

Lancaster Faith & Justice Commission Parish News Bulletin February 2018

Telephone: 01524 383081 Email: lfjc@talktalk.net Website: www.lancasterfaithandjustice.co.uk

St Bernadette's Parish House, Bowerham Road, Lancaster LA1 4HT



'God, The Earth and Us'



Exploring the urgent call to saving and nurturing our planet with

Fr. Eamonn Mulcahy

**7.30pm, February 27th at
The Cornerstone, Sulyard Street,
Lancaster LA1 1PX**



Fr Eamonn is a Mancunian who first went to work in Africa in 1978. A priest with the Spiritans since 1980, he has been on mission in Congo-Brazzaville, Northern Nigeria and Kenya. He has extensive experience of Youth Ministry and Adult Faith Formation in the UK whilst also leading spiritual retreats for lay-folk in Europe, North America, Australia and Africa.

Since summer 2013, after seven years ministering in Kenya, Eamonn is back in the UK on the team of the inner city Holy Spirit Parish in Manchester whilst teaching Creation & Eco-Theology one day a week in Oscott College Seminary, Birmingham though he still maintains active involvement with his projects of educating street kids back in the infamous slum of Kibera, Nairobi



Soil -forgotten resource?

Speaker: Jen Jones

live simply

Monday 5th Feb 7.30pm in St Wilfrid's Parish Centre

1 Winckley Square, Preston, PR1 3JJ

Soil has been called everything from dirt' or 'muck' to 'brown gold'. It is also called the forgotten resource. The Holy Father has written in *Laudato Si'* "soilis a caress of God " This talk will illustrate the many roles that soil plays in our lives and why we should be celebrating and caring about it.

Jen Jones' passion for soil was awakened by a tutor at university when she was studying for her degree in Geography. Once she realised how much soil impacts on our lives she was hooked. She studied peats and organic soils for her PhD and then went on to spend over 30 years teaching soil science to undergraduates. She is now Chair of the Northern Soils Network of the British Society of Soil Science and continues to share her passion for this vital resource with soil science colleagues, school pupils and the public



JOIN US & SUPPORT VICTIMS OF MODERN SLAVERY

MESSAGE YOUR MP
TODAY VIA

freeforgood.org.uk



When a person escapes from modern slavery they need help. Somewhere safe to stay, medical treatment, mental health support, legal advice, training, education and most importantly someone to walk alongside them as they figure out their next steps in rebuilding their life. Most of all they need security and stability as they look to the future. Unlike victims of modern slavery in Northern Ireland and Scotland, the law in England and Wales currently does not give victims a right to support. The Government provides these victims with a limited period of care on a non-statutory basis while the authorities decide if the person is a victim, but then the support ends.

Although some victims are entitled to further help, the vast majority (and this is true of victims across the UK) are left to fend for themselves, often at risk of homelessness and vulnerable to being re-trafficked. The Government has said it wants to lead the world in efforts to address modern slavery. This work needs to start with putting victims first and guaranteeing their rights to support. Lord McColl of Dulwich has brought forward a Bill in the House of Lords to put this right. His Modern Slavery (Victim Support) Bill will give victims in England and Wales a guaranteed right to support during the initial period when the decision about the status is being made, and for a further 12 months afterwards.

The Bill was debated at Second Reading on 8th September and was supported by Peers from all parties. Unfortunately, the Government has not yet agreed to support the Bill.

It is very important that the Government hears from as many people as possible asking them to support the Bill. Please click [here](#) to contact your MP today.

Tackling modern slavery must start with supporting victims to live free for good

Sponsors of the Bill

Lord McColl of Dulwich is a Conservative member of the House of Lords. For more than a decade he has been raising issues of modern slavery and human trafficking in the House of Lords, pushing for greater protections and support for victims, including during development of the Modern Slavery Act 2015

Frank Field Labour MP will be sponsoring the Modern Slavery (Victim Support) Bill when it reaches the House of Commons. Frank Field is chair of the Work and Pensions Select Committee which in April 2017 called for victims of modern slavery to be granted one year's leave to remain with access to support. Mr Field has campaigned in parliament on the issue of modern slavery for many years and chaired the Modern Slavery Bill Evidence Review for the Government as part of the development of the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

<http://freeforgood.org.uk/about-the-bill/>

Saint Josephine Bakhita is the patron saint of Sudan and a patron saint for the victims of slavery and trafficked persons.

Her feast day is celebrated on February 8th



Out in the Cold: refugees reveal the reality of living in destitution

This Homeless Sunday JRS UK publish report revealing the reality of homelessness among refugees

Homeless Sunday is a chance for Churches and Christian groups from across the country to join together to pray, reflect and plan practical action on homelessness, and for a united Christian voice to offer solidarity and be a prophetic voice for change.

Troubling patterns of street homelessness and vulnerability to abuse amongst destitute refugees have been uncovered by research from the Jesuit Refugee Service UK (JRS UK), published today ahead of Homeless Sunday this weekend. The study finds that most of the destitute refugees attending the JRS UK Day Centre had slept rough at some point in the previous year, and one in five had been forced to spend more than a month on the streets. More worrying still was that a third of those with accommodation reported not feeling physically safe there.

The research, undertaken just before Christmas, uncovered a widespread pattern of sporadic street homelessness affecting men and women of different ages and backgrounds who had fled to the UK for safety and sought asylum, but struggled to gain recognition of their status as a refugee. Unable to leave the UK, yet barred from working and with no government support they were left destitute, often for many years, as they found themselves subject to the web of policies described by policy-makers as the “hostile environment agenda”.

One young woman who had spent over six months living on the streets had become resigned to the fact that physical dangers were to be expected by someone who is street homeless,

“We are left to the mercy of people we don’t know. Abuse is common and somewhat expected.”

36% did not feel physically safe in their accommodation and 42% did not feel comfortable around the people with whom they were staying. Taken together this implies that many may have been forced into unsafe or abusive living situations as a preferable alternative to sleeping on the streets. One refugee stated, “When it’s cold I have to accept any mistreatment.”

The report found that 62% of refugees surveyed by JRS UK had been street homeless within the last year. Even those who were staying in some form of accommodation had no guarantee of security with 47% of refugees stating that they did not have a regular place to sleep. JRS UK found that this instability and uncertainty surrounding accommodation was having a detrimental effect on the wellbeing of refugees with one respondent stating, “I feel worried as I don’t get permanent place to live and my health become worse.”

Sarah Teather, Director of JRS UK, said, *“This report highlights the harrowing reality for many destitute refugees who survive by moving between a series of precarious living arrangements, with the anxiety of knowing they could be terminated at any moment. The situation becomes more pressing during winter months because many can only avoid sleeping in the cold by placing themselves in potentially unsafe and even abusive situations.*

“The climate of hostility towards migrants has resulted in the human beings at the centre of this public storm being all but forgotten. Pope Francis reminds us that stories such as these are a sign of the times we must pay attention to and reflect on. My hope is that their stories might awaken some sense of our moral responsibility and open the way for a more humane response.

“We need to repeal the policies associated with the hostile environment and give asylum seekers the right to work to support themselves.”

Download the report at:

http://www.jrsuk.net/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Out-in-the-Cold_Homelessness-among-destitute-refugees-in-London_A-report-by-JRS-UK_January-2018_FINAL.pdf



A new report from Positive Money looking at whether we can abandon growth at any cost

ESCAPING GROWTH DEPENDENCY

*Why reforming money will reduce the need to pursue economic growth
at any cost to the environment*



For most governments around the world, economic growth is the primary objective.

Policies are geared towards growth, and governments are often judged on their ability to deliver ever-rising economic output, spending, jobs and pay. But it is becoming increasingly obvious that continued economic growth is ecologically unsustainable. As we grow the economy, we grow our usage of energy and of a range of natural resources, many of which are becoming increasingly scarce. We also produce more pollution, including carbon emissions, than the environment and atmosphere can process and absorb.

It may sound a modest goal to aim to grow the economy by 2% this year – after all, most people would consider it reasonable to request a 2% pay rise. But the maths of exponential growth means that an economy that grows at 2% each year will be twice as big in 35 years, four times as big in 70 years, and seven times as big within a century. If our resource use and pollution today are already causing fish and bee populations to collapse, rivers and aquifers to dry up and weather patterns to change – with alarming implications for food production – then what should we expect when the global economy is two or four times larger?

Governments are aware of the environmental challenges we face, as evidenced by the fact that nearly 200 countries committed to the recent Paris agreement on climate change. Yet even though continued economic growth is incompatible with protection of the ecosystems that keep us alive, governments around the world are still focused on achieving continual economic growth as their number one priority. Why?

Governments believe growth is essential and beneficial for many economic reasons. These sources of growth dependency range from the need to provide employment for a growing population, the need to create jobs to replace those that are eliminated by technology, the desire to reduce poverty without challenging wealthy and powerful groups via redistributive tax systems, or the need to make high levels of public and private debt more manageable.

We seem to be faced with a clear 'growth dilemma'. Governments believe there are strong social, political and economic reasons for growth. But continuing the pursuit of economic growth will completely overwhelm the carrying capacity of the Earth's ecosystems. In the worst-case scenario, this could result in a collapse of food production with implications for billions of people.

It is also becoming clear that since the 2007-8 financial crisis economic growth has been harder to produce, hence the slow recovery from the recession. Despite governments' determination to pursue growth at all costs, low growth and low productivity persist, suggesting that deeper structural issues are at play. With challenges to mainstream economic thinking becoming more frequent, could it be time to get rid of one of the best held tenets of economic thinking of the last few decades? Could it be time to abandon growth at any cost?

The report looks at ways out of the growth dilemma.

http://positivemoney.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Escaping-Growth-Dependency-final_print.pdf

Democracy and transparency in the UK Trade Bill

There are two facts that everyone should know about the UK's trade policy as we prepare to leave the EU. The first is that modern trade agreements have a huge impact – for good and for bad – on many areas of life including jobs, the environment, health, development, food and inequality.

The second is that under current rules, the UK government has unchecked powers to negotiate and sign trade agreements.

Resources and actions available from Trade Justice Movement at: www.tjm.org.uk/democracy



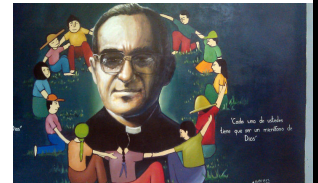
This year's guest speaker for the Romero Week events in March is Rubén Zamora, a distinguished Salvadorean diplomat, academic and social democratic politician with close links to the UK. From a devout Catholic family, Rubén Zamora studied for the priesthood for several years before pursuing a career in politics. After a degree in Law in El Salvador he obtained an MA in Political Science from Essex University.

As a member of the Christian Democrat Party of El Salvador he served briefly in the cabinet of the 1979 reformist government, resigning in early 1980 in protest at the escalation of repression. His brother, the Attorney General Mario Zamora, was assassinated by a right wing death squad in February 1980. Throughout the war in El Salvador Ruben Zamora was a passionate advocate for peace, and as a founding member of the political opposition front, FDR, he travelled the world to build diplomatic support for peace negotiations. Due to threats against his family, he was forced to spend some years in exile but after the Peace Accords in 1992, he stood as presidential candidate of the FDR-FMLN centre-left coalition. During the 1990s, he served as Vice President of the National Assembly and as a member of the National Peace Commission, and he founded and led the United Democratic Centre party. He has taught political science at several Universities in Central America as well as in Stanford University and Essex, worked as an advisor on democratisation in Africa and has published many works on Salvadorean politics. In late 2017 Ruben Zamora stepped down from his post as El Salvador's permanent representative to the United Nations having served previously as the country's Ambassador to the United States and Ambassador to India. He is currently based in El Salvador as an advisor to the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

London St Martin-in-the-Fields, Saturday 17 March 11am

Liverpool, Monday 19 March

Leeds, Mill Hill Chapel City Square LS1 2ES Tuesday 20 March 7pm.



200,000 SALVADOREANS TOLD TO LEAVE US BY 2019

As 2018 dawns, nearly 200,000 Salvadoreans suddenly face expulsion from the United States. The Trump administration is cancelling permits allowing nearly 200,000 people from El Salvador to live and work in the US. They must leave the country by September 2019 or face deportation. The humanitarian programme, called Temporary Protected Status (TPS), was granted in the wake of the earthquakes that rocked El Salvador in 2001. TPS is a US immigration permit given to people from countries declared to be unsafe or where the country would be unable adequately to handle the return of its nationals. There are 435,000 from ten countries in the TPS scheme. President Trump this week declared that the US will not renew TPS for the 200,000 Salvadoreans with that status, many of whom have lived in the US for many years, and with over 190,000 children born there with US citizenship. In 2017 Nicaragua and Haiti lost TPS status. Individuals are given a deadline to return home and, in the Salvadorean case, this is eighteen months from now – that is by September 2019 and conditional upon individual Salvadoreans registering to take advantage of this so-called grace period.

Massive lobbying from Central America and within the United States has failed to prevent this decision; and it has been reported that in comments in the White House apparently referring to El Salvador and Haiti, President Trump said "Why are we having all these people from s**t-hole countries come here?"

The Churches in the United States have protested volubly describing the decision as cruel, outrageous and unconscionable and will do all they can to have the decision reversed before the deadline. If carried through, besides provoking family division and causing suffering to the people directly affected, the decision will cause massive economic and social disruption in El Salvador which remains one of the most violent countries in the world and whose economy is hugely dependent on the remittances from overseas Salvadoreans to the families at home.

There will be campaigns across the globe in support of the Salvadoreans and the Trust will highlight initiatives launched in Britain.

From Romero News available at <http://www.romerotruster.org.uk/about/romero-news> and <http://www.lancasterfaithandjustice.co.uk/newsletter/>

Coal??

There are plans to open a deep coal mine in Cumbria, the first in 30 years in the UK. The proposed undersea coal mine, which is under the coastline at St Bees, would be five miles from Sellafield and five miles from the proposed new reactors at Beckermest.



An online petition has been created asking that Cumbria County Council listen to the substantial concerns of the Coal Authority, Natural England, the National Trust, Coal Action Network, the Environment Agency, Colourful Coast Partnership, Friends of the Earth and others and turn down West Cumbria Mining's planning application.

View petition at:

<https://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/keep-cumbrian-coal-in-the-hole-its-too-near-sellafield#signature-form>

"We are particularly concerned in regard to the potential impact upon the wider marine and coastal environment of the discharge of water into the sea, which has been pumped from the flooded anhydrite mine."

National Trust

The petition will be delivered to the planning meeting at Cumbria County Council offices in Kendal on 7th March 2018

"Our position is to object to the proposed development on the grounds of the adverse impact on groundwater, surface water and biodiversity."

Environment Agency

IT'S TIME TO PUT FAIRTRADE IN YOUR BREAK

Fairtrade Fortnight 2018:

Monday 26 February - Sunday 11 March



Fairtrade Fortnight gives an opportunity for campaigners, businesses, schools and places of worship to show their support for the farmers and workers who grow our food in developing countries and help inform people in the UK.

'For hundreds of years, we were taught to serve, to be workers. Now with Fairtrade, we are entrepreneurs'

Marcial Quintero, member of Coobana, a Fairtrade banana co-operative in Panama. **'Before joining Fairtrade we didn't see any benefits, development or profit. The price we received per box wasn't enough to cover our costs - and for 17 years it didn't change. Since starting with Fairtrade, it's made a mega-revolution in our lives.'**

Unfairness in global trade is rooted in centuries of exploitation. Across the globe, Marcial and hard-working producers like him are working and campaigning for a fair deal, supported by Fairtrade, earning their way out of poverty and transforming their communities.

There are resources for churches, campaigning groups, businesses and schools at:

<http://fairtrade.org.uk/Get-Involved/Current-campaigns/Fairtrade-Fortnight/>

prayer for trade justice

Lord, just as Ruth did not seek charity
but the right to harvest
we do not seek charity for our sisters
and brothers who

grow the world's food
stitch the world's clothes
mine the world's metals
and yet remain poor.

We ask you for the justice of Boaz
in food and farming
in trade and finance
in human rights
in government and law
for women and men
for the natural world
and for children yet to be born.

We ask for Your justice lived out with joy.

We ask for fairness written on our hearts,

That all may see a fairer world

Amen

AMEN

© Tim Aldred / Iona Community Wild Goose
Resource Group www.iona.org.uk

This Lent we are inviting supporters to express their love and compassion for our global family through prayer, fasting and giving.

We have been awarded match funding for our appeal. This means donations made between 13 February (Shrove Tuesday) and 12 May will be matched by the UK Government, up to a total value of £5m. Funds raised during this period will need to be sent to CAFOD by 1 July 2018.

Your Family Fast Day pack should have arrived by now, and your priest will get his, plus the envelopes, around 20th January. Please plan to give out the envelopes and give the Short Talk, or ask someone else to deliver it, on the weekend of 17-18 February.

You can find all the pack resources and more (being added over the next few weeks) online at www.cafod.org.uk/fastday

Livison Chipatiso, CAFOD's Programme Officer in Zimbabwe

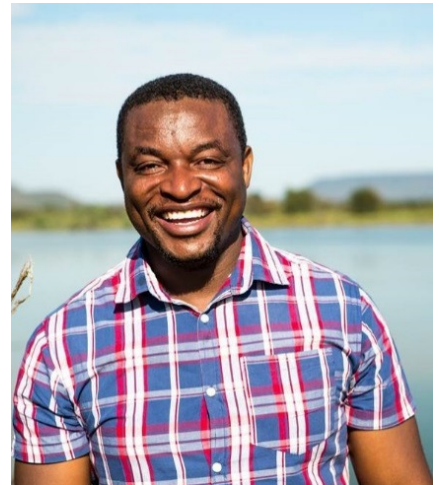
will speak about how CAFOD's partners are responding to malnutrition in Zimbabwe at two of CAFOD deanery meetings in the diocese. Livison will give a talk and respond to questions on:

Tuesday 13 February 7pm – 8.30pm

St John the Evangelist Parish Hall
98 Breck Road Poulton-le-Fylde FY6 7HT
and

Ash Wednesday Wednesday 14 February 2pm – 3.30pm

Our Lady & St Edward's Parish Centre
4 Malborough Drive, Fulwood, Preston PR2 9UE



Share the Journey: A new campaign on refugees and migration for 2018

Pope Francis has launched a global campaign, supported by Catholic organisations across the world, called *Share the Journey*. In 2018, world leaders will agree crucial UN agreements (or 'compacts') on refugees and migration, and we need to make sure they act with courage and compassion to uphold the rights of all people forced to flee their homes.



CAFOD is joining the campaign with an attempt to 'walk around the world' – 24,900 miles!

Between April and June, we'd like your parish to organise a walk, or adapt a planned walk, in solidarity with people forced to flee. The miles you walk will be added to our grand total, and used to show world leaders that we expect them to step up in support of refugees and migrants world-wide too.

Resources to help you reflect on refugee stories, to pray and to take action will be sent to Campaign Volunteers in the next few weeks and will be [available to download here](#).

**Could you start please to plan now to hold a walk between April and June,
leading up to a global week of action from 16-24 June?**

Some parishes are already discussing ideas for this. Please contact Patrick Gardner or Stephen Garsed, our Campaign Volunteer Coordinator, on 01772 733 310 or sgarsed@cafod.org.uk to let us know what's happening!

<https://cafod.org.uk/Campaign/Refugee-action>

Catholic Charities voice concern at Governments “inadequate” plans to help victims of domestic abuse



Catholic charities in the UK have highlighted the lack of emphasis on women's

refuges in new Government plans to help victims of domestic abuse to find social housing.

In a submission from Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN) to a Government consultation on advising local authority housing options teams to prioritise victims of domestic abuse, charities working with vulnerable women welcomed the intentions of the proposals but warned that providing social housing is "not an inadequate response to the reduction in funding for refuges for victims. The role of the refuge for victims is vital and the language and aims of these proposals risk minimising the significance of the refuge."

Councils have reduced their spending on refuges by 24% since 2010, and one in four referrals to refuge services in 2015/16 were declined due to lack of capacity.

CSAN also warned that implementing the proposed guidance will be extremely difficult for local authorities, due to housing shortages and funding pressures, and prioritising one vulnerable group could lead to the de-prioritisation of others in need without the adequate provision of the necessary resources. **The full submission can be read on CSAN website:** www.csan.org.uk

Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN) is the domestic social action agency of the Catholic Church in England and Wales. CSAN comprises over 40 Catholic charities and dioceses which work across England and Wales supporting those living in poverty, homeless people, disabled people, travellers, migrants, refugees, prisoners and other marginalised groups.

For details on the consultation, see Department for Communities and Local Government, [‘Improving access to social housing for victims of domestic abuse’](#)

From www.indcatholicnews.com/

Making every church in Cumbria dementia-friendly by 2020”



Our pioneering project – led by CTiC’s Dementia Reference Group – to make our churches aware of, and responsive to, the needs of people affected by dementia continues to progress well. There are now 110 volunteer Dementia Enablers who are seeking to make their local places of worship dementia-friendly, in terms of welcome, worship and environment. Altogether, more than 150 churches, chapels, corps and meeting houses are involved in the project.

We are conscious that there is more to be done and that there are more people who might wish to be involved. We are therefore offering a series of information sessions this spring. These will give opportunity to learn about the project in general and about the role of Dementia Enabler in particular.

The dates and locations are as follows:

Saturday 17th March; Carver Uniting Church, Lakes Road, Windermere, LA23 2DB

Saturday 24th March; Signpost, 104 Senhouse Street, Maryport, CA15 6BS

Saturday 24th March; Christ Church, Drovers Lane, Penrith, CA11 9EL

Each session will run from 9.30 to 1.00. Attendance is free, but we will need numbers for catering purposes. To book a place, please contact Margaret Irving (Secretary to the Dementia Reference Group) dfc43@btinternet.com, specifying which session you wish to attend.

David Richardson

Treasurer & Dementia Coordinator, Churches Together in Cumbria dardesk@aol.com

[Can you help tackle poverty by organising a collection or soup lunch on 11 February 2018?](#)



"For churches, Jesus initiated the act of making visible those who were overlooked."

Kathy Galloway

Throughout his ministry, Jesus listened to people who were on the margins of his society. He made visible those who were overlooked, and gave them hope. Our churches are called to follow Jesus' example: to listen to voices from the margins and make them heard, so that things can change.

That's what Church Action on Poverty's campaigns and projects are for.

On Church Action on Poverty Sunday, 11 February, we invite you to learn about them and lend your support. If you haven't already made some plans for the day, please get involved if you can!

Hold a **collection or soup lunch** – your donations can transform more churches through listening and engaging with people in poverty.

Use our [worship materials](#) to reflect and pray for change.

**Get a resource pack and other materials for
Church Action on Poverty Sunday on 11th February 2018
at www.churchpoverty.org.uk/sunday
or Tel: 0161 872 9294**



Stop promoting rip-off finance for healthcare in the Global South

This week we delivered hundreds of campaign postcards to the Department of Health.

The government department has been promoting a private finance scheme to impoverished nations, despite the fact that a similar scheme has burdened the NHS with debt and threatens the provision of good quality, affordable healthcare in the UK.

The use of the 'Private Finance Initiative' to fund UK hospitals has been widely discredited, including by the National Audit Office, the Treasury Select Committee, and various government Ministers. "In other countries this would be called looting, here it is called the PPP", said Boris Johnson while serving as Mayor of London.

The recent collapse of Carillion has again showed how disastrous public-private partnerships are in the UK. Our latest article for New Internationalist [makes the links between Carillion, the NHS winter crisis and the scandal of private finance schemes being promoted by the UK government overseas.](#)

The NHS is paying over £2 billion every year to private companies for PFI contracts. And yet the Department of Health, through Healthcare UK, has been promoting the use of similar Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) around the world. PPPs put the healthcare systems of impoverished countries like Zambia and Liberia at risk of unjust and unpayable debts.

Thank you to everyone who has written to the Secretary of State for Health to insist that Healthcare UK and the wider UK government stop promoting this flawed model to countries in the global south.

If you haven't already, you can [sign the petition here.](#)

<http://jubileedebt.org.uk/actions/5974>



Celebrate climate success

There is much gloom and doom spoken about the demise of the planet with the growing threats of climate change and pollution.

The challenges are great, make no mistake, but there comes a time to celebrate the successes. Amongst the good news has been the growth of renewable energy sources across the world. Renewable sources provided more than 50% of energy in the UK at times last year. This has often been due to individuals, schools and companies having solar panels on their roofs.

The power generated from wind energy has also grown hugely over the past decade, with turbines on land and in the seas. The advance of renewable energy was given even greater impetus by the Paris Climate Agreement of 2016 but make no mistake it has been a people driven revolution. Recent UK governments have done little to help in this area, with the present Conservative administration positively hostile to renewable energy – as evidenced in the last budget, which took subsidies away from the sector.

But the hostility of government makes the people power factor in pushing this climate friendly source of energy forward all the more credible. The efforts at community level to cut pollution and emissions has been evidenced across the land, with schools often at the forefront.

One example in East London has been Beal High school, which won the school of the region award from Transport for London for its efforts over the past year to cut car journeys and promote more sustainable forms of travel. The award was made as part of the Mayor of London's Sustainable Travel: Active Responsible Safe (STARs) programme. The programme encourages people to not drive to school, promoting instead walking cycling and other sustainable forms of travel instead. Beal High School managed to cut car journeys to the school from 17% in 2016 to 13% in 2017. At the same time the number of pupils walking to school increased from 53% to 64%.

On a less optimistic note, one area that seems to be distinctly lagging behind, when it comes to cleaning up its act, is the aviation industry. Aircraft often seem to be the forgotten part of the pollution/ climate change equation. Maybe because they are high in the skies but make no mistake aircraft are a major contributor to pollution in all its forms - including sound. The aviation industry generates 600 million tonnes of carbon dioxide each year. The policy approach being taken to aviation in the UK mirrors that of the failed predict and provide approach taken on the roads in the 1990s. The most obvious manifestation is the expansion of airport capacity. It is strange to see politicians, who are quite happy to tackle car pollution, advocating airport expansion. It is as though the penny really hasn't dropped yet

If we are serious about tackling climate change and pollution, then building more airports is not the answer. Not only do aircraft create pollution but there is the additional car traffic brought into the airport as well to consider. Airports become polluting hubs. Addressing aircraft pollution though is something that really does need prioritising. There is no tax on aviation fuel, which amounts to a subsidy for air travel over other forms of transport. Aircraft operators need to be made to pay for the pollution and climate damage they are causing. They need to start showing some social responsibility to the communities which they seek to serve.

Finally, as individuals we all need to look at our use of air travel. In reality, everyone needs to fly a lot less, if pollution and climate damage are to be addressed. So there is much that individuals are doing alone and working in community to combat the threats of climate change and pollution.

There is still much to do, as the aviation example shows, but it is important to remember that it is not all bad news on the environment.

Paul Donovan Read more at: <http://paulfdonovan.blogspot.co.uk/>*published 12/1/2018 – Universe

History of CND Exhibition in Bradford Peace Museum

New temporary exhibition will run at the Peace Museum until the end of February.

The exhibition will explore the dynamic 60 year history of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament from its founding in February 1958 until the present day and will include campaign materials, such as, posters, placards, banners and badges.



Catholic People's Weeks—find out more at
www.catholicpeoplesweeks.org.uk



3 Simple Rules... For Christian Living



**A Lent Course looking at the way of
Jesus based on the convictions of
John Wesley**

**Wednesdays at 7.30pm in The Cornerstone
beginning on February 21st**

**For more information, contact Simon Stewart on
840027, email: simoncornerstonecafe@gmail.com**

Boarbank Hall, Grange over Sands Cumbria LA11 7NH

25th March-7th April Holy Week and Easter Week.

27th-29th April Time to Reflect: "Education and Compassion". Lenten weekend for lecturers in higher education. **For more information**

www.boarbankhall.org.uk/events or contact
Sr Margaret on margaret@boarbankhall.org.uk

Lent 2018 On the Altar of the World Praying with the Gospels, stories from our time and Laudato Si'



[http://www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/userfiles/files/PFM/On%20the%20Altar%20of%20the%20World%20\(Lent%20Resource%202018\).pdf](http://www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/userfiles/files/PFM/On%20the%20Altar%20of%20the%20World%20(Lent%20Resource%202018).pdf)



Archdiocese of Liverpool
Justice & Peace Commission

CAFOD
Just one world



Wednesday 14th February 12:00 - 14:00pm
Ash Wednesday Witness
against Trident nuclear weapons

at St Luke's Church, Leece Street, LIVERPOOL L1 2TR

Pax Christi hold a service of witness every year outside the Ministry of defence in Whitehall. But here's an opportunity to join a northern act of witness in Liverpool.



www.paxchristi.org.uk

News from JPIT: the Joint Public Issues Team

The Art of the Possible—New resource with six bible studies, asking questions such as:

Does politics have a role in the Church?

Is it a distraction from mission?

Is it about compromise when our faith is about truth?

<http://www.jointpublicissues.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Art-of-the-possible.pdf>

Universal Credit Briefing— Sent to all MPs before the October Parliamentary debate;

this briefing outlines concerns that Universal Credit processes fail to take into account the lives of real people struggling against poverty.

<http://www.jointpublicissues.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Universal-Credit-Briefing.docx.pdf>

FAMILY POVERTY: FROM AWARENESS TO ACTION

Kala Sangam Centre, Forster Square, Bradford BD1 4TY 10th February 2018 10:30 – 15:30

"Today we cannot be satisfied with being aware of the problems faced by many of our brothers and sisters...because poverty has a face! It has the face of a child; it has the face of a family..."



Family Poverty: From Awareness to Action



Poverty is a real and frightening threat to family life for many people today. How do we, as Christians, respond? and should we be doing more than providing direct help to people? Come along and join in our exploration of this important set of issues that should concern all Christians who want to promote family life.

This workshop is free to attend and families are especially welcome.

Booking is essential go to <http://www.leedsjp.org.uk/> and follow the link.

Events & Opportunities for Awareness Raising

- 3 February Green Christian "On the Road Together" St Aloysius Church, London NW1 1TA. www.greenchristian.org.uk/green-christian-on-the-road-together/
- 5 February Soil -forgotten resource? 7.30pm in St Wilfrid's Parish Centre Preston P.1
- 8 February Day of Prayer for Victims of Human Trafficking [http://catholicchurch.org.uk/Home/Featured/Day-of-Prayer-for-Victims-of-Human-Trafficking/\(language\)/eng-GB](http://catholicchurch.org.uk/Home/Featured/Day-of-Prayer-for-Victims-of-Human-Trafficking/(language)/eng-GB)
- 10 February NJPN Networking Day www.justice-and-peace.org.uk Holy Cross Priory, 45 Wellington St., Leicester LE1 6HW Input from FareShare East Midlands: **We believe no good food should go to waste: Sharing Food and Changing Lives 10:30am**
- 10 February FAMILY POVERTY: FROM AWARENESS TO ACTION Bradford *see above*
- 11 February 2018 Church Action on Poverty Sunday www.church-poverty.org.uk/Sunday
- 13 February Livison Chipatisp CAFOD Zimbabwe Preston *see p.7*
- 14 February Livison Chipatisp CAFOD Zimbabwe Poulton -le-fylde *see p.7*
- 14 February **Ash Wednesday** witness to challenge nuclear war preparations www.paxchristi.org.uk
- 14 February Climate Coalition Show the Love www.fortheloveof.org.uk
- 20 February World Day of Social Justice www.un.org/esa/socdev/social/intldays/IntlJustice/
- 23 February CAFOD Lent Fast Day www.cafod.org.uk
- 26-11 March Fairtrade Fortnight www.fairtrade.org.uk
- 27th February "God, the Earth and Us" Cornerstones Lancaster 7:30pm *see p.1*
- 2 March Women's World Day of Prayer *All God's Creation is Very Good* Prepared by the women of Suriname 01892 541411; www.wwdp.org.uk
- 8 March International Women's Day www.Internationalwomensday.com
- 17 March Romero Lecture London *see p. 5*
- 19 March Romero Lecture Liverpool *see p.5*
- 20 March Romero Lecture Leeds *see p.5*
- 16-18 March Boundaries, Borders and Identity Catholic People's Week Monastery of Our Lady of Hying, Carnforth. Info and bookings: Breideen Murtagh BHW2018@catholicpeoplesweek.org.uk
- 21 March Fly Kites Not Drones www.Dronecampaignnetwork.org.uk
- 22 March World Water Day www.unwater.org/worldwaterday
- 24 March Anniversary of the Death of Archbishop Oscar Romero www.romerotrue.org.uk
- 24 March Earth Hour www.wwf.org.uk/earthhour
- 16 May *Is A More Peaceful World Possible?* Prof Paul Rogers -7:30pm St Mary & St Michael Parish Hall, Settle, BD24 9RA *CT in Settle J&P Group*