**NOTES OF JUSTICE AND PEACE MEETING**

**On Monday 2Oth March 2023**

# Meeting 172

**Present: Jonathan Holden, Anna Godwin, Anne Elson, Jenny Armstrong**

**Apologies: Diana O’Reilly , Clemency Jarvis, Lynda Gould, Ann Allison.**

We started with the Span prayer and reflected on the reading for the 5th Sunday of Lent

John 11 1-45

**Matters arising**

Anne reported that the Crib collection for St Peter’s which will go to CAFOD for a World Gift was £430.72. We decided to ask Royce for the gift that was for a medical outreach worker (£300) and 3 x Healthy Mum and baby £40 x 3.

The amount collected at Our Lady’s for the crib is so far unknown.

**Prayer Intention for April**

**‘We give thanks for the wonderful diversity of people living in Leamington and worshipping in our parish of Catholic Leamington’**

Jonathan to put in the newsletter

**Poverty and Homelessness**

Jenny reported that the Saturday Friendship Group is still unable to function as the Way Ahead Project is still without the necessary staff. Also a reorganisation is taking place soon when Yvonne MacKinnon leaves and it is not yet been made public as to the new structure of the organisation.

Royce is being asked by Julia Fan (convenor of the SFG) to send an email to all who contribute standing orders regularly to SFG to let them know of the situation.

The new project for drug and alcohol rehabilitation, ‘New Chapters’ are in the process of finding premises and there is a possible premises that is being actively pursued. Yvonne will be leading this venture.

**CAFOD**

Ann A reported that at the soup lunch for Family Fast Day (3rd March) she took £190 cash and £55 on the card reader so very worthwhile.

The Family Fast Day money is still coming in so total is unknown at the moment.

We discussed the clash of dates for collections as during March/Lent there is the CAFOD FF Day, the Cathedral Fund collection and SPAN Lenten Alms. It was suggested that in future years we try to find out when the Cathedral fund is to space out the collections better.

**Stations of the Cross for Lent**

These have been held in the Hall on three occasions – one was called off due to the snow – also we have had to change the times due to funerals and the St Patrick Day Mass. The attendance has therefore been disappointing. There are two more sessions to run and these will be after the 10 am Mass on Fridays which may be a better time.

Several people did not find the CAFOD stations very inspiring and we decided to think about what we could do in their place next year.

**Fair Trade**

Jenny and others held a Traidcraft Stall in Our Lady’s and St Peter’s over 2 weekends for Fair Trade and had a reasonable response. £158 worth of goods was sold. She was very disappointed to find that the after mass tea and coffee at SP was not fair traded and had mentioned this to those serving it. The Live Simply team also did a FT Display which is in the Hall .

Jonathan was keen to encourage people to look in the shops for FT goods and Anne suggested asking Brian if he has on his computer the leaflet as to where to buy what sort of FT goods. Jenny will ask him this week when they visit Brian and Janice in Bristol. Anne will look at updating it.

**Action by Christians against Torture**

Diana has indicated that she will be able to produce boards with information about some 8 prisoners of conscience who are listed by ACAT. The weekend suggested is 22/23rd April and we will need some helpers to encourage parishioners to sign cards at both OL and SP. ( 5p.m and 11.15 at SP and 9.15 at OL) Postage is still £1.85 and the suggested donation is £2. Only one of the 8 people listed can receive a religious card so the cards will need reflect this. Jenny will email Father Stephen to make him aware of this date.

**Any Other Business**

Jonathan mentioned talk by Tina Beattie on the Scottish Laity Network on ‘ The Common Good and Gender’ which should be found online – possibly on YouTube.

Anne has written to Archbishop Bernard to ask if the Catholic Hierarchy have responded to the ‘Illegal Migration Bill’, as the Anglican Bishops and the Archbishop of Canterbury have gone on record in expressing their disquiet at the way in which migrants will be treated if this bill is enacted.

The reply was to direct her to the Diocesan Policy on Refugees and Asylum Seekers, which gives an overall view. This was disappointing in that there will be no public awareness of the stance of Catholic Church in this as no medial appearances or statements were made.

Anne will follow this up, asking whether there will be any public message to make people aware of the Catholic Church’s concerns. Jonathan pointed out that there is a Bishop who is designated as a point of contact with issues of immigration and refugees.

We finished with the Pax Christi prayer.

**Next meeting April 24th in the Church Hall at 7.30 pm.**