justice Worker and Coordinator with the primary aim of promoting Catholic Social Teaching throughout the institutions of the diocese including parishes, schools and chaplaincies.

Her email address is dfjsue@gmail.com should you wish to contact her.

Events in the diocese :

The Camino to COP - People's walk for the planet - This pilgrimage for climate justice will be in Cumbria from the 5th to the 10th October. Maybe you would like to join for a day, offer support or find out more at: <https://caminotocop.com/>

Boarbank Hall & the Ecological Conversion Group It's YOUR Parish and YOUR Planet... Come and get stuck in!... 3rd - 6th September 2021 on zoom. Building on an earlier very successful and lively series of shared experiences. If you missed out on these occasions please consider joining this zoom meeting. (and if unable to do this the next will be on 15th-18th October 2021). These sessions are open to anyone interested, it's not compulsory to be from Lancaster Diocese!

To apply, simply email Sr Margaret Atkins margaret@boarbankhall.org.uk

Also **Preparing for Harvest Fast Day** Zoom meetings for Lancaster CAFOD parish volunteers

Wednesday 1st September – 7pm to 8.30pm (Zoom link opens at 6.45pm)

Thursday 2nd September – 2pm to 3.30pm (Zoom link opens at 1.45pm)

Saturday 4th September – 10am to 11.30am (Zoom link opens at 9.45am)

Wednesday 8th September - 7pm to 8.30pm (Zoom link opens at 6.45pm)

Thursday 9th September - 7pm to 8.30pm (Zoom link opens at 6.45pm)

If you hope to attend one of these meetings please contact Patrick or Emma for a zoom link at: Email: lancaster@cafod.org.uk

There is much we can do to help, and we need you more than ever!



Fuller details of these events plus more very helpful information in the latest August newsletter – Maggie's last- which can be found on can <http://www.lancasterfaithandjustice.co.uk/>

“2021:A MOMENT OF TRUTH” was the theme of the N J P N Conference in July at the Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick

WHAT TO DO WHEN I GO HOME?

Marian Thompson writes: It was good to be back at the NJPN Conference meeting face to face ...even if we were partly covered with masks while indoors. We are used to this now. As usual there was a good range of challenging speakers.

You can listen to them on youtube at <https://www.justice-and-peace.org.uk/conference/> or read for yourself on <https://www.indcatholicnews.com/news/42702>

I was inspired by Bishop John Arnold’s homily at the Saturday Vigil Mass which, reflecting on the feeding of the five thousand, urged us like the disciples to share all that we had received at the weekend to feed others, not just sit in a holy huddle by ourselves and enjoy it. To help us with this sharing on Sunday morning Andy Atkins who is now CEO of A Rocha UK made some suggestions leading up to COP 26. He reminded us that however COP 26 turns out the world doesn’t stop – afterwards there is still much to do. All our action has its own value. If we don’t take action ourselves we have no credibility talking to politicians. If we do take action ourselves this adds value to our advocacy.

Andy urged us all when we returned home to:

1. **JOIN A CHURCH GREENING SCHEME.** Over 5,000 churches are already registered with one of these which can be : Live Simply (run by CAFOD for the Catholic Church in England and Wales), Eco Church (run by A Rocha for churches in England and Wales) and Eco Congregation (Scotland and Ireland). They work together to provide practical support for churches to deal with climate change, nature, pollution and resources. Has your church registered? If not start a conversation about doing this. If it has registered already work towards one of the awards.
2. **DIVEST IN FOSSIL FUELS.** Encourage your Diocese, church or community to take this step...this came up in both talks and questions during the conference. See more details below on pages 8 & 9
3. **ARRANGE A CLIMATE SUNDAY SERVICE** sometime before COP 26 . Details to help on <https://www.climatesunday.org/ClimateSunday> . Please register your service so Climate Sunday can inform the government just before COP 26 how many churches care about this. More on page 4

Apart from the individual actions we may take as a result of the weekend, how good it would be if all those there did something about the 3 above when they got home.

HOW SERIOUS IS THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY?

VERY according to the scientists who produced the **INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE – THE 6TH ASSESSMENT REPORT (9 August 2021)**. Based on 14, 000 studies and the work of more than 200 scientists this is the clearest and most comprehensive account of the science of climate change. Dr Tamsin Edwards from King's College London, one of the main authors of the report, points out that climate science has improved significantly since the previous IPCC report in 2013. **In that report, human influence on climate change was "clear" whereas in the new report it is "unequivocal."**

The report addresses the most up-to-date physical understanding of the climate system and climate change, bringing together the latest advances in climate science, and combining multiple lines of evidence from paleoclimate, observations, process understanding, and global and regional climate simulations. <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg1/>

LET’S RESPOND TO THE SERIOUSNESS OF CLIMATE CHANGE says Sean McDonagh SSC

<https://www.indcatholicnews.com/news/42830>

It is crucial that the world leaders act very positively when they meet in Glasgow in November for COP 26.

Have you signed the CAFOD Petition to the Prime Minister? If so can you urge others to do the same.

<https://cafod.org.uk/Campaign/Reclaim-our-common-home>

Join the online Faith in Action Day on 11th September (11am -4pm) for talk and prayer to learn more

about this year’s climate talks, Pope Francis’s call to action and how people in the Amazon region are leading the fight to care for our common home. Register on <https://cafod.org.uk/News/Events/Faith-in-Action-Day-2021>



SEASON OF CREATION (CREATION TIME) SEPTEMBER 1 – OCTOBER 4

Each year the Christian family unites for this worldwide celebration of prayer and action to protect the earth, our common home. As followers of Christ from around the globe, we share a common role as caretakers of God’s creation. This year, the theme for the season is **A home for all? Renewing the Oikos of God.**

In Genesis God set a dome over the Earth. The word “dome” is where we get words such as ‘domicile’ and ‘domestic’. In other words, God puts us all — all people, all life — under the same domed roof. We are all in the house, the “oikos” of God. God gave humans the ministry to take care and cultivate this oikos of God. The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther

Continued....

King, Jr. and others have called the oikos of God "the Beloved Community," a community in which all of life are equally members, though each has a different role. The oikos is a home for all but it is now in danger because of greed, exploitation, disrespect, disconnection and systematic degradation.

The whole creation is still crying out. <https://ctbi.org.uk/season-of-creation-creation-time-2021/>
<https://seasonofcreation.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/2021-SOC-Full-Guide.pdf>

SEPTEMBER 1ST The season starts with the **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE CARE OF CREATION** when Pope Francis encourages us to pray for our common home. A prayer for our earth (*Laudato Si'* page 179) for use throughout the season

*All-powerful God,
you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures.
You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.
Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty.
Fill us with peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one.
O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes.
Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it,
that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.
Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain at the expense of the poor and the earth.
Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation,
to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey towards your infinite light.
We thank you for being with us each day.
Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle for justice, love and peace. Amen*

More prayer resources from CAFOD <https://cafod.org.uk/Pray/Prayer-resources/Prayer-for-our-world>



CLIMATE SUNDAY is a new initiative from Churches Together in Britain & Ireland inviting churches of all traditions to hold a climate-focused service on any Sunday before COP26 starts on October 31.

<https://www.climatesunday.org/>

Our vision is to leave a lasting legacy of thousands of churches better equipped to address this critical issue as part of their discipleship and mission and to make a significant contribution to civil society efforts to secure adequate national and international action at COP26.

Can your church hold a climate-focused service to explore the theological and scientific basis of creation care and action on climate, to pray, and to commit to action?

Resources are available for all traditions under worship or <https://cafod.org.uk/Pray/Prayer-resources/Climate-Sunday-Mass>

The collective action and commitments from local churches across Great Britain & Ireland will be presented to UK Government at a Nations' Climate Sunday Service in Glasgow on Sunday 5th September 2021 and for those who hold their service later just before COP26 starts. Please remember to register your service. <https://www.climatesunday.org/register>

MORE RESOURCES FOR SEASON OF CREATION:

GLOBAL HEALING AND GLOBAL CARING are free film-based resources to help us to respond to the damage being done to our planet – our common home. It is for parishes, groups and individuals and aims to engage you with Pope Francis' vital call to Care For Our Common Home.

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/our-work/environment/global-healing/>

CAFOD: FRIDAY OCTOBER 1st HARVEST FAST DAY with theme 'Go Green' focuses on the Climate Crisis. Maybe have a Climate Sunday Mass just before or after the fast day.

NOVENA TO ST FRANCIS <https://cafod.org.uk/Pray/Prayer-resources/Novena-to-St-Francis>

NW J & P BULLETIN for August produced by Anne 'O'Connor is full of interesting information.

<https://www.justice-and-peace.org.uk/campaigns/nw-njpn-e-bulletin-august-2021/>

THE SEASON OF CREATION IN MACCLESFIELD

Keith Taylor writes: It's a fixture at St Alban's Macclesfield. For a number of years the J&P Group has proposed a programme of events and daily reflections to celebrate the Season of Creation. 2021 is no exception. In spite of Covid and social distancing, a full calendar of things to do and to consider has been published. It covers each day from September 1st – the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation - through to the Feast of St Francis on October 4th . On some days there are even two suggestions!

An advantage for coordinator Bernadette Bailey of having done it before is that some past favourites can be repeated. So this year again there's a family cycle ride and picnic on the Middlewood Way and a walk "to appreciate God's creation" in Teggs Nose Country Park. Popular local beauty spots make these natural candidates for repeat.

Also, from past Seasons, St Alban's can rely on its partnership with St Michael's, the parish church of Macclesfield; this year even

Continued....

more. Through the whole 2021 Season St Michael's has an outdoor exhibition of personal stories revealing responses to the climate emergency and pointing the way to COP26. On Climate Change Sunday both churches' services will be focused on the environment. On another evening there will be a concert at St Michael's "Songs of the Prophets—A Requiem for the Climate."

On yet another day, St Michael's host walkers on their way to Glasgow on their Camino to COP26 and provide a chance for all to "Meet the Pilgrims."

COP26 is highlighted in events organised by St Alban's: a Zoom Talk by campaigner Ellen Teague "COP26 - the Time is Now to Act on Climate Change" and an after-Mass signing of the CAFOD "Reclaim our Common Home" Petition to the Prime Minister. The signing takes place on the same day as a litter-picking group sallies forth from St Alban's under the guidance of a local scout troop.

On the last Sunday of the Season at St Alban's there will be a collection of food to go to local charities, Watermill House (hostel for young people) and Cre8.

To view the Season of Creation Calendar click on

<https://stalbanmacc.org.uk/crp-season-calendar-2021-final-web/>

If you are not in Macclesfield you can still join

SUNDAY 5 SEPTEMBER Climate Change Sunday Masses at St Albans Church on live stream at 9.30 and 11 am

<https://stalbanmacc.org.uk/st-albans-live/>

TUESDAY 21 SEPTEMBER 7.30pm Talk by Ellen Teague "COP26 - the Time is Now to Act on Climate Change" on zoom Contact

skeithtayl2@outlook.com for Zoom link



Picture by a Macclesfield artist Patty Callaghan <https://www.facebook.com/papierpatty>

GREAT BIG GREEN WEEK 18 – 26 SEPTEMBER 2021 A NATIONAL WEEK OF EVENTS CELEBRATING ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

In September communities across the country will join together for the Great Big Green Week. It will be the biggest event for climate and nature ever in the UK, and everyone's invited! <https://greatbiggreenweek.com/>



Formally known as the Global Catholic Climate Movement, the launch of a new title and website on July 29th was an inspiring and challenging event, with over 190 participants from around the globe. The new name Laudato Si' Movement emerged from a two-year process of discernment the outcome of which is a renewed vision of a spirit led movement reaching out to all people and

celebrating diversity. This was synodality in action. See page for more on Synodality on page 6

Watch the launch on <https://youtu.be/RXMvCPdRLpQ> Look at the new website : <http://www.laudatosi.org/>

PAX CHRISTI REPORT

Joan Sharples writes:



Recently Pax Christi commemorated the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and also, the life and witness of Blessed Franz Jaggerstatter. Recalling the past, prompts us to reflect on our present and ask what is ours to do.

'Heartbroken' is the word that Pax Christi International uses in its statement on Afghanistan. After asserting the importance of 'immediate attention to physical and human rights, protections for the most vulnerable; accountability for atrocities; and diplomatic efforts to engage the Taliban at every level', it goes on to urge for 'a deep reflection on the failure of war and the need to invest in effective tools for building just peace' **

This provides a poignant context for the forthcoming Arms Trade Fair due to take place at the ExCel Centre in London this September - a showcase for the latest in handguns, ammunition and warships. Pax Christi and Quaker Peace and Social Witness will be holding a silent vigil from 7.00-8.00pm on Monday 13th September at the ExCel Centre. If you are not able to join the Vigil, hold those present in prayer.

Pax Christi's Education Worker, Aisling Griffin, wrote a recent excellent blog piece which appeared in Independent Catholic News in which she makes the links between violence and climate change: 'As the climate changes, there is and will be more competition for resources. This competition for resources, such as water or land, can lead to conflict and militaristic responses. It can lead to migration, tensions within and between communities and leave people and regions facing instability and insecurity. Conflict also has an impact on the environment, polluting the local area and damaging infrastructure'. The article is worth reading in full. **

Continued...

The proposed Active Nonviolence sessions which I'd hoped to run did not attract a viable response: maybe we are all zoomed out! There are some great ideas and resources for marking the Catholic Nonviolence Days of Action, 21 September - 2 October.

Join Pax Christi Members at the Arms Trade Fair Vigil on Monday 13 September, or hold those there in prayer
Mark the Catholic Nonviolence Days of Action 21 September - 2 October. Among the ideas suggested are to read Advancing Nonviolence; lookout for stories of nonviolence, share examples of nonviolence with others...

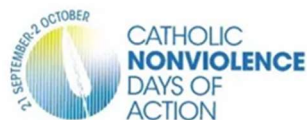
Take a look at Pax Christi's website. <https://paxchristi.org.uk/>

Follow Pax Christi on social media

Let the Pax Christi Office know how you are working for peace and how staff and volunteers can help.

** Pax Christi International on Afghanistan: <https://paxchristi.net/2021/08/18/call-for-nonviolence-and-accountability-statement-on-afghanistan/>

Aisling Griffin's blog: <https://www.indcatholicnews.com/news/42869>



You are invited to study, pray, act and celebrate the power of nonviolence.

The theme for the Catholic Nonviolence Days of Action 2021 is "Nonviolence as a way of life in the web of creation." We encourage solidarity actions around the globe to promote and celebrate nonviolence between 21 September (International Day of Peace) and 2 October (International Day

of Nonviolence and Gandhi's birthday). These dates align with the Season of Creation dates. <https://nonviolencejustpeace.net/days-of-action/>

SEPTEMBER 21 INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE

In 2021, as we heal from the COVID-19 pandemic, we are inspired to think creatively and collectively about how to help everyone recover better, how to build resilience, and how to transform our world into one that is more equal, more just, equitable, inclusive, sustainable, and healthier. The pandemic is known for hitting the underprivileged and marginalized groups the hardest. By April 2021, over 687 million COVID-19 vaccine doses have been administered globally, but over 100 countries have not received a single dose. People caught in conflict are especially vulnerable in terms of lack of access to healthcare.

<https://www.un.org/en/observances/international-day-peace>

CAN WE STOP THE LIVERPOOL ARMS FAIR (11-13 OCTOBER 2021)?

The organisers of AOC Europe 2021 (previously Electronic Warfare Europe 2021) are expecting to host the arms fair in Liverpool. What they say: "Meet world-leading experts to discuss their understanding of the issues, technology and capabilities that underpin evolving electronic warfare abilities, both nationally and in collective defence. Alongside a technical conference programme, the event features an exhibition area for specialist suppliers to showcase their technologies, products and services." <https://www.aoceurope.org/>

Following a strong local campaign, the event had been moved from Liverpool in November 2020 to Seville in May 2021. The May event again did not take place following further strong campaigning and was relocated back to Liverpool, being intended to take place in October 2021 at the council-owned ACC Exhibition Centre in Liverpool. At the fair, arms merchants whose weapons have been used to target civilian populations around the world, are due to use Liverpool to market and sell their arms and military technology.

The Mayor of Liverpool Joanne Anderson and city councillors have signed a statement objecting. They say "the arms fair is at odds with the socialist and peaceful values" of the council and raises "ethical and moral questions" but they acknowledge they have no power to stop it.

ON SEPTEMBER 11th Liverpool Against the Arms Fair, a local coalition of campaigners opposing the Arms Fair, have called a demonstration against the fair and invite us to join the protest and demand the fair does not go ahead.

Assemble 11.30am: Princes Park, Entrance at End of Princes Avenue

Assemble 12.30pm: Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral

<https://caat.org.uk/events/stop-the-liverpool-arms-fair-demonstration/>

SYNODALITY – A NEW WAY OF BEING CHURCH

From website of The Catholic Church Bishop's Conference of England and Wales:

A two-year 'synodal' process is taking place in the Catholic Church from October 2021 that culminates in the final Synod Gathering of Bishops in Rome in October 2023. The overall theme is **"FOR A SYNODAL CHURCH: COMMUNION, PARTICIPATION, MISSION"**



It's an invitation for us, as Catholics, to 'walk together' and every member of the Church has the right to speak, and the obligation to allow those charged with the work of discernment the freedom to do so. For the first time, the Synod Office in Rome has produced a comprehensive process which encompasses the stated aim of the Holy Father that the Church in today's world should have a vision of missionary communion orientated to evangelisation.

THE PROCESS begins in the Particular (or Local) Church and then moves to the level of the Bishops' Conference. From there, discernment takes place in the Regional Area – for England and Wales, it will be steered by the European Council of Bishops' Conferences (CCEE) – before moving to the Universal Church with the final Synod Gathering of Bishops in 2023, sub et cum Petro. You can read more on the Bishops' Conference Synodal Process page where there is also a link to frequently asked questions <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/bishops-conference-synodal-process/>

TIMELINE

The Synod, which presents itself as a real “synodal time”, will be opened by Pope Francis on 9-10 October 2021 and subsequently in the individual dioceses by the respective bishops, on 17 October. As highlighted above, the synodal journey will then be marked by three phases:

Diocesan Phase (Local) October 2021 – April 2022

During which each individual faithful can participate in the diocesan consultation. This phase will end locally with a pre-synodal assembly: the culminating moment of diocesan discernment.

National Phase

A period of discernment will begin for bishops gathered in an assembly (Episcopal Conference). They will listen to what the Spirit has inspired in the churches entrusted to them. A ‘synthesis’ will be drafted and in due course sent to the General Secretariat for the Synod of Bishops along with the contributions of each of the local churches (before April 2022).

Continental Phase

September 2022 – March 2023 which will have the task of discussing the text of the first Instrumentum Laboris. Synod of Bishops (Rome)

October 2023 Finally, the synodal journey will culminate with the celebration of the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops on the theme “For a synodal Church: communion, participation and mission”

From Catholic Church Reform Int'l website: Pope Francis has opened the door as wide as he possibly can inviting the people to speak out while all but forcing the bishops to listen to their people. He given us a window of opportunity – but it is a narrow one (between October 2021 and April 2022). Once that window closes the chance for the people to have any influence will be over. Join with people around the world by signing this petition to ensure that we , the people, will be included in this all important synodal process. There is also here a sample letter you can send to your Bishop.

<https://www.petitions.net/pope-francis-wants-to-hear-from-the-people>

See also <https://www.catholicchurchreform.org/216>

In July CAFOD arranged a webinar with Christopher Lamb, Rome Correspondent for The Tablet to help our understanding of synodality, why it is critical for all of us to participate and what it means for our global Church.

If you missed this CAFOD webinar you can catch up here <https://www.bigmarker.com/cafod/Synod?bmid=c827d76be60a>

See also ROOT AND BRANCH INCLUSIVE SYNOD 5th - 12th September, 2021 <https://www.rootandbranchsynod.org/about-us>



RIP Charles Kasper Burchell. Born 2 April 1929. Died aged 92 on Sunday 25 July 2021.

This photo and eulogy from the family can be found on <https://www.indcatholicnews.com/news/42773>

Shrewsbury J & P Commission members' memories:

Joan Sharples writes: Charlie was Chair of the J&P Commission in Shrewsbury Diocese when I first got involved in J&P and eventually became the Diocesan Coordinator. I remember him as always cheerful, able to dissipate tensions and restore an equilibrium. Working with him, it was clear that beneath this sunny exterior lay a very deep commitment to many issues of justice and peace and it was also evident that this sprung from his quiet, but strong faith. Charlie was always ready to make connections between issues and to ‘dig deeper’

as the ‘see, judge, act’ methodology of Cardin and the Young Christian Workers prompts us to do. As Chair, in the late eighties during Bishop Gray’s time, through sensitive dialogue, he enabled the J&P Commission and its work to become a valued part of the diocese, a relationship which was deepened under Bishop Noble. In 2000 Charlie handed over the role of Chair.

Charlie also played an important role at national level, serving as Chair and Treasurer for the national network. We travelled to London on the train together many times and I learned a bit about how toothpaste gets into the tube. He spoke with pride of his children and enthusiastically recounted tales of helping with sheep.

I’m sorry that in latter years, we lost touch and that I didn’t know of his wife, Bernie’s death. She was a great support to Charlie with J&P work, running creches at conferences when required and trying to stop Charlie doing too much!

He was a true practitioner of his faith.

Anne O’Connor writes: I joined the Shrewsbury Diocese Justice and Peace Commission in 1985, at that time under the Chairmanship of Canon Kevin Byrne, a great advocate of lay involvement. He quickly passed the role on to Charlie who was enthusiastic, well-informed, encouraging and always incredibly supportive. I edited the quarterly Shrewsbury Diocese J&P bulletin

continued on next page

The Daily Pressure from 1985, later to become MouthPeace, a joint magazine with Liverpool Archdiocese in 1993. I would send the draft bulletin to Charlie for review each quarter but he rarely asked for any changes. I'd just managed to get it to the printers in January 1988 before the birth of our youngest child, Catherine. When I returned home from hospital there was a massive bouquet of flowers in the front porch – from Charlie! A typically thoughtful gesture. Charlie not only led the Commission, which met four times a year, comprising a dozen or so activists from across our sprawling diocese (including two Anglicans); he also helped establish the Core Group which met once a month in Joan's home or mine alternately. This consisted of Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, Editor and anyone else who wished to contribute. A great deal of work was covered at these monthly gatherings – planning events, deciding policy, responding to current crises, always enhanced by lively discussions. Charlie would often bring a bottle of his home-made wine for us to enjoy after the day-to-day business had been completed.

I have many fond memories of Bernie and Charlie. Bernie was a terrific support to Charlie and similarly committed to J&P. I remember running a creche with her at one of the bi-annual diocesan J&P conferences at Crewe where she was in her element with the young children.

My husband, Calvin, was a member of the Commission in those early days too and sat on several interview panels with Charlie for the appointment of diocesan J&P fieldworkers over the years. Family was important to Charlie. He was very proud of his children and spoke of them often. It was interesting to read in the family's eulogy that Charlie was a convert. I believe this gave Charlie a special love for the Church and fostered his keen appreciation of Catholic Social Teaching. He lived the gospel in so many ways – his love for all, but especially for the poor and those on the margins, his kindness and humility, his strong sense of right and wrong. It was a privilege to know him and count him as a friend.



WHAT ARE CORPORATE COURTS?

More properly known as Investor State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) they are NOT courts as we think of them with a judge and jury applying laws passed by elected lawmakers such as MPs or MEPs. They are a means for a transnational corporation to sue a government for actions they do not like such as banning toxic chemicals, introducing a sugary drinks tax, anti-smoking policies, capping water rates. They sue on the basis that the government has enacted laws that are outside a trade agreement.

At the ISDS there are 3 ARBITRATORS who are international corporate lawyers - one chosen by the company bringing the case, the second by the government being challenged and the third by the previous two. Who are these arbitrators?

They are private individuals drawn from the top 20 corporate law firms in the world e.g. Freshfields in the UK. They are nearly all white men with a shared corporate aim i.e. to maximise corporations profits with no concern with issues relating to people e.g. human rights, workers' rights or the environment.

The arbitration takes place behind closed doors – no-one else has the right to know what evidence is given or who gives it. There is no right of appeal. Though corporations can sue governments through the ISDS mechanism, WE, the private citizens, HAVE NO RIGHTS TO SUE CORPORATIONS.

BLOCKING CLIMATE ACTION

Now that we are finally seeing more governments around the world begin to take long needed action to tackle the climate crisis, we are seeing more and more corporate court cases challenging those actions. They are an obstacle to clean energy transition and to achieving climate justice. For instance :

The Netherlands is being sued by two fossil fuel companies, RWE and Uniper, for phasing out coal power

The US is being sued by a Canadian fossil fuel company, TC Energy, after President Biden cancelled the Keystone tar sands pipeline

One UK fossil fuel company, Ascent Resources, is suing Slovenia over fracking

Another UK fossil fuel company, Rockhopper, is suing Italy over a ban on offshore oil drilling close to the coast.

To find out more Global Justice Now arranged a webinar 'Don't let corporate courts block climate action' on July 28th

You see on it <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C0quMuQYm0o>

SATURDAY 18 SEPTEMBER DAY OF ACTION : Day of action: Corporate Courts vs The Climate

To take part see <https://www.globaljustice.org.uk/event/day-of-action-corporate-courts-vs-climate/>

A CALL TO DIVEST IN FOSSIL FUELS

"Some Dioceses have not committed to divestment in fossil fuels so they can make a bigger impact by participating in share holder action. What do the panel think is the most appropriate way to demonstrate the church's commitment to our common home and to win hearts and minds?"

This question at the NJPN conference to the panel on Saturday evening prompted a heartfelt response from Lorna Hill. Asking herself the question 'Can you hope to change policies of fossil fuel companies by action at shareholder meeting?' She answered firmly 'No' . Lorna gave several reasons for churches and other groups to divest from fossil fuels:

The Moral Case

She suggested that the fossil fuel companies are the single sector most damaging to our common home. They seem to be incapable of changing and openly say they will breach the Paris 2015 target of 1.5° temperature rise. If they were companies which were serious about change and meeting the Paris agreement then share holder engagement would maybe be useful. But she called them bad actors who have for decades sold misinformation and lobbied governments to delay – justice delayed is justice denied. Justice is denied to the poorer people already suffering and also to future generations.

The Financial Case

While fossil fuel companies have historically been very profitable, they are an increasingly risky investment. Since their business models are based on emitting five times more carbon than can safely be burned, they run the risk of being left with ‘stranded assets’ – worthless fuel stocks that regulation will prevent from being burned or that can only be consumed at unimaginable cost to us all. <https://operationnoah.org/what-we-do/bright-now-our-divestment-campaign/>



The announcement, which will take place on October 25th shortly before COP26, offers churches and other faith organisations an opportunity to emphasise the urgent moral imperative to divest from fossil fuels, given their destructive impacts on climate, biodiversity and human rights. Operation Noah, Laudato Si’ Movement, Green Anglicans, the World Council of Churches and Green Faith invite your church or religious order to join the next global divestment announcement this October. Find out more <https://laudatosimovement.org/act/divest/>

In January 2020 the Dioceses of Middlesbrough and of Lancaster announced their commitment to divest from fossil fuels, becoming the first Catholic dioceses in England and Wales to do so. They have been followed since by the Catholic Dioceses of Arundel & Brighton and Hallam. In 2021, many UK Churches have taken the important step of fully divesting from fossil fuels, including the Methodist Church, the Baptist Union, Church in Wales and the Church of Scotland also the Church of England Dioceses of Oxford, Bristol and Sodor & Man. By participating in the global divestment announcement, your Diocese or church could send an important message that it is time to stop investing in fossil fuels, given their destructive impacts on climate, biodiversity and human rights.

Many churches (and Dioceses) hold investments in funds that have already dropped fossil fuel investments for financial reasons. These churches can make a commitment not to invest in fossil fuel companies in the future and send a powerful message calling for the national Church to divest too.

Churches and other faith organisations interested in joining the announcement will confirm (i) that they have divested from fossil fuel investments; or (ii) that they will divest from any investments in fossil fuels as soon as possible, and within five years at the latest; or (iii) that they do not hold any fossil fuel investments and will not invest in fossil fuels in the future.

Please get in touch with Bokani Tshidzu on bokani.tshidzu@operationnoah.org before 18 October 2021 for more information or to register your interest.

<https://brightnow.org.uk/news/global-divestment-announcement-october-2021/>

<https://www.indcatholicnews.com/news/42727>

Rigged – a worker’s story from Greenpeace <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=55640850205935>

A WORLD WITHOUT NUCLEAR WEAPONS



The United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) came into force on 22 January 2021. This new multilateral treaty makes it illegal under international law to develop, test, produce, manufacture, acquire, possess, stockpile, transfer, use or threaten to use nuclear weapons ... or to assist or encourage anyone to engage in these activities. However, the UK government refused to participate in any discussions and even issued a statement attacking it.

It continues to be open for signatory and ratification. 86 states have already signed, 55 have ratified. (After approval has been granted under a state's own procedures, it consents to be bound by the treaty. This is called ratification, and the treaty is now officially binding on the state).

Christian CND is urging the government to join this multilateral agreement. So far, the government has discouraged any support for it. Have you signed the petition ? <https://christiancnd.org.uk/tpnwpetition/>

Ask your Faith and Community groups, and Councillors to sign pledges of support. Many towns and cities around the world - including Washington, Paris and Manchester - are bypassing their governments’ opposition and are becoming Nuclear Ban Communities, passing resolutions to support the TPNW. Ask your MP to sign the Parliamentary Pledge too <https://pledge.icanw.org/>

Background facts (provided by Stockport for Peace on their stalls in Stockport and Marple precincts on Hiroshima day)

The Nuclear non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) opened for signature in 1968 and entered into force in 1970. The NPT objective is to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons and weapons' technology, to promote cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and to further the goal of achieving nuclear disarmament and general and complete disarmament. The Treaty represents the only binding commitment in a multilateral treaty to the goal of disarmament by the nuclear-weapon states. On 11 May 1995, the Treaty was extended indefinitely. A total of 191 States have joined the Treaty, including the five nuclear-weapon States. More countries have ratified the NPT than any other arms limitation and disarmament agreement, a testament to the Treaty's significance.



The five states that had already acquired nuclear weapons before the treaty was signed are the UK, USA, Russia, China and France. The treaty establishes that those states without nuclear weapons agree not to acquire them and those with nuclear weapons agree to disarm. It also gives states the right to develop civil nuclear power. The UK does not have any right to possess nuclear weapons under the treaty; instead it is legally bound to disarm.

However the UK government recently announced that it is both upgrading and increasing our nuclear weapons, a provocative action, illegal under the treaty. See petition: <https://cnduk.org/report-the-uk-to-the-un/>

The tenth Review Conference is due to be held no later than February 2022.

The First Atomic Bomb was dropped by the USA on Hiroshima (6 August 1945) killing around 75,000 people immediately; and a second was dropped on Nagasaki (9 August 1945). Many have since died due to radiation.

Trident is Britain's nuclear weapons system made up of 4 nuclear submarines each carrying up to 8 missiles, each with possibly 5 nuclear warheads. A single warhead is over 6 times as powerful as the bomb which destroyed Hiroshima. A Trident submarine patrols the seas at all times. Replacing Trident is estimated to cost at least £205 billion.

Nine countries have nuclear weapons: China, France, India, Israel, North Korea, Pakistan, Russia, United Kingdom, and United States of America. Most pledge 'No First Use', though only China has an unconditional 'NFU' policy. South Africa is the single country to have built, and then relinquished its nuclear weapons.

Weapons of Mass Destruction have the potential to produce 'an enormous destructive effect capable to kill millions of civilians, jeopardise the natural environment, (with) ... catastrophic (future) ... effects'. These are atomic explosive, radioactive material, lethal chemical and biological, and any future similar weapons. See <https://unrcpd.org/wmd/>

The Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) came into force on 29 April 1997. Currently, 189 nations, representing about 98% of the global population, have joined the CWC.

The Biological Weapons Convention took effect on March 26, 1975 and has now been signed by 183 states

THE 107th WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES 26 SEPTEMBER 2021.

Towards an ever wider "we" is the theme chosen by the Holy Father for the 107th World Day of Migrants and Refugees (WDMR). See <https://migrants-refugees.va/world-day-of-migrants-refugees/>



Stop press : August 2012 Refugees who fled from Afghanistan to Birmingham are at present being housed in two hotels near Manchester Airport. Care4Calais Manchester volunteers were ready to welcome them as they arrived. Maddy Summerfield, Care4Calais Manchester coordinator said: "They're going to be in the hotel system for a while, it often takes a good few months for their asylum claim to get anywhere. We know they will be staying in hotels around the airport but we don't know where they will be dispersed to yet." "They will have to isolate for 10 days and then we'll be allowed to operate. But this buys us some time to find out what's going on."

Care4Calais Manchester has received donations of clothes, toiletries, toys and games from local people to help provide them with new arrival packs so they have clean clothes to change into, proper shoes and basic toiletries. Money donations are also welcomed. You can contribute on <https://www.goldengiving.com/f/afghanwelcome>



THE NATIONALITY AND BORDERS BILL that the Government published in July, not only includes no new routes to safety, but it cruelly criminalises refugees and makes it harder for families to be together. Safe Passage writes: - The Bill rips up the principles of the Refugee Convention, with plans to hold refugees in detention-style camps and cut back on their financial assistance. And it cruelly denies families the right to reunite based on how they entered the UK.

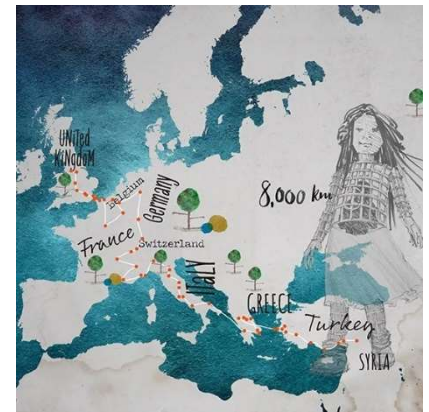
Continued on next page...

Safe Passage are asking that we email our MPs to show our support for refugees in particular those from Afghanistan
<https://www.safepassage.org.uk/write-to-your-mp?>
<https://www.safepassage.org.uk/news/2021/8/18/our-response-to-afghan-resettlement-programme>

THE WALK July 27 – 3 November

Little Amal, the 3.5m puppet of a nine-year-old Syrian refugee girl, started her 8,000km journey in Gaziantep on the Syria-Turkey border. Many streets in the ancient heart of the city were illuminated by lanterns creating a path for Little Amal to follow to reach a special concert for her at Gaziantep Castle.

The Walk is continuing until 3 November 2021, through Greece, Italy, France, Switzerland, Belgium and Germany before reaching England and coming through the Peak District to its finale in Manchester. In each village, town or city she visits Little Amal will be welcomed by major new arts commissions, city-wide community performances and intimate events. All events are free and have been designed by The Walk, in collaboration with each local partner to create one of the most adventurous public artworks ever attempted. Audiences will be able to follow Little Amal's journey online and across social media, as well as joining in with events in their local area.



Little Amal represents the millions of displaced refugee children separated from their families. Her urgent message to the world is "Don't forget about us". Produced by Stephen Daldry, David Lan, Tracey Seaward and Naomi Webb for Good Chance Theatre, the producers of The Jungle, in association with the Handspring Puppet Company, the creators of the War Horse puppets, and led by Artistic Director Amir Nizar Zuabi. It takes three puppeteers to operate Little Amal; a stilt walker who also brings her face to life and one on each of her arms. There is a total team of eleven puppeteers, including two from refugee backgrounds. The puppet is crafted from moulded cane and carbon fibre. You can find out more on <https://www.walkwithamal.org/>



ANTI-SLAVERY DAY OCTOBER 18 provides an opportunity to raise awareness of human trafficking and modern slavery, and to encourage government, local authorities, companies, charities and individuals to do what they can to address the problem. See what has happened in the past year <https://www.antislavery.org/impact/recent-successes/>

The Human Trafficking Foundation hosts Anti-Slavery Day Awards to recognise journalists, filmmakers and broadcasters who have exposed issues of modern slavery, and to celebrate organisations and individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to the fight against modern slavery. Last year due to Covid they were unable to hold their usual awards ceremony. But a short video of thanks was produced <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mpv3URwU-5M>

It is hoped to hold the ceremony this year. Find out more by visiting <https://www.humantraffickingfoundation.org/>

HUMAN TRAFFICKING - WHY SO FEW CONVICTIONS?

Fr Shay Cullen writes for Independent Catholic News (quoting figures from the 'Not for Sale Fund') about the fact that there are "approximately 45.8 million people caught in the trap of modern slavery around the world. This includes 10 million children, 15.4 million people in forced marriage, and 4.8 million people in forced sexual exploitation. However, it is difficult to determine exact statistics because so many cases of human trafficking go undetected and unreported."

This interesting article looks at what happens when the victims have to go to Court, and what some charities are doing to help change the lack of convictions. Read it on <https://www.indcatholicnews.com/news/42780>

Talitha Kum, the global anti-trafficking network of Consecrated Life Against Trafficking in Persons, has launched a new campaign focused on a care-centered model to break the cycle of human trafficking. The organization explained the initiative aims to show the world how "care" can make the difference "along every step of the journey to combat human trafficking" : care for those at risk, care for victims, and care for survivors. <https://www.talithakum.info/en/news/careagainstrafficking-1>

PRISONERS SUNDAY 10 October and PRISONS WEEK 10-16 October

Prisoners' Sunday marks the first day of the ecumenical Prisons Week, a week of prayer which raises awareness of issues faced by those affected by the criminal justice system. Founded by Bishop Victor Guazzelli in 1975, for over forty years Prisons Week has prepared prayer literature to enable the Christian community to pray for the needs of all those affected by prisons: prisoners and their families, victims of crime and their communities, those working in the criminal justice system and the many people who are involved in caring for those affected by crime on the inside and outside of prisons. <https://www.prisonadvice.org.uk/prisonerssunday> <https://prisonsweek.org/>

TIME Broadcast first in June, this new three-part drama series from Jimmy McGovern set in a men's prison made for grim viewing. Yet those who are involved in the Prison Service claimed it was authentic. If you missed it or would like to view again it is available on <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episodes/p09fs2qh/time>

THE PRISONS WEEK PRAYER

Lord, you offer freedom to all people.

We pray for those in prison. Break the bonds of fear and isolation that exist.

Support with your love prisoners and their families and friends, prison staff and all who care.

Heal those who have been wounded by the actions of others, especially the victims of crime.

Help us to forgive one another, to act justly, love mercy and walk humbly together with Christ in his strength and in his Spirit, now and every day. Amen.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER PREPARATION DAY FRIDAY OCTOBER 1st 11am – 2pm

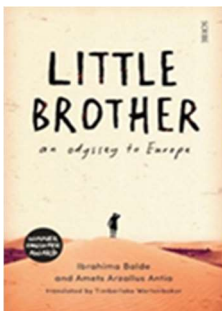
Manchester Central Methodist Hall Theme:- "I know the plans I have for you"

This year the Service has been prepared by the Women of England, Wales and Northern Ireland
More details and to book contact: - Mrs. Lynette Brocklehurst - lyn.brocklehurst1@ntlworld.com

BOOKS TO BUY OR BORROW

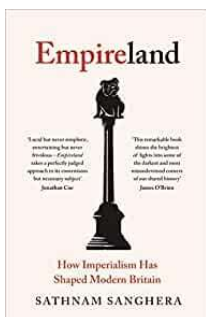


Home is a Feeling not a Place The first published work of JRS UK's Open Writing Space, featuring poetry and prose written by eight refugees and asylum seekers. The volume explores themes including lockdown, the meaning of 'home', the climate emergency, and peace. Available from <https://www.jrsuk.net/refugeegifts/home-is-a-feeling-not-a-place/> £10



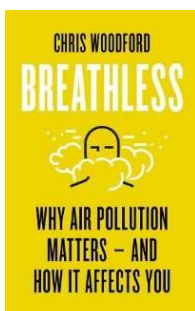
Little Brother An odyssey to Europe by Ibrahim Balde, Amets Arzallus Antia and Timberlake Wertenbaker (Translator)

Based on the author's own life, this heartbreaking novel about an African migrant takes you inside the refugee crisis. Ibrahim is still a boy when his father dies, but as the eldest son he must leave their home village in the Guinean countryside in search of work to support his family. Eventually apprenticed to a trucker in the capital, he learns that his younger brother has dropped out of school and fled to Libya to pursue the dream of finding work in Europe. Leaving behind everything, Ibrahim sets off with the aim to convince his little brother to return home and complete his education.



Empireland How imperialism has shaped modern Britain by Sathnam Sanghera

In prose that is, at once, both clear-eyed and full of acerbic wit, Sanghera shows how our past is everywhere: from how we live to how we think, from the foundation of the NHS to the nature of our racism, from our distrust of intellectuals in public life to the exceptionalism that imbued the campaign for Brexit and the government's early response to the Covid crisis. And yet empire is a subject, weirdly hidden from view.



Breathless: Why air pollution matters – and how it affects you. Chris Woodford Icon Books March 2021

Take a deep breath. You'll do it 20,000 times a day. You assume all this air is clean; it's the very breath of life. But in Delhi, the toxic smog is as bad for you as smoking 50 cigarettes a day. Even a few days in Paris, London or Rome is equivalent to two or three cigarettes. Air pollution is implicated in six of the top ten causes of death worldwide, including lung cancer, heart disease, stroke, and dementia. Breathless gives us clear facts about air pollution in our everyday lives, showing how it affects our bodies, how much of it occurs in unexpected places (indoors, inside your car), and how you can minimise the risks. Rooted in the latest science, including real-time air-quality experiments in city streets and ordinary homes, it will allow you to make up your own mind about the risks and trade-offs of modern living - wherever in the world you are.

RECENT REPORTS TO DOWNLOAD

STATE OF THE NATION 2021 - social mobility and the pandemic The Social Mobility's Commission's Report July.

It warns that the effect of the pandemic will be profound on a country where nearly one in three children live in poverty. Although its powers are limited to monitoring and promoting social mobility, the commission has put forward a series of seven recommendations to take 'bold and decisive' action and says 'now is not the time to cut public spending'.

Seven key pillars for recovery:

- Geography and local power – A levelling up agenda that promotes equal outcomes for people living in under-invested places, and not just strategies that improve places generally.
- Poverty and living standards – The UK Government should make benefits more generous and account for different sized households in its calculations, starting by reducing child poverty by about a third.
- Early years – Higher pay and a better career structure for a workforce crucial to social mobility. Expansion of the 30 hours childcare offer regardless of education or training status.
- Education – A bigger focus on long-term deprivation, funding targeting, post qualification access to university and a student premium for those aged 16 to 19.
- Apprenticeships and adult skills – Increase the share of apprenticeships from disadvantaged backgrounds and make sure more get on to the higher levels.
- Digital access – Access to affordable broadband and digital devices for all households, as well as the skills to thrive in a 21st century world.
- Work and career progression – Ensure that all employers measure the social diversity of their workforce and focus on career progression for those from lower socio-economic background, including those in low paid jobs.

The report was welcomed by the IPPR (Institute for Public Policy Research) North think -tank. "It recognises that the government's approach to levelling up needs to be as much about investing in people as it is about investing in infra structure" says Erica Roscoe, senior research fellow.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1003977/State_of_the_nation_2021_-_Social_mobility_and_the_pandemic.pdf



THE CLIMATE CRISIS IS A CHILD'S RIGHTS CRISIS Report from UNICEF July 2021

The Climate change is the greatest threat facing the world's children and young people. We have known this for some time – based on what science told us, what the stories we heard from around the world have illustrated, and what we have witnessed with our own eyes – but today, we have the first analysis of climate risk from the most important perspective on this crisis – ours.

UNICEF's Children's Climate Risk Index reveals that 1 billion children are at 'extremely high risk' of the impacts of climate change. That is nearly half of all children. And it is happening today.

The Children's Climate Risk Index (CCRI) uses data to generate new global evidence on how many children are currently exposed to climate and environmental hazards, shocks and stresses. A composite index, the CCRI brings together geographical data by analyzing 1.) exposure to climate and environmental hazards, shocks and stresses; and 2.) child vulnerability. The CCRI helps to understand and measure the likelihood of climate and environmental shocks or stresses leading to the erosion of development progress, the deepening of deprivation and/or humanitarian situations affecting children or vulnerable households and groups.

<https://www.unicef.org/reports/climate-crisis-child-rights-crisis>



OPEN? THE UK'S SECRET ARMS SALES report by Campaign Against Arms Trade (CAAT) July.2021

The UK has sold over £20 billion worth of military equipment and services to Saudi Arabia since 2015, according to this new report. This is almost three times higher than the £6.7 billion worth of arms sales published by the Department of International Trade in the same time period. The report exposes the real extent of UK arms sales to Saudi Arabia. The majority of sales have taken place using the opaque Open

Licence system that obscures true value.

<https://caat.org.uk/publications/open-the-uks-secret-arms-sales/>

<https://caat.org.uk/homepage/stop-arming-saudi-arabia/yemen-war-email-your-mp/>

TO VISIT : CLOUD STUDIES an exhibition by Forensic Architecture at the Whitworth Art Gallery Manchester until October 17th.

Tear gas clouds spread poison where we gather, bomb clouds vaporise buildings, chemical weapons suffocate entire neighbourhoods and air pollution targets the marginalised. Our air is weaponised. Our clouds are toxic.

Cloud Studies includes the first phase of a major new Forensic Architecture investigation, commissioned for the Manchester International Festival by the Whitworth and MIF. The display includes a range of their investigations from Palestine, Beirut, Grenfell, Indonesia and the US-Mexico Border. It showcases the first phase of their major new work on ecological racism in Louisiana's so-called 'Cancer Alley', asking 'if toxic air is a monument to slavery, how do we take it down?'

continued..

These 'cloud studies' examine how the air we breathe is weaponised by states and corporations to suppress protest, maintain border regimes and perpetuate racism and inequality. It's not often you see a real paradigm-shift in the art world, but over the last decade Forensic Architecture have remodelled and redefined art's capacity to contribute to political discourse and effect meaningful change.

The Whitworth has co-curated with precision and care, exhibiting paintings from their own collection in A Useful Pursuit of Shadows, an historical and contextual response to Cloud Studies which reminds viewers of the long, local history of industrial pollution and toxic air in the North of England.

If you can't get to the Whitworth you can get an idea of the exhibition and hear a discussion between Alistair Hudson, Whitworth Gallery director and member Forensic Architecture

<https://www.whitworth.manchester.ac.uk/whats-on/exhibitions/currentexhibitions/cloudstudies-mif/>

Forensic Architecture is a research agency of architects, artists, filmmakers, journalists, lawyers, scientists and software developers that investigates state and corporate violence. Cloud Studies is their first exhibition in Manchester. See more of their work

<https://forensic-architecture.org/>

DIARY DATES

SEPTEMBER

September 1 – October 4 Season of Creation starting with

1 World Day of Prayer for Care of Creation see page 2 for prayer walk in Liverpool

3 - 6 Boarbank Hall & the Ecological Conversion Group Cumbria meetings on zoom. see page 2

5 Climate Change Masses 9.30 and 11 am live online services in Macclesfield <https://stalbanmacc.org.uk/st-albans-live/>

11 NJPN Networking Day on Zoom page 2

11 Liverpool against Arms Fair protest see page 6

11 CAFOD online Faith in Action Day to prepare for COP 26 see page 3

18 Corporate Courts vs The Climate: Day of action: page 8

18 -26 Big Green Week see page

21 "COP26 - the Time is Now to Act on Climate Change" 7.30pm Talk by Ellen Teague on zoom see page 5 for contact

21 International Day of Peace 21 – 2 October Catholic Non Violence Days of Action page 6

25 Global Divestment Announcement page 9

27 World Day of Migrants and Refugees pages 10 & 11

OCTOBER

1 Women's World Day of Prayer Preparation Day Central Methodist Hall Manchester page 12

4 St Francis Feast Day – Celebrate end of season of Creation

5-10 The Camino to COP - People's walk for the planet in Cumbria see page 2

10 Prisoners Sunday 10-16 Prisons Week page 11

11-13 Liverpool Arms Fair page 6

14 The Reception of a Romero Relic into the Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral at 6pm page 2

15 – 18 Boarbank Hall & the Ecological Conversion Group Cumbria meetings on zoom. see page 2

18 Anti Slavery Day Page 11

25 Global Divestment Announcement see page 9

NOVEMBER

3 Amal arrives in Manchester page 11

21 NJPN AGM in London – also on Zoom



Thank You!

Thank you to the following websites which have been helpful in compiling this magazine:

ICN Independent Catholic News <https://www.indcatholicnews.com/>

National Justice and Peace Network <https://www.justice-and-peace.org.uk/>

NW NJPN Bulletin produced by Anne O'Connor

<https://www.justice-and-peace.org.uk/category/njpn-north-west/>

Lancaster Diocese Faith and Justice Commission with monthly newsletter <http://www.lancasterfaithandjustice.co.uk/>