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

**On Monday 25th April 2022**

# Meeting 163

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

**Apologies:** Diana O’Reilly, Lynda Gould

Jenny hosted this 18th Zoom meeting. The last meeting was on 21st March 2022

We started with the SPAN prayer.

The minutes from the 21th March were taken as correct.

Jenny welcomed everyone to the meeting and we read the Gospel for the 3rd Sunday of Easter John 21: 1-14

**Matters arising**

**The Justice and Peace stations of the cross** were held in the Hall for the each Monday in Lent,

The attendance was around 12 each time, some people coming for every one and others for one or two. Brian was thanked for being there each time and using his skills to operate the presentation. It was felt to be a helpful way to help people engage with the stations and a nice way to present, leaving time for personal reflection.

It is not known yet whether Angela at Hampton on the Hill has used the stations there.

We have not yet met to facilitate the transfer of the Google Groups information, and will do this in the near future. Jenny to arrange.

# Rosary Intention for May

The situation in Ukraine, is still paramount in our minds because of the worsening war and refugee crisis, but despite this we felt we should have a different intention as other situations do not go away. As we will be doing the card signing for prisoners of conscience in the next couple of weeks we thought that would be an appropriate subject.

**‘We pray that we may remember and support those who are imprisoned for their beliefs or for speaking out against injustice’,**

Jonathan will put that in the newsletter – which will not be possible until the weekend of 7th/8th May as the office at St Peter’s is closed.

# Saturday Friendship Group at the Way Ahead Project

There will be a meeting shortly to discuss the roles which need to be divided up between the volunteers when Janice and Brian leave.

As a result of the appeal for volunteers there are 3 more and some who cannot start at the moment.

Brian has offered to continue inputting the data for the Way Ahead Project when he leaves. The WAP is to get a new computer system in the near future which will do the statistics on a regular basis automatically. However we are not sure how long this new system will take before it is up and running.

Yvonne McKinnon is hoping to restart the cooking classes at the WAP which pre Covid were successful. She is hoping to access some funds for this specially.

At the moment the bank balance for the SFG is healthy.

# Live Simply

There will be a ‘Live simply’ weekend 14th /15th May when we hope to include an offertory procession gifts to the altar, bidding prayers and to make it a ‘Walk to Church’ Sunday.

Also it is intended to ask people to ‘make just one pledge’ to make a stand for the climate – and have a table where people can write their pledge and display it on a luggage tag.

The ‘Recycling for good causes’ box is at St Joseph’s and will move back to Our Lady’s at the end of April. £152 raised so far for CAFOD.

**ACAT Card Campaign**

There is a plan to have card signing at Our Lady’s (10 am) and St Joseph’s (9am and 5pm.) on 1st May. Jenny is running the OL one and Christopher Snelson is at SJ. Diana O’Reilly has organised the display boards, literature, cards and labels. The clergy have been consulted and will be emailed again with a suggested form of words for them to mention it at the end of Mass. We are unsure who is helping at SJ. Jenny to email Christopher as Diana is away at the moment. Brian offered to help at the 5.30 which Jenny will let Christopher know about. We need the participants to donate £2 for the postage.

St Peter’s is planned for the weekend of 7th/8th May at the 9a.m and 11 am. Diana is able to look after these; Also Lynda has volunteered for the 11a.m. Jonathan and Anne offered to help.

There was discussion on the best place to site this – on a nice day outside, otherwise the porch and if enough volunteers in the hall where there is coffee too.

**AOB**

There was some discussion on the situation in Ukraine and the plight of refugees. Anne’s daughter is awaiting a family from Ukraine, as she has volunteered to host them. She has found school places for the children but the family are stuck in Poland having difficulty getting the visa and travel documents from the Home Office. There were other reports of similar difficulties affecting those already traumatised.

Jenny had forwarded an email from Phil Mayland of Diocesan J and P to the circulation list – asking people to write to their MP’s regarding the ‘Nationality and Borders Bill’ at present going through Parliament – it has been amended by the Lords and returns to the Commons shortly. One area of particular concern is the ‘off shoring’ of refugees to places such as Rwanda, which itself has a poor human rights record. The Anglican and Catholic Church Hierarchies have spoken out about this, most notably the Archbishop of Canterbury in his Easter homily. Jonathan has already written to Matt Western MP, and we hope others will also, although we are confident that he will also be against this measure, it will be good for him to get letters to reinforce his stand.

Laudato Si Week ‘Journeying Together’ 22nd -29th May

See the website ( www.laudatosiweek.org ) for details of the events online this week, to celebrate 7th anniversary of the encyclical on Creation Care.

We presented Janice and Brian with a small token of our love and esteem as they are moving shortly to live near their daughter in Bristol. (Zaytum Palestinian olive oil /tree planted in Palestine) We are so sorry to lose their wisdom and expertise and thank them for all their loyalty, dedication and good humoured help and advice in so many areas of J and P work. They started the sessions going over 15 years ago and have been its mainstay ever since. They also started the Saturday Friendship group in 2009 which is going well and thriving. We give them our heartfelt thanks. They reminded us that they will be available on the phone and zoom and want to keep in touch.

We finished with a Laudato Si’ prayer suggested by Brian.

**Next meeting on 23rd May on Zoom at 7.15 p.m. The Gospel will be for the Ascension of the Lord (Luke 24: 46- 53)**