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

**On Monday 18th January 2021**

**Meeting 151**

**Present:** Brian and Janice Austin, Jonathan Holden, Wilf Feely, Anne Elson, Lynda Gould, Diana O’Reilly and Jenny Armstrong (also Donald Newis was trying to join the meeting – Brian will contact him)

**Apologies:** Louise Hathaway

Jenny hosted this sixth Zoom meeting. The last meeting was on 30th November

**We started with the SPAN prayer and a reflection on the reading for the 3rd Sunday in Ordinary time Mark 1 14 -20**

**Matters arising from the last meeting.**

Pope Francis encyclical letter – **‘Fratelli Tutti’** - they are not in the piety shop at St Peter’s at the moment. Summaries available on <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/the-church/the-pope/pope-francis/fratelli-tutti/> Some of us attended an online Zoom event run by ACTA on ‘**Fratelli Tutti’** where the speaker was well known theologian David McLoughlin

 Copies of the encyclical **‘ Laudato Si’** are available in the piety shop.

Jenny wrote to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Rishi Sunak, and to Matt Western MP for Warwick regarding the reduction in the foreign aid budget. So far there has been no response. Jeremy Wright, MP for Kenilworth and Southam had responded to Brian previously ; he ascertained that the intention was for a temporary reduction. Louise also wrote to Jeremy Wright with similar response.

**News Roundup**

**Saturday Friendship Group at the Way Ahead Project –**

Because of the current lockdown the WAP cannot open for visitors, but is serving sandwiches at the door for those they know are particularly vulnerable. There is a need for 1 or 2 volunteers only making and serving the sandwiches. There were 46 visitors for this in the four days they were open last week. Volunteers can be organised easily via the ‘Whatsapp group’ now.

The staff still operate advice and help when required.

**Peace Sunday**

Thanks were expressed to Brian who had reminded the clergy about ‘**Peace Sunday’** and had suggested some words of introduction, Penitential Rite and bidding prayers. The script was from the **‘Pax Cristi’** website. These were used very effectively in some of the masses we attended at the weekend. There were also suitable hymns which helped to set the scene.

**Rosary intention for January (already published)**

 ***‘ We pray for a rapid end to the pandemic throughout the world, but that the solidarity, compassion and care for others recognised in 2020 may continue and grow in 2021.’***

For the **February** intention we decided on the theme of ‘Peace’ as it was Peace Sunday last weekend and there is an urgent need for peace and reconciliation in so many areas; USA, Syria, Uganda(we were asked for special prayers for Uganda at the Prayer service on Sunday) and many other countries and areas.

Lynda suggested the CAFOD prayer which we all thought very appropriate.

**‘ *We pray for peace in our world: that all people may live free from violence, in safety and security, and with hope for the future’***

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS FOR LENT**

An initial meeting about the J and P stations was held on 13th January, and progress made on changing some of the images, some updating ( changing words on the use of the food bank in the light of the pandemic) and using pictures of caring for those suffering from COVID19 and the explosion in Beirut. As usual it is not easy to get free images to fit the words of the stations. Di offered to help and will speak to Brian. The resulting Powerpoint product can be used in a Zoom meeting or possibly recorded for people to access themselves. There is work to be done on the music and Brian will ask for assistance from Martin Barry and Mary Rouse. A further meeting is to be 28th January – changed time of 4pm.

**NEWS FROM WARWICK JUSTICE AND PEACE**

**1 Refugee support** they are exploring of the possibility of initiating a Refugee support scheme, which has moved forward and they have formed a steering group to start the process. Jenny attended the Zoom presentation by Peter Fahy of Rugeley Parish where they are ready to take a family but have been delayed by COVID. They have worked very hard to get ready and have a team ready to give many types of support.

**2 Fair Tax** They have together with the Warwick Quakers organised a Zoom meeting on Monday 25th January with a presentation from the Fair Tax Fair tax Campaign Seminar (in conjunction with the Warwick Quakers)

The aim is to make the Fair Tax Mark as widespread and recognizable as the Fair Trade Mark. They hope to reach a position where failure to pay taxes is a source of shame, and the general public will not have to monitor compliance because the organizations and businesses will do that to themselves. To register email john.sheldon@uwclub.net

**3 UN Sustainable Goals**

These are a blueprint to achieve an equitable and sustainable future for all. They address poverty, inequality, climate change, environmental degradation, peace and justice and others.

An introductory video below.

 (30 mins on Youtube) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xVWHuJOmaEk&feature=youtu.be>

**FAIR TRADE**

Due to the ongoing lockdown the options for promoting Fair Trade Fortnight (end of Feb) are limited, but Jenny intends to put a short article in Extra for February and encourage the buying of Fair Trade and find a suitable video link to promote.

CAFOD

Brian has not heard about the plans for Family Fast Day in Lent (usually the 2nd Friday in Lent, 26th February)

**CLIMATE CHANGE**

Brian has volunteered to be a local Community Champion for the Climate Coalition and has forwarded a petition which everyone is  asked to sign [**https://thetimeisnow.uk/declaration**](https://thetimeisnow.uk/declaration)

The aim is to show the politicians that there is a mandate for- unleashing investment, protecting our environment and supporting the vulnerable.

He will re-forward the link to ensure it is signed by as many as possible.  Anne has volunteered to help and has attended a meeting of the Town Council to better understand how they work.

**AOB**

UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons [TPNW] has now been ratified by 50 countries and becomes international law on January 21st. Brian had written to the Conference Office of Catholic Bishops of England and Wales and asked them to support an Anglican Bishop’s letter and was told that the Catholic Bishops had produced their own statement last August which is on their website. However this was not well known, not publicised in Churches nor generally known, which seems like a wasted opportunity. (The Treaty was adopted at the United Nations in July 2017 with the support of 122 member states. With Honduras’ ratification on 24th October 2020 the TPNW acquired the 50 ratifications needed for it to enter into force and become international law after 90 days.) Brian will put something in the parish newsletter.

There is a Zoom meeting of the Diocesan J and P Commission to discuss the environment policy of the Diocese on Tuesday 26th January Time? Zoom link is [**bit.ly/392su5M**](https://bit.ly/392su5M)

Next meeting: 15th February by Zoom at 7 p.m. for 7.15p.m.

**15th March. 19th April. 17th May. 21st June. 19th July. 20th September. 18th October. 15th November.**