**NOTES OF JUSTICE AND PEACE MEETING**

**On Monday 26th June 2023**

# Meeting 175

**Present : Anne Elson, Jenny Armstrong, Anna Godwin, Jonathan Holden**

**Apologies : Lynda Gould,**

We started with the Span prayer and reflected on the reading for the 13th Sunday in Ordinary time Matthew 10 37 -42

**Matters arising**

ACAT cards Diana has sent the cards, but as the postage had gone up again there was not so much left for ACAT. She will report on the amount sent soon.

Anne reported that Royce has sent all the money for CAFOD from the Christmas crib appeal and been sent CAFOD cards.

Anne attended the UN Association talk on 20th May which was on the conflicts and politics in the Horn of Africa.

The information from Pax Christi about the 75th anniversary of Nakba when the Palestinians lost their land at the start of the State of Israel, was put on the J and P notice board. The board has been moved to the porch to be more visible.

The SPAN open day was successful, there were 4 speakers and 50 people attended – 18 of whom gave feedback on the way that SPAN might use the legacy money it has recently acquired.

**Prayer Intention for July**

We decided the theme of water was appropriate and decided to have two intentions on this, in July and August.

**'We thank you Lord for the precious gift of water. May we all use it wisely and not waste it.' for July’ Jonathan to put in the newsletter . Lynda on the notice board.**

And in August - another to pray for those in developing countries who have great problems in accessing water, who are suffering drought and for those who work to improve matters there. Wording to be decided in July.

**Poverty and Homelessness**

The situation at the Way Ahead project is still that service is suspended until the Salvation Army has been able to recruit staff. Helping Hands have opened extra hours to do breakfasts. We await events. Yvonne MacKinnon is still waiting to hear about the property which is potentially for the new Rehab unit in Leamington.

Those contributing to the SFG as yet have not had an email to make them aware of the situation, although many will know. Anne is to ask Royce if this can be done as soon as possible.

Jonathan asked if there was a new directory of organisations who were in the community to help those in need, as previously existed. Anne pointed to the WDC booklet which describes the statutory services and we discussed the practicality of getting all the information for voluntary agencies together and keeping it updated. A lot of information is available online but even then websites are not always updated.

Anne told us that the information directed at homeless people in which is placed at the door of the Presbytery has been updated, as it previously had out of date information on it.

**Live Simply**

The Live Simply team will be having a stall at Ecofest on 2nd September. Ann Allison will put a CAFOD display up and we could do a display on the ACAT cards or other J and P issues.

The Season of Creation is on the theme of ‘Let Justice and Peace flow’ it runs from 1st September to 4th October and we will discuss our actions regarding prayers, or other activities at the next meeting.

**Future of J and P in the parish**

We would like to encourage others to take part in our J and P activities and had a discussion on how to engage young people and other parishioners. Whether a pulpit talk might help or asking people to take part in a project. Anna asked if we were doing a ‘Review of the year’ in September which is our normal activity. Jenny will put together what we have done and we will consider what to do at our next meeting.

**Any Other Business**

Jonathan asked whether the Peace Festival was ever to be revived. Most information suggests it is too difficult to run with volunteers only but Anne heard from Sydney Syson, Chair of WDC that there is interest in reviving it.

We will ask for bidding prayers for the anniversaries of Hiroshima and Nakasaki which are in August.

Jenny was very pleased to report that Janice and Brian Austin who are now in Bristol have both been awarded ‘Bene Merenti’ Papal medals and they will be presented on 23rd July at 10.30 am. Mass at their parish church, ‘St Teresa and the Child Jesus’ in Filton, Bristol. Janice and Brian and their family would be happy for parishioners from Leamington to join them and afterwards at their flats for refreshments. Several are able to go and Jenny will put it in the newsletter and Extra. Father Gerry Murray, Chair of the Diocesan J and P has asked for a short tribute to be sent to him for the newsletter of the Diocese.

We finished with a prayer

**Next meeting 31st July in the Church hall**