

NOTES OF JUSTICE AND PEACE MEETING

On Monday 31st July 2023

Meeting 176

Present : Anne Elson, Jenny Armstrong Lynda Gould,

Apologies : Jonathan Holden and Anna Godwin

We started with the Span prayer and reflected on the reading for the Transfiguration of the Lord

Matthew 17 1-9

Matters arising

We will ask for bidding prayers for the anniversaries of Hiroshima and Nakasaki which are on August 6th and 9th. (Emailed Father Stephen after the meeting to suggest this giving the link to the Pax Christi resources).

Jenny has yet to do the 'Review of the Year' and will complete it in August in time for our September meeting.

The Mass at St Teresa of the Child Jesus in Bristol where Janice and Brian Austin were presented with the 'Bene Merenti' medals on 23rd July went off very well and 8 went from Leamington. Together with their family we had a celebration afterwards in the church hall. Brian has written to Father Stephen to thank him and the letter should be appearing in the August 'Extra'

Prayer Intention for August

.We will continue with the theme of the gift of water and this time to concentrate on the needs of those who do not have clean water.

'We thank you Lord, for the precious gift of water and we pray for the work of development agencies who help others to access clean water'.

Jenny to put in the newsletter . Lynda on the notice board.

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Poverty and Homelessness

It has now been announced that the Way Ahead Project is to close permanently. This means that the Saturday Friendship Group can no longer operate. This is sad news but not unexpected. There is money for the SFG in both Span and the Church accounts which will have to be re-allocated . Decisions will be taken by those in the SFG and SPAN. Other projects who do similar work are Helping Hands, LWS Night Shelter, CAB, Food Bank, and Yvonne's New Chapters.

We still need the people who have donated standing orders to be informed personally. Father Stephen has put a note in the newsletter but people should be told personally and thanked. The SFG volunteers will ensure this happens.

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. Anne had looked at the materials and prayers of intercession on the CAFOD website. Jenny will email Father Stephen the link and suggestions. 1st September is the World Day of Prayer for Creation. Lynda will order the prayer cards from Pax Christi for then. Anne will talk to choir about suitable hymns for these days.

Fair Trade - Jenny was pleased to see a Fair trade display in a village church which gave her the idea that we could do a similar thing at SP. To be considered later.

CAFOD

CAFOD have a campaign for parishioners to sign a 'giant letter' to the World Bank on the subject of seeds. Small farmers are being prevented from saving their own seeds by restrictions from the authorities ,(conditions of loans to developing countries) forcing them to buy expensive seeds from agri-business , forcing them out of business. The letter is from Salina a small farmer in Bangladesh. We would like to engage the parish with this to raise awareness and support CAFOD.

We will get the sample letters, posters and information and do a display at St Peter's and Our Lady's during August. The letters need to reach CAFOD by 18th September.

(After the meeting Jenny contacted Ann Allison. CAFOD rep, who will get the resources, do the SP display and talk at masses on 12th/13th August. Jenny will do a display at OL and talk the same weekend)

Any Other Business

Anne attended a UN meeting about Myanmar, which was very informative. She will send round details of the next meeting.

Lynda suggested showing the film 'the Letter' on the theme of 'Laudato Si' To be considered further.

We finished with one of St Ignatius' prayers as it was his feast day.

Next meeting 18th September 7.30 pm. in the Church hall