



(Image courtesy of the Salesians)

**‘God of blessings,
the universe sings of your glory.
Deepen our gratitude for all you have made
and awaken in us a renewed commitment
to care for the earth and each other.**

**Inspire world leaders at COP28,
with openness to listen to those most affected by climate change
and with courage to act urgently and wisely,
so that our common home may be healed and restored
and all people, and generations to come, may delight in it.**

Amen. ’

(Prayer for COP28 taken from the CAFOD website)

Dear Friends,

I was working in London on Wednesday, and then had an event to attend afterwards. On my way back across the City to the station I was amazed at the amount of bars and restaurants that are now up there, and how many people were around enjoying a night out. More importantly, though, the amount of lights that there were on - decorations in the street, lights on trees, and a huge number of office buildings burning electricity. It was all very pretty, but considering the price of electricity, and the fact that we know we are depleting the world's resources, this seemed totally wrong. As my son said, he was pretty sure that they didn't all have solar panels! Does anyone know if there is a reason for all of these lights to be on (particularly in empty office buildings)?

I felt so strongly about it, I may well send an email to our MP - but from past experience, I doubt that I will get much of a response. I would be interested to know whether anyone else has noticed an excess of lighting in their local towns or cities, or whether there is a lights-off policy in place.

This leads onto the topic of the moment this week - COP28. We have a COP special for you this time rather than a full e-bulletin. There are still a lot of links to newsletters of other charities, which will tell you about the work that they are doing, and there are the usual Events as well.

Also, we are having a joint Webinar with Christians Aware on Wednesday 13th December, more details of which are below.

Unless anything urgent comes up this will be the last E-Bulletin before Christmas and the New Year, with preparations under way for the Spring Edition of the NJPN Newsletter.

Wishing you a blessed Advent and Christmas, and a very kind 2024,

Sharon

E-Bulletin Contents: -

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

News and Comment

1. COP28
2. NJPN/ICAHD/Christians Aware Joint Webinar

Newsletters/Reports

3. Pax Christi E-Bulletin 2023
4. Churches Together in Britain and Ireland Advent and Christmas 2023
5. Winter Mouthpeace 2023/24
6. Green Christian News No. 234
7. Campaign Against Arms Trade Autumn News
8. Columban Missionaries Britain November 2023
9. Joint Public Issues Team November 2023
10. Boaz Trust November News
11. Westminster Justice and Peace December 2023

Events (this week marked by **)**

12. *****5th December***** - Pact Advent Carol Service
13. *****7th December***** - Pharmanomics: How Big Pharma Destroys Global Health
14. 11th December - Southern Dioceses Environment Group Meeting

15. 13th December - Joint NJPN/Christians Aware Webinar
16. 26th - 28th January - Christians Aware Annual Conference
17. 11th February - Church Action on Poverty Sunday
18. 17th February - Closing date for Columbans Schools Competition
19. 24th February - NJPN Networking Day
20. 11th May - NJPN AGM

Actions

21. Treasurer for the NJPN

The Christmas Last Word

22. How to have an Eco-Christmas
23. The Injustice Advent Calendar
24. Action by Christians Against Torture Christmas Greeting Card Campaign

See below for: -

***Note on Data Protection
About these E-Bulletins
Donate to NJPN***

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



COP28 London March - Saturday 9th December

CAFOD write: -

Pope Francis has written a new message calling for world leaders to tackle the climate crisis and make the most of the upcoming COP28 climate summit.

We'll be joining thousands marching in London on Saturday 9 December in solidarity with those on the frontlines of the climate crisis. We'll be calling for leaders to act on Pope Francis' message in the remaining days of COP28.

The plans for the route and timings for the march are being finalised, but we expect to start gathering for the protest around 11:45am. Sign up on the link above to let us know you're coming and we'll keep you updated as plans are confirmed.

Jesuit Missions will be hosting an hour-long special prayer and hot drinks event at the London Jesuit Centre in Mayfair, Central London, beforehand, before picking up placards and heading out to the march. 10am Farm Street. <https://jesuitmissions.org.uk/cop28-climate-march-event/>

There is also an event going on in Edinburgh from 12.30pm on the 9th December. Details from [Christian Aid](#).

There are various things going on around the world. Please sign up if you can attend - and if not, have a look at the other related articles below and see how you can make a difference.

Thank you!

Other Actions...

Back the Farmers at COP by signing this virtual postcard



Fairtrade Foundation write: - *At the conference, the powerful, global Fairtrade movement you and Aurelia are both part of will be speaking up. Speaking up for millions of small-scale farmers at risk of losing their livelihoods to climate change.*

You may not be able to join her in Dubai. But will you sign this [virtual postcard](#), addressed to politicians and businesses at the COP28 UN Climate Summit, to back her calls for justice?

Prayer for COP28

At 8am every morning during COP28, from 30 Nov to 12 Dec, there will be 10 minutes of prayer and reflection, focusing on the theme of the day. This will be on Zoom and led by a team from Green Christian.

[Details and register here.](#)

NEWS AND COMMENT

1. COP28

Pope Francis' message to COP28

[Vatican News](#) reports on the Pope's statement, read out by Cardinal Parolin, to delegates at the UN Climate Change Summit. Pope Francis reiterated : - *“the future of us all depends on the present that we now choose.”*

More details through the link above.

There is no option but for COP to succeed

Lead Bishop for the Environment, Bishop John Arnold, calls for the nations of the world to act.

“Whilst the extreme heat of last summer may be a distant memory for many of us, huge numbers of people around the world have had their lives devastated by climate disasters in the last year or so. Given that the impacts of climate change will only worsen, there is no option but for COP28 to succeed.”

[Full details are available through the Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales website.](#)

Agreement on loss and damage deal on first day of COP

A good start was made on the first day of the summit. [The Guardian](#) described it as a *'landmark deal to help the world's poorest and most vulnerable countries pay for the irreversible impacts of climate disaster.'*

Various countries are providing initial funding, details of which can be found in the article by following the link above. However, Christian Aid warned that there is much work to be done so that climate vulnerable countries are able to access the funds.

Climate Home News at COP28 Newsletter

There are lots of links to articles and webinars in this [newsletter](#).

2. The Horrors of Gaza: What's Next?

The Israeli Committee Against House Demolition UK, the National Justice and Peace Network and Christians Aware present:

**An evening with Jeff Halper on the Zoom Platform
on Wednesday, December 13th at 7.00pm**

Jeff Halper - Director of the Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions (ICAHD), professor of anthropology, activist, author, and analyst. His books include 'Obstacles to Peace', 'An Israeli in Palestine', 'War Against the People', and 'Decolonising Israel, Liberating Palestine'. Jeff was a 2006 Nobel Peace Prize nominee along with Palestinian Ghassan Andoni.

Please access the link to the Webinar through the NJPN website here.

Newsletters/Reports

(please note that any events advertised in individual newsletters will not necessarily be also advertised in our Events section unless specifically requested by the organisation)

3. Pax Christi E-Bulletin 2023

Webinars and ways you can get involved. [Read it here.](#)

4. Churches Together in Britain and Ireland Advent and Christmas 2023

News, resources and events. Available through this link.

5. Winter Mouthpeace 2023/24

Marian Thompson writes: - I am sending this out in time for the start of Advent as there are several differing reflections and zoom events we can join. You can find it through the [NJPN website](#).

6. Green Christian News 234

As usual, plenty of events and courses to join in with. [Details here](#).

7. Campaign Against Arms Trade Autumn News

A 16 page magazine with lots of news and events. [Download it here](#).

8. Columban Missionaries Britain November 2023

[Read about their work and their Christmas Appeal here.](#)

9. Joint Public Issues Team November 2023

Some very interesting articles including one to help you engage with the next general election. [Read it here](#).

10. Boaz Trust November News

Read about the work that they have been doing with migrants [here](#).

11. Westminster Justice and Peace E-Bulletin December 2023

Read about the latest events and news through the Westminster J & P website [here](#).

EVENTS (in chronological order where applicable)

12. 5th December - 7pm - Pact

[London Advent Carol Service](#)

13. 7th December - 6pm - 7.30pm - Global Justice Now

[Pharmanomics: How Big Pharma Destroys Global Health](#)

14. 11th December - 12.45pm - 2pm - Southern Dioceses Environment Group Meeting

Advent Prayer and Christmas Party via Zoom

15. 13th December - 7pm - 9pm - NJPN/Christians Aware/ICAHD

Joint Webinar - The Horrors of Gaza: What's Next?

16. 26th - 28th January - Christians Aware

Annual Conference - Hinsley Hall, Leeds

17. 11th February - Church Action on Poverty Sunday

Details here

18. 17th February 2024 - Closing Date for Columbans Schools Media Competition

More details available here.

19. 24th February - NJPN Networking Day

20. 11th May - NJPN AGM

ACTIONS

21. NJPN are looking for a new Treasurer

Do you know of anyone with financial experience that would be willing to take on the role of Treasurer? Please share with your parishes/organisations, and if anyone is interested, please email me at admin@justice-and-peace.org.uk. Thank you.

The Christmas Last Word

22. How to have an Eco-Christmas

Have an eco-Christmas

Save any Christmas cards and cut them up to use as tags for next year.



Help save the planet this festive season!

PRESENTS

- Try making gifts yourself! From knitting a scarf to baking a batch of cookies, there are lots of fantastic presents you can DIY.
- Buy presents from shops that make their products in an ethical and sustainable way... just like The Wildlife Trusts' store.
- Think quality not quantity: having a family Secret Santa means you don't have to buy for everyone and helps to create less waste.
- Avoid non-recyclable wrapping paper by using brown paper and brown paper tape. Better yet, go for a reusable option like a bag or a box.



FOOD

- Plan your meals so food doesn't go to waste. Leftovers can make some of the tastiest meals!
- Shop local. Are there ingredients for your Christmas dinner that you can source from local farms or shops?
- Compost your vegetable waste.
- Try out some veggie and vegan alternatives to cut down on meat and dairy.



DECORATIONS

- If you already have a cupboard full of sparkly Christmas decorations, make sure to reuse them.
- Instead of plastic tinsel, try using bunting, pinecones, or popcorn tinsel instead.
- Avoid buying Christmas crackers that contain plastic toys. You might want to try making your own using toilet roll tubes instead. Writing your own jokes is the best bit!



www.wildlifewatch.org.uk

www.wildlifewatch.org.uk

23. Transform Trade 'The Injustice Advent Calendar'

You have 24 days to change the world! [Sign up](#) and each day you will get a different cause to get involved with.

24. Action by Christians Against Torture Christmas Greeting Card Campaign

ACAT write: - *For this campaign, which is published every year in November, we suggest that you write a simple card or greeting to an individual saying, for instance, that you are thinking of him/her and/or perhaps urging them not to lose hope (or words to that effect). A picture postcard is always welcome and cheapest to send. You can include your name and address (if you wish) but we ask you - please not to mention ACAT or include a religious greeting (if so advised,) as communication from a foreign organisation can endanger the prisoner and lead to harsher sentences. Several individuals featured in our last Christmas Campaign have been released. Sadly others are still in prison and it is important not to forget any of them. As usual, we include a selection of rights groups.*

For full details, head to their [website](#).

Note on Data Protection

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You can **unsubscribe** or **update your preferences** at any time by clicking the links at the bottom of the page.

NEWS LINKS

Independent Catholic News

Find Justice and Peace stories at:

<http://www.indcatholicnews.com/news/justice-peace-environment>

[Sign up](#) to receive these regularly.

Catholic Communications Network

Find news stories at www.catholicnews.org.uk

Latest Zenit Headlines [here](#)

Vatican News homepage: www.vaticannews.va

World Council of Churches

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

UK Parliament News

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

Follow us on Twitter: @NJandPNetwork

Follow us on Facebook: National Justice and Peace Network

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About these E-BULLETINS

The items above are emails received from around the Network which may be of interest to those involved in working for justice and peace.

The views expressed are not necessarily those of NJPN.

To **unsubscribe** from these mailings, email ebulletin@justice-and-peace.org with “unsubscribe” in the subject box. We also welcome your **feedback** at the same address.

Forwarding these emails: Please feel free to forward these emails on to your contacts – *but please remember to tell them to contact YOU if they want to unsubscribe!*

Urgent Actions:

We sometimes receive emails that need immediate action and cannot wait for the weekly bulletin. To receive these items email the same address with “**urgent actions**” in the subject box.

If you appreciate these bulletins, help to keep them coming by donating to NJPN:

Send cheques payable to NJPN to: NJPN, 39 Eccleston Square, London SW1V 1BX.

*Make a regular donation by **standing order**: Download standing order/membership forms from <http://www.justice-and-peace.org.uk/>*

(NJPN is a registered charity no: 1114947 Company no: 5036866)

If you shop online, you can support us at no extra cost to yourself by signing up with easyfundraising.org.uk, where lots of companies will make a donation to us when you shop online with them.

As a small charity NJPN relies on donations from its members and friends, as well as grants for specific work or projects, if you feel you are able to make a contribution you can either: make a bacs payment to our account: Sort code 16-31-15 account 10089516 reference Donation with your surname or our CAF donate page: <https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/8130#!/DonationDetails>