



## LENT ONLINE 2021

*By Helen Hayden, J&P Leeds*

In this month's J&P Leeds newsletter you will find a range of events to help you to with Lenten preparation in these challenging times.

### CAFOD's 40 Day Challenge

During this winter lockdown we can exercise once a day, why not combine your daily walk with raising awareness and funds to help end water poverty? Please see page 7 to sign up to CAFOD's 40 day challenge this Lent.



### Find out about Active Nonviolence

We continue to provide opportunities to reflect and learn, there is still time to sign up for the Active Nonviolence course in association with Pax Christi, details also on page 7, in the events page and our website.

It was wonderful to see so many people on the 2<sup>nd</sup> February for reflection and discussion with Pat Gaffney on Active Non Violence. Don't worry - you did not need to attend the taster session to sign up for the Active Nonviolence course. It was a great follow up to our Peace Sunday liturgy-attended by people from Uruguay, the USA & Ireland – as well as Salford and lots of people from Yorkshire!

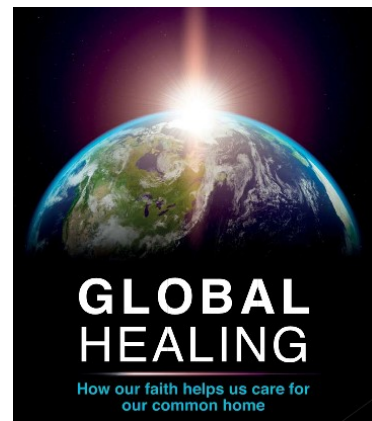


## Church Action on Poverty Sunday, 21 February 2021

The first Sunday of Lent is Poverty Sunday. Church Action on Poverty is holding an online event to share together in worship and prayer. Please see page 2.

### Global Healing

We have a number of people including our own Vice Chair Trish Sandbach and David Jackson who have completed the Laudato Si



Animator's course. David shares Global Catholic Climate Movement's invitation to join the Global Healing Lenten Series of talks. See pages 5 & 6 for details and links to sign up.

### LEDAS update

We also hear from the newly formed LEDAS about their amazing journey as a fledgling charity who have achieved an incredible amount for asylum-seeking men since May 2020. Their fascinating story so far is on pages 3 & 4 as well as information as to how you can support LEDAS in helping people live with dignity in the most difficult of circumstances.

**LEDAS**  
Dignity in Destitution

Leeds Destitute  
Asylum-seekers  
Support



## POVERTY SUNDAY 2021

*Give, act and pray to ensure people on the margins are fully involved as we journey together*

*Church Action On Poverty*

*"No one puts new wine into old wineskins."  
(Mark 2:21-22)*



We live in tough times. The pandemic continues to highlight the inequalities that sweep too many people into poverty. But we have also been reminded of the values that matter most: mutuality, compassion and community. As we journey forward together, we have the chance to do things differently. If we are to build a society in which everyone can live a full life, free from poverty, we must ensure the voices of people who are struggling to make ends meet are heard. Join people around the UK in prayer, giving and action at this special online event for Church Action on Poverty Sunday, hosted by Church Action on Poverty North East and Sunderland Minster. Share a vision for a society founded on compassion and justice, where all people are able to exercise dignity, agency and power.

We will share together in worship and prayer. People will share their stories of

poverty and speaking truth to power. We'll hear from decision-makers in the North East about how we can all work together to loosen the grip of poverty. And you'll learn how you can be part of the movement tackling poverty through giving, action and prayer. Click here to sign up [tinyurl.com/d6a96wsf](https://tinyurl.com/d6a96wsf)

### That's torn it

*A hymn by Andrew Pratt, Church Action on Poverty*

That's torn it, all we planned is ripped asunder,  
the force of fermentation strains the seams;  
society has witnessed skill and blunder,  
a virus spins and tests our human schemes.  
Blind faith has opened wide our eyes to chaos  
where poverty, the consequence of greed,  
has highlighted our wholly human pathos,  
yet shut some hearts to other people's need.  
Some early Christians sat in isolation  
while pondering the way that they should live,  
this was no empty prayer-filled incantation,  
but selfless loving, learning how to give.  
Be clear that as we face this sharp decision,  
the wineskins we are tending may well rend;  
the things we have defended and have treasured  
may tumble, shattered crumbling to their end.  
Whatever greets us in the years' unfolding,  
we only know this crisis offers choice,  
to stumble on, or use the grace we're holding  
to change the world, give reason to rejoice.



## UPDATE ON LEDAS:

### Leeds Destitute Asylum-Seekers Support

By Tony Pickles, Trustee of LEDAS

What a year 2020 turned out to be. With a pandemic which unfolded at lightning speed, so too have other things taken record time to develop. Who would have thought a vaccine could be brought in for use in just a few months, not just one but several possibilities are being rolled out for use for health care, front line workers and older people.

**LEDAS**

Leeds Destitute  
Asylum-seekers  
Support

Dignity in Destitution

This year has seen an idea brought to fruition also in just a few months. Since Covid-19, when night shelters were no longer a safe place to be, a small group of five have worked very hard to bring about a more lasting solution for the group of asylum seeking men who have no recourse to public funds. From the first lockdown in March, the Government initiative of “everyone in” was brought about, where all homeless people, including those in Night Shelters were accommodated by the local authority in hotels or hostels. We kept up regular contact with the group of asylum seekers whom we have known for years in some cases. LEDAS (Leeds Destitute Asylum-seekers Support) then came about from discussions in meetings held in early May, so that a constitution, a business plan and an application to the Charity Commission were submitted and in record time, in June, we were granted Charitable status.

From then on we networked and forged links with many other charities and agencies working for the same client group. It was really affirming to have the support and acknowledgement that what we were attempting to bring about was the right way to proceed. We were offered practical assistance, help in writing policies and procedures, others wanted to have closer links and another charity wanted us to join with them in partnership.

We worked very closely with Leeds City Council with elected members and senior officers from SAFER Leeds and Housing Options. Leeds is a City of Sanctuary and this is not just something to have on the letterhead or on the website, our experience showed that this is something lived; evidenced by the support and encouragement we were given. Eventually, after the initial lease for the hostel was extended from the original 6 months to the end of November; LEDAS together with Leeds City Council and PAFRAS (Positive Action for Refugees and Asylum Seekers) drew up an agreement for us to work together, in the best interests of the group of the men who had to leave the hostel.

Exactly 8 months to the day, since the Council took the men into their care, on the 25<sup>th</sup> November we moved them back into our care, in 2 houses in Harehills Leeds, preventing them from becoming street homeless. We feel we are moving towards our residents having the opportunity to live independently, for example, they are enjoying having privacy, a key to the door and being able to cook for themselves, what they want and when they want to eat. They have the time to gather new evidence whilst pursuing their claim for leave to remain. Once successful, we can then look at new referrals to our houses.



This is just the beginning of our work, as these properties, from two private landlords, are short term lets. Currently we are exploring a more permanent solution and looking for suitable accommodation. Fundraising is always a perennial task but with the current climate it is proving more difficult. We are looking for two 4 bedroom properties in Leeds that ideally could be donated or bought for our use and perhaps let to us on a peppercorn rent. We would maintain them internally, provide insurance and pay the utilities. We have received many offers of help both financially and practically; it is humbling knowing that others want to be involved too.

Could you help LEDAS enable asylum –seeking men live in dignity. Would you considered giving a regular amount to LEDAS, perhaps monthly or annually? Or if you can help with a property please contact Tony Pickles on the number below or email LEDAS or the websites has the details for donating.

Tony Pickles

Tel: 0113 2600844

Email: [info@ledas.org.uk](mailto:info@ledas.org.uk)

Website: <https://www.ledas.org.uk/>

### **A prayer for Church Action on Poverty Sunday by Nick Jowett**

Lord Jesus,  
the fabric of our society has been patched many times,  
and yet still there are holes  
the places where the poor and the vulnerable struggle to exist.  
As we face a future in which virus, climate and politics  
threaten deeper gashes in the web of community,  
we pray that you will guide us to create a new garment of justice,  
so that those who suffer now  
may join with all in drinking the new wine of your love  
in the fresh wineskins of a changed world.  
We ask this in your name.



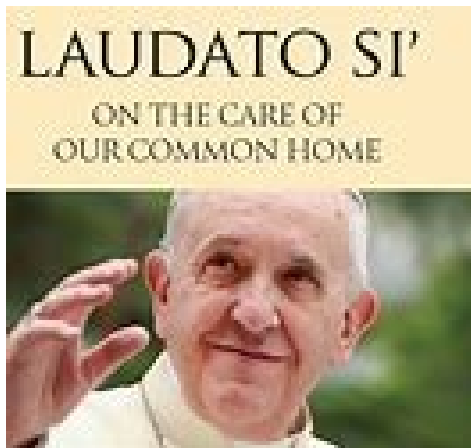


## GLOBAL HEALING

The Global Catholic Movement invites you to “Global Healing.”

By David Jackson

*“Living our vocation to be protectors of God's handiwork is essential to a life of virtue; it is not an optional or secondary aspect of our Christian experience...Truly, much can be done!” (Laudato Si', 217, 180)*



In 2015, Pope Francis published his ground-breaking letter on the environment *Laudato Si'*. Since then, millions of people worldwide have joined the global movement to address the environmental crisis our world is facing. This Lent, we are inviting YOU to join us for a series of reflective evenings with inspiring speakers, prayer and discussion, using the film-based resource “Global Healing”.

These engaging documentaries will inform and challenge people to respond to Pope Francis' call to Care for Our Common Home. Suitable for all who are concerned about what is happening to our world and who want to take action.

Hosted by GCCM Laudato Si' Animators in the UK, the six sessions will take place on




GLOBAL CATHOLIC  
CLIMATE MOVEMENT

Thursdays from 18<sup>th</sup> February – 25<sup>th</sup> March  
2021, 7.30pm – 8.30pm

### Speakers for Global Healing Lenten Series:

- Thursday 18th February 2021 Global Healing Episode 1: Bishop John Arnold, Salford Diocese and Bishop for the Environment.
- Thursday 25th Feb 2021 Global Healing Episode 2: Jane Mellett (Global Catholic Climate Movement)
- Thursday March 4th 2021 Global Healing Episode 3: Dr. Emma Gardner (Head of Environment, Salford Diocese)
- Thursday March 11<sup>th</sup> Global Caring Episode 1. Speaker TBC
- Thursday March 18<sup>th</sup> Global Caring Episode 2: Graham Gordon, Head of Public Policy, CAFOD.
- Thursday March 25<sup>th</sup> Global Caring Episode 3. Speaker TBC.

To register please click [HERE](#) or email [jane@catholicclimatemovement.global](mailto:jane@catholicclimatemovement.global)



# GLOBAL HEALING

**How our faith helps us care for our common home**

This Lent, the Global Catholic Climate Movement invites you to 'Global Healing' in response to Pope Francis' call to care more deeply for Our Common Home!

**When?** Six Thursdays from 18th February – 25th March 2021, 7.30pm – 8.30pm

**What?** The Global Healing film sessions with reflection, guest speakers & discussion.

**How to join?** To register [click HERE](#) or email [jane@catholicclimatemovement.global](mailto:jane@catholicclimatemovement.global)

Hosted by GCCM Laudato Si' Animators in the UK.



## CAFOD'S LENTEN CHALLENGE

by Bronagh Daly CAFOD Leeds



This year, CAFOD's Lenten challenge combines your daily exercise with helping the world's poorest people: 10,000 steps a day - done your way. The aim is to walk 10000 steps, any way you can, every day for the 40

days of Lent to raise funds and awareness of water poverty. Go the distance this Lent and help to end water poverty.

You don't have to get tied in a knot about how to do it: whether you hop it; skip it; slide it; run it; jump it; dance it; stamp it; stomp it. It doesn't matter how you do it, just as long as you put your heart and soul into it.

On Saturday 20 February, join with communities across England and Wales to walk 5 miles, 10,000 steps or whatever distance you can manage.



**Sign up now, raise money and do something different to fight poverty. Please click below**

[Walk for Water | CAFOD](https://www.cafod.org.uk/walk-for-water)

## AN INTRODUCTION TO NONVIOLENCE – 5 WEEK COURSE

There's still time to join the introductory 5 one hour sessions we are doing in partnership with the Leeds Diocese Pax Christi group. It's free! – but donations are welcome.

**They start at 7pm on Tuesday 16 Feb** (so get your pancakes in early) and are at the same time for the following 4 weeks. Click here to sign up







[Making Active Nonviolence our Way of Life - An Introductory Course Tickets, Tue 16 Feb 2021 at 19:00 | Eventbrite](#)





NEWSLETTER February 2021

EVENTS

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <br><b>Tue 16 Feb</b>            | <b>An Introduction to Active Nonviolence</b> 7pm – 8pm<br><i>Organised by the Leeds Diocese Pax Christi Group &amp; the Commission</i><br>The first of 5 weekly sessions at the same time to explore new thinking in the Catholic Church about nonviolence. ALL Welcome<br>Sign up here <a href="#">Making Active Nonviolence our Way of Life - An Introductory Course Tickets, Tue 16 Feb 2021 at 19:00   Eventbrite</a>   |
| <br><b>Wed 17 Feb</b>            | <b>Ash Wednesday Service</b> 7pm – 8:15pm<br>Christian CND and Pax Christi will be hosting a Zoom Witness for Ash Wednesday, replacing the usual event which takes place outside the Ministry of Defence in London. Register here: <a href="#">Meeting Registration - Zoom</a>  |
| <br><b>Thu 18 Feb</b>            | <b>Global Healing Climate Change Lenten Meetings</b> 7pm-8pm<br>The first in a series of weekly meetings during Lent has been organised by the <a href="#">Global Catholic Climate Movement (GCCM)</a> through the Laudato Si animators' group in the UK. Register here: <a href="#">Meeting Registration - Zoom</a>  |
| <br><b>Sun 21 Feb</b>          | <b>Church Action On Poverty Sunday – New Wine Skins –</b><br><i>All Day</i><br>Join churches around the UK in prayer, giving and action this Church Action on Poverty Sunday. Share a vision for a society founded on compassion and justice, where all people are able to exercise dignity, agency and power. Use their free resources to reflect and pray for change, and raise funds to enable more people to speak truth to power.<br>More info at <a href="#">Church Action on Poverty Sunday - Church Action on Poverty (church-poverty.org.uk)</a> |
| <br><b>Mon 22 Feb – 07 Mar</b> | <b>Fairtrade Fortnight 2021</b><br>Will your parish be marking this annual event? – The theme this year is Climate Change. What can your parish do? Time to get creative! – Check out the resources at Fairtrade <a href="#">Fortnight   Fairtrade Foundation</a>   |
| <br><b>Wed 28 Apr</b>          | <b>The Hook Lecture Spring 2021</b> - Leeds Church Institute<br>The title of the lecture is <b><i>A New Moral Ecology for a World where Climate Catastrophe is Real</i></b> and will be given by Rev Dr Frances Ward. Book a place for this free lecture here: <a href="https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/hook-lecture-spring-2021-tickets-139433680893?aff=erelexpmlt">https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/hook-lecture-spring-2021-tickets-139433680893?aff=erelexpmlt</a>  |

***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 details of these and other events which may be of interest.***