



**Prayer for the COP26 climate summit**

Loving God,

We praise your name with all you have created.

You are present in the whole universe,  
and in the smallest of creatures.

We acknowledge the responsibilities you have placed upon us  
as stewards of your creation.

May the Holy Spirit inspire all political leaders at COP26 as they  
seek to embrace the changes needed to foster a more sustainable society.

Instil in them the courage and gentleness to implement fairer solutions  
for the poorest and most vulnerable,  
and commit their nations to the care of Our Common Home.

We ask this through Our Lord Jesus Christ your Son.

Amen

### **About this prayer**

Working in partnership with CAFOD, the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales (CBCEW) have written a prayer to encourage people to pray for the leaders meeting at COP26 in November.

Prepared in the hope that God will provide world leaders with the courage necessary to take action on behalf of the environment and the world's poorest, this prayer is part of a wider effort by the Church to pursue ecological justice.

[Learn more about the environmental work of the CBCEW.](#)

Dear Friends,

The COP26 Conference is now upon us, and the news has been full of it in the last week, and of the various meetings going on.

My disappointment of this week was hearing that President Biden went to meet with the Pope, along with an 85 car motorcade! Apparently, it was to do with the fact that Italian Covid-19 rules state that only four people can travel in each vehicle. I am sure that you are all thinking the same as me: - 'couldn't they have taken less people?' I was reading an article by Martin Slater in the Christian Aware magazine, in which he talked about the NJPN Conference. He makes a good point when he writes 'There seems to be little point at raging over coal fired power stations and other industrial excesses, when we are blindly content to consume the products and services that they produce.' He also goes onto say that we have been too used to taking 'stuff' for granted.

We need to teach ourselves and others to do this with respect to Mother Earth, which I am confident could do so much to assuage climate problems.'

Really, this e-bulletin is all about COP26. There is so much to be read about it, I have tried to pick a sample of the articles available - but obviously there will be many more from pretty much every organisation that has similar values to ours.

The next e-bulletin will be out around the 14th November, which is also the same weekend as the next [NJPN Networking Day](#).

I am really grateful for any articles that you want sharing. Also, if you could pass this e-bulletin onto any interested parties, that would be much appreciated; and please do encourage people to sign up in their own name.

Have a good and healthy fortnight,

Sharon (Editor)

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



**COP26: Global Day of Action for the Climate 2021**

**Saturday 6th November 2021**

***Join the global day of action to make sure that our call for climate action is not ignored.***

*You can either:-*

**[Register for London](#)**

**[Register for Glasgow](#)**

*All of the information that you need for the above two events is available on the [CAFOD website](#).*

*There are also various blocs of different organisations taking part in the Day of Action next weekend. One of those is the 'Global Solidarity' bloc, and you can find more details from the Palestine Solidarity Campaign [here](#).*

*If you wanted to join an event more local to you, check out the [Footsteps](#) page in Birmingham, or the [COP26 Coalition](#) page, which has events taking place all over the country.*

**Thank you!**

## **NEWS AND COMMENT**

### **1. COP26 (includes **Actions** and **Events**)**

#### **Pope Francis' words in advance of COP26**

In a reflection given to BBC Radio 4's Thought for the Day programme, Pope Francis looks ahead to the COP26 UN climate summit and challenges us to work together to offer a radical new outlook on how we tackle climate change. You can listen to it/read it through the Catholic Bishops' website [here](#).

In my opinion, the most poignant thing he said was (in talking about a meeting he attended) *'I was impressed by something said by one of the scientists present at that meeting. He told us: "If things continue as they are, in fifty years' time my baby granddaughter will have to live in an unliveable world". We cannot allow this to happen!'*

#### **Carbon Cop-Out: Let's make zero really mean zero (**Action**)**

The climate crisis is spiralling and the world needs to cut carbon emissions fast.

But when the UK government says it's working towards Net Zero carbon, it's only talking about emissions produced in the UK.

As a nation, we outsource carbon emissions to other countries through the huge amounts of food, clothes and gadgets we import from around the world.

For more details, and the chance to email Kwasi Kwarteng, Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, to demand action today, go to [Traidcraft Exchange](#).

Interestingly, Friends of the Earth are also doing a similar petition, and cited the article from [Sky News](#) about the major overseas gas project being funded by UK Export Finance, which we reported on in the last e-bulletin.



## Event

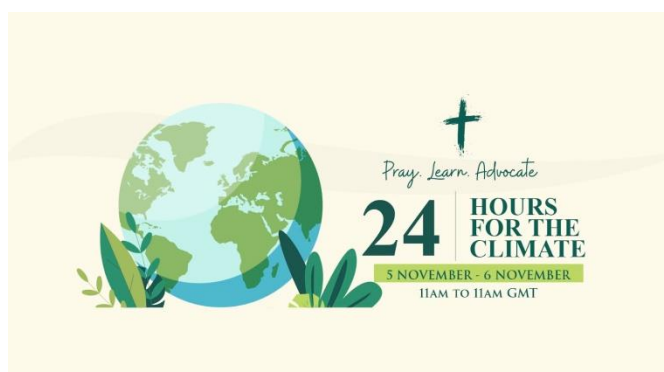


If you cannot physically make it to an event next week, you can join in with this Digital Rally. There are lots of great speakers, and you can sign up [here](#).

### **COP26 message to Boris Johnson**

CAFOD reports that tens of thousands of people across the UK, including 50,000 Catholics, have urged Boris to 'give us faith you'll lead at COP'. You can read more [here](#).

## Event - 24 Hours for the Climate



Join Catholics and people of faith to pray and advocate for the success of COP26.

At COP26, we need negotiators to agree to stop all fossil fuel extraction by 2040, protect and restore ecosystems, and financially support developing countries as they adapt to climate change. On 5-6 November, join this global vigil to learn from communities suffering from climate change, pray for the future of our common home, and write messages that will be delivered to COP26 negotiators. You can [RSVP here](#). More about the Vigil is also available to read through [ICN](#).

## Event - People's Summit for Climate Justice

Between the 7th and 10th November there are lots of workshops going on, both in person and online. To explore these, and to register, [click here](#).

## COP26 Climate Pilgrims converge on Glasgow

We have been following the journeys of the various Climate Pilgrims. Ellen Teague, through ICN, covers the arrival of the pilgrims in Glasgow, and also the Church Service to welcome those from the Young Christian Climate Network. To read the article and watch the video of the Service, click [here](#).

## Catholics united for the Season of Creation 2021

This uplifting video, produced by the Laudato Si' Movement shows what has been going on in the lead-up to COP26. You can watch it through [YouTube](#)



## 2. Other Climate News (includes an Action)

### We are for the Climate

An interesting video has been produced by [Forestry England](#) concerning the benefits of the forests, and what they are doing to protect them and plan ahead. It is well worth a watch. Their '*optimism, like their trees, is growing.*'

### Asia suffered hottest year on record in 2020

Licas News reports on the announcement from the UN in its 'Statement of the Climate in Asia' that extreme weather and climate change impacts across Asia in 2020 caused the loss of life of thousands of people, displaced millions of others and cost hundreds of billions of dollars, while wreaking a heavy toll on infrastructure and ecosystems.

Details of the facts and figures are available through the [Licas News website](#).

### Action - Tell Shell to stop hiding behind carbon offsetting

Greenpeace reports that Shell have been claiming their customers can keep motoring with no climate impact using 'drive carbon neutral', their carbon offsetting scheme. But they have investigated some of these projects and found these claims simply don't add up. Please consider signing the [Greenpeace petition](#) to Shell.

### Climate Crisis fuels existing water injustice

World Council of Churches writes: - *2021 has shown how vulnerable and unprepared even wealthy, industrialised countries are in the face of the escalating climate crisis. Devastating flooding, unprecedented heat waves and out-of-control wildfires have hit parts of Europe and North America. Yet this is just a foretaste of catastrophes that have long since become a bitter reality in other parts of the world. They are almost always a matter of too much or too little water. Yet water problems are often the result of discrimination and political failure, especially in times of climate change.* You can read their full article [here](#).

## **Madagascar on verge of potentially first climate change famine**

Vatican News reports on the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) statement that says that after three years of severe drought, as well as cyclones, floods and locust outbreaks, harvests have been wiped out and hampered people's access to food.

You can read more about the situation and what the WFP is doing about it [here](#).

## **From the Foot of the Mountain: a climate crisis poem**

CAFOD have highlighted the work that Suhey, a wife and mother in northern Nicaragua, does with ASOMUPRO, which works to counteract the patriarchal culture that prevails in many mixed gender organisations, working on projects relating to climate change adaptation and promoting agroecology, providing training and information on existing laws to protect water sources, and providing work experience so that women can support themselves.

The project being led by ASOMUPRO is part of a three-year EU regional project on environmental human rights defenders.

Suhey has written a poem about what is happening in her region and the damage that is being done to the environment. The poem is below, but the full article, including Suhey reading her poem, can be found through [CAFOD](#).

### **From the Foot of the Mountain by Suhey**

Deep in the mountain,  
I hide away in a place of beauty,  
But humans with all their prowess,  
Know not how to care for me.  
Little by little, they strip me bare,  
And senselessly destroy me,  
Depriving me of my being,  
My deep green gown.

No more do the birds sing  
Their sweetest melodies,  
Nor do the children enchant me with their joyful smiles.

My name is Telpaneca,  
A land of drought and damp.  
I am the mother of a river they despoil pitilessly.

They remove stones and sand, increasing my thirst,  
And bind me with chains, preventing me from blossoming.

“No more of such hurt and villainy”,  
Is my irony-filled cry from the heart of the mountain.

Help me escape from this present hell  
And I promise to endow you with fruit, fresh water and joy.

### **3. Refugees, plus the Nationality and Borders Bill**

#### **Campaign Toolkit on the Nationality and Borders Bill**

JRS and the SVP have produced a Campaign Toolkit which explains the eight things you should know about the Bill and why it will make life that much harder for people seeking safety. It also takes you through the four ways you can advocate for refugees today. You can read it through the [SVP website](#).

#### **Westminster Rally says 'Refugees are welcome here'**

Ellen Teague, through ICN, writes about the Rally that happened outside Westminster on the 20th October, as well as other gatherings that took place around the country.

Labour Peer Lord Alfred Dubs said the Nationality and Borders Bill that is being scrutinised by MP's in its committee stage, before going back to the Commons for the third reading, treats refugees like criminals, rather than victims. He said: - *"We can't close the door on the vulnerable, especially after what they've been through."*

Read the full article [here](#).

#### **Hunger Strike for Migrants**

Three people, including a Jesuit Priest, are on the 21st day of their hunger strike in Calais. They are protesting about the way migrants and refugees are treated by the local authorities over there, and are asking for the local police to stop dismantling the camps, and confiscating their tents and belongings, especially during the Winter months. Barbara Kentish has

covered the situation in her article for [ICN](#).

Also, if you go to the [Seeking Sanctuary](#) website, you will read the latest October news from Ben Bano. The article also covers the degrading treatment that the migrants receive in Calais.

Sadly, up to three people are presumed missing at sea, following the rescue of two Somali nationals off the coast of Essex, near Harwich, this week. They had attempted to make the crossing from France to the UK in a dinghy.

Priti Patel, Home Secretary, stated *"It is a tragedy. It is an absolute tragedy, it really is. Clearly there are investigations taking place right now so we have to let that investigation process occur. But I can give everyone solid, solid assurance that my work with both France and other counterparts as well is very much based on stopping the loss of life."*

May we ask, how?

#### **4. Current priorities for an EU response to the situation in Afghanistan**

Various NGO's have come together and put together a joint statement about the current situation in Afghanistan, which begins: - *As European NGOs working on asylum and migration and Afghan Diaspora organisations in Europe, we are alarmed about the situation in Afghanistan and concerned above all about the security of the people of Afghanistan, both those within the country and those displaced and seeking protection in the region and beyond.*

*The vast majority of displaced Afghans will likely be hosted in the neighbouring countries, as has been the case over decades of displacement from Afghanistan. For reference, since 2015, over six years, 570,000 Afghans sought protection in the EU and associated countries. The majority received a protection status. In contrast, by July 2021, Iran hosted 800,000 registered refugees and up to 3 million other displaced Afghans. In Pakistan, there were 1.4 million registered refugees and up to 2 million other displaced Afghans. These figures have been increasing by the day. In addition, there are close to 5.5 million IDPs in the country.*

*In this context, it is crucial that the small proportion of displaced people who do arrive in Europe are given rapid access to a fair asylum procedure in*

*line with European states' obligations under EU and international law.*

The statement then goes on to list five urgent responses for EU and European countries. Read it through [JRS here](#).

## **5. Life News**

### **1700 medics urge rejection of assisted suicide**



Care Not Killing writes: - *A group of 1,700 doctors and nurses have voiced their strong opposition to legalising assisted suicide and say they will refuse to kill their patients even if the law is changed. Their intervention comes ahead of next week's second record reading of a private members bill in the House of Lords that would allow doctors to provide lethal drugs to terminally ill people wanting to end their lives.*

*In the letter to the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, Sajid Javid, the doctors say:*

*"As healthcare professionals, we have a legal duty of care for the safety and wellbeing of our patients. We write with great concern regarding the introduction of a Bill to legalise assisted suicide."*

You can read the full statement [here](#).

### **Pro-Life movement must prepare for long spiritual battle**

ICN writes: - *The pro-life movement must be prepared for a protracted struggle in 21st Century, the Bishop of Shrewsbury has said.*

*In a homily at a Mass for the National Pro-Life Pilgrimage to Walsingham, Norfolk, the Rt Rev Mark Davies said that the relentless advance of the "culture of death" meant the movement must be ready to respond to many new challenges in the years ahead.*

To read the full article, click [here](#).

## **6. NJPN Blog on Independent Catholic News**

There are some very good articles to be read from our 'Guest Bloggers' on the ICN website.

### **19th October - Striving to live non-violently**

Aisling Griffin talks about creation and the importance of living non-violently within it.

You can read her blog [here](#).

### **26th October - Settle meets a walker**

Paul Kelly, a member of the NJPN Environment Group, encounters a walker on the way to COP! This is a very inspiring story about Push, a veteran walker and climate activist who is about to turn 70. Please do read it, and watch the accompanying video, [here](#).

Thanks go to our friends at Independent Catholic News for providing us with a platform for our articles. You can check out ICN in full [here](#).

## **Newsletters**

### **7. Living Fair October 2021**

The usual showcase of the Traidcraft products, mixed with some interesting articles. You can find it [here](#)

### **8. Operation Noah October 2021**

Good news in that 72 faith institutions have divested from fossil fuels. That, and other news, is available to read [here](#).

### **9. Biofuelwatch October 2021**

Lots of news and updates about the campaigns they have been supporting.



Click [here](#) to read.

### **10. London Mining Network October 2021**

Opening with an article about working with the COP26 Coalition over a number of events, along with lots of other news about what they have been doing. Read it [here](#).

### **11. World Council of Churches' Together for Water Oct 2021**

This issue focuses on water and climate change as the world is anxiously awaiting for the UN climate summit to begin. Find it [here](#).

## **EVENTS (in chronological order where applicable)**

### **12. 1st - 12th November 8am - Green Christian**

[Why Faith Matters at COP](#) - 10 minutes of daily prayer

### **13. 5th - 6th November 11am - 11am**

[24 Hours for the Climate](#)

### **14. 7th November**

[COP26 Church Service](#)

### **15. 13th November - 11am - 3pm NJPN Networking Meeting**

['So What Must Be Done' - to reflect on COP and its outcomes](#)

### **16. 16th November 3.15pm - 5pm PACT**

[Conference: Safe, Secure Decent?](#)

### **17. 17th November 3pm - 6pm - Anti-Slavery International**

[Supporter Conference](#)

### **18. 17th November - 7pm - Green Christian**

[Joy in Enough](#)

### **19. 20th November - 10am - 1.15pm Caritas Diocese of Nottingham**

[A change of era: Climate, Covid and the Missionary Parish](#)



Straight after the COP26 climate summit, Caritas Diocese of Nottingham invites you to its 2021 Justice and Peace Assembly

# A change of era

**Climate, Covid and the missionary parish**

**Saturday 20 November 2021**

**10.00 a.m. – 1.15 p.m. online**

**Keynote speakers: Lord Deben, Chair of UK Climate Change Committee  
Raymond Friel, Chief Executive, Caritas Social Action Network**

**20. 20th November - 10am - 3pm - Church Action on Poverty  
[Annual Conference and AGM](#)**

**21. 20th November - 12noon - 4pm Christian CND  
[Building Bridges in the Shadow of Afghanistan](#)**

This year's Barbara Eggleston Memorial Lecture will take place in the Quaker Meeting House,

Oxford on Saturday 20th November from 12.00 noon to 4.00pm.

We have all been affected by the tragedy of recent events in Afghanistan.

The purpose of this event is to learn from our distinguished speakers what the sacred texts of their Faiths say about peace and non-violence, how this affects their teaching and what we can learn from this about peace-building in our campaigns.

**All are welcome.**

**22. Columbans Schools Media Competition  
[Deadline for entries - 11th February 2022](#)**

## **ACTIONS/APPEALS/SURVEYS/E-PETITIONS**

**23. Invite your MP to our important briefing**

Palestine Solidarity Campaign writes: - *We are hosting an important online Parliamentary briefing on the decision of the Keren Kayemeth Lelsrael-Jewish National Fund (KKL-JNF) to allocate 100million NIS to use*

*discriminatory laws to claim ownership of hundreds of Palestinian properties, in an attempt to forcibly expel the residents from their homes.*

*KKL-JNF will use a similar procedure to that being deployed in attempts to remove Palestinians from their homes in Sheikh Jarrah and Silwan. Israeli organisation Peace Now estimates that over 2000 Palestinian properties in annexed East Jerusalem alone are threatened.*

Please [email your MP](#) and invite him to the briefing.

## **24. Prevent a new military offensive in Burma**

Burma Campaign UK writes: *The Burmese military is building up troops and equipment in Chin State and neighbouring areas in North-Western Burma.*

*We are concerned this could be possible preparations for a large-scale military offensive against civilians, leading to a human rights and humanitarian catastrophe.*

*The UN Security Council must act now to prevent any possible military offensive.*

[Email British Foreign Secretary Liz Truss](#) now calling on her to convene an emergency meeting of the UN Security Council.

## **25. THE LAST WORD**

### **Tongue in Cheek...**

Greenpeace writes: - *Well this is a breath of fresh air. Finally, someone from “the government” is being honest with the public about their approach to the climate crisis.* Check it out [here](#)

Actually, it is satirist Jolyon Rubinstein going out and about, pretending to be from the Government, asking the public what they really think of the UK's inconsistent and inadequate approach to tackling climate change. Unsurprisingly, they weren't very impressed!

### **Note on Data Protection**

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## **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](http://www.catholicnews.org.uk)

Latest Zenit Headlines [here](#)

Vatican News homepage: [www.vaticannews.va](http://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

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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](mailto: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)*

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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>