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The Hassockfield protests are continuing. You can find out more by going to [No To Hassockfield](#) –. If you cannot attend in person, perhaps you could join in prayer from home. There is an online version of the vigil on the Diocesan website which can be found [here](#). You can download the most recent booklet with the prayers and readings that are used [here](#). The next vigil is on 3<sup>rd</sup> November. See below for details of a national demonstration.

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The **DIOCESAN REFUGEE PROJECT** [Justice & Peace Refugee Project - Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle \(diocesehn.org.uk\)](#) is always in need of help. Food donations can be left in the church porch. The full list of items that are needed is available [here](#). Azad Hazan, who manages the project, issues regular reports on the progress on the project webpage

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### Working together against human trafficking and modern slavery

Fund raising buffet supper: Wednesday October 9th

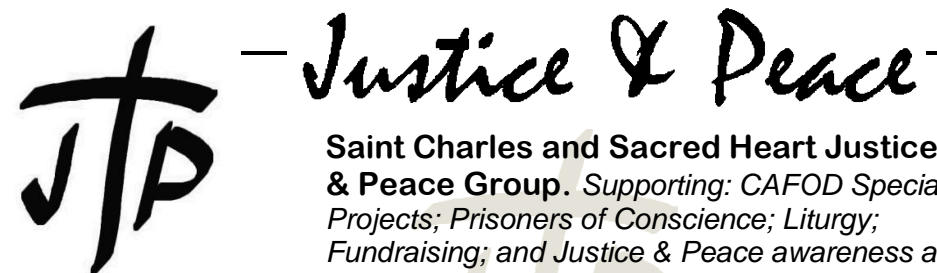
Human Trafficking for sexual exploitation, exploitative labour and forced criminal activity is a major issue in Europe as well as globally. In 2012 Sister Imelda Poole IBVM founded “Mary Ward Loreto Albania”, a Catholic human rights organisation in Albania, to address the needs of survivors of human trafficking in rescue, rehabilitation and reintegration; and in prevention by providing education and economic empowerment for girls who are most vulnerable to becoming victims.

Sr Imelda, is visiting Durham at the beginning of October and you are invited to meet her at a fund-raising buffet supper at the home of Mary McHugh, 6 Albert St Durham DH1 4RL on Wednesday October 9th at 7pm onwards.

Tickets £15 – proceeds will go to support the ongoing work of Mary Ward Loreto Albania.

For catering purposes please let Mary know if you are planning to attend Email [mmchugh@doctors.org.uk](mailto:mmchugh@doctors.org.uk)

Text or Tel 07947664124



**Saint Charles and Sacred Heart Justice & Peace Group.** Supporting: CAFOD Special Projects; Prisoners of Conscience; Liturgy; Fundraising; and Justice & Peace awareness at home & abroad. For further information: Tel 07427837813 or visit the parish websites at [www.stcharlesgosforth.org.uk](http://www.stcharlesgosforth.org.uk)

NEWSLETTER

October: 2024

or  
[Sacred Heart RC Parish, North Gosforth \(sacredheartng.org.uk\)](http://SacredHeartRCParish.NorthGosforth.org.uk)

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**NO TO HASSOCKFIELD** **NATIONAL DEMO**

**1 MONTH TO GO!**  
**SATURDAY 19TH OCTOBER**

Let's make this year's demonstration our biggest yet, calling to shut down Derwentside IRC and all detention centres for good! Follow our socials for updates

LOCATION	TIME
<b>DERWENTSIDE IRC</b> CORBRIDGE RD, DH8 6QY	<b>FROM 12PM</b> SCHEDULE TBC

#N2HNATIONALDEMO #THESEWALLSMUSTFALL

A major national demonstration is to take place at Hassocksfield in Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October. The demonstration starts at 12 noon. Coaches will travel from Manchester, Liverpool, Durham, Newcastle, and Sunderland. Please support if you can.

## **The Living Wage and the Catholic community**

At the recent National Justice and Peace conference Fr. Chris Hughes, Sara Bryson and Shantel Suneesh presented a session on Broad-based Community Organising. During this, Fr. Chris spoke about the Real Living Wage. Some of the points he raised were:

- There are now 15,000 Living Wage Employers across the country. These are employers (and those to whom they contract out services) who pay according to the rates set by the Living Wage Foundation (LWF)
- The current Living Wage Foundation Rate (LWFR) is £12 an hour outside London. The London one is £13.15 an hour. The legal minimum wage which the Government confusingly now calls 'The Living Wage' (TLW) is £11.44 an hour. 56p an hour difference does not seem much but for a 40-hour week over 52 weeks of the year, the difference is over £1,150 outside London and £3,500 in London, which would make a great difference to a family.
- In training that is being offered by the Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (CSSA), the Cost-of-Living Crisis is regarded as a safeguarding issue, so the prevention of poverty is now linked as a safeguarding concern by the Bishops of England and Wales.
- However, the case which the Bishops make would be taken more seriously if they did all they could do to prevent low pay within their respective dioceses. Of the thirty dioceses in England, Scotland and Wales only seven have been accredited by the LWF (Newcastle is one).

## **PEACE DAY MESSAGE António Guterres 21 September 2024**

Everywhere we look, peace is under attack.  
From Gaza, to Sudan, to Ukraine and beyond we see:  
Civilians in the firing line;  
Homes blown apart;  
Traumatised, terrified populations who have lost everything – and sometimes everyone.  
This catalogue of human misery must stop.  
Our world needs peace.  
Peace is the ultimate prize for all humanity.

And as this International Day of Peace reminds us – the solutions are in our hands.

Cultivating a culture of peace means replacing division, disempowerment, and despair with justice, equality and hope for all.

It means focusing on preventing conflict;

Propelling the Sustainable Development Goals;

Promoting human rights.

And tackling all forms of discrimination and hate.

This month's Summit of the Future is a vital opportunity to advance these aims.

Let's seize it.

Together, let's lay the groundwork for peace.

And let's nurture a culture where equality, peace and justice thrive.

## **New report on the influence of the arms trade on government**

The Campaign Against Arms Trade (CAAT) and the World Peace Foundation has launched a new report on the influence of the UK arms industry on government.

It details the various channels of influence the arms industry is able to bring to bear on government, such as the revolving door, lobbying meetings with ministers and senior officials, and dedicated government-industry forums, and details how, over the past few decades, the arms industry has been drawn into such a close relationship with government as to blur or even erase the boundaries between the two. This ensures top arms companies a guaranteed stream of lucrative MOD contracts, despite persistent failures in delivery, and a highly permissive arms export regime, allowing sales to continue to Saudi Arabia and Israel in spite of the horrific human cost.

You can read more by following the link [here](#).



The bookstall at St Charles is ongoing - bring and buy and your donations will help 6 homeless charities.