

Lancaster Faith & Justice Commission Parish News Bulletin August 2017

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St Bernadette's Parish House, Bowerham Road, Lancaster LA1 4HT

1st September 2017

World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation

In 2015 Pope Francis designated 1st September annually as a World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation in the Catholic Church.

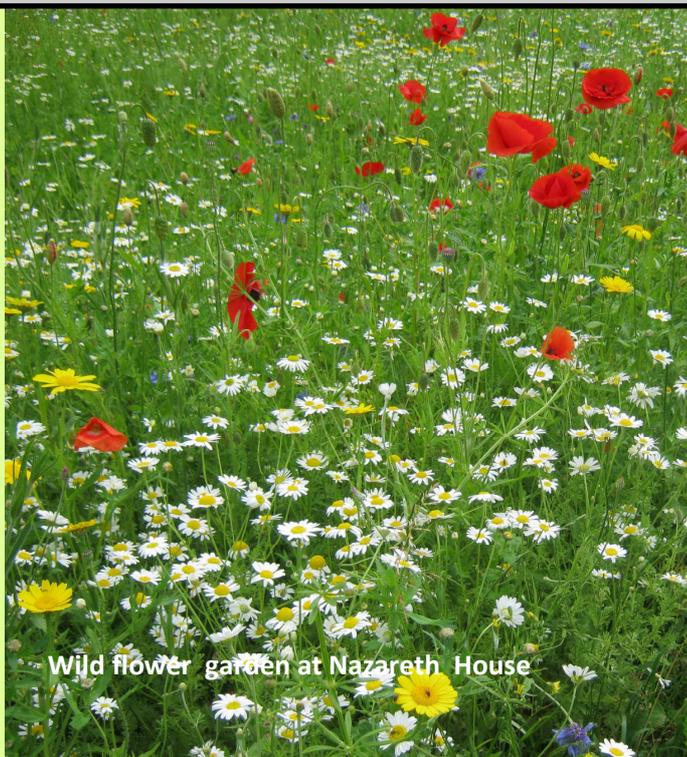
The day of prayer, the pope said, gives individuals and communities an opportunity to implore God's help in protecting creation and an opportunity to ask God's forgiveness

"for sins committed against the world in which we live".

Resources available at:

<http://columbans.co.uk/creation-time/>

Creation Time from 1st September –4th October



Wild flower garden at Nazareth House

Let's Celebrate Creation in the Fylde

7:00pm on Wednesday 20th September

at St Monica's Church

St Monica's Way Blackpool FY4 4FA

All welcome

*Three presentations, music and brief prayer/reflection.
Finish/refreshments 8.15pm*

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"Take good care of creation. St. Francis wanted that. People occasionally forgive, but nature never does. If we don't take care of the environment, there's no way of getting around it."

Pope Francis

Remembering Blessed Oscar Romero's 100 Years

Julian Filochowski

This Romero Centenary Year is a time to remember and to cherish the life, ministry and martyrdom of a valiant and prophetic contemporary pastor. Romero is a very special icon for the Ignatian family, striving to live ever more authentically that commitment, made over 40 years ago, to *"...the service of faith, of which the promotion of justice is an absolute requirement. For reconciliation with God demands the reconciliation of people with one another."* Oscar Romero gave his life in unequivocal obedience to that same mandate.

Romero was born on the Feast of the Assumption, August 15th 1917, in the small town of Ciudad Barrios in El Salvador – the deeply Catholic country in Central America named after Christ the Saviour. In 1977, Romero became metropolitan archbishop of the capital city, San Salvador. Three years after his appointment, on March 24th 1980, as he celebrated Mass, he was assassinated at the altar by a death squad linked to the security forces.

Two years ago, on May 23rd 2015, he was beatified, acclaimed as a martyr of the Church, killed out of hatred of the faith – shockingly, killed by people describing themselves as Catholics and Christians.

Oscar Romero's ministry as archbishop was a paradigm example of a faith that does justice. He remained close to the poor, and became their fearless advocate. In his preaching and teaching, he opened up the scriptures and presented them as truly Good News to the Christian communities, in the midst of poverty and oppression. Each Sunday he recounted the bad news of the week - he listed the atrocities committed, named the victims and the perpetrators and sought redress; and he criticised the grotesque accumulation of wealth by landowners whilst peasant families went hungry. To the disgust of the oligarchy, Romero turned into the voice of the voiceless poor.

With every fibre of his being, Romero sought to prevent the civil war that was looming. He denounced both the repressive violence of the security forces and the assassinations carried out by leftist guerrillas. He demanded economic and social justice as the indispensable basis for a durable peace in El Salvador.

Preaching on the eve of his murder, Romero tackled the thorny question of what ordinary soldiers should do when ordered to kill and massacre. *"... Before an order to kill that a man may give, God's law must prevail: Thou shalt not kill! No soldier is obliged to obey an order against the law of God... It is time to obey your consciences rather than the orders of sin. In the name of God, therefore and in the name of this suffering people, I beg you, I beseech you, I order you in the name of God: Stop the repression."*

He had pronounced his own death sentence. The next day, with a single marksman's bullet, Archbishop Romero was taken from us. Soon afterwards, Bishop Pedro Casaldaliga wrote a beautiful poem with the closing line:

San Romero of America, our shepherd and martyr: nobody will silence your last homily!

Read the article in full and much more in current copy of *Romero News*: <http://www.lancasterfaithandjustice.co.uk/newsletter/Romero%20News%20-%20Issue%2020%20July%202017%20FINAL.pdf>



Fernando Llort's new Romero mural at the Hospital of Divine Providence, San Salvador

Monseñor Romero calls out with open arms to all those who suffer, the forgotten. His saintly halo is the sun with its twelve rays: the twelve apostles united with Jesus. The white dove at his right side represents the Holy Spirit, the Creator Spirit. Above his left arm is the symbol of God the Father, with twelve small dwellings that represent the People of God, and the Community. Below Monseñor Romero's right hand is a small girl who has lost her feet through amputation and there is a sick woman lying down. Below his left hand is a man, a campesino, also in poor health and also lying down. The Bible is there, the Word of God, which Archbishop Romero both preached and lived. Above the campesino there is a maize plant. It is the most important staple food of our daily diet. There is also a pitcher, a symbol of the water of eternal life, and a coffee branch, symbolising our culture. We see too volcanoes and mountains from our land of El Salvador. Beneath the mountains, we find a village with its church. On the church door, we see the initials: O.R. for Oscar Romero.

Current issue of [JUST PEACE](#) : **Commemorations that call for change**

For the peoples of Palestine and Israel this is a year of commemorations. This Just Peace addresses two: the 'Balfour Declaration' of 1917 and the 1967 Israeli occupation of Palestine which continues today. The moral responsibility for the 'unfinished business' of the Balfour Declaration is set out by Nicholas Frayling with a renewed call for justice. The piece from Pax Christi International reflects the concern of our partners in Bethlehem, and their various calls to action for change are addressed to each of us, to explore where we can engage and use our voice for others.

"We are commemorating a sad milestone this month with 50 years of devastating occupation. It is urgent that it is resolved as, for both Palestinians and Israelis, their future and hope depend on it. This is the moment for an increased commitment to reach a just and sustainable solution in accordance with international law."

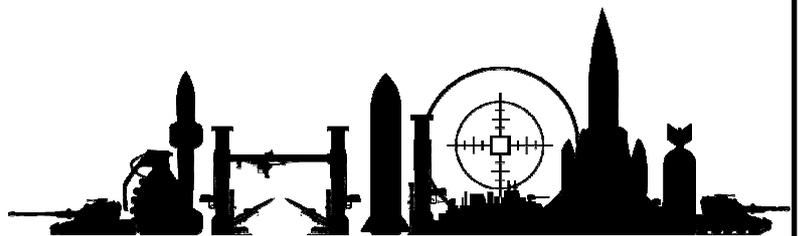
Just Peace: <http://paxchristi.org.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/June-Justpeace-2017.pdf>

**DSEI, the Defence & Security
Equipment International,**

the world's largest arms fair,

is to be hosted again in London in September.

Pax Christi will be taking part in two events.



On **5 September** at 4.00pm we will hold a gathering on the Faith Day, in the run-up to the Exhibition opening. We really need help and ideas as to what we might do during our slot – as well as people to take part. Please do get in touch with Pat (coordinator@paxchristi.org.uk) with your ideas for symbolic actions, readings, prayers.

Then on **11 September** we will help to coordinate a one-hour long silent vigil outside the Excel Centre in Docklands on the eve of the opening.

Check paxchristi.org.uk website for meeting time. You could also hold a time of prayer in solidarity with these actions wherever you are and ensure that awareness of this arms fair is raised in your parish. More here www.stopthearmsfair.org.uk

Campaigner John Dowling has prepared a letter to the Prime Minister

Dear

The arms industry, and the UK's role in it, shames this county.

The power of the industry is remarkable. Behind this lies an intimate and compromising relationship between arms companies and government - from the thousands of hours of meetings, to the revolving door between companies, military and government, to the industry bodies within government itself.

The arms industry has inserted itself into the very heart and machinery of government, giving it totally disproportionate access and influence over vital areas, warping public policy and harming us all.

Promoting arms deals is prioritised over controlling arms sales and securing a more peaceful world, and private commercial interests are allowed to trump human rights.

✦ *Please shut the revolving door between the arms industry, military and government, which gives the industry undue influence, and encourages the conflation of the public interest with corporate interest.*

✦ *Implement measures for greater transparency on the 'open door' to industry. This relentless special access warps, narrows and distorts government priorities, and it is vital it is exposed to meaningful public scrutiny.*

Shut DSO, the government's arms promotion unit, which is effectively a trade association within government, coordinating Whitehall in support of arms sales for international companies.

Yours sincerely

For more info: caat.org.uk

HOW TO MARK THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BALFOUR DECLARATION THIS NOVEMBER?

Robert A. H. Cohen 12 June 2017

You can be sure there's going to be no end of bad ways. Hiring the Royal Albert Hall in London on 7 November with a 500 voice international Christian choir will definitely be up there with the most crassly inappropriate ways to remember Balfour. Don't expect to see a single Palestinian Christian in the building which alone should make you question this event's integrity. However, I expect to see plenty of Jewish representatives there. They will be our Jewish communal leaders and probably the Israeli Ambassador to London. They seem to think that hanging out with Christian Zionists is good for the future of Jews and Judaism. Perhaps one day they'll get round to checking out the anti-Jewish theology at the heart of Christian Zionism before they accept another invitation to collude in our eschatological demise.

Meanwhile, the Israeli Prime Minister will be coming to Britain to celebrate with the British Prime Minister. But if by then our PM turns out to be Jeremy Corbyn, this will probably require a rethink! Members of the Royal Family will visit Israel for the first time in an official capacity. I hadn't realised the Windsors were so lukewarm about Zionism. And the British government has promised (at the time of writing) that it will commemorate the event "with pride". After all, said the official response to an anti-Balfour petition, the Declaration was "the right and moral thing to do". So assuming a Conservative politician is still living at Number 10, don't expect any acknowledgement of culpability or even regret to balance out all of that pride. Apparently, questions of responsibility for what Balfour led to are best left to the historians.

But whoever is running the British government by November, there's little doubt that they'll be plenty of Jewish led Balfour celebrations. And I expect them to be just as tactless, thoughtless and devoid of political or historical context as the Christian Zionist knees-up at the Albert Hall. Synagogues will hold thanksgiving services and eminent Jewish figures will give speeches and lectures. I guarantee you these will be excruciating in their denial of what Balfour has meant to another people. A people made virtually invisible by the language of the Declaration which reduced the indigenous majority living in the Holy Land in 1917 as merely the "existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine".

The thing that the current British government fails to notice is that Balfour is not history. It's not something long ago and only of academic interest. It's still current affairs. After a hundred years, the consequences of those 67 words of British imperial realpolitik are still playing themselves out every day in Jerusalem, Gaza, Hebron, in fact everywhere west of the Jordan river.

I'm not for a moment forgetting the centuries of Jewish oppression in Europe nor the catastrophe of the Holocaust. But in celebrating Balfour, why must we be expected to ignore the fact that the price of creating a Jewish State turned out to be the on-going dispossession of the Palestinian people? A people equal in number to the Jewish people. With the benefit of 100 years' of hindsight it's not difficult to see how this was always going to be the case.

So how should Balfour be remembered? What's an honest way to mark this centenary, one that carries with it not only a rounded understanding of history and politics but one that includes a degree of humility, penance and an outlook for peace that embraces justice and equality?

A small British Christian charity has found a way to achieve all of this. On Saturday 10 June the '**Just Walk to Jerusalem**' set out from Southwark Cathedral in London. It marked the start of a 2,000 mile journey by around 70 pilgrims walking in stages across Europe. It will take four months to complete and end in Jerusalem on 2 November, the day of the Balfour anniversary. The Just Walk is being organised by **Amos Trust** an organisation that puts a biblically inspired call for justice at the heart of its work. Amos is no stranger to the reality of the conflict. It has 30 years experience of working with Christian, Jewish and Muslim partners in Israel/Palestine and is bringing all of that experience to bear in creating this event. As the Walk approaches Jerusalem the final team of pilgrims will be accompanied by partners of Amos Trust's work to bring 'hope to the forgotten'. You can follow and share the progress of the 'Just Walk to Jerusalem' on social media using #ChangeTheRecord a reference to the endless injustice that Balfour set the tune for. There was a celebratory send off for the first team of walkers, including Palestinian music, some very British humour, good food, great prayers and a few short speeches. *Here's my send off speech which, as you'd expect, takes a dissident Jewish perspective on the whole thing:* Thank you for coming to see our first group of walkers safely on their way. And thank you for helping us to 'change the record' after a 100 years of injustice towards the Palestinian people. Our call is clear and simple: Equal rights for all who call the Holy Land home. It's astonishing how controversial that call is: "Equal rights for everyone in the Holy Land."

Continues on page 5

Here's my send off speech which, as you'd expect, takes a dissident Jewish perspective on the whole thing: Thank you for coming to see our first group of walkers safely on their way. And thank you for helping us to 'change the record' after a 100 years of injustice towards the Palestinian people. Our call is clear and simple: Equal rights for all who call the Holy Land home. It's astonishing how controversial that call is: "Equal rights for everyone in the Holy Land."

'#Changing the record' is about making that idea sound normal, reasonable and good for everyone. We have some way to go on that. For me, standing here is very special indeed. This year I became the first Jew to be a Trustee on the Board of Amos Trust. An organisation that's spent 30 years bringing Justice and Hope to the forgotten all over the world. I'm glad to have found a spiritual home in an incredible organisation that draws its courage and inspiration from a Hebrew prophet. 3,000 years ago it was the prophet Amos who cut through all the hypocrisy and all the denial of his own community with a passionate, raging and poetic call for justice. He recognised that the Jewish leadership of his day had got it wrong, they were leading their people down a moral cul-de-sac and were heading for disaster. And he called them out on it. His call was also clear and simple.

Amos and his fellow Hebrew Prophets certainly have a lot to answer for. They created a tradition. A tradition of principled counter-cultural, non-compliance. Radical dissent from oppressive power. A tradition that I and a great many other Jews think of as our primary Jewish inheritance. The values that remain true when so much else has become corrupted. All of you are here because you want to be part of a bold and creative response to some rather dismal anniversaries this year. This year we're marking the centenary of the Balfour Declaration and I've been speaking around the country about Jewish opposition to Balfour both in 1917 and today. Jewish opposition to Balfour is not something you hear much about. It's been largely airbrushed out of Jewish history. I call the talk I've been giving: 'The Wrong Kind of Jews' which usually raises a few eyebrows of concern. But don't worry, there's nothing antisemitic about what I have to say.

Here's a very quick story to explain myself. The man who would become the leader of the Zionist movement, Chaim Weizmann, first met Arthur Balfour at a hotel in Manchester in 1907. They spent about an hour together discussing Weizmann's ideas and at the end of their meeting Balfour said:

"It's strange Mr Weizmann. Most of the Jews I meet are not like you."

To which, Weizmann replied: "Mr Balfour, you meet the wrong kind of Jews."

So there were the 'Wrong Kind of Jews' then, and 100 years after Balfour, and 50 years after the start of the Occupation, there is good reason to be the 'Wrong Kind of Jew' today. It's not widely understood, but there are many Jews in Britain deeply troubled by the actions of the state of Israel. There are many Jews in Britain who see 50 years of Occupation of the West Bank as morally indefensible. Truly, a disaster. There are many Jews who see the siege of Gaza and the wars against its people as crimes. There are many Jews who believe Jerusalem must be a shared city. There are plenty of Jews, like me, who don't wish to build their Jewish identity around Zionism.

We aren't the majority. We are often dismissed, and sometimes ridiculed and vilified by our own community...especially its leadership. Sometimes it feels like we are the last remnant of that prophetic tradition of Amos.

This week **Jewish Voice for Peace in America** shared a prophecy written by Jewish Israelis just months after the Occupation began in 1967 and published as an ad in a national Israeli paper. Part of their ad said this: "Our right to defend ourselves... does not grant us the right to oppress others. Conquest brings in its wake foreign rule. Foreign rule brings in its wake resistance. Resistance brings in its wake oppression." That was the authentic voice of Amos echoing down three millennia.

Jews may be monotheistic in our theology but we are certainly not monolithic in our political outlook. Certainly not when it comes to Israel and the Palestinian people. Let me make special mention of a group here today – they've even brought their own banner. **Free Speech on Israel**, is a Jewish led initiative working hard to create space for an open and honest discussion about Israel that has no time for antisemitism or racism of any kind. Free Speech on Israel is punching above its weight and making common cause with others, including Christians and Muslims, who stand in solidarity with the Palestinian people. Thank you for being here.

http://www.patheos.com/blogs/writingfromtheedge/2017/06/many-bad-ways-mark-balfour-declaration-heres-one-good-one/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=BRSS&utm_campaign=Jewish&utm_content=344



Hiroshima Day 6 August 2017
the world says never again

On 6 August 1945, the US dropped an atomic bomb called "Little Boy" on Hiroshima in Japan. Three days later a second atomic bomb "Fat Man" was dropped on the city of Nagasaki.

These are the only times nuclear weapons have been used in war.

The firestorm in Hiroshima destroyed five square miles of the city.

Almost 63% of the buildings in Hiroshima were destroyed after the bombing and nearly 92% of the structures in the city were destroyed or damaged by blast and fire.

Estimates of total deaths in Hiroshima have generally ranged between 100,000 and 180,000, out of a population of 350,000.

Casualties from Nagasaki are thought to be between 50,000 and 100,000.

[Learn more about the background to the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings.](#)

<http://cnduk.org/campaigns/global-abolition/hiroshima-a-nagasaki>

7 July 2017

**The United Nations
adopts historic ban
on nuclear weapons.**



After the UN adoption of a ban on nuclear weapons
what can we do?

We can help raise the issue with our government
by writing to the Prime Minister.

A draft letter has been prepared by CND and can also
be accessed on their website.

Draft letter: Dear Prime Minister

You will be aware that on the 7 July 2017, more than 120 countries agreed an historic United Nations treaty to ban nuclear weapons.

I was very disappointed that the UK boycotted the negotiations and attempted to undermine these efforts by holding a press conference denouncing them, just feet away from where the talks were taking place.

The UK continues to claim to support the goal of a world without nuclear weapons, yet it seems intent on doing everything within its power to stop one from being brought closer. The failure to engage in the process, let alone support it, risks leaving the UK holding on to nuclear weapons as the rest of the world moves beyond them.

This is an opportunity for the UK to play a leading role in the international community by being not only the first nuclear weapons state to engage with the process but also by working actively with others to ensure the final treaty is effective.

I hope you will reconsider your position on this treaty and engage in the process in the future

<http://act.cnduk.org/lobby/GlobalBan>



**“The Church is there for life, not for profit”
says a missionary who works with Latin America’s
indigenous people**

“The Church is there for life, not for profit” a Columban priest and CAFOD partner told the National Justice and Peace Network of England and Wales annual conference this weekend. Based for five decades in Latin America, Irishman Fr Peter Hughes was contrasting Church support for marginalised communities with the destructive practices of large-scale mining and agribusiness companies in the Amazon rainforest.

He lamented destructive practices of extractive industries, and described the Amazon’s three million indigenous people as “today’s lepers, reduced to nothingness”. He said he was not totally against mining, “but it must be done in a more respectful way, respecting international law”. He warned that the planet’s fresh air, water and biodiversity are all being undermined with consequences for the whole Earth community.

He spoke about the REPAM initiative, (*Pan Amazonian Network that advocates for the rights of indigenous people at the United Nations*) which led him and Church leaders to accompany indigenous leaders from the Amazon to Washington in March to meet the American Commission for Human Rights, members of the U.S Congress, and the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. This was an important step towards promoting *a Church with an Amazonic Face – supporting indigenous peoples in their struggles to defend land, rivers and rainforest*. “They made quite an impact in their feathered headresses” he said “but lives have been reduced by extractive industries and could be reduced to oblivion in a very short time”. He felt we have much to learn from peoples who have lived sustainably in the Amazon for thousands of years, “never ceasing to have harmony with their habitat”. The U.S. Bishops expressed support for REPAM’s work, and he hoped the visit of Pope Francis to the Peruvian Amazon in January next year will highlight the plight of its indigenous peoples.

Fr Hughes was speaking to the weekend conference on the theme, *‘A Sabbath for the Earth and the Poor: The Challenge of Pope Francis’*, and around 260 Justice and Peace activists attended from most dioceses of England and Wales and some in Scotland. He is an advisor to the Instituto Bartolome de las Casas and CELAM, the collegial council of Latin American bishops. He thanked Pope Francis for his inspirational leadership in producing *Laudato Si’* six months before the discussions in Paris that led to an international Agreement on Climate Change. He pointed to Paragraph 139 of *Laudato Si’* which says: “We are faced not with two separate crises, one environmental and the other social, but rather with one complex crisis which is both social and environmental. Strategies for a solution demand an integrated approach to combating poverty, restoring dignity to the excluded, and at the same time protecting nature.”

His suggestion that we need to review our notions about progress and good living were picked up by Ruth Valerio of Tearfund, whose talk focused on the need for “inner ecological conversion”. She urged the conference to “get out and reconnect with the natural world”. Her books, *‘Just Living – Faith and Community in an Age of Consumerism’* and *‘L is for Lifestyle’*, are about living more simply and avoiding rampant consumerism. She felt “Pope Francis has presented us with the challenge of living with love and joy in this our common home”.

Continues on page 8

Cont. from p. 7 Kathy Galloway, a former leader of both the Iona Community and Christian Aid Scotland, lamented that the poorest suffer most from environmental destruction when they have “drained resources the least, waste nothing, and don’t fly around the world”. She urged that we live more sustainably and avoid a “privatised religion” which does not engage with the struggles of the most marginalised. There was a plea to support campaigns that challenge unjust and violent structures, and “to look outside the holy places for places where God’s reign is breaking through”. Examples in Scotland ranged from anti-nuclear protests on the streets, churches opening their doors to asylum seekers and “guerrilla” gardening. She reported being very moved by a panel organised by Church Action on Poverty from the Leeds Poverty Truth Commission which highlighted the suffering caused by poverty in Britain and the role of Church groups in building up support and hope.

The challenge to work at a macro level tackling structural injustice and the micro level of living more simply was reflected in workshops and “sabbath” time. The first included workshops on *Care for Creation; Sustainable Agriculture; Mining; Indigenous People; Stigmatisation of the poor; Divestment from fossil fuels*. And there was time for relaxing and contemplative activities such as a nature walk, visiting prayer spaces, an art session on the theme of the beauty of creation, and Tai Chi on the lawn. Discussing the harvesting of elderflowers and the production of elderflower cordial is not usually discussed at an NJPN Conference! And having time to visit the NJPN oak tree, now 30 feet tall, which was planted at the Swanwick Conference centre on NJPN’s 25th anniversary.

Saturday evening saw a performance of “Romero – the Heartbeat of El Salvador” and during the conference Mass Archbishop Oscar Romero was adopted as NJPN’s patron. (*performance at St Wilfrids Preston in autumn*)

At the final action planning session feedback included Arundel and Brighton Diocese setting up a diocesan environment group, East Anglia producing a draft environmental policy and Westminster pushing to become a fairtrade diocese. The Jesuit parish in Preston, Lancaster Diocese, is working towards becoming a livesimply parish. Steve Atherton of Liverpool Archdiocese, who said he felt like an “endangered species” as the only full time J&P worker left in England and Wales, spoke about producing resources for Autumn’s Creation Time which have been picked up by many Liverpool parishes.

Children at the conference produced a video “Can children and young people make a difference”. The answer was positive, with one quote being, “when life gives you lemons, make lemonade”. The youth group told participants: “We all say we want to tackle poverty – you need to get out there and do it!”.

Ellen Teague

Social Responsibility Forum discussion day on education



CTiC’s Social Responsibility Forum holds an annual discussion day which looks at a single issue in more depth than our business meetings allow. This year the SRF and our guests explored education, helped by 3 excellent inputs from:

- Michael Mill, Director of Education at the Diocese of Carlisle on current issues in education
- Willie Slavin, Chair of West Cumbria Poverty Forum on raising the attainment of disadvantaged children
- Jane Yates, Chair of Cumbria SACRE on religious education

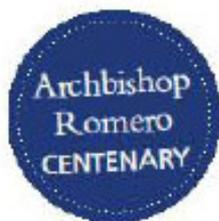
As a result of our discussions we will be writing to Cumbria’s MPs about some of the concerns raised.

We are keen to encourage churches across Cumbria to support their local schools

Archbishop Romero Trust

Romero Centenary Mass

Celebrating 100 years since the birth of Blessed Oscar Romero
1917-2017



Saturday August 12th at 12.30 in St George's Cathedral,
Southwark, London SE1 7HY

Principal Celebrant: **Archbishop Peter Smith**
Archbishop Vincenzo Paglia, Postulator of Romero's Cause in Rome,
will give the homily.

Refreshments and a toast in the Amigo Hall afterwards.

ALL ARE WELCOME



On **Saturday 23 September**, there will be a Special Evensong in Westminster Abbey to celebrate Romero's Centenary.

The Service will include the choir singing an anthem, commissioned for the occasion from composer James MacMillan, which draws on those closing words of the last homily, intermingled with verses from Psalm 31.

Cardinal Nichols will take part and the former archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams, will preach.

Westminster Abbey placed a statue of Archbishop Romero over the West Door back in 1998, a testimony to the esteem in which the Anglican Communion holds Oscar Romero.

We hope many of you will be there for this National Ecumenical Celebration of Blessed Oscar.

See below details

Evensong to commemorate the Centenary of the birth of Blessed Oscar Romero will take place on Saturday 23rd September at 3.00 pm at Westminster Abbey.

A Reflection on Oscar Romero's cherished final words

'The hope that inspires Christians',

Evensong will include chosen readings and music reflecting this special centenary and an Address from the Most Revd & Rt Hon Lord Williams of Oystermouth. Co-sponsors for the service include the Archbishop Romero Trust, Churches Together in England, Christian Aid and CAFOD.

It is expected that HE The Ambassador of El Salvador will attend.

To apply for up to six
free tickets online,

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/evensong-to-commemorate-the-centenary-of-the-birth-of-blessed-oscar-romero-tickets-35349736012>

**Archbishop Romero
Centenary 1917 - 2017**

Celebrating one hundred years of Blessed Oscar Romero



Keynote Speaker:

Rev Terrie Robinson Director for Women in Church and Society, the Anglican Communion

Saturday 7th October

10am—4pm

St Mary's Church & Ambleside Church Centre, **Ambleside LA22 9DH**

Ecumenical County



Made in God's Image: exploring gender and discipleship

A day to learn and question, explore perception and share stories, support and challenge

Workshops on: Domestic abuse, Gender justice, Gender and the local church, Expectations in maleness, Trans and the Church

Be My Guest: Cumbria Church Leaders in conversation

Cost: £12 (notify us if reduced rate needed).

Book by email lkctic@yahoo.com or call Helen on 07503 931196

Growing Through Conflict Foundation Day:

26 September 9.30am-4pm

Quaker Meeting House, Keswick;

Consider your 'conflict style' and how you respond in difficult or tense situations. Explore how conflict escalates in a church context and begin to consider some tools to de-escalate conflict.

The day is designed for any in leadership (lay, ordained, paid, stipendiary or voluntary) in our churches and will be facilitated by CTiC's Growing Through Conflict Network in conjunction with Place for Hope.

Cost £10 per person. Your denomination or local church may be able to support you in paying. You are asked to bring your own lunch, a Bible and paper. Tea, coffee, cake and fruit will be provided throughout the day.

For more information please contact Brec Seaton: seatonb@methodistchurch.org.uk

To book and pay please contact Helen Boothroyd: hbctic@tiscali.co.uk

Domestic abuse awareness training:

21 September; Kendal

CTiC is offering a further awareness training day and we are particularly keen that churches who have not yet sent anyone on this training book a delegate in this time.

But all are welcome and the training is particularly suitable for anyone, lay or ordained, involved in pastoral care or safeguarding. The training is free and has received very positive evaluation from previous participants.

To book a place contact Helen: 07503 931196.

Can your church help with an important church survey on domestic abuse?

CTiC has partnered with the Universities of Coventry and Leicester and "Restored" to undertake the *Church Responses to Domestic Abuse* research project in Cumbria; the first major UK study of this issue. Churches volunteer to take part and congregation members can anonymously complete the survey either online or on a paper copy.

The survey is optional so there is no requirement for anyone in the church to complete it if they do not want to. Everyone who completes the survey has complete anonymity and most questions are 'tick box'. The name of your church will not be revealed in any published document or talk.

If your church has not already taken part in the survey and would be willing to do so, please distribute the survey link among your congregation in early August when it will go live :

<https://coventry.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/cumbria>

If you would also like paper copies and reply envelopes and/or a piece for your church newsletter, please contact the research team on

churchresearch.tpsr@coventry.ac.uk or telephone Dr Rebecca Barnes on 0116 252 5707.

This research will provide a valuable resource to help churches better understand and address the problem of domestic abuse so we very much hope that many Cumbria churches will get in touch with the research team and volunteer to take part.





Boarbank Hall Events 2017

Boarbank Hall, Grange over Sands
Cumbria LA11 7NH

Thinking Scripture-God in the Bible

14th-21st October

Reformation and Counter-reformation

6th –10th November

Hope in Health Advent Retreat

1st –3rd December

For more information

www.boarbankhall.org.uk/events



ACTA

National Conference
2017

Locally ordained community leaders

An ancient solution to a
contemporary problem?

Tony Flannery
David McLoughlin
John Sullivan

Saturday 21st October 2017

Registration 10.30 for 11.00 start, close 4.30
Priory Rooms, Quaker Meeting House,
40 Bull Street, Birmingham City Centre, B4 6AF
6 minutes walk from New Street Station
Cost £20 (includes light lunch), under 25 free
Booking essential at www.acalltoaction.org.uk

CAFOD Carlisle Harvest Fast Day Briefing

Monday 11th September 7.00 - 8.30 pm

at New Waterton Hall, Warwick Square,
Carlisle CA14 1LB

Refreshments from 6.45 pm



Balfour, May and "the wrong kind of Jews"

7.00 pm Wednesday 15th November 2017

Robert Cohen speaks at
Cornerstone, Dalton Square,
Lancaster LA1 1PX

indian night

IN AID OF ST JOHN'S HOSPICE



THURSDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER

(7pm to 10:30pm)

The Trimpell Club, Morecambe (LA4 4UP)

Bollywood Dancing & Disco



Traditional Indian Banquet



Henna Painting, Sari Demonstrations & Much More!

TICKETS £15

For more information call 01524 382538



Caring for our community every hour of every day since 1986

WWW.SJHOSPICE.ORG.UK



St John's Hospice North Lancashire and South Lakes is a charitable Incorporated organisation registered in England with charity number 1157030



Lancaster and Morecambe Asylum and Refugee Support

We work to relieve poverty and isolation amongst this vulnerable group, advance their education, and provide services to improve social integration.

Since our creation in 2015, we continue to help an average of 130 people in our local community each week - with legal, housing, education, family support services, and access to emergency supplies.

LMARS depends on volunteers' support to deliver its work. Volunteering is a great opportunity to gain work experience, meet like-minded people and make a difference in your local community.

If you are thinking of volunteering, do not hesitate to get in touch with us to see how your skills could be of help to our mission. We are a very dynamic team, always happy to welcome dedicated people motivated to make a difference!

All volunteers will receive an induction and training. Travel expenses will be reimbursed.

VOLUNTEER WITH US!

Email lmarscoord@gmail.com

Events & Opportunities for Awareness Raising

- 6&9th August Anniversaries of the first use of atomic weapons at Hiroshima & Nagasaki.
Prayer resources www.paxchristi.org.uk
- 12th August 100th Anniversary of Romero's birth 12:30pm Mass Southwark Cathedral
- 18-21st August Pax Christi :Pedal for Peace
- 1st September Day of Prayer for Care of Creation <http://seasonofcreation.org> www.columbans.co.uk/creation-time/
- 1-4th October Season of Creation www.ctbi.org.uk
- 4-11 September Stop the Arms Fair week of action www.stopthearmsfair.org.uk
- 5th September No Faith in War at DSEi London www.londoncatholicworker.org
- 11th September CAFOD Carlisle Harvest Fast Day Briefing 7.00 - 8.30 pm see p.
- 17-23th Sept World Week for Peace in Palestine and Israel :Voices of the young ... visions for the future.
Pray for a peace process to end 50 years of Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territories;
Learn from the young people of the Holy Land and their visions for the future;
Act to create a just peace for all the people of Palestine & Israel. <http://tinyurl.com/UK-WWPPi>
- 20th September Celebrating Creation Service 7:00 St Monica's Blackpool
- 21st September Peace-One-Day www.peaceday.org/global-campaigns
- 23rd September** NJPN Open Networking Day 10.30am-1.30pm, CAFOD, Romero House, 55 Westminster Bridge Road, London SE1 7JB followed at 3pm by
- 23rd September Evensong for centenary of the birth of Blessed Oscar Romero, Westminster Abbey see p.12
- 6th October Harvest Fast Day –CAFOD
- 7th October Celebrating Together Churches Together Cumbria see p.13
- 8-14 October Prison Sunday & Prisons Week www.prisonweek.org
- 21st October ACTA National Conference Birmingham
- 19th October World Day of the Poor see p.10
- 15-22 October Week of Prayer for World Peace www.weekofprayerforworldpeace.org
- 22-29 October One World Week www.oneworldweek.org
- 15th November **Balfour, May and the "wrong kind of Jews"** 7.00 pm speaker Robert Cohen at Cornerstone, Dalton Square, Lancaster LA1 1PX
- 30th November Romero Lecture Fr Gustavo Gutierrez CP Las Casas Institute Blackfriars Oxford –book online at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/celebrating-a-martyr-why-oscar-romero-matters-fr-gustavo-gutierrez-op-tickets-35929453964>

Lancaster Diocesan Faith & Justice Commission

St Bernadette's Parish House Bowerham Road Lancaster LA1 4HT

Email:lfjc@talktalk.net Tel:01524 383081

www.lancasterfaithandjustice.co.uk