



NJPN E-Bulletin 24th April 2022



Our NJPN AGM & Networking Day
is May 7th 2022
10.45 for 11.00 am - 3.30 pm on Zoom




Register in advance for this meeting:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tZErcOGuqzMQEtUwdUv6sSajCy9JJfumBsPK>

Forging a New Culture of Peace
with Dr Chris Hewer

Dr Chris Hewer comes from a background in Christian theology, education, Islamic studies and inter-faith studies and has worked in the field of Muslims in Britain and Christian-Muslim relations since 1986.

The morning session will be the NJPN AGM and Noticeboard, followed by the opportunity to wander into breakout rooms to network in smaller groups over lunch, then at 2pm the above seminar.



Future meetings: Saturday 24th September: Open NJPN Networking Day — North East Venue tbc
Saturday 12th November Open NJPN Networking Day — London/South East tbc
44th Annual Justice & Peace Conference: 22nd-24th July 2022: The Hayes Derbyshire
Hope! A verb with its sleeves rolled up! www.justice-and-peace.org.uk/conference/

Dear Friends,

“War was neither blessed nor forbidden by Christ. He simply stated that...war belonged to a realm that no longer had a decisive meaning.”

(Thomas Merton)

A belated Happy Easter to you all. It is now three weeks since the last e-bulletin, and there seems no sign of the conflict in Ukraine resolving itself anytime soon. More atrocities keep coming to light, and I feel as if we are teetering on the brink of a chasm. You cannot help but wonder what Putin's End Game is.

In other news in the past week or so, who would have guessed that

the Government would have come out with a plan to ship migrants entering the country illegally off to Rwanda. Our Action of the Week covers this in more depth.

Talk about using it as a smokescreen to take attention away from the fines being given out to our Prime Minister and his colleagues, for breaking their own rules during Covid! I have no words that adequately describe how I feel about this Government, but after overhearing a radio interview with a woman in the street who said quite simply "I am sick of hearing about it all, just let them get on with the job," I realised that the Government go unchallenged by the general public, purely because these things come up so frequently that many just shut their ears to it.

All being well, the next edition should be out around the 8th May, but it will be the same weekend as our virtual [AGM and Networking Day](#) (details of which are in the Events Section), so it may be a little later.

God bless,
Sharon (Editor)

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15. ****27th April**** – Biofuelwatch - Stop Burning Trees
16. 30th April - 2nd May - Essex Green Weekend
17. 30th April - 2nd May - May Day Events for Trade Unionists and Climate Activists
18. 4th May - COP26 Coalition - All-Coalition Transition Meeting
19. 7th May - NJPN AGM and Networking Day via Zoom
20. 7th, 11th and 21st May - Pact Just People Events
21. 14th May - End Apartheid/Free Palestine
22. 14th May - 25th June - Groundswell Events
23. 15th - 27th May - Intensive Course in Peacemaking
24. 21st May - Global Justice Now - Day of Action against Corporate Courts
25. 22nd - 29th May - Laudato Si' Week
26. 4th June - Finding Jesus in the Eucharist, the Poor and in Creation

27. 11th June - From the Ground Up: unearthing hope and seeking justice
28. 12th June - Tax Justice Sunday
29. 18th June - Pax Christi AGM
30. 25th June - JPIC Spring Assembly
31. 8th - 10th July 2022 - Reinventing Radical (Student Christian Movement)
32. 22nd - 24th July - NJPN Annual Conference
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34. 17th September - JPIC Golden Jubilee Celebration
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36. It's time to fix the food system
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See below for: -

[**Note on Data Protection**](#)

[**About these E-Bulletins**](#)

[**Donate to NJPN**](#)

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



[TAKE ACTION: STOP PLANS TO EXILE REFUGEES TO RWANDA](#)
[EMAIL YOUR MP TODAY](#)

Safe Passage writes: - **Banishing refugees to Rwanda is not a solution to the tragedy of deaths in the channel.**

[Email your MP](#) **saying no to offshoring of refugees.**

So many people and charities are lambasting the Government over their plans, and it comes to something when the UN refugee agency condemns the UK Government over it. [The Guardian](#) reports on this.

Through [Independent Catholic News](#), Seeking Sanctuary have expressed their shock at the Government proposals. Phil Kerton writes: - "*Our response to the evils of human trafficking involves identifying and prosecuting those responsible. However, tougher border security and a less generous asylum system will be counter productive and risk driving more people into the hands of criminals. Alongside a strong response to organised crime, we should provide safe and legal routes to sanctuary, whilst also ensuring that victims are never criminalised.*"

Their shock is also mirrored by the [Jesuit Refugee Service](#). Plus there is a petition at the end of their article.

[The Boaz Trust](#) have produced their statement, and say: - *Not only do these proposals show a complete disregard for the 1951 UN Refugee Convention, they are also completely unworkable and would be at huge cost to the UK taxpayer. The failed use of offshoring by the Australian government has shown itself to be a morally bankrupt concept, contravening detainees' human rights, and removing any proper accountability or scrutiny.*

[Bishop Paul McAleenan](#), the Lead Bishop for Migrants and Refugees for the Bishops' Conference, has stated: - *Despite presenting the plan as a humanitarian need to combat trafficking, this scheme will compound the difficulties of those arriving on our shores hoping for a new beginning. The actions of the people of this country show that they wish to lift up those in need, decisions of the government should do likewise.*

Again, through [ICN](#), Together with Refugees have reported on a bunch of celebrities, refugees and campaigners, who travelled along the Thames in a boat *to urge MPs to 'vote to protect not punish refugees'*. If you click on the link at the bottom of the article, it takes you to the Together with Refugees website, and you can see a video of the boat trip.

The Nationality and Borders Bill returns to the Lords this Tuesday, 26th April, for consideration of the Commons Amendments. There are several petitions going around to protest the Bill, including one in the JRS article mentioned above. Please sign this as well as the Safe Passage one.

Thank you!

NEWS AND COMMENT

1. Ukraine (includes and Action)

Is Ukraine Putin's Holy War?

Professor Ian Linden, Visiting Professor at St Mary's University, writes a very interesting piece for ICN about the militarisation of Russian Orthodoxy, and the fact that it has become largely a politicised religion. You can read it [here](#).

World Food Programme provides food aid to Ukraine

[WFP](#) writes: - *After receiving an official request for assistance from the Government of Ukraine, the World Food Programme (WFP) is launching an emergency operation to provide food assistance for people fleeing the conflict both within the country and in neighbouring ones.*

WFP is scaling up to reach 6 million people in the next 3 months through cash-based transfers as well as in-kind food distributions. WFP is also preparing to provide assistance to displaced Ukrainians in refugee hosting

countries. Nearly 5 million Ukrainians have already fled the country and sought refuge in neighbouring countries since the beginning of the conflict. Over 100,000 have been internally displaced in the first few days of the conflict.

Although the conflict is in Ukraine, its impact on food security will be global. The Black Sea basin is one of the world's most important areas for grain and agricultural production. The consequences of the conflict will increase pressure on resources and access to food beyond Ukraine's borders.

Vatican News also reports on the work of the WFP, and the fact that they only set up offices in Ukraine and neighbouring countries, with 170 people, once the conflict had started.

Tomson Phiri, WFP global spokesperson, is currently in Lviv assisting in the operations there and says they are all working *"to find immediate solutions to a very bad situation to a raging conflict,"* stressing that above all *"we need peace in Ukraine, we need the fighting to stop."*

He says WFP is worried the dire situation could worsen further with the great numbers of people needing help, especially women, children, and the elderly who make up the majority of the 4.2 million Ukrainians who have fled to neighbouring countries. [Click here](#) to read the full article.

Aid to the Church in Need announces second wave of aid to Ukraine

As part of ACN's latest aid package, more than £570,000 will be going to support Church projects helping those who fled their homes – with a further £169,000 in the pipeline.

Additionally, more than £484,000 in Mass stipends will provide vital support for priests ministering to IDPs (internally displaced persons).

ACN's Ukraine projects coordinator Magda Kaczmarek – who is in the country – said this second phase will shore up the Church's crucial emergency efforts. Not only will the fresh injection of help support monasteries and parishes sheltering IDPs but it will provide vehicles and electricity generators.

Ms Kaczmarek said: *"Many donations are reaching the bordering countries, but there is now a need for vehicles to transport the goods to those who need them in the country, often in locations that have been heavily damaged, or are still under threat."* More details are available [here](#).

Action - Beyond Lament to Peace

John Cooper, Director of The Fellowship of Reconciliation writes: - *It is over 7 weeks since the War in Ukraine started. The fighting continues and both soldiers and civilians continue to be killed. As Christians we are called to do more than Lament the presence of War, we are committed to building peace.*

Today the Fellowship of Reconciliation launches an e-action. We are asking you to contact the Foreign Secretary in this month, as the UK Chairs the UN Security Council, asking them to bring their diplomatic pressure to:-

- a) Push for the resumption of peace talks between Ukraine and Russia*
- b) To ensure part of the Peace Talks is an immediate ceasefire while they occur*

To ask for this simply follow this link: [Ceasefire in Ukraine](https://eaction.org.uk/Ceasefire-in-Ukraine) (eaction.org.uk)

Thank you for your commitment to peace. Let's keep working together until the whole world is walking the path to peace.

2. Climate/Environment (includes Actions and Events)

Action - Walk2COP27

Sam Baker gave a talk on Walk2COP27 at the Laudato Si' Animators Meeting on the 7th April. Details of the virtual event are available through their Facebook page [Laudato Si' animators UK](#)

If anyone is interested in taking part please email sambaker@impactstrategy2030.com

It is well worth looking at their Facebook page as there are lots of interesting articles. In particular there is one dated the 4th April concerning Church Practices, whereby the Animators take a critical look at various church practices, to see if Church law can accommodate more ethical alternatives. I will certainly be checking it out and forwarding details to our Parish Priest!

Cardinal Czerny speaking on Earth Day

Cardinal Czerny, interim Prefect of the Vatican's Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, has stated to Vatican News that now, more than ever, we need to be responsible citizens and protect our Common

Home. He is quoted as saying: - *We celebrate Earth Day this year in the shadow of multiple serious, grave and menacing failures on the part of the human family to take this reality seriously.*

The full details can be read [here](#).

Action - Have your say on the Environment Act targets consultation

Friends of the Earth say: - *The government promised that our environment would be better for the next generation, and has now proposed legal targets to make sure this happens. Now's your chance to tell it what you think.*

We'll be honest. We don't think these proposals are great. (and more is explained in the link)

The government's running a public consultation through Defra (Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs), so we'd like you to tell it how you feel and what you think. Why is it important to you that nature is better for the next generation, and do you think these plans do the job?

[Click here to take part.](#)

How to stop climate catastrophe

Green Christian reports on the latest IPCC Climate Report, and in the words of Antonio Guterres: - *"This report ... is a litany of broken climate promises. It is a file of shame cataloguing the empty pledges that put us firmly on track towards an unlivable world. We are on a fast track to climate disaster."*

"Climate activists are sometimes depicted as dangerous radicals, but the truly dangerous radicals are the countries that are increasing the production of fossil fuels. Investment in new fossil fuel infrastructure is moral and economic madness."

To read more of his words, and [Green Christian's](#) summing up, click on the link.

Action - Template Letter to local Council hopefuls

Virginia Bell from the Laudato Si' Animators has shared this letter with us. Unfortunately it is not on their Facebook page or website, so I copy it in its entirety - and if you want to use it, you will need to do the same: -

They write: - *UK Local Elections take place on Thursday 5th May. They offer us a great opportunity to push for the environmental actions which are needed to care for our common home, as called for in the Laudato Si' Encyclical.*

One template can do for all the candidates. Let them know what your concerns are, what you want them to do about them, and that your vote will go to the greenest candidate.

You may know of particular problems affecting your local area. Or just copy the suggested general offering below, altering to suit if you want. Keeping things brief is more effective than long exhortations and numerous links, which will probably be ignored. What the candidates want to know is what your vote is dependent on.

If you can't find the email addresses of the candidates, send your letters to the local political parties to forward.

Suggested Template

Dear -----,

In a report last year, the UN Environment Programme said that the world must rewild on a massive scale to heal nature and climate. Will you promote rewilding schemes wherever possible?

Net zero is not enough to save the planet. We have to stop greenhouse gas emissions from being released in the first place, and we have to capture emissions which are already in the atmosphere. Are you committed to promoting zero emissions?

A University of Oxford Report 19-5-2019 concluded that adopting a vegan diet is "the single biggest way to reduce your impact on planet Earth." Do you support the promotion of plant-based meals in local schools, and do you support the Council eliminating meat and dairy from catering for which the Council is responsible?

Will you promote schemes to increase energy efficiency in houses, and encourage the transition to green jobs?

I look forward to your reply.

Yours sincerely, -----

Links for finding Candidates <https://www.gov.uk/find-your-local-councillors>
<https://whocanivotefor.co.uk/>

Various articles on the effects of climate change around the world

[ACI Africa](#) - Hunger worsening in Somalia due to climate change - *'Extreme hunger is ravaging various parts of Somalia's Gedo region, an official of the overseas development agency of the Catholic Bishops of Ireland, Trócaire, has said, warning that the situation, which is caused by climate change might worsen if urgent action is not taken.'*

[Vatican News](#) - Storm Megi kills dozens in Philippines - *Tropical storm Megi – known in the Philippines by its local name Agaton – is the first major storm to hit the country this year.*

It comes just four months after Super Typhoon Rai killed up to 400 people and left destruction in its wake.

It was the worst storm to hit the Philippines last year.

The Philippines is a country that has been plagued by tropical storms, with many scientists linking these natural disasters to climate change.

3. Synod News

Interesting differences of opinion that the Synodal process has opened up, and the German Bishops seem to have upset a lot of US and African Bishops. The latter have warned the German Bishops that their Synodal process has the 'potential for schism.'

I have included two articles on the subject in the order that they were written, and if you read that far, Fr John McGowan O Carm.'s comments at the end of the ICN article sums up the issue beautifully. (the summing up came after the German Bishops had published their response).

[ICN \(13th April\)](#) - Ellen Teague reports on the 'growing concern' about the German Synodal Path process and content, and it lists the Bishops who have signed the open letter to the German Bishops.

Fr. John McGowan's comments were then added on the 19th April

[ACI Africa \(16th April\)](#) - The response by the German Bishops' President, Georg Batzing, counteracting their open letter.

I am happy to be corrected here, but I thought that the idea of the Synodal process was so that people could have their say on the future of the church, and bring some ideas/thoughts to the table. It's a good job no one has reported on the comments I wrote to my Diocese...

4. On War and Peace

'World has chosen the path of Cain'

You may already have seen this article, about an interview that Pope Francis gave on Good Friday in which he stated that the '*world has chosen the path of Cain,*' whereby the world is killing it's brother. More details of his interview with 'A Sua immagine' on Italy's Ra 1 channel are available to read through [ACI Africa](#). He doesn't just mention war, there are also words

of hope.

Bishop Cocksworth on nuclear threat in the 21st Century

ICN have reported on the address that Bishop Christopher Cocksworth, Anglican Bishop of Coventry, gave on the 5th March. The opening paragraph says it all really: - *The last time I spoke publicly on the subject of nuclear weapons I felt myself having to justify giving so much attention to a subject which many regarded as dormant or irrelevant - a non-issue. At least I don't have to do that this morning: the nuclear threat is staring us right in the face; President Putin of Russia has, in the context of his invasion of Ukraine, made an escalation in the terms of his nuclear readiness, perhaps the greatest by any major nuclear power since the Cuban Missile Crisis.*

It is a very thought-provoking and interesting read, and you can find it [here](#).

5. Poverty (includes an Event)

Caritas Westminster emergency scheme feeds thousands

Louise Cook, through [ICN](#), has reported on the amazing work that Caritas Westminster have been doing. Since 2020 more than 11,000 people from 3,500 families have been supported through their Emergency Supermarket Voucher Scheme in London and Hertfordshire.

It is well worth a read, and well done to the team there for their hard work.

I know in our area that the demand has been huge in the past couple of years. Firstly due to the pandemic, and now due to the rise in the cost of living, energy prices, and refugees coming into the country. Our church has been collecting for our local SVP foodbank for a couple of years, and we are now asking that people consider bringing just one item for the foodbank every week to Mass, following Pope Francis' wish for us 'not to forget the hungry and marginalised.'

Event - Challenge Poverty Week

Save the date!! Challenge Poverty Week in England and Wales will take place between 17th and 23rd October 2022. Details of events and how to get involved are available through the [Challenge Poverty website](#).

Caritas Social Action Network Poverty Challenge 2022: See, Judge, Act

CSAN writes: - *Many members of our communities face a steep rise in the cost of living, particularly from April 2022. People who were already poor and most affected by Covid-19 will also be hit hardest by price rises. Joseph Rowntree Foundation estimates that a further four million UK households could end up below the poverty line in 2022, adding to 14.5 million UK households already in poverty.*

CSAN has published a short formation resource, 'Hoping for mild at least', to explain the Catholic Church's teaching on poverty, and to invite a deeper response to it within the life of local communities.

The resource is available through their [website](#).

Charity Detox: the difference between crisis situations and chronic problems

Jon Kuhrt, who writes through [Grace + Truth](#), has produced an interesting piece about Robert Lupton's controversial books which say that we could be doing more harm than good when helping people in the way that many church organisations tend to do.

Jon ends his blog with:- More than ever, I believe that people are not transformed simply by what they are given. Rather, they are transformed by what they contribute to; how they use their skills and strengths to the benefit of themselves and others.

Empowering people to use their skills is what lies at the heart of detoxifying our efforts to help people. We should be grateful for brave voices such as Robert Lupton for articulating these truths with such conviction and compassion.

Well worth a read....

6. News on the Chocolate Front

Child labour found on Cadbury's Farms

I don't think I made myself very popular when I produced the above article in our Church's Easter Newsletter. After all, the last thing you want is to be made to feel guilty once you have bought all of your Easter Eggs.

If you didn't watch the Channel 4 Dispatches programme, there are plenty of articles highlighting the fact that it would seem that in Ghana, there are instances of child labour being used, and there have been some nasty injuries received by some of the children when using machetes. [The Guardian](#) writes: - *Children as young as 10 have allegedly been found working in Ghana to harvest cocoa pods to supply Mondelēz International, which owns Cadbury. Campaigners say the farmers are being paid less than £2 a day and can't afford to hire adult workers.*

Cadbury does not use the Fairtrade logo, but instead has its own 'Cocoa Life' sustainability programme. On its website, Cadbury states "No amount of child labour in the cocoa supply chain should be acceptable."

Mondelez, the company that owns the Cadbury brand, have requested additional information from the Dispatches Team so that they can investigate.

Fairtrade and Mars launch innovative new programme

In more positive news on the confectionary front, Fairtrade Foundation have written: - *10 years of working together with Mars to sell their cocoa on Fairtrade terms has already delivered a fairer deal for thousands of cocoa farmers, backing their efforts to drive positive change in their communities.*

Today, we're announcing an ambitious plan to go even further, and deepen our long-standing partnership with Mars, (who produce Maltesers and Mars Bar), Fairtrade and Ecookim (a collection of cocoa farming cooperatives in Côte d'Ivoire)!

We're calling that plan the Livelihoods Ecosystem Advancement Programme (LEAP), an innovative \$10m initiative set to reach 5,000 farmers in the coming five years.

Taryn Holland, Head of Programmes at Fairtrade Foundation, has written a blog entitled '[Three Reasons to be excited about our partnership with Mars.](#)'

7. New project supports women leaving prison

Pact have issued a press release about a new project that they, and the Ministry of Justice's Local Leadership and Integration Fund (LLIF), have launched to support women leaving HMP Eastwood Park in Gloucestershire.

Theresa Alessandro writes: - *Led by Gloucestershire-based charity The Nelson Trust, the One Women's Centre will offer comprehensive support to*

women in custody and through the gate, encouraging effective rehabilitation and reintegration into the community following release. The centre, which plans to reach at least 400 women during its 12-month pilot, is the first of its kind in England & Wales and will adopt a 'one team' approach to supporting female prison leavers, joining up statutory and voluntary sector services.

The full press release is available through [ICN](#).

8. NJPN Blog through ICN

There are some great blogs to catch up on through Independent Catholic News: -

[8th April](#) - Fr. Chris Hughes, Parish Priest at St Cuthbert's and St Joseph's, North Shields - in the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle. He is also co-chair of Tyne and Wear Citizens and a member of Church Action on Poverty North East.

'Seeking peace - a call to maturity'

Grateful thanks to our friends at [Independent Catholic News](#) for allowing us to publish on their website. Please sign up and support them if you can.

Newsletters

9. Joint Public Issues Team

[JPIT](#) have produced a good, informative newsletter for April, but unfortunately it hasn't yet been loaded onto their website. You can, however, read the February edition, which also has some interesting information in it.

10. Catholic Concern for Animals

Chris Fegan produces a good newsletter fortnightly, which you can subscribe to through their [website](#). They also produce a magazine for members.

11. World Future Council April 2022

Interesting information and events concerning a group of people looking for solutions for a healthy, peaceful and just future. You can read it [here](#).

12. The Boaz Trust

The Boaz Trust, based in Manchester, serve people seeking sanctuary. They produce a newsletter every month, which covers the work that they do. It is not available to read through their website, but you can sign up for it [here](#). You will also find a lot of information on the website too.

13. Refugees at Home

The April 2022 newsletter has just been sent out electronically, but is not yet available on their website. It is particularly interesting if you are planning on hosting refugees, plus they have information for guests from Ukraine. To read earlier editions of their newsletter, or to sign up directly, click [here](#).

EVENTS (in chronological order where applicable)

14. *** 26th April - Church Action on Poverty***

[David Goodbourn Lecture - After Pestilence](#)

15. *** 27th April - Biofuelwatch***

[Stop Burning Trees - UK Day of Action](#)

16. 30th April - 2nd May - Essex Green Weekend

[Essex Green Weekend](#) is a new and exciting festival to engage communities, faith groups and anyone interested in climate change action. Taking place at Othona Bradwell, on the shores of the Blackwater Estuary between 30th April to 2nd May, the Essex Green Weekend is an amazing opportunity to gain a better understanding of how to: take climate action; celebrate action taken; connect with likeminded people and organisations through networking and a range of activities, workshops and entertainment.

17. 30th April/1st May – Campaign Against Climate Change

[May Day events for Trade Unionists and Climate Activists](#)

18. 4th May – 6.30pm - 8.30pm - COP26 Coalition

[All Coalition Transition Meeting](#)

19. 7th May – 11am – 3.30pm - NJPN
[AGM and Networking Day via Zoom](#)



National Justice and Peace Network

AGM and Open Networking Day

(Zoom meeting)

Saturday 7 May 2022

11am – 3.30pm

Forging a New Culture of Peace

Speaker: Dr Chris Hewer

Dr Hewer comes from a background in Christian theology, education, Islamic studies and inter-faith studies and has worked in the field of Muslims in Britain and Christian-Muslim relations since 1986.

Register in advance for this meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZErcOGuqzMqEtUwdUv6sSajCy9JlfumBsPK>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Geoff Thompson, NJPN Administrator

07365 838535



20. 7th May, 11th May and 21st May – Pact
[Prison Advice and Care Trust Just People events](#)

21. 14th May 2022 - End Apartheid/Free Palestine



22. 14th May - 25th June - Friends of the Earth
[Groundswell Events - various dates around the country.](#)

23. 15th - 27th May - The Bethlehem Institute of Peace and Justice
[Summer Intensive Course in Peacemaking and Justice](#)

24. 21st May - Global Justice Now
[Day of Action against Corporate Courts](#)

25. 22nd - 29th May - Laudato Si' Week
[Listening and Journeying Together](#)

26. 4th June - 10am to 3.30pm including 12.15pm Mass -
Lancaster Diocese Faith & Justice Commission and NJPN in North
West

'Finding Jesus in the Eucharist, the Poor and Creation'

St Wilfrid's RC Parish Centre Chapel Street, Preston (5 minutes walk from
Railway Station)

Keynote speaker- Fr Eamonn Mulcahy - Fr Eamonn will then pose three

different questions for groups to think about and discuss, then preach at 12.15pm Mass. After lunch short presentations.

[Book via - Eventbrite - Finding Jesus in the Eucharist](#)

27. 11th June - various organisations incl. JPIT

[From the Ground Up: unearthing hope and seeking justice](#)

28. 12th June - Ecumenical Council for Corporate Responsibility

[Tax Justice Sunday](#)

29. 18th June - [Pax Christi AGM](#)

30. 25th June - JPIC **Save the Date**

Spring Assembly, Dover. Details to follow.

31. 8th - 10th July - Student Christian Movement

[Reinventing Radical: Courageous Discipleship for a Changing World](#)

32. 22nd - 24th July - NJPN Annual Conference

[Hope! A verb with its sleeves rolled up.](#)

Bookings now open. Don't forget it is cheaper if you book before the 20th May!

33. 2nd - 4th September - The Runnymede Trust

[We Move: Race Equality & Migrants Rights Summit](#)

34. 17th September - JPIC Save the Date

Golden Jubilee Celebration in London- Details to Follow

[35. 7th-8th October – Green Christian Conference](#)

Actions

36. Urge the Foreign Secretary to Fix the Food System

CAFOD writes: - *Our global food system is broken. A few giant corporations put profits before people, and millions of small farmers who grow our food are kept in poverty. The system is bad for the climate too: the way we produce food is responsible for a third of all harmful greenhouse gas emissions.*

The good news? Alternatives already exist. Small farmers like Alpona, in Bangladesh, are growing food in ways that provide a decent income for their families, help local economies and are good for the climate. Our food system can be transformed if more small farmers like Alpona are better supported. But the UK government gives the majority of its support to big businesses.

[Will you email Liz Truss today?](#) The UK government must implement its COP26 commitments and support agricultural systems that tackle the climate crisis and put local communities first.

37. Support Indigenous People in Columbia; No to La Puente Pit

London Mining Network write: - *We're asking our friends and supporters to take a moment today to stand in solidarity with people in Colombia who are facing the prospect of yet another coal pit opening on their doorstep. If you've followed our work over the past several years, you'll be aware of the devastating effects that the Cerrejon coal mine has had on the lives of people in La Guajira. From forced evictions to the loss of clean water, through to death threats against those who have spoken out, the Cerrejon mine has caused a huge amount of suffering so that London based corporations can profit from fossil fuel extraction. Now the company wants to expand and open the Puente pit for mining.*

[Please support their petition to the British Government.](#)

38. Councils: Ban the Bailiffs

Jubilee Debt Campaign says: - *If you are facing bills for council tax, you are not alone. Across the UK £4.4 billion is now owed in council tax back-payments. The cost of living crisis and the pandemic are pushing millions of us into debt.*

Despite this growing crisis, many councils still use bailiffs to collect council tax. A visit from a bailiff is one of the most stressful parts of dealing with

debt. It's outdated, wrong and just doesn't work.

Some councils have stopped using bailiffs altogether. Right now, we've got a chance to make sure the rest of them do too.

[Sign their petition here.](#)

39. Stop Arming Israel

Palestine Solidarity Campaign say: - In April alone, Israeli forces have killed at least 16 Palestinians, while many more have been injured by live ammunition, and detained. Those killed include 16 year old Mohammad Hussein Mohammad Qassim, from Jenin. He is the 6th Palestinian child shot and killed by Israeli forces in 2022, according to documentation by Defense for Children International-Palestine.

Israel uses routine violence to maintain a system of occupation, dispossession, and racial discrimination against Palestinians. This includes unlawful killing, arbitrary arrest and detention, torture, house demolition and seizure, and forcible transfer.

Despite this, the UK government regularly approves military technology and arms exports to Israel, including for weapons of the type used in clear violation of international law, against its own arms export criteria. This means that the UK is providing material support for Israeli apartheid.

[Write to your MP to call on them to demand the Government to stop arming Israel!](#)

40. Vacancies

Catholic Union

The Catholic Union is looking for a Public Affairs and Communications Assistant.

Details are available through [ICN](#), with the deadline being the 6th May 2022.

Church Action on Poverty

Church Action on Poverty has a vacancy for a Speaking Truth to Power Development Coordinator

Details are on their [website](#). Closing date is the 29th April.

Olallo House

St John of God Hospitaller Services, Olallo House in London are looking for Project Workers who speak a second language/multilingual. Details are again on [ICN](#), and the closing date is the 27th April.

Volunteer Opportunities with Friends of the Holy Land

For more details on the above, check out [ICN](#).

THE LAST WORD

41. A Ukrainian Prayer by John Rutter

John Rutter, Composer and Conductor, writes: - *'How can a composer respond to a global tragedy? By writing music is the most obvious thing. Like everybody, I've been shocked and dismayed by the events of recent days, and the first thing I wanted to do was write some music that would respond in my own way.*

I went to a late night service in my old college chapel, where they sang a setting of a lovely Ukrainian prayer. So, having encountered the text in another musical setting on Wednesday night, on Thursday, I wrote my own music. I hope the meaning of the text will resonate in people's hearts.'

You can listen to this beautiful piece of music through John Rutter's website [here](#).

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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/>

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Registered Office: - NJPN, 39 Eccleston Square, London SW1V 1BX

Telephone Numbers: - 020 7901 4864 and 07365 838535

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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.

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

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