



"Sometimes it falls upon a generation to be great. You can be that great generation. Let your greatness blossom."

(Nelson Mandela)

Dear Friends,

Some years ago I ran a church youth club for Year 6 and over, and at that time CAFOD were using the above Nelson Mandela quote. It has always been one of my favourite quotes to inspire our youth, and it seems particularly apt in that this weekend 10,000 of our young people/catechists/Priests etc. are congregating in Wembley for Flame 2023.

I was hoping to be there, but work/home commitments have got in the way. If there is some way that we can bottle the energy, vibrance and feel good factor of Flame, and bring it back to the parishes, and the organisations that we are all part of, then the church and its charities would be thriving.

Speaking from experience here, many of our young people (the TikTok Generation as I have heard them called) are more worried about which

gender, if any, they want to identify with, and whether what their parents are saying is politically correct, rather than rolling up their sleeves and getting involved.

We have a world that is in a mess; the climate issues, the threat of yet another World War; the cost of living. How do we focus the youth that are not engaged into realising that this is their world too?

One idea would be to encourage them to attend the [NJPN Conference](#) in July. At a recent Conference Planning Meeting, one of the big things that came out was to find ways to get some more young people to attend. The Conference has a great energy to it, and if we could just get them through the door, I am sure they would be just as enthused as we are to be there. I know my son was 19 when he attended the online Conference (during the Covid year). He is now 22 and this year will be his third Conference in person - and he has never looked back. If you have children or grandchildren that you feel might benefit from coming along, please consider bringing them. If they are students at Uni, maybe their CathSoc would sponsor them. I know some of the Dioceses are looking at bursary schemes for young people. Why not approach yours?

([CAFOD](#) also have some ways that young people can get involved on their website. That is also well worth a look.)

Last week's Networking Day on the Cost of Living Crisis was fantastic, and we have a little bit about it further down. Well done to our Speakers and the work that they are doing. I believe that a recording of the Day will be on the website sometime soon. Our Action of the Week came out of one of the discussions from last weekend.

All being well, the next e-bulletin will be out around the 18th March, so if you have anything that you want included, I would appreciate receiving it by Friday 16th please.

God bless, and keep up the good work,

Sharon

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



Looking for Living Wage Champions!

At the Networking Day last weekend, Fr. Chris Hughes spoke about the difference that the Real Living Wage makes to people living in poverty. (This is not to be confused with the Government-sanctioned Living Wage, which will go up to £10.42 from April for over 23-year olds.)

Obviously, it is important that the Church leads by example, but unfortunately only five Dioceses in England, Wales, and Scotland, have become accredited Real Living Wage Employers. Those are Birmingham, Brentwood, Hexham and Newcastle, Paisley and Westminster. This is not to say that the other Dioceses don't pay the Real Living Wage, they may well do, they just haven't got the

accreditation.

At present, many Dioceses, quite rightly, are focused on environmental issues, but can these not also go hand in hand with social issues? After all, much of it is interlinked.

Would you email/write to your Diocese and ask them if they are a Real Living Wage Employer, and suggest that they go through the accreditation process?

More details on this are available from the [Living Wage Foundation](#).

Thank you!

Articles on the same theme:

Ellen Teague's summing up through [The Tablet](#) of the Networking Day.

Join the Just Money Movement's [Good Measure](#) campaign for a wealth tax (deadline of 6th March).

NEWS AND COMMENT

1. Climate/Environment (includes an Action and Events)

2023 Season of Creation Launch

The Season of Creation begins on the 1st September, World Day of Prayer for Creation, and finishes on the 4th October, the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi. The theme this year is '*Let Justice and Peace Flow.*'

Watch the video and sign up for resources on the [Season of Creation](#) website.

From the website: - *Prophet Amos cries out: "But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!" (Amos 5: 24) and so we are called to join the river of justice and peace, to take up climate and ecological justice, and to speak out with and for communities most impacted by climate injustice and the loss of biodiversity.*

As the people of God, we must work together on behalf of all Creation, as part of that mighty river of peace and justice.

'Let them eat turnips'

You have probably all heard the above quote from Labour MP Ben Bradshaw, when responding to Therese Coffey's suggestion that we should "cherish" seasonal foods such as turnips! The Environment Secretary's helpful remarks were in response to the the supermarket shelves being cleared of tomatoes and other fresh produce due to the bad weather. The Guardian reports more [here](#).

Having said that, after speaking to Nick from Riverford the other day, some of the problem is the fact that since Brexit it is now difficult for European growers to sell and ship their produce to the UK, so in the Netherlands, for example, they have a glut of tomatoes.

Staying with Riverford, their [Wicked Leeks](#) has an article on the tomato troubles by Nina Pullman. Just as relevant, though, are the comments that people post in response; the first one, by 'Sgl' says: *It's not only our inability to see the long-term pattern of the impact of climate change that's my real worry; it's also the media continuing to push this convention that the customer demands any produce from anywhere, any time of year and as cheaply as possible. We didn't demand seasonless, standardised, plastic-wrapped fruit and veg until the supermarkets educated us into their way of thinking. How do we re-educate ourselves to counter the power of the supermarkets and get a decent diet without getting into the class warfare of who tells who to eat what?*

I second that!

Also, not really climate- related, but in the same vein as above talking about supermarkets, this article from The Guardian is well worth reading: ['Food tsar blames shortages on UK's 'weird supermarket culture.'](#) Henry Dimbleby is quoted as saying (in relation to food shortages and Therese Coffey's response) *"This is a problem of market failure in the specifically British food system. It's going to get worse. The UK food system is, I think, unique – I don't know another system where the supermarkets have these fixed-price contracts with suppliers. So, basically, you have no effective market."*

Action - Remove plastic packaging from supermarket fruit and veg

Everyday Plastic are asking people to sign their petition, calling on all UK supermarkets to remove plastic packaging from five top-selling fruit and veg - potatoes, apples, bananas, carrots and onions — so we can fight the plastic problem, reduce food waste and save money. Read more and add your name [here](#).

Event: Essex Green Weekend



If you're interested in climate change action and want a stunning camping weekend on the shores of the Blackwater Estuary, the Essex Green Weekend is for you!

[Tickets available here.](#)

Laudato Si' Animators' Course

The Vatican backed *Laudato Si Movement* organises an online Laudato Si' Animators' Course which is set up to educate and enable people to inspire others, in parishes, schools and in the world at large, to engage in dialogue and action on the current environmental crises. The Course, which starts on the 19th April this year, will educate and empower you to bring the Laudato Si' Encyclical to life.

The Course requirements include weekly readings including chapters from the LS Encyclical, discussion groups, videos to watch, some webinars and some homework which may include things like writing your reflections. The Course will explain the causes and consequences of climate change, will show how the Laudato Si' Encyclical fits into Catholic Social Teaching and will encourage a personal ecological conversion to enable action for the planet.

For more information and to register: <https://laudatosianimators.org/>

Event - The Big One Event - 21 - 24 April 2023

Reggie Norton, a member of Green Christian, explains why he is supporting Extinction Rebellion's call for 100,000 people to rally in London in April to show the UK government that there is public support for more serious action to tackle the Climate Crisis.

You can read his article through [ICN](#).

Also, for more information about The Big One, go to the [Extinction Rebellion website](#).

Ministers told to get a grip on scale of 'forever chemicals' pollution in UK

The Guardian reports on Green Party MP Caroline Lucas saying that tougher regulations are needed and *'the UK government must get a grip on the scale of "forever chemicals" polluting rivers and seas and threatening human and animal health.'*

Caroline Lucas said: *A cocktail of toxic persistent chemicals is polluting our rivers and seas, infecting our food and water supply, and posing a severe threat to human health, marine and animal life. Yet the UK's chemical pollution limits are nowhere near international standards, and water companies' claims that blending chemicals with other sources to dilute the pollutants simply won't wash.*

Read the article [here](#).

Event - Southern Dioceses Environment Network Monday 13th March - 12.45pm - 2pm

All welcome to join our monthly Zoom meeting over lunchtime with the theme 'The things that bring you joy. Reflections for Lent.'

More details and book [here](#).

The offputting truth about Verra's offsetting

[Homethings](#) write: - *Verra is a non-profit currently running something called the [Verified Carbon Standard \(VCS\) Program](#). They also happen to be in*

our greenwashing-bad-books at the moment.

The VCS Program is a scheme that helps companies to offset their carbon emissions. A company buys a 'carbon credit', which Verra spends on an offsetting project (where one carbon credit = one metric tonne of CO2).

*This should, in theory, make it super simple for massive companies (like Shell, Disney, and Gucci) to throw some cash at the problem, tell their customers that they're offsetting their emissions, and give themselves a big pat on the back. And that's how it was... until researchers did a little digging into the projects that Verra was spending the *2 billion dollars worth* of carbon credits on every year...*

They then go onto explain about the investigation that was done, and that there wasn't much in the way of climate benefits seen. They also say that '*carbon-offsetting is complicated, hard to predict, and measure, and will always take years and years to truly see the results.*'

At the end of the day, we need to be cutting down on carbon emissions in the first place.

Christian Climate Action protests against West Cumbria coal mine

ICN report on the Ash Wednesday protest that Christians held '*outside the Leeds, Manchester and Newcastle offices of Ward Hadaway, lawyers for West Cumbria Mining Limited, and the London headquarters of Javelin Global Commodities, which has an exclusive marketing and offtake agreement with West Cumbria Mining. They called on both companies to "cut the ties" with the proposed new coal mine in Cumbria.*'

The full article is available to read [here](#).

2. Palestine/Israel (includes and Actions and an Event)

Due to the ongoing violence and atrocities happening in Israel at present, there are so many articles. I have just picked a handful from different sources.

Event - Online Rally for Palestine - *this Tuesday, 7th March*****

Palestine Solidarity Campaign writes: - *Join us on Tuesday 7 March at 6.30pm for an online rally for Palestine. We will hear from Palestinians on*

the ongoing resistance to Israel's attacks, and from key voices in Britain on how we need to respond.



ONLINE RALLY FOR PALESTINE

END APARTHEID - STAND WITH PALESTINE

Tuesday 7 March 2023, 6:30PM

 Jess Barnard Labour NEC	 Ronan Burtenshaw Editor Tribune	 Jalal Abukhater Palestinian Writer & Activist from Jerusalem	 John McDonnell MP	 Gail Cartmail Assistant General Secretary, Unite the Union	 Louise Atkinson President NEU	 Mustafa Barghouti Leader Palestinian National Initiative
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Sign up [here](#).

Simon Schama urges UK Jews to condemn Israel's 'horrifying' shift to far right

This one dropped into my inbox this morning from The Guardian and I was very interested to read that British Jews are being urged to speak out against the *“complete disintegration of the political and social compact” that underpins the state of Israel, the historian Simon Schama has said.*

According to the article, next Sunday Israeli's living in the UK will take to the streets to voice their opposition to the Israeli Government.

The article finishes with : - *Six European countries, including the UK, on Saturday condemned recent Palestinian militant attacks that killed Israeli citizens in the occupied West Bank and called on Israel to halt expansion of settlements there. “We urge the Israeli government to reverse its recent decision to advance the construction of more than 7,000 settlement building units across the occupied West Bank and to legalise settlement outposts,” said the countries in a joint statement.*

The full article is [here](#).

Action - Email your local MP about settlements

The Balfour Project are urging people to get the Government to block Israeli settlement plans, and are asking MPs to take up the matter urgently with Foreign Secretary James Cleverly. Click [here](#) for a draft letter, spelling out the details and explaining why our government needs to act. Feel free to modify or personalise the letter as you see fit.

International Diplomats condemn attack on Huwarra

On the 3rd March, Diplomats from 19 countries, including the UK, visited the town of Huwarra to hear first hand about the extreme violence unleashed upon them last Sunday by Israeli settlers. [ICN](#) report on the visit.

Also, on [Facebook](#), Wafa News Agency have a video of the burning and attack on Huwarra.

Meet the women driving reconciliation between Israelis and Palestinians

On a more positive note, Tim Livesey from Embrace the Middle East speaks to two women from very different backgrounds who head up the women's reconciliation programme at Musalaha, Embrace's partner.

Listen to the podcast [here](#).

Palestinian Olive Oil

Ann Farr from Pax Christi spoke at our Networking Day, and mentioned that Palestinians could really use our support, and a good way of helping them would be to buy their goods, in particular Olive Oil. She suggested that it would be good if the Cathedrals could use Palestinian Olive Oil in their Chrism Masses. I have emailed our Diocesan Cathedral. Perhaps you could consider doing the same with yours...

For Palestinian Olive Oil and other food items, check out the [Zaytoun website](#).

Action - Barclays: Don't Bank on Apartheid

Palestine Solidarity Campaign write: - As Israel's military invasions and assassinations continue across Palestine, we must raise our voices against the corporations and financial institutions that are facilitating this brutal violence.

Barclays Bank invests over £1billion+ in companies supplying weapons and military technology to Israel, used in its attacks on Palestinians.

On 25 March, protests will take place outside Barclays bank's high-street branches across Britain. Put the date in your diary and prepare to join an action near you.

More information [here](#).

Volunteer Human Rights Monitors in the Holy Land

ICN write: - The International Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme in Palestine and Israel (EAPPI) is recruiting their next cohort of human rights monitors - Ecumenical Accompaniers, (or EAs for short.)

EAs spend three months in Palestine and Israel witnessing and monitoring human rights violations and standing in solidarity with local peace activists. When they come home they give talks in their local communities and advocate for an end to the military occupation of Palestine.

If you are interested, you can read more [here](#). Do be aware that the closing date is the 9th March though.

3. Refugees/Migrants

In the last week, sadly there has been yet another shipwreck and over 60 losses of life. Just more people looking for a better life or escaping persecution/war/famine. As Fr. Rosario says in the below article, "*they are human beings, like me, like you.*"

Parish Priest assisting shipwreck victims appeals for solidarity

[Vatican News](#) report on Fr Rosario Morrone witnessing to the aftermath of the tragedy. At the end of the article he says ' *Even if it costs us, we must offer shelter to these people!...May we welcome them! They are our brothers and sisters...*'

Christians and Muslims: migration challenges everyone's conscience

Again, [Vatican News report](#):- *After the tragic shipwreck off the coast of Calabria, Christians and Muslims call for joint action to support those who decide to leave their country, because it is "a human fact" that "calls on everyone to take responsibility".*

JRS UK and Asylum Welcome talk about the impacts of immigration detention

JRS' Sophie Cartwright and Victoria Firth joined Hari Reed of Asylum Welcome at Oxford University Catholic Chaplaincy to talk about the fact that detention is not the answer. It also talks about the campaign to [Keep Campsfield Closed](#).

The full article can be read [here](#).

Victoria Firth, JRS' Community Engagement Officer, also recently visited the St Mellitus Justice & Peace Group. She has advised that if your parish/ Justice and Peace Group/ Confirmation Group / Chaplaincy would like a visit, please do contact her. This could take the form of a talk mid-week or a pulpit appeal. Connect with her via email: victoria.firth@jrs.net

Challenge this violence and hostility by community building

The violence that took place in Merseyside outside a hotel housing asylum seekers a few weeks ago was terrifying, and Government rhetoric has a lot to answer for. JRS have written this piece condemning that violence, and asking for us to come together, and find ways of working together. (in fact Victoria's offer of coming to speak to your faith groups will do a lot to help build community in that regard).

Read their statement [here](#).

Rishi Sunak vows to end asylum claims from small boat arrivals

This is very much a 'Stop Press' article as it has only been announced today, but according to news reports, under new laws expected to be announced next week, anyone arriving in the UK on a small boat will be prevented from claiming asylum.

See [BBC News](#) for more details.

On the first anniversary of the invasion of Ukraine, Britain's choices on refugee policy stand in sharp relief

This article by Sophie Cartwright of JRS crosses the two sections of Refugees and Ukraine, and she discusses how different the Government, and indeed many people, have been in their attitudes to Ukrainian refugees as opposed to other asylum seekers.

I have often wondered why we have opened our houses and our hearts to the Ukrainians and not other nationalities. Is it a race issue, fuelled by the Government (as in, Ukrainians are welcome/ other migrants need to be sent to Rwanda)? Or is it the media? Giving prime time/space to the war in Ukraine, but ignoring the conflicts in other parts of the world, such as Syria.

Sophie discusses the situation [here](#).

4. Ukraine (includes an Action and an Event)

The 24th February marked one year since Russia launched its full scale invasion of Ukraine, and so far there is no sign of the conflict ending. A couple of articles around the anniversary.

Diocese of Hallam Group prays monthly peace rosary for Ukraine

The Catholic Network reports that on the 25th March last year *Catholics in the Diocese of Hallam joined the church universal with Pope Francis for the collegial consecration of Russia & the Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.*

As part of their preparation and following solemn Mass at the cathedral, Bishop Ralph Heskett and priests from Sheffield city centre churches joined more than 100 faithful from all over Hallam Diocese to pray the Rosary at the war memorial at Barker's Pool, Sheffield.

This was a historic occasion, not least that the rosary was prayed as an act of public witness by the faithful seeking the intercession of Our Lady at this time of conflict in the Ukraine.

Following this precedent the rosary has continued to be prayed monthly outside Sheffield City Hall.

More information [here](#).

Christian group warns of Ukrainian refugee trafficking

Premier Christian News reports on the concerns that [CARE](#) campaigners have surrounding the Homes for Ukraine scheme, and the heightened threat of refugees being trafficked.

The full article is [here](#).

Church leaders targeted by Russian forces

Release International report through ICN: - Church leaders in Ukraine are being singled out for persecution by Russian forces in occupied areas. Evangelical and Ukrainian Orthodox pastors have been arrested, interrogated, tortured and even expelled from their towns by the Russian military and their supporters.

Occupying forces have confiscated church buildings and Christians have received harsher treatment at Russian military checkpoints, according to partners of Release International. The full details, plus links to both Release International and Forum 18, can be found [here](#).

Event - Praying for Peace

Christian CND write: - One year ago Russia launched a full-scale invasion of Ukraine, and in the 12 months since tens of thousands of people have died, cities have been ruined, millions of people have been forced to flee their home and many people have been imprisoned, in both countries, for refusing to fight and resisting the war.

Christian CND joins those around the world, including the Archbishop of Canterbury, in calling for an immediate and lasting just peace in Ukraine. We hope you will all join with us as we pray for peace.

Weekly prayers, on a Friday evening at 7.30pm, are hosted by our friends at Church and Peace, Fellowship of Reconciliation and others. Register for the free Zoom link [here](#).

Christian CND

A prayer for peace

Lord Jesus, on the anniversary of the start of war in Ukraine, we remember all those who have suffered from the consequences of war. We pray for those Ukrainians who have been forced to leave and those who continue to live under the threat of attack. We also pray for those in Russia who are courageously standing against the war at great risk. We pray that our politicians would seek a path of peace rather than fuelling the conflict with rhetoric and weapons. We pray for a lasting, just peace and an end to bloodshed.



5. New organisation launched to help churches and dioceses tackle housing crisis

Premier Christian News reports on the [Church Housing Foundation \(CHF\)](#) which will '*connect church congregations with experts in community engagement on topics including housing needs, planning, and legal issues.*'

It has been set up by the Church of England, and is headed by the Bishop of Chelmsford, the Rt Rev. Guli Francis-Dehqani.

The Foundation is one of the recommendations to come out of the Coming Home report, published in 2021 by the Archbishop of Canterbury and York's Commission on Housing, Church and Community.

Read more about the CHF by clicking on the link above.

6. Fairtrade Fortnight

[Fairtrade Fortnight](#) runs until the 12th March and Fairtrade Foundation ask us to *'join us in spreading a simple message: making the small switch to Fairtrade supports producers in protecting the future of some of our most-loved food and the planet.'*

Did you know that due to climate change things like bananas, coffee and chocolate could become a lot harder to buy.

They write: - *Combined with deeply unfair trade, communities growing these crops are being pushed to the brink. But here's the good news - more people choosing Fairtrade means extra income, power and support for those communities.*

By making the small switch to Fairtrade, we can all support producers in protecting the future of some of our most-loved food and the planet.

7. Christian Persecution

Nicaragua

Unjust sentencing of Nicaraguan Bishop to 26 years in prison

Bishop Declan Lang, Chair of the International Affairs department at the Bishops' Conference, has been shocked by the unjust sentencing of Bishop Manuel Álvarez to 26 years in prison.

The Catholic Network writes: - *Bishop Álvarez, the Bishop of Matagalpa in the north of the Central American country, was convicted on 10 February of treason, undermining national integrity and spreading false news, after refusing to be expelled along with 222 political prisoners opposing President Daniel Ortega's regime.*

More details [here](#).

If you want to read more about the situation in Nicaragua, ICN have a comprehensive article [here](#).

Easter processions banned in Nicaragua as Catholic persecution continues

Vatican News writes: *In the latest move against the Catholic Church and government opponents in Nicaragua, the government of President Daniel Ortega has reportedly banned the traditional public processions of the Way of the Cross in all parishes in the country.*

During Lent, and also on Good Friday, the ritual will take place inside churches and not in public venues.

In what can only be described as a rant, 'President Ortega launched an unprecedented attack against the Church, accusing the Catholic hierarchy of "grave crimes and horrors" and of supporting dictator Somoza, who was ousted by the Sandinista Revolution in 1979.

In his address to the nation, Ortega also accused the papacy of having supported Italian dictator Mussolini, and the Vatican of being a "mafia organization".

"I don't believe in popes or kings: who chooses the Pope?" he said. "If we want to talk about democracy, the people should first elect priests and the bishops", and "even the Pope" should be "elected by direct vote and not by the organized mafia in the Vatican."

The full article is [here](#).

Nigeria

Wave of Murders after General Elections in Nigeria Forces Diocese to Evacuate Personnel

[ACI Africa](#) reports that after the general election an attack in Nigeria's Benue State left more than 30 people dead and staff at the Justice and Peace Commission of the Catholic Diocese of Makurdi had to be evacuated.

Human Rights group calls for the release of Nigerian teen, Leah

Leah Sharibu was 14 when she was kidnapped, along with 109 other girls, by Boko Haram in February 2018. Five years later, she has not been released, for reportedly refusing to convert to Islam. [Christian Solidarity Worldwide](#) have more details.

Nigeria's newest Cardinal shares secret behind the highest Mass attendance in the world

This really isn't related to persecution, but it is about Nigeria, and the reason I shared it here is because it contrasts so sharply with the persecution side of things.

According to ACI Africa, a recent study shows that Nigeria has the highest Mass attendance in the world on a weekly basis. A staggering 94% of Nigeria's 30 million Catholics say they attend Mass at least weekly. (to give context, only 17% of American Catholics attend weekly).

Cardinal Peter Ebere Okpaleke says it is down to three factors: - Nigeria's traditional worldview, the role of the family, and a sense of community within parishes have kept Nigerians close to the sacraments generation after generation.

To read this very heartening, yet surprising, article, go to [ACI Africa](#).

8. Women religious at forefront of social action

[Mill Hill Missionaries](#) report on the work that The Daughters of the Heart of Mary are doing in India, training a work force within the church to create a 'justice-based society.'

Briefly, men and women from various congregations who attended their two colleges of social work now head thousands of projects at the grassroots across India and many alumni have started nongovernmental organizations and community-development programs.

"We are happy that they stand for justice, peace and equality, the core values of social work," D'Sa told [Global Sisters Report](#).

9. UK's Human Rights Record

Anti-Slavery writes: *If you had to give the UK a mark for its human rights record, how would you assess it?*

Every five years, countries at the UN Human Rights Council do just that:

they review a country's human rights performance and give recommendations for areas that it must improve in. This peer review process is a way to make sure that states follow through on their human rights commitments.

The UK's human rights review was published recently and, sadly, it did not paint a pretty picture. Peer countries raised concerns about immigration reform, human rights legislation and modern slavery.

Now, the UK government has an opportunity to take on board the recommendations it received from peer nations and make sure that the rights of victims of slavery and trafficking are protected.

Watch this [video](#) to learn more about what other countries said about the UK's human rights record.

Newsletters/Reports

10. Refugees at Home February 2023

As we reached the year's anniversary of the war, see what they have been doing. Click [here](#).

11. Catholic Concern for Animals Lent 2023

Various campaigns and news, especially if you are an animal lover. Read it [here](#).

12. Journey to 2030 Lent 2023

Lots of interesting news and information. I particularly liked 'No Buy Lent.' Find it [here](#).

13. London Mining Network March 2023

Catch up with all their news and events [here](#).

14. Operation Noah February 2023

Lots of information including their 40 Days Campaign. Read it [here](#).

15. Churches Together in Britain and Ireland

Read the latest edition [here](#).

16. Joint Public Issues Team February 2023

Lots of events and dates for your diary [here](#).

17. Salesians of Don Bosco February 2023

The usual single sheet, talking about the recent earthquakes and where to donate. Read it [here](#).

18. Biofuelwatch February 2023

Lots of information, including their 15-year report. Read it [here](#).

19. Ben's Tiny Eco Home Life

Ben is signposting us to his favourite eco resources. Have a look at and click on the links.

Available [here](#).

20. PACT Fresh Start Lent 2023

[Click here](#) to read about the great work that they have been doing.

21. Caritas Social Action Network Lent 2023

The newsletter doesn't appear to be on their website, but all of the articles here. You can find the website [here](#).

22. Church Action on Poverty

Read their [Church on the Margins reports](#).

23. Boaz News February 2023

Lots of information about the work that they are doing. Find it [here](#).

24. NW NJPN E-Bulletin February 2023

An interesting read from Anne O'Connor, including lots of resources for Lent and dates for your diary. Available [here](#).

EVENTS (in chronological order where applicable)

25. 2nd March - 30th March - Scottish Laity Network
Lenten Journey (details through ICN)

26. 15th March - 7pm - Joy in Enough
Monthly Talk with Mark Dick and Tony Emerson

27. 18th March - 10am - 1.30pm - Poole PACT Roadshow with Caritas
Book here

28. 25th March - 11am - 6pm - Global Justice Now
Resisting Monopoly Capitalism

29. 29th March - 7.30pm - Just Money Movement
Money Talks: Becoming salt and light in the economy

30. 30th March - 3pm - The Balfour Project
Jerusalem and the British: 200 Turbulent Years

31. 22nd April - Newton Abbott Pact Roadshow with Caritas
Book here.

32. 13th May - NJPN Open Meeting and AGM
Details to follow

33. 17th May - 2pm - 6.30pm - Balfour Project Conference
Human Rights in Palestine: Responsibility and Accountability
(Church House, London, and online)

34. 24th May - 6pm - 8.30pm - PACT

Sir Harold Hood Memorial Lecture, London

'Is there a Christian answer to the problems of the Criminal Justice System?'

35. 2nd - 4th June - World Community for Christian Meditation (WCCM)

Annual Conference: How the Light Enters: Contemplative Wisdom for Flourishing in our Broken World

36. 11th June - Tax Justice Sunday

Details to follow

37. 20th June - PACT Westminster Supporters Mass and Roadshow

Details to follow

38. 15th July - 10am - 1.15pm - PACT

Birmingham JustPeople Roadshow

39. 21st - 23rd July - NJPN Annual Conference

Sustainability? Survival or Shutdown - BOOKING IS NOW OPEN!

40. Various dates - Meditatio Centre, London

Our friends at the Meditatio Centre London have a full programme of events (you may remember they held a workshop at the NJPN Conference last year). Check out details [here](#).

The Last Word

41. Ten years in: a look at some of Pope Francis' top soundbites!

Can you believe we have been lucky enough to have Pope Francis as our Holy Father for ten years!

I would think most of us in justice and peace movements are great fans, as

he has brought justice and peace matters to world attention.

I thought this article from [Crux](#) was quite nice, summing his Papacy up in soundbites - many of them just ordinary things that most of us would trot out.

42. What are the principles of Catholic Social Teaching?

[CAFOD](#) explain the seven principles of Catholic Social Teaching and how it applies to their work.

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