**NOTES OF JUSTICE AND PEACE MEETING BY ZOOM**

**On Monday 20th September 2021**

# Meeting 158

**Present:** Lynda Gould, Anne Elson, Brian and Janice Austin, Wilf Feely, Father Benedict Skipper and Jenny Armstrong

Apologies from Jonathan Holden, Ann Allison

Jenny hosted this 12th Zoom meeting. The last meeting was on 19th July 2021

The Gospel reading was Mark 9 (38-48) 26th Sunday in ordinary time

**Matters arising from the last meeting.**

Lynda had contacted Coventry Cathedral re events and initiatives around peace. There will be fortnight in November- 1st -14th November during which some events will take place. We will watch the website for details.

The Justice and Peace mass on 2nd September was celebrated by Father Benedict and we thanked him for a beautiful and meaningful Mass. Jenny gave a short talk at the end of Mass about the work of J and P over the year.

**Review of the Year**

We discussed the review of 2020 -21, it was felt that despite the problems we had achieved a range of events and actions. The Stations of the Cross via Zoom were thought to be excellent and Brian, Janice and other contributors were congratulated.

Wilf commented that we should mention the link with SPAN, which was noted.

# Rosary Intention for September/October

**The September** one previously agreed by email was

‘We pray for justice for the people of Afghanistan, those within the country and those who have left in this time of crisis’.

**For October** - we thought that as the COP 26 conference was to take place at the beginning of November that we should have that as the theme;

‘**We pray for the success of the meeting of nations for COP26 in November  and that there will be agreement on ways to combat climate change.**

# Saturday Friendship Group at the Way Ahead Project

# The WAP will be going back to their normal venue as from next Friday – the visitors will help themselves to food and drink. There will be rules around COVID and it will be monitored as to how it is working. Fewer volunteers will be necessary, as there is less space and there will be no cooking.

The new Minister, Kit Mayston-King has met with Father John and other clergy and we are not sure whether he yet knows the situation regarding the partnership between the Churches, regarding the SFG.

Janice and Brian are hoping to get the SFG accounts from Royce in the SP Office so that we can be sure of the financial situation. The next round of Community Fund Grants for the Town Council has a deadline of 3rd December. We need to get an application in for that round.

Meanwhile the WAP has been very busy and the staff are quite hard pressed as they are one member of staff down at present, still recruiting.

# CAFOD

**‘Reclaim our common home’** - the new campaign which encompasses the climate crisis, unjust debts and other structural issues for developing countries to lobby MPs and the Government before COP26. The Masses at OL and SP have been covered with altar talks and a lot of cards given out to be signed and sent to CAFOD for presenting before COP26 to the Government. The petition is still open and can be signed online.

The CAFOD Harvest Fast day is on 1st October.

# Live Simply

**Recycling for Good causes** the recycling box is now at Our Lady’s and will accept a range of items including jewellery, stamps, coins, watches, mobiles, video cameras, ipads, tablet computers. However **not** laptops, faxes DVD players printers, kitchen appliances, personal grooming items. The money raised will go to CAFOD. The box will be moving to SP – or it was suggested that there was a second box. Louise Hathaway has organised and Jenny will discuss with her.

**Season of Creation - from 4th September to October 4th**

Brian had sent penitential rites and bidding prayers to the clergy which have been adopted at the Sunday Masses. For the weekend of 18th/19th the Live Simply team arranged a display on the altars for OL and SP symbolising creation with fruit and flowers, a globe and the Live Simply banner.

The Live Simply team had a stall for Ecofest on 4th September on the Pump Room Gardens and had many visitors to the stall for discussion about the issues of fair trade, living simply and green energy. There were colouring sheets for the children which brought in many families.

To come - Tree Walk in Jephson Gardens on Saturday 25th September 3 -4 p.m. meeting at the entrance opposite the Pump Rooms. Sydney Syson will give a tree talk and there will be prayers as we go round.

Sunday 26th September 7.30 p.m. Season of Creation concert -- the choirs of SP and OL will be contributing to a concert on the theme of Creation – with readings from ‘Laudato Si’.

**Climate change**

The Young Christian Climate Network are walking from Cornwall to Glasgow in time for COP26 in November. They arrived in Leamington on 20th August and a few of us met up with them. They were taken to see Matt Western MP, who is very supportive. Diana O’Reilly walked two stretches of the route to Birmingham with them.

**Christmas events**

Looking towards the Christmas period we intend to promote CAFOD world gifts and also fair trade.

**AOB**

The Birmingham Archdiocesan Justice and Peace Assembly will be happening next week by Zoom. The first evening (27th September) will include the presentation of the Environmental policy by the Chief Operations Officer.

Anne pointed out that the UN association have asked for people to support a vigil on behalf of Nazanin Zaghari-Radcliffe outside the Town Hall on Thursday 23rd September at 6pm. to mark the 2000 days since she was arrested in Iran.

**Next meeting is 18th October by Zoom**

**The following meeting - 15th November.**