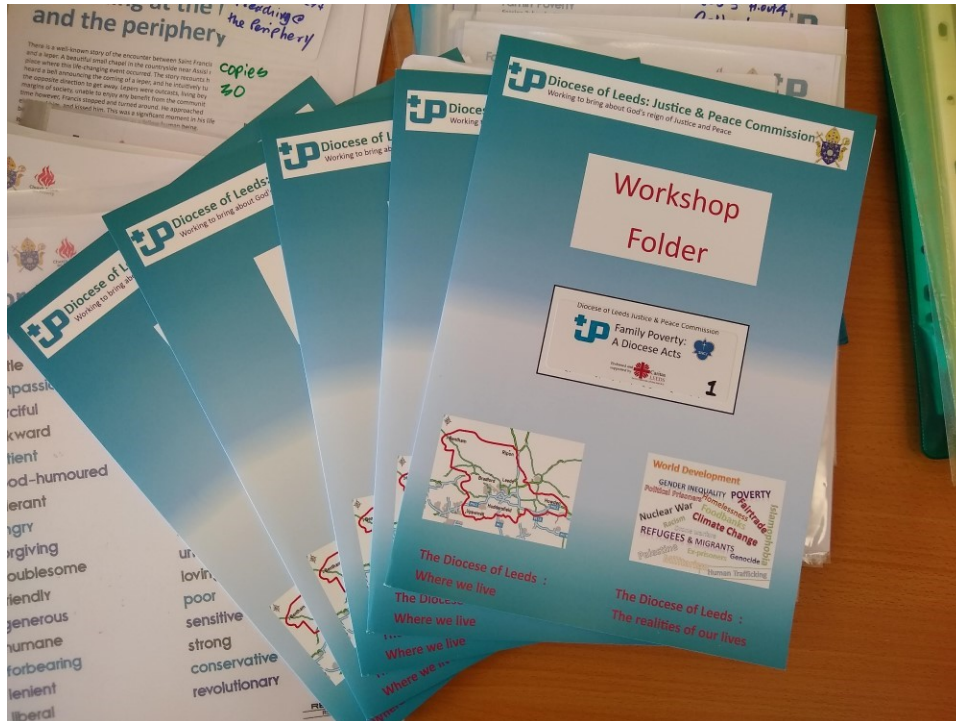


FAMILY POVERTY WORKSHOPS – COULD YOUR PARISH PARTICIPATE?



Our workshops about Family Poverty are now ready to be rolled out to more parishes.

In his Foreword to the Facilitator Workshop pack, Bishop Marcus comments:

"I invite parishes to take up the challenge of examining the background to family poverty by participating in these workshops in their parish community. As Cardinal Nichols points out, many of these issues are complex. Nevertheless, we should still try and take time to understand them more deeply, pray about them and discern what we as individuals, parishes and as a diocesan family, can do to help alleviate family poverty in our community."

These are workshops (you have to do some work!) – guided discussions with short videos, Powerpoints and the opportunity to get below the headlines about family poverty and understand better why so many families are

falling into poverty. More than that, they provide an opportunity to reflect on what more we can do.

Dates have already been agreed with two parishes and another half a dozen have indicated their interest in doing this programme but have yet to set a date.

Are there people in your parish who want to get below the headlines about family poverty?

The parish commitment is to find someone in the parish who will promote the workshops and encourage people to come along. The J&P office will support with flyers where needed – but we need someone local to a parish to 'champion' these workshops. If you do not know someone who is a skilled facilitator who could lead the workshops then the Commission will find one for you.

If you want to explore the idea further then please email jandp@dioceseofleeds.org.uk and we can arrange a meeting to talk through the possibilities.

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REFLECTING ON CLIMATE CHANGE – BUT NOT FOR TOO LONG!

About 30 people gathered from ten parishes at SS John Fisher & Thomas More parish (Burley in Wharfedale) on Saturday 30 March to reflect more deeply about 'Caring for our 'common home': the Earth'. This day of Reflection organised by the Commission was also partly a trial run of some of the resources that CAFOD have recently developed for celebrating creation in parish settings.

The day started with the usual parish mass. However, we included some Prayers of Intercession especially written by CAFOD for a creation celebration. These were read by the Commission Chair, John Battle. The parish priest, Fr Michael Mahady, used one of the special Eucharistic Prayers, one centred on Justice & Peace. These simple additions made for a good preparation for the rest of the day.

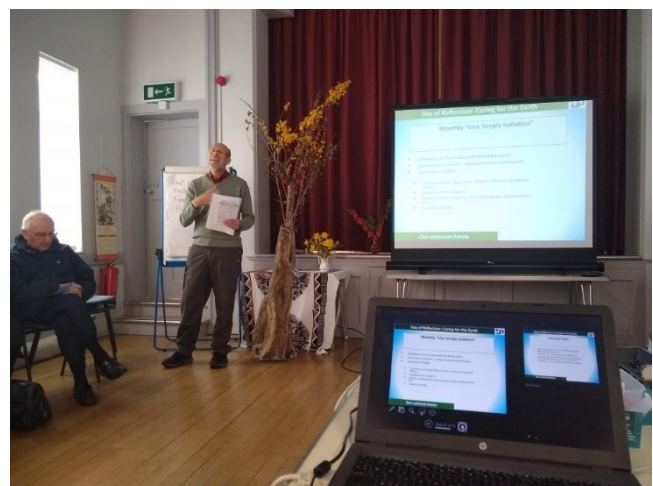


The more formal part of the day started with a reflection using some of the key quotes from Pope Francis' encyclical 'Laudato Si'. Following this there were some short inputs to explore what the pope meant when he talks about 'integral ecology', 'ecological conversion' and 'community conversion'. Everyone then buzzed in smaller groups for a few minutes to explore their own understanding and experience of what the pope was trying to get across.

We finished the morning with some 'Stations of the Forest' a reflection about how we are abusing the forests and destroying our environment in the pursuit of profit, a video resource developed by the Columbans.

Those attending had been invited to bring something to share at lunchtime and they had responded generously – so we all had a good lunch! (with the option of some delicious homemade soup and bread provided by our hosts). CAFOD's resources for celebrating Creation were made available on a table for people to browse and take away with them. The grace for lunch was taken from a 'grace dice' that CAFOD have developed as part of these resources. The local parish had also arranged a Fairtrade stall for people to browse and stock up on Fairtrade goods (just because it is a good thing to do- rather than stocking up because of the impending threat of Brexit!).

We started the afternoon with a guided reflection about our five senses. This was followed by some consideration of where our reflection might lead us – what kinds of action might we take.



Michael Emly, from Our Lady of Kirkstall parish in Leeds, spent a few minutes explaining all the actions the 3 church communities in their parish

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had taken over the last two years as part of working towards the CAFOD Live Simply award. The surveys that they undertook at the start of the process and more recently show that a significant number of people have changed their lifestyle as a result of the programme. Moreover,



Our 'Tree of Hope'

there has been significant involvement from many in the church communities and across the communities – both renewing the parish and bringing parish members together.

We followed Michael's input with two short videos – one showing indigenous people from the Philippines resisting mineral and mining exploitation of their land and one a short video of Greta Thunberg, the young Swedish climate activist.

As in the morning, people were asked to buzz for a few minutes in smaller groups about what they had seen and heard. They were also asked to commit to an action that they could take away from the day. We finished up the day a final liturgy where people came and placed their actions – which had been written on paper in the shape of a leaf- onto a tree to signify the hope of the new buds already developing from the day.

(This write up was published in the Universe dated 04 April 2019)

CHRISTINE ALLEN, NEW CAFOD DIRECTOR, VISITS LEEDS DIOCESE

Christine Allen, the new Director of CAFOD, visited the Leeds Diocese on April 4th to meet with Bishop Marcus and volunteers and campaigners from both CAFOD and Justice & Peace. She described her meeting with Bishop Marcus as 'very positive' with the Bishop asking what else he could do to support the work of CAFOD in the Diocese. Christine also visited the CAFOD Volunteer centre in St Monica's House, which is also home to the Justice & Peace office. There she met with Bronagh, our Diocese's Community Participation Coordinator along with some of the CAFOD volunteers in the Diocese and some members of the Justice & Peace Commission, including the Commission Chair, John Battle.



Christine is photographed here with the '3 Johns' – John Duffy, John Battle and John McLaughlin. We gave Christine a preview of the exhibition we have put together for the 'Looking Back' lent lunch (see separate report). This included booklets and newsletters from the early 80's – as well as more recent times.



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In 1988 Christine was the Justice & Peace worker in the Liverpool Diocese and she immediately recognised a photo of Andrew Payne who was the Leeds J&P worker at the time. Christine thanked those present who were representing the whole of the CAFOD base in the Leeds Diocese. Just the previous day she had been speaking to a priest who had been delivering aid to those affected by Hurricane Idai, through the support provided by CAFOD. He thanked her for the solidarity shown by those in the UK.

The fundraising and campaigning done by people in the Leeds Diocese, and other dioceses, is the mirror to the work carried out by CAFOD's partners to help those most in need of support in the poorest countries of the world. This is what solidarity is all about and it is precious and hope-giving to remember this at times like this when it can seem like there is very little evidence of solidarity from the images and stories in the mainstream media.

Wednesday 26th June 2019.

MASS LOBBY OF PARLIAMENT ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE



link:

Photo courtesy of CAFOD

<https://cafod.org.uk/Campaign/Climate/Climate-lobby>

Join CAFOD and over 100 other organisations who are members of the Climate Coalition. Take time out to go to London to emphasise to your local MP just how concerned you are about Climate Change.

The Leeds CAFOD Volunteer Centre are organising a coach to go down to London. If you are interested in travelling on this coach, then please get in touch with CAFOD using this

The Link takes you to an Eventbrite page where you can book a coach place. You will have to look for the Leeds Diocese entry as the page is for all Dioceses.

You can also use this Eventbrite page to say that you are going & will organise transport yourself. It is helpful for CAFOD and the organisers to know approximately how many people will be going.

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REFLECTION:

"We love stories; they speak to us, they interpret our lives, they celebrate life and tradition and they give meaning.

Have you heard the story of the elderly African American woman who saw a picture of the dead Jesus in the arms of his mother, in the window of a Religious Information Centre in the US? She went in and asked: "That Jesus dead in your window?" "Yes." "He done been killed by the badmans?" "Yes." "Done dead and gone forever, that poor Jesus gone and dead forever, huh?" "No, he rose again on Easter morning". "Rose again? You mean he live again? He rise from the dead? He truly, really rise from the dead?" "Yes, you must have heard the story of the resurrection before?" And with a broad smile, her face bubbling with joy, the old lady said: "Oh I done heard it before, I guess I done heard it a million times before - but I just glories to hear it again!"



Brian Glennon, *Eucharistic Ministers*, Blackrock, Co. Dublin: The Columba Press: 2012, p29-30

CELEBRATING YOUNG PEOPLE AWARDS 2019



Powered by Million Minutes

On 3 July 2019 young people from across the country will gather in London's West End for the Celebrating Young People Awards. Cardinal Vincent Nichols will be presenting this year's Pope Francis Award. The awards - now in their

fourth year – are organised by Million Minutes and see hundreds of young people nominated in six categories, each celebrating a different aspect of Catholic Social Teaching lived out in social action.

Previous award recipients included young carers, peer mentors, a group of climate change activists, a student challenging bullying, an eighteen-year-old who feeds and supports his local homeless community, and a mental health campaigner.

This is your call to action: nominate a young person or group you know for a Celebrating Young People Award today!

To nominate visit:

<http://millionminutes.org/awards>

Deadline for nominations is the 24 May 2019.

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LOOKING BACK LENT LUNCH – A JOINT CAFOD AND J&P EVENT

On Friday 5th April the Commission jointly organised with the Leeds CAFOD Volunteer Centre a 'Looking Back' Lent lunch.

Both Bronagh in the CAFOD office and Joe & John for the J&P Commission have been doing some serious 'sorting out' at the respective offices.

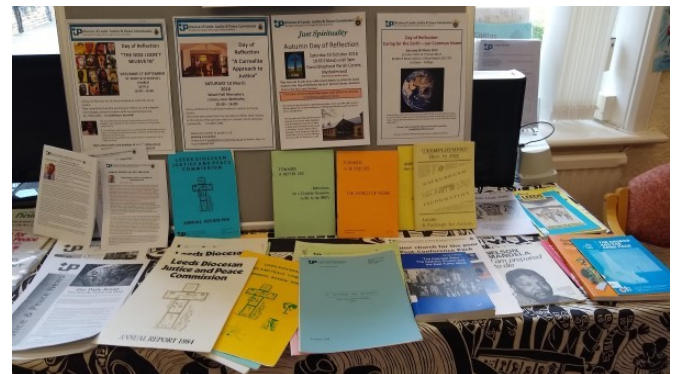
There was much stuff that had to be thrown away – yellowing 20 year old copies of the Tablet, for instance. Bronagh (the CAFOD coordinator), being much younger than Joe & John, was somewhat bemused by an actual slide projector and the rigmarole of feeding in slides the right way round. The information, of course, was all very out of date and there is little point in keeping such materials.

However, there were a number of resources that do need to be kept. There was a beautiful CAFOD Hunger Cloth which was formed of separate patches made by individual primary schools as part of the Year of Faith in 2012-13.



In the Justice & Peace office there were newsletters and Annual Reports stretching back to the 1980's. Likewise, the Commission has a number of Working Parties in the 1970's and 80's that produced special booklets – one about the World of Work, one about Living more Simply (long before the Live Simply Award was invented) and one based on a visit by Commission members to Northern Ireland in 1986 when the Troubles were at their height.

The most popular item for those attending was a collection of photographs, mainly of people. Most of these did not say who was included in the photograph and there was much debate about who some of them were.



some of the older pamphlets & Annual Reviews

A number of photos reminded people that in the 1980's the Commission had a strong partnership with South Africa.

Bronagh undertook her re-organisation so that the available office space is now more geared for volunteers coming into the CAFOD centre to do some work, print resources out etc – rather than being an office space for Bronagh. At J&P we had just put off sorting stuff out for the last 5 years! However, both offices are looking much improved as a result.

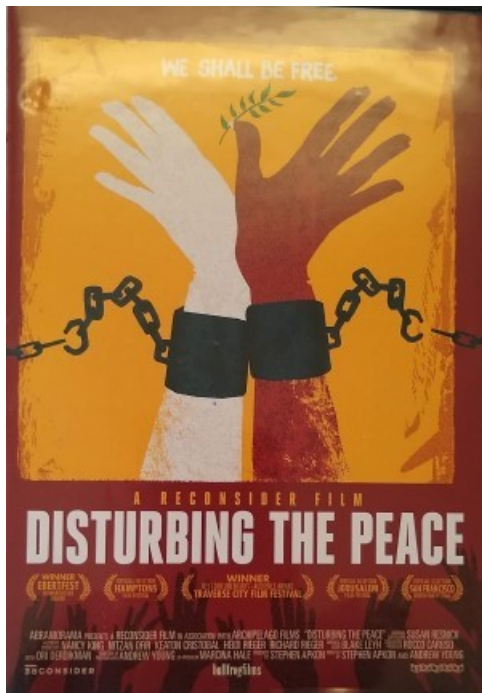
The J&P space includes a considerable library of books about issues of Social Justice. A number of them are probably a bit dated now but many of them are still pertinent. Anyone is welcome to come and take a look – and borrow items if they find anything of interest. However, best to email the office to arrange a time as there are significant periods when there is no one in the J&P office. The same applies if anyone would like to come and take a look at the photos -perhaps you could help us identify some of the people?

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DISTURBING THE PEACE

About 30 people turned out on 09 April to a film viewing sponsored by the Commission that took place at Mill Hill Chapel, City Square, in central Leeds. It was a film called “Disturbing the Peace” and it was an event jointly organised with the Leeds Pax Christi group.

The film was introduced by Tricia Griffin who is a member of the Committee that organises the Leeds Palestinian Film Festival (which will be five years old with this year’s festival in the Autumn of 2019). Tricia and a friend had brought along a range of Palestinian snacks – cakes, bread – and, of course, some hoummus and falafel. It provided a sociable prelude to showing the film.



The film is a documentary telling the stories of some former Israeli Defence Force combatants and Palestinian fighters who come to the conclusion that the only way forward in the Israel-Palestine conflict is through nonviolent means. It is a very powerful film in many ways: the courage shown by both the Palestinian and

Israelis in the film, the honesty with which they speak about their situation and how their views have changed and the difficulties that this has caused, the horror of the everyday violence that has become part of everyday life for particularly Palestinians but which has also affected a number of Israelis.

What we see on the TV only scratches the surface of both the issues and how it impacts of the lives of ordinary people. This film really helps to dig down to the underlying issues of power relations and the sense of ‘other’ that are needed to maintain the current unjust situation there. People attending were visibly moved by the testimony of the people appearing, both Israeli and Palestinian. The film engendered a lively discussion afterwards.

If you are interested in looking at this film or viewing it with some friends at home, then please email the J&P office and an arrangement can be made. Tricia is also up for coming along to other events like this and bringing Palestinian snacks – and they are well worth having!












The delicious Palestinian snacks that preceded the film

We also have other DVD’s available for groups to view – another very powerful film about Palestine is called “5 Broken Cameras” and is about the life of a Palestinian video journalist.



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EVENTS

 Thu 18 Apr	REMEMBER OLUWALE 50th ANNIVERSARY EVENT AT KILLINGBECK CEMETERY <i>Killingbeck Cemetery, York Road, Leeds LS14 6AB</i> This day marks the 50th anniversary of the drowning of David Oluwale in the River Aire, off Call Lane in Leeds. David Oluwale was a British-Nigerian who migrated to England in 1949. Most of his difficult adult life was spent in Leeds. With music, songs and speeches from the Leeds Nigerian community and others, this event will take place at David Oluwale's grave in the cemetery.
 Sat 13 Apr Thu 09 May	GDAMS 2019 <i>Global Days of Action on Military Spending – Anything happening in your area?</i> It is estimated that with a 10% reduction per year and country of resources invested in the arms and defence sectors, the main goals set by the United Nations under the Agenda 2030 of the Sustainable Development Goals could be achieved. Why isn't this a 'no brainer' of an idea?
 Mon 22 Apr	EARTH DAY - Global Join the Global Catholic Climate Movement in Celebrating this year's Earth Day. Full details and resources available from https://catholicclimatemovement.global/earth-day-2019/
 Mon 29 Apr	WAR AND PEACE IN THE AGE OF TRUMP <i>Hope Baptists, New Road, Hebden Bridge 19:45 – 21:15</i> Organised by Calder Valley CND the speakers at this event include Prof Paul Rogers and Sean Morris, Secretary of UK & Ireland Mayors for Peace.
 Fri 03 May	ZERO CARBON BRADFORD <i>Bread + Roses Café, 14 North Parade Bradford BD1 3HT 11:30 – 13:00</i> A chance to share and discuss over a coffee or lunch, how to make a success from decarbonising our lives, businesses, organisations in Bradford District. Meets monthly.
 Sat 20 May	WHAT DOES IDENTITY MEAN? <i>Bradford Cathedral, 1 Stott Hill BD4 1EH 17:00 – 19:00</i> Bishop Rowan Williams will present his public square lecture addressing the contemporary and crucial question of 'What does national identity mean these days?' Tickets are free but you need to register: search Rowan Williams Bradford on Eventbrite
 Mon 10 Jun	J&P COMMISSION MEETING Anyone in the Leeds Diocese is welcome to come along to a Commission meeting. Please email jandp@dioceseofleeds.org.uk if you are interested and we will send you further details.
 Fri 26 Jul – Sun 28 Jul	NJPN ANNUAL CONFERENCE: FORGOTTEN PEOPLE, FORGOTTEN PLACES <i>The Hayes Conference Centre Swanwick, Derbyshire</i> A weekend of keynote speakers, workshops and a Justice 'Fair' to help us reflect on how to become a 'Church of the Poor'. See https://www.justice-and-peace.org.uk/conference/
 Find us on Facebook	Follow us on Facebook to help keep up to date with the key campaigns that the Commission is supporting.

Please forward this email E-News onto anyone else who you think might be interested. Even better, get them to send us their email address so we can add them to our contact database.

See our website for full details of these and other events that may be of interest