



JUSTICE & PEACE E-BULLETIN OCTOBER 2024

Welcome to the e-Bulletin from the Westminster Justice and Peace Commission. Please send Events for inclusion to justiceandpeace@rcdow.org.uk. The deadline for the next e-Bulletin is **28 October 2024**.

DELIVERING PEACE IN A MULTI POLAR WORLD: JUSTICE & PEACE LECTURE, 1 NOVEMBER, 7PM

Fr Dominic writes,

A new year begins.

Our schools reopen, our parishes restart catechetical programmes, search for new volunteers and, in some cases, welcome new priests.

The work of Justice and Peace goes on in and out of season as does the Church's mission in the world but a new year is also an opportunity to pause, reflect, discern priorities, and, strengthened hopefully by holidays, we take up our work again with a new enthusiasm.

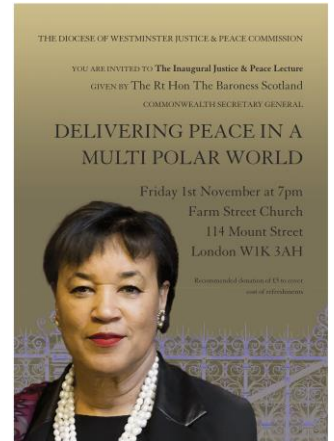
This new year sees first of all a gathering of our contacts on 9 November. I would like to encourage every parish to ensure they have a representative there to participate in discerning our way forward and to prepare to put our discerning into action. What is clear as we look around the Diocese is our local needs are greater than ever. They are being met by so much social action through Caritas and other organisations. Justice and Peace is the primary way in which we support this work through local advocacy and campaigning.

Our Catholic outlook on life, however, draws us out of the local as we raise our voices for peace in the Holy Land and so many other unsung parts of the world in tragic situations, as we do for the future of the failing planet as a whole. Our care for creation reflects how Catholic Social Teaching above all promotes life across our globe and which pledges to work for the dignity of all human beings with special care for the weakest. This is why the Holy Father said in *Laudate Deum*: 'This is a global social issue and one intimately related to the dignity of human life'.

One other event which aims to draw together as many as possible involved in the work of Justice and Peace in our diocese is our inaugural lecture at **Farm Street Church on November 1st by Baroness Scotland, the Commonwealth Secretary General**. Baroness Scotland has a huge experience and an enormous heart for putting Catholic Teaching into action. We really hope you can make it.

Many thanks for all your work for Justice and Peace. Looking forward to seeing you soon.

Dominic Robinson SJ





DIARY OF EVENTS

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 October, 2.00pm: London Pilgrimage for International Day of Nonviolence and Birthday of Gandhi. Meet by the Edith Cavell statue, Trafalgar Square, and share our vision on nonviolent peacemaking with government departments and our church leadership. Resources for Days of Nonviolence: <https://paxchristi.org.uk/resources/nonviolence-in-action/>

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

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

4 October: Feast of St Francis of Assisi and close of the Season of Creation. [Season of Creation website](#)

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.

9 October, 6.00pm: Notre Dame Law School – Public Lecture 2024 - Stephen Schneck, 'Defending a Threatened Human Right, International Freedom of Religion or Belief Today.' 1 Suffolk Street, London, SW1Y 4HGFree. [Book tickets on Eventbrite](#)

9 October, 6.30pm: National Board of Catholic Women, Social Responsibility Committee, 'Child Poverty: Challenges and Solutions'. Speakers: Ana Maria Bonny Hernandez (Beijing +30); Wendi Momen (Wilmette Institute); Margaret Clark (SVP) and Emma Revie (Trussell Trust). Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82962111788?pwd=aQcqAtWx3jVcvaanBvbYUVNUgncQkK.1>

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

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](#)



18 October 1.00-2.00pm: Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales - War and the Wounded Earth: The Impact of Conflict on Creation. Zoom webinar. Chaired by Bishop John Arnold, Lead Bishop for the Environment, with an introduction from Sr. Alessandra Smerilli, Secretary to the Dicastery for Integral Human Development. The talks will be delivered by Tim Hill MBE (Chief Executive Officer / National Director of Stella Maris); Philip Booth (Director of Catholic Mission and Professor of Finance, Public Policy, and Ethics at St. Mary's University, Twickenham); Anna Blackman (Lecturer in Catholic Religious Education at the University of Glasgow) [Click here to register](#)

19 October, 10.00-11.30am: West London Justice and Peace Network – Online meeting. Contact Maggie Beirne for the Zoom Link. maggiebeirne@googlemail.com

21 October, 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

22 October, 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. At this meeting, Colette will be reporting back on her visit to Jordan with Friends of the Holy Land and we will reflect on the first anniversary of the 7th October massacre by Hamas, the plight of the hostages on both sides and the impact of a year of war. 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 [Register with Eventbrite](#)

24 October, 6.30-8.30pm: Book Launch 'Connecting Ecologies: Integrating Responses to the Global Challenge'. 114 Mount Street, London, W1K 3AH. [London Jesuit Centre](#)

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. £5 suggested donation for refreshments.

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](#)

12 November, 5.30-8.30pm: Westminster Interfaith - People of Faith: A Young Adult (18-35) Dialogue. At St Mary's University, Twickenham. Find out more here <https://rcdow.org.uk/interfaith/>

18 November, 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



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19 November, 6.00-8.30pm: Catholic Union Craigmyle Lecture - Professor Tom Shakespeare, Professor of Disability Research 'Make a level path for my feet: disability equality, and love'. Chair: Baroness Hollins, Catholic Union President. The lecture will be followed by a drinks reception where the conversation can be continued. The event is being kindly sponsored by CCLA. Any queries please contact info@catholicunion.org.uk Free to attend but tickets must be [booked in advance on Eventbrite](#) as space is limited.

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

6 December, 6.00pm: Pax Christi Advent Peace Service. St Aloysius Church, Euston NW1 1TA. Music : Julie McCann. Calling singers and musicians. Please email Julie McCann with your interest: jpmccann106@gmail.com

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](#)

16 December, 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

HOLY YEAR 2025

24 December 2024 - Feast of the Epiphany 2026. The theme of the 2025 Jubilee Year 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/>

5 May, 2.30pm (Banner Procession from 2pm): Mass for Migrants - Westminster Cathedral. It is our turn to host this annual event, shared with the three 'London' Diocese of Brentwood, Southwark and Westminster, celebrating the contribution made by migrants to the life and work of our capital city and country. The Mass is prepared by the Justice & Peace Commissions, Caritas and Ethnic Chaplaincies of the three Dioceses, together with participation from London Citizens. Do consider coming to support the Mass while it is in our Diocese, whether or not you are from a migrant background, and especially if you have never been before! It is always a colourful and a lively occasion.

24 May: 10th Anniversary of Pope Francis encyclical Laudato Si' (2015)

7-15 June: Great Big Green Week – [The Climate Coalition](#)

10-25 November: COP30 – Belem, Brazil.