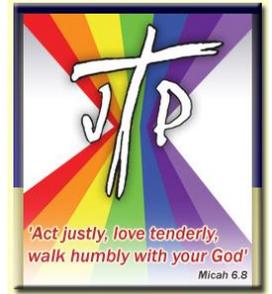




# Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth

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 March Bulletin

### We are ambassadors for Christ

A line from Sunday's readings -we are the Lord's representatives in our actions. Pope Francis writes "Love, after all, can never be just an abstraction. By its very nature, it indicates something concrete: intentions, attitudes, and behaviours that are shown in daily living.... This is the path which the merciful love of Christians must also travel. As the Father loves, so do his children. Just as he is merciful, so we are called to be merciful to each other" (MV: April2015)



### Fairtrade Fortnight

29<sup>th</sup> Feb -13 March 2016

This year's Fairtrade campaign is based on the quotation from Martin Luther king Jr "Before breakfast in the morning, you've depended on more than half the world" but

what he didn't say was that there are times of the year when the people who grow the food we eat for breakfast can't feed their own families. –the Fairtrade movement is based on Christian principles of social justice a way we can all put love into "something concrete"

Buy Fairtrade! Hold a breakfast event!



### International Women's Day 8<sup>th</sup> March

The modern celebration of International Women's Day was established following the fire at the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory in New York on 25 March 1911 that killed 146 young women workers, most of whom were immigrants. From the ashes of that tragic event, the pursuit of social justice for women and men ignited.

[www.internationalwomensday.com/](http://www.internationalwomensday.com/)

It is possible to make connections here with Fairtrade Fortnight and our efforts to stamp out modern slavery.

Have a look at the labels in your clothes, like our food, clothes are made throughout the world. More than a hundred years after the New York factory fire and many garment workers are still being exploited.

There is some interesting information and campaigns to highlight on

<http://labourbehindthelabel.org/campaigns/living-wage/>

Also many retailers now have ethical ranges of clothes. Like Traidcraft or the People tree.

### Prayer



### Extract from **A place at the Table**

For everyone born a place at the table  
For everyone born clean water and bread  
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing,  
for everyone born a star overhead  
And God will delight when we are creators of  
justice and joy

By Shirley Murray for Women's World Day of  
Prayer 2016

## Family justice

If you are looking for activities to get young people and families involved in justice action in your parish you may find this website helpful [www.JusticefaithFamily.org](http://www.JusticefaithFamily.org)



The site offers free materials to help families and groups of families explore, learn and act together in

justice, peace and with a concern for creation essential for living out the gospel.

### Action by Christians Against Torture

A great way to support persecuted people can be done from your own home by sending cards. This charity provides lists of prisoners suffering torture and persecution. Cards provide them with hope and remind those that imprison them that we expect justice. <http://www.acatuk.org.uk/EastercardList20>

### ACAT-UK: Easter Greetings to Prisoners of Conscience

#### Events in the Diocese

You are now able to book for these events on the Caritas website

<http://caritasdioceseofportsmouth.org.uk/news/save-the-dates/>

**Sunday 4th June 2016:** Follow up day on Modern Slavery with Pippa Morton (Anglican Diocese of Derby) and Mike Emberson (Medaille Trust).



#### Saturday 2nd July

**2016:** Charities and Outreach Team in association with CAFOD, Medaille Trust, SVP and Caritas Jersey: Volunteer day for those involved in practical social action at parish level. St. Bede's Church, Basingstoke.



**Supporting the dignity of each person** We can all play a part in stopping modern slavery, however large or small. How can you help? Start by making a pledge [www.modernslaverypartnership.org.uk](http://www.modernslaverypartnership.org.uk) – whether as an individual or an organisation – and help spread the word. And if you are in a position to offer more, Caritas is part of the partnership contact [caritas@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:caritas@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)



## National Events

### Hope in a Changing Climate

On the 15th and 16th of April, a group of agencies and churches, including A Rocha UK, All We Can, CAFOD, Christian Aid, CCOW, the Church of England, Commitment for Life, Global Justice Now, Operation Noah, Progressio, and Tearfund are putting on a conference. It will offer a chance to get updates on what happened in Paris, reflect on Christian responses, share ideas and experiences, and learn about ways in which we can act to make a difference - whether through advocacy, investments, practical action or prayer. Loads of great speakers if you are able to travel to Coventry for the weekend <http://www.ewdc.uk/>

### Annual Justice and Peace conference 15-17<sup>th</sup> July 2016

#### Justice Power and Responsibility

How Can Democracy Work for the Common Good?

This is a very friendly event with campaigners from all over the country, suitable for all ages, children and young people have their own workshops and fun. Adults get opportunities to hear some thought provoking speakers and useful workshops. For details and booking forms contact NJPN, 39 Eccleston Square, London SW1V 1BX 02079014864 [admin@justice-and-peace.org.uk](mailto:admin@justice-and-peace.org.uk)

It would be great to have a team from the Diocese, maybe we could travel to Derbyshire together. If you are interested in this or have any questions, contact us on [jpsr@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:jpsr@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**See-Judge- Act -Celebrate**