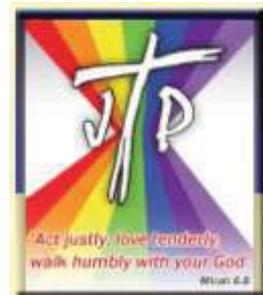




Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth

The Diocese of Portsmouth covers Hampshire, the Isle of Wight, the Channel Isles and parts of Berkshire, Dorset and Oxfordshire



Justice, Peace and Social Responsibility October Bulletin

We Thirst for Peace

. "We carry within us and place before God the hopes and sorrows of many persons and peoples: we thirst for peace; we desire to witness to peace." Above all, we need to pray for peace, because peace is God's gift, and it lies with us to plead for it, embrace it, and build it every day with God's help."

30th Annual gathering of Prayer for Peace 20th September 2016

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oQ7qFdidB8s>

Focus on Peace

Pope Francis spoke out strongly to the 400 leaders from world religions that a true faith could never be used to incite violence and war. This follows on from what Cardinal Turkson indicated that following April's conference that the church is to revisit its teaching on "just war theory" which he believes was meant to stop war not justify it. For he feels the Pope would say "You don't stop an aggression by being an aggressor. You don't stop a conflict by inciting another conflict. You don't stop a war by starting another war." At the moment we can all see daily the impact of war on families across the world, prayers for peace must continue but what action? We see clear messages coming from Rome on this and with the establishment of a new Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development from January. A good time to maybe open discussion and prayer in our own communities.



Pastoral Care of Refugees

While thinking about our response to conflict this might be a great chance to get involved in helping. Maybe have a look at the education packs produced by the Diocesan Refugee Response team and plan a parish initiative. You may not have a family housed in your parish but you can still help.

<http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/pastoralcareservices/>

October 4th feast of St Francis

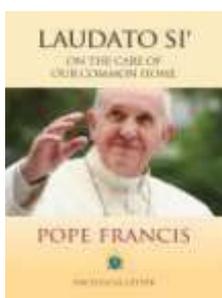
St Francis is well known for his love of animals so maybe this is a chance to highlight the magazine and campaigns of **Catholic Concern for Animals**. They have ideas for liturgies and some study material from Laudato si, a chance to highlight how important care for all God's creatures is to how we express our love for creation.
<https://www.catholic-animals.com>

Laudato Si Conference 12th November 2016

A chance to share our vision of care for our common home with others in our Conference in Winchester chaired by Bishop Philip.

Two speakers; Professor Mary Grey and Father Zampini will speak about the Pope's encyclical and invited guests for other traditions will share their views. It should be a good opportunity to share different perspectives

Limited numbers can attend so please book you place now to laudatosi12nov@gmail.com



Action needed for the Homeless Reduction Bill



On Friday 28th October 2016, MPs will gather in Parliament to debate the Homelessness Reduction Bill. The bill represents a very important opportunity to reform homelessness legislation in England. The Homelessness Reduction Bill will make sure that councils have a duty to prevent and relieve homelessness regardless of priority need, extend the time that households are considered at risk of homelessness from 28 to 56 days, and provide emergency accommodation for people with nowhere safe to stay.

A Catholic charity working on the front line of homelessness, **Caritas Anchor House** fully supports the bill. To ensure a fair hearing, they are calling on everyone to write to their MPs and ask them to attend the debate and back the bill. Please contact your MP to make sure they attend. Details on <http://www.caritasanchorhouse.org>.

Speak Up week of Action

Hopefully you now have your meetings with MP's organised to join CAFOD, as part of The Climate Coalition, in the week of action on climate and energy from 8 to 16 October 2016. In solidarity with partners, this is your moment to speak up for the love of the earth, our common home, and our global family.

If you still do not have a date planned you can link in with other local groups to meet your MP in your constituency, bring people from your local parish or school.

<http://cafod.org.uk/Campaign/One-Climate-One-World/Speak-Up-week-of-action>

One World Week 23rd-30th October

This is an ideal opportunity to work with everyone, especially this year with the theme of **"Including You"** focusing on migration.

www.oneworldweek.com



In Portsmouth for example we have met with a network of development charities and local groups and supported the new local website www.campaign.exchange/ Together we have planned two events

Including You – Portsmouth Response

26th October at St Thomas' Cathedral with speakers from Friends without borders, rural refugee trust and Hampshire Modern Slavery partnership

One World Week Celebration

On 29th October at St John's Cathedral a chance to get together with people from all over the world – including families who have come as refugees. E-mail owwcelebration@gmail.com for tickets

Plus this gives a chance to highlight events by other groups throughout Havant, Gosport and Portsmouth Pastoral areas. What can you do locally to include people



Most holy and immaculate Virgin, Mother Queen of peace.

We pray that your intercession may protect us and all people from hatred and discord, and direct our hearts into the ways of peace and justice which your Son taught and exemplified. We ask your maternal care for our Holy Father who works to reconcile the nations in peace. We seek your guidance for our leaders as they strive for world peace.

Glorious Queen of peace, grant us peace in our hearts, harmony in our families and concord throughout the world. Immaculate Mother, we implore

you in this special month of October to watch over us and protect us with your motherly love. Amen.

Please contact with news and campaigns to highlight on jpsr@portsmouthdioces.org.uk

