

NJPN E-Bulletin – Environment Special

A short edition highlighting some upcoming events and actions

The National Justice & Peace Network invites you to :

**'OPENING DOORS TO A SUSTAINABLE WORLD
FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS'**

JUBILEE 2025
PILGRIMS OF HOPE

NJPN

Celebrate Jubilee

Let's Live Simply

Divest From Fossil Fuels

Cancel Debt

SATURDAY 10:15AM TO 16:00PM
10 MAY

This is an in-person event and to book your place please Email Sharon Chambers at admin@justice-and-peace.org.uk
Open Networking Day at CAFOD HQ, Romero House, London.

Dear Friends,

I began this e-bulletin yesterday, and was wishing everyone a happy and blessed Easter, and prayers for the forthcoming week. Today, though, we have received the very sad news of the passing of our Pope, Francis. A true man of the people, living out the Gospel and themes of Catholic Social Teaching.

As we are coming up to the 10th Anniversary of Laudato Si', and the fact that we are in the Jubilee Year of Hope, it seems all the more poignant that he will no longer be here to guide us. Not just us as Catholics, but the world as a whole, has lost a great shepherd.

We pray for his soul, and we also pray for the church that we may be led by someone with the humility of Pope Francis, who cares for those on the margins and listens to the cry of the Earth.

We want to share with you some upcoming actions and events themed around the Environment, especially as we are coming up to the 10th Anniversary of Laudato Si'.

The poster above is our own in-person Networking Day at CAFOD, Romero House, 55 Westminster Bridge Road, London SE1 7JB, which takes place on Saturday 10th May, from 10.15am until 4pm.

The NJPN Environment Group have organised this, and they have a great day planned - including experience of being in a Live Simply parish; Tackling Debt and the Climate Crisis in the Jubilee Year; Greening Church Investments: fossil fuel divestment and investment in climate solutions; and Honouring our Covenants for Care of Creation.

There will also be a couple of special guests, Bishop Gerardo Alimane Alminaza of San Carlos in the Philippines (who has played a key role in the implementation of Laudato Si' in the Philippines) and Avril De Torres (Deputy Executive Director of CEED Philippines).

We are asking that you register to attend this Networking Day by emailing me on admin@justice-and-peace.org.uk as we are limited to a certain number. Also, refreshments will be provided, but you will need to bring your own packed lunch.

Further events and actions relating to the environment can be found below...

Every blessing,

Sharon

Celebrating 10 years of Laudato Si' - Webinar

Wednesday 23rd April - 7.30pm to 9pm

WEBINAR:
CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF LAUDATO SI':
Raising Hope for Climate Justice

Wednesday 23 April
7.30pm-9pm

Sign up [link](#) or QR code

LORNA GOLD
BEN WILSON
JAMES BUCHANAN



[Join us for an exciting interactive webinar](#) on Wednesday 23 April from 7.30-9pm to celebrate the 10th anniversary of Pope Francis' ground-breaking encyclical, Laudato Si', and find out how you can take action for climate justice.

Speakers include Lorna Gold, Executive Director of Laudato Si' Movement; Ben Wilson, Director of Public Engagement at SCIAF; James Buchanan, Climate Finance Campaign Manager at Laudato Si' Movement; and Claudia Melis from Focolare. Revd Patrick Gerard, Diocesan Environmental Officer in the CofE Diocese of Birmingham, will lead an opening reflection.

Co-sponsors of the event include Laudato Si' Movement, Focolare GB, the Care for Creation Office of the Bishops' Conference of Scotland, CAFOD, SCIAF, the National Justice and Peace Network, Justice and Peace Scotland, Ecological Conversion Group, A Rocha UK, Eco-Congregation Scotland, Operation Noah, Green Christian and JustMoney Movement.

The evening will include reflections, experiences on the [Big Bank Switch campaign](#), online small group discussions and opportunities for Q&A and to find out more about upcoming activities and how to get involved. [Register to join the webinar here.](#)

Have you joined the Big Bank Switch yet?



Where we bank matters. In this Jubilee Year, Laudato Si' Movement, JustMoney Movement, Operation Noah and Just Love are inviting Christians across the UK to switch from banks funding fossil fuels to a greener, more ethical bank.

Fossil fuel expansion is the driving cause of the climate crisis. Since the Paris Agreement, the five largest high street banks in the UK - Barclays, HSBC, Santander, Natwest and Lloyds - [have provided \\$556 billion to the fossil fuel industry](#).

By switching to ethical banks, we send a powerful message to financial institutions: it's time to stop funding the destruction of our planet.

Join the Big Bank Switch today!

You can take a powerful step for a fossil free future by making a pledge to switch to an ethical bank. Visit the Big Bank Switch website to find out more and sign up:

<https://justmoney.org.uk/the-big-bank-switch/>

If you have already switched to an ethical bank, you can still make a difference! Please log your switch on the Big Bank Switch [pledge form](#) retrospectively to ensure you are counted as part of our collective call for change!

Resources for the 10th Anniversary of Laudato Si'

John Paul de Quay writes:

"The Ecological Conversion Group have produced a resource for the 10th Anniversary of Laudato Si' during the Jubilee year. It is the first item on this page: <https://theecg.org/resources/>

It aims to link together the themes of Jubilee, Christian Mission, Integral Ecology and Ecological Conversion.

It also looks to help us celebrate the 1700th anniversary of the Nicaean council and the 800th Anniversary of St Francis's canticle of the creatures, the Jubilee year and 10th Anniversary of Laudato Si'.

I hope it will be a useful resource in drawing themes together."

(While these are free to use, please do credit The Ecological Conversion Group and consider donating to the Charity via the [Journey to 2030](#) website.)

Also, on the same page, John Paul has produced a Jubilee Calendar office and parish use:

<https://theecg.org/download/3824/?tmstv=1744277602>

Environmental-themed Retreats

Last year I spent a wonderful week at [Boarbank Hall, Cumbria](#), on a Laudato Si'-themed Retreat. It was interesting, inspiring, and prayerful, and I met some lovely people who I would now class as friends.

This year, Boarbank Hall have three Retreats with an environmental flavour and, God willing, I will be at least one of them.

12th-17th May - 'Two Wings and Some Prayers' - Prayer, walks and birdwatching, with a focus on learning birdsong.

27th-31st May 2025 - 'Celebrating Creation' - Time to explore how to live out Laudato Si' fully in our personal lives and within the Church. Talks, discussions, art, liturgy, gardening, walks.

4th-10th October 2025 - 'Celebrating Creation' - as above.

Contact Sr. Margaret for more details and to book
- margaret@boarbankhall.org.uk / 015395 32288

Other Events taking place in the next few weeks...

(taken from the [Westminster Justice and Peace E-Bulletin](#))

8 May, 7-9pm: A Celebration of Laudato Si' – Join the Northern Dioceses Environment Group and the Southern Dioceses Environment Network for this evening of celebration for the 10th Anniversary of Pope Francis' encyclical Laudato Si' - On the Care of Our Common Home. Our guest speaker and facilitator will be Catholic journalist and papal

biographer, Austen Ivereigh.
[Register with Eventbrite](#)

10-18 May: Urban Tree Festival. <https://urbantreefestival.org/>

**24-31 May: Laudato Si' Week - Unite with people around the world to
celebrate Laudato Si'
Week**

The Last Word

**This week, it seems fitting that we leave the last word to Pope
Francis...**

A Prayer for our Earth (from the end of Laudato Si')

**All powerful God,
you are present in the 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 your 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.**