**NOTES OF JUSTICE AND PEACE MEETING**

**On Monday 24th April 2023**

# Meeting 173

**Present : Anne Elson, Jenny Armstrong**

**Apologies: Diana O’Reilly , Lynda Gould, Ann Allison, Anna Godwin, Jonathan Holden**

We started with the Span prayer and reflected on the reading for the 4th  Sunday of Lent

John 10 1-10

**Matters arising**

We understand that the money collected for the crib collection has been sent to CAFOD for a medical outreach worker and a healthy Mum and baby.

**Prayer Intention for April**

**‘’We pray that the Holy Spirit will guide those who strive to bring peace in areas of conflict, such as Sudan and Ukraine’.**

Jenny will ask Jonathan to put in the newsletter and Lynda to put on the board

**Poverty and Homelessness**

Jenny reported that the Way Ahead Project is temporarily suspended as the Manager has been made redundant and the project worker has resigned. The leadership team are due to advertise for the new posts and the project should reopen when they are in post. Today (24th April) was the farewell party for the staff, Yvonne and Fiona, attended by many visitors, volunteers (including 8 from the Saturday Friendship Group) and some council and P3 staff. Yvonne has an office for the new rehab charity at Dale Street Methodist Church and the Trustees are negotiating a property.

LWS night shelter are in need of volunteers for breakfasts on a Saturday and Sunday. Jenny will ask about putting a note in the newsletter.

Royce is being asked by Julia Fan (convenor of the SFG) to send an email to all who contribute standing orders regularly to SFG to let them know of the situation. This was drawn to the attention of the Finance Committee last week.

**CAFOD**

The latest CAFOD information from Jan Ireson -

*‘I am unable to send May’s Campaigns Update since I have not found it on the website.  However, I have today heard back from Helen Moseley of CAFOD who assures me that they are going to make every effort to get the Campaign Updates up on the website in a timely fashion in the future.  She forwarded the Updates part of the current project and promises June’s edition should be available from the end of May’.*

**Stations of the Cross for Lent**

The CAFOD stations were run in the Hall after Mass every Friday , except one when the weather was extreme, during Lent.

Attendance was not good, and we did find the material was not as good as we had hoped.

We will need to revisit what is possible next year for Lent.

**Live Simply**

The Live Simply team put up a display, including fair trade information and CAFOD information for Family Fast Day and it remained in the hall for some weeks.

**Action by Christians against Torture**

Diana had organised boards, cards and people to help for the weekend of 22/23rd April at St Peter’s and Our Lady’s Churches. 54 cards were signed and the board will remain up at OL next weekend for more to be done. Diana also has £50 in addition for ACAT which will be sent as a donation.

Thanks to Diana for organising**.**

**Any Other Business**

Anne mentioned that the Tablet published a letter from the Bishops of England and Wales expressing their disquiet at the ‘Illegal Migration Bill’. This was strongly worded and we felt it was regrettable that there was not more publicity about their stand.

The information about the Peace Festival is that there is not going to be one this year as the volunteers who ran it for years have not been able to continue. The festivals finished as a result of COVID and have not restarted. Anne asked about having a stall at Art in the Park. We also usually have a stand at the Eco Fest which may go ahead in September and this would fit the theme. The Live Simply team have had a stand for a few years at this.

We finished with the Pax Christi prayer.

**Next meeting 15th May in the Church hall at 7.30 pm.**