**NOTES OF JUSTICE AND PEACE MEETING BY ZOOM**

**On Monday 18th October 2021**

# Meeting 159

**Present:** Anne Elson, Brian and Janice Austin, Wilf Feely, Anna Godwin, Jonathan Holden, Sandy Tansy and Jenny Armstrong

Apologies from Lynda Gould

Jenny hosted this 13th Zoom meeting. The last meeting was on 20th September 2021

The Gospel reading was Mark 10 46- 52 (30th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

**Matters arising from the last meeting.**

Coventry’s Peace Festival has been publicised in ‘Extra’ for October. It will take place during the first two weeks of November. One of the events is the Lord Mayor’s Peace Lecture on 11th November.

Brian told the meeting that Rosemary Pauling of the young people’s group has written a 1000 word essay on the subject of ‘Peace’ and sent it in to the Young people’s Peace Essay Competition in Coventry. He hopes that a section of it could be published in ‘Extra’.

Anne reported that the demonstration in support of Nazanin Zaghari-Radcliffe on 23rd September to commemorate the 2000 days since she was arrested was well attended. Sadly her court appeal was refused and she remains in Iran under house arrest.

The Justice and Peace Assembly – some attended this on zoom. One of the sessions was given by Eric Kirwan, Chief Operating Officer, and was about the Archdiocese Statement of Intent regarding Climate change. One of the aims is to make all Churches in the Diocese ‘Live Simply’ churches by the end of 2021. Another is looking at the impact of buildings on Climate change, and the actions needed to reduce their carbon footprint. Under this Diocesan Environmental Plan each parish should have a contact person for the Diocesan Climate Action Team to liaise with, and our LiveSimply group are to be asked to nominate one, preferably younger than most of us at the meeting;

Anne found the sessions of the Assembly and the breakout rooms very interesting and felt that our efforts re J and P, SPAN and Live simply were a good example of what local Churches can achieve.

# Rosary Intention for November

We thought that the October’s Rosary intention should stay until the end of COP26, which will be in the middle of November. That is:

 ‘**We pray for the success of the meeting of nations for COP26 in November and that there will be agreement on ways to combat climate change.**

After COP26 it was suggested that we had a further one on climate change – to run from mid November.

**‘We pray that as individuals, parishes and a diocese, we may play our part in furthering the aims of COP26’**

# Saturday Friendship Group at the Way Ahead Project

The plan to move back into the normal drop in space has had to be postponed due to the ill health of Yvonne McKinnon, the Manager. She has had COVID and they are waiting until she is fit to restart.

The new project worker and the Minister together with volunteers have kept the place open for a basic service. It has generally been very busy. Sandy asked about the Saturdays, which are normally running. She will get in touch with Yvonne.

The SFG needs to get an application in to the Town Council for a grant from the community fund. Brian will ask Royce for the accounts to see what is in the bank at the moment.

# CAFOD

 **‘Reclaim our common home’** - the new campaign which encompasses the climate crisis, unjust debts and other structural issues for developing countries to lobby MPs and the Government before COP26. The Masses at OL and SP have been covered with altar talks and a lot of cards given out to be signed and sent to CAFOD for presenting before COP26 to the Government. The petition is now closed so that it can be sent to the Government in time for COP26.

**CAFOD** world gifts will be out soon for Christmas. These have a new theme this year. A note in ‘Extra’ would be helpful to promote. Brian will ask Ann Allison if she will organise this.

# Live Simply

**Recycling for Good causes** the recycling box is now at St Peters and will accept a range of items including jewellery, stamps, coins, watches, mobiles, video cameras, ipads, tablet computers. However **not** laptops, faxes DVD players printers, kitchen appliances, personal grooming items. The first consignment has been sent and Louise Hathaway has received a cheque for £87 for CAFOD already. Jenny will send this to CAFOD with a covering letter. The next sack is almost ready to go as there has been a good response at St Peter’s.

 **Season of Creation - from 4th September to October 4th**

 Tree Walk in Jephson Gardens on Saturday 25th September - this was very popular and well attended. It was led by Sydney Syson.

 Sunday 26th September 7.30 p.m. Season of Creation concert – this was excellent – led by the choir of St Peter’s. However it was not so well attended, possibly due to lack to publicity.

**Climate change**

**CAFOD** and others are organising a mass lobby to highlight Climate justice on **Saturday 6th November** in London and Glasgowat the start of COP26. Anna has had information that a demonstration of support will be held in Leamington on the same date. This information came from the Green Party. She will enquire further as some of us may be able to attend this. It can then be put in the newsletter to attract people to it.

**AOB**

SPAN and the SVP with help from parishioners are hoping to send Christmas parcels, cards and vouchers to parishioners who are housebound, or families who are struggling financially. The SVP need some storage for their gifts and have asked Father John about the Halls at SP and OL. SPAN will do an appeal for money for grocery vouchers again.

Brian highlighted the ‘Laudato Si’ platform which is a long term project headed by the ‘Dicastery for Promoting Human Integral Development’. It is a major effort to mobilise Catholics worldwide to put into action the message of Laudato Si. It will be launched on 14th November which is the World Day for the Poor.

CAFOD hopes to train a local 'Laudato Si Animator' for each community and Brian is undergoing this training for us)

We finished with a prayer remembering those who are trafficked as it was ‘National Modern Slavery Day’. Numbers being trafficked have risen significantly in recent years.

**Next meeting is -- 15th November by Zoom 7.15 p.m No meeting in December.**