NJPN E-Bulletin 17th January 2021

Peace is a great and precious value, the object of our hope and the aspiration of the entire human family. As a human attitude, our hope for peace is marked by an existential tension that makes it possible for the present, with all its difficulties, to be "lived and accepted if it leads towards a goal, if we can be sure of this goal, and if this goal is great enough to justify the effort of the journey"[from Pope Benedict XVI 'Spe Salvi']. Hope is thus the virtue that inspires us and keeps us moving forward, even when obstacles seem insurmountable.

Pope Francis (for World Day of Peace 2020)

Dear Friends,

Today is Peace Sunday, and although we had some articles in the last e-bulletin, we have carried on the theme this time.

We also have some interesting articles about the storming of the Capitol Building which took place on the 6th January, which I felt relevant to our J & P values, along with many other items.

Today, in our area, we have finally got up to sunshine after a very dark week, not only weather-wise, but also with the continuing increase in Covid cases and variants, despite the lockdown. Maybe this extra time that many of us have on our hands can be used to get involved virtually with one of the many events/campaigns that we advertise.

The next bulletin will be out in two weeks' time, and don't forget, if you have something you particularly want shared, send it to:- ebulletin@justice-and-peace.org.uk.

Stay	safe,
Edito	or

E-Bulletin Contents: -

ACTION OF THE WEEK

News and Comment

- 1. Peace
- 2. Refugees/Migrants
- 3. NJPN column in the Universe
- 4. Climate Issues
- 5. Fairtrade Fortnight
- 6. This is Apartheid
- 7. Racial Justice Sunday
- 8. 'End Racism' Columban Schools Competition
- 9. 'I will never have regrets for talking about racial justice'
- 10. Human Trafficking
- 11. Assault on the Capitol

Newsletters and Round-Ups of 2020

- 12. Lancaster Faith and Justice January 2021
- 13. Diocese of Arundel and Brighton Refugee Crisis Newsletter
- 14. Joint Public Issues Team January 2021
- 15. Trade Matters

Events

- 16. Care of Creation Zoom Meetings every Monday lunchtime
- 17. 'How is Democracy Doing' 19th January
- 18. Church Action for Tax Justice House of Lords Debate 21st January
- 19. Various re Treaty on Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons22nd January

- 20. Birmingham J & P Discussion Forum
 26th January
- 21. World Day of Prayer against Human Trafficking
- 22. Church Action on Poverty Sunday 21st February
- 23. NJPN Networking Day 27 February

Actions

- 24. Ask your MP to vote for Trade Democracy
- 25. End Medical Apartheid

Vacancies

26. Finance Trustee for The Peace Museum

The Last Word

27. Where does Evangelisation begin?

See below for: -

Note on Data Protection

About these E-Bulletins

Donate to NJPN

ACTION OF THE WEEK



'Holocaust Memorial Day 27th January 2021'

Holocaust Memorial Day Trust encourages remembrance in a world scarred by genocide. They promote and support Holocaust Memorial Day— the international day on 27 January to remember the six million Jews murdered during the Holocaust, alongside the millions of other people killed under Nazi Persecution and in genocides that followed in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur.

27 January marks the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, the largest Nazi death camp.

The Holocaust threatened the fabric of civilisation, and genocide must still be resisted every day. Our world often feels fragile and vulnerable and we cannot be complacent. Even in the UK, prejudice and the language of hatred must be challenged by us all.

Holocaust Memorial Day is for everyone. Each year across the UK, thousands of people come together to learn more about the past and take action to create a safer future. We know they learn more, empathise more and do more.

Together we bear witness for those who endured genocide, and honour the survivors and those whose lives were changed beyond recognition. To see how you can join in, go to the <u>Holocaust Memorial Day Trust</u> website, where there are several ideas.

Also, at 7pm on the 27th January, there will be an online ceremony. To register, <u>click here.</u>

NEWS AND COMMENT

1. Peace Issues

Parishes urged to mark Peace Sunday

A good article in <u>The Tablet</u> from Ellen Teague about the excellent way that some Parishes are celebrating Peace Sunday, including St. Wilfrid's, Preston, who recycle their Christmas Tree and use it as a Peace Tree.



Pope Francis: There can be no peace without a culture of care

In his message for the Catholic Church's World Day of Peace, Pope Francis appeals to the international community to foster a 'culture of care' by advancing on the "path of fraternity, justice and peace between individuals, communities, peoples and nations." You can read the message in full here.

Statement on the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons

On Friday 22 January 2021 the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons comes into force. This is an historic milestone on the path to nuclear disarmament and an opportunity to refocus on genuine peacebuilding rooted in dialogue, justice, respect for human dignity, and care for our planet.

The Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales have produced a Statement urging support for the Treaty and repeating their call for the UK to forsake its nuclear arsenal. Read it here.

We urge everyone to write to their Bishop to say thank you for supporting this Treaty.

Promote role of women in fostering peace and security

The Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), Monsignor Janusz Urbańczyk, has urged the European body to "continue working for peace and justice by implementing the commitments they have consensually undertaken."

He also drew attention to the "irreplaceable contribution women offer when it comes to reconciliation and the building of peace," recalling the 20th anniversary of the adoption of the UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on women, peace and security.

In this regard, he reaffirmed the Holy See's conviction of the need to promote "the role of women in all levels of conflict prevention, crisis management and resolution, and post-conflict rehabilitation." He also called on the OSCE to work towards fostering the role of women in peace and security "according to our consensually agreed commitments."

To read the full article, go to Vatican News.

2. Refugees and Migrants

Host a Homeless Refugee friend in 2021

The Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) writes: -

As we begin the New Year, most of us are spending more time at home than we ever have. Challenging as it may be, we might often feel grateful for the cosy comfort and warmth of our own homes. But for many of our refugee friends, the New Year brings with it the anxiety of not knowing where you will be sleeping tomorrow.

Our hosting scheme, 'At Home', has been a lifeline for many of our refugee friends facing homelessness in London. The scheme operates all year-round, matching refugee friends with volunteer hosts who offer a safe space for them to stay for 3 months at a time. We have made over 100 short-term placements, and we regularly hear hugely positive feedback on the experience from hosts and quests alike.

To read further about the scheme and what it means to those who both host, and who are guests, go to the <u>JRS website</u>.

Caritas warns of humanitarian crisis for migrants in Bosnia-Herzegovina

Hundreds of migrants and refugees are at serious risk and the mercy of worsening weather conditions in inadequate shelters, amid the lack of political consensus in Bosnia-Herzegovina. To read more about what is being done to help them at present, and the situation, go to the <u>Vatican News website</u>.

3. Latest NJPN Columns in The Universe

8th January – Barbara Kentish – White Privilege

'White privilege' is the notion I shall retain from 2020. The Black

Lives Matter explosion had repercussions for all who have suffered racism, and for those like myself who have worked for anti-racism for decades. "It has brought back all those incidents of pain, anger and self-doubt that we had buried and put behind us," said one black friend.

"We're reliving the trauma." I, a white, felt some weariness. Many obvious things had been suggested before: more black role models for our young people, recognition of black history in mainstream education, more black religious/cultural imagery, more black leaders. I can think of many reasons for the failures of anti-racists like me: unwillingness to confront injustice; economic disasters hitting black and ethnic minorities the hardest; xenophobic fury encouraged by right-wing groups, and so on. Another reason is indifference and laziness among whites, however. What a wake-up call, that the generation of young black people I myself might have once taught are becoming more vocal about racism. Reni Eddo-Lodge, author of the best-seller, Why I am no longer talking to white people about race, went to a Catholic school near where I taught. She is wounded by the blithe carelessness of white friends, indifferent to the history of slavery. My British-born friend with Jamaican parents has spent years as head of a deprived South London primary school. She tells me that she still attends teacher meetings with her inexperienced white male deputy only to find that he is assumed head, rather than herself. Such casual racism is part of white privilege, or in religious language, culpable ignorance. One black friend talks about the pervasive suspicion he encounters: the crime of 'driving while black', the stop-and-search, the casual assumption that black equals criminal. Recently athlete Bianca Williams and her partner were dragged from their car and separated from their baby, under stop and search powers.

What can black people do? Have the energy and patience to keep on challenging white privilege. Where can white people start? Learn, urgently, about black history, not just in Black History Month, but all year round, in school and parish; listen with humility to the experiences of black neighbours and parishioners. A few of us, black and white, have produced a 2021 calendar celebrating Africans in Northern England to challenge the all-white view of Northern history. What a great learning experience for me! For copies contact barbarakentish@talktalk.net.

17th January – Aisling Griffin, Pax Christi's Schools and Youth Education Officer

These last few months have showed us many examples of people caring for others. This year, Pope Francis highlights in his 2021 World Peace Day Message, 'A Culture of Care as a Path to Peace', the need to care for each other as a key part of working for peace. Despite the goodwill that we see around us, we also still see inequality, injustice and violence. Pope Francis says, we must "combat the culture of indifference, waste and confrontation so prevalent in our time".

We are taken back to the biblical foundations of our faith. The prophets show how justice can be seen in how a community treats its weakest members. The teachings of Jesus show us the importance of justice and how to love, which mirrors the love of God for us. We are told that since the days of the early Church, caring for others has been at the centre of Church life. How can we ensure that this is still the centre of our witness today?

To care for others we need to protect and promote the common good, dignity for all, compassion and reconciliation, as this will help lead us to peace. Pointing out that we live in a world where conflict and war are seen as normal, we are invited to consider our response. Pope Francis asks if the money that we spend on weapons, particularly nuclear weapons, could instead be spent to promote other things, such as peace and healthcare. He renews his call for a 'Global Fund' to be created, from money usually spent on militarism, to be used to help tackle injustice. He also sees education as essential in creating a culture of care- in families, schools, communities, and churches.

Pax Christi answers this call to educate and enable people to work for peace, particularly through promoting this message. This year we will do so on Sunday, January 17th and we invite churches, communities and families to join us in exploring the message, working for peace and organising a collection for Pax Christi. Resources – including liturgy notes - are available on our website at: https://paxchristi.org.uk/peace-sunday-2021/

And if you can't do it this weekend, promote the message on a date that works for you!

Our thanks go to our friends at The Universe for supporting us. If you would like to take out a subscription to their newspaper, please follow this link.

4. Climate/Environment Matters

Raise your voice on behalf of our Common Home

The Executive Director of the Global Catholic Climate Movement (GCCM), Tomas Insua, talks about the importance of this week's "One Planet Summit" to discuss biodiversity and the impact of its loss on the planet. Read his comments and listen to the interview in Vatican News.

5. 5 ways to choose the world you want in 2021

The Fairtrade Foundation is promoting their online Festival, as part of Fairtrade Fortnight between 22nd February and the 7th March 2021, and they have five ways that the global Fairtrade movement will be making the future brighter for everyone this year. Click here for more details.

6. This is Apartheid

Palestine Solidarity Campaign writes:-

This week witnessed what should be a game-changing moment in the global campaign for justice for the Palestinian people. B'Tselem, Israel's leading human rights organisation, has released a report declaring Israel to be an apartheid state.

What B'Tselem said was not new. Their conclusion that Israel is practicising apartheid, as defined under the Rome Statute, is one made previously by legal scholars, human rights organisations and UN special rapporteurs. What is different is that this judgement is being echoed boldly by such an eminent Israeli organisation.

You can read the report from B'Tselem <u>here.</u> To find out more about the work of the Palestine Solidarity Campaign go to their <u>website.</u>

7.Racial Justice Sunday - 31st January 2021 - 'A Time to Act'



What a year it has been; not only with the effects of the Coronavirus, but also the killing of George Floyd which sparked emotion and outrage amongst everyone the world over, generating awareness of racial issues and inequalities that many of us didn't even realise existed, much to our shame.

In recent years Pope Francis has repeatedly used four verbs encouraging positive and direct action in relation to migrants and refugees, 'Welcome, Protect, Promote and Integrate'. These same words are essential to advancing the cause of racial justice. None can be omitted, it is as necessary to have plans to Promote and Integrate as it is to Welcome.

The Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales have <u>various</u> resources to read through, and to use in parishes. They have also produced the following prayer:-

Lord Jesus Christ, in your ministry you were approached by people of many different nations and cultures. You listened to their cry for help, treated them with love and compassion, and brought them healing and wholeness.

In our own time may we provide to all those who are suffer the help that they need and the care that they require.

May we respond to the invitation of the Holy Spirit to dream of a world made new where the poor are not forgotten but are given the opportunity to live and flourish with good health and equal prospects.

We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord.

Amen.

8. 'End Racism' - Columban Schools Competition

Closing Date 20th February 2021

Ellen Teague writes 'Let's Create A World Without Racism' is the theme for a schools' competition launched by the Columban Missionary Society. The objective is to encourage students 14-18 years old to use their media skills to look at a topical issue which is relevant to society today and resonates with Catholic Social Teaching.

The competition is open for writing and image entries until 20 February 2021 and winners will be announced on 15 March 2021. Two separate

competitions will be judged, one for students in Ireland and one in Britain and high-profile judges from the world of journalism have been secured.

In June this year, after the death of George Floyd in the United States, Pope Francis said, "we cannot tolerate or turn a blind eye to racism and exclusion in any form and yet claim to defend the sacredness of every human life." Young people in Ireland and Britain have been out on the streets calling for an end of racism. This is a chance to engage with an issue that addresses equality, justice, inclusion and also draws on faith and personal experience.

A core aspect of Columban mission is crossing boundaries of language, race, culture and religion. In Britain, Columban Justice and Peace Education Worker, James Trewby, runs training for teachers and workshops with young people challenging myths and preconceptions related to refugees and asylum seekers. In Ireland, Columbans support two migrant rights centres which outreach to migrants and campaign to end racism. In the U.S., Columbans on mission at the U.S./Mexico border support migrants from Latin America who have faced racist attacks and killings in the vicinity of a wall built to keep them out. In Brazil, Australian Columban Fr Colin McLean co-founded the organisation 'Cena Um' to counter racist attitudes towards Afro-Brazilian youth. Using drama, dance and circus arts it raises social awareness and links slavery to today's racial discrimination.

This is the fourth annual competition for young people, with past themes looking at Migrants, Climate Change and 'Tackling our throwaway culture'. Last year 20 schools in England submitted entries and 26 in Ireland. The Columbans are delighted that the competition gives young people a voice while encouraging their creativity.

For more information about the Columban schools journalism competition see:

www.columbancompetition.com



9. 'I will never have regrets for talking about racial justice'

Gloria Purvis, who was told after the 30th December broadcast of the EWTN radio show "Morning Glory" that the show was canceled effective immediately, said she has no regrets about using the show to discuss racial matters following the police killing of George Floyd last May.

Ms Purvis said ""I will never, ever, ever have regrets for shining the light of the Gospel on a situation that was surrounded by darkness." She talks about her experiences, and about racial justice in this article for <u>America Magazine</u>.

10. Human Trafficking Returnees from Kenya and Uganda recount pain/permanent scars from captivity

Juanita Ndagire was sure that she had a well-paying receptionist job

waiting for her at a hotel in Dubai when she left home in Uganda in search for greener pastures. This was, however, a lie that the agents she was working with invented to sell her into slavery thousands of miles away from home.

Juanita gave a Presentation at a Conference on January 7th. Details of herstory, and others, are available <u>here.</u>

11. Assault on the Capitol

A couple of articles, trying to make sense of the scenes we saw coming out of Washington on the 6th January.

From The New Yorker: - The Inciter-in-Chief by David Remnick How surprising can Donald Trump's recent provocation be when for years he has served as an inspiration to bigots everywhere? Read the full piece here.

From Independent Catholic News - US church leaders condemn pro-Trump riots

Church leaders across the United States have made statements condemning the violent riots which took place in Washington DC and other cities across the country.

Archbishop José Gomez, president of the US Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) said: "This is not who we are as Americans."

Read the full article here.

NEWSLETTERS

12. Lancaster Faith and Justice January 2021

Another great newsletter from our friends in Lancaster. Lots of interesting articles about the important Justice and Peace issues of the moment. Click here to read.

13. Refugee Crisis Newsletter

Newly discovered, the Diocese of Arundel and Brighton have their own Refugee Crisis Newsletter. Lots of interesting facts, as well as stories about the work they are doing. <u>Find it here</u>

14. Joint Public Issues Team January 2020

A very good newsletter, covering the justice issues prevalent across our communities. Read it here.

15. Traidcraft Exchange's Trade Matters Magazine

Their January issue includes a preview of their newest campaign, an update from their 2019 Tanzania appeal and a few ways you can help build a greener, fairer world over the coming year. <u>Available here.</u>

EVENTS and COMPETITIONS (in chronological order where applicable)

16. Every Monday Lunchtime, 1pm - 1.45pm, throughout 2021

Care of Creation Meetings on Zoom

Bringing together Catholics from five Dioceses in London and the South East to pray, share updates and ideas, discuss and take unified action for Climate Justice during 2021, leading up to the UN Climate Conference COP26 in Glasgow, 1-12 November 2021. Also taking in all other aspects of the Care of Creation along the way, such as preventing habitat loss, protecting biodiversity, eliminating waste, promoting sustainable development, global racial justice, Live Simply Parishes, Journey to 2030...

For more information click here.

17. Tuesday 19th January, 3pm

'How is Democracy Doing'

The panel will discuss surprising successes, disappointing failures,

persistent issues of self-determination, and the recent insurrection in Washington intended to overturn the election of Joe Biden as the next president of the United States.

Click here for more information and to join.

18. Thursday 21st January 2021 - time not shown, but you will be able to check on the website nearer the day.

Church Action for Tax Justice have just heard that our report, <u>Tax for the Common Good</u>, will be the subject of an hour long debate in the House of Lords on Thursday 21st January. You'll be able to watch and listen here: https://www.parliamentlive.tv/Lords

19. Friday 22nd January 2021 -

Various events to celebrate the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons coming into force

11.30am - Short Thanksgiving Service via Zoom - https://zoom.us/j/92764498337

7.30pm - a sequence of short musical performances to mark and to celebrate the coming into international law of UN's Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. <u>Book here.</u>

8pm - Be part of a once-in-history celebration of the moment we ban nuclear weapons—a 90 minute live streamed event organised by ICAN. Details here.

20. Tuesday 26th January 2021 - 7pm

Birmingham Justice and Peace Discussion Forum

This forum is to allow you to get to know the Commission Members and to discuss our proposed Environmental Policy. Click here to register.

21. Monday 8th February 2021

World Day of Prayer and Awareness against Human Trafficking Resources available here.

22. Sunday 21st February 2021

Church Action on Poverty Sunday will be on the theme of 'New Wineskins'. We invite you to join churches across the UK and be part of this special day:

Give, act and pray to ensure people on the margins are fully involved in the world we build as we emerge from the pandemic

We live in tough times. The past few months have highlighted the inequalities that sweep too many people into poverty. But we have also been reminded of the values that matter most: mutuality, compassion and community. As we journey forward together, we have the chance to do things differently. If we are to build a society in which everyone can live a full life, free from poverty, we must ensure the voices of people who are struggling to make ends meet are heard.

Join churches around the UK in prayer, giving and action this Church Action on Poverty Sunday. Share a vision for a society founded on compassion and justice, where all people are able to exercise dignity, agency and power.

Get your Resource Pack here...

23. 27th February 2021 11am – 3pm

NJPN Networking Meeting

Come and join us for our next Networking Day, starting at 11am, and held via Zoom. Book your free place via <u>Eventbrite</u>.

ACTIONS/APPEALS

24. Ask your MP to vote for Trade Democracy

Last chance to email your MP here.

25. End Medical Apartheid

Israel has been celebrated for the speed and efficiency in rolling out a Covid vaccine - vaccinating a larger share of its population than any other country in the world... but 5 million Palestinians have been completely sidelined.

Please write to the Foreign Office here.

Vacancies

26. The Peace Museum are looking for a Finance Trustee

The Board of the Peace Museum shall appoint a Finance Trustee who understands charity finance, who is familiar with budget calculations and who is responsive to emails particularly when payment authorisation is required. For a full job description, <u>click here.</u>

27. THE LAST WORD

Where does evangelisation begin?

Paul Southgate, NJPN Chair, tells the story of the folk on his allotment, and how they are a microcosm of society. He asks the question, 'how do we begin to evangelise these beautiful children of God, and show them Emmanuel.' Read it through Independent Catholic News.

Note on Data Protection

Your email address is stored with MailChimp only to allow us to send you these emails, and to track interactions (e.g. open rates). To read more about how MailChimp stores and uses your information, click here for the full MailChimp Privacy Policy. Sections referring to Distribution Lists concern your emails.

No sensitive data (such as credit card details) is given to MailChimp because we do not have an e-commerce element.

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

Please note that we are still using a temporary postal address due to the closure of the Eccleston Square Office:-

Geoff Thompson, NJPN, c/o CAFOD Lancaster Volunteer Centre, St. Walburge's Centre, St. Walburge's Gardens, Preston, PR2 2QJ

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 <u>ebulletin@justice-and-peace.org</u> 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 <u>easyfundraising.org.uk</u>, where lots of companies will make a donation to us when you shop online with them.

follow on Twitter | friend on Facebook | forward to a friend

Copyright © 2020 National Justice & Peace Network, All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email because: - You signed up via our website - You signed up via www.catholicsocialteaching.org.uk - You signed up at an NJPN event - You contacted NJPN directly to request them - You are an organisation from whom we receive emails regularly

Our mailing address is:

National Justice & Peace Network NJPN 39 Eccleston Square London, London SW1V 1BX United Kingdom

Add us to your address book



unsubscribe from this list | update subscription preferences

Please note we are still using a temporary postal address due to the closure of the Eccleston Square office:

Geoff Thompson, NJPN, c/o CAFOD Lancaster Volunteer Centre, St Walburge's Centre, St Walburge's Gardens, Preston PR2 2QJ.

You can still use the same phone number.