



Portsmouth Diocese

Justice, Peace and Social Responsibility

Bulletin July 2017



Going Forth

"I have fought the good fight to the end; I have run the race to the finish; I have kept the faith; all there is to come now is the crown of righteousness reserved for me, which the Lord the righteous judge, will give me on that day; and not only to me but to all those who have longed for his appearing" (2 Timothy: Feast of St Peter and St Paul) The example of the first disciples inspires us to continue this "good fight"

Sea Sunday 9th July

Sea Sunday is when we remember and pray for seafarers, their families and all who support them. Catholic Churches in UK take up a second collection with all funds raised going to the **Apostleship of the Sea**. It is a day of remembrance, prayer and celebration, and an opportunity to think about and thank those seafarers who work tirelessly throughout the year bringing us goods we often take for granted. Resources for parishes are available on www.apostleshipofthesea.org.uk/resources-parishes. There are also opportunities locally to volunteer supporting and befriending sailors far from home.



Fishermen's Mission This is another ecumenical charity offering spiritual and practical help to fishermen locally. They are asking people to organise "Fish Friday suppers" to support their fundraising. This might be an opportunity for a

social evening raise funds in solidarity with those working hard to bring fish to our table. <http://www.fishermensmission.org.uk/>

Pact - Prisoners, ex-prisoners and their families

Pact, the Catholic charity for prisoners and their families is offering free training and support for parishioners interested in volunteering with them in prisons or after release in the local community. To find out more please contact parishaction@prisonadvice.org.uk

Speak Up Week of Action

In conjunction with the Climate Coalition CAFOD is asking people to get together to remind our newly elected MPs of the importance working to limit climate change and supporting renewable energy. From 1-9 July take action by either getting together and organising an event to invite your MP too or by arranging an appointment. Just after the 2nd anniversary of Laudato Si this is a great opportunity to show how concerned we are about how our actions and government policies effect the world's poorest people. Ideally you will have something organised already but if you have not, maybe this week is the time to get something organised. It's a chance to work with other churches and groups in your locality who share the same concerns.



Power to Be

This is another CAFOD campaign asking parishes to support a change in the policy of the World Bank, to invest more in local renewable energy which could have an enormous impact on getting electricity to many more homes giving some of the world poorest young people opportunities to complete their education.

End Hunger Campaign



This ongoing campaign to end food poverty in the UK is currently highlighting the issues around "holiday hunger". As we come up to the summer holidays a recent report has highlighted how some families really struggle to feed children during the holidays, as it costs on average about £40 more to feed children during the holidays than term time. <http://endhungeruk.org/> This is a joint project of a number of charities including Church action on poverty.

Action Project

As well as campaigning to help make structural changes to help families manage independently, this may also be an area where your parish or school community could help with a Caritas project for holiday clubs. There are local and national organisations which might be able to help with this for example www.makelunch.org.uk/

Even one day a week or for a single week could make a real difference to children contact Caritas Diocese of Portsmouth if you think you could help. kgallagher@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

A Sabbath for the Earth and the Poor

This is the theme for this year National Justice and Peace Network Conference. taken from Laudato Si (Para 237). Perhaps in solidarity with those attending the conference we can all say this beautiful Laudato Si of Pope Francis this month.



All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures. You embrace with your tenderness all that exists. Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty. Fill us with peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one.

O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes. Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it, that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.

Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain at the expense of the poor and the earth. Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognise that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey towards your infinite light. We thank you for being with us each day. Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle for justice, love and peace. Amen

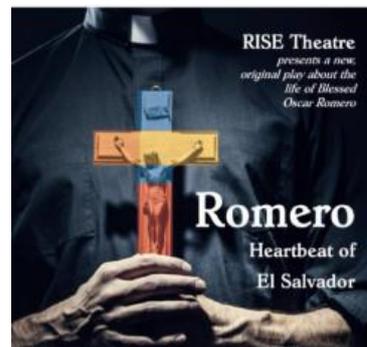
Holiday Tourism

The sun has been out and those of us lucky enough to be able to will be soon be off on our travels. But if you have concerns about your holidays and effects on local people and wild life and climate change there is lots of good guidance on the **Tourism Concern** website. Have a look for yourself but maybe your J&P group might to have a look at this topic too. www.tourismconcern.org.uk

Romero Centenary

I mentioned last month our **Day Pilgrimage** to commemorate the birth of Archbishop Romero please join us if you can www.rchavant.co.uk.

Or why not book the Rise Theatre Company



www.risetheatre.co.uk

to your parish or school to perform their Romero play, It could be a great way to increase interest in justice issues and a good social occasion.

Contact us with your ideas and questions at JPSR@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk