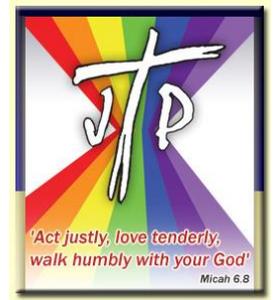




Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth

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 December Bulletin

Advent: The Coming of Hope

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined. You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy.... For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the authority shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onwards and for evermore. Isaiah9:2-7



Joy is Enough

The prophecy of Isaiah was a reminder of the visionary presentation for Professor Mary Grey at the Laudato Si Conference earlier in the month. Letting the light shine again on the wonders of the Lord's gifts and our responsibility to Care for Creation and each other. **Joy in Enough** is the **Green Christians** challenge; an invitation to all people of good will, to join in building a just economy within the ecological limits of the Earth. This could be a great time to join them. They have a day conference in London on 28th January which looks interesting.

www.greenchristian.org.uk/28-january-2017-way-of-life-workshop-london If you can go please send us a report

jpsr@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

A Time of Giving

Thinking about gifts and justice, this is time of year when we can all recognise the Pope's words about "the market of extreme consumerism" where we can "get caught up in the whirlwind of needless buying and spending" LSS203.

We don't want though to turn away from gift giving - many charities and businesses source gifts that are ethically and fairly traded- have a look at the Ethical Consumer website www.ethicalconsumer.org Or look to charities world gifts, they are a way of donating a gift in a friend's name.

Messages of Hope

Card giving is also a way we traditionally share the Good News. We mentioned last month the **Action of Christians against Torture** Christmas list, a powerful way to put pressure on captors and offer hope to sufferers. Also, **Pax Christi** has cards to send messages of hope to people in Palestine and **Apostleship of the Sea** is asking for Cards for seafarers- Among others.

Maybe think of sending a card to your MP reminding them of our desire for justice in trade. If you need help refer to **Fairtrade Foundation**, legal justice as in the **Traidcraft** - Time to Call in the Law, financial justice as in the **Drop the Debt** campaign and justice in closing the gap between rich and poor **Church Action on Poverty**.



World Peace Day 2017 "Nonviolence: A style of Politics for Peace"

Listen out for the Pope on the 1st January World Peace Day, this year's theme inspired by the Peace Conference in Rome earlier this year. It will help in preparation for action on **Peace Sunday 15th January** with materials available from Pax Christi (booklets should already be in parishes).

This movement of nonviolence is very difficult Pat Gruffney of Pax Christi spoke about it recently at the National Justice and Peace Network meeting you can watch the talk on [youtube.com/watch?v=OnqIMgpI2U&t=22s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OnqIMgpI2U&t=22s)

Opportunities to work with other Christians

The Pope's pray intention for January is for Christian unity. He asks us to pray for all Christians that we *"may be faithful to the Lord's teaching by striving with prayer and loving fraternal charity to restore ecclesial communion and by collaborating to meet the challenges that face humanity."*

We can certainly support the Pope in prayer and the fact that Christian unity

week is celebrated in January will help. **Crossing Barriers.**

www.ctbi.org.uk/weekof-prayer-for-christian-unity-2017/

Why not use this opportunity not only to pray together but to discuss shared social action? - *"collaborating to meet the challenges facing humanity"*

Homeless Sunday 22nd January

This for example is an ecumenical opportunity to raise issues on homelessness

CONNECT with homeless people

CHALLENGE local politicians to act for change

COMMIT to act

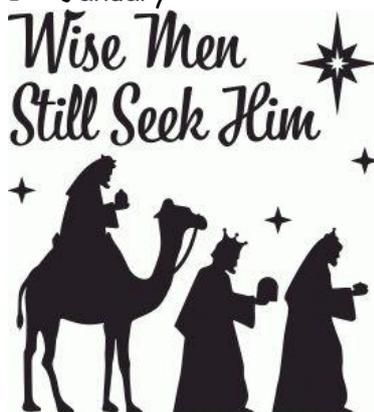
See more at: www.housingjustice.org.uk/

A Peaceful and Joyous Christmas to All And a Hope filled New Year

From the JPSR team

Laura Bigoni, Rev John Cumpsty, Michael Pengelly, Dominica Roberts, Mike Slinn and Maureen Thompson

Please contact us with your news and questions or maybe volunteer to join our team. jpsr@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk



Advent Prayer for Justice, Peace and Joy

Come, long-expected Jesus.

Excite in me a wonder at the wisdom and power of Your Father and ours. Receive my prayer as part of my service of the Lord who enlists me in God's own work for justice.

Come, long-expected Jesus.

Excite in me a hunger for peace: peace in the world, peace in my home, peace in myself.

Come, long-expected Jesus.

Excite in me a joy responsive to the Father's joy. I seek His will so I can serve with gladness, singing and love.

Come, long-expected Jesus. Excite in me the joy and love and peace it is right to bring to the manger of my Lord. I pray in the name of Jesus Christ, whose advent I hail. Amen

