



# JUSTICE & PEACE E-BULLETIN SEPTEMBER 2024

Welcome to the e-Bulletin from the Westminster Justice and Peace Commission. Please send Events for inclusion to [justiceandpeace@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:justiceandpeace@rcdow.org.uk). The deadline for the next e-Bulletin is **27 September 2024**.

## SEASON OF CREATION 1 September – 4 October

*Every year the Christian family unites for this worldwide celebration of prayer and action to protect our common home for the Season of Creation. As followers of Christ from around the globe, we share a common call to care for Creation. We are co-creatures and part of all that God has made. Our well-being is interwoven with the well-being of the Earth.*



## TO HOPE AND ACT WITH CREATION SEASON OF CREATION 2024

*The firstfruits of hope*  
(Rom 8:19-25)

### What You Can Do

- There are so many different ways to joyfully celebrate this Season. Create a display, pray for the care of creation, spend time in nature on a walk or picnic, plant a tree or a 'fruits of hope' garden, hold a blessing of pets, host a screening of the film 'The Letter' about Pope Francis' encyclical 'Laudate Si', sign up for the CAFOD Live Simply Award and so much more...
  - Visit the [Season of Creation](#) website and download the Celebration Guide
  - Find lots more *Ideas for Parishes* on the [Westminster Justice and Peace website](#)
- Please do share news of your parish events and activities with the Justice and Peace office.

Thank you!



## DIARY OF EVENTS

**1 September – 4 October: Season of Creation.** This year's theme is 'To Hope and Act with Creation'. [Season of Creation website](#)

**4 September, 7-8pm: Pioneering Parishes: How Local Church Communities Can Become Guardians of Creation.** Online Panel organised by the Guardians of Creation project in collaboration with CAFOD and St Mary's University. A panel of experts and parish innovators discuss how to promote greener practices within our local communities in a variety of settings: Dr Roland Daw, Senior Lecturer in Strategy and Entrepreneurship at St Mary's University, Twickenham, Kirsty Wright, Head of Property for the Diocese of Plymouth and Bridget French, parishioner at Our Lady of Lourdes in Harpenden, who helped her parish achieve the CAFOD Live Simply award. Chair: Neil Thorns, CAFOD's Director of Advocacy. A recording of the discussion will be available to those who register, even if you are not able to attend on the day. [Register here with CAFOD](#)

**5 September, 7.00-9.00pm: Westminster Holy Land Roundtable.** All are welcome to join us at the next Roundtable meeting at Farm Street Church, 114 Mount Street, London, W1K 3AH for discussion and action in response to the war in Gaza. New participants welcome. Please do come along to find out more or get in touch with the Justice and Peace Co-ordinator, Colette Joyce. Mobile: 07593 434905 / Email: [colettejoyce@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:colettejoyce@rcdow.org.uk) [Register with Eventbrite](#)

**7 September: March for Life.** 11.00am - Mass at St George's Cathedral, Southwark, SE1 7HY. 1.30-4.00pm - March from the Emmanuel Centre, Westminster, to Parliament Square. <https://www.marchforlife.co.uk/>

**8 September, 3.30pm: Westminster Holy Land Roundtable Film Outing - London premiere of a 'Gaza – A Story of Love and War'.** All welcome to join Fr Dominic and Colette at the Phoenix Cinema, East Finchley, 52 High Rd, London, N2 9PJ. There will be an in-person Q&A with the director, Mike Joseph, after the film. More details on our website and link for booking tickets: <https://westminsterjusticeandpeace.org/2024/08/16/film-outing-gaza-a-story-of-love-and-war-phoenix-cinema-east-finchley-8-september-2024-3-30pm/>

**9 September, 12.45-2.00pm: Southern Dioceses Environment Network – Pilgrimages and the Holy Year.** Speakers: Elizabeth Uwulaka ([Westminster Pilgrimages](#) Administrator), Bernard Lavery (Westminster Lourdes Pilgrimage Co-ordinator) and Phil McCarthy Project Lead for [Pilgrim Ways](#) in England and Wales. New participants welcome. [Southern Dioceses Environment Network](#)

**10 September, 2.00-3.00pm: Laudato Si' Movement International Webinar about the Fossil Fuels Non-Proliferation Treaty** - with high-level speakers from both religious and political spheres. [Find more details on how to join the event here](#)

**11 September, 7.30pm: 'The Priest's Tale'**- A performance by actor Michael Mears of a powerful one-hour play called based on the account of a German Jesuit who was in Hiroshima when the atomic bomb was dropped in 1945. Catholic Worker Church, next to 49 Mattison Road, N4 1BG. [Tickets are free to book.](#) There will be a collection for London Catholic Worker and CND.



**13 September, 7.00 p.m: Friends of the Holy Land - Talk by Brendan Metcalfe at St Thomas More RC Church, 9 Henry Road, London N4 2LH.** Followed by a Q&A Session. Brendan's talk will provide an update on how Friends of the Holy Land are supporting Christians in the current crisis, including news from his recent visit to Jordan and the West Bank. All welcome.

**14 September, 10.30am to 4pm: Movement for the Abolition of War - 'Alternatives to War in a time of Global Crisis'.** Sands Film Studio, Rotherhithe SE16 4HZ. Day conference for activists and scholars. Speakers include Paul Rogers, Emeritus Professor of Peace Studies at Bradford University, John Gittings, former foreign correspondent and author, and Diana Francis, author of 'Rethinking Security'. In the afternoon various case studies will be presented, such as Colombia, Myanmar and South Caucasus. <https://abolishwar.net/Alternatives-to-war>

**9-22 September: Fairtrade Fortnight.** Celebrate 30 years of the Fairtrade Mark here in the UK. Advocate for fair prices for farmers and rapid action on environmental sustainability and climate justice with the Fairtrade Foundation. Explore ideas for parishes and schools [30 Ways to Celebrate 30 Years of Fairtrade](#)



FAIRTRADE

**16 – 22 September: Week of Prayer for Peace for Palestine and Israel.** The focus is on Gaza and the theme 'Whatever you did... you did for me.' (Matt 25: 35-40) More details from [Pax Christi](#)

**19 September, 12.30-1.30pm: Monthly Prayer Vigil outside the Home Office –** Organised by Westminster Justice & Peace, London Catholic Worker and the London Churches Refugee Fund to pray for migrants seeking safe passage to the UK and remember those who have lost their lives attempting these long, perilous journeys. Marsham Street, SW1P4DF. Contact Barbara Kentish [barbarakentish@talktalk.net](mailto:barbarakentish@talktalk.net)

**21 September: Global Day of Advocacy Action - Cultivating a Culture of Peace.** Ecumenical common call to action on advocacy and to endorse the [Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty](#) (FFNPT). Part of the Season of Creation.

**21 September – 2 October: Catholic Nonviolence Days of Action.** "Living, speaking and acting without violence is not giving up, it is not losing...but aspiring to everything." Pope Francis. [Pax Christi Resources](#)

**28 September, 6.00pm: International Mass at Westminster Cathedral for World Day of Migrants and Refugees. Celebrant: Cardinal Vincent Nichols.**

**29 September: World Day of Migrants and Refugees.** The Church has been celebrating the World Day of Migrants and Refugees (WDMR) since 1914. It's always an occasion to express concern for different vulnerable people on the move; to pray for them as they face many challenges; and to increase awareness about the opportunities that migration offers. The theme of Pope Francis' message for the 110th World Day of Migrants and Refugees is: '*God walks with His people.*' Read the Pope's Message here: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/wdmr24-pope-francis/>

**1 October, 6.00–7:30pm: Fairtrade Foundation - Be the Change Global Get Together.** Online event held jointly with Fairtrade Canada featuring campaigners and producers from around the world sharing their stories and insights on 30 years of Fairtrade impact. [Fairtrade Foundation](#)

**2-27 October: Synod on Synodality Second Session, Rome.**



**4 October: CAFOD Harvest Fast Day** <https://cafod.org.uk/fundraise/family-fast-day>

**6 October: Homelessness Sunday** <https://housingjustice.org.uk/>

**7 October: Anniversary of the Massacre by Hamas in Israel.** Remembering those who lost their lives, those taken hostage and all those suffering from the continuing conflict in Gaza, Israel and the West Bank.

**12 October, 11.00am-2.00pm (coffee available from 10.30am): Celebrating the Jubilee – What Good News Study Day.** Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest, Gidea Park, RM2 6DH (Brentwood Diocese). Victoria Firth and Liam Allmark from the Jesuit Refugee Service UK (JRS UK) will discuss how we can take up Pope Francis' invitation to promote the rights of refugees in the Jubilee Year and beyond. Attend in person or follow live online [www.whatgoodnews.org](http://www.whatgoodnews.org)

**14 October, 12.45-2.00pm: Southern Dioceses Environment Network – Learn more about the work of the Laudato Si' Research Institute in Oxford.** Speaker: Dr Timothy Howles, Associate Director <https://lsri.campion.ox.ac.uk/>. Standing items include updates on care of creation resources, events and activities, and a report from the Diocesan Environment Leads. All welcome to join the mailing list as a member or attend as a one-off. New participants welcome. [Southern Dioceses Environment Network](#)

**15 October, 6.45-8.30pm: Catholic Union AGM. Guest Speaker: Dr Maggie Doherty, Director of the Centre for the Art of Living and Dying Well, St Mary's University.** The meeting will also be addressed by Baroness Hollins and will followed by a drinks and canapés reception. [Booking](#)

**1 November, 7pm: Inaugural Westminster Justice and Peace Lecture. Speaker Baroness Scotland, Commonwealth Secretary General – Delivering Peace in a Multi Polar World.** Farm Street Church, 114 Mount Street, London, W1K 3AH. \*Save the date!\*

**11 November, 12.45-2.00pm: Southern Dioceses Environment Network.** Includes updates on care of creation resources, events and activities, and reports from the Diocesan Environment Leads meetings. All welcome to join the mailing list as a member or attend as a one-off. New participants welcome. [Southern Dioceses Environment Network](#)

**11-24 November: COP29 in Azerbaijan.** UN Climate Change Conference, 29th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 29) [UN COP29 Website](#)

**20 November: #RedWednesday** - Day of awareness and support for persecuted Christians around the world. [Aid to the Church in Need](#)

**9 December, 12.45-2.00pm: Southern Dioceses Environment Network.** Includes updates on care of creation resources, events and activities and reports from the Diocesan Environment Leads meetings. All welcome to join the mailing list as a member or attend as a one-off. New participants welcome. [Southern Dioceses Environment Network](#)

**Jubilee Year 2025: 24 December 2024 - Feast of the Epiphany 2026.** The theme is “Pilgrims of Hope”, and it will be a year of hope for a world suffering the impacts of war, the ongoing effects of COVID-19 pandemic, and a climate crisis. <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/jubilee-2025/>