



JUSTICE & PEACE E-BULLETIN

APRIL 2022

Welcome to the e-Bulletin from the Westminster Justice and Peace Commission. Please send Events for inclusion to justiceandpeace@rcdow.org.uk. The deadline for the next e-Bulletin is 28th April 2022.

Good News, Bad News...

Colette Joyce, Westminster Justice and Peace Co-ordinator writes:

I begin every day by reading the news. I check newspaper and media channels websites. I scroll through social media. I open scores of emails with updates, news items and demands for action from a host of charities and faith-based organisations, reporting on every justice issue under the sun. Occasionally, I might even make the news, especially in the Catholic media, and find myself quoted or reported on for a talk I gave or event I attended at which I represented the Diocese.

Following news and sharing news is a bread-and-butter activity for every Justice & Peace activist. Every now and again it is good to pause and reflect about the news we are receiving and the audience we are trying to reach. Are we keeping up to date? Are we looking out for new sources of news as they come on-stream, especially those produced by younger adults in fresh and emerging formats? Are we open to diversity, seeking out writers and reporters from a wide range of cultures and life-experiences to help us form more cutting-edge insight and understanding? Are there any voices missing you want to seek out this Lent? Looking out for good news stories is also important to balance out the 'heaviness' that can descend when faced with an unremitting diet of world conflicts and reports of injustices. Every Easter, of course, we get to retell the greatest story ever told. We come together as a faith community to share the best news of all - that Jesus is not dead, he is risen! 'O death, where is your victory? O grave, where is your sting?' (1 Cor 15:55)

There are a handful of sources that I would recommend to everyone involved in Justice and Peace in Westminster.

Independent Catholic News, edited by Jo Siedlecka, posts six or seven Catholic news stories a day from around the world, with particular attention given to social justice in the UK Church. You can sign up for daily emails to get the headlines delivered to your inbox or visit ICN at:

<https://www.indcatholicnews.com/>

The Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales circulate an email newsletter every Friday with links to headline stories and press releases of the week.

Register here: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/news-and-media/catholic-news-newsletter-signup/>

The Westminster Justice and Peace Commission posts on average three or four news stories or details of upcoming events a week.

Maggie Beirne's article on 'Pacifism in the face of aggression' is recommended reading this month! To receive automatic notification of new posts, sign up using the 'Follow' button under the Twitter Feed:

<https://westminsterjusticeandpeace.org/category/news/>



Fr Dominic Robinson and Maggie Beirne at the Rally for Ukraine in Trafalgar Square, 26 March 2022



DIARY OF EVENTS 2022

5th April, 6.30 - 7.45pm: Westminster Abbey Institute Lecture Series on Trust in Public Life 'The Roots of Trust: theological and political reflections on trust in troubled times' - The Nave, Westminster Abbey. Speaker: Dr Anna Rowlands, St Hilda Professor of Catholic Social Thought and Practice. Chair: Revd Dr James Hawkey. [Free but booking is essential](#)

7th April, 7.00-8.30pm: CAFOD – 'Parliament in Your Parish: Celebrating success and next steps.' Share your climate concerns with MPs <https://cafod.org.uk/News/Events/PIYP-next-steps>

7th April, 7.00-9.00pm: Westminster Youth Service – RESONATE. Evening for Young Adults at Vaughan House, 46 Francis Street, London, SW1P 1QN. 'Caring for Creation in London and Hertfordshire.' Facilitated by Colette Joyce, Westminster Justice and Peace Co-ordinator. Sign up here: <https://form.jotform.com/220512808267353>

9th April: Extinction Rebellion in Hyde Park. Includes Christian Climate Action events. <https://extinctionrebellion.uk/next-uk-rebellion/>

22nd April: Earth Day <https://www.earthday.org/>

23rd April, 11am – 5pm: CAFOD - RENEW Young Adult Event (18-30). In the face of injustice will you sit back...or step up? Do you hear the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor...and will you answer? Join us at CAFOD's headquarters in London and find out how you can play your part in challenging the root causes that drive poverty, injustice, and the climate crisis. Fr Martin Newell CP is the guest speaker. **Don't miss it!** <https://cafodyoungadulteventtickets.eventbrite.co.uk>

23rd/24th April, 1-5pm: Online Earth Day Conference. London Jesuit Centre. Exploring the climate crisis, how to respond, and where God is working within it. <https://londonjesuitcentre.org/earth-day-conference>

25th April, 12.30-1.30pm: Prayer Vigil outside the Home Office with Westminster Justice & Peace and London Catholic Worker to pray for migrants seeking safe passage to the UK. Contacts Barbara Kentish (J & P) barbarakentish@talktalk.net and Br Johannes Maertens (LCW) johanmaertens@hotmail.com

26th April 2022, 11:00am-12:30pm: Caritas Quarterly Meeting of Diocesan Food Projects – Join the network of Catholic institutions, charities, projects and enthusiastic volunteers creating a society where no one goes hungry! <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/diocese-of-westminster-caritas-food-collective-tickets-251164338297?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>

2nd May: Annual Mass for Migrants, Westminster Cathedral - 2.00pm Banner Procession, for 2.30pm Mass (NB revised time) for the Dioceses of Brentwood, Southwark & Westminster.

7th May, 11am-3pm: NJPN Networking Day – London (tbc).

9th May, 12.45-2.00pm: Southern Dioceses Environment Network – All Creatures Great and Small: Reflecting on biodiversity. Guest speaker John Paul de Quay from [Journey to 2030](#). Register with Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/255436105267>



16th May, 12.30-1.30pm: Prayer Vigil outside the Home Office with Westminster Justice & Peace and London Catholic Worker to pray for migrants seeking safe passage to the UK. Contacts Barbara Kentish (J & P) barbarakentish@talktalk.net and Br Johannes Maertens (LCW) johanmaertens@hotmail.com

26th May, 3.30-5pm: Diocese of Westminster Quarterly Meeting of Homeless Projects. Online. Share best practice, receive training and agree main advocacy issues. [Register with Caritas](#)

13th June, 12.45-2.00pm: Southern Dioceses Environment Network – Sustainable Summers. Register with Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/300571967847>

11th July, 12.45-2.00pm: Southern Dioceses Environment Network – Preparing for the Season of Creation and COP27. Register with Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/300574134327>

22nd-24th July: National Justice and Peace Network (NJPN) Annual Conference – Theme ‘Hope! A verb with its sleeves rolled up.’ The Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire. Booking- <https://www.justice-and-peace.org.uk/conference/>

26th August – 29th August: Greenbelt Festival – Boughton House, Kettering. A festival where arts, faith and justice meet. Theme ‘Somewhere to Make a Stand’. Bands, workshops and talks. Family friendly. Camping and other accommodation options. <https://www.greenbelt.org.uk/>

1st September – 4th October. Season of Creation. Theme – ‘Listen to the Voice of Creation.’ <https://seasonofcreation.org/>

3rd September, 4.00pm: Southern Dioceses Environment Network - Mass for the Season of Creation. Farm Street Church, 114 Mount Street, W1K 3AH. Followed by refreshments.

17th September, 10am-1pm: Westminster Social Justice and Peace Forum – Continuing the Synodal Pathway. St Aloysius Church Hall, 20 Phoenix Road, Euston, London, NW1 1TA. Hosted by Bishop Nicholas Hudson and Bishop Paul McAleenan.

24th September – 2nd October: Great Big Green Week. The Climate Coalition – [Step up for climate, nature and people](#)

7th-18th November: COP27, United Nations Conference of Parties - Climate Conference in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt.

