

NJPN E-Bulletin 14th November 2021



**They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.**

Taken from 'For the Fallen' by Robert Laurence Binyon (1869-1943)

Dear Friends,

So COP26 is over, but there is still lots of talk, and events going on to unpick what has been discussed, agreed upon, and what the disappointments are.

Again, our lead article is about COP26, and it includes plenty of events and actions. We also have an Action of the Week based around Seafarers, details of which have been sent to us by Stella Maris (formerly Apostleship of the Sea). Thanks to everyone who has sent items into be included.

This weekend we had our Networking Day, with three excellent speakers, all of whom have been involved in COP26. They were very enthusiastic about their experiences, but not so much about the outcomes/deals. The recording will be posted on the NJPN website as soon as we are able to.

The next e-bulletin should be out the weekend of the 28th November,

the First Sunday of Advent, and the beginning of the new church year.
I look forward to communicating with you all again then.

God bless

Sharon (Editor)

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



STELLA MARIS

To mark World Fisheries Day, please join Stella Maris (formerly known as Apostleship of the Sea) for an online panel discussion on Tuesday 23rd November from 7.30pm to 9pm GMT to take a look at the darker side of the maritime world: modern slavery aboard some fishing vessels, and at what is being done about it.

Our expert panel includes Stella Maris chaplains in the UK and abroad, Mark Cam – Lead Investigator from the UK’s Maritime and Coastguard Agency and Jessica Sparks – Assistant Professor of Antislavery Ecosystems. They will explore this issue further and explain how fishers can find themselves trapped in this horrific situation, and what we at Stella Maris and others do to rescue and protect those in danger.

**To attend, please register now
at: www.StellaMaris.org.uk/ModernSlavery**

Thank you!

As an aside to the Action above, there is an interesting, but worrying article through [ICN](#) about the plight of 16 crew members left abandoned on a fishing vessel in Mombasa, Kenya, since March this year. The hungry and desperate seafarers on board had run out of food, except for some old vegetables, after the vessel owners stopped providing them with supplies

last week.

The crew also say that they are owed wages for the last eight months and are increasingly worried about their families back home who are struggling to survive because of the loss of income. Stella Maris have stepped in to provide emergency relief for them.

An example of modern slavery as it is happening...

NEWS AND COMMENT

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

Ellen Teague's Daily Blog through Independent Catholic News

Throughout COP26, Ellen has written an excellent Blog through [ICN](#) finishing with yesterday's 15th edition.

In this last one, there is a lovely story about a Syrian Refugee Family that she met; plus a quote from Seve Paeniu, the Finance and Climate Minister from Tuvalu as saying "*Glasgow ends today, but the real work begins now.*" Wise words indeed.

Other news/stories around COP26

There are also plenty of other news stories around COP26 through [ICN](#), including an article about CAFOD's response based on words by Neil Thorns, CAFOD's Director of Advocacy.

CAFOD also have their COP26 wrap up, including a short video [here](#).

Such a shame that after all the hype, and thousands taking to the streets last weekend, that it has really ended in disappointment. A week ago, people were out in force to support CAFOD and other organisations. This article through [The Catholic Weekly](#) gives some quotes from people attending the gatherings last weekend.

Representing the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales, Bishop John Arnold (Environment) and Bishop Declan Lang (International Affairs) have issued a joint statement stressing the importance of the UN summit, plus reminding us that it is the world's poorest people that suffer the most from climate change. You can read their statement [here](#).

More than 60 Catholic organisations have signed a Statement on COP26 Draft Agreement by Laudato Si' Movement. You can read it, and see who has signed it, through [ICN](#).

Also, Pope Francis has launched The Laudato Si' Action Platform to inspire and encourage the global Catholic Church to reflect on their part in the care of God's creation and love of neighbour, over a 7 year journey. The [Laudato Si' Action Platform website](#) has lots more information.

COP26: Why the fig is food waste not on the agenda?

This article, from [Oddbox](#), was written at the start of COP, but it is interesting, so it was worth a mention. I particularly like David Attenborough's quote at the end of the piece.

Oddbox was borne out of their founders finding out that 40% of all produce in the UK is wasted before it leaves farms. Why? Because it doesn't look "right" or because too much was grown - despite being fresh, beautiful, and totally tasty.

They now sell produce that would ordinarily be thrown away, to ordinary people via a delivery system. Thanks to [Oddbox](#) for allowing us to link into their article.

Fairtrade Foundation: Be fair with your climate promises (includes an Action)

This is a lovely video, where people are asking questions of three Fairtrade farmers, from Malawi, Ghana and India. They are all really pleased to be at COP, and trusting that the world leaders will put into action their promises - and to hear them say that they felt the future was bright was heartwarming. You can watch the video through [YouTube](#), and sign Fairtrade Foundation's petition for climate justice [here](#).

Events post-COP26

There are lots of events happening post-COP, which are listed here in their own section, rather than with the other Events further into this e-bulletin.

**Monday 15th November - 3pm - Green Christian
[Space to Think](#)**

**Tuesday 16th November - 3pm Rome time (2pm UK time
presumably?) - Laudato Si'
[What happened at COP26?](#)**

Wednesday 17th November - 7pm - CAFOD

[What did COP Achieve?](#)

Wednesday 1st December - 7pm - 8.15pm - Green Christian

[Post-COP Outcomes and What Next?](#)

2. Other Climate/Environment News (includes an **Action)**

Raw Sewage in our Waterways

38 degrees report that *'last year, water companies dumped raw sewage - including human waste and wet wipes - into our waters more than 400,000 times, for more than three million hours. They say they do this to prevent flooding when it rains. But even in dry weather, sewage discharges have become a daily occurrence; some companies have even done it illegally.'* They have got up a petition to the CEO's of the various water companies, asking them to stop dumping raw sewage into our waters. Please sign it [here](#).

Catholic Bishops in Zimbabwe launch agricultural value chain to foster self-sustainability

ACI Africa reports on this ambitious project by the Catholic Bishops in Zimbabwe which will *'involve operations from farms through factories to families in the communities around us, which include both Catholic and non-Catholics.'* Their statement also said *"It is both a commercial enterprise and a tool to develop, transform and build our communities. It is the Church's torch to shine a light in dark places and shine a light in these dark times."*

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

Net-Zero and the Catholic Church: 'Guardians of Creation' project releases guidance.

(thanks to Edward De Quay for sending in this article)

Guidance has been released for the Catholic Church in England and Wales on carbon accounting. *"Guidance on Catholic Diocesan Carbon Accounting"* is the second paper from 'Guardians of Creation,' a project from Salford Diocese with St Mary's University and the Laudato Si' Research Institute.

The guidance discusses setting a carbon footprint baseline, monitoring, and setting net-zero targets, and follows a previous paper on strategy for decarbonising diocesan building stock. Both papers can be found here: <https://www.stmarys.ac.uk/research/areas/theology-and-ethics/guardians-of-creation/resources.aspx>

Over the past year the dioceses of Plymouth, Westminster and Birmingham have announced their carbon ambitions for 2030. Brentwood and Salford dioceses have both recently released guiding documents for their environmental efforts, and 'The Journey to 2030,' a project run by Catholic laity, has launched a new website to help parish communities respond to the ecological crisis at www.journeyto2030.org

3. Refugees

Poland's green lights; beacons of humanity for struggling migrants

We have heard in the news about the situation along the Belarusian/Polish border with thousands of migrants supposedly being given tourist visas in a tit-for-tat between the Belarus President and the EU.

Vatican News reports on the good side of this story, whereby Polish Christian activists leave green lights on in their homes, despite the fact that they could be reported for aiding and abetting illegal immigration. Those green lights tell visitors that there, behind those illuminated windows, sits a bowl of hot soup and a blanket ready for any who pass through, regardless of passports or visas.

Others leave fresh milk, shoes, and large bottles of water outside their doors, so that silent volunteers, who get to work as evening falls, can collect these gifts and drop them off in the woods for those who need them so badly. You can read the rest of the article [here](#).

There is also an item about the work of Caritas Europa and the work that they are doing to save migrants from dying in freezing temperatures along the border. Read it through [Vatican News](#).

COMECE (the Commission of the Bishops Conferences of the European Community) has issued a statement asking the EU and its member states to express practical solidarity with migrants and asylum seekers. Details of their statement are available through [COMECE](#).

Jesuit Refugee Service Advent Service 2021 (Event)



JRS writes: - *We are delighted to invite you and your loved ones to our annual Advent Service that will take place this year on Tuesday 7th December, 7pm at Farm Street Church. (plus it will be livestreamed through the Farm Street Church website)*

After a long year and a half where we have been physically separated due to the pandemic, we are excited at the prospect of gathering for what is always one of the highlights of the year. The service will feature Advent carols, readings of scripture and poetry, as well as the return of our ever-popular JRS drama group.

More details are available through [JRS.](#)

4. Hypersonic missile tests threaten to spark new arms race

This rather worrying article was published in the Universe Catholic Weekly. who have given permission for it to be reproduced: - *Catholic peace activists and policy experts have expressed apprehension after a quantum leap in the arms race after apparently successful tests of 'hypersonic' ballistic missiles.*

These new weapons are capable of delivering nuclear warheads at speeds that can bypass traditional missile defence systems. And peace groups fear their rapid development opens the door to a new arms race that will weaken global stability and threaten human life.

In recent weeks China, Russia and North Korea have tested hypersonic missiles, and one senior US general has said his country is playing catch up behind the other three. "These tests are symptomatic of the most

precarious nuclear predicament since the height of the Cold War,” said Gerard Powers, who directs Catholic peace-building studies at the University of Notre Dame's Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies. “The new developments in hypersonic weapons are a worrisome continuation of an offensive-defensive arms race that was triggered, in part, by the US’s withdrawal from the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty in 2002,” Powers said. That decision “has led to the very strategic instability and arms race that the Church and many others have long warned about.”

China is leading the way in conducting tests, according to a recent account by the Financial Times, and though the US has its own version, General Mark A. Milley, chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff, said that China’s test of a hypersonic weapons system is very concerning and “very close to a Sputnik moment,” referring to the moment in 1957 when the Soviet Union launched the satellite, gaining an early upper hand in the space race. Powers and others called for the nuclear powers to step back from a new arms race. He hopes the renewal by the US and Russia of a New START agreement to control nuclear weapons would help, though it will fall short of delivering the deep cuts in nuclear arsenals required. The Vatican also has shared its voice on arms control. Archbishop Gabriele Caccia, the Vatican's nuncio to the UN, told a committee discussing weapons of mass destruction that it is time for nuclear stockpiles “to be definitively capped.”

Quoting Pope Francis, Caccia stressed that world leaders should never forget the people who “who have suffered the effects of atomic radiation or chemical attacks.” “Again we ask the world to draw back from the brink of annihilation,” he added. “We need talks on disarmament now.”

Thanks to the Universe Catholic Weekly. If you are interested in subscribing to their weekly, environmentally-friendly, emailed newspaper, click [here](#).

5. Tackling pervasive discrimination of Dalits

Mill Hill Missionaries have brought the plight of the Dalit community within the Catholic Church in India to our attention. They may be in the majority in

the Church, but they are by no means treated equally, and the article, through Global Sisters Report, is an eye-opener. It is written in the form of a Q & A session with Sr. Robancy Amal Helen, who has been working for the Dalit community. She is a member of Idente Missionaries (Religious Institute of Christ the Redeemer), a new form of consecrated life of pontifical right, who has campaigned and advocated for equality and justice for Dalits in the Catholic Church in India, especially women. You can read the full article [here](#).

6. UN Security Council fails re the situation in North-West Burma

Last month, Burma Campaign reported on attacks against civilians by the Burmese military. They *'called on the British government to urgently convene a meeting of the UN Security Council, with the aim of the Security Council issuing a clear warning to the military that there would be severe consequences if they went ahead with the offensive.*

The British government responded positively, they understood the danger: [You can read their response everyone who emailed them here.](#)'

In the last week, the Security Council met, and after days of negotiations finally issued a statement.

However, it made no mention of the situation in North-Western Burma. Russia and China have consistently blocked action, and even strong statements by the UN Security Council.

You can read the Burma Campaign's full statement in response to this [here](#).

7. Stop Loan Sharks

Joanne Hartley, Liaise Officer North West for the England Illegal Money Lending Team writes: - [The England Illegal Money Lending Team \(IMLT\)](#) will launch its annual Christmas campaign on 29th November to highlight the dangers of using loan sharks and signpost people to support. Research carried out by the IMLT has found that Christmas is the second highest reason that people borrow money from loan sharks. This year, there are likely more families impacted financially and emotionally and unfortunately, illegal lenders will look to take advantage of those in difficult situations. We want to stop this exploitation of vulnerable people. Christmas is meant to be the most wonderful time of year – but for many families trapped in spiralling debt and misery by loan sharks that simply isn't the case, but with your support we can make this year better for them. The campaign **#AllIWantForChristmas** will run across Stop Loan Sharks' social media channels until December 5. It aims to encourage families to

avoid using loan sharks over the festive period and report the crime if they have been affected. It also focuses on informing people about the help available if they are struggling with debt and safer ways to borrow money.

The campaign will use “Dear Santa” stories to highlight the detrimental impact illegal money lending has on families and how this crime can cause serious physical, emotional and psychological damage to children during important stages of their lives.

We’ve provided everything you’ll need to let people know the signs to look out for when dealing with loan sharks, how to report the crime and how to borrow money safely. You can support the campaign by downloading and sharing our campaign assets https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1s7ZD_XvmoBPVC32HOwPcanA4jV_Br2LA?usp=sharing Remember to use the hashtag #AllIWantForChristmas to join the conversation.

8. Red Wednesday 2021

Red Wednesday, a day when hundreds of cathedrals, churches and monuments will be bathed in red light to highlight religious persecution, will be on the 24th November. It is the day when Aid to the Church in Need encourage us to say 'no' to religious and Christian persecution. This year their special focus is on the kidnap, forced marriage and conversion, rape and sexual enslavement of Christian women and girls.

ACN have lots of information and ways in which you can get involved, including a petition, through their [website](#).

There is also an interesting article through [Licas News](#) on what is going on around the world for 'Red Week.'

9. Racism is not banter

Over the past week there has been a lot in the news about the racist bullying that Azeem Rafiq has been subjected to at Yorkshire County Cricket Club, and the fact that YCCC pretty much pushed the report that they produced under the carpet.

Jon Kuhrt, through Grace + Truth, has put together a very good article, including a summary of what went on, plus words from a contributor by the name of Amit to a Facebook discussion on the issue. You can read it [here](#).

10. NJPN Blog on Independent Catholic News

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

3rd November - Building Bridges, Making Links

Patricia Pulham, from Christian CND, writes about the upcoming Barbara Eggleston Memorial Lecture, taking place on the 20th November, and including representatives from the Christian, Muslim, Hindu and Buddhist faiths. Read about it [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

11. NJPN NW E-Bulletin November 2021

In a packed edition NW edition focuses on COP26. Other items include a challenging speech by Pope Francis to the World Meeting of Popular Movements, an inspiring story of love and friendship, a report on Prisons Week including a short video clip which is well-worth watching, white poppies for peace, book reviews and a packed diary. Read it through the [NJPN website](#).

12. Traidcraft Bulletin November 2021

Lots of interesting articles, including a recipe for a yummy sounding Cheesecake! Read it [here](#).

13. Journey to 2030 COP26 Edition

A very interesting edition, but it is not available through their website. Please add your name to their mailing list [here](#).

14. My Green Pod November Issue

Great for sustainable news, articles and products. Catch it [here](#).

15. Birmingham Justice and Peace Commission Autumn 2021

Lots of great articles encompassing various aspects of justice and peace work. Download it [here](#).

16. Salesians Justice and Peace October 2021

CAFOD is their organisation of the month. You can read it [here](#).

EVENTS (in chronological order where applicable)

17. 16th November 3.15pm - 5pm PACT

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

18. 17th November 3pm - 6pm - Anti-Slavery International

[Supporter Conference](#)

19. 17th November - 7pm - Green Christian

[Joy in Enough](#)

20. 18th November - 6.30pm - 8pm Palestine Solidarity Campaign

[UN World Children's Day: The Children of Gaza](#)

21. 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

The poster features a dark blue background with a white cross logo for Caritas Diocese of Nottingham. A bright light beam enters from the left, passing through a triangular prism and creating a rainbow spectrum of light that extends across the bottom of the image.

22. 20th November - 10am - 3pm - Church Action on Poverty
[Annual Conference and AGM](#)

23. 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. Please either register for your free place, or register to watch it on Zoom, [here](#).

24. 25th November - 7pm - CAFOD

[Webinar: Looking back to a year of challenges and joys](#)

25. 30th November - 5pm - CAFOD

[The Laudato Si' Action Platform and Live Simply](#)

26. 9th December - 7pm - PACT

[Christmas Carol Service](#)

27. 14th - 16th January - Christians Aware Annual Conference

[Transcending Divisions in a world of diversity](#)

28. Columban Schools Media Competition

[Deadline for entries - 11th February 2022](#)

“No one is too small to make a difference, everyone can do something. If everyone does something, then huge differences can happen.”

Climate activist Greta Thunberg to Channel 4 News.

SCHOOLS MEDIA COMPETITION

We are looking for students (Year 9 to Year 13) to submit an original piece of writing or an original image on the theme:

ANYONE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

21ST CENTURY CHANGEMAKERS

Who in the world today is doing something about inequality, injustice, exclusion and environmental degradation? What can they teach us? How can we draw on our own faith and personal experience to be changemakers?

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES: FRIDAY 11TH FEBRUARY 2022

For more information on entry guidelines see:
www.columbancompetition.com
or email hello@columbancompetition.com

PRINT PRIZES
1ST £300
2ND £150 · 3RD £100

IMAGE PRIZES
1ST £300
2ND £150 · 3RD £100

COLUMBAN MISSIONARIES

ACTIONS/APPEALS/SURVEYS/E-PETITIONS

29. #Wealth Tax Pledge

We're calling on the UK Government to introduce wealth taxes – taxes on unearned income such as investments, rents and inheritances – at an equal level to taxes on work.

At Church Action for Tax Justice, we want to see a society that reflects the values of fairness and compassion. So we're calling for a tax system that helps the poorest, and enables the wealthy to contribute a fairer share to society. This must include wealth taxes.

For more information and to add your name, go to the ECCR website [here](#).

30. THE LAST WORD

The Injustice Advent Calendar - 24 days to change the world

Traidcraft writes: -

Forget chocolate. Forget beauty samples.

Forget beard oil, tiny gin bottles and small portions of cheese...

This is the advent calendar that matters.

For Christmas 2021 we're partnering with a hand-picked selection of world changing organisations to provide you with 24 simple ways to make the world a better place.

Every day until Christmas we'll send you an opportunity to stand up for justice in a simple way.

Here are the rules...

It will always be free.

It will always take less than 5 minutes to complete.

So you'll be signing petitions, sending short emails, maybe even texting a friend... but you won't be giving any money and you won't be losing hours of your day either.

Fill in the form to be part of it...

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

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About these E-BULLETINS

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

The views expressed are not necessarily those of NJPN.

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

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

Urgent Actions:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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