

CATHOLIC LEAMINGTON

EXTRA

OCTOBER 2021

Starting Wednesday 6th October, 7.30pm in the Parish Centre.

“Come and See” and learn about the Catholic Faith. Do you have a relative, friend, neighbour, work colleague who might be interest-ed in finding out what being a Catholic is all about? He/she could be a non-Catholic or a non-churchgoing Catholic. Would you like to refresh your own Faith? Our weekly “Come and See” sessions will be starting on **Wednesday 6th October at 7.30pm**, in St Peter’s Parish Centre. Contact Margaret on **01926 428399**, or email rcia.cathleam@gmail.com to register interest or for more information. More details also available at

<https://www.catholicleamington.org.uk/exploring-the-catholic-faith.html>

Margaret Dimambro

Web page of the month

EXPLORING THE CATHOLIC FAITH

www.catholicleamington.org.uk/exploring-the-catholic-faith



Parish Update - for all parishioners of St Peter’s and Our Lady’s

Please complete and return the **Catholic Leamington Parish Update** form available at the back of St Peter’s and Our Lady’s. Take one form for each household and return as soon as possible either in the boxes at the back of St Peter’s or Our Lady’s or to St Peter’s presbytery. It is also available on the [parish website home page \(blue box\)](#) if you would rather complete it online. This is a vital way to continue the rebuilding of our Catholic community and update our parish records at the same time.

EXTRA is primarily for information that we do not have room for in the weekly newsletter. But we can only publish what you send in; please send notices (100-200 words) to catholicleamington.extra@gmail.com by the **end of October** for the November edition. **And we could do with more help, too! Let us know if you can help:** Brian Austin, Martyn Hathaway (same address as above)

Or lives simply parish



Our **Recycling for Good Causes Box** will be at **St Peter’s for the whole of October from Monday 4**. (Sorry, it stayed at Our Lady’s longer than expected!)

This enables us to recycle specific items which will raise money for our chosen charity which is **CAFOD**.

YES PLEASE:

- ✓ gold or silver jewellery,
- ✓ costume jewellery,
- ✓ watches,
- ✓ bank notes and coins,
- ✓ stamps and first day covers

THE ONLY ELECTRICAL DEVICES we accept are: EVEN IF BROKEN.

- ✓ mobile phones,
- ✓ cameras,
- ✓ video cameras,
- ✓ satnavs,
- ✓ electronic gaming devices,
- ✓ I pods / MP3 players,
- ✓ tablet computers.

WE ARE UNABLE TO ACCEPT

- × Laptops,
- × home phones,
- × DVD players,
- × printers,
- × modems or routers,
- × kitchen appliances,
- × ink or toner cartridges

Louise Hathaway. (LiveSimply Parish team.)

Synodality

A further reflection by Paul Hayden

The Sunday obligation may be returning soon. Although recognising good intent behind this, I find the language inappropriate in expressing my relationship with attending Mass. The term means something that is morally or legally binding. I have never viewed going to Mass like this. Being a Christian is about freely giving worship, mission and caring for others, all as community; the best time for that is clearly (where practical) on the Lord's Day.

When travelling back to Rome, Pope Francis was asked: "As a priest have you ever denied anyone communion?" He replied: "I **have never refused the Eucharist to anyone, to anyone... I never, never refused the Eucharist. As a priest, that is.**" This was a clear rebuttal to those in the US trying to politicise receiving communion.

Pope Francis has often said: "No, **Communion is not a prize for the perfect**, no? **Communion is a gift, a present, the presence of Jesus in his Church and in the community. This is the theology.**"

He also said: "What should a shepherd do? **Be a shepherd** and not going around condemning or not condemning. They must be a shepherd with God's style. **And God's style is closeness, compassion and tenderness.**"

I hope the Synodal process reflects on the Pope's words and emphasises the need for pastors and catechists to walk with people in their circumstances, to help all of us make personal decisions around communion, freeing priests from the former rule books (or dare I say, doctrine) to show the love and mercy that is emphasised by the life of Jesus and his disciples - sadly not always evident in the way doctrine is presented.

Paul would welcome responses paulhayden@ntlworld.com

Coventry Peace Festival



Coventry is celebrating 2021 as City of Culture.

Coventry Peace Festival is an annual celebration of the city's place as the UK's only city of Peace and Reconciliation. It will take place during the first two weeks of November.



1st – 14th November

10th – 12th November

11th November

12th – 20th November

13th November, 10:00 - 14:30 [PeaceJam](#)

[Coventry Peace Festival 2021](#)

[RISING Global Peace Forum 2021](#)

[Lord Mayor's Peace Lecture 2021](#)

[Coventry Dresden Friendship Festival 2021](#)

[International Young People's Peace Essay Competition 2021](#)

Are you aged 25 or under? What do you see as the greatest threat to peace? Do you have ideas what people can and should do reduce that threat? This is your chance to tell the world what you think. Write an essay of 500 or 1000 words (depending on your age) and send it to essay@youngpeoplespeaceessay.org by 31 October.

Season of Creation



We have our Choir back! A special Concert was held in St Peter's to celebrate the Season of Creation last month with a programme of hymns and readings from Laudato Si' and Let Us Dream, which was very much appreciated by all who attended, as well as those who watched on live-stream. Thanks go to the fifteen choristers and Anne-Claire for their efforts in such a short time since they reconvened only on 12th September. The readings from Pope Francis are challenging, that we all need to live more simply, more sustainably and in solidarity with the poor!



At our September SPAN meeting we agreed our usual core allocations and considered appeals on health education in Africa, working enhancements in Sierra Leone, the vulnerable in Uganda, two appeals for bore wells in India, helping

Christians in Syria, a UNHCR appeal for refugees in Jordan and ESOL training for Afghans in the UK.

We decided to target our limited resources on the **Syrian and Afghan refugee settlement schemes** locally:

£ 300 to **Circle of Friends**, an initiative from the **catholic parishes of Warwick and Hampton on the hill**. They are looking for a house to let and to provide support for a refugee family for 2 years.

To find out more about all these appeals or to join our SPAN mailing list, contact paulhayden@ntlworld.com



The picture is of an engineer working on the pump.

We agreed to continue our support to a community in Bo, Sierra Leone, where we have helped to maintain a well for several years, sending £ 100 to Joseph Kaipumoh for a new valve.

Also £300 to **Welcome Here**, who are now well established at helping refugees settle in Leamington.

Some of the children of the originally settled families from Syria pictured here, have now obtained degrees and local employment and are well integrated.



Harvest Fast Day

Have you missed Harvest Fast Day? It was on Friday 1st October (a little earlier than usual).

No problem! Fast on ANY day and give what you save to the CAFOD collection.

If you have an envelope, leave it in the collection plate in church as soon as you can. If you don't have an envelope, there will be one for you to pick up at church.

You can donate online, too. Go to our webpage and follow the link

www.catholicleamington.org.uk/cafod

We won't worry if it's late! Better late than never.



Justice and Peace

There is a **Justice and Peace circulation list** and everyone is welcome to receive the notifications about **J&P, LiveSimply and CAFOD** etc; but you do have to **ask** to be put on the list – that's the law (GDPR) – so please email cl.jandp@gmail.com to receive them.

United Nations Climate Conference (COP26)

Even the Pope is coming!

CAFOD have had a petition running for some time, but it ends 6th October. If you read this before then and you haven't signed, you can do it NOW! You can read the petition and sign it on our website page here

www.catholicleamington.org.uk/cafod

More about COP

The United Nations climate talks or Conference of Parties (COP) will take place 1-12 November 2021 in Glasgow. COP26 will be the biggest summit ever hosted in the UK

It is the most significant climate event since the 2015 Paris Agreement, at which over 190 countries agreed to the aim of limiting global warming to well below 1.5 degrees Celsius.

COP26 is the first summit when countries must report back on their progress since the Paris Agreement, and set out more ambitious goals for ending their contribution to climate change

How can we make our voice heard?

The only people who can make a difference at COP26 are our politicians. **How about everyone writing to their MP?** It's easy. Use the site at www.writetothem.com and, using your postcode, you can find your MP and write to him. Keep it simple. Ask your MP to use his influence to make a difference. Use your own words. As this is a crisis, you can say their actions should be immediate, strong and should include every department of the government. You can add 'My vote is dependent on your response to the environmental crisis' (if that's true)

This is what CAFOD has written, which might help you with your letter.

Dear Prime Minister,

COP26 will be one of the most important summits of the century. The conference must put us on track to end a climate emergency which is having a devastating impact on the world and hitting poorest communities the hardest.

As host to this crucial meeting, we urge you to make sure world leaders show the ambition needed to stop temperatures rising beyond a disastrous 1.5 degrees, with each country committing to its fair share.

And we urge you to put the people worst affected by the crisis - those who have done least to contribute to the problem - at the heart of the talks"

Brian Austin (J&P / CAFOD Campaigns Volunteer)

LIVESIMPLY PARISH have organised various events throughout September.



Ecofest 4 September, Pump Room gardens - We had a stall here and many people dropped by to discuss Fairtrade, living simply and green energy options. Colouring sheets on an environmental theme were a great success with children and their families

Creation Sunday celebrated on 19 September with a themed liturgy and an altar display at Our Lady's and St Peter's churches, consisting of fruits, vegetables, flowers plus a world globe and Live simply banner. These provided symbols of creation to reflect upon



Tree Walk in Jephson gardens on 25 September celebrated the Season of creation.

Our thanks to Sidney Syson who led us on the walk. She shared her wealth of knowledge about the special and varied trees in the gardens and everyone enjoyed it. We finished with a prayer after having contemplated the beauty of the trees whilst on our walk.